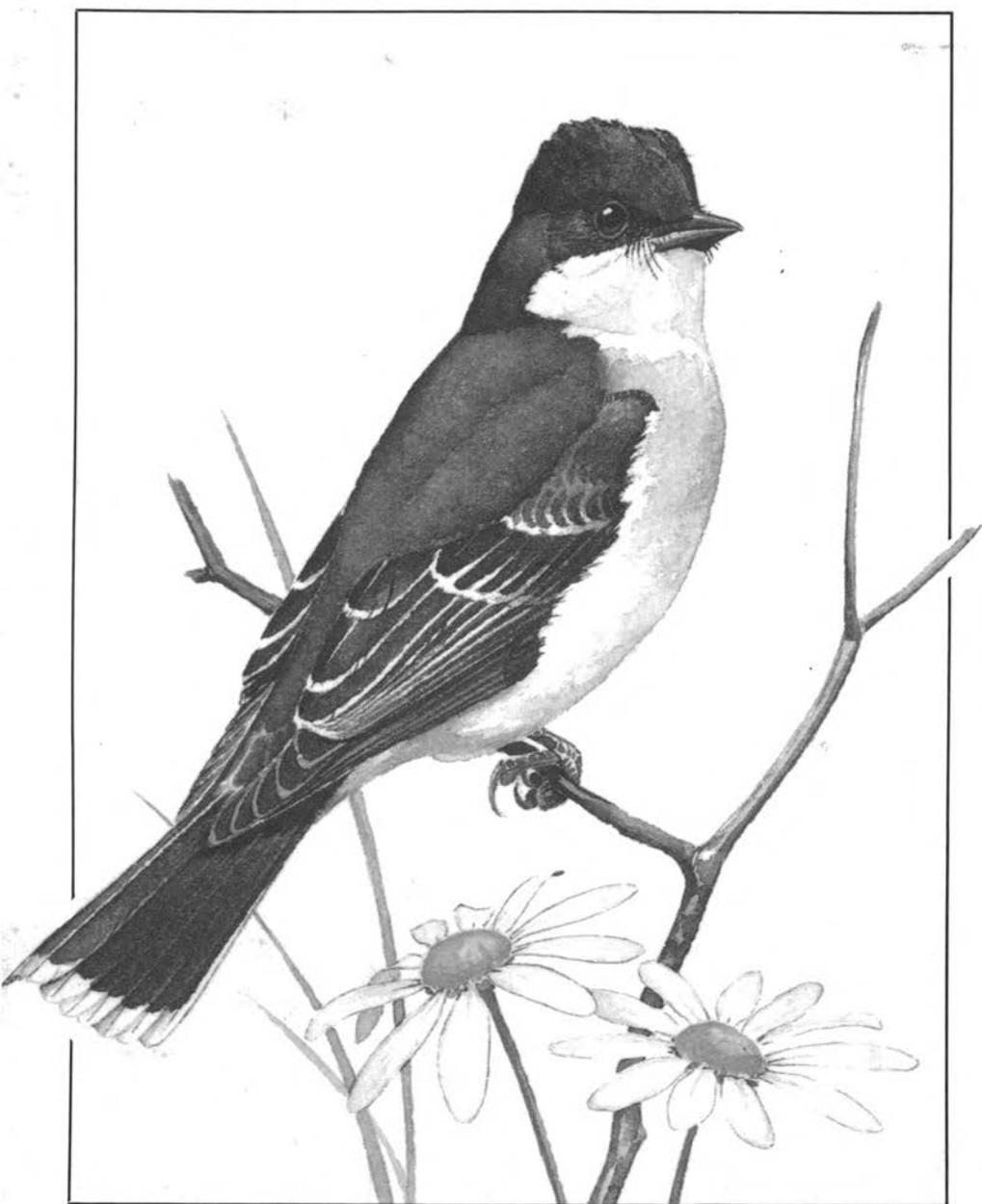


BIRD OBSERVER



VOL. 16 NO. 2

APRIL 1988



BIRD OBSERVER

VOL. 16 NO. 2
APRIL 1988

Editor

Dorothy R. Arvidson

Associate Editor

Janet L. Heywood

Editorial and Production Staff

Theodore H. Atkinson
Chere Bemelmans
Brian E. Cassie
William E. Davis, Jr.
Herman H. D'Entremont
Ruth P. Emery
H. Christian Floyd
Richard A. Forster
George W. Gove
J. B. Hallett, Jr.
Harriet E. Hoffman
David E. Lange
Wayne R. Petersen
Robert H. Stymeist
Lee E. Taylor
Martha W. Vaughan

Corporate Officers

Harriet E. Hoffman, *President*
Lee E. Taylor, *Treasurer*
H. Christian Floyd, *Clerk*

BIRD OBSERVER (USPS 369-850) is published bimonthly, COPYRIGHT © 1988 by Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts, Inc., 462 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA 02178.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *BIRD OBSERVER*, 462 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA 02178.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12 for 6 issues per calendar year, \$22 for two years in the U. S. Add \$2.50 per year for Canada and foreign. Single copies \$2.50. An Index to Volumes 1-11 is \$3. Back issues: inquire as to price and availability. CHANGES OF ADDRESS and subscription inquiries should be sent to

David E. Lange, 846 Massachusetts Avenue, #6E, Arlington, MA 02174.

ADVERTISING: full page, \$60; half page, \$30; quarter page, \$18. Subscribers may advertise one-of-a-kind birding items without charge, space permitting. Send camera-ready copy to

Bird Observer Advertising, 462 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA 02178.

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS AND FIELD TRIPS: For information, call 617-244-0166. Please send applications and payments to *BIRD OBSERVER*, in care of Martha W. Vaughan, 15 Elmwood Park, Newtonville, MA 02160.

SEND EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS FIELD RECORDS of any given month, no later than the 8th of the subsequent month, to

Robert H. Stymeist, 98 Boylston Street, Watertown, MA 02172.

Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts, Inc. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Gifts to Bird Observer will be greatly appreciated and are tax deductible.

MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION: *BIRD OBSERVER* welcomes for publication contributions of original articles, photographs, art work, field notes, and field studies. Please send these or other suggestions to the editor:

Dorothy R. Arvidson, One School Street, #206, Arlington, MA 02174.

Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced on one side only of 8.5 x 11 inch paper with 1.5 inch margins all around. There is no limit on the length of manuscripts, but most do not exceed 10 double-spaced typewritten pages (about 3000 words). Use the 1983 A.O.U. Check-List for bird names and sequence. Type tables on separate pages. Black-and-white photographs and graphics are best. Include author's or artist's name, address, and telephone number and information from which a brief biography can be prepared if needed. Views expressed in *BIRD OBSERVER* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect an official position of Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts, Inc.

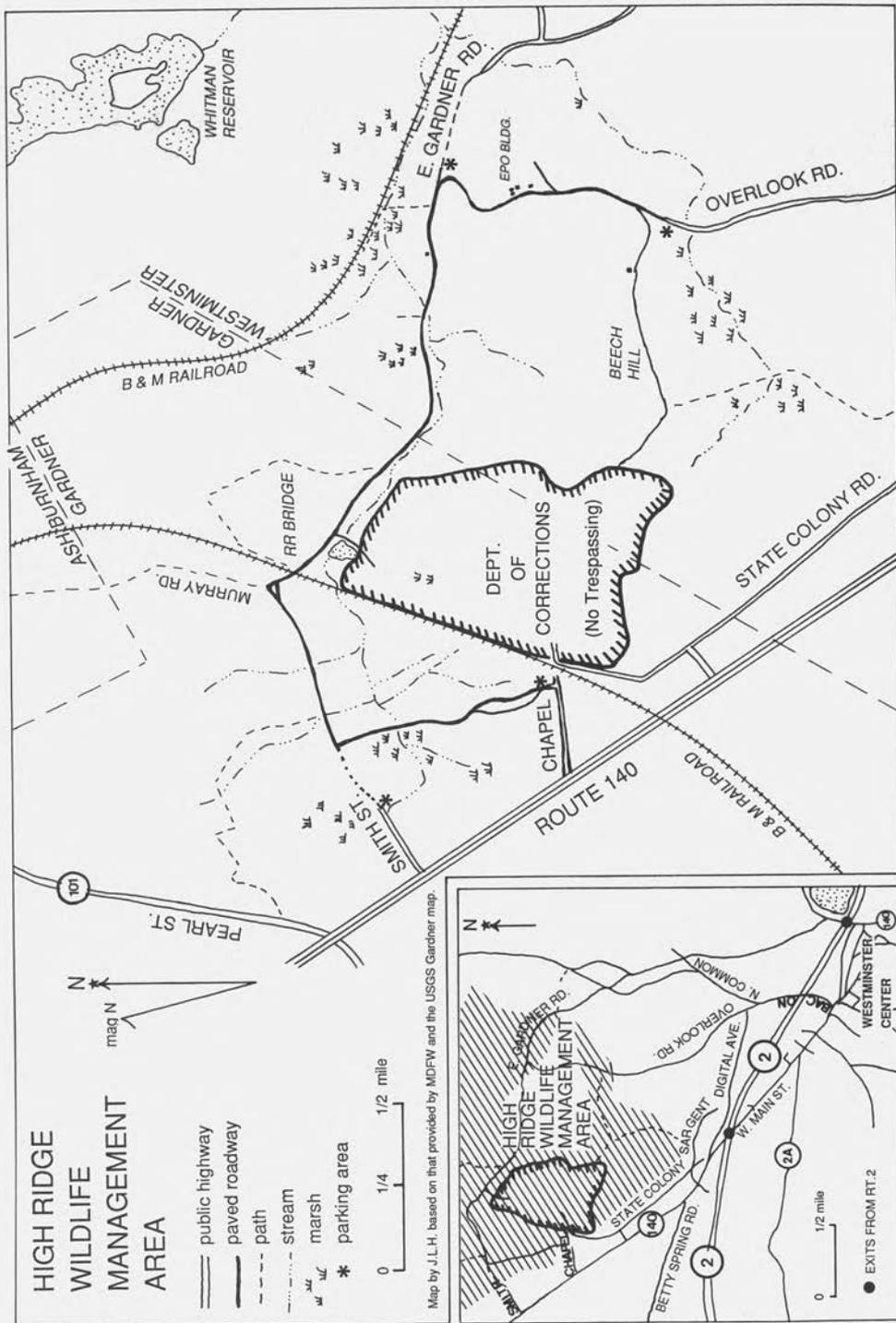
ISSN: 0893-4630

CONTENTS

SUMMER BIRDS OF HIGH RIDGE	Charles B. Quinlan	64
ESKIMO CURLEW: ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY AT LAST, PERHAPS	Andrew H. Williams	73
MORE ON THE COX'S SANDPIPER CONTROVERSY: AN APOLOGY AND CORRECTION . . .	David C. Morimoto	77
UNUSUAL UNIDENTIFIED SANDPIPER AT LITTLE CREEK WILDLIFE AREA, DELAWARE	Harvey Mudd	79
LYME DISEASE AND THE BIRDER	Stauffer Miller	83
300 SPECIES IN MASSACHUSETTS IN ONE YEAR: MAY AND JUNE . . .	Herman D'Entremont and Dorothy R. Arvidson	87
FIELD RECORDS: OCTOBER 1987		90
FIELD RECORDS: NOVEMBER 1987		103
ABOUT THE COVER: Eastern Kingbird	J. B. Hallett, Jr.	116
MEET OUR COVER ARTIST: John Sill	Dorothy R. Arvidson	117
AT A GLANCE	Wayne R. Petersen	118
Cover Illustration: Eastern Kingbird by John Sill		

OBSCURE MANUSCRIPT SOUGHT

Request for Information. Anyone who might have information on the whereabouts of the obscure manuscript of the "Birds of Huntington" by E. R. Cross, please contact Bradford G. Blodget, State Ornithologist, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Route 135/North Drive, Westboro, MA 01581. This manuscript was referenced by Bagg and Eliot in their 1938 book, *Birds of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts*. However, it appears to be lost, and B. Blodget would appreciate any clues to its existence.



SUMMER BIRDS OF HIGH RIDGE

by Charles B. Quinlan

The High Ridge Wildlife Management Area, located in the townships of Westminster, Gardner, and Ashburnham in Worcester County, twenty-six miles north-northwest of the city of Worcester, comprises eighteen hundred acres of rich and diverse uplands. High Ridge derives its name from a east-west ridge that runs through the middle of the area. The region is characterized by soft rolling hills with relatively few flat sections and elevations ranging from 900 to 1200 feet.

Scattered throughout this upland complex are mixed hardwoods-spruce forest, numerous fields, wooded swamps, streams, and shallow marshes. There are several ponds, one of them an old beaver pond, and both paved and dirt roads dissect the property. These diverse habitats entice a rich and colorful avifauna, as well as other wildlife.

During a survey of breeding birds conducted in the summer of 1987, no fewer than a hundred and ten species were recorded, some of the more notable being American Bittern, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Sora Rail, Eastern Bluebird, and Kentucky Warbler. Five species of vireos were observed, the White-eyed Vireo being the most remarkable. Nineteen species of warblers reside here. In the spruce woods, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, and Blackburnian occur. Black-throated Blue Warblers frequent the cool, moist woods in association with Mountain Laurel and other understory growth. In 1987, a Kentucky Warbler was present from May 27 through July 27 along a streambed community by the Overlook Road parking lot. Winter Wren and Louisiana Waterthrush occur along the major streams. Both Black and Yellow-billed cuckoos were recorded along with other interesting species such as Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Ruby-throated Hummingbird. The elusive Pileated Woodpecker is resident here also. In the fields Chestnut-sided Warblers, Indigo Buntings, Bobolinks, and Red-winged Blackbirds occur frequently.

The State Bluebird Trail. One of the most alluring features of High Ridge is the State Bluebird Trail. In 1984, under the auspices of the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MDFW), twenty-five bluebird-nesting boxes were set up along the major roads and fields in the Gardner and Westminster sectors and yielded two nesting pairs that first year. The following year, sixty houses were established, and six pairs of bluebirds nested. During 1986 a hundred and twenty houses yielded eight pairs. By 1987, the installation of one hundred and ninety boxes resulted in nine pairs of bluebirds. A census on May 28, 1987, recorded eighty-one Tree Swallows, one Black-capped Chickadee, nineteen House Wrens, nine

pairs of Eastern Bluebirds, and one Flying Squirrel occupying the houses. Seventy-nine vacancies can be attributed chiefly to the late installation of seventy boxes by the Westminster Cub Scouts. The Overlook and Smith Street trails are the best places to observe bluebirds.

History of High Ridge. High Ridge is situated on the former grounds of the old Gardner State Hospital. In 1984, several years after the hospital was closed, the MDFW began to manage the area for wildlife purposes jointly with the Environmental Management Department and the Food and Agriculture Department. Two hundred acres of the original two thousand located in the southwest sector were set aside for the installation of a corrections facility. This area is strictly off-limits to unauthorized persons and is well marked by signs. The old hospital buildings are still standing, and the fields are utilized for agriculture. One of the buildings located in the northeast sector houses the MDFW Law Enforcement Offices of the Environmental Police Officers (EPO).

Vegetation. This region lies in a transition zone between Northern Hardwoods and Hardwoods-Spruce forests. Predominant tree species include Red Oak, Beech, Yellow Birch, Sugar Maple, Eastern Hemlock, and White Pine. White Ash is a very common hardwood here. Other hardwoods in this area are Red, Mountain, and Striped maples, canoe birches, hazelnut, Quaking and Bigtooth aspens, and cherry trees. Boreal elements found along the higher elevations to the north and west are Red Spruce and Balsam Fir. There are several planted stands of Red Pine and Norway Spruce, and many ornamental shrubs and trees occur around the former state hospital buildings -- Common Mock-orange, Bridal Wreath, Common Lilac, and Morrow Honeysuckle, to mention a few. Russian Olive and Morrow Honeysuckle form extensive hedgerows along the fields and roadsides. Some interesting herbs that can be seen here are Narrow-leaved Gentian and White Beardtongue.

Animals of High Ridge. The variety of amphibians present throughout the wetlands here are the following: Northern Spring Peeper, Gray Treefrog, Bullfrog, Green, Leopard, Pickerel, and Wood frogs. Some reptiles recorded here include Eastern Painted, Common Snapping, and Wood turtles, the latter preferring the wooded banks of streams, and the Eastern Garter Snake is also fairly common. The mammals at High Ridge, being secretive or nocturnal, are elusive, but Whitetail Deer frequent the marshes and ponds along with Raccoon, Red Fox, Mink, and Muskrat. Beavers occupy one of the small ponds in the northeast section. Common rodents are Red, Eastern Gray, and flying squirrels, Woodchuck, Shorttail Shrew, Star-nose Mole, and Deer Mouse. Eastern Cottontails and Snowshoe Hares are also resident.

Directions to High Ridge. There are four access areas to the property that contain gates and a parking lot. The Overlook Road and the East Gardner Road entrances can be reached via Routes 2 and 140. Take Route 2A into

Westminster Center. Follow Bacon Street north about 0.7 mile north to the intersection of Overlook Road (unmarked) and N. Common Street (marked). Bear left onto Overlook, and follow the road about one mile to the gate. East Gardner Road can be reached by bearing right onto N. Common Street instead of left along Overlook. Follow N. Common Street about 1.5 mile, and on your left will be East Gardner Road. Continue down the road until you come to the end, about one mile, where there is a gate. The Chapel Street and Smith Street entrances can be reached from Route 140. From Route 2, take the 140 North exit. The Chapel Street access road is about 1.6 miles from the intersection of Route 2 and Route 140 North. A marked driveway to the North Central Correctional Institution (NCCI) occurs about 0.5 mile before the Chapel Street turn. The Smith Street entrance lies about 0.5 mile north of the Chapel Street access. [Editor's note. These directions were tested by *Bird Observer's* staff and found to be accurate. A new section of Route 140 in the Gardner-Westminster area was opened in 1983. Confusion may result because this rerouting does not yet appear on some road maps, including the 1988 Arrow Series Central Massachusetts atlas.]

The trails discussed below are recommended. They are short walks, average about 2.5 miles round-trip, and reveal to the birder a fairly rich segment of the bird population.

The Overlook Road Trail.

This is one of the trails that is certain to produce bluebirds. At the parking lot just before the gate, there is a stream that cuts across the road. This is an excellent area for attracting Louisiana Waterthrush. Black-throated Blue Warblers reside along the cooler, well-shaded areas of the brook. Scarlet Tanager, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Gray Catbird, Red-eyed Vireo, Common Yellowthroat, and Wood Thrush nest here also. This is the area that the Kentucky Warblers frequented for a period of eight weeks last summer. The author, R. Jenkins, and C. Ewer recorded the presence of two birds. Although no nest was found, what seemed to be a younger bird with shorter rectrices was also observed by the author. During mid-July a White-eyed Vireo occurred in this area. Keep alert here for Ruby-throated Hummingbird and Ruffed Grouse, both of which have been observed in the area as well.

Continuing along the main trail, you will note a field on the right and on the left some stands of spruce. Red-winged Blackbirds and Bobolinks are noticeable in the fields, and Chipping Sparrows feed along the borders of the spruces. In the spruces, search for Golden-crowned Kinglets and Purple Finches. House Finches on occasion may be heard flying over the area, which may lead to confusion. The call notes of the Purple Finch usually given in flight have been described as a metallic tick. The rich warble of a Purple Finch enlivens the day no matter what the weather. A short distance farther on, you will come to a well-

Summer Bird List for High Ridge

The following terms are used to indicate relative abundance. These terms are based on the categories given in John Bull, *Birds of the New York Area*, 1975 Dover edition, page 51.

C = Common, 21-50 individuals per day

FC = Fairly common, 7-20 individuals per day

U = Uncommon, 1-6 individuals per day

R = Rare, 1-6 individuals per season

I = Irregular and erratic, not reported annually

Species	Status				
American Bittern	U	Great Crested Flycatcher	U	Yellow-rumped Warbler	U
Great Blue Heron	U	Eastern Kingbird	FC	Black-thr. Green Warbler	FC
Green-backed Heron	U	Tree Swallow	FC	Blackburnian Warbler	U
American Black Duck	U	N. Rough-winged Swallow	U	Pine Warbler	U
Mallard	U	Bank Swallow	U	Prairie Warbler	U
Wood Duck	U	Barn Swallow	FC	Black-and-white Warbler	FC
Hooded Merganser	R	Blue Jay	FC	American Redstart	FC
Turkey Vulture	U	American Crow	U	Ovenbird	C
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	Black-capped Chickadee	C	Northern Waterthrush	U
Broad-winged Hawk	U	Tufted Titmouse	U	Louisiana Waterthrush	U
Red-tailed Hawk	U	Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	Common Yellowthroat	C
American Kestrel	U	White-breasted Nuthatch	U	Kentucky Warbler	R
Ruffed Grouse	FC	Brown Creeper	U	Canada Warbler	U
Northern Bobwhite	U	House Wren	FC	Yellow-breasted Chat	R
Virginia Rail	U	Winter Wren	U	Scarlet Tanager	FC
Sora Rail	U	Golden-crowned Kinglet	U	Northern Cardinal	U
Killdeer	U	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	FC
American Woodcock	U	Eastern Bluebird	FC	Indigo Bunting	FC
Herring Gull	I	Veery	FC	Rufous-sided Towhee	U
Rock Dove	FC	Hermit Thrush	U	Chipping Sparrow	FC
Mourning Dove	U	Wood Thrush	FC	Field Sparrow	U
Black-billed Cuckoo	R	American Robin	C	Savannah Sparrow	U
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	R	Gray Catbird	C	Song Sparrow	C
Barred Owl	U	Northern Mockingbird	U	Swamp Sparrow	FC
Common Nighthawk	U	Brown Thrasher	U	White-throated Sparrow	FC
Chimney Swift	FC	Cedar Waxwing	FC	Dark-eyed Junco	U
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	U	European Starling	FC	Bobolink	C
Belted Kingfisher	U	White-eyed Vireo	R	Red-winged Blackbird	C
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	R	Solitary Vireo	U	Eastern Meadowlark	U
Downy Woodpecker	FC	Yellow-throated Vireo	U	Common Grackle	FC
Hairy Woodpecker	U	Warbling Vireo	U	Brown-headed Cowbird	FC
Northern Flicker	FC	Red-eyed Vireo	C	Northern Oriole	FC
Pileated Woodpecker	U	Blue-winged Warbler	U	Purple Finch	U
Eastern Wood-Pewee	FC	Nashville Warbler	U	House Finch	U
Alder Flycatcher	U	Yellow Warbler	U	Pine Siskin	I
Willow Flycatcher	U	Chestnut-sided Warbler	C	American Goldfinch	FC
Least Flycatcher	FC	Magnolia Warbler	U	House Sparrow	U
Eastern Phoebe	FC	Black-thr. Blue Warbler	FC		

shaded spot that contains a dried-up stream. The Northern Fox Grape borders the road here, and the thickets, brambles, Elderberry, and Arrow-wood are of rank growth. Species to watch for here are Least Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, American Redstart, and Northern Oriole. A Philadelphia Vireo was observed here during the fall migration.

As you leave the area and ascend the hill, you will see the EPO building. Along the fields you should scan for Tree Swallows, possibly Barn Swallows, and Eastern Bluebirds. American Kestrel, Chimney Swift, and Barn Swallow nest in the old buildings. If you look south from the top of the hill, you will note a prominent blue gray hill. This is Wachusett Mountain, famous for its fall hawk migrations. Although High Ridge cannot compare with Wachusett for viewing migrating hawks, this area is a good vantage point for raptors. Turkey Vultures can usually be seen from this spot during the summer months, and they may possibly breed here. Other species to be seen in this area are Brown Thrasher and Savannah Sparrow.

Leaving the EPO grounds, you will encounter a fairly steep descent that leads to one of the richest birding spots at High Ridge. Before you descend to the pond, note another prominent smoke-blue gray mountain just to the northwest. This is Mount Monadnock and is located in Jaffrey, New Hampshire. As you descend, listen for Chestnut-sided Warblers and Ovenbirds. Blue Jays and Brown Creepers may join the chorus here along with Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. At the bottom of the hill, take a left on East Gardner Road for about a hundred yards until you see a stony dirt road on the right that runs through some fields. Follow the road a short way, and you will see an open marsh with a pond on the left. On the right will be a wooded swampy area.

Beginning at the open marsh to the west, walk through the field quietly so as not to flush the ducks and any wading birds. Great Blue and Green-backed herons frequent the open marsh. Out in the deeper waters, Wood Duck, American Black Ducks, Mallards, and Hooded Mergansers have been observed here also. Listen for American Bittern. They nested here in 1987, as did Virginia and Sora rails. Swamp and Song sparrows reside here, and perching on the dead wood bordering the railroad tracks will be Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, and Eastern Bluebirds. Numerous swallows visit the pond for feeding, along with the Belted Kingfisher. Scan the skies for hawks and Turkey Vulture. A pair of Sharp-shinned Hawks were observed hunting in this area regularly during the summer of 1987. During the spring and fall migrations that year an Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen on top of the deadwoods.

Other birds to look for in this wetland complex are Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, cuckoos, both Black and Yellow-billed, and Northern Waterthrush. If you continue along the dirt road by the stand of White Pine, you will come out to an old beaver dam. Proceed to the stream outlet, and continue on a few yards to the

railroad tracks. Take a left along the tracks for about fifty yards, and you will be rewarded with a lovely view of the pond and open marsh. The railroad tracks are in active use; be on the alert for fast-approaching trains, and walk on the edge of the embankment, not on the tracks. The Sora Rails come up on the embankment under the shrub cover, where you may catch a fleeting glimpse of one as it moves from cover to cover.

Return to East Gardner Road and take a right, continuing until you reach the first electric lines. Check this area carefully for bluebirds and for warblers -- Blue-winged, Yellow-rumped, Pine, and Prairie. Field Sparrows are frequent along the electric lines. In the early morning hours just before sunrise or around dusk listen for Barred Owl. Common Nighthawk has also been observed in this area during a late afternoon thunderstorm.

The Chapel Street Trail.

This particular trail leads through mixed woods, by open sewer beds (now inactive) bordered by thickets and deadwood, and past a number of fields, old and cultivated, all of which make this trail an interesting walk when weather conditions are favorable. The diverse habitats found here entice some interesting migrant land birds, as well as breeding birds. The thickets and deadwood bordering the sewer beds and swampland attract migrants such as Olive-sided Flycatcher, Northern Shrike, and Yellow-breasted Chat, and some interesting nesters include Alder and Willow flycatchers, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Pileated Woodpecker has been observed in the deeper woods by the railroad bridge.



Black-throated Blue Warbler

Photo by Robert H. Stymeist

Swamp and White-throated sparrows may be heard singing in the swampy areas adjacent to the parking lot where the trail begins, and this is another good spot to watch for bluebirds. As you move beyond the gate, listen for the call notes of Broad-winged Hawks that nest in the woods to the right of the trail. Eastern Wood-Pewee, Hermit Thrush, Ovenbird, Scarlet Tanager, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak may be heard also. About a hundred yards down the road, scrutinize the hemlocks for Black-throated Blue Warblers. In the Red Pines bordering the east side of the trail, Red-breasted Nuthatches may be present along with Golden-crowned Kinglet and Black-capped Chickadees. You may come across Pine Warbler, and Northern Waterthrush has been seen just before the clearing and sewer beds along the east side of the trail.

When you reach the clearing, you will note thickets along both sides of the road where a stream cuts across it. The stream may be dry, depending on the rainfall. These thickets comprise Arrow-leaved Tearthumb, brambles, blueberry, dogwoods, and willows. On August 11, 1987, I found my "life bird" Yellow-breasted Chat in these thickets. Some of the breeding birds observed here were Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Black-billed Cuckoo, and American Redstart. Chestnut-sided Warblers are frequent here along with Common Yellowthroats. Red-tailed Hawks may nest along the southeast sector of the inactive sewer beds. A family of kestrels from a nest nearby frequented the beds last summer. Among the deadwood look for Northern Flicker, Downy and Hairy woodpeckers, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Great Crested Flycatcher, Tree Swallow, and Cedar Waxwing. Just before you reach the Smith Street Trail, check the bird boxes as you move along for Tree Swallow, House Wren, and Eastern Bluebird.

At the intersection, take a right on the paved road and follow Smith Street until you reach the fields on the left. These fields attract sparrows and with luck you may find a Vesper Sparrow or even a Grasshopper Sparrow. Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, and Northern Bobwhite utilize the fields for feeding. Farther on, note a wooded swamp adjacent to the road, and on the right will be the inactive sewer beds. Alder Flycatchers nested in the wooded swampland, while not far away, at the edge of the sewer beds, Willow Flycatchers nested. As you continue, there are some more fields with bird boxes bordering the roadside. A family of bluebirds was present here during the summer months, and during the fall the corn fields harbor sparrow and blackbird species.

A short distance along, there is a railroad bridge. As you cross the bridge, you will observe another prominent hill, Mt. Watatic, located in Ashby along the New Hampshire border. Shortly you will come to some fields to the north and a small pond on the right. This is a lovely area at which to pause and simply let things come to you. Find a nice shade tree along the road that leads to the Corrections Facility and relax, but do not venture into the restricted area. Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, and Blackburnian warblers are breeders

in this area. Pine Warblers were observed during early July in the pines across from the pond. Other warblers found here are Northern Waterthrush and Canada Warbler. Solitary Vireos frequent the cooler woods as do Winter Wrens and White-throated Sparrows. A Belted Kingfisher is a regular visitor to the pond. During late spring, a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was heard singing in the hemlocks by the building on the edge of the pond, and several other Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were observed a little farther east along East Gardner Road on May 23, 1987, by the Forbush Bird Club. Another interesting migrant flycatcher recorded about the same time period during a 1983 census was the Acadian Flycatcher.

Conclusion. This article touches upon several of the diverse trails found at High Ridge that are productive for birdwatchers. However, these trails typify a small fraction of the rich habitats that exist at High Ridge. It is hoped that this description of the area will draw visitors for further reconnaissance of the region, which may not only be self-enriching for the observer but may also enhance the current ornithological data of this unique wildlife management area.

Acknowledgments. The author would like to thank the following people for their assistance in the completion of this article. I am grateful to Bradford G. Blodget, ornithologist of the MDFW, for the information on the State Bluebird Trail, Tom Early for information on High Ridge, and for their field observations that enhanced the species list, to Simon Perkins of Massachusetts Audubon Society, Robert Stymeist, and Rodney Jenkins.

Summer Bird List for the High Ridge Wildlife Management Area. The bird list that accompanies this article (page 68) reflects mainly the author's field observations, recorded from May 23 through August 1 of 1987 and is at best only a basic indication of the species present.

CHARLES B. QUINLAN of Wellesley has had eighteen years of field experience with birds throughout New England and the South and was associated with the White Creek Field Station in New York. He has taught courses on birds and plants at Wellesley College in recent years, has been a contributing author to *Berkshire Trails for Walking and Ski Touring* by Whit Griswold, 1979, and to *Massachusetts Wildlife* (February 1978 issue), and illustrator for *The Birds of Wellesley* by Clark Ewer, 1982, published by the Wellesley Conservation Commission. A member of the Forbush Bird Club, Charles is very active in field botanical studies of Massachusetts' endangered flora.

ESKIMO CURLEW: ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY AT LAST, PERHAPS

by Andrew H. Williams

In January 1988, I opened the new issue of *Endangered Species Technical Bulletin* and found a photograph of an Eskimo Curlew, *Numenius borealis* (Anon. 1987). It was a 1962 photograph, which I had seen before, but the information in the accompanying article was electrifying news. In late May, "Canadian Wildlife Service biologists found a pair in the Canadian Arctic. Preliminary reports indicated that a nest may have been located." This article mentions reports of observations in April in Nebraska and in April and May in Texas, all in 1987. In summary, we have several observations, including a possible nesting pair, all in the appropriate places at the right times of year, all in one year and reported in a document published by the Department of Interior in Washington. This adds up to the most exciting news I have heard in a long, long time! The same article concludes with the following paragraph:

In response to the increased number of observations of Eskimo Curlews, a group of shorebird specialists from the United States and Canada at the recent American Ornithologists' Union meeting in San Francisco met to discuss ideas for recovering the species from the brink of extinction. Among the ideas mentioned were increasing public awareness that the species is not extinct; characterizing migration, winter, and nesting habitat; and protecting and managing known migration stopover areas.

Among the group of shorebird specialists was Massachusetts' own Kathleen S. Anderson, Director Emeritus of Manomet Bird Observatory.

Since reading this information I have heard reports of three fall observations in 1987: one in Maine and two separate occasions and observers on Monomoy. That is three reports in one fall, at appropriate places and times.

Part of my excitement is that even government agencies seem to be coming around to the belief that the Eskimo Curlew still exists. People who hold power of budgets for bird conservation seem hardest to convince, perhaps because there are innumerable ways to spend limited money to help other species in need. For example, in February I received a letter from an ornithologist at the National Museum of Natural Sciences of Canada who dismisses all observations of Eskimo Curlew since 1944 as "unconfirmed," despite photographs and even a specimen shot in 1963 in Barbados (Bond 1965). With respect to highly endangered species, bureaucratic ornithologists often seem unwilling to accept reports of observations, almost as if they prefer that the bird remain "extinct." (For an interesting discussion of this subject, see Harwood 1986.) So, if our

Department of Interior and some subset of the Canadian Wildlife Service are referring to Eskimo Curlews in the present tense, I think there is cause for special excitement.

Of course, some of these observations may be instances of mistaken identity. Perhaps several of them are. What of the others? Even the Department of Interior thinks the birds are alive and well and living somewhere. Our hopes for this species are better founded than they once were.

Before the Eskimo Curlew was extirpated, it was a frequent visitor to the coasts of New England and New York. Its appearance hereabouts was irregular, but its numbers on occasion were spectacular. In some years, few were seen here. In other years, heavy east winds blew the migrating birds onto our shores in astounding numbers. Forbush (1912) has written of the Eskimo Curlew that it was "formerly so abundant on the New England coast that its flocks resembled those of the Passenger Pigeon; now believed to be extinct." Elsewhere he wrote (1925), "The Eskimo Curlew formerly was one of the extremely abundant birds of America." Usually it was seen in August or September, closely associated with the coastline and especially with outlying islands and capes. When in Massachusetts, it often associated with the Lesser Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) and was most often found in open and short-grass habitats -- heaths and pastures -- where it ate mostly crickets and grasshoppers. It also associated with its larger congener, the Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*).

Much has been written about humanity's sordid role in the Eskimo Curlew's disastrous decline (Bent 1929, Forbush 1912, Forbush 1925, Johnsgard 1980, Mathiessen, Clem, and Palmer 1967). As the Passenger Pigeon diminished, hunters' guns were increasingly turned upon shorebirds and the decline of plovers and curlews began in the last part of the 1800s. Chroniclers of this era nearly always refer to the Eskimo Curlew's unsuspecting nature. The curlew would circle back over the hunters, calling out to the fallen birds (a habit shared with Dunlins, dowitchers, and many other shorebirds). Since about 1900, very few *Numenius borealis* have been seen, and some people have thought the species extinct. An excellent book devoted to this bird and the result of exhaustive research by its authors is *Eskimo Curlew: A Vanishing Species?* by J. B. Gollop, T. W. Barry, and E. H. Iversen, 1986, Special Publication No. 17 of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society, Box 1121, Regina, SASK S4P 3B4, available at \$9.00.

More observations of the Eskimo Curlew will probably be reported. If you keep this species in mind next August and September while you are shorebirding, you may see one or more of these very rare birds, winging along our New England coast -- perhaps on the road to recovery at last.



Andrew Williams

Photo by Daily Hampshire Gazette

REFERENCES

- Anonymous. 1987. Region Six. *Endangered Species Technical Bulletin* 12 (8): 11.
- Bent, A. C. 1929. *Life Histories of North American Shore Birds*, Part II. Smithsonian Institution, U. S. National Museum Bulletin 146.
- Bond, M. W. 1965. Did a Barbados Hunter Shoot the Last Eskimo Curlew? *Audubon* 67: 314-316.
- Forbush, E. H. 1912. *A History of the Game Birds, Wild-Fowl and Shore Birds of Massachusetts and Adjacent States*. Boston: Wright and Potter.
- Harwood, M. 1986. You Can't Protect What Isn't There. *Audubon* 88 (6): 109-123.
- Johnsgard, P. A. 1980. Where Have All the Curlews Gone? *Natural History* 89 (8): 30-33.
- Mathiessen, P., R. V. Clem, R. S. Palmer. Edited by G. D. Stout. 1967. *The Shorebirds of North America*. New York: Viking Press.

ANDREW H. WILLIAMS is a Massachusetts naturalist who now lives in Haydenville and regularly writes for this publication. In an article in the February 18, 1988, *Daily Hampshire Gazette* ("Eskimo Curlew lives!") describing his enthusiasm for the Eskimo Curlew and his conservation advocacy, Andrew described himself as a "Route 128-fast-track-corporate-computer dropout" -- a step taken to devote himself to his major interests, birds and books. He currently works at Smith College in the science library.

BIRD WATCHER'S GENERAL STORE

"Cape Cod's Shop for Bird Lovers"



FEATURING: *The Amazing "AVIARIUM" Birdfeeder*
that brings birds right into your own home. The feeder is made of mirrored plexi-
glass that allows you to watch the birds for hours, but they cannot see you.

COME SEE IT IN ACTION!

Other Bird Lover Items Include:

- Bird Mugs
- Bird Pillows
- Bird Tiles
- Bird Silkscreens
- Bird Thermometers
- Bird Towels
- Bird Placemats
- Bird Sun Catchers
- Bird Mobiles
- Bird Slates
- Bird Clocks
- Bird Wallets
- Bird Prints
- Bird Notecards
- Bird Switchplates
- Bird Stamps
- Bird Coat Racks
- Bird T-Shirts
- Bird Photos
- Bird Carving Kits
- Bird Key Chains
- Bird Jewelry
- Bird Recordings
- Bird Calls
- Bird Door Knockers
- Bird Baths
- Bird Paintings
- Bird Houses
- Bird Giftwrap
- Bird Posters
- Bird Calendars
- Bird Books
- Bird Field Guides
- Bird Glasses
- Bird Bath Heaters
- Bird Fountains
- Bird Telephone
- Bird Floor Mats
- Bird Bookmarks
- Bird Pot Holders

Complete line of Binoculars, spotting scopes and tripods.

PLUS over 50 different types of bird feeders including Bluejay and Squirrel-proof
feeders that work, GUARANTEED. Plus ten different types of Bird Seed.

GIFT CERTIFICATES & U.P.S. SHIPPING.

BIRD WATCHER'S GENERAL STORE

255-6974

37 Route 6A, Orleans (Across from Lobster Claw)

OPEN YEAR ROUND

MORE ON THE COX'S SANDPIPER CONTROVERSY: AN APOLOGY AND CORRECTION

by David C. Morimoto

The article I wrote for the December 1987 issue of *Bird Observer* (Morimoto 1987) about the confusing story surrounding the naming of Cox's Sandpiper, *Calidris paramelanotos*, was a one-sided account that left the impression that two outstanding Australian ornithologists, Shane Parker, Curator of Birds at the South Australian Museum, and J. B. Cox had failed to credit properly the work of Fred T. H. Smith, a well-known field ornithologist from Victoria, Australia. I hope to clarify the situation here.

I based the information in my article on documentation given to me by Fred T. H. Smith and neglected my obligation to check the other side of the story for the points of view of Shane Parker and J. B. Cox. When beginning my search for information on Cox's Sandpiper, I initially wrote to Parker, and shortly thereafter I wrote to Smith. Although I received a prompt reply from Smith, I did not receive a reply from Parker until after my article had gone to press (in order to be included in the "Cox's Sandpiper" issue of *Bird Observer*). By not providing Parker and Cox with the opportunity to comment on the manuscript prior to its publication, I displayed a lack of personal and professional courtesy, and I sincerely apologize to them, to the South Australian Museum, and to the readers for the misleading nature of what I wrote.

Parker and Cox responded to my article, disputing Smith's claims, relating more of the background for this prolonged and bitter controversy, and pointing out the following errors. The information that Smith conveyed to me suggested that the Smithsonian Institution and the British Museum of Natural History had called the two specimens collected by Cox "aberrant Pectoral Sandpipers" and hybrid "Curlew-Sharp-tails," respectively. Parker (who sent the specimens to the museums) has informed me that the Smithsonian Institution considered the birds either hybrid Curlew-Pectoral Sandpipers or a new species, and the British Museum of Natural History considered them to be Pectoral Sandpipers. As a source for my statement that the South Australian Museum accepted the Smithsonian's identification, I cited Cox (1976). This citation is incorrect. One further clarification concerns the wording of a sentence in Parker's letter to Smith of April 6, 1981, which I had paraphrased as follows: "He [Shane Parker] further stated that Smith (and Cox) would certainly be included in the authorship of the description." Parker's precise words were "Should I decide to take the matter further, I should certainly ask you and John Cox whether you would like to join me in the authorship."

Rather than contribute further to muddying the waters of this unresolved controversy, I have attached to this note a full set of references to assist readers who wish to learn more.

Acknowledgments. I thank Shane Parker and J. B. Cox for their responses to my article, for pointing out the errors, and for the insight they provided. My thanks also to Fred T. H. Smith for the information and additional documentation that he has sent me. I am also grateful, for their helpful advice, to Kenneth Parkes, Senior Curator of Birds at the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh, and Ernst Mayr, Professor of Zoology Emeritus of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University.

REFERENCES

- Cox, J. B. 1976. The Pectoral Sandpiper: An Unusual Specimen. *South Australian Ornithologist* 27: 110-111.
. 1987. Some Notes on the Perplexing Cox's Sandpiper. *South Australian Ornithologist* 30: 85-97.
- Lendon, A. 1971. *South Australian Ornithologist* 25: 240-241.
- Morimoto, D. C. 1987. *Calidris paramelanotos*: A Perplexing Story. *Bird Observer* [of Eastern Massachusetts] 15: 286-288.
- Parker, S. A. 1982. "A New Sandpiper of the Genus *Calidris*. *South Australian Naturalist* 56: 63.
- Smith, F. T. H. 1968. "The Pectoral Sandpiper in Midsouthern Victoria. *Australian Bird Watcher* 3: 122-128.
. 1969. The Dunlin Near Melbourne. *Australian Bird Watcher* [RAOU] 3: 193-195.
. 1970. The Dunlin; A New Wader for the Geelong District. *Geelong Naturalist* 7: 6.
. 1972a. Victorian Wader Records, 1969-1971. *Bird Observer* [Australia] 482: 3-6.
. 1972b. The Dunlin Near Melbourne. *Bird Observer* [Australia] 483: 6-7.
. 1981. *Australian Bird Watcher* [RAOU] 9:43.
. 1982. Dunlins Undone. *The Stilt* 2: 10-11.
. 1984a. Further to "A Retraction of Victorian Dunlin Records." *Australian Bird Watcher* [RAOU] 10: 240-241.
. 1984b. Victorian Records of a Sandpiper New to Science. *Australian Bird Watcher* [RAOU] 10: 264-265.
- Sympson, R. 1968. *Australian Bird Watcher* [RAOU] 3: 141.
. 1985. *Australian Bird Watcher* 11: 63.
- Thomas, D. G. 1969. *Emu* 69: 131.
- Wheeler, R. 1957. *Emu* 57: 185-190.

UNUSUAL UNIDENTIFIED SANDPIPER AT LITTLE CREEK
WILDLIFE AREA, DELAWARE: SEPTEMBER 13, 1987

by Harvey Mudd

[**Editorial Note:** The following letter accompanied Harvey Mudd's notes.]

9507 Wadsworth Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817

February 27, 1988

Today I received a copy of the December 1987 issue of Bird Observer, which includes the articles on the Cox's Sandpiper at Duxbury Beach, September 15-22, 1987....In view of your request that readers "send us their observations," I thought you might be interested in the enclosed field notes and comments about an "unusual unidentified sandpiper"...at Little Creek WLR [sic], about eight miles east of Dover, Delaware [September 13, 1987]...We contemplated we might be seeing a Cox's Sandpiper, but ...we never resolved the identification to our own satisfaction and had to leave the matter open.

The written material and the photographs in Bird Observer, now available to me for the first time, certainly retrospectively enhance my suspicion that we may, indeed, have seen a Cox's. However, for reasons given on page 3 of the original notes, I still do not feel justified in going further than raising this as a strong possibility. I would be most interested in seeing copies of the "detailed notes" taken by Mark Kasprzyk or other material which affords a better idea as to what was actually seen on the Duxbury bird...I hope [my] comments are useful to you and others in Massachusetts. If anyone there cares to discuss our sighting further, please feel free to contact me by mail or telephone [301-530-7322].

On September 13, 1987, Paul DuMont and I led an Audubon Naturalist Society field trip to the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge and to the Little Creek Wildlife Area in Delaware [Pettingill 1977: pages 56, 64]. From 4:30 to 5:15 P.M. we studied an unusual sandpiper from the embankment at the northwest corner of the Little Creek impoundment. We were looking east over a distance of 150-200 yards with the afternoon sun at our backs providing good light. I used eight-power binoculars and a zoom telescope (Swift, 15X-50X).

The bird was initially noted by DuMont, who studied it for several minutes through his telescope, and then called me over. His only comment was, "Look at this," which meant to me that he had a bird presenting some feature of interest and that he did not want to prejudice my view by revealing his thoughts. Because of the group situation, I did not have time to take detailed field notes, but I did register the specific points of interest, and these are now being written unchanged several weeks later [September 30, 1987]. Several other members of

the group were present and studied the bird. I believe they agreed on most or all of the features I noted, but I am writing the present material independently and without consulting any other person as to his recollections.

The bird was similar in size, overall shape, and stance to a Pectoral Sandpiper, perhaps at the larger end of the size range for this species. The bird differed from all the juvenile Pectoral Sandpipers present by having a gray rather than a brown coloration to the dorsal parts. Many of the feathers of the mantle possessed dark centers with broad lighter gray margins, giving a striking scaly appearance at the distance of viewing. There was no lighter V-mark on the mantle, such as could be seen on the Pectorals. The throat and upper breast were heavily streaked, similar to the Pectorals, but the lower margin was distinctly less discrete and the streaking blended more into the white lower breast. The bird was in a roosting position, and views of the bill were limited to several occasions, each lasting two to four seconds, when the bird momentarily looked around. The bill was notably longer and more decurved than those of nearby Pectorals, so much so that I wondered about some aberrant form of Stilt Sandpiper. There was an obscure light supercilium. Behind and below the eye, a reddish brown area was just visible. The crown was not noted to be rufous. The legs were similar in color to those of Pectorals, perhaps a little darker. Twice the bird flew some distance before alighting and immediately resuming its roosting position. In flight, the center of the rump and upper tail coverts were seen to be dark with white borders, at least as prominent as those of Pectorals. Wing stripes were not prominent. The roosting behavior of this bird was in striking contrast to all the other waders in the vicinity -- Pectorals, Stilt Sandpipers, dowitchers, yellowlegs, and various peep, all of them feeding actively.

When it became clear that no one in our group could confidently identify our bird to species, we began to refer to the wader identification guide by Hayman, Marchant, and Prater (1986). I considered and discarded Stilt Sandpiper (wrong overall configuration, rump should not have dark center, too much streaking on upper breast, mantle feathers wrong for basic plumage); Ruff (bill wrong shape, too gray on dorsal parts, too much streaking on upper breast, head too large relative to body); and Dunlin (wrong overall shape and size, too much streaking on upper breast, bill perhaps too short).

A reasonable possibility seemed to me to be an unusually late adult Pectoral Sandpiper fading into basic plumage. The overall size and configuration, the color of the mantle feathers, the heavy streaking on throat and upper breast, the leg color, the obscure supercilium, the barely visible chestnut color of the ear coverts (the last feature agreed very well with figures 199c and 201a in Hayman, Marchant, and Prater) -- all seemed consistent with this hypothesis. Against it were the length and more marked decurvature of the bill, the notably less sharp

demarcation of the breast streaking, and the statistical fact that most Pectorals "still in North America in Sept-Oct are juveniles" (Hayman et al., p. 375), attested to by other Pectorals seen that day.

While perusing plate 82 in Hayman (p. 201), I noted that the dorsal portions of our bird resembled in detail that shown in figure 201a (adult prebreeding Cox's), and the coloration of the head and upper breast was like that of figure 201b (adult nonbreeding Cox's). In particular, our bird seemed to resemble a Pectoral in ways that a Cox's does and to differ from a Pectoral with respect to bill length and decurvature and in lacking a sharp demarcation at the lower border of the breast streaking, just as described for Cox's.

A half-serious remark that "the only thing this bird really agrees with is Cox's Sandpiper" was, not unexpectedly, greeted with some laughter and remarks that no wonder it was resting so much; it was tired after its flight from Siberia or Australia. After some time, the bird remaining at an unsatisfactory distance in an unsatisfactory position, we passed on to other things. I am not sure that any of our group, including me, really took the possibility of Cox's very seriously.

The next evening at home I reviewed the evidence and came to the conclusion that the most likely possibility was that the unidentified sandpiper had indeed been a late adult Pectoral fading from alternate to basic plumage. About a week later I experienced severe misgivings about this conclusion when I learned that a Cox's Sandpiper had been discovered at Duxbury, Massachusetts, on September 20 [reason for error in date given below], just six days after our sighting at Little Creek. Surely one had to entertain the possibility that a small flight of Cox's had distributed itself up and down the eastern seaboard of United States and that we might have seen a member of this species.

The purpose of this note is not to claim that we did indeed, even in retrospect, identify a Cox's Sandpiper in Delaware. The disadvantages of distant views which prevented closer study of plumage features and colors of bill and legs, the frustratingly fleeting glimpses of the elusive bill, and of course, our unfamiliarity with Cox's contributed to our failure to entertain this possibility with sufficient seriousness. There is the added difficulty that Cox's may turn out not to be a valid species, but rather, as suggested in Hayman et al. (p. 377), a "stereotyped hybrid."

However, I do think there is at least a serious chance our bird was a Cox's and that it is therefore worthwhile to "raise the consciousness" of Delaware and other East Coast birders to the remote possibility that sooner or later a Cox's Sandpiper (whatever taxonomic status may eventually be assigned to that form) may occur here again. It is well to be prepared to observe the details that would confirm such a sighting.

[**Editor's note:** The above notes were slightly edited by *Bird Observer* for publication, and the author appended a footnote explaining that they were written about September 30, 1987, and have not been altered. It was not until Harvey Mudd received the December issue of *Bird Observer* on February 27, 1988, that he learned the Duxbury bird was first noted, not on September 20, but on September 15, 1987, only **two** days after the Little Creek bird described here.]

REFERENCES

- Pettingill, O. S., Jr. 1977. *A Guide to Bird Finding East of the Mississippi*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Hayman, P., J. Marchant, T. Prater. 1986. *Shorebirds, An Identification Guide*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

HARVEY MUDD, a biochemist with the N.I.H. for many years (now retired), has enjoyed birding as an avocation for twenty-five years. He is active in the Maryland Ornithological Society, the Audubon Naturalist Society, and is a member of the American Birding Association. He has traveled internationally to observe birds, most recently to Madagascar, and is currently off on a birding tour to China.

Cooperative Garage

(617) 923-0941

106 PLEASANT Street
WATERTOWN, MA 02172
(Convenient to MBTA)

OUR SPECIALTIES:

SAAB The darling of engineers -
sports car for grown-ups

VOLVO Solid conservative
design - the family car

AUDI-VOLKSWAGEN
Our own favorite for
performance and economy



Check out where your birding friends get their cars serviced.
Proprietors: Soheil Zende, Douglas Packard

LYME DISEASE AND THE BIRDER

by Stauffer Miller

An expedition to Martha's Vineyard in the fall of 1987 in search of the Red-billed Tropicbird and the attendant walk through tall brush and grass made me start thinking about ticks. A little farther into the vegetation I extended this thinking to Lyme Disease and, finally, to Lyme Disease and birders.

Lyme Disease was first recognized in the mid-1970s in a group of children in Lyme, Connecticut, all of whom developed a form of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. A Yale University physician, Dr. Allen Steere, a specialist from the Center for Disease Control, was the first to identify this as the outbreak of a disease and to look for a common causative agent. By 1979 the transmitting culprit was identified in the laboratory of Andrew Spielman at the Harvard School of Public Health as *Ixodes dammini*, the deer tick. This tiny tick is about half the size of the more prevalent and better known American dog tick. In New England it occurs principally in coastal areas and islands from the mid-Atlantic states (Assateague and Chincoteague) to northern Massachusetts but is probably most abundant in and around Lyme, Connecticut, and in New London County in extreme southeastern Connecticut at the Rhode Island border. Although the tick numbers decrease as one goes north or south from this area, the disease that may result from the tick's bite has been reported from Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Cape Cod, and the North Shore of Massachusetts, 250 Massachusetts cases in recent years.

Other pockets of the tick and the disease exist in Wisconsin, in California, and in the Mississippi River valley. As a veterinarian, I know of cases of this disease in dogs in Connecticut and in a pony in Wisconsin. The dogs developed arthritis that lasted about a year, whereas the pony had both arthritis and ophthalmitis.

The deer tick, which has a two-year life cycle that includes a variety of hosts such as white-footed mouse and other animals, may be increasing because of the expanding population of New England deer. The tick carries a spirochaete (*Borrelia burgdorferi*), which is the actual cause of Lyme Disease. Because immature ticks feed most actively in May, June, and July, at which season the nymphal ticks attach to vegetation and are transferred by direct contact to the skin of a passing animal or human, these are considered months of highest risk to humans.

So why is all this important to birders? As I walked through the brush to Gay Head in order to better look for the tropicbird, I realized that birders are in brushy areas along the coast about as much as anybody, especially during the

ticks' most active season. Consequently, you might say that Lyme Disease is an "occupational hazard" to birders.

Therefore, when walking through tick habitat, take a few precautions. Wear good shoes, tuck your pants into socks, and check yourself for ticks afterward. Remember, this is a very small tick (only one millimeter long -- about the size of a period on this page), so detection may be difficult. Even the engorged tick is no bigger than the head of a pin, but look for new freckles on your skin.

Although not all *Ixodes* ticks transmit Lyme Disease, people should not ignore the possibility of its occurrence. Although they are very hard to see, prompt removal of ticks will lessen your chances of getting sick, because at least eighteen to twenty-four hours are required for transmission of the spirochaete from an infected tick to a human. Although some people remain asymptomatic, the effects of such a bite will most often cause the victim to have an expanding red skin lesion within three to thirty-two days. A red ring around the bite is now recognized as a trademark of the disease. Other symptoms at this time might appear flulike and include mild headache, joint pain, and swollen glands. A physician should be consulted without delay. Antibiotic therapy, chiefly tetracycline, is curative in the early stages and can prevent years of suffering. If untreated, Lyme Disease may persist for years and lead to complications such as a chronic skin condition, arthritic, cardiac, or neurological disorders. People have died as a result of the effect on the heart or brain.

I wish birders success in chasing their "prey," but I also urge a little care regarding Lyme Disease. By the way, we had good luck on Martha's Vineyard - a great look at the tropicbird and no ticks!

REFERENCES

- Habicht, G. S., G. Beck, and J. L. Benach. 1987. Lyme Disease. *Scientific American* 257 (1): 78-83.
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health. 1987. Lyme Disease. *Public Health Fact Sheet*.
- Rolbein, S. 1987. Little Vampires. *Boston Magazine* 79 (12): 144-149.

STAUFFER MILLER, a veterinarian in private practice in Frederick, Maryland, is an ardent birder. He and his wife, Ellie Soja Miller, are regular visitors to New England.

BIRD NANTUCKET

August 20 - October 1

Assist bird banding research
in a famous stopping place
for fall warblers.

Sponsored by the
Maria Mitchell Science Center.

\$350/week

Write: Bird Nantucket
Box 1182
Nantucket, MA 02554.

Mirador[®]

CHECK THESE BIRDING FEATURES!



- Long Eye Relief
- Close Focusing
- Bak 4 Prisms
- 30% Smaller
- 40% Lighter
- Wide Field
- 7x42, 8x42, 10x42
- Multi coated lenses
- 50% off list. ppd.

FOR LITERATURE AND DISCOUNT LISTS ON A
COMPLETE LINE OF SPORTING OPTICS, WRITE TO

BIRDING

Optics Headquarters for the Bird Watcher
A Division of Sporting Optics, Inc.
P.O. Box 580, Amsterdam, N.Y. 12010

See Kenya and Tanzania's Stunning Wildlife • JULY 3-24, 1988

Join John Kricher, Jennings Professor of Biology at Wheaton College and former president of the Association of Field Ornithologists, on a 20-day safari to the great wildlife reserves of Kenya and Tanzania. Your flights on Swissair and an overnight in Geneva are included in the cost of the trip. As the emphasis of the safari will be on seeing both mammals and birds, the itinerary includes: the Ark, Kenya's premier lodge for nighttime game viewing; Samburu; several of the Rift Valley's lakes; Ngorongoro Crater; Olduvai Gorge; the Serengeti; Amboseli; Tsavo; and the Maasai Mara where you will stay in a deluxe tented camp and have the option of taking a balloon safari.

For full details of this unusual safari, call Dr. Kricher at 617-285-7722, ext. 413 or in the evening at 617-338-2297.



The Wildlife Art Of Louis Agassiz Fuertes.



First Time Offering

We are pleased to announce the sale of 3 limited edition prints by Louis Agassiz Fuertes painted in 1927.

Free Post Card!

“Sea Ducks,” “Hérons and Egrets” and “The Redpolls” are museum quality reproductions, considered to be some of Fuertes’ finest work. Prices for the prints are \$180 for the set of three, and \$75 for single prints. Dealer inquiries are welcome.

Send this coupon today for a free, full color post card and ordering information, or call (617) 727-2864.

**Fuertes Prints
Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Department B
Field Headquarters
Westboro, MA 01581**



300 SPECIES IN MASSACHUSETTS IN ONE YEAR: MAY AND JUNE

by Herman D'Entremont and Dorothy R. Arvidson

MAY. In May both the birds and the birders are in a hurry. The May migration is very brief. Birds are propelled quickly north by instinct and do not dally long en route. Ahead of them are survival activities (territorial competition, mate selection and nesting, incubation and development of the young) that must be carried out within the brief span of the warm season when food is plentiful. For tundra-nesting birds heading for the far north, these activities must be compressed to meet the transitory abundance of insects, chiefly mosquitoes, which will provide the primary food for young birds.

To catch a glimpse of migrating birds, birders (especially any who aspire to a year list of three hundred) must bird early and often and move quickly when word is received of a rarity or a species that is "needed" for the list. Nonbirding spouses and friends of birders afflicted with this Maytime mania must of necessity become very indulgent. This frenetic activity often arouses the curiosity of the uninitiated passerby who innocently inquires, "What are you looking at?" The ecstatic birder, who has just seen and heard a male Blackburnian, enthusiastically attempts to share his find with the interested bystander. The latter, who very likely hears nothing and sees nothing through the proffered binoculars, politely mumbles and soon withdraws, concluding that an entire group of citizens is in the grip of a shared fantasy. And such is the mental instability of birders in May that this conclusion is occasionally true.

A discussion of migration is beyond the scope of this paper, but an understanding of factors involved in this phenomenon is helpful to the birder in planning his strategy. An excellent summary can be found in *The Birdwatcher's Companion* by Chris Leahy (New York: Hill and Wang, 1982). Suffice it to say here that most warblers migrate at night, feed during the day, and sing best for an hour or two at dawn. In May, warm southwest winds will bring them northward to New England, where they remain only a day or two, and inclement weather will hold them in place, albeit briefly. Migration is not a steady flow of birds but usually occurs in waves, the first wave occurring around the tenth of May.

Where to bird in May. When a substantial wave of landbirds occurs, almost any area with trees and shrubbery is a good place for birdwatching, and the probability of finding a Nashville Warbler or Rose-breasted Grosbeak in your own yard is pretty high. Traditional sites in Massachusetts that attract birders in spring are the thickets at Plum Island, coastal migrant trips such as Nahant Thicket and Marblehead Neck wildlife sanctuaries, the cemetery at Newbury, the Glades in Scituate, the beech forest in Provincetown at the tip of

Cape Cod, Gate 40 at Quabbin, and, most famous of all -- Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, which attracts the landbirds, from cuckoos to finches, like a magnet. To migrant birds, this expanse of greenery close to the Charles River and containing several bodies of water must appear a lush haven in the midst of the concrete and asphalt of the urban megalopolis. There are daily walks in May, and with so many birders about, there is a steady flow of information about what birds are present. A rarity can scarcely escape notice.

However, once the trees are in leaf, Mount Auburn and other inland sites can be frustrating places for birdwatching. One can search in vain for a glimpse of the Tennessee Warbler loudly singing in the dense foliage overhead. Then, coastal areas offer several advantages to birders. The cool ocean air delays the development of foliage, the trees and shrubbery are less abundant and lower, and the birds are concentrated in smaller thickets. Thus, the migrants are easier to see. Finally, the birder is nearer to the shore and can check the mudflats for shorebirds and the marshes for herons.

Remember as you rush about in May to see as many birds as you possibly can that over 200 (212-214) bird species nest in the Commonwealth and thus may be found in the month of June and throughout the summer. Consulting the *Massachusetts Daily Field Card*, published by Massachusetts Audubon Society (MAS), will inform you of which species are state breeding birds and will be here through the summer. This card also has information about how long any given migrant species will be passing through the Commonwealth.

Although most of the migrants will be quickly checked off the year list, there are some that require more effort to find for several reasons. These include the Yellow-billed and Black-billed cuckoos; barn-owl; Whip-poor-will; hummingbird; Acadian and Yellow-bellied flycatchers; Philadelphia Vireo; Golden-winged, Orange-crowned, Cape May, Yellow-throated, Bay-breasted, Prothonotary, Kentucky, Connecticut, and Wilson's warblers; Yellow-breasted Chat; Blue Grosbeak; Henslow's, Seaside, Lincoln's, and White-crowned sparrows; and Orchard Oriole.

The spring shorebird and heron migration barely gets a nod, but May is the month to watch for several less common of these birds: Least Bittern (Plum Island -- they nest near the dike at Hellcat) Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (on Plum I. and Hemenway Road in Eastham), Clapper Rail, displaying Willets (Morris Island, Chatham), Upland Sandpipers (Newburyport airport), Whimbrel, White-rumped Sandpiper, Ruff (Newburyport), Wilson's and Red-necked phalaropes (Plum I.), Caspian and Black terns, and Black Skimmer (coastal sites and coastal islands).

Pelagic bird trips are offered by the Brookline Bird Club and MAS, and whale-watching trips by MAS, the New England Aquarium and other organizations. In May or June these trips should yield Sooty, Greater, and Manx

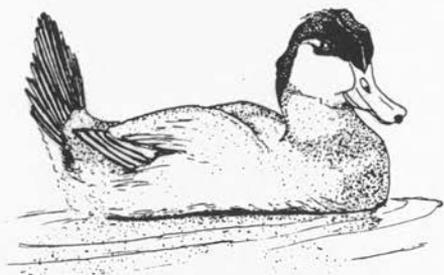
shearwaters, Pomarine and Parasitic jaegers, and Leach's and Wilson's storm-petrels.

JUNE. Early June marks the end of the spring migration, but there is often a good movement of warblers, mostly females, at this time, and the peak of the Mourning Warbler migration occurs now. Late migrating flycatchers (Olive-sided, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Yellow-bellied, Acadian, Alder, and Willow) are readily found in appropriate habitats once you learn their calls. The best locations for seeing migrants is again along the coast. The shorebirds of June tend to be the common ones like Black-bellied Plover and Semipalmated Sandpiper, but Wilson's Plover may appear at the end of May, and the two rarities, Little Stint and Rufous-necked Stint, have both appeared in June.

Some of the loveliest wild places in the Commonwealth offer the best birding in June and a chance to see and hear many nesting birds (species you may have missed in April and May) in their finest plumage and fullest voice.

Where to bird in June. Go to coastal sites for herons -- Least Bitterns, Snowy Egrets, Tricolored and Little Blue herons, and Glossy Ibis. The islands off Cape Cod have American Oystercatchers, Willets, four species of terns, and possibly Black Skimmer. Occasionally, a vagrant Curlew Sandpiper will show up. Perhaps Chuck-will's-widow will appear on Martha's Vineyard. A walk in Gate 40 at Quabbin will provide a bounty of species. The summit of Mount Greylock is the breeding ground for Canadian Zone species as well as a place to hunt for the elusive Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. Hummingbirds nest in the Berkshire foothills. The Connecticut River Valley has several nesting locations for Acadian Flycatcher. Sedge Wren and possibly Henslow's and Lincoln's sparrows may be found at the Savoy State Forest in northern Berkshire County. The Westport/Dartmouth area has White-eyed Vireo and Carolina Wren along River Road, the Demarest Lloyd State Park has nesting Grasshopper Sparrows, and there are Blue-winged and Golden-winged warblers in the dry fields. Orchard Orioles may be found at Hears Pond in Wayland and on Pike's Bridge Road in West Newbury.

During June for obvious reasons nesting birds become secretive and reclusive. It behooves the birdwatcher to respect the birds' privacy and move unobtrusively when on or near any nesting grounds. As Andrew Williams aptly put it in a letter about how to insure the possible recovery of the vanishing Eskimo Curlew (see article in this issue): "The fewer people with the idea of seeing the birds on the breeding grounds the better....Let the CWS [Canadian Wildlife Service] manage it,...[in order to] keep the hordes of birders out of the birds' bedroom."



FIELD RECORDS

OCTOBER 1987

by George W. Gove and Robert H. Stymeist

October's weather was wonderful with 68 percent of possible sunshine, 8 percent points more than average, and the most October sunshine since 72 percent in 1974. The temperature averaged 54.3 degrees, just 0.5 degrees below normal. The highest recorded temperature at Boston was just 73 degrees on October 3; the low mark was 37 degrees on October 27. Rainfall totaled 2.73 inches, most of which came in one storm on October 3-4. No thunder was heard, and fog was noted on two days.

R.H.S.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS

A Common Loon was heard calling off Nantasket. Up to 30 Pied-billed Grebes were in the Lakeville ponds, and 131 Horned Grebes were counted in Quincy Bay. Flocks of 100 to 300 Northern Gannets were seen at several coastal locations, and many Double-crested Cormorants were noted migrating between October 8 and 12. Throughout the month, up to 9 Great Egrets and 19 Snowy Egrets were present at Plum Island, where 1 to 2 Little Blue Herons were also seen. A Green-backed Heron was in Arlington as late as October 25.

G.W.G.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Red-throated Loon				
6, 28; 29	Salisbury; Rockport	1, 12; 6	D. F. Oliver	
24, 25	Winthrop, Stellwagen	3, 7	J. Cumming, BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
Common Loon				
10, 11	Wachusett Res., N. Scituate	4, 20	D. Donovan, D. Ludlow	
12, 18	Rockport, Lakeville	12, 6	R. Stymeist#, W. Petersen	
18	Nantasket	1 calling	P. Thayer	
Pied-billed Grebe				
3, 2-5	Newburyport vic., Nant.	7, 16	BBC (R. McHale), BBC (D. Davis)	
4-31, 6	Arlington, Lakeville	3-8, 2	L. Taylor, K. Anderson	
10, 17	Milford, S. Monomoy	5, 6	R. Hildreth, B. Nikula	
17, 18	W. Newbury, Lakeville	4, 30	W. Petersen	
24	S. Carver	3	K. Anderson	
Horned Grebe				
16, 18	Hull, Lakeville	12, 11	P. Thayer, W. Petersen	
21, 24	Lakeville, Quab. (G37)	6, 3	K. Ryan, M. Lynch#	
24, 28	Revere, Quincy	18, 131	J. Cumming, R. Abrams	
Greater Shearwater				
25	Stellwagen	100+	BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
30	E of Gloucester	5	D. Morimoto	
Sooty Shearwater				
30	E of Gloucester	1	D. Morimoto	
Manx Shearwater				
25	Stellwagen	1	BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
Northern Gannet				
3, 4	Provincetown, Eastham	10, 3	R. Stymeist#, M. Lynch#	
25	Stellwagen, P'town	250, 300	BBC (H. D'Entremont), P. Trimble	
25, 28	Cape Ann, Salisbury	100, 200	J. Brown, D. F. Oliver	
30	E of Gloucester	300	D. Morimoto	
Great Cormorant				
thr	Lexington	1 imm (from 9/18)	R. Forster	
4, 18	Cambridge, Lakeville	1, 1 imm	J. Barton, W. Petersen	
17, 24	P.I., Mashpee	15, 10	W. Petersen, P. Trimble	
25	Plymouth	15	BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
Double-crested Cormorant				
6, 7; 12	Watertown; Cape Ann	90, 120; 1900	R. Stymeist#, L. Taylor#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Double-crested Cormorant (continued)				
8, 11	Easton, P.I.	650, 2500	K. Ryan, R. Forster#	
25	Milton	150	K. Ryan	
American Bittern				
1; 1, 6	GMNWR; P.I., Salisbury	2; 2, 1	T. Aversa; D. F. Oliver	
6, 20; 17	S. Dart. (Allens Pd); Squantum	1, 1; 1	LCES (J. Lyons); R. Abrams	
17, 31	P.I.	2, 3	W. Petersen, D. Chickering	
Great Blue Heron				
3	GMNWR, P.I.	23, 8	M. Lynch#, BBC (R. McHale)	
6, 22	Salisbury	25, 13	D. F. Oliver	
11, 24	Rowley, P.I.	12, 18	J. Cumming, BBC (S. Whittum)	
25	Quincy	11	K. Ryan	
Great Egret				
thr	P.I.	9 max 10/10	v. o.	
2, 20	Dedham, Marshfield	2, 1	K. Ryan	
5	Yarmouthport	1	J. Aylward	
20, 27	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	6, 1	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Snowy Egret				
thr	P.I.	19 max 10/22	v. o.	
2-5	Nantucket	12	BBC (D. Davis)	
8, 12	Lexington, Gloucester	1 (from Sept), 5	R. Forster, L. Taylor#	
Little Blue Heron				
3-22	P.I.	1 or 2	v. o.	
Cattle Egret				
10	Rowley	1	D. F. Oliver#	
Green-backed Heron				
12	Gloucester	1	R. Stymeist#	
12, 18, 25	Arlington	1	L. Taylor	
Black-crowned Night-Heron				
17-18	Nantucket	38	v. o.	

WATERFOWL

At Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary in Marshfield, 750 migrating Snow Geese were counted in eight flocks. Up to 105 Wood Ducks were present at Great Meadows NWR through October 27. A male Eurasian Wigeon was at Plum Island, and another was at Great Meadows NWR; both appeared to be birds either molting to adult plumage or coming out of eclipse plumage. Ducks at Fresh Pond in Cambridge included Canvasbacks, Redheads, Ring-necked Ducks, Greater and Lesser scaup, Buffleheads, and Ruddy Ducks. At Rockport, 645 Common Eiders, 61 Black Scoters, 405 Surf Scoters, and 472 White-winged Scoters were counted in a one-hour period. G.W.G.

Mute Swan				
thr	P.I.	7 max 10/28	v. o.	
2-5, 12	Nantucket, Gloucester	89, 6	BBC (D. Davis), R. Stymeist#	
16, 24	Nantucket, Mashpee	125, 38	F. Bouchard, P. Trimble	
Snow Goose				
11, 17	Rowley, E. Boston	150, 65	J. Cumming	
12, 25	Wachusett Mt, Plymouth	25, 35	EMHW, BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
22, 23	DWWS	750, 110	D. Clapp#	
18-28	P.I.	23 max 10/28	v. o.	
Brant				
22, 25	P.I., Plymouth	6, 68	D. F. Oliver, BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
25, 31	Quincy, Winthrop	25, 60	K. Ryan, J. Cumming	
Canada Goose				
thr	S. Dartmouth, P.I.	264 max, 800 max	LCES (J. Lyons), D. Chickering	
3, 17	GMNWR, Ipswich	370, 1800	M. Lynch#, J. Berry	
Wood Duck				
1-27	GMNWR	105 max 10/18	v. o.	
10, 31	Natick, Quabbin (G40)	75, 5	T. Aversa, M. Lynch#	
Green-winged Teal				
thr, 3	P.I., GMNWR	269 max 10/1, 147	v.o., M. Lynch#	
17	S. Monomoy	250	B. Nikula	
American Black Duck				
thr	S. Dartmouth	274 max 10/13	LCES (J. Lyons)	
3, 10	GMNWR, Salisbury	118, 207	M. Lynch#	
17, 24	S. Monomoy, Newburyport	140, 295	B. Nikula, BBC (S. Whittum)	
Northern Pintail				
3, 9	GMNWR, P.I.	34, 30	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
10, 17	Ipswich, S. Monomoy	8 f, 80	J. Berry, B. Nikula	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Northern Pintail (continued)				
31	P.I.	15	D. Chickering	
Blue-winged Teal				
3, 6	GMNWR, Easton	7, 6	M. Lynch#, K. Ryan	
Northern Shoveler				
3, 17	GMNWR, S. Monomoy	4, 60	M. Lynch#, B. Nikula	
9, 22	P.I.	22, 13	T. Aversa, D. F. Oliver	
26	GMNWR	2	R. Zimmerman	
Gadwall				
17, 18	Plymouth, S. Monomoy	8, 20	W. Petersen, B. Nikula	
24	P.I.	6	BBC (S. Whittum)	
Eurasian Wigeon				
3-23	GMNWR	1 m	v. o.	
24-31	P.I.	1 m	v. o.	
American Wigeon				
thr	Arlington, GMNWR	28 max, 189 max	L. Taylor, v. o.	
thr	Ipswich	50 max	J. Berry	
17, 18	S. Monomoy, P.I.	40, 40	B. Nikula, D. Chickering	
Canvasback				
8-31	Cambridge (F.P.)	220 max 10/30	J. Barton + v. o.	
Redhead				
18, 26-31	Nantucket, Cambridge (F.P.)	1, 1	F. Bouchard, J. Barton	
31	W. Newbury	1	D. Chickering	
Ring-necked Duck				
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	147 max 10/26	J. Barton + v. o.	
thr	W. Newbury	300 max 10/17	v. o.	
12, 15	Marlboro	45	R. Graefe	
18, 24	Lakeville, Randolph	400, 200	W. Petersen, G. d'Entremont	
Greater Scaup				
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	20 max 10/30	J. Barton + v. o.	
Lesser Scaup				
3-17	W. Newbury	2 or 3	v. o.	
4-19	Cambridge (F.P.)	1 or 2	J. Barton	
9	Yarmouthport	28	J. Aylward	
17, 18	S. Monomoy, Lakeville	20, 150	B. Nikula, W. Petersen	
18	Nantucket	30	F. Bouchard	
Common Eider				
12, 30	Rockport	645, 50	R. Stymeist#, T. Aversa	
Oldsquaw				
17	E. Sandwich	14	F. Porter	
Black Scoter				
4, 12	Provincetown, Rockport	10, 61	R. Timberlake, R. Stymeist#	
24, 29	Mashpee, Rockport	30, 50	P. Trimble, D. F. Oliver	
Surf Scoter				
2	Annisquam	200	H. Wiggin	
12, 30	Rockport	405, 300	R. Stymeist#, T. Aversa	
White-winged Scoter				
10, 11	Revere, Hull	100, 150	J. Cumming, P. Thayer	
12, 24	Rockport, Mashpee	472, 120	R. Stymeist#, P. Trimble	
Bufflehead				
18-30	Cambridge (F.P.)	1-4	J. Barton	
24	Quabbin (G37)	11	M. Lynch#	
27, 31	Hull, Winthrop	150-175, 40	P. Thayer, J. Cumming	
Hooded Merganser				
12-31, 21	Arlington, Waltham	1-6, 12	L. Taylor, R. Forster	
24, 31	Quabbin (G37), (G40)	26, 12	M. Lynch#	
Common Merganser				
13, 17	Waltham, Quabbin (G40)	1, 2	R. Forster#, M. Lynch#	
22	W. Newbury	1	D. F. Oliver	
Red-breasted Merganser				
16, 18, 27	Hull	20, 125, 150	P. Thayer	
24, 30	Mashpee, Waltham	12, 1	P. Trimble, G. Bertrand#	
Ruddy Duck				
thr	Arlington	16 max 10/18	L. Taylor	
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	29 max 10/29	J. Barton	
13-30	Waltham	139 max 10/30	v. o.	
17, 24	S. Monomoy, Randolph	220, 250	B. Nikula, G. d'Entremont	

VULTURES THROUGH GALLIFORMES

There were many reports of migrating Ospreys throughout the month. Two Bald Eagles, of unknown age, were noted at Nantucket. There was a total of eight reports of Cooper's Hawks, and a late Broad-winged Hawk was seen in Millis. An early Rough-legged Hawk was noted at Plum Island. American Kestrels were moving on the weekend of October 7-8. A Merlin was seen dining on a Savannah Sparrow at Plum Island. There were many reports of Peregrine Falcons; not too long ago, reports of this species were called to the attention of readers by underlining. There was a large flock of Wild Turkeys at West Street in Petersham. G.W.G.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Turkey Vulture				
6, 14	Easton, Wachusett Mt	2, 5	K. Ryan	
10, 13	Haverhill, S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	3, 2	M. Lynch#, LCES (J. Lyons)	
15, 18, 23	N. Truro, Sturbridge, Natick	1, 2, 1	R. Forster	
Osprey				
1, 2	P.I., Quincy	1, 2	D. F. Oliver, K. Ryan	
3, 5	GMNWR, Wachusett Mt	2, 5	M. Lynch#, EMHW	
8, 9	Marlboro, W. Newbury	2, 2	R. Graefe, T. Aversa	
Reports of individuals from 12 locations.				
Bald Eagle				
2-5	Nantucket	2	BBC (D. Davis)	
Northern Harrier				
1, 22; 10	P.I.	4, 5; 9	D. F. Oliver; M. Lynch#	
3, 2-5	Wachusett Mt, Nantucket	5, 6	EMHW, BBC (D. Davis)	
17, 20	S. Monomoy, Duxbury	6, 6	B. Nikula, J. Coleman	
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
2, 3	IRWS, Wachusett Mt	1, 8	D. F. Oliver, EMHW	
8, 12	Millis, Cape Ann	5, 4	R. Forster, R. Stymeist#	
13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	4	LCES (J. Lyons)	
14	Wachusett Mt	10	K. Ryan	
31	Waltham	1	L. Taylor	
Cooper's Hawk				
2, 3	Chatham, Wachusett Mt	1 imm, 1	B. Nikula, EMHW	
13, 17	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), P.I.	1, 1	LCES(J. Lyons), W. Petersen#	
18, 31	DWWS, Quabbin (G40)	1, 1 ad	G. d'Entremont, M. Lynch#	
Northern Goshawk				
14, 31	Petersham	1, 1 ad	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
Red-shouldered Hawk				
2, 8, 9	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	
10	Clinton, Phillipston	1, 1 imm	D. Donovan, R. Stymeist#	
Broad-winged Hawk				
8	Millis	1	R. Forster	
Red-tailed Hawk				
10, 24	Clinton, Quabbin (G37)	2, 7	D. Donovan, M. Lynch#	
Rough-legged Hawk				
5, 18	P.I., DWWS	2, 1	D. Chickering, R. Abrams	
21	Lexington	1 (lt)	R. Forster	
American Kestrel				
2, 2-5	Lawrence, Nantucket	2, 4	V. Yurkunas, BBC (D. Davis)	
7, 8	Bolton, Millis	19, 9	D. Donovan, R. Forster	
10	Clinton	2	D. Donovan	
Merlin				
1, 2-5	P.I., Nantucket	1, 4	D. F. Oliver, BBC (D. Davis)	
11, 18	P.I., Topsfield	2, 1	R. Forster#, J. Brown	
25, 26	Truro, Chatham	1, 1	P. Trimble, B. Nikula	
Peregrine Falcon				
2-22	Nantucket	4 or 5	E. Andrews + BBC (D. Davis)	
10; 10, 18	Ipswich; N. Monomoy	2; 2 ad + 1 imm	J. Berry; B. Nikula	
11, 17	N. Scituate, S. Monomoy	2, 3	D. Ludlow#, P. Trull#	
25	Provincetown	1	P. Trimble	
Reports of 11 other individuals.				
Ring-necked Pheasant				
17, 31	Ipswich	3, 5	J. Berry	
Ruffed Grouse				
10, 30	Stoughton, Groveland	4, 3	T. Aversa	
15	E. Middleboro	2	K. Anderson	
17, 24	Quabbin (G40), (G37)	4, 4	M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Wild Turkey 10, 11	Petersham	35, 5 m + 36	R. Stymeist#, G. Gove#	
Northern Bobwhite 4, 25	Truro	11, 2	G. d'Entremont, P. Trimble	

RAILS THROUGH PHALAROPES

Reports of Common Moorhens were uncommon this year with the only consistent reports coming from Milford and Great Meadows NWR. There were several small flocks of Lesser Golden-Plovers reported, with one at Cambridge Reservoir in Lexington. Up to 51 Killdeers, 22 Pectoral Sandpipers, and 6 Common Snipe spent the month at Arlington Reservoir, and a flock of 42 Killdeers and 16 Pectoral Sandpipers were seen in Concord at month's end. A late Spotted Sandpiper was observed in Danvers on October 6. Hudsonian Godwits were present through October 18, and a Marbled Godwit was seen through October 10, both species at North Monomoy. Purple Sandpipers at Salisbury on October 6 were somewhat early. A Dunlin was seen at Marlboro, an unusual bird for an inland location. G.W.G.

Virginia Rail 3	GMNWR	3	M. Lynch#
Sora 3, 10 19	GMNWR DWWS	5, 1 2	M. Lynch#, J. Heywood D. Ludlow
Common Moorhen 3, 10, 23 10	GMNWR Milford	2, 2 imm, 1 1	M. Lynch#, R. Stymeist#, T. Aversa R. Hildreth
American Coot 1-15 10, 17 10, 18 25-31	GMNWR Milford, S. Monomoy P.I., Plymouth Arlington	35 max 10/15 15, 20 34, 35 7-18	v. o. R. Hildreth, B. Nikula M. Lynch#, W. Petersen L. Taylor
Black-bellied Plover thr thr 10, 18 5, 25	Hull S. Dart. (Allens Pd) N. Monomoy Nantucket	30 max 10/30 44 max 10/13 700, 700 36, 106	P. Thayer LCES (J. Lyons) B. Nikula E. + C. Andrews#
Lesser Golden-Plover 4, 5 8, 12, 13 25, 31	Eastham, Nantucket Lexington P.I.	1, 5 5, 3, 3 3, 2	M. Lynch#, E. + C. Andrews R. Forster D. Chickering
Semipalmated Plover 4, 18 14, 30	Eastham, P.I. N. Monomoy, Hull	10, 6 85, 4	M. Lynch#, D. Chickering B. Nikula, P. Thayer
Killdeer thr thr 8, 8-30 30, 31	Arlington Marlboro Lexington, Easton Concord, Winchester	51 max 10/18 7 max 10/6 42, 37 max 42, 20	L. Taylor R. Graefe R. Forster, K. Ryan R. Forster, F. Porter
American Oystercatcher 2-17 10, 17	Nantucket N. Monomoy, Chatham	15 max 10/9 35, 20+	v. o. B. Nikula
Greater Yellowlegs 1, 4 17, 23 25, 28	P.I., Eastham E. Boston, Duxbury P.I., Squantum	13, 42 20, 36 50, 28	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch# J. Cumming, D. Clapp D. Chickering, R. Abrams
Lesser Yellowlegs 1, 4 6, 9 17, 25	Marlboro, Truro S. Dart. (Allens Pd), P.I. Squantum, Gloucester	1, 1 4, 9 1, 1	R. Graefe, G. d'Entremont# LCES (J. Lyons), T. Aversa R. Abrams, BBC (J. Nove)
Spotted Sandpiper 6	Danvers	1	J. Brown
Whimbrel 3, 11-31	Eastham, P.I.	9, 1-3	R. Stymeist#, v. o.
Hudsonian Godwit 1-4, 10-11 10, 18	P.I., Salisbury N. Monomoy	1, 2 1, 1	D. F. Oliver + v.o., R. Forster + v. o. B. Nikula
Marbled Godwit 10	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Ruddy Turnstone				
4, 25	Eastham, Plymouth	2, 2	M. Lynch#	
Red Knot				
1; 10, 18	P.I.; N. Monomoy	2; 45, 40	D. F. Oliver; B. Nikula	
Sanderling				
10, 18	N. Monomoy	650, 450	B. Nikula	
5, 29	Nantasket, Gloucester	150, 100	P. Thayer, D. F. Oliver	
Semipalmated Sandpiper				
1, 20	P.I.	35, 11	D. F. Oliver, R. Forster	
10, 18	N. Monomoy	15, 15	B. Nikula	
11, 17	Salisbury, Squantum	22, 22	R. Forster, R. Abrams	
Western Sandpiper				
10	Eastham	1	G. Gove#	
13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)	
17-20, 17	P.I., Squantum	1 or 2, 4	v. o., R. Abrams	
28	Salisbury	1	D. F. Oliver	
Least Sandpiper				
1, 4	P.I., Eastham	6, 4	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
10, 18; 18	N. Monomoy; P.I.	5, 5; 1	B. Nikula; D. Chickering	
White-rumped Sandpiper				
10, 14, 18	N. Monomoy	6, 15, 30	B. Nikula	
17; 25, 31	P.I.	20; 1, 1	W. Petersen; D. Chickering	
29	Gloucester	1	D. F. Oliver	
Pectoral Sandpiper				
thr	Arlington	22 max 10/25	L. Taylor	
8-30	Lexington	16 max 10/8	R. Forster	
10-18	N. Monomoy	35 max	B. Nikula	
13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	39	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Purple Sandpiper				
6, 29	Salisbury, Rockport	9, 3	D. F. Oliver	
Dunlin				
1, 3	P.I., Newbypt vic.	125, 250	D. F. Oliver, BBC (R. McHale)	
10, 14	N. Monomoy	1000, 1200	B. Nikula	
12-13	Marlboro	1	R. Graefe	
Short-billed Dowitcher				
17, 20	P.I., S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	2, 20	W. Petersen#, LCES (J. Lyons)	
Long-billed Dowitcher				
3, 20	P.I.	7, 58	BBC (R. McHale), R. Forster	
Common Snipe				
thr	Arlington	6 max	L. Taylor	
10, 31; 18	Ipswich; Newbypt	3, 7; 3	J. Berry; D. Chickering	
24	Randolph	2	G. d'Entremont	
American Woodcock				
10, 18	Middleton, S. Carver	4, 1 dead	J. MacDougall, K. Anderson	
15, 24	GMNWR, Holliston	1, 7	T. Aversa	
24	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	
Red-necked Phalarope				
4	Barnstable	1	M. Lynch#	
Red Phalarope				
4, 10	Eastham, N. Monomoy	6, 1	G. d'Entremont, B. Nikula	

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS

A Jaeger seen off of Gloucester was at first reported as a Parasitic but was finally recorded as jaeger species. Reports of Little Gull were scarce this year, and only two were reported this month. Two Bonaparte's Gulls at Arlington Reservoir constituted an unusual inland observation. The BBC pelagic trip on October 25 noted both Iceland and Glaucous gulls. The Lesser Black-backed Gull continued in Brighton, where it ate crackers from the observer's hand. Eight Caspian Terns were seen at Salisbury. A Gull-billed Tern was observed at Provincetown and Nantucket and may have been the same bird, entangled with fishline, that was observed September 23 in Lynn and rescued two days later. G.W.G.

Pomarine Jaeger				
25	Stellwagen Bank	1	BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
jaeger species				
30	E of Gloucester	1	D. Morimoto#	
Laughing Gull				
2-5, 3	Nantucket, P'town	25, 40	BBC (D. Davis), R. Stymeist#	
10, 24	Winthrop, Revere	30, 33	J. Cumming	
18	E. Boston	65	J. Quigley	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Little Gull				
18, 31	Newbypt, Chatham	1 imm, 1 ad	G. Gove#, B. Nikula	
Common Black-headed Gull				
17, 24	Squantum, Winthrop	1 ad, 1 ad	R. Abrams, J. Cumming	
21, 23; 26	Lynn; Ipswich	1 (1 W); 1	J. Quigley; J. Brown	
Bonaparte's Gull				
10, 21	Winthrop, Lynn	400, 250	J. Cumming, J. Quigley	
24, 31	Arlington, Chatham	2, 100	L. Taylor, B. Nikula	
Ring-billed Gull				
4, 10	Boston, Ipswich	200, 200	R. Stymeist#, J. Berry	
Iceland Gull				
25	Stellwagen Bank	1 imm	BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
Lesser Black-backed Gull				
4; 7, 12, 31	Eastham; Brighton	1 (3 W); 1 (2 W)	M. Lynch#; R. Stymeist#	
Glaucous Gull				
25	Stellwagen Bank	1	BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
Black-legged Kittiwake				
22, 25	P.I., Stellwagen Bank	5, 5	D. F. Oliver, BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
Caspian Tern				
4, 6	Barnstable, Salisbury	1, 8	M. Lynch#, D. F. Oliver	
9	Nantucket Sound	1	F. Bouchard	
Gull-billed Tern				
13-14	P'town	1	R. Guthrie#	
30	Nantucket	1	E. + C. Andrews	
Common Tern				
2-5, 18	Nantucket	2000, 200	BBC (D. Davis), E. + C. Andrews	
8, 17	Yarmouthport, Chatham	100, 125	J. Aylward, B. Nikula	
25, 28	Stellwagen, Westport	15, 30	BBC (H. D'Entremont), J. Lyons	
Forster's Tern				
2, 10	Lawrence, Wellfleet	2, 25	V. Yurkunas, G. Gove#	
17	Newbypt, Chatham	2, 7	W. Petersen, B. Nikula	
25	Stellwagen Bank	4	BBC (H. D'Entremont)	
Black Tern				
2-5, 28	Nantucket, Westport	1, 1	BBC (D. Davis), LCES (J. Lyons)	

PARROTS THROUGH GROSBEAKS

A pair of Nanday Coures was present throughout the month at Nine Acre Corner in Concord, undoubtedly escapes, but it is interesting to note that another Nanday Coure was found in October 1986 in Clinton. Large feeding flocks of Mourning Doves were noted; as well as two recently fledged birds on October 6, very late for our area. It was a good October to find cuckoos! At least 13 Yellow-billed and 3 Black-billed cuckoos were tallied, compared with zero in October 1986. Barn owls were found nesting on Nantucket, and a Barred Owl was noted at Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge. A Long-eared Owl was found in Brookline.

A Common Nighthawk, probably of the race of the northern Great Plains, *Chordeiles minor sennetti*, was observed at Morris Island in Chatham on the late date of October 15. The pale gray coloration and, most noticeably, the very pale silvery gray (almost white) coverts and tertials distinguish Sennetti Nighthawk. Also, late migrant Chimney Swifts were noted from a number of locations, and a large group of 40 was seen in Newton October 10.

At least 14 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were reported, compared with 6 last October. Also of note were 4 each of Red-headed and Red-bellied woodpeckers, twice as many as last October. Late reports of flycatchers included 2 Eastern Wood-Pewees, and a Great-crested Flycatcher and an Eastern Kingbird on Nantucket.

Lingering flocks of Tree Swallows were reported from many areas; and a Cliff Swallow was carefully identified on October 10, over a month beyond the normal departure date. Migrating Blue Jays were noted early in the month, continuing from September.

A count of 46 Eastern Bluebirds at East Quabbin on October 11 is just 3 shy of a count of 49 made last year on October 19. In general it was a good migration month, compared with October 1986. This October, observers tallied 4 Veeries, 5 Gray-checked, 16 Swainson's, and 4 Wood thrushes; last October's comparable totals were 0, 0, 1, and 1.

A good migration on October 11-12 produced a fallout of kinglets; at least 325 Golden-crowned and over 80 Ruby-crowned were tallied. The same weekend, birders found many Brown Creepers, 15 Winter Wrens, and the first large flocks of sparrows. Twenty-four species of warblers were reported during October, compared with 15 species in October 1986. The ninth Massachusetts sight record of

Black-throated Gray Warbler was found in North Scituate on October 21-23. Other highlights included a Hooded Warbler in Truro and 5 Yellow-breasted Chats.

At least 8 Dickcissels were reported this October, compared with just 1 bird last year. It was a good sparrow migration; 5 Clay-colored were found, compared with 3 last year. Fox Sparrows returned after October 20, and White-crowned Sparrows were noted from many locations. Other highlights included a Grasshopper Sparrow in Truro and a Lark Sparrow in Provincetown. Longspurs and Snow Buntings were reported in more widespread areas than in September. Both species of crossbills were noted. A **Brewer's Blackbird** was found in Truro at Corn Hill on October 25. R.H.S.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Nanday Conure (probable escapees)				
thr	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	2	v. o.	
Mourning Dove				
thr	Ipswich (Northgate Rd)	200+	J. Berry	
6	Millis	2 (recently fledged)	R. Forster	
25	Medfield, Millis	100, 250	R. Forster	
Black-billed Cuckoo				
2, 7	Nantucket, E. Orleans	1, 1	E. Andrews, E. Williams	
10	Truro	1	J. Barton	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				
2, 3	Nantucket, Truro	1, 1	BBC (D. Davis), K. Griffis#	
9, 16; 10	P.I.; Rowley	1, 1; 1	T. Aversa; D. F. Oliver	
10, 12	Truro, Rockport	1, 1	G. Gove#, R. Stymeist#	
13	Falmouth	1 (fresh road kill)	R. Turner	
13, 15	Waltham, Truro	1, 1	R. Abrams#, R. Forster#	
18, 20	Waltham, DWWS	1, 1	L. Taylor, D. Ludlow	
24	Newbypt, Scituate	1, 1	BBC (S. Whittum), G. d'Entremont	
Common Barn-Owl				
thr	Nantucket	pair	G. Frost#	
Great Horned Owl				
thr	Ipswich	2 or 3	J. Berry	
2, 5	Boxford, Topsfield	2, 2	J. Brown	
5, 10	E. Orleans, Middleton	1, 1	E. Williams, J. MacDougall	
29	E. Middleboro	1	K. Anderson	
Barred Owl				
6	E. Middleboro	1 calling	K. Anderson	
21, 24	Mt. A., Quabbin (G37)	1, 1	J. Barton, M. Lynch#	
Long-eared Owl				
24	Brookline (Chatham St.)	1	V. Emanuel	
Short-eared Owl				
18	Nantucket	4	E. Einhorn#	
Northern Saw-whet Owl				
12	Nahant	1	L. Pivacek	
16, 20, 21	Manomet (MBO)	1, 2, 1	J. Atwood	
Common Nighthawk				
15	Chatham (Morris I.)	1	R. Forster#	
Chimney Swift				
2, 3	Lawrence, Wachusett	1, 15	V. Yurkunas, EMHW	
5-6, 6	E. Middleboro, Hanson	1, 1	K. Anderson, W. Petersen	
5, 6, 7, 8, 9	Millis	2, 2, 4, 2, 1	R. Forster	
7, 10	Worcester, Newton	2, 40	M. Lynch#, O. Komar	
Belted Kingfisher				
1, 2-4	P.I., Nantucket	2, 4	D. F. Oliver, BBC (D. Davis)	
11, 15	Quabbin (G40), Winchester	3, 2	M. Lynch#, F. Porter	
Red-headed Woodpecker				
3, 10	Truro, Rowley	1 imm, 1	R. Stymeist#, D. F. Oliver	
11, 30-31	P'town, Weston	1, 1 imm	J. Barton, J. Diehl	
Red-bellied Woodpecker				
no dates	Brewster, Dennis	1, 1	fide B. Nikula	
no dates	Marston Mills, WBWS	1, 1	fide B. Nikula	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				
1, 2	MNWS, Annisquam	1, 1	R. Forster, B. Rielly#	
2, 3	Topsfield, P.I.	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, BBC (D. Davis)	
3	P'town	2	K. Griffis#	
5, 6, 15	Nantucket	2, 1, 1 (all b)	E. Andrews	
10	Framingham, Middleton	1, 1	R. Forster, J. MacDougall	
12, 19	Boxford, Nantucket	1, 1	J. Brown, E. Andrews	
Hairy Woodpecker				
17	P.I.	1	W. Petersen	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Northern Flicker				
1, 2-4	P.I., Nantucket	7, 26	D. F. Oliver, BBC (D. Davis)	
Pileated Woodpecker				
10, 17	Wachusett Reservoir, Lancaster	1, 1	D. Donovan, G. d'Entremont	
17, 24	Quabbin (G40), (G37)	3, 1	M. Lynch#	
Eastern Wood-Pewee				
10, 23	Middleton, Cambridge	1, 1	J. MacDougall, D. F. Oliver	
Eastern Phoebe				
2, 3	Lawrence, Nantucket	5, 4	V. Yurkunas, BBC (D. Davis)	
3; 3, 10, 25	Truro; Waltham	6; 7, 7+, 1	R. Stymeist#, L. Taylor	
10	Wachusett Reservoir, W. Newbury	3, 2	D. Donovan, D. F. Oliver	
17, 19	Quabbin (G40), E. Orleans	1, 1	M. Lynch#, E. Williams	
Great-crested Flycatcher				
2	Nantucket	1	BBC (D. Davis)	
Eastern Kingbird				
2	Nantucket (Cisco)	1	E. Andrews	
Horned Lark				
22, 24	Salisbury, Mashpee	8, 10	D. F. Oliver, P. Trimble	
31	Ipswich	40+	J. Berry	
Tree Swallow				
3, 6	P'town, E. Middleboro	800+, 500+	R. Stymeist#, K. Anderson	
8, 10	Yarmouthport, Middleboro	149, 25	J. Aylward, G. Gove#	
10	Eastham, Barnstable	40, 30	J. Gordon#, G. Gove#	
12, 15	Scituate, Truro	250, 100	R. Abrams, R. Forster#	
25	Truro, Plymouth	1, 3	P. Trimble, M. Lynch#	
Cliff Swallow				
10	Concord (Nine Acre Corner)	1	R. Forster#	
Barn Swallow				
10	P.I.	1	M. Lynch#	
Blue Jay				
2, 3	Chatham, P'town	75+, 180+	B. Nikula, R. Stymeist#	
10, 24	Wachusett Reservoir, Mashpee	25, 25	D. Donovan, P. Trimble	
American Crow				
10, 17	Ipswich (Northgate Rd)	500+, 300+	J. Berry	
22	Topsfield	130	D. F. Oliver	
Common Raven				
3, 12, 14	Wachusett Mt	2, 12, 9	EMHW + v. o.	
11, 14, 17	Quabbin (G40)	1, 5, 2	v. o.	
Black-capped Chickadee				
17, 31; 24	Quabbin (G40); (G37)	47, 49; 54	M. Lynch#	
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
11, 17, 31	Quabbin (G40)	12, 50, 23	M. Lynch#	
	Very few reported east of Quabbin.			
Brown Creeper				
11	Salisbury-P.I.	16	R. Forster#	
12	N. Scituate (Glades)	20	R. Abrams	
12	Gloucester (E.P.)	12	R. Stymeist#	
Carolina Wren				
18, 24	Marshfield, Braintree	2, 1	G. d'Entremont	
House Wren				
6, 12	Salisbury, Winchester	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, F. Porter	
Winter Wren				
6, 9	Nantucket	1 b, 1 b	E. Andrews	
8, 10	MNWS, Middleton	1, 1	R. Forster, J. MacDougall	
10, 11	W. Newbury, P.I.	1, 3	D. F. Oliver, W. Drummond#	
11, 12	Salisbury, Scituate	5, 4	R. Forster#, R. Abrams	
12	Watertown, Gloucester	1, 1	R. Stymeist#, L. Taylor	
12, 14	Rowley, Chatham	1, 2	W. Drummond, R. Forster#	
15, 18	P'town, Marshfield	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, G. d'Entremont	
Marsh Wren				
3, 15	GMNWR	10, 3	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
7, 11	Brookline, Salisbury-P.I.	6, 110	H. Wiggin, R. Forster	
11, 17, 31	Quabbin (G40)	23, 22, 16	M. Lynch#	
12	Cape Ann, N. Scituate	90+, 100	R. Stymeist#, R. Abrams	
23, 30	Duxbury, Hamilton	30+, 33	D. Clapp, D. F. Oliver	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
10	Middleton, Belmont	13, 12+	J. MacDougall, L. Taylor	
11	Salisbury-P.I., Quabbin (G40)	11, 14	R. Forster, BBC (M. Lynch)	
12	Cape Ann, N. Scituate	32, 25	R. Stymeist#, R. Abrams	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Ruby-crowned Kinglet (continued)				
24, 25	Waltham, Lawrence	6, 1	L. Taylor, V. Yurkunas	
30, 31	Hamilton, Winchester	6, 4	D. F. Oliver, F. Porter	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				
24	Scituate	1	G. d'Entremont	
Eastern Bluebird				
thr	E. Middleboro	6 total (2 or 3 daily)	K. Anderson	
10, 24	Milford	5, 8	R. Hildreth	
11, 31	Quabbin (G40), Carver	46, 1	BBC (M. Lynch), B. Bruffee#	
18	Randolph	5	G. d'Entremont	
Veery				
2, 9; 10	Nantucket	1, 1 b; 1	E. Andrews; F. Bouchard	
9	P.I.	1	T. Aversa	
Gray-checked Thrush				
2, 10	Topsfield, Nantucket	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, F. Bouchard	
13, 22	Manomet	1, 1	J. Atwood	
18	W. Newbury (Cherry Hill)	1	R. Abrams	
Swainson's Thrush				
2; 5, 7, 9	Topsfield; Nantucket	2; 3 b	D. F. Oliver; E. Andrews	
10	Newbypt area, Nantucket	1, 1	BBC (S. Bolton), F. Bouchard	
11, 12	Petersham, P.I.	3, 1	G. Gove#, D. Chickering	
12, 15	N. Scituate, Chatham	1, 4	R. Abrams, R. Forster#	
Hermit Thrush				
9, 15, 17	Nantucket	3 b	E. Andrews	
10, 18, 24	Waltham	4, 3, 1	L. Taylor	
10	Wachusett Reservoir	2	D. Donovan	
11, 17	Quabbin (G40)	6, 7	M. Lynch#	
14, 25	Petersham, Belmont	6, 5	D. F. Oliver, L. Taylor	
30	Groveland	5	T. Aversa	
Wood Thrush				
2, 11	Nantucket, P'town	1, 1	BBC (D. Davis), J. Barton	
12, 26	Boxford, Arlington	1, 1	J. Brown, A. Williams	
American Robin				
7, 10, 27	Easton	130, 234, 317	K. Ryan	
11, 17, 24	Quabbin (G40)	82, 257, 27	M. Lynch#	
12	Wenham	200+	J. Berry	
Gray Catbird				
3	Newbypt area	40	BBC (R. McHale)	
Northern Mockingbird				
10	Salisbury, P.I.	5, 3	M. Lynch#	
Brown Thrasher				
2-4, 10	Nantucket, Newton	4, 1	BBC (D. Davis), O. Komar	
11	E. Orleans	1	E. Williams	
Water Pipit				
2, 3	Nantucket, P.I.	1, 2	BBC (D. Davis), D. Morimoto	
10	Salisbury, Winthrop	4, 5	M. Lynch#, J. Cumming	
11, 16; 17, 31	Danvers; Ipswich	4; 1, 15+	J. Brown; J. Berry	
24	Newbypt area	65	BBC (S. Whittum)	
31	W. Newbury	25	BBC (D. Chickering)	
Cedar Waxwing				
3, 12	Annisquam, Wenham	40, 30+	H. Wiggin, J. Berry	
15, 29	P'town, Easton	50, 25	D. F. Oliver, K. Ryan	
Northern Shrike				
30, 31	Scituate, Princeton	1, 1	D. Clapp, G. Gove#	
Loggerhead Shrike				
11-12	P'town	1	J. Barton + v. o.	
White-eyed Vireo				
3	Newbypt area	1	BBC (R. McHale)	
Solitary Vireo				
3	Hamilton, Truro	1, 4	J. Berry, R. Stymeist#	
8, 10	MNWS, Belmont	1, 1	R. Forster, L. Taylor	
14, 19, 30	Nantucket	1, 1 b, 1 b	E. Andrews	
16, 24	Chatham, Belmont	2, 2	R. Forster, R. Stymeist#	
Philadelphia Vireo				
1, 3	MNWS, Truro	1, 1	R. Forster, R. Stymeist	
Red-eyed Vireo				
1, 2	MNWS, Topsfield	3, 1	R. Forster, D. F. Oliver	
3, 10	Truro, Milford	6, 1	R. Stymeist#, R. Hildreth	
11	Salisbury	1	R. Forster	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Orange-crowned Warbler				
3, 9	Truro, Nantucket	1, 1 b	R. Stymeist, E. Andrews	
12	Gloucester, Rowley	1, 1	R. Stymeist, G. d'Entremont#	
17, 31	P.I., Holliston	1, 1	W. Petersen, R. Hildreth	
Nashville Warbler				
2, 9; 3	Nantucket; Truro	1 b, 1 b; 6	E. Andrews; R. Stymeist#	
Northern Parula				
3	Truro, Boxford	3, 1	R. Stymeist#, J. Brown	
Chestnut-sided Warbler				
3	Nantucket, Wellfleet	1, 1	BBC (D. Davis), R. Stymeist#	
Magnolia Warbler				
31	P.I.	1	BBC (D. Chickering)	
Cape May Warbler				
1-19	Millis	3 max 10/6	R. Forster	
2-4	Nantucket	2	BBC (D. Davis)	
Black-throated Blue Warbler				
5, 9, 18, 20	Nantucket	1 b, 2 b, 1 m, 1 f	E. Andrews#	
5, 8, 12	Stoneham	3, 2, 1	T. Aversa	
12	Nahant, N. Scituate	1, 2	L. Pivacek, R. Abrams	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
9, 15	Nantucket (Ice Pd)	99 b, 92 b	E. Andrews	
16, 19	Nantucket (Ice Pd)	99 b, 119 b	E. Andrews	
10	P.I., S. Natick	60, 40	BBC (S. Bolton), T. Aversa	
17, 24	Quabbin (G40), Mashpee	41, 24	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
Black-throated Gray Warbler				
21-23	Scituate (Driftway)	1	A. Leggett# + v. o.	
Black-throated Green Warbler				
12	Nahant, Rockport	3, 1	L. Pivacek, R. Stymeist#	
Blackburnian Warbler				
3	Newbypt area	1	BBC (R. McHale)	
Pine Warbler				
3	Truro, Newbypt area	12, 1	R. Stymeist#, BBC (R. McHale)	
2, 3	Boxford (2 locales)	1, 1	J. Brown	
11; 11, 17	P.I.; Quabbin (G40)	1; 64, 20	R. Forster; M. Lynch#	
Prairie Warbler				
10	Newton	1	O. Komar	
Palm Warbler				
2, 3	Lawrence, Annisquam	1, 3	V. Yurkunas, H. Wiggin	
2-4	Nantucket	150	BBC (D. Davis)	
11, 12	Quabbin (G40), Marshfield	6, 5	M. Lynch#, R. Abrams	
13, 25	Concord, Truro	10, 2	R. Forster#, P. Trimble	
Bay-breasted Warbler				
3	GMNWR, Truro	1, 1	M. Lynch#, R. Stymeist#	
4, 6	P.I., Millis	1, 1	J. Brown, R. Forster	
Blackpoll Warbler				
2, 10	Topsfield, S. Natick	3, 10	D. F. Oliver, T. Aversa	
18	Marshfield	2	G. d'Entremont	
30	Nantucket	1 ad f b	E. Andrews	
Black-and-white Warbler				
1, 5, 6	Stoneham	1, 1, 1	T. Aversa	
American Redstart				
3, 12	Truro, N. Scituate	6, 6	R. Stymeist#, R. Abrams	
Northern Waterthrush				
2, 12	Topsfield, Scituate	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, R. Abrams	
Mourning Warbler				
1, 13	Topsfield, MBO	1, 1	J. Brown, J. Atwood	
Common Yellowthroat				
3	GMNWR, Winchester	4, 1	M. Lynch#, F. Porter	
11, 12	Quabbin (G40), Newbypt	1, 1	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont#	
Hooded Warbler				
1	Truro	1 m	S. Harrison	
Wilson's Warbler				
3; 6, 10	Truro; Salisbury	2; 1	R. Stymeist#; D. F. Oliver	
Yellow-breasted Chat				
3	Nantucket, Wellfleet	1, 1	BBC (D. Davis), R. Stymeist	
12, 16	Scituate, Chatham	1, 1	R. Abrams, W. Bailey#	
31	Belmont	1	L. Taylor	
Scarlet Tanager				
5: 21, 26	P.I.; Manomet (MBO)	1; 1, 1	D. Chickering; J. Atwood	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Northern Cardinal				
29	Brookline	11	H. Wiggin	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				
10, 12-16	Topsfield, Nantucket	1, 1 imm m	J. Brown, E. Andrews	
14	Winchester	1 imm m	F. Porter	
Blue Grosbeak				
2-4, 3	Nantucket, Truro	2, 3	BBC (D. Davis), R. Stymeist#	
Indigo Bunting				
1, 5, 13	Nantucket	1, 1, 1	E. Andrews	
3, 15	Truro	10, 2	R. Stymeist#, R. Forster#	
17	Nahant	3	J. Cumming	
Dickcissel				
2, 3	Chatham, Truro	1, 5	B. Nikula, R. Stymeist#	
10	Newbury	1	BBC (S. Bolton)	
11, 15	Truro	2, 1	J. Barton, D. F. Oliver	
18	Nantucket	1	M. Litchfield + v. o.	
Rufous-sided Towhee				
3, 14	Hamilton, Petersham	3, 4	J. Berry, D. F. Oliver	
American Tree Sparrow				
17	S. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	
Chipping Sparrow				
3	P'town, Annisquam	60, 25	R. Stymeist, H. Wiggin	
11, 12	Salisbury-P.I., Cape Ann	32, 30	R. Forster#, L. Taylor#	
11, 17	Quabbin (G40)	18, 14	M. Lynch#	
25, 31	Truro, Belmont	2, 5	P. Trimble, L. Taylor	
Clay-colored Sparrow				
2-4, 4	Nantucket, P.I.	1, 1	BBC (D. Davis), J. Brown	
10, 12	Truro, P'town	1, 1	G. Gove#, K. Griffis	
30	Hamilton	1	D. F. Oliver	
Field Sparrow				
3, 17	P.I.	7, 12	BBC (R. McHale), W. Petersen#	
10, 13	Milford	5, 15	R. Hildreth	
17, 24	Nantucket, Belmont area	1 b, 7	E. Andrews, L. Taylor	
Vesper Sparrow				
3	P'town, Belmont	4, 1	R. Stymeist#, L. Taylor	
12, 13	Scituate, Concord (Nine Acre)	1, 2	R. Abrams#	
15, 20	S. Wellfleet, P.I.	5, 1	R. Forster#	
22, 24; 25	Scituate; Sandwich	1, 1; 6	R. Forster; P. Trimble	
Lark Sparrow				
3	P'town (Race Pt)	1	R. Stymeist	
Savannah Sparrow				
6, 8	Salisbury, Belmont	59, 28	D. F. Oliver, L. Taylor	
10, 17	Ipswich (Northgate Rd)	100+, 25+	J. Berry	
25	Sandwich, Lawrence	10, 3	P. Trimble, V. Yurkunas	
Grasshopper Sparrow				
15	Truro	1	W. Bailey#	
Sharp-tailed Sparrow				
1, 11	P.I.	11, 4	D. F. Oliver, R. Forster	
3, 13, 18	GMNWR	2, 3, 3	M. Lynch#, R. Walton, M. Lynch#	
4; 6, 13	Eastham; S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	4; 2, 1	G. d'Entremont#; LCES (J. Lyons)	
12, 24	Newbypt, Mashpee	12, 1	G. d'Entremont#, P. Trimble	
Seaside Sparrow				
1, 12	P.I., Newbypt	1, 5	D. F. Oliver, G. d'Entremont#	
13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Fox Sparrow				
20, 26, 30	Manomet (MBO)	1 b, 1, 1	J. Atwood	
24, 31	Quabbin (G40)	5, 1	M. Lynch#	
30	Brookline	1	B. Rielly#	
Song Sparrow				
3	Newbypt area, GMNWR	25, 69	BBC (R. McHale), M. Lynch#	
6, 10	Salisbury, Milford	51, 33	D. F. Oliver, R. Hildreth	
11, 17	Quabbin (G40)	24, 39	M. Lynch#	
Lincoln's Sparrow				
2, 3	Lawrence, Beverly	1, 1	V. Yurkunas, J. Brown	
3	GMNWR, Truro	1, 3	M. Lynch#, R. Stymeist#	
4-25	Belmont (2 locales)	2 or 3+	L. Taylor	
12	Nahant, Wayland	4, 1	L. Pivacek, R. Abrams#	
12, 29	Wenham, Manomet (MBO)	1, 1	J. Berry, J. Atwood	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	OCTOBER 1987
Swamp Sparrow				
3, 18	GMNWR	132, 45	M. Lynch#	
15, 16	Belmont	6, 6	L. Taylor	
White-throated Sparrow				
11, 17	Quabbin (G40)	64, 61	M. Lynch#	
12	Nahant, Winchester	250+, 43	L. Pivacek, F. Porter	
14, 30	Petersham, Hamilton	67, 22	D. F. Oliver	
White-crowned Sparrow				
3; 11, 17	P'town; Quabbin (G40)	4; 1, 3	R. Stymeist#; M. Lynch#	
4, 15, 16, 18, 19	Belmont	1, 3, 2, 1, 1	L. Taylor	
11, 15, 25	Truro	8, 11, 2	J. Barton, R. Forster#, P. Trimble	
12	Scituate, Nahant	2, 11	R. Abrams, L. Pivacek	
25, 30	Belmont, Sudbury	1, 1	L. Taylor, R. Forster	
Dark-eyed Junco				
3, 11, 17	Quabbin (G40)	75, 19, 101	M. Lynch#	
11, 12	Salisbury-P.I., Nahant	85, 200+	R. Forster, L. Pivacek	
Lapland Longspur				
18	N. Monomoy	40+	B. Nikula	
27	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	4	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Snow Bunting				
28	Scituate, Gloucester	24, 14	D. Clapp, D. F. Oliver	
29	Rockport	50	D. F. Oliver	
Bobolink				
3	Nantucket, P'town	8, 1	BBC (D. Davis), R. Stymeist#	
3-25	Truro (Highland Farm)	5-2	v. o.	
6, 8	Danvers, Beverly	1, 1	J. Brown	
15-20	DWWS	2	D. Ludlow	
Red-winged Blackbird				
3, 18	GMNWR	157, 125+	M. Lynch#	
22	Topsfield	650	D. F. Oliver	
Eastern Meadowlark				
thr	DWWS	16 max 10/25	D. Ludlow + v. o.	
24	Belmont, Mashpee	1, 6	L. Taylor, P. Trimble	
Rusty Blackbird				
10	Concord-Sudbury	85	R. Forster#	
18, 27	S. Carver, GMNWR	15, 15	K. Anderson, T. Aversa	
Brewer's Blackbird				
25	Truro (Corn Hill)	1 f	P. Trimble	
Common Grackle				
22	Topsfield	1000	D. F. Oliver	
Brown-headed Cowbird				
8, 10	Bedford, Rowley	250+, 200	L. Taylor, BBC (S. Bolton)	
blackbirds species (95% grackles)				
24	Bridgewater	10000-15000	G. Gove	
Northern Oriole				
2-4	Nantucket	1	BBC (D. Davis)	
Purple Finch				
10, 11-15	Middleton, Nantucket	3, 4	J. MacDougall, E. Andrews	
17	Quabbin (G40)	38	M. Lynch#	
31	Belmont-Waltham	15+	L. Taylor	
Red Crossbill				
24	Quabbin (G37)	1	M. Lynch#	
White-winged Crossbill				
7	Millis	5	R. Forster	
Pine Siskin				
6, 11	Worcester, P.I.	6, 27	M. Lynch#, R. Forster	
11, 17, 31	Quabbin (G40)	1, 146, 46	M. Lynch#	
11, 27	Topsfield	23, 6	J. Brown	
12, 18	N. Scituate, Chatham	8, 3	R. Abrams, B. Nikula	
American Goldfinch				
14, 17	Petersham, Quabbin (G40)	33, 145	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
Evening Grosbeak				
6; 17, 31	Worcester; Quabbin (G40)	2; 28, 33	M. Lynch#	
24, 27	Belmont, Lawrence	2, 1	L. Taylor, V. Yurkunas	
31	Ipswich, Middleboro	1, 10	J. Berry, D. Briggs#	

FIELD RECORDS

NOVEMBER 1987



Short-eared Owl
Photo by Jane Cumming

by Glenn d'Entremont, George W. Gove, and Robert H. Stymeist

November 1987 was dry, sunny, and cool; the temperature averaged 43.9 degrees, 1.3 degrees below normal. The temperatures went up and down all month. After the high for the month of 78 degrees on November 4, the temperature went down to 32 degrees on the sixth, rose again to 66 degrees on the ninth, dropped to 29 degrees on the eleventh, climbed to 70 degrees on the eighteenth, then fell to 16 degrees on November 21. Precipitation totaled 3.49 inches, a little less than normal, but snow was the big news of the month. A record-breaking total of 9 inches fell on November 10-12, the most for so early on the season. It was the most snow for a November since 10 inches in 1938 and the third greatest November snowfall in ninety-seven years. Another unusual weather event for the month was the haze and smoky sky on November 8 caused by forest fires some hundreds of miles to the southwest. A northeast wind on November 10-11 produced a sizeable flight of seabirds at both Rockport and Barnstable. R.H.S.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS

Two reports of Pacific Loons were received; both lacked details. A number of birders observed the possible Pacific Loon off Rockport November 27, but the field notes reported were scanty. Great care should be taken in identifying these birds, and reports should be sent with as many details as possible. It may be that a small number of these birds winters along the Massachusetts coast. To establish this fact requires the painstaking task of field record documentation.

Red-throated Loon numbers were below average, but the observed birds were well distributed. Pied-billed Grebes were seen in large numbers at several locations. For the first November since 1980, not one Northern Fulmar was reported. Double-crested Cormorants lingered in unprecedented numbers, with 105 in Boston Harbor and 92 in Westport. Three reports of Great Egret were noteworthy, and 7 Cattle Egrets were seen at three locations on November 5. G.d'E.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Red-throated Loon				
2, 16; 15	P.I.	11, 10; 4	D. F. Oliver; J. Berry	
7, 9	Manomet, N. Scituate	18 in 1 hr, 25	R. Abrams	
11, 20	Barnstable (S.N.)	76, 30	W. Petersen#, P. Trimble	
14, 15	Peddocks I., Newbypt	16, 36	BBC (J. Nove), BBC (T. Prince)	
11-15	Arlington-Belmont	1	L. Taylor	
11, 15	Rockport	23, 16	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
Common Loon				
1	Nantucket, Quabbin (G37)	7, 7	E. Andrews, M. Lynch#	
11	Barnstable (S.N.), Rockport	85, 18	W. Petersen#, D. F. Oliver	
15, 20	Newbypt, Barnstable (S.N.)	12, 12	BBC (T. Prince), P. Trimble	
25, 29	Sandwich, Manomet	19, 20	D. F. Oliver, G. d'Entremont	
Pied-billed Grebe				
thr	Arlington	13 max	L. Taylor	
1	Lakeville, GMNWR	37, 5	W. Petersen, BBC (R. Vernon)	
8, 14	Milford, Plymouth	6, 20	R. Hildreth, W. Petersen	
22, 29	Sandwich, Lakeville	5, 11	M. Lynch#, W. Petersen	
Horned Grebe				
thr	Hull	60 max	P. Thayer	
1	Lakeville, Quabbin (G37)	61, 13	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
8	Quincy, P.I.	295, 14	R. Abrams, D. Chickering	
25	Falmouth	81	D. F. Oliver	
Red-necked Grebe				
2, 7	Waltham, Lakeville	1, 1	R. Forster, SSBC (W. Petersen)	
11, 15	Barnstable (S.N.), Gloucester	4, 14	W. Petersen#, M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Greater Shearwater				
1	Stellwagen Bank	10	R. Abrams#	
Manx Shearwater				
10-12	Barnstable (S.N.)	1	R. Forster#	
shearwater species				
10	Barnstable (S.N.)	1	R. Forster	
Northern Gannet				
2, 7	P.I., E. Sandwich	60, 60	D. F. Oliver, F. Porter	
11	Rockport, Barnstable (S.N.)	800+, 1300	D. F. Oliver, W. Petersen#	
26, 29	Rockport (A.P.), Manomet	400+, 30	T. Aversa, G. d'Entremont#	
Great Cormorant				
thr	Rockport	22 max	v. o.	
1, 13	Lakeville, Lincoln	2 imm, 2	W. Petersen, R. Forster	
14, 17	Pedlocks I., Westport	8, 16	BBC (J. Nove), D. F. Oliver	
29	Manomet	5	G. d'Entremont	
Double-crested Cormorant				
14, 15	Pedlocks I., Gloucester	105, 4 imm	BBC (J. Nove), M. Lynch#	
17, 19	Nonomasset I., Plymouth	30, 5	P. Trimble, R. Abrams	
17, 28	Westport, Medford	92, 1 ad	D. F. Oliver, L. Taylor	
American Bittern				
thr, 1-8	P.I., Ipswich	1, 1	v. o.	
8, 14	Squantum, Woburn	1, 1	K. Ryan, BBC (D. Williams)	
Great Blue Heron				
8	Rockport, Randolph	4, 1	M. Lynch#, G. d'Entremont	
1, 13	GMNWR, Salisbury	7, 4	F. Porter, T. Aversa	
16, 17	Marlboro, Westport	3, 17	R. Graefe, D. F. Oliver	
Great Egret				
13, 30	S. Dartmouth, Falmouth	1, 1	LCES (J. Lyons), P. Trimble	
19-22	Wayland	1	R. Forster	
Snowy Egret				
4-8	P.I.	2 max	v. o.	
Cattle Egret				
5	Concord, Yarmouth	1, 1	R. Forster#, C. Smith	
5-7	Rowley	5	v. o.	
Black-crowned Night-Heron				
1	Ipswich	1	BBC (J. Berry)	
7, 21	P.I.	1, 1	BBC (B. Gette), BBC (S. Whittum)	

WATERFOWL

Snow Geese were observed migrating in large numbers for this region. Two late Blue-winged Teal were noted at S. Monomoy on November 28; the count of 65 Northern Shovelers at that location was noteworthy. Fourty-eight Gadwall in Plymouth constituted a very high count for that county. Four male Eurasian Wigeon were reported. Six hundred and seventy-seven Canvasbacks at Fresh Pond must have been a sight. Numbers of Ring-necked Ducks were at their lowest since 1983. Three male King Eiders were seen, and a total of 9 Harlequin Ducks was noted from five locations. It was a banner year for Hooded Mergansters, with no less than 700 reported from locations throughout eastern Massachusetts. Ruddy Ducks were seen in exceptional numbers, with 525 noted at Great Pond. G.d'E.

Mute Swan				
3, 17	Gloucester, Acoaxet	5, 71	M. Lynch#, D. F. Oliver	
29	Plymouth, Plymouth (Billington Sea)	47, 53	G. d'Entremont#	
Snow Goose				
thr	P.I.	300 max 11/7	v. o.	
7	Bridgewater-Lakeville	2000+ mig	SSBC (W. Petersen)	
7, 22	Westport, Falmouth	3, 1	D. F. Oliver, v. o.	
21	Wachusett Reservoir	3	D. Donovan	
Brant				
1, 7-8	Quincy, Lakeville	500, 1	P. Thayer, W. Petersen#	
14, 16	Plymouth, Hull	250+, 35	W. Petersen, P. Thayer	
Canada Goose				
1, 7	Quabbin (G37), W. Newbury	157, 365	M. Lynch#, R. Stymeist#	
17, 21	S. Dart., Wachusett Reservoir	700+, 800+	LCES (J. Lyons), D. Donovan	
Wood Duck				
1, 8-16	GMNWR, Cambridge (F.P.)	8, 1	BBC (R. Vernon), v. o.	
22	Falmouth, Great I.	1 m, 1	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
Green-winged Teal				
thr, 1	P.I., Quabbin (G37)	165 max 11/2, 28	v. o., M. Lynch#	
2, 14	Lincoln, Wayland	28, 45	R. Forster	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Green-winged Teal (continued)				
15, 28	S. Monomoy	200, 100	B. Nikula#	
American Black Duck				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	632 max 11/13	LCES (J. Lyons)	
15	P.I.	500+	J. Berry	
Northern Pintail				
thr	Yarmouthport	50 max	J. Aylward#	
1-16, 14	P.I., GMNWR	24 max 11/2, 9	v. o., T. Aversa	
14-15; 15, 28	Arlington; S. Monomoy	6 max; 9, 15	L. Taylor; B. Nikula#	
Blue-winged Teal				
28	S. Monomoy	2	B. Nikula#	
Northern Shoveler				
2, 25	P.I.	9, 6	D. F. Oliver, G. Gove#	
14-16; 15, 28	S. Carver; S. Monomoy	2; 65, 30	J. Shaw; B. Nikula#	
Gadwall				
thr	P.I., Plymouth	10 max, 48 max	11/14 v. o., W. Petersen#	
1, 7	Ipswich, Holliston	49, 5	BBC (J. Berry), R. Hildreth	
17, 28	Acoaxet, S. Monomoy	13, 8	D. F. Oliver, B. Nikula#	
Eurasian Wigeon				
thr	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	1 m	v. o.	
thr, 1	Nantucket, GMNWR	2 m, 1 m	E. Andrews, BBC (R. Vernon)	
American Wigeon				
thr	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	105 max 11/19	v. o.	
thr	Nantucket	150+ max 11/23	E. Andrews	
thr, 17	Arlington, Acoaxet	116 max 11/11, 13	L. Taylor, D. F. Oliver	
21, 28	W. Yarmouth, S. Monomoy	12, 60	P. Trimble, B. Nikula#	
Canvasback				
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	677 max 11/23	J. Barton + v. o.	
thr	Nantucket	143 max 11/21	E. Andrews#	
thr	Lakeville	60 max 11/29	W. Petersen#	
17, 30	Westport, Falmouth	38, 90	D. F. Oliver, P. Trimble	
Redhead				
thr	Cambridge (F.P.), Nant.	2 max, 100+	J. Barton#, E. Andrews	
thr	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	9 max 11/19	v. o.	
2-7, 8	W. Newbury, Rockport	1 m, 1 m	v. o., M. Lynch#	
17, 22	Acoaxet, Falmouth	2, 73	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
Ring-necked Duck				
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	150 max 11/18	v. o.	
1	Lakeville, Quabbin (G37)	500, 73	W. Petersen, M. Lynch#	
7, 8	W. Newbury, Randolph	338, 125	R. Stymeist#, G. d'Entremont	
23	Nantucket	85	E. Andrews	
Greater Scaup				
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	33	v. o.	
8	Randolph (Great Pond)	30	G. d'Entremont	
15, 29	Wachusett Reservoir, Falmouth	71, 2010	D. Donovan, P. Trimble	
Lesser Scaup				
17, 25	Westport, Falmouth	14, 10	D. F. Oliver	
28, 29	S. Monomoy, Andover	30, 7	B. Nikula#, V. Yurkunas	
Common Eider				
8, 11	N. Monomoy, Rockport (A.P.)	3000, 5475	B. Nikula, D. F. Oliver	
12, 17	Eastham (F.E.), Westport	8000+, 134	W. Petersen#, D. F. Oliver	
29	Manomet, Rockport	3000+, 1100+	G. d'Entremont#, J. Berry#	
King Eider				
25-28, 28-29	Manomet, Rockport	1 ad m, 1 ad m	v. o.	
29	Dennis (Corp. B.)	1 ad m	R. Comeau	
Harlequin Duck				
8-30	Rockport	5 max 11/28	v. o.	
27-30, 29	Winthrop, Wellfleet	1 m, 1 m	F. Vale#, B. Mog	
29	P'town, N. Scituate	1, 1	J. Barton, J. Cameron#	
Oldsquaw				
1	Lakeville	1	W. Petersen	
10, 11	Barnstable (S.N.)	896, 3325	R. Forster, W. Petersen	
11, 28	Rockport (A.P.), S. Monomoy	749, 800+	D. F. Oliver, B. Nikula#	
Black Scoter				
11, 14	Rockport (A.P.), E. Orleans	417, 150	D. F. Oliver, A. Williams	
27	Cambridge (F.P.)	2	J. Barton	
Surf Scoter				
1	Lakeville	1	W. Petersen	
11	Rockport (A.P.), Eastham	934, 3000+	D. F. Oliver, W. Petersen#	
11	Barnstable (S.N.)	5000	W. Petersen#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
White-winged Scoter				
11	Rockport (A.P.), Barnstable (S.N.)	642, 500	D. F. Oliver, W. Petersen#	
29	Rockport (A.P.), Manomet Pt	150+, 200	J. Berry#, G. d'Entremont#	
Common Goldeneye				
1, 15	Lakeville, Clinton	9, 38	W. Petersen, D. Donovan	
Bufflehead				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	89 max 11/24	LCES (J. Lyons)	
1, 6	Lakeville, Cambridge (F.P.)	50, 37	W. Petersen, J. Barton	
8	Quincy Bay, Braintree	552, 25	R. Abrams, G. d'Entremont	
22, 28	Falmouth, Newbypt	217, 200+	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
Hooded Merganser				
thr	Arlington Reservoir	36 max 11/11	L. Taylor	
thr	Braintree (Great Pond)	75 max 11/28	v. o.	
thr	Plymouth (Billington Sea)	40+ max 11/14	v. o.	
thr	Stoneham	29 max 11/3	T. Aversa	
thr	Waltham-Lincoln (Cambr. Reservoir)	62 max 11/13	v. o.	
thr	S. Carver	34 max 11/28	J. Shaw	
thr	Falmouth	147 max 11/25	v. o.	
Common Merganser				
thr	Lakeville	175 max 11/29	v. o.	
thr	Wakefield	114 max 11/14	D. Williams + v. o.	
thr	Waltham-Lincoln (Cambr. Reservoir)	60 max 11/2	v. o.	
Red-breasted Merganser				
2	off Tuckernuck I.	10000+	J. C. Andrews#	
10, 11	Barnstable (S.N.)	300+, 2000	R. Forster, W. Petersen#	
11	Rockport (A.P.)	636	D. F. Oliver	
Ruddy Duck				
thr	Lakeville	125 max 11/1	v. o.	
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	89 max 11/18	v. o.	
thr	Braintree (Great Pond)	525+ max 11/9	v. o.	
thr	Waltham-Lincoln (Cambr. Reservoir)	168 max 11/2	v. o.	
thr	Framingham	92 max 11/25	K. Hamilton	
thr	S. Monomoy	300+ max 11/1	B. Nikula#	
Reports of small-medium flocks from many locations.				

RAPTORS THROUGH COOTS

Turkey Vultures and Ospreys lingered through midmonth with 7 Turkey Vultures seen together in Sturbridge. Single Bald Eagles were reported from Wachusett and Quabbin reservoirs. A total of 24 Sharp-shinned Hawks was reported with a male and a female being seen throughout the month in Framingham. A Cooper's Hawk spent the month at Yarmouthport, and a total of six of this species was reported. An immature Peregrine Falcon was noted on two occasions at North Monomoy, and three Gyrfalcons were reported, two of which were said to be dark birds. A flock of Wild Turkeys came to a pasture on West Street in Petersham. American Coot were present for much of the month at several locations with up to 275 at the Billington Sea in Plymouth. G.W.G.

Turkey Vulture				
1, 16	Sturbridge, Lakeville	7, 1	K. Anderson, K. Ryan	
Osprey				
1; 2, 3	GMNWR; Lincoln	1; 1, 1	F. Porter#; R. Forster	
11, 16	Lakeville	1, 1	R. Turner, K. Ryan	
Bald Eagle				
11, 27	Clinton, Quabbin (G40)	1 imm, 1 imm	D. Donovan, M. Lynch#	
Northern Harrier				
thr	Middleboro	1-3	W. Petersen	
1, 3-12	Quabbin (G37), Halifax	2 m, 2 or 3	M. Lynch#, K. Anderson	
2, 7	P.I., W. Barnstable	3, 3	D. F. Oliver, F. Porter	
15, 28	S. Monomoy	3, 3	B. Nikula	
Sharp-shinned Hawk				
thr	Framingham	1 m + 1 f	K. Hamilton	
1, 18	Nantucket, Whitman	1, 1	E. Andrews, K. Holmes	
8, 22	Rockport, Topsfield	2, 1	M. Lynch#, D. F. Oliver	
Reports of individuals from 17 locations.				
Cooper's Hawk				
thr, 1	Yarmouthport, GMNWR	1 ad, 1	K. Hamilton, BBC (R. Vernon)	
7	Rochester	1	SSBC (W. Petersen)	
9, 28	P.I.	1, 1	D. F. Oliver, T. Aversa	
29	Bourne	1 imm	G. d'Entremont	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Northern Goshawk				
3, 11	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), Clinton	1, 1	LCES (J. Lyons), D. Donovan	
14, 28	P.I., S. Wellfleet	1, 1	D. Chickering, J. Barton	
Reports of individuals from 5 locations.				
Red-shouldered Hawk				
14	Hanover	1 ad	W. Petersen	
Red-tailed Hawk				
1, 7	Waltham, N. Middleboro	4 ad, 2	L. Taylor, K. Holmes	
8, 22	E. Middleboro, W. Bridgewater	2, 2	K. Anderson	
27	Bridgewater	3	T. Aversa	
Rough-legged Hawk				
2, 15	Newburyport, Gloucester	1, 1	W. Ellison, M. Lynch#	
26, 28; 29	Salisbury; DWWS	1, 2; 1 dk	D. Chickering; D. Ludlow	
Merlin				
1, 2	Nantucket, P.I.	1, 1	E. Andrews, D. F. Oliver	
14, 30	Salisbury, Falmouth	1, 1	J. Gordon#, P. Trimble	
Reports of individuals from 5 locations.				
Peregrine Falcon				
8, 14	N. Monomoy	1 imm	B. Nikula#	
Gyr Falcon				
13	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1 (no details)	LCES (J. Lyons)	
15	Rockport	1 dark	M. Lynch#	
28	S. Monomoy	1 dark	B. Nikula#	
Ruffed Grouse				
11, 14	Clinton, Holliston	8, 7	D. Donovan, T. Aversa	
27, 30	Quabbin (G40), Royalston	8, 7	M. Lynch#, K. Hamilton	
Wild Turkey				
14, 21; 24	Petersham	42, 41; 16	M. Lynch#; D. F. Oliver	
30	Royalston	2	K. Hamilton	
Northern Bobwhite				
18, 25	Sandwich, Belmont	60, 3	P. Trimble, R. Martel	
Virginia Rail				
thr	DWWS	1 or 2	D. Ludlow	
15	Nantucket	1	E. Andrews	
American Coot				
thr	Cambridge (F.P.)	11 max 11/27	J. Barton + v. o.	
thr	S. Monomoy	50-60	B. Nikula#	
1	Lakeville	60	W. Petersen	
14-29	Plymouth	275 max 11/14	v. o.	
7-29	Arlington	34 max 11/28	L. Taylor	

SHOREBIRDS

A Whimbrel at Plum Island on November 2 constituted the third *BOEM* November report, the other two were in 1973 and 1987. A Hudsonian Godwit present at Newburyport through November 25 established the second latest sighting for this species, the latest was November 27, 1983 in the same location. No Marbled Godwit was reported this November, making only the second November in *BOEM* field records without a report of this species. Both Semipalmated and Western Sandpipers were reported; many small November peep turn out to be Western Sandpipers, and all late sightings of peep should be checked carefully. White-rumped Sandpipers were a usual November sandpiper. Only one other November Least Sandpiper exists in the *BOEM* records, that being November 5, 1983 in Halifax, thus the two birds at North Monomoy through November 14 were unusual and late. Another unusual bird was the Stilt Sandpiper at South Monomoy, only the fifth November report. Both Red and Red-necked phalaropes were noted. G.W.G.

Black-bellied Plover				
thr	Hull	19 max 11/2	P. Thayer	
8, 14	N. Monomoy	300, 150	B. Nikula	
2	P.I.	48	D. F. Oliver	
Lesser Golden-Plover				
2-16	P.I.	32 max 11/2	v. o.	
8	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	
Semipalmated Plover				
1	Nantucket	3	E. + C. Andrews	
Killdeer				
7-15, 8	Arlington, Randolph	7 max 11/7, 3	L. Taylor, G. d'Entremont	
American Oystercatcher				
1, 8	Chatham	7, 7	B. Nikula	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Greater Yellowlegs				
1	Lakeville, Hingham	2, 27	W. Petersen, D. Ludlow	
3, 17	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	20, 2	LCES (J. Lyons)	
8, 11	Squantum, Arlington	20, 1	R. Abrams, L. Taylor	
15	P.I., Ipswich	1, 1	J. Berry	
Lesser Yellowlegs				
1, 15	Ipswich, P.I.	1, 1-2	J. Berry	
28	Gloucester	1	M. Lynch# + v. o.	
Whimbrel				
2	P.I.	1	T. Crossman#	
Hudsonian Godwit				
1-25	P.I.-Newburyport	1 or 2	v. o.	
8	N. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	
Red Knot				
8, 14; 14	N. Monomoy, N. Scituate	10, 4; 10	B. Nikula, W. Petersen	
Sanderling				
1	Nantucket	235	E. Andrews#	
8, 14	N. Monomoy	250, 300	B. Nikula	
15, 28	Gloucester	19, 7	M. Lynch#	
Semipalmated Sandpiper				
3; 8, 14	P.I., N. Monomoy	1; 1, 1	R. Forster, B. Nikula	
Western Sandpiper				
12	Hull	1	P. Thayer	
Least Sandpiper				
8, 14	N. Monomoy	2, 2	B. Nikula	
White-rumped Sandpiper				
1, 3	Ipswich, P.I.	1, 9	BBC (J. Berry), R. Forster	
8, 14; 28	N. Monomoy; S. Monomoy	2, 1; 1	B. Nikula	
Pectoral Sandpiper				
1, 7	Quabbin (G37), Arlington	10, 2	M. Lynch#, L. Taylor	
1, 8	S. Monomoy, N. Monomoy	2, 2	B. Nikula	
17	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	2	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Purple Sandpiper				
8, 14	Rockport, N. Scituate	94, 200	M. Lynch#, W. Petersen	
29	Rockport	120	J. Berry	
Dunlin				
1-25	P.I.	690 max 11/2	v. o.	
8, 14	N. Monomoy	1500	B. Nikula	
17	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	117	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Stilt Sandpiper				
1	S. Monomoy	1	B. Nikula	
Long-billed Dowitcher				
1-25	P.I.	20 max 11/3	v. o.	
9	Salisbury	3	D. F. Oliver	
Common Snipe				
7-15	Arlington	1 or 2	L. Taylor	
14, 24	Woburn, DWWS	1, 1	BBC (D. Williams), D. Ludlow	
American Woodcock				
1, 28	Nantucket	1, 1	E. Andrews	
6, 18	Holliston, S. Dartmouth	1, 2	T. Aversa, LCES (J. Lyons)	
24	Ipswich	1	J. Berry	
Red-necked Phalarope				
2	P.I.	1	W. Ellison#	
Red Phalarope				
12	Eastham	35	W. Petersen	

JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS

The cold, wet, foggy days of November 11-12 with north winds at about 20 mph, peaking to around 40 mph, brought seabirds into view at the usual coastal vantage points, such as Andrews Point, Sandy Neck and First Encounter Beach. Among the seabirds reported were 39 Pomarine Jaegers and 1000 kittiwakes at Eastham. A Common Black-headed Gull was noted in Scituate. The late fall and winter months (November, December, and January) are times to see large concentrations of Bonaparte's Gulls at coastal locations, and numbers of these gulls increased this month. A Lesser Black-backed Gull was present on Nantucket, and a late Caspian Tern was reported from Plum Island. Common and Forster's terns are not unusual November birds. Dovekies were noted throughout the month.

G.W.G.

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Pomarine Jaeger				
1, 11	Stellw., Barnstable (S.N.)	5, 2	R. Abrams#, W. Petersen#	
11, 12	Dennis, Eastham	1, 39	W. Petersen#	
Parasitic Jaeger				
11, 12	Eastham, Barnstable	1, 1	W. Petersen#, J. Aylward	
jaeger species				
11	Eastham	2	W. Petersen#	
Laughing Gull				
8, 17	Bourne, Naushon	3, 30	W. Petersen#, P. Trimble	
25	Sandwich	3	D. F. Oliver	
Common Black-headed Gull				
14	Scituate	1 (1W)	W. Petersen	
Bonaparte's Gull				
1, 21	Hingham, Quincy	23, 600	D. Ludlow, R. Abrams	
27, 29	Falmouth, Lynn	1100, 800	G. Gove, R. Forster	
Ring-billed Gull				
thr	E. Middleboro	100-200	K. Anderson	
Iceland Gull				
8, 14	Nantucket, Boston	1 ad, 1	E. Andrews, BBC (J. Nove)	
Lesser Black-backed Gull				
1	Nantucket	1	E. + C. Andrews	
Black-legged Kittiwake				
11	Barnstable (S.N.), Eastham	200, 125	W. Petersen#	
12, 29	Eastham, Rockport	1000, 10	W. Petersen, J. Berry	
Caspian Tern				
2	P.I.	1	D. F. Oliver	
Common Tern				
8, 10	Chatham, Barnstable	20, 25	B. Nikula, R. Forster	
25, 29	Sandwich, Bourne	3, 2 imm	D. F. Oliver, G. d'Entremont	
Forster's Tern				
8	Bourne	2	W. Petersen#	
Dovekie				
1, 11	Stellwagen, Barnstable	1, 1	R. Abrams	
11, 27	Eastham, Rockport	2, 12	R. Abrams#, W. Drummond	
29	Rockport, Wellfleet	8, 3	J. Berry#, L. Mog	
Razorbill				
11, 28	Rockport	1, 8	D. F. Oliver	
22, 28	Sandwich, Provincetown	4, 1	M. Lynch#, J. Barton	
Black Guillemot				
17	S. Dartmouth	1	D. F. Oliver	
28, 29	Rockport	3-5, 3	v. o.	
large alcid species				
11, 29	Barnstable, Rockport	2, 60	W. Petersen#, J. Berry#	

DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Several red-phase Eastern Screech-Owls were found, including one picked up dead in North Scituate. Great Horned Owls were heard calling and hooting in two locations. A Northern Saw-whet Owl spent two weeks in a potted tree between two umbrellas under the sign of the Wild Goose Restaurant at Quincy Market in Boston. Four Red-headed Woodpeckers, two being immatures, were noted in as many locations, and Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were found in Hingham and in Manchester during the first week of the month. G.W.G.

Mourning Dove				
9, 18	Millis, Sandwich	350, 80	R. Forster, P. Trimble	
Common Barn-Owl				
4	Nantucket	1	E. Andrews	
Eastern Screech-Owl				
1, 14	N. Scituate, Easton	1 red (dead), 1 red	R. Stymcist#, K. Ryan	
15, 25	Lexington, Belmont	1 red, 2	L. Taylor, R. Martel	
Great Horned Owl				
thr	Ipswich	2	J. Berry	
8	E. Middleboro	2	K. Anderson	
Snowy Owl				
2; 8, 28	E. Boston; Nantucket	2; 1, 1	W. McMakin; J. Van Vorst#	
3-30, 7	P.I., Salisbury	1-3, 3	v. o., R. Stymcist#	
24, 30	S. Dartmouth, Eastham	1, 1	LCES (J. Lyons), fide S. Morello	
Barred Owl				
1	Waltham, Quabbin (G37)	1, 1	L. Taylor, M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Short-eared Owl				
thr, 8	S. Monomoy, N. Monomoy	1, 1	B. Nikula	
3, 12	S. Dart. (Allens Pd), Hyannis	1, 1	LCES (J. Lyons), P. Trimble	
Northern Saw-whet Owl				
3, 4	Manomet, Boston	1, 1	J. Atwood, fide R. Stymeist#	
22	Chatham	1	B. Nikula	
Belted Kingfisher				
17, 22	Westport, Clinton	3, 1	D. F. Oliver, D. Donovan	
29, 30	Manomet, Falmouth	1, 2	G. d'Entremont, P. Trimble	
Red-headed Woodpecker				
4, 23	Concord, Sandwich	1 imm, 1	J. Bertrand, P. Trimble	
24	Woods Hole, E. Dennis	1 imm, 1	G. Martin, M. O'Connor	
Red-bellied Woodpecker				
25	E. Orleans	1	fide M. O'Connor	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				
1, 7	Hingham, Manchester	1, 1	D. Ludlow#, BBC (G. Hotz)	
Northern Flicker				
15, 29	Belmont, Bourne	2, 2	L. Taylor, G. d'Entremont	
Pileated Woodpecker				
1; 16, 27	Quabbin (G37); (G40)	1; 2, 2	M. Lynch#	
24	Quabbin (G40)	1	D. F. Oliver	

KINGBIRDS THROUGH GROSBEAKS

A Western Kingbird was present at Manomet for two weeks, and another (?) was found at Daniel Webster Sanctuary in Marshfield at month's end. A late Barn Swallow was seen in Westport on November 6, about a week beyond the normal late date. Other lingering birds included a Swainson's Thrush in Falmouth, a Wood Thrush in Sudbury, and a White-eyed Vireo in South Dartmouth. A total of seven warbler species was reported, only the American Redstart at Plum Island was present beyond the normal departure date.

November specialities were well reported. Water Pipits were noted in good numbers from a wide area. Longspurs and Snow Buntings were especially well reported with large flocks of buntings noted in a number of localities. At least five Northern Shrikes were tallied, and Dickcissels were found in two locations. Sparrow highlights included two records of White-crowned Sparrows and many reports of Fox Sparrows, especially at midmonth. Two reports of Henslow's Sparrows were received; one from Concord (November 15) and one from Naushon Island (November 17). Neither was subsequently confirmed. Pine Siskins were on the move in tremendous numbers especially during the weekend of November 14-15, when 1158 birds were reported. Crossbills were not as evident, East Quabbin was the best place to look for them. Evening Grosbeaks were also on the move, but the largest concentrations were well west of Boston.

R.H.S.

Western Kingbird				
6-19	Manomet	1	B. Harrington	
28-30	DWWS	1	D. Ludlow + v. o.	
Horned Lark				
1, 2	Ipswich, P.I.	40+, 8	BBC (J. Berry), D. F. Oliver	
7, 13	Salisbury	45+, 57	BBC (B. Gette), T. Aversa	
Barn Swallow				
6	Westport	1	A. Desinger	
Blue Jay				
21	Petersham	30	M. Lynch#	
American Crow				
thr	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	90 max 11/13	LCES (J. Lyons)	
2, 8	Newbury, Gloucester	175, 52	D. F. Oliver, M. Lynch#	
21	Wachusett Reservoir	54	D. Donovan	
Fish Crow				
14	Arlington (Spy Pd)	1	L. Taylor	
Common Raven				
1; 27, 29	Quabbin (G40)	2; 3, 3	G. Gove#, M. Lynch#	
Black-capped Chickadee				
16, 27	Quabbin (G40)	34, 83	M. Lynch#	
Tufted Titmouse				
16, 27	Quabbin (G40)	1, 15	M. Lynch#	
Red-breasted Nuthatch				
1; 16, 27	Quabbin (G37); (G40)	15; 8, 53	M. Lynch#	
27, 28	Holliston	6, 4	R. Hildreth	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Brown Creeper				
1, 27	Quabbin (G37), (G40)	7, 6	M. Lynch#	
Carolina Wren				
14, 29	Wayland, Nahant	1, 1	R. Forster	
22, 30	Falmouth	12, 17	P. Trimble	
Winter Wren				
7, 29	Belmont (Rock Meadow)	1, 1	L. Taylor	
30	Falmouth	1	P. Trimble	
Marsh Wren				
2, 24	GMNWR, DWWS	1 singing, 1	J. Berry, D. Ludlow	
Golden-crowned Kinglet				
3, 7	Stoneham, Newbypt area	4, 18	T. Aversa, BBC (B. Gette)	
13, 14	Groveland, Hamilton	15, 4 or 5	T. Aversa, J. Berry	
16, 27	Quabbin (G40)	9, 23	M. Lynch#	
22, 30	Falmouth (Great I.)	22, 12	P. Trimble	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
1, 11	N. Scituate, Winchester	4, 1	R. Stymeist#, F. Porter	
13, 15	P.I., Clinton	1, 1	T. Aversa, D. Donovan	
28, 30	Rockport, Falmouth	1, 4	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
Eastern Bluebird				
4-5	E. Middleboro	5 or 6	K. Anderson	
26, 29	Uxbridge, Hardwick	4, 9	R. Hildreth, M. Lynch#	
Swainson's Thrush				
22	Falmouth (Great I.)	1 (well studied)	P. Trimble	
Hermit Thrush				
1-15	6 locations	7 individuals	v. o.	
16-30	8 locations	11 individuals	v. o.	
Wood Thrush				
4	Sudbury	1 (details)	R. Forster	
American Robin				
1; 2, 9	Quabbin (G37); P.I.	41; 7, 28	M. Lynch#; D. F. Oliver	
8	Randolph, Milford	25, 25	G. d'Entremont, T. Aversa	
Other small flocks noted throughout the area.				
Gray Catbird				
30	Falmouth, DWWS	3, 1	P. Trimble, D. Ludlow	
Water Pipit				
1	Salisbury, Concord	3, 45	V. Yurkunas, R. Forster#	
1, 2	Ipswich, P.I.	15+, 12	BBC (J. Berry), D. F. Oliver	
7, 15	Newbury, Clinton	50+, 15	K. Griffis, D. Donovan	
Cedar Waxwing				
6, 8	Boxford, Brookline	50, 35	J. Brown, H. Wiggin	
20, 27	Wellesley, Holliston	150, 40	R. Forster, R. Hildreth	
Northern Shrike				
thr	P.I.	1+	v. o.	
1-21	Nantucket	1 imm	E. Andrews	
14-24, 27	DWWS, Rutland	1 or 2, 1 ad	D. Ludlow + v. o., M. Lynch#	
White-eyed Vireo				
6	S. Dartmouth	1 imm	A. Desinger	
Orange-crowned Warbler				
5, 6	Manomet, S. Dartmouth	1 b, 1	MBO, A. Desinger	
22, 29	Falmouth (Great I.)	1, 2	P. Trimble	
Yellow-rumped Warbler				
15	Nantucket (Madaket)	68 b	E. Andrews	
29	Susset Beach	125	G. d'Entremont	
Other small flocks reported from mostly coastal areas.				
Pine Warbler				
8	Lakeville	3	W. Petersen#	
Palm Warbler				
3; 12, 13	Salisbury; Needham	1; 1	R. Forster; D. Case	
13, 24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)	
14, 22	Arlington (Spy Pond)	2, 1	H. Hoffman	
American Redstart				
2	P.I.	1	T. Crossman#	
Common Yellowthroat				
30	Nahant	1	J. Quigley	
Yellow-breasted Chat				
6, 14	Manomet, E. Orleans	2, 1	J. Atwood, A. Williams	
22, 30	Falmouth	1, 1	M. Lynch#, P. Trimble	
Northern Cardinal				
thr	Brookline (one feeder)	13	H. Wiggin	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Dickcissel thr, 11	Framingham, Nahant	1, 1	K. Hamilton, J. Quigley	
Rufous-sided Towhee 11, 30	Winchester, Falmouth	1, 5	F. Porter, P. Trimble	
American Tree Sparrow 1; 1, 7	Ipswich; Waltham	1; 1, 25	BBC (J. Berry); L. Taylor	
14	New Braintree, Princeton	14, 65	M. Lynch#, D. Donovan	
27, 28	Milford, Holliston	23, 14	R. Hildreth	
Chipping Sparrow 1, 3	Lakeville, Sandwich	1, 2	W. Petersen, P. Trimble	
13	Nantucket	1	E. Andrews	
Field Sparrow 8, 14	Randolph, Milford	4, 5	G. d'Entremont, R. Hildreth	
22	Woburn (Horn Pd)	20	BBC (N. King)	
26, 28	Uxbridge, Holliston	16, 4	R. Hildreth	
Vesper Sparrow 18	Sandwich	2	P. Trimble	
Savannah Sparrow 18	Sandwich	30	P. Trimble	
"Ipswich" Sparrow 1, 28	Nantucket (2 locations)	1, 4	E. + C. Andrews	
13, 24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Seaside Sparrow 24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	1	LCES (J. Lyons)	
Fox Sparrow 1	Stellw., Hingham	1, 1	R. Abrams#, D. Ludlow#	
1	Quabbin (G37), (G40)	2, 1	M. Lynch#, G. Gove#	
14	Sudbury, Millis	17, 8	R. Forster	
	Other reports of 1 or 2 from 12 locations.			
Song Sparrow 8, 17	Randolph, Westport	15, 13	G. d'Entremont, D. F. Oliver	
Swamp Sparrow 7, 29	Bridgewater	35, 8	W. Petersen#	
28	Gloucester (Niles Pd)	4	M. Lynch#	
White-throated Sparrow 15, 30	Brookline, Falmouth	8, 36	B. Rielly#, P. Trimble	
White-crowned Sparrow 13, 17	S. Dartmouth, Westport	1, 1	LCES (J. Lyons), D. L. Oliver	
Dark-eyed Junco 1, 27	Quabbin (G37), (G40)	25, 37	M. Lynch#	
12	Nantucket (Squam)	30-40	J. Van Vorst	
Lapland Longspur thr	Salisbury	6 max 11/13	v. o.	
1, 2	Ipswich, P.I.	2 or 3, 1	BBC (J. Berry), W. Ellison	
8, 29	N. Monomoy, Halifax	30, 1	B. Nikula, W. Petersen	
Snow Bunting thr, 1	P.I., Ipswich	350 max 11/7, 550+	v. o., J. Berry	
1	Quabbin, GMNWR	39, 22	M. Lynch#, BBC (R. Vernon)	
2, 3	Waltham, W. Newbury	20, 75	R. Forster	
11	Berlin, Eastham, Ashland	55, 400, 80	D. Donovan, W. Petersen, G. Gove	
13, 17, 24	S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	60, 69, 32	LCES (J. Lyons)	
13, 14	Beverly, Peddocks I.	63, 80	J. Brown, BBC (J. Nove)	
15, 28	S. Monomoy	150, 75	B. Nikula#	
Red-winged Blackbird 1	GMNWR, E. Middleboro	20, 100	BBC (R. Vernon), K. Anderson	
8, 9	Essex area, W. Hanover	40, 15	BBC (I. Giriunas), G. d'Entremont	
Eastern Meadowlark thr	DWWS	57 max 11/29	D. Ludlow	
thr	P.I. area	10 max 11/21	v. o.	
	Other reports of 1 or 2 birds from various locations.			
Rusty Blackbird 1	GMNWR, Quabbin (G37)	2, 30	BBC (R. Vernon), M. Lynch#	
8, 13	Burlington, S. Dart. (Allens Pd)	50+, 1	M. Lynch#, LCES (J. Lyons)	
21	Newburyport	1	BBC (S. Whittum)	
Common Grackle 9	W. Hanover	50	G. d'Entremont	
Brown-headed Cowbird 7, 18	Salisbury, Sandwich	35, 25	BBC (B. Gette), P. Trimble	
Northern Oriole 22	Falmouth	1 f	M. Lynch#	

DATE	LOCATION	NUMBER	OBSERVERS	NOVEMBER 1987
Purple Finch				
22, 28	Falmouth, P.I.	6, 6	M. Lynch#, T. Aversa	
29	Andover	3	V. Yurkunas	
House Finch				
29	Duxbury beach	100+	J. Heywood	
Red Crossbill				
16-30	Quabbin (G40)	32 max	11/24	v. o.
White-winged Crossbill				
1, 15	Lakeville, Hanson	17, 15	W. Petersen	
27	Quabbin (G40)	2	M. Lynch#	
Pine Siskin				
1-13	9 locations	216 individuals	v. o.	
14-15	9 locations	1158 individuals	v. o.	
16-30	10 locations	362 individuals	v. o.	
American Goldfinch				
10	Newton	100+	R. Hildreth	
15	Rockport, P.I.	42, 50+	M. Lynch#, J. Berry#	
Evening Grosbeak				
1, 8	Hingham, Essex area	3, 2	D. Ludlow#, BBC (I. Giriunas)	
8, 15	Rockport (Halibut Pt)	54, 4	M. Lynch#	
14-15	6 locations	176 individuals	v. o.	
24	S. Duxbury	25	E. Mallory	
Other scattered reports of 1-4 birds.				

CORRIGENDUM TO JULY 1987 FIELD RECORDS (VOL. 15, NO. 6)

Wilson's Phalarope (on page 318)				
4	P.I., Plumbush	1 m, 1 f at nest	W. Ellison#	
should read				
4	P.I., Plumbush	1 m, 1 m at nest	W. Ellison#	

CORRIGENDA TO AUGUST 1987 FIELD RECORDS (VOL. 16, NO. 1)

The first sentence of the fourth paragraph under LOONS THROUGH HERONS on page 26 should read "A subadult Great Cormorant was reported in Lakeville, the same location where an immature was observed last year."

The second sentence of the fourth paragraph under SHOREBIRDS THROUGH ALCIDS on page 30 should read "Previous records of this species were July and August of 1985 at Scituate, June 1980 at Monomoy, and August 1986 at Duxbury."

Western Willet (on page 31)
should read
"Western" Willet

CORRIGENDA TO SEPTEMBER 1987 FIELD RECORDS (VOL. 16, NO. 1)

American Avocet (on page 44)				
5-7	P.I.	1 basic pl	D. F. Oliver + v. o.	
should read				
5-7	P.I.	1 basic pl	S. Moore + v. o.	
Forster's Tern (on page 46)				
17, 26	Orleans, P.I.	54, 2	B. Nikula, BBC (G. Gove)	
should read				
17, 26	Eastham, P.I.	54, 2	B. Nikula, BBC (G. Gove)	

BIRD OBSERVER FIELD RECORDS

Bird Observer monthly field records represent observations from the ten counties of eastern Massachusetts (Essex, Middlesex, Worcester, Suffolk, Norfolk, Plymouth, Bristol, Barnstable, Duke, and Nantucket). Although space does not permit the inclusion of all sightings submitted, the compilers attempt to present sufficient data to document early and late dates for migratory species, maximum counts for migrants, and high or low numbers for the more common species and to note species outside of their normal ranges.

Please send eastern Massachusetts field records of any given month, no later than the 8th of the subsequent month, to Robert H. Stymeist, 98 Boylston Street, Watertown, MA 02172. The basic information that should be submitted is species name, date and place of observation, an accurate count or careful estimate, sex (if determinable), immature or adult plumage, vocalizations (if any), and observers. Species should be arranged in the current A.O.U. (American Ornithologists' Union) checklist order. Reports of species that can be difficult to identify should include details of the diagnostic characteristics observed or heard that led to the identification.

All field records received by *Bird Observer* are archived at the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ad	adult	F.P.	Fresh Pond, Cambridge
b	banded	G37 or 40	Gate 37 or 40, Quabbin
br	breeding	H.	Harbor
dk	dark (phase)	H.P.	Halibut Point, Rockport
f	female	I.	Island
imm	immature	M.V.	Martha's Vineyard
ind	individuals	Mt.A.	Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
juv	juvenile	Nant.	Nantucket
loc	location	Newbypt	Newburyport
lt	light (phase)	Noanet WR	Noanet Woodland Reservation
m	male	P.I.	Plum Island
max	maximum	Pd	Pond
mi	mile	P'town	Provincetown
migr	migrating	Quab.	Quabbin
n	nesting	Res.	Reservation
ph	photographed	R.P.	Race Point, Provincetown
pl	plumage	S. Dart.	South Dartmouth
pr	pair	S.N.	Sandy Neck, Barnstable
S	summer (1S = first summer)	Stellw.	Stellwagen (Bank)
thr	throughout	BBC	Brookline Bird Club
v.o.	various observers	BOEM	Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts
W	winter (2W = second winter)	CBC	Christmas Bird Count
w/	with	CCBC	Cape Cod Bird Club
yg	young	DFWS	Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary
#	additional observers	DWWS	Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary
A.A.	Arnold Arboretum	EMHW	Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch
A.P.	Andrews Point, Rockport	FCBC	Felix Cutler Bird Club
B.	Beach	GMNWR	Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge
B.I.	Belle Isle, E. Boston	IRWS	Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary
B.R.	Bass Rocks, Gloucester	LCES	Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies
Buzz.	Buzzards Bay	MAS	Massachusetts Audubon Society
C.	cape as in Cape Cod	MBO	Manomet Bird Observatory
Cambr.	Cambridge	MNWS	Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary
Corp. B.	Corporation Beach, Dennis	NEHW	New England Hawk Watch
C.P.	Crooked Pond, Boxford	ONWR	Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge
E.P.	Eastern Point, Gloucester	PRNWR	Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
F.E.	First Encounter Beach, Eastham	SRV	Sudbury River Valley
F.H.	Fort Hill, Eastham	SSBC	South Shore Bird Club
F.M.	Fowl Meadow	WBWS	Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

Carolina Low Country

Georgia Sea Islands

Custom Trips

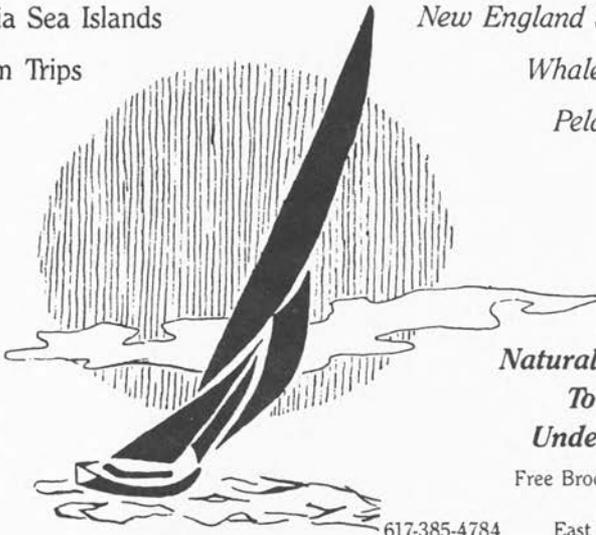
Bahama Family Islands

New England Seashores

Whale Grounds

Pelagic Birds

Small
Groups



***Natural History
Tours
Under Sail***

Free Brochure: C.V.S.
Box 1144
East Dennis, MA
02641

617-385-4784

AUTUMN'S GETAWAY is a secluded cottage on a dirt road in the geographical center of Nantucket, equidistant (one-and-a-half miles) from Surfside Beach and cobbled Main Street. Two bedrooms, one-and-a-half baths (outdoor shower as well), washer/dryer, central heat and wood stove, fully furnished (queen bed, cable TV). October yard birds have included Western Kingbird. Yours Monday through Sunday from Labor Day. September and October are Nantucket's prime time, though not as uncrowded as before. \$500 per week. Barbecue, swing, swim, bird, fish, boat, vegetate in this serene fall-away. Call Fred, 617-825-1001 (Dorchester).

ABOUT THE COVER: Eastern Kingbird

The Eastern Kingbird is a strongly marked and handsome bird. It has a black head with a concealed red crown patch; the back is slate gray; the underparts are white from the chin to the undertail coverts; and the fan-shaped tail is black, broadly tipped with white. Like most flycatchers, the posture is erect and alert. In flight it moves with such short quick wing beats that it appears to quiver when hovering over tall grass or darting for insects from an exposed twig. Since it relies for food mainly on insect life, it prefers open habitat around orchards, borders of fields, along highways, and in open woods. Because Eastern Kingbirds perch so conspicuously on take-off pads such as fence posts, tops of isolated trees, and utility wires, they provide easy identification even from a car window.

When kingbirds arrive in New England during the first part of May, they remain uncharacteristically quiet for a few days both in voice and behavior -- almost listless in comparison to the showy return of other birds such as Northern Orioles. It is not long, however, before the Eastern Kingbird lives up to its scientific name *Tyrannus tyrannus*, which originated from the Latin meaning monarch or ruler. Once a territory is established, they become so aggressive that they drive away anything that comes within range, be it man, bird, or beast. Defiant and fearless, they assume the offensive and seem to consider anything large their enemy. Size makes no difference -- hawks, crows, owls, and vultures get the brunt of the punishment. And they are not a mere annoyance to their victims as they very often strike with pointed bills and, in some cases, ride the backs of these larger birds pulling out feathers. To underscore their courage and audacity, there was a report once of an Eastern Kingbird repeatedly attacking a low-flying airplane crossing its territory.

Hail to the chief!

J. B. Hallett, Jr.

SIXTH ANNUAL BIRD CARVING EXHIBITION

At the South Shore Regional Center
in Marshfield

June 4 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. June 5 12 noon - 5 p.m.



Bird carving demonstrations • Displays
of over 35 bird carvers' work • Bird photo-
graphy exhibit • Natural history walks
• Natural history and art book sale

Fee: \$2 MAS members; \$3 nonmembers
For more information call: 617-837-9400

MEET OUR COVER ARTIST

JOHN SILL, award-winning wildlife artist from North Carolina and a graduate in wildlife biology of North Carolina State University, is also a birdwatcher. When Sill and his wife Cathy came north last December (1987) for an exhibition of his works to benefit Massachusetts Audubon Society (MAS), they arrived early to do some birding. To their great satisfaction, a December day in the north spent in the field with Peter Alden netted these southerners a number of life birds. At a luncheon in his honor the next day, John recalled how he had been "discovered" as a bird artist by the world outside his home state when tour leader Alden strode into his studio a number of years ago in a "flurry of birdwatchers." John also acknowledged the great value of his relationship with James Baird of MAS, a person uniquely qualified both as art expert and ornithologist, who helped John to attain the remarkable degree of biological accuracy that characterizes his bird paintings.

John's watercolors have been acclaimed both for their delicate beauty and precision and for the way the personality of the individual bird or species comes through. His work is now familiar throughout the country through his paintings for the *Bird Identification Calendar*, and he regards his paintings as a way of bringing home the beauty of nature to the viewer, so that those who see his work, though they may never see the birds he so vibrantly depicts, will be positively oriented toward conservation of the natural world.

John now paints exclusively in transparent watercolor and received his training in that medium from his father Charles Sill, a well-known artist and teacher in the South. John and wife Cathy live in Franklin, North Carolina, where his work is displayed in the family gallery. The handsome Eastern Kingbird on our April 1988 cover was painted for *The Bird Identification Calendar*, published each year by the Stephen Greene Press (15 Muzzey Street, Lexington, MA 02173). John Sill and the Stephen Greene Press generously gave *Bird Observer* permission to print this illustration in black and white.

Dorothy R. Arvidson

February's **At a Glance** bird is obviously a sparrow species, many of which can be challenging to identify, even for the most experienced observer. The first point to notice on the mystery sparrow is that it is streaked below and appears to have a relatively short tail. The fine, pale ventral streaks, along with the short tail and thin malar (jaw) stripe all suggest that the bird is not a Song Sparrow. The rather short bill and seemingly pale coloration eliminate the Seaside Sparrow as a possibility. Likewise, the Sharp-tailed Sparrow is not a candidate, because the pictured bird lacks a solid (gray) crown, and it fails to show a neatly defined, dark ear patch clearly offset by a broad (ocher) eyebrow stripe and a similar streak under the ear patch. Many races of the Sharp-tailed Sparrow would also show more prominent white back stripes and a flatter-headed profile than the pictured bird. The bold eyebrow stripe along with the presence of a pale median stripe on the crown remove the otherwise similar-looking Vesper Sparrow as a prospect.

With Song, Seaside, Sharp-tailed, and Vesper sparrows out of the running, only Savannah, Fox, and Lincoln's sparrows remain as possibilities from the list of commonly occurring Massachusetts sparrow species that have heavily streaked underparts. This assumes, however, that the mystery bird is in adult plumage, since most sparrow species have streaked underparts in juvenal plumage. The short tail, whiteness of the eye stripe, and the thin median crown stripe all serve to discount Lincoln's Sparrow. The robust Fox Sparrow, on the other hand, would exhibit a much fuller-chested appearance and a heavier bill, and the flank stripes would be darker and more chevron-like in appearance. Thus, assuming that the bird pictured is in adult plumage (which it is), we are left with Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) as the identity of the mystery bird. Collectively, the median crown stripe, broad pale eye stripe, streaked underparts, short tail, obviously pale legs, and lack of conspicuous wing bars all clinch the identification. The pale tone of the bird's back and ventral stripes and the width of the eye stripe suggest that the sparrow is of the *princeps* race -- the "Ipswich" Savannah Sparrow from Sable Island, Nova Scotia.



"Ipswich" (Savannah) Sparrow

Photographed by Roger Everett
near Coast Guard Station
Eastham, on Cape Cod
after heavy storm
in October

AT A GLANCE

Photo by Oliver Komar



Can you identify this bird?

Identification will be discussed in next issue's AT A GLANCE.

We give avid birders something few binocular and telescope stores can.

Help.

We at the F.C. Meichsner Co. don't just talk to our customers about optical equipment. We *listen* to them, too.

And when you've been listening to people for 72 years, you can't help but learn a thing or two.

Like what birders want in a pair of binoculars—and what they don't.

So when you're about ready for a new spotting scope, binoculars, or repairs on equipment you already own, give us a call.

We accept most major credit cards, and we'd be happy to let you do most of the talking.



F.C. Meichsner Co.

182 Lincoln St., Boston, MA 02111
(617) 426-7092



**BIRD OBSERVER (USPS 369-850)
462 TRAPELO ROAD
BELMONT, MA 02178**

**SECOND CLASS
POSTAGE PAID
AT
BOSTON, MA**



CONTENTS

SUMMER BIRDS OF HIGH RIDGE	Charles B. Quinlan	64
ESKIMO CURLEW: ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY AT LAST, PERHAPS	Andrew H. Williams	73
MORE ON THE COX'S SANDPIPER CONTROVERSY: AN APOLOGY AND CORRECTION . . .	David C. Morimoto	77
UNUSUAL UNIDENTIFIED SANDPIPER AT LITTLE CREEK WILDLIFE AREA, DELAWARE	Harvey Mudd	79
LYME DISEASE AND THE BIRDER	Stauffer Miller	83
300 IN ONE YEAR: MAY AND JUNE . . .	Herman D'Entremont and Dorothy R. Arvidson	87
FIELD RECORDS: OCTOBER 1987		90
FIELD RECORDS: NOVEMBER 1987		103
ABOUT THE COVER: Eastern Kingbird	J. B. Hallett, Jr.	116
MEET OUR COVER ARTIST: John Sill	Dorothy R. Arvidson	117
AT A GLANCE	Wayne R. Petersen	118
Cover Illustration: Eastern Kingbird by John Sill		
