

PENNSYLVANIA BIRDS



Randy Miller 1993

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Co-editors

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ILLUSTRATIONS:

COVER: Tufted Duck *by Randy Miller*



from the Editors...

* EDITORS WANTED *

In the last issue, we mentioned that we were working on relieving some of our burden of publishing this magazine. We felt that in order to continue, we would have to ask others to assist in preparing various parts of the publication. However, we felt we could not do so as a privately held company. Therefore, we are transferring the ownership of *PENNSYLVANIA BIRDS* to the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology as soon as they acquire their non-profit status.

We will continue as chief editors, but are looking for volunteers to share some of the burden of putting the magazine together. We are looking for sub-editors. These persons would take on the responsibility of a particular feature or area of the journal. This would include receiving the items, checking them for accuracy, editing them, doing follow-ups on questions, need for more details, etc., then putting it on disk and sending it to us. We would then incorporate it into the final layout of the magazine.

Persons volunteering for any of these positions should have the following:

1. Access to an IBM-compatible computer.
2. A working knowledge of the area in which they want to specialize (*i.e.*, a person wishing

to do Rare Bird Reports should know what is rare, the finer points of identification, etc.).

3. Writing and editing skills.
4. Willingness and ability to meet deadlines.

The following is a list of some of the positions we are looking for:

SEASONAL REPORTS EDITOR

This is the number one position that we have to fill. This person will have the responsibility for putting together the County Reports, Rare and Unusual Bird Reports, and Notes from the Field. Of course, the person who takes this job would be free to recruit sub-editors if they wanted to delegate some of these functions.

The person who takes this job will have to have a thorough knowledge of the status and distribution of Pennsylvania's birdlife. He/she will also have to have computer word processing and spreadsheet skills and must be willing to meet deadlines.

The job will entail receiving the reports from county compilers, checking them for accuracy, omissions, details of rarities, etc. Then create the tables, the Rare and Unusual Bird Report, and the Notes from the Field section. This

must all be done on a computer so that the final product can be incorporated directly into our computerized copy of *Pennsylvania Birds* with just minor formatting adjustments.

We cannot over-emphasize the importance of this position. This will be a major task and is not for the faint of heart. Since this comprises approximately one-half of the magazine, deadlines are critical. If the County Reports section is not ready, the magazine does not get published.

THIS JOB WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE FOR EVERY ISSUE!

RARE BIRD REPORTS EDITOR

This person would receive Rare Bird Reports (primarily first-of-state, first-of-century, first breeding, etc.) review them for accuracy, edit them, add editorial comments, follow-up for additional details, add information about previous occurrence in Pa. and neighboring states, etc. Then put this on disk and send to us.

The person taking this position should have a thorough knowledge of rare birds in Pennsylvania and nearby states, be very experienced in the fine points of identification, have access to identification references and possibly museum skins.

THIS JOB WOULD BE DONE ON AN AS-NEEDED

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BASIS.

PERSONALITY PROFILE EDITOR

This person would receive and/or write personality profiles of notable persons in Pennsylvania's birding community. The articles would be put on disk and sent to us. The person taking this job should have writing and editing skills and have a fair knowledge of what's important in Pennsylvania ornithology.

THIS JOB WOULD BE ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

PSO EDITOR

This person would write and/or edit articles and announcements concerning PSO activities. This person should have writing and editing skills. The articles would be put on disk and sent to us.

THIS JOB WOULD BE ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

HAWK WATCH EDITOR

This person would receive the Hawk Watch reports, edit them, check for accuracy, write and/or edit the summaries, put it on disk and send to us. The person taking this job should have a knowledge of hawk migrations in the state.

THIS JOB WOULD BE DONE FOR SPRING AND FALL.

ADVERTISING EDITOR

This person would be responsible for soliciting and working with advertisers. This person would help create ads and keep in touch with advertisers to foster their continued support.

SITE GUIDE EDITOR, BOOK REVIEW EDITOR, BIRDLISTS EDITOR, CHRISTMAS COUNT EDITOR

Already taken.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact us.

NEW FORMAT

There was no major lack of response to the latest issue of *Pa. Birds*. As expected, both positive and negative.

If nothing else, it got some people thinking about the birds, their status and distribution, and the like. Ergo, an editor's dream.

Regarding some of the specific statements, there is much written elsewhere. But change is inevitable for everything around us and, as many of you wrote, "life goes on." For those of you who have subscribed since the beginning, there have really been changes every year. Remember when it was just photocopied (and impossibly difficult to read) and stapled together at the side? Remember when the county maps were non-existent? Now, when a county, e.g., *Philadelphia*, reports 176 species they can all be accounted for in the tables.

Some compilers were surprised to see some birds listed in his/her county. These data were derived from preliminary maps for the *Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania* and inserted by us. In many cases, a code of probable was deemed adequate for us to include it for that county. However, we were more conservative on the rarer species. We did make some mistakes, albeit minor ones (We got Cameron and Elk counties reversed for Pheasants, etc.). The purpose of the breeding codes is to let others know what species normally breed in that county, not necessarily if a nest was found this quarter. We expect the compilers will review the lists and make adjustments as necessary.

You probably noted that the cover of the last issue had a terrific drawing of a Red Crossbill by

Randy Miller. Others may have noted that the species was totally unreported in the journal. Although it came to our attention that several birds were summering in the Sullivan County area, and a small number of birders had gone up to observe them, **not one word** about their occurrence reached us for publication. We personally were unable to get there to view the birds (in fact, were not apprised of their specific location for several weeks) and do any sort of first-hand write-up. Any account of this magnitude should be written by someone who has actually observed the birds in the location. When you have a rare or unusual sighting, do not assume that someone else is going to write it up. Wouldn't you like to see your name listed next to a rare sighting?

BIBLIOGRAPHY REQUEST

THANK YOU to ALL who responded about the articles and publications requested in the back of the last issue.

We forgot to put the reason for the requested bibliography in the last issue. Barb has typed in the Poole unpublished manuscript (*Birds of Pennsylvania*) and over the course of time we will be editing same and preparing it for sale to birders, either in print and/or on disk. There is a wealth of here-to-fore uncompiled data in this manuscript for the birding community. But we want to check the references and although our library is extensive we do not have all the material cited in the manuscript. Therefore, the request to readers for the missing pieces. As usual, we are behind in responding to everyone who contacted us, but we thank those who sent materials or suggested where to get them.

Barb and Frank Haas
Chief Editors

LETTERS

SUMMER MERGANSERS

Dear Editors,

Your question about where the drake Common Mergansers go has fascinated me on several long canoe trips through Voyageurs National Park on the Minnesota-Ontario border, where the species is abundant. I came to the conclusion then, and still believe, the answer is that they quite literally go into hiding.

As you know, the males depart as soon as, or just after, incubation begins—which means late May or early June. They quickly begin a very prolonged two-stage molt that lasts nearly all summer, and during that period they're extremely secretive. Even canoeing into little inlets and hideaways, I saw only a few molting males (the eclipse plumage is so much like the female plumage that I had to get close to be sure they were males). Meanwhile, females with broods of young were all over the place—even many combined broods of two females and their broods flocking together. The number of hiding/molting males I found never came anywhere near the number of females present, so I figured one of two things must have happened: either the molting males were amazingly effective at staying out of sight, or they had already moved completely out of the breeding area.

A combination of both was probably involved, but I suspect that most males had departed for even more remote and sheltered places. Bellrose (*Ducks, Geese, & Swans of North America*) says they leave the breeding areas entirely: "Near coasts they move to estuaries and inlets for the wing molt; in the interior they congregate on the larger lakes in the boreal forest." Todd (*Birds of the Labrador Peninsula*) is the only place I've found actual mention of large flocks of males during the summer; he cites records of flocking males in eastern Hudson Bay and James Bay, Quebec, in June.

That may explain the northerly nesters, but it doesn't answer where the males go from our region at the southern end of the breeding range. You'd expect a molting male to turn up once in a while in summer on some remote northern-tier lake, or flocks to show up somewhere in summer on the bays, inlets, etc., along the mid-Atlantic coast. On a couple of occasions I've seen single Common Mergansers that I thought were eclipse males along the mid-Atlantic coast in summer. Maybe there just aren't enough nesting pairs down here to

make more of a summer-male impression than that sort of periodic and widely scattered appearance—secretive as they are during the molt. It will be interesting to see if your query brings out any more such coastal (or breeding area) reports of males in summer. One cautionary note: a female-looking Common Merganser with no brood in tow during the summer may just as likely be an eclipse male unless the observation is close and careful.

*Paul Hess
Natrona Heights, PA*

Dear Editors:

Re the C. Merganser question. I saw an adult male in July 1974 with young birds (see Atlas). I have never seen a summer bird in male plumage since then.

*Bill Reid
Wilkes-Barre, PA*

Dear Editors:

Please sign me up for another year. I think the changes are an improvement.

As to the "poser" concerning the Common Merganser disappearance in late summer in the July–Sept season summary: You would have to study these birds very carefully to sex them as the males are in the so-called eclipse plumage and resemble the female.

*Ron Young
Troy, PA*

MORE NON-BIRDS

Dear Editors:

I very much enjoyed Nick Kerlin's article, "A Field Guide to Non-Birds" in the December 1992 issue of *Pa. Birds*. I'd like to add one anecdote to it.

The monthly field trip of the Wyncote Chapter of the National Audubon Society took a group of us to the New Jersey shore for winter birds in mid-January. After we'd birded out Barnegat Light, and enjoyed good looks at the Harlequins, the Oldsquaws, and a Dickcissel, we headed for Holgate, hoping to see the Snowy Owl that had been reported there.

We were disappointed to discover a number of people, non-birders mostly, walking on the dunes, and after some serious peering through binoculars and scopes, had pretty much given up on seeing the owl. Then one of our members announced, "I've got it!" He backed away from his scope to allow others to take a look at the distant shape on the edge of a small pool. After we'd all had a chance to see it, we decided to venture closer to it, through the brambles and driftwood on the way, to get a better look. Some of us walked along the beach; others took a more direct route to a point where we could set up scopes again and get a really close look at this rarely seen bird.

After we'd all set up to examine the bird, there was a moment of embarrassed silence, especially from our original sighter, and then an outburst of hilarity. The "owl" turned out to be an empty Almaden bottle, lying on its side, partially obscured by grasses and weeds.

So, then the jokes began. "Well, what sub-species is it? Chablis or Chardonnay?"

We finally settled on the official identification: A sure sighting of a Snowy Almaden.

Note #1: I checked with the person who made the "ID," and he said it's OK to use this.

Note #2: Hope our Birdathon brings in a lot of money—some of it will go toward your excellent publication.

*Jane Henderson
Flourtown, PA*

NEW FORMAT COMMENTS

Dear Editors:

...You wanted comments of *Pa. Birds* new format. I like it overall because it is easier discovering where exactly (county level) a species was observed. However, I'm one who appreciates qualitative enrichment or fleshing out quantitative data, e.g., weather patterns are a BIG factor in bird migration and visitations and breeding success. I've kept a phenology chart here in SR [Slippery Rock] Twp since 1972 and it really helps. So does the recording of "waves" on certain dates, especially when comparing or correlating with weather patterns and other factors. I'd hope that these parameters would be considered VALID comments for county compilers to pass onto *Pa. Birds* and have them included in backpage comments for each county. Do you see pink-sided Oregon forms of the Dark-eyed Junco in your area? Elsewhere in e. Pa? Why hasn't anyone written about the form or have I just missed the write-ups?

Gene Wilhelm, Ph.D.
Slippery Rock, PA

Dear Editors:

Well, you asked for feedback, so I'll give you some—don't worry, I'll be nice.

New Format. First of all, I heard it may change again, but here I go anyway. Yes, the tables make it easier to locate information about a species of interest, and I like the codes used in the tables—precise and to the point. I understand that this is a good way of reporting birds in a journal, and that it leaves space for articles, which is good, because there's more to birds than just looking at them.

Now, for what I miss from the old format. The narratives were fun to read; I could read what my comrades in other parts of the state were doing. I also liked knowing where the birds were seen, because if I were in a certain county, I'd know where I might go to find a certain species of interest. Maybe more site guides could be written to compensate for this. So, I agree with you—no format is perfect, and you can't possibly please everybody. Changes occur, and we must roll

with them.

The "Rare and Unusual" section is great! There's a lot of interesting information there! I like the "Notes From The Field" section also. I was hoping there would be a place to report population trends, migration patterns, etc., without the narratives. I think it's comprehensive enough. The expanded "Summary of The Seasons" was also enjoyable—good job!

Being a photographer, I also like the photographic highlights, and was envious of Rick Wiltraut's Whimbrel photo. Will this be in every issue?

... In closing, I want to tell you that I enjoy *Pa. Birds*, and look forward to every issue; you do a great job and put forth a lot of effort for this publication. I appreciate it!!

PS: Last March I attempted to call in a Barred Owl at Duff Park in Murrysville, Westmoreland County. I played a tape and was surprised by a Southern Flying Squirrel which missed me by about six feet, and landed on a tree next to me. I think the squirrel was mobbing a potential predator. Any ideas, theories, comments, etc., would be appreciated.

Mike Fialkovich
141 Comrie Ave.
Braddock, PA 15104

You may contact Mike directly or write us at Pa. Birds with your remarks. To answer a few questions, yes we hope to have at least one site guide in every issue (starting next issue), thanks to Steve Santner taking on the responsibility of Site Guide Editor. And, yes, we plan to have a photograph section in every issue...as long as reproducible photographs are submitted. And, we appreciate your comments! —Eds.

Dear Editors:

I think you are making a mistake by changing the format of the county reports. Frankly, those reports were the heart of the magazine to me. I enjoyed those little blocks that described some unusual behavior or uncommon sightings.

I think those are the type of things that people relate to. This new format is like a computer print out. I think it's all well and good to

study data and I keep records like any serious birder.

The thing is, I would also like birding to be fun—those reports were just that. May I say how grateful I am for a magazine like *Pa. Birds*. Just don't turn it into another scientific journal.

Dick Shott
Lebanon, PA

We believe that putting all those previous "blocks" into the Notes From The Field or Rare and Unusual Birds sections directs readers to those unusual behaviors or uncommon sightings without having to "wade" through ±60 counties looking for same. The "computer print out" then allows for those interested in "tracking" a species across the state an easier avenue. Species are not "lost" in the verbiage of saying I was seen at HQZ in several reports.

We also feel that we are keeping quite a decent balance between the scientific and the "readable" articles, with no slight meant on the scientific contributions that we always seek. Please read other state journals and see what they are offering.

—Eds.

Dear Editors:

After seeing the new format for *Pa. Birds* and hearing some of the reaction to it, I guess I have to jump into the fray and add my two cents to it. Upon learning of the changes to be, I didn't think I would like them much. Each observation was something personally special and seeing it in print made it that much more special.

But seeing the changes in action made me change my mind. I could definitely see the need for this type of data base (or, "running atlas," if you will) and the county reports would now supply that. I also like the "Notes From The Field" section. Hopefully this will get more observers looking out for the unusual. This in turn may lead to the articles that you need for *Pa. Birds*.

Many things will be missed, though. In particular I'm thinking about the "local color" that the compilers gave their county reports. Many of them were extremely good. Also to be missed will be the specific sites within a county that observations were being made. It

was always interesting to note where even the ordinary birds were being seen. But, all in all, I think the changes will be for the better, especially once you get all the "kinks" worked out... Life goes on, and so must *Pa. Birds*. Keep up the good work!

P.S. Kudos on the atlas. It was well worth the wait.

*Dave Wolfe
Ridgway, PA*

Dear Editors:

I can't tell you how disappointed I am in the new format for the county reports. The old method was like a visit with birding friends and gave me information immediately on what was happening in the counties in which I bird. The new one reminds me of the computer compilations that we receive occasionally at our genealogy society which must be tediously taken apart and put on charts and family group sheets so that they can be understood.

I will probably continue to subscribe to *Pa. Birds*, but only because of excellent articles such as those in this [last] issue by Gene Wilhelm, Nick Kerlin (both old friends; Dr. W. introduced me to serious birding) and Arlene Koch, but the county reports as they now appear are wasted pages as far as I am concerned.

While it was not meant for a bibliography, I found your "want list" on p. 134 very interesting as it listed many books that I was not aware of. I do have the 1937 reprint of Peter Kalm's *Travels* which I would be happy to lend to you if you are not able to find it closer to home. One publication that especially interested me was Burleigh's *Notes From La Anna, Pike County*. I spent many happy summer at La Anna in the late 1930s and early 1940s.

Thank you for a good publication; hope any new changes are for the better.

*Alice E. Morrison
Cooperstown, PA*

ORIGINAL BREEDING BIRD ATLAS ART AVAILABLE

Would you like to own a unique piece of memorabilia from the Breeding Bird Atlas? Artists whose work appeared in the recently published *Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania* are offering their original drawings for sale. Most of us will value the *Atlas* on our bookshelf, but imagine having original illustrations from the book on your wall. The originals are for sale, reprints of these pieces are not yet available, so once a species is sold, it will not be available as a reprint.

Listed below are the names, addresses, and phone numbers of artists who are interested in selling their originals. Look through the *Atlas* and select from among the beautiful illustrations. If you would like to own one, look for the initials of the artist on the drawing, match those initials to the name listed below, and contact the artist to see if your choice is still available. Prices range from \$75 to \$125 per illustration.

Pa. Breeding Bird Atlas Artists

John Anderton (JCA)
8714 Gateshead Rd.
Alexandria, VA 22309
703-360-3584

Nancy Halliday (NH)
1156 Pine St. Apt. 4
Glenview, IL 60025
708-657-7623

Michael McNelly (MMcN)
216 N. Rolling Rd.
Springfield, PA 19064
215-544-3658

Cindy Page (CJ Page)
3270 Oran Gulf Rd.
Manlius, NY 13104
315-682-7309

Tracy Pederson (TDP)
PO Box 117
Birchrunville, PA 19421
215-827-9002

Don Radovich (DR '90')
720 N. Spruce St.
Gunison, CO 81230
303-641-0793

Chuck Ripper (CR)
3524 Brandon Rd.
Huntingdon, WV 25704
304-429-2433

Julie Zickefoose (JZ)
Rt. 1, Box 139
Wipple, OH 45788
614-373-5285

Book Review: ATLAS OF BREEDING BIRDS IN PENNSYLVANIA

by Gene Wilhelm

ATLAS OF BREEDING BIRDS IN PENNSYLVANIA. Daniel W. Brauning, editor. xiii+ 484 pp; 17 introductory figures and 10 tables; 190 species accounts with maps, pen and ink drawings, and tables + 122 breeding bird survey graphs; 8 supplementary acetate overlay maps. 8½ x 10 with 3 appendixes, list of atlas volunteers, literature cited, and index. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15260. 1992. Cloth. \$34.95

More than ten years in the making, from initial planning stage to final written product, the most comprehensive survey of the Commonwealth's nesting avifauna—the *Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania*—was published at the end of 1992. Although one of many projects underway or completed since the world's first *Atlas of Breeding Birds in Britain and Ireland* in 1976, the inclusion of complementary U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey data, historical bird atlas and state ornithological information renders the Pennsylvania atlas a model for others to emulate.

A bird atlas is a collection of maps, usually published in book form, designed to illustrate, to the limits of our most recent knowledge, where each bird species breeds within specified geographical (thus far almost always political) boundaries.

The 496 pages of the Pennsylvania Atlas include these contents: Foreword by Dr. Frank Gill, Preface by Peter S. Duncan, Acknowledgments, History of Bird Atlases, Methods Used in the Survey, Results and Discussion, Geography of Pennsylvania, History of Pennsylvania Ornithology by Edward D. Fingerhood, Using the Species Accounts, Abbreviations Used in the Text, Species Accounts (the bulk of the book, pages 43–422), Appendixes, List of Atlas

Volunteers, Literature Cited, and Index. This review does not attempt to comment on all of these contents due to space limitations, but instead stresses purpose, methodology, results, geography, cartography, and species accounts.

The primary purpose of the Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Project was to document the current (1983–1989) status and distribution of all the breeding bird species within the state and to publish these data in the form of printed maps, one per species, for a permanent record. Such an atlas can be duplicated at any time in the future and thus has great potential scientific baseline value. The uniformity of the data collection process allows its results to be compared and contrasted with atlases compiled elsewhere, such as neighboring states, or to atlases compiled in the same area in future years. The project was an ambitious, bold, and exciting undertaking from a cross-section of Pennsylvania citizenry. The end result, the atlas itself, is testimony to its tremendous success.

All atlas mapping is constructed on some form of map grid. The Pennsylvania Atlas was based on U. S. Geological Survey topographic maps covering 7.5 minutes of latitude and longitude. These maps, referred to as quadrangles, were ideal for atlas purposes and were readily available around the state. By dividing the quadrangle map in half longitudinally and in thirds latitudinally, six equal-size blocks were formed. These blocks served as the basic sampling unit of the atlas survey. A total of 4928 atlas blocks, in 872 quadrangles, occur partly or wholly within the state. In 1986, block 6, which falls in the southeast corner of each quadrangle, was designated the "priority block" for each quadrangle if that block fell wholly within the state. The purpose of priority block treatment was to ensure uniform and systematic coverage across the state at a time when it was uncertain that complete coverage

would be possible. Such blocks also served to move birders from one quadrangle to another and as a quality control. Priority block results are summarized for each bird species in tables included in the species accounts. Of the 4928 atlas blocks, 3939 were regular, 787 were priority, and 202 were border blocks.

Fundamental to the atlas project were the atlas regions, politically defined areas that included from one to four counties. Each region was given an identifying number and assigned a coordinator who oversaw the region and played an indispensable role. Coordinators recruited volunteers, assigned blocks, provided the first round of quality control, and processed all reports from the region. A tremendous amount of work was performed by the forty-five atlas coordinators.

Atlas field work involved the careful censusing of individual blocks during the breeding season by 2050 volunteer birders seeking to locate nesting birds and recording them on report forms. Each species was keyed to a hierarchical code of nineteen specified categories of evidence of breeding, from least certain (possible) through more certain (probable), to most certain (confirmed). Much of the filed work was a constant effort to upgrade species status: a "possible" one year may become a "probable" the following year and a "confirmed" two years later. The field work was executed over a seven-year span (1983–1989) in order to concentrate the effort and maintain the enthusiasm and because experience has shown that this is usually the minimum period possible to accomplish all the field work and the maximum period desirable to "freeze" the status of a population in a discrete time frame.

The key element of a successful atlas is the establishment of a strong but understanding administration, in

this case Dr. Frank Gill as Project Director and Daniel W. Brauning as Project Coordinator, and competent staff that was able to guarantee proper data processing and quality control. A number of review steps prevented the incorporation of erroneous information in the project's database. The state's rarest birds required supplementary information from field workers on Special Species Report forms immediately after field observation. A verification committee was established to evaluate questionable results and determined criteria for including species in the atlas. These criteria stated that any wild bird confirmed breeding during the atlas period (1983–1989), or reported with solid "probable" breeding evidence (a breeding attempt), would be regarded as a breeding bird and given full breeding species status.

Survey results were outstanding. Every one of Pennsylvania's 4928 blocs was censused by more than 2050 volunteers who produced a total of 318,660 records, an average of 65 species per block. Seventy or more species were recorded in 41 percent of all blocks and priority blocks averaged 70 species. Only 21 blocks recorded fewer than 25 species. Border blocks, which comprised smaller areas and were given lower priority coverage, averaged 59 species per block. Volunteers contributed 83,000+ hours in the field, an average of more than 17 field-hours per block. One-third of the blocks were visited in only one year; the majority were visited in two or three different years. The atlas was remarkably successful in its coverage objective to obtain uniform coverage of the whole state and to gather data in every block. This success is reflected in the number of species recorded on the quadrangle and county levels. On average, 101 species were reported in quadrangles completely within the state and only three of these quadrangles reported fewer than 75 species; 90 or more species were "confirmed" as breeding in all but three of the state's 67 counties and more than 70 species were "confirmed" in every county. Broad distribution patterns presented within the atlas make intuitive

sense and many species maps show fine-grained distribution patterns that reflect real physical land features.

A total of 210 species were observed in the state during the breeding season, but only 187 species, plus 2 distinct hybrids, were considered breeders during the atlas period. Of these, 180 were "confirmed." The additional 21 species were regarded as nonbreeding summer residents. An additional 20 species, mostly migrant shorebirds and waterfowl, were reported but not regarded as summering residents. Seven species were not formally "confirmed" during the atlas survey but sufficient evidence was presented to suggest that nesting occurred or at least an attempt was made. These were the Black Rail, Chuck-will's-widow, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Swainson's Warbler, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Western Meadowlark. Among the most remarkable findings were two species "confirmed" in the state for the first time: the Black-necked Stilt and Common Jackdaw. The jackdaw, discovered at the federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, remains the only nesting location for the species in North America. The Black-necked Stilt nest found in 1989 was the most northerly nesting locality of this species on the East Coast. Finally, the atlas has dramatically updated knowledge of many species, especially those previously listed as status undetermined (Northern Goshawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Long-eared Owl, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Least Flycatcher, and Bobolink) and has revised the state's threatened and endangered lists now totalling thirteen species. The Am. Robin was reported in the highest number of blocks in the state (4882 or 99%), followed closely by Am. Crow (4819 or 98%), Song Sparrow (4789 or 97%), and Chipping Sparrow (4786 or 97%).

The body of the book, Species Accounts, provides the results for each bird found breeding during the atlas project. Each account contains an original pen and ink illustration, a text, tabular data summary, and species map. Where appropriate, a graphical

presentation of U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey data is also included. Nine artists complete the illustrations which vary in quality from good to excellent and are in most cases intended to portray one of the breeding codes used during the project. A puzzle is the drawing of Field Sparrows at the nest on page 378 showing one adult with a streaked crown. Twenty-one authors, all well-known state ornithologists, contribute informative and well-balanced texts which provide a historical perspective on each species' population and distribution in the state, habitat preferences, and nesting chronology. A summary of atlas results and a discussion of the factors relating to the distribution make up an important part of the account. Where appropriate, population trends and conservation status are also presented.

The species distribution, presented as a thematic map, is the major product of the atlas project and overall excellent. However, breeding evidence is supposed to be reflected as smaller or larger red squares ("possible to confirmed") when in reality the color of the squares is rust-brown or orange-brown, not red. Further, the size of the squares in the tables is larger by comparison with the size of the squares on the maps. This reduction in square size causes an immediate problem in interpreting "possible" from "probable" status. Cartographically this difficulty can be resolved simply by using a diagonal line or similar symbol inside a square for "possible," a cross or similar symbol for "probable," and retain the solid brown square for "confirmed." Square sizes are not intended to show species abundance, only breeding evidence, thus an even greater reason to use clear, well-defined symbols for each breeding code.

Although difficult to check accuracy between textual account and map breeding evidence for all species across the state, a review of Region 28's threatened and endangered species revealed just one gross error for the King Rail. The map on page 123 shows the approximately correct breeding

location on the boundary line separating Lawrence and Mercer counties but the textual account on page 122 indicates that the site location is in Butler County. All other checks were accurate.

The tabular data summary following the textual species account includes the total number of blocks and percentage of the state's blocks reporting the species, subtotals and percentage of the species' records for each breeding category, and a similar breakdown for the subset of priority blocks. The table also provides the number of blocks reported in each physiographic province and the percentage of the province's blocks occupied by the species. The Breeding Bird Survey graphs that accompany some species accounts present the average number of individuals per year for routes in which a species was ever recorded and are included only for those species for which sufficient data are available from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The least satisfying part of the book, from the reviewer's perspective, is Geography of Pennsylvania. The section follows an awkward systematic arrangement and is too shallow in its interpretation. Although a printing budget limits book length, including such spatial elements as location, geology, landforms, topography, climate, soils, vegetation, and land use patterns is essential to understanding the make up of physiographic provinces and their correlation to the avifauna.

Cartographically, maps of the state should show latitude and longitude, especially since quadrangles and blocks were demarcated by them and so heavily used in field work. Although names of counties are illustrated on an inside front cover map of the book, county names should have been included again in Figure 2 on page 7 for identifying regions. Some boundary lines separating regions in Figure 2, especially Regions 31, 32, 34, and 38, need to be redrawn for clarity. It is almost impossible to discern between Beech/Maple and Appalachian Oak Forest layers in Figure 15 on page 31 because of

almost identical colors, and Figure 16 has too small lettering with three letters (a, b, m) almost hidden from view (page 32). Missing altogether is a list of figures and tables in the book.

However, readers and users should consider these flaws minor irritations of an otherwise extremely valuable ornithogeography treatise. While the immediate purpose of the atlas is the presentation of avian distribution in the state, the subsidiary uses of the data may be equally and, in the long term, perhaps more important. Atlas results form an ecological database that invites repetition and comparison in subsequent decades. Analysis of species occurrences facilitated identification of threatened, endangered, and species of special concern as well as habitats. The atlas grid establishes a permanent uniform framework upon which a wide variety of correlative studies may be conducted. Data on habitat types, human impact or other environmental variables can be readily derived from atlas maps. And the atlas grid also provides a basic survey unit for other resource inventories. Mammals, reptiles, amphibians, plants, and butterflies are just a few of the organisms that have been atlased elsewhere to date.

As Peter S. Duncan says in the Preface (page ix):

"This atlas is a testament to the innovation and perseverance of Frank Gill and Dan Brauning and to the power of cooperative ventures backed by a dedicated volunteer force. This effort united the birding community and facilitated the formation of new relationships and cooperative projects. Since the inception of the Atlas project, we have seen the founding of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology, the publication of the quarterly *Pennsylvania Birds*, the resurrection of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey, and

the establishment of both an Ornithological Technical Committee and a Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee. Even a winter bird atlas and an atlas of habitats important to migrant birds in the state have been mentioned as opportunities for future companion volumes to this Atlas."

*Gene Wilhelm, Ph.D.
147 Cemetery Rd.
Slippery Rock, PA 16057*

FIRST PENNSYLVANIA RECORD OF ANCIENT MURRELET

Synthliboramphus antiquus

Berks County

Matt Wlasniewski

Sunday morning, 8 November 1992. I received a phone call from a rather excited fellow birder, Matt Spence. He had raced home to Reading from Lake Ontelaunee to call local birders to rendezvous at Lake Ontelaunee on Route 73 southeast of Leesport. His call found me watching sparrows at my backyard feeder. He told me to meet him at the main parking lot by the lake on Route 73. Risking a very expensive speeding ticket, I raced south from Hamburg to see what would be one of the birds of my lifetime—an Ancient Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus antiquus*).

Once there, I met Matt who had his scope trained on the water in a northeast direction from the lot. My 7X35 binoculars found a small dark gray bird with a white throat. Its profile and position in the water reminded me of a Dovekie (*Alle alle*), but not as chunky. A look through Matt's scope gave a clearer definition to the bird drifting in the waves lapping at its sides, but not obstructing our view of it. The scope enabled me to see these field marks: a gray back, a black crown, a white throat patch appearing to be crescent-shaped, and a light-colored (yellowish) bill which could be seen when the bird raised its head above level. The tip of the bill seemed to be dark.

The bird went beneath the surface a couple of times, never resurfacing any closer than 500 feet (an estimate). The bird was moving away from us toward the portion of the lake referred to as Maiden Creek station, so Matt and I, joined by Harold Lebo, decided to drive to the parking area at the station.

Once there we walked the path along the lake to the left through the pines to gain a higher perspective, since picking the small bird out of the water that is almost above eye level is difficult indeed.

We took a path to an old duck blind and set up our scopes. The bird was sighted briefly until it again dove to feed. For the next 10 minutes we scanned from several spots, but to no avail. We thought the bird might have swum past us towards the dam, but I decided to

view fashion at a distance of no more than 200 feet. At 20X the murrelet seemed to fill my scope's view.

The bird seemed to be between the size of a Dovekie and an Atlantic Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*). I continued to watch the bird for 20 minutes then left to make as many phone calls as I could think of. There is no greater frustration than to have such exciting news and have only answering machines to talk to. But some of my calls hit paydirt, like the birders who left Hawk Mountain's north lookout to swap a possible Golden Eagle for a definite Ancient Murrelet.

Photographs were taken by Eric Witmer with a camera mounted on a Questar.

A footnote from the 1992 Birding Review of the Brookline Bird Club of Massachusetts. The author, Robert Stymeist, reported that three out-of-state birders identified an Ancient Murrelet at Halibut Point in

Rockport, Mass., in late November. The same bird making state birding records in two states? Seems like it to me!

21 Scenic Dr.
Hamburg, PA 19526



Ancient Murrelet, Lake Ontelaunee, 11/8/92. Photo by Eric Witmer.

scan the area in front of the station one more time. Two birders from Lancaster County [Eric Witmer and Tom Garner] arrived just as I found the bird about 300 feet away. The excellent light and elevated position from the rock ledge gave me an excellent view.

At no more than 30X I could pick out every field mark, especially the light-colored bill and the marked distinction between the head and back of the bird. The white throat patch was marked and a dark eye was visible.

At this time the bird was either unaware or unthreatened by the five of us awestruck birders, and conveniently began to swim or drift from right to left in parade

FIRST PENNSYLVANIA RECORD OF PACIFIC LOON

Gavia pacifica

Erie County

Jerry McWilliams

At 1045 on 25 November 1992 I was scanning Presque Isle Bay south of Big Pond when I saw a loon on the water perhaps $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away. The loon seemed to show a sharp demarcation between the white front of the neck and the dark back of the neck, which is not typical of Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) or Red-throated Loon (*G. stellata*). Deuane Hoffman was with me, and I suggested that we study this bird and wait for it to come closer to shore. Within 15 minutes the loon swam much closer to us and we could occasionally see it with Red-breasted Mergansers (*Mergus serrator*). The loon appeared to be only slightly larger than the merganser. Moments later a Common Loon moved into the same field of view and showed itself to be obviously larger than the loon in question. At this point we felt that we were observing an Arctic/Pacific Loon.



Pacific Loon, PISP, 11/26/92. Photo by Dave Darney

At approximately 1115 the Arctic/Pacific Loon was within easy identification range, 150 to 200 yards away. I made approximately 100 photographs exposures of the loon by itself and with Common Loons and Red-breasted Mergansers.

The Arctic/Pacific Loon actively fed and would frequently dive and stay submerged for a relatively long time before surfacing 100 or more feet away from where it had originally dived. The bird would submerge its head, often pumping its head back and forth before diving. A feeding behavior that we also observed in Red-breasted Merganser. I never saw the Arctic/Pacific Loon with a

fish in its mouth after surfacing as the C. Loons frequently did.

The following characteristics were noted by me:

- 1) The bill was small, possibly $\frac{2}{3}$, but less than equal the length of the head.
- 2) The bill was straight and held horizontally.
- 3) The bill was medium gray with a dark culmen and had a dusky tip.
- 4) The crown and nape were grayish-brown being palest on the nape.
- 5) The grayish-brown crown extended down the face and below the eye. It formed a straight line extending from the base of the culmen around the cheek and to a point where the neck joins the base of the head and continued down the side of the neck in an unbroken straight line following the contour of the neck. Darkest areas were the forehead, the base of the back of the neck which extended up the side of the neck as a narrow dark line. In good light a thin dark line could be seen beginning at the base of the back of the neck extending part way up the center of the back of the neck.
- 6) The chin, throat, and front of the neck were unmarked white, which was well-defined where it met the dark feathers on the face and sides of the neck.
- 7) A crease on the lower throat, where the neck joins the base of the head, gave the impression of a dusky chin strap (even evident in the photographs) which disappeared when the loon stretched its neck.
- 8) At the base of the neck fine vertical dark markings crossed over the front of the neck forming a necklace.
- 9) The front and sides of the breast were white with streaking on the sides.
- 10) The entire upperside, including tail and flanks, were

an even dark brown.

- 11) The upper back and scapulars were heavily edged in white forming parallel rows of pale lines. At close range the scalloping effect of these marks could be seen and looked like parallel zig-zag lines.
- 12) The following day I saw the bird fly about 50 yards. The pure white underside back to and behind the legs was broken by a diagnostic dark band at the vent area that began at the base of the leg and crossed over to the base of the other leg.



Pacific Loon w/Red-breasted Merganser, PISP, 11/26/92. Photo by Dave Darney.

I wrote the above description before I consulted any published material. Prior to the sighting I had had no experience with Arctic/Pacific Loons. After writing the description, I began to study the published material. The results were that I was able to determine the age of the bird and probably its species. The age was determined to be a juvenile. In *Advanced Birding*, juveniles are described as having prominent pale edges to the feathers of the upper back and scapulars. Adults in basic plumage have all dark backs with only faint paler edges to the feathers. In a paper written in *Birding on Pacific v. Arctic Loons* of 12 randomly selected non-alternate plumaged *G. pacifica* at the American Museum, 4 of the 12 were juveniles. Two had

complete, but faint chin straps and 2 lacked a chin strap. Pacifica specimens at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology indicate that 80% showed an obvious chin strap, but the review did not correlate this character with age. Occasionally a chin strap was found on arctica of both races, though it was rarely complete. Two juveniles from the race *G. a. viridigularis* from MVZ showed partial straps. This suggests that birds with complete chin straps are likely to be *G. pacifica* where as a partial or absence of chin strap could be either *G. pacifica* or *G. arctica*. The paper suggests that of even greater importance may be the presence of a vent strap (sometimes partial) on all *G. pacifica*. However, on 5 of 12 birds examined of the nominate *G. arctica* from the American Museum there was a faint complete vent strap. All of these birds with faint vent straps were juveniles. The paper also suggests that adult *G. pacifica* can have a prominent complete chin and vent strap where as *G. arctica* of both races do not have both chin and vent straps complete. Juveniles have been found to be highly variable in both species and races as to the amount or lack of chin and vent straps. From this information it seems unlikely that the Presque Isle loon can be identified to species because of the lack of a chin strap or the presence of a vent strap.

Kenn Kaufman says in *Advanced Birding* the Arctic is a larger bird than the Pacific, with almost no overlap and should stand out as being 10% larger when both birds are together. Difference in bill size is greater, so Arctics should look proportionately large-billed. This note may be of little value since the loon seen at Presque Isle was only seen with *C. Loon* and *Red-breasted Merganser*. However, the smaller size of this bird was evident when compared with the other two species. Noticeably smaller than the *C. Loon* and only slightly larger than the *Red-breasted Merganser*. When the loon was next to a merganser the bill of the loon could clearly be seen as being shorter than the merganser's, but thicker at the base. Kenn also mentions the presence of a white flank patch in Arctic Loon, which he says is

usually absent on Pacific Loon.

From the information above, the loon on Presque Isle seems most likely to be a Pacific. The presence of a bold, dark, unbroken vent strap, small bill, lack of flank patch, and the fact that the Arctic Loon is extremely unlikely to be seen over most of North America gives strong credence to the sighting as being a *G. pacifica* rather than *G. arctica*.

More work needs to be done on separating Arctic/Pacific type loons in basic plumage, particularly juveniles, in order to establish concrete field identification characteristics, if possible.

The loon remained in the general vicinity where I discovered it for several days and was seen by many. I spent approximately 8 hours over the course of 4 days studying the loon. I used a 10 X 40 Zeiss binocular and a TSN-4 Kowa spotting scope to observe the bird. Unfortunately the sun never shone, so it was difficult to get good photographs under the heavy cloud cover that prevailed every day.



Pacific Loon, PISP, 11/25/92. Photo by Jerry McWilliams.

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Great Cormorants at Martins Creek Northampton County First County Record Arlene Koch

On Sunday, 15 November 1992, Bernie Morris, Pauline England, Fritz Brock, and I went to the Martins Creek Quarry operation. There are two bodies of water here, approximately 7 miles north of Easton, Pa. There is a large old quarry there, constantly filled up with water, whose depth even the owners, Eastern Industries, don't know and there is a newer quarry which is much shallower. The people there, with Audubon's cooperation, are able to control the depth of the water in the newer quarry. In it are numerous small islands and a lot of shoreline which attracts Green-backed Herons, many shorebirds, gulls, ducks, etc.

On this particular day there were about 100 Ring-billed Gulls, 10 Herring Gulls, 350 Mallards, 100 Am. Black Ducks, 1 N. Pintail, 10 Great Blue Herons, and 4 cormorants. Since I have frequently seen Double-crested Cormorants there, and these were on the far shore off to the side, I really didn't pay too much attention to them until one of them took off. As it approached I asked Fritz, almost in jest, what an immature Great Cormorant looked like because the bird going right over my head didn't look like any Double-crested I had ever seen. It had an all-light throat, neck, and belly, right down through the underbelly. Fritz got a passing look at it and seemed puzzled. Then another one of the cormorants took off and headed toward Pauline and Bernie, to my left. She excitedly said that this bird had a very light belly too and sure didn't look like any Double-crested she had ever seen and that she had seen a lot of them.

Fritz and Bernie both got good looks at the second bird and agreed that it looked like an immature Great Cormorant. Eventually one of the remaining birds perched on a small island and lifted its wings in a drying position. It was mostly facing away from us, slightly turned to the left. We were able to see its face and throat, both of

which were very light. There was yellow at the base of the bill. There was no orange on it at all. Pauline remarked that even at this distance you could see the white under belly from behind. The wrists on the wings seemed to have a few lighter feathers in them. The bird's back had a very slight greenish tint.

We watched another cormorant swimming around for a while, but it went under so much and stayed under so much that it was impossible to get much on it except that it seemed to hold its head in a very upward pointing position when it was swimming. Although Fritz, very conservative by nature, still wasn't sure of the call and I was only about 90% certain, we pretty much agreed that we had seen four Great Cormorants.

One week later, 22 November, Kathy Sieminski and I went back to the quarry. When we stopped at the larger, deeper quarry, which only has a very small area of shoreline, there was a cormorant sitting on the shore, wings up in a drying position. Shortly after we first saw it, the bird flew low across the water and up to a perch on the rocks. The far side of this quarry is a sheer rock face, extending about 500 feet up—the kind you expect to see a Gyrfalcon perched on. It faced us and put its wings up again, showing all the previously mentioned characteristics of an immature Great Cormorant. Under the bird's feet was a lot of whitewash, which extended about 30 feet down into the water from the rocks, indicating that this perch had been used for quite a while. One thing Kathy and I noticed was that the bird's tail seemed to be rather short for a cormorant—something we realized was indicative of a Great Cormorant. We watched this bird through binoculars and with our Kowa scopes for more than half an hour. I am firmly convinced that this bird and the four we saw the previous week were Great Cormorants. The quarry complex is located right next to the Delaware River and it was the right time of the year for this species to be seen, even though they had not been noticed here before.

1375 Raubsville Rd.
Easton, PA 18042

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER

Nesting in Butler County

Gene Wilhelm, Ph.D.

Breeding records of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) in Butler Co. are scarce and dated. Todd (1940:332) wrote: "There is one other and very surprising breeding record, so isolated that I regard it as referring to a sporadic instance. It pertains to a nest found by P.W. Roth near Butler on 27 May 1895, and reported to me at the time." Wood (1979:73) indicated the species bred in counties with high altitudes and listed Butler Co. among them. However, this reference may have been taken from Todd's work.

Douglas A. Gross wrote the species account for the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in the recently published *Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania* (1992:184–185). The species map clearly illustrates the absence of any possible, probable, or confirmed breeding record in Butler Co. between 1983–1989. Thus the following record is of ornithological significance.

At 4 p.m. on 4 June 1992, Mike Starker, former seasonal naturalist at Todd Sanctuary, and Steve Vaughan, a nature photographer, heard at least two young birds calling loudly from a nest cavity on the northeast side of a White Oak tree on the west side of Indian Pipe Trail in Todd Sanctuary near Sarver, Butler Co. Shortly thereafter adult male and female Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers appeared at the tree and took turns feeding the young. Vocalization of both adults, perhaps best described as a mewling cry, was conspicuous and the adults were heard calling up to fifteen minutes before coming to the nest to feed the young.

Adult markings included a red throat patch on the male and a white throat patch on the female; white patch on upper wing coverts in flight on both sexes as well as a white wing patch when the adults perched; black and white laddered back on both adults; black superciliary line with white lines both above and below on both sexes; and a red forehead patch on both sexes. Size was eight to nine inches, head to tail, for both adults.

The nest cavity was located in a 15-inch dbh White Oak, 20–25

feet above ground level, in an oak-hickory-Black Cherry part of the forest. The cavity was roughly 2 inches in diameter and exhibited smooth edges around the entire hole. A live branch growing at a 45-degree angle 2 feet below the cavity partially covered the hole and made it difficult to see the number of young and impossible to photograph adults and young. Nevertheless, the heads of at least two youngsters were discerned. The adults were observed feeding the young again in the afternoon of 5 June.

This breeding record falls within the nesting period indicated by Gross (1992:

185): "On average, nests with young were reported on 18 June and as early as 2 June. Fledglings were found as early as 11 June." Starker and Vaughan took the author to the nest site in mid-morning of 6 June. No avian activity was evident, however, and evidence of foul play was absent.

Mike Starker researched the breeding birds of Todd Sanctuary in the summers of 1982 and 1983. He did not observe sapsuckers either summer. Thus, as far as is known, this record constitutes the only confirmed breeding instance of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in Butler Co. in the twentieth century.

The author wishes to thank Mike Starker and Steve Vaughan for their detailed written observations and oral conversations from which this article is derived.

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THE COWBIRD DILEMMA

by Ralph Bell

I feel that the Brown-headed Cowbird is the main cause (at the present time) for the apparent decline of many migrant songbirds that winter in the tropics and nest in North America.

My Jefferson, Pa., Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) route has been "run" since 1966. The start of the route is one mile away and ends approximately 16 miles south of here. Captured female cowbirds were not disposed of until 1972, giving a 6-year unbiased database. From 1973 through 1990, all female cowbirds captured at my banding station were disposed of (a total of 1680 birds). A federal permit is required to do this. The last 6 years data (1985-1990) are used for comparison.

The average number of birds per year recorded on the BBS is given for each period. The increase of most species is quite evident. The Prairie Warbler and Yellow-breasted Chat did decrease but they both require similar habitat that is decreasing. Note that the number of cowbirds per year also decreased.

During the period (1973-1990) when 1680 female cowbirds were captured and disposed of here in our yard, a total of 1638 male cowbirds were banded and released alive. These males can then bring in any newly arriving females—otherwise most would never find the feeders and the

white millet that they love to eat. Practically all female cowbirds are captured between mid-March and mid-May, with the peak around mid-April.

The Brown-headed Cowbird is apparently increasing every year. Five million were estimated on the Pine Prairie, Louisiana Christmas Bird Count on 26 December 1989 and that is only a fraction of the total number of cowbirds ready to cause havoc with our colorful songbirds each summer.

In a 1980 article by D.M. Scott and C.D. Ankney (Fecundity of the Brown-headed Cowbird in southern Ontario, *Auk* 97:677-683) it was estimated the average female cowbird lays about 40 eggs per year in an 8-week laying season. This cowbird problem, along with the destruction of their prime winter habitat, fragmentation of forests on their breeding grounds, the many predators, windows, automobiles, buildings, and additional hazards during migration, makes the long-term outlook for many neotropical migrants far from bright.

RR 1, Box 229
Clarksville, PA 15322

A Turnstone is a Turnstone is a ... Turnstile??

Using Computer Software to Spell Bird Names Correctly

by Jane Henderson

Birding and computers seem to go hand-in-hand for many of us these days. I use my Macintosh regularly to record my various lists on a data base, to keep track of our Audubon Chapter's Birdathon contributions, and to write articles about birding. In the old days—five years ago or so—how did we birders ever manage without computers?

Sometimes, though, one gets unexpected outcomes from fooling around with these new-fangled things. Recently, when I'd finished writing an article, I ran it through the computer's spell-checker to locate careless mistakes. Mistakes I didn't find, but I did get a chuckle from the "suggestions" the computer made to correct my spellings of bird names.

It suggested that I substitute "gangways" for "gannets," "buffoon" for "Bufflehead," "jading" for "jaeger," "merge" for "merganser," "oldster" for "oldsquaw," "shears" for "shearwaters," and "skulk" for "skua."

Moving right along, it recommended "chummy" for "chumming," "passer-by" for "passerine," "junction" for "junco," "sander" for "sanderling," and "fulminate" for "fulmar." My favorite one of the lot was "turnstile" for "turnstone."

I know that it is possible to enter proper names and unusual terms into the user dictionary, so that it will recognize them when they come up. But it's more fun, to me, to see what the spell-checker generates all by itself.

I'm about to start an article about looking for owls. I can't wait to see what the spell-checker does with "flamulated!" Maybe "flameproof," or, better yet, "flamboyant." We'll see.

Flourtown, PA

AVERAGE NUMBER PER YEAR ON BBS ROUTE

	1966-1971	1985-1990
Acadian Flycatcher	8.5	12.5
Willow Flycatcher	6.6	22.0
Wood Thrush	10.6	16.5
White-eyed Vireo	2.3	4.1
Yellow-throated Vireo	1.8	4.1
Warbling Vireo	5.6	7.8
Red-eyed Vireo	8.8	26.8
Yellow Warbler	17.3	30.8
Yellow-throated Warbler	0.0	2.6
Prairie Warbler	2.8	2.5
Cerulean Warbler	3.1	3.8
American Redstart	0.0	4.1
Kentucky Warbler	2.8	5.6
Common Yellowthroat	16.3	27.5
Yellow-breasted Chat	24.3	14.6
Scarlet Tanager	4.1	8.3
Northern Oriole	10.0	12.8
Brown-headed Cowbird	12.8	9.6

Evolution of a "Bird Pest"

by Vera Klingsberg

My husband calls me a bird pest. He claims that the worst thing he ever did was introduce me to bird life. And, that when I ignored the natural world in general and birds in particular I was far easier to live with. He says that I have developed an anxiety complex over birds, that I concern myself more with the welfare of the birds which share our woods than I do with his welfare. He claims I have become a minor league bird sociologist, more interested in observing and trying to understand the actions and social structure of birds than the people in our lives. According to him, I have become a world class nuisance with my constant talk of and worry about birds. Well, let me tell you, it wasn't always this way.

I grew up in Philadelphia, and bird watching in those days was of as much interest to me as joining a 4-H Club. I was infused with typical big city arrogance and ignorance about anything in nature which existed outside of concrete, row houses, and high rise apartments. Cats and dogs were included in my animal kingdom as were five species of birds: pigeons, sparrows, starlings, crows, and, in the spring, robins. As far as I was concerned, birds ruined statues, cluttered sidewalks, and generally made unpleasant noises. I know that in my school days I was taught about various species of birds, and I retained some awareness that, in addition to the city birds with which I was familiar, there were other bird species out there, in the woods or by a stream or in a meadow, areas unexplored by me and basically of no interest.

I also held a stereotypical image of people who were interested in birds, based, probably, on the TV comedy shows and newspaper and magazine cartoons of the time. I believed that bird watchers were primarily middle-aged women,

plus a few pale men, all with very serious and humorless faces. They took incredibly long and exhausting hikes in all sorts of weather, wearing industrial strength shoes, and they were permanently hunched over from the burden of binoculars and tripods and cameras and film and bird books and notebooks and pens and sandwiches and thermos' and caps and gloves and parkas and sweaters. I was sure all birdwatching expeditions were lead by a shrill-voiced, angular woman, tall enough to make the NBA, who would describe to the enthralled company, in what might be classified as an upper-class accent, the life habits and quaint ways of each newly spotted and identified bird species. The terrain would be rough, the ground muddy and slippery, the snakes and insects plentiful, and, regardless of season, the weather uncomfortable.

On the subject of birds, I did not change over the years as I grew older. But, when I married, I discovered that my husband, also a city product, was nonetheless a devoted bird-lover of long standing. He enjoyed participating in organized bird walks and was actually a card-carrying member of the Audubon Society. (It goes without saying that he did not fit my image of a typical, colorless bird watcher). He persuaded me to go on bird walks and visit bird and wildlife sanctuaries. The bird walks always seemed to take place in swamps which ruined my shoes, and bird sanctuaries were always filled with fellow bird devotees eager to endlessly discuss the attributes of a just-sighted specimen. My husband's efforts to introduce me to the wonder and beauty of bird life failed.

Time passed, we moved around a bit but mostly continued to live in urban areas, and finally we reached the point where we were ready to retire

from our respective jobs. At this time we were living in the Washington, D.C. area, and we both had been feeling that city life had lost its charm and was beginning to overwhelm us. We concluded that we ought to spend our retirement years in a less congested, more rural area. We explored a number of regions and finally decided on State College, a town we had liked very much when we had lived there years before when my husband had studied at Penn State. We made the move, and, going to the extreme opposite of our city life, we traded concrete for a forest and a house in the woods.

Of course, as one of his first acts after we moved, my husband surrounded our new home with bird feeders. It did not take long for the birds to appear; we were soon inundated by a variety of woodland species. I paid little attention to the comings and goings of these birds as they flocked to our feeding stations, but my husband continually reported to me the various species he was spotting. I was far more intrigued by the ingenious ways in which squirrels were filching the bird seed.

A number of months after we moved, my husband had to go out-of-town for a brief period. He asked me to make certain that the bird feeders and the birdbaths were kept full in his absence. I felt I had to agree although the responsibility was quite unwelcome.

The first time I went out to add seed to the feeders, the birds fled as I approached. They did the same each time I approached the feeders until, about the fourth or fifth time I went to do My Husband's Work, one bird did not fly away but sat on a closeby tree branch apparently waiting for me to leave. The bird was quite small with a black head and neck, and it was making what was hardly beautiful bird music but rather what sounded

to me almost like a loud, scolding noise, as though it was annoyed with my presence. I finally retreated, and the bird immediately quieted down and flew to the feeder. I had it in full view from the house, and I watched as it took a seed. Not having previously paid attention to birds feeding habits, I thought birds simply picked up and immediately swallowed whatever it was they were eating. I was therefore surprised to see that the bird did not settle at the feeder but took its seed, flew to a branch, and then, for what seemed like endless minutes, holding the seed with its feet and using its bill as a hammer, worked diligently at opening the seed's outer shell. I watched for the bird to return to the feeder for more food. It did so and went through its feeding ritual once more. It seemed hard to believe that a species could survive through the millennia with such complicated eating habits.

I started watching the comings and goings at the bird feeders hoping to get a glimpse of the little bird again. I did. Many times. In fact, I saw several of this species at the feeders. I started looking for these little birds throughout the day. I also started paying attention to the other birds at the feeders. For the first time, the birds were seen as individuals, and I realized how really beautiful they were. I wanted to know what I was looking at but I didn't know how to properly use the many bird books we owned. So I looked, page by page, to find pictures of the birds. I finally determined that we were being visited mostly by titmice, nuthatches, goldfinches, House Finches, Mourning Doves, Evening Grosbeaks, several species of woodpeckers, and, of course, my special friends, Black-capped Chickadees. I started looking out the windows regularly to see what the birds were up to, and it didn't take long for me to realize I was watching not just with interest but with affection. I was becoming addicted. I was

becoming a committed backyard birdwatcher.

Having seen so little positive reaction to his best efforts over the years, my husband initially greeted my sudden enthusiasm for bird life with a great deal of skepticism. However, after several days of being constantly bombarded with questions on how to identify birds, what their behavior patterns were, what they ate, what their calls meant, he began to take me seriously. He showed me how to use the bird books, took me to a meeting of the local chapter of the Audubon Society, had me listen to his recordings of bird calls. And we went, once again, to bird sanctuaries.

I have been to Cape May, the Everglades, Cape Henlopen, Sapsucker Woods at Cornell, Chincoteague/Assateague, "Ding" Darling, and many more bird havens. All vacation trips we take now allow time for a stop at any bird sanctuary en route. We have taken special trips to Maine and Nova Scotia to see puffins and other northern sea birds. I have my own binoculars, I have my own bird guides. I have built up a library on bird identification and behavior. I have books on attracting birds to the backyard. At my urging, we subscribe to birding journals and belong to numerous wildlife and conservation organizations. I make sure our bird feeders are sufficiently full, and I try not to let squirrels devour all the seed from the feeders. I am nervous about vacationing and the possibility that, unless we find someone to take over the feeding chores, the bird food might run out before we return. In the spring I open the window to our bedroom to make sure that the seasonal bird concert awakens us. I am the one to note on the calendar the approximate date when our hummingbird feeders should go up, and I enjoy spring and fall migrations when many birds stop off with us for a break in their journey. The trouble is that I can't get enough of bird life. It has become an obsession

with me. I have been hopelessly hooked much to the displeasure of the person who hooked me. He says the birds have to be admired and cared for within the framework of the other things in life. A lot he knows.

Am I a "bird pest?" Maybe. But, in spite of my conversion, there is one thing I still do not do. I do not participate in organized bird walks, although I now realize that those who go on bird walks are just plain folks and that my stereotyping was a fiction. Still, I do not gather at unmentionable hours of the morning with other bird enthusiasts to slog through field and stream and woods and swamps in order to have a brief glimpse of some species new to me and to enlarge a life list which I hesitatingly admit I do not keep. Perhaps some day, after I visit an Army surplus store and get combat boots, and after ultra-ultra light-weight gear has been developed, I'll give it a try.

In the meantime, I'm content to just enjoy our backyard activity. And, yes, the chickadees are still my special friends.

*1318 Deerfield Drive
State College, PA 16803*

P.O.R.C. Nominations Sought

Dan Brauning

NOTICE: Nominations are being accepted for the Pa. Ornithological Records Committee (PORC). Four years ago an august group of Pennsylvania's birders gathered to fill a long-vacant gap in the state's organized birding community—a records' committee.

This committee serves as a sub-committee of the Ornithological Technical Committee (OTC) of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey.

Two terms will expire in 1993. Article III (Membership) of the bylaws states: "Qualifications for (Pa. Ornithological Records) Committee membership should include expertise in identification of birds, knowledge of Pennsylvania birds, and familiarity with birders and localities in Pa. A geographical balance to the Committee is desirable, but should not override the criteria above." I might add that the ability to interpret written descriptions and a willingness to work hard on difficulties in identification and preparation of statements to support or reject the species in question are also most important. If interested in serving on this committee, current, past or prospective members should submit a brief synopsis of their qualifications (your ornithological/birding résumé) to the chairman of the OTC by **30 April 1993**.

**Dan Brauning
Chairman OTC
RR 2, Box 484
Montgomery, PA 17752**

NAMC COORDINATORS NEEDED!

The second annual **North American Migration Count** will be held **May 8, 1993**. Last year, ten counties in Pennsylvania participated. We would like to see that at least double this year.

For a description of last year's count, see Volume 6, Number 2, page 58 of *Pennsylvania Birds*.

If you are interested in organizing your county to participate this year, contact the acting state coordinator:

**Marshall Iliff
901 Crystal Spring Farm Road
Annapolis, MD 21403
(401)269-1589**

We also need a State Coordinator from Pennsylvania! If you are interested, contact:

**Jim Stasz
P.O. Box 71
North Beach, MD 20714
(401)257-9540**

Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology

4th Annual Meeting
Conference Center
Millersville University
21-23 May 1993

Co-sponsored by:
Lancaster County Bird Club
Pennsylvania Audubon Council

FRIDAY 21 May 1993

5:00 pm	—	9:00 pm	Registration
7:00 pm	—	8:00 pm	Wine & Cheese Social - Atlas Book Signing
8:00 pm	—	8:30 pm	PSO Business Meeting
8:30 pm	—	10:00 pm	Social - Atlas Book Signing

SATURDAY 22 May 1993

6:00 am	—	11:00 am	Field Trips - <i>Lancaster County Bird Club</i>
11:30 am	—	12:30 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	—	1:15 pm	Welcome - Opening Remarks <i>Bob Martin, PSO President</i>
1:15 pm	—	1:45 pm	Partners in Flight Overview <i>Margaret Brittingham, Co-Chair, I&E Working Group, Northern Region</i>
1:45 pm	—	2:00 pm	Pennsylvania Working Group <i>Dan Brauning, Biologist Pa. Game Commission</i>
2:00 pm	—	2:30 pm	Birds in Balance <i>Fran Williams, Audubon Council of Pennsylvania</i>
2:30 pm	—	3:00 pm	Forest Fragmentation Research <i>Laurie Goodrich, Biologist, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary</i>
3:00 pm	—	3:30 pm	BREAK
3:30 pm	—	4:00 pm	Special Areas Project Update <i>Doug Gross, Vice President, PSO</i>
4:00 pm	—	4:45 pm	Warbler Identification <i>Paul Schwalbe, Pa. Coordinator, Breeding Bird Survey</i>
4:45 pm	—	5:00 pm	Wrap-Up
6:00 pm	—	7:00 pm	Social
7:00 pm	—	9:30 pm	Banquet - Speaker <i>Chandler Robbins, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service</i>

SUNDAY 23 May 1993

6:00 am	—	11:30 am	Field Trips - <i>Lancaster County Bird Club</i>
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***** **REGISTRATION FORM ON BACK COVER** *****

1992-93 Christmas Bird Count

by Franklin C. Haas

Sixty-one counts were conducted this year (see map). There were 158 species seen on all counts combined (not counting sub-species, hybrids, or sp.) totaling 1,086,332 individual birds. The most species, 111, were seen on the Glenolden (*Delaware*) count. The highest number of individual birds, 150,029, was recorded on the Lititz (*Lancaster*) count. Fifteen species were seen on all counts, and 20 species were seen on only one count each. (Test your skill and try to list the 15 species seen on all counts before looking at the tables.)

The weather leading up to this year's counts was relatively mild, however a cold snap hit most areas right before the count period. Many compilers remarked that it was the first time in many years that they had decent weather, although some counts experienced a rainy night and morning.

Many counts added new species to their cumulative list, and many new highs were established.

A sampling of comments from CBC compilers included the following:

Beaver stated it was the first time in recent years they were under 50 species. Weather was too good!

Lancaster noted the continuing increase in their Tundra Swan numbers. Is it milder winters or pressure from wintering areas farther south?

Both Lebanon and Lock Haven decried the lack of Rough-legged Hawks. Lock Haven missed roughlegs for the first time since its inception 26 years ago. Lebanon, Lititz, and Southern Lancaster County also wondered where the Northern Harriers were.

Thompson took the top turkey award for most turkeys and commented on their steady increase.

Bloomsburg had an Indian Hill Myna (certainly a new species for the count, but not likely wild)!

Glenolden noted that their Eastern Bluebird numbers peaked in 1988, and have been declining since. While other areas noted continuing increases.

Washington noted that Cardinals have been their lowest in ten years, and Butler's Cardinal count was only 56% of the last ten years' average. However, Southern Lancaster County, Upper Bucks County, and Lehigh Valley all set new highs.

The Field Sparrow total on the Lebanon count was more than twice the number seen in all previous years combined.

West Chester missed Eastern Meadowlark in 7 of the last 10 years..after having them every year from 1948 to 1982.

All counts in the southeastern part of the state noted the lack of blackbirds.

KEY TO MAP AND TABLES

BOLDED means the number was a new high for that count.

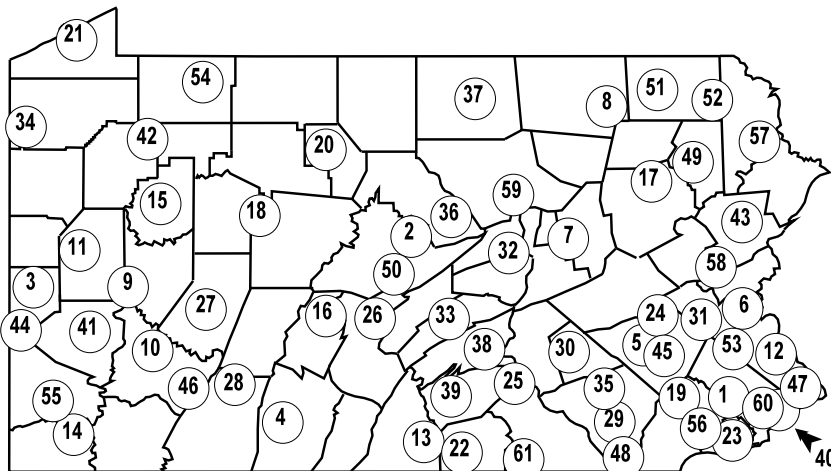
Underlined means the species was unusual or noteworthy for that count.

Italics means the species was new for that count.

Not all birds were seen in Pennsylvania. Linesville overlaps into Ohio, Raccoon Creek overlaps into West Virginia, Southern Lancaster County and York overlap into Maryland, and Glenolden and Pennypack Valley overlap into New Jersey.

No.	ABREV.	NAME
1	AUDU	Audubon
2	BALD	Bald Eagle
3	BEAV	Beaver
4	BEDF	Bedford County
5	BERN	Bernville
6	BETH	Bethlehem—Easton
7	BLOO	Bloomsburg
8	BRAD	SE Bradford County
9	BUFF	Buffalo Creek Valley
10	BUSH	Bushy Run State Park
11	BUTL	Butler County
12	CBUK	Central Bucks County
13	CHAM	Chambersburg
14	CLAK	Clarksville
15	CLAN	Clarion
16	CULP	Culp
17	DALL	Dallas Area
18	DUBO	Dubois
19	ELVE	Elverson
20	EMPO	Emporium
21	ERIE	Erie
22	GETT	Gettysburg
23	GLEN	Glenolden
24	HAMB	Hamburg
25	HARR	Harrisburg
26	HUNT	Huntingdon
27	INDI	Indiana
28	JOHN	Johnstown
29	LANC	Lancaster
30	LEBA	Lebanon County
31	LEHI	Lehigh Valley
32	LEWG	Lewisburg
33	LEWN	Lewistown
34	LINE	Linesville
35	LITI	Lititz
36	LOCK	Lock Haven—Jersey Shore
37	MANS	Mansfield
38	NEWB	New Bloomfield
39	NEWV	Newville
40	PENN	Pennypack Valley
41	PITT	Pittsburgh
42	PLEA	Pleasantville
43	POCO	Pocono Mountain
44	RACC	Raccoon Creek State Park
45	READ	Reading
46	RECT	Rector
47	SBUK	Southern Bucks County
48	SLAN	Southern Lancaster County
49	SCRA	Scranton
50	STAT	State College
51	SUSQ	Susquehanna County
52	THOM	Thompson
53	UBUK	Upper Bucks County
54	WARR	Warren
55	WASH	Washington
56	WEST	West Chester
57	WHIT	White Mills
58	WILD	Wild Creek—Little Gap
59	WILL	Williamsport
60	WYNC	Wyncote
61	YORK	York

1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS



PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	AUDU	BALD	BEAV	BEDF	BERN	BETH	BLOO	BRAD	BUFF	BUSH	BUTL	CBUK	CHAM	CLAK	CLAN	CULP	DALL	DUBO	ELVE	EMPO	ERIE	
HORNED CORMORANT, GREAT DOUBLE-CRESTED											7											3
NIGHT-HERON, BLACK-CROWNED SWAN, TUNDRA MUTE	1				8	3		2		3		10	2							70		140
DUCK, WOOD TEAL, GREEN-WINGED COMMON	22	1	1			1		1			1	4	3				1			2		1
PINTAIL, NORTHERN TEAL, BLUE-WINGED SHOVELER, NORTHERN						12	5				12	1						1				
CANVASBACK REDHEAD DUCK, RING-NECKED					1																	496
					1							21					4					21
	6																					70
SP. EIDER, KING OLDSQUAW																						45
																						1
BUFFLEHEAD MERGANSER, HOODED COMMON	127	9	3	2	10	27	8	22	2	2	3	53		1			6			4		242
	22	399			22												27			4		15
																						811
VULTURE, BLACK TURKEY OSPREY	1					5						51	4							15		
	63											589								81		
													1									
COOPER'S GOSHAWK, NORTHERN ACCIPITER, SP.	7	1	3	2	9	5	3	3	4	1	2	4	2	6	3	2	2	1		4		1
						1	1						1									
ROUGH-LEGGED	1	1			8			3										1				

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	AUDU	BALD	BEAV	BEDF	BERN	BETH	BLOO	BRAD	BUFF	BUSH	BUTL	CBUK	CHAM	CLAK	CLAN	CULP	DALL	DUBO	ELVE	EMPO	ERIE
FALCON, PEREGRINE	11	7	7	13	26	32	7	1	1	7	40	12	6	4	15	2	2	13	9		
PHEASANT, RING-NECKED																					
GROUSE, RUFFED	8	1	7	1	1	18	8	1	4	2	2	18	10	2	3	1	10				
MOURNEN, COMMON																					
COOT, AMERICAN																					
KILLDEER																					
WOODCOCK, AMERICAN																					
GULL, LAUGHING																					
BONAPARTE'S																					
LESSER BLACK-BACKED																					
GLAUCOUS																					
GREAT BLACK-BACKED	2																				
OWL, BARN																					
EASTERN SCREECH	36	7	4	8	4	34	4	3	1	29	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
GREAT HORNED	29	8	26	15	4	26	15	4	3	4	67	13	9	1	5	1	2	15	1	5	1
INDEPENDENT SAW-WHITE I SP.																					
KINGFISHER, BELTED	28	4	4	13	29	10	3	2	2	2	27	29	7	6	1	12	1	2			
WOODPECKER, DOWNY	147	42	34	129	200	70	21	33	147	189	41	74	19	32	109	26	92				
HAIRY	19	7	10	11	22	8	5	6	5	7	18	19	4	29	13	3	23	16	5	28	
FLICKER, NORTHERN	119	13	7	70	111	19	2	5	15	2	147	41	19	1	6	58	43				
JAY, BLUE	72	77	98	103	227	208	207	48	39	83	74	233	385	129	309	77	30	91	209	185	73
CROW, AMERICAN	5,616	425	231	259	820	3,630	1,733	190	116	171	124	863	1,940	1,170	2,815	359	139	123	1,300	72	64
FISH	1																				
CAROLINA	301																				
TITMOUSE, TUFTED	205	95	161	117	153	349	148	33	59	64	41	243	222	128	108	93	36	84	270	78	17

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	AUDU	BALD	BEAV	BEDF	BERN	BETH	BLOO	BRAD	BUFF	BUSH	BUTL	CBUK	CHAM	CLAK	CLAN	CULP	DALL	DUBO	ELVE	EMPO	ERIE
WREN, CAROLINA	159	26	19	12	121	103	58	17	12	12	5	98	97	46	7	28	10	8	152	14	4
KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED	70	36	15		19	32	38	29	25	19	14	35	23	26	11	8	9	29	25	13	29
RUBY-CROWNED	5	2			1	5	1		1			6	9			4			1		1
GNATCATCHER, BLUE-GRAY																					
CATBIRD, GRAY	2				1	2	1			1			2						4		
MOCKINGBIRD, NORTHERN	156	17			109	132	70	4	1	4		244	113	12		12	1		175		
THRASHER, BROWN																					
LOGGERHEAD													2								
STARLING, EUROPEAN	4,035	3,038	910	1,020	11,279	12,051	5,052	1,375	365	455	430	5,909	13,468	2,215	765	424	194	166	4,428	42	722
WARBLER, ORANGE-CROWNED																			1		
YELLOWTHROAT, COMMON	1				1																2
WARBLER, SP.																					
CARDINAL, NORTHERN	398	156	104	109	366	433	204	57	59	109	61	414	259	231	98	87	29	100	459	61	53
FIELD	65		4	26	29	8	9		1	9	1	43	21	11	2				33	1	
FIELD VESPER					3																
SAVANNAH						3						5	2						13		
SWAMP	2	5			20	3	7			2	2	17	4						19		2
WHITE-THROATED	718	239	2	16	1,339	1,157	454	79	32	98	24	1,220	388	47	24	21	21	3	1,073	6	8
WHITE-CROWNED	38				71	3	20	5		1		29	94						7		
BUNTING, SNOW					1	1						4									
BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED	32				14	32	46					102		1	1				99		
MEADOWLARK, EASTERN					74	7	1					21	1	3					11		
COWBIRD, BROWN-HEADED	12	51	30		3	449	40			11	1	91	63	18		1	1		51		1
GROSBEEK, PINE										6	10	2	26		8			7	3		5
FINCH, PURPLE																					
GOLDFINCH, AMERICAN	102	244	19	65	102	262	381	166	38	21	27	104	256	93	366	156	111	72	132	153	12
GROSBEEK, EVENING								6									1				
SPARROW, HOUSE	144	426	291	334	769	516	583	199	118	258	155	262	1,453	421	540	229	93	139	324	118	387
TOTAL	23,168	8,634	4,678	3,826	41,768	38,846	19,963	3,894	2,448	3,307	2,712	31,734	29,840	6,507	8,955	3,474	2,206	2,493	18,533	2,537	16,439
SPECIES	76	65	48	42	80	73	68	53	51	60	63	83	76	54	48	50	54	38	86	36	73

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	GETT	GLEN	HAMB	HARR	HUNT	INDI	JOHN	LANC	LEBA	LEHI	LEWG	LEWN	LINE	LITI	LOCK	MANS	NEWB	NEWV	PENN	PITT	
HURWED		4					2						2								
CORMORANT, GREAT		5														1			28		1
DOUBLE-CRESTED		5																			
NIGHT-HERON, BLACK-CROWNED		6											167	52							
SWAN, TUNDRA		4		7				4,196					11								2
MUTE		3					2														
DUCK, WOOD		8	7				9										2				2
TEAL, GREEN-WINGED		114	2	12						11			2	2			4				2
COMMON																					
MINI-TAIL, NORTHERN		145	1				4						2		6		1				2
TEAL, BLUE-WINGED				3																	
SHOVELER, NORTHERN		64		1									44								
CAWVABACK		1																			
REDHEAD				1																	1
DUCK, RING-NECKED		18									2		8	3							1
TURKEY																					
EIDER, KING																					
OLDsquAW																					
MEGANSER, TUJOUED		11		45			29				2		19	4							1
COMMON		142		34						18	8		3	40		2	43	16			2
RED-BREASTED		1						743	2		3		25	1							2
TURKEY		103		3																	
OSPREY				1				207						239							
EAGLE, BALD								1		1			7								
GOSHAWK, NORTHERN																					
ACCIPITER, SP.																					
HAWK, RED-SHOULDERED		2	6	1	1	2	1				1	1	1	5			3	1			4

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	GETT	GLEN	HAMB	HARR	HUNT	INDI	JOHN	LANC	LEBA	LEHI	LEWG	LEWN	LINE	LITI	LOCK	MANS	NEWB	NEWV	PENN	PITT
FALCON, PEREGRINE		2																		
PHEASANT, RING-NECKED	10	11	16	4	4	8	42	7	3	4	4	1	1	9	1	1	2	14	2	2
GROUSE, RUFFED	2		4	1	4	9	2			4	3	7	5	1	1	7	13			
MOORHEN, COMMON		1																		
COOT, AMERICAN				37		7	1		30				120							
KILLDEER	6	15	20	13	1	2	1	23	2	7	20	7		14			7	16	34	
WOODCOCK, AMERICAN		3																		
GULL, LAUGHING										1										
BONAPARTE'S	1												60							4
LESSER BLACK-BACKED GLAUCOUS GREAT BLACK-BACKED		220		25				209									10			53
OWL, BARN	1								2		5			1						
EASTERN SCREECH GREAT HORNED	1	38	26	12	3	1		6	6	26	4			24	13		27	56	2	30
	5	37	68	16	8	2		11	4	23	11	1	1	31	8	1	14	20	10	6
NORTHERN SAW-WHET SP.																				
KINGFISHER, BELTED	5	41	12	27	2	1		28	8	34	11	2	2	21	6	2	6	17	17	5
WOODPECKER, DOWNY HAIRY	40	215	199	174	49	51	43	85	92	273	65	46	36	168	38	23	101	162	58	223
FLICKER, NORTHERN	4	22	28	21	9	13	4	16	9	34	6	21	10	20	10	15	5	9	15	40
	29	67	96	80	5	2	5	51	25	115	19	7	14	48	17	1	25	63	19	47
JAY, BLUE CROW, AMERICAN FISH	169	241	171	346	116	200	269	163	208	381	144	74	89	451	63	202	263	235	51	299
	260	4,164	789	968	560	367	525	1,352	495	1,094	45,000	237	255	125,000	1,052	207	821	290	311	356
	36		1	250				13	8		2			34	1			3	122	
CAROLINA SP.	78	638		234				203	1					7				32	233	83
TITMOUSE, TUFTED	20							25									30		280	
	645	380	407	290	168	165	105	121	123	423	155	114	9	269	76	28	291	233	115	458

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	GETT	GLEN	HAMB	HARR	HUNT	INDI	JOHN	LANC	LEBA	LEHI	LEWG	LEWN	LINE	LITI	LOCK	MANS	NEWB	NEWV	PENN	PITT
MARKSH																				
KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED	20	123	47	86	28	55	16	77	49	66	40	18	40	40	21	8	74	57	18	49
RUBY-CROWNED	7	10	12	12	1	1	3	7	3	17	4	1	1	5	2	1	4	6	2	
KOBIN, AMERICAN	1	1,712	24	1	1	23	11	1	8	120	5	6	146	6	23	2	3	18	123	207
CATBIRD, GRAY	9	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1
MOCKINGBIRD, NORTHERN	117	177	167	90	12	1	6	108	47	181	49	13	116	116	10	69	99	50	5	5
SHRIKE, NORTHERN																				
LOGGERHEAD	2																			
STARLING, EUROPEAN	6,341	9,362	4,046	8,671	1,047	296	1,526	24,647	2,928	8,322	3,622	3,801	630	6,138	924	433	1,288	7,415	1,232	1,431
PALM	1		1				2							2				1	1	
YELLOWTHROAT, COMMON																				
WARBLER, SP.																				
CHIPPING	6	81	45	8	5	5	2	25	67	19	13	2	61	61	6	1	24	28	22	2
FIELD																				
VESPER																				
CALAMITY																				
LINCOLN S																				
SWAMP	159	22	9	1	14	14	19	6	12	19	7	18	7	47	2	6	326	23	16	1
WHITE-THROATED	165	1,715	1,695	502	43	110	13	1,158	180	1,467	260	18	16	1,081	91	6	326	440	421	281
LUNGSUCK, LAYFLINN																				
BUNTING, SNOW	50	1								517	10	1	1	1	1			1		
BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED	750	45	32	32	34	34	10	10	10	10	10	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	23	
SKALDLE, COMMON	1	48	1	302	1	1	103	1	1	219	7	3	3	225	11	3	3	3	3	15
COWBIRD, BROWN-HEADED	1	101	10	9	5	5	139	1	1	369	7	3	3	225	11	285	285	285	285	15
GROSBEAK, PINE																				
GULLFLEET, AMERICAN	42	213	232	107	84	78	43	154	80	220	193	34	94	140	267	123	289	148	121	212
GROSBEAK, EVENING										1										
SPARROW, HOUSE	540	668	1,026	417	256	239	837	518	527	968	467	822	143	1,115	311	93	428	490	208	1,098
TOTAL	13,653	45,088	20,598	25,505	4,658	6,430	7,995	62,006	11,061	36,728	54,918	7,731	11,294	150,029	5,987	2,204	9,270	17,737	8,504	13,331
SPECIES	66	111	77	86	58	66	65	79	71	84	70	55	78	85	65	47	66	75	67	64

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	PLEA	POCO	RACC	READ	RECT	SBUK	SLAN	SCRA	STAT	SUSQ	THOM	UBUK	WARR	WASH	WEST	WHIT	WILD	WILL	WYNC	YORK
HORNED CORMORANT, GREAT DOUBLE-CRESTED						2	2					1					3			1
NIGHT-HERON, BLACK-CROWNED SWAN, TUNDRA MUTE	2			4		4	1	17				4					1			5
DUCK, WOOD TEAL, GREEN-WINGED COMMON				9	4	1	2		7			1								
PINTAIL, NORTHERN TEAL, BLUE-WINGED SHOVELER, NORTHERN	1			1									2							2
CANVASBACK REDHEAD DUCK, RING-NECKED					7	53	1								7		11			1
SP. EIDER, KING OLDSQUAW																				1
MERGANSER, HOODED COMMON RED-BREADED	79			11 497 4		52 59	6 1,650 4	47			35 73 35	90 149		6 3	4 6	4 6	5 11	12 17		2 1
TURKEY OSPREY EAGLE, BALD		1				1	407				28 1		1		179		3		1	135
GOSHAWK, NORTHERN ACCIPITER, SP. HAWK, RED-SHOULDERED				1 1 2		1 1	2		1	3		5		2		3				4

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	PLEA	POCO	RACC	READ	RECT	SBUK	SLAN	SCRA	STAT	SUSQ	THOM	UBUK	WARR	WASH	WEST	WHIT	WILD	WILL	WYNC	YORK
FALCON, PEREGRINE						2														
PHEASANT, RING-NECKED	2	1	1	8	2	1	13	1	5	2	1	15	1	1	1		8	3	3	8
GROUSE, RUFFED	6	2	1	1	3							3	15	4			1			
MOURNIN, COMMON						19						1								
COOT, AMERICAN				18		17	34					3			51		4		6	150
KILLDEER	1	6	2	2								3								14
WOODCOCK, AMERICAN						1														
GULL, LAUGHING						6	60													
BONAPARTE'S																				1
LESSEK BLACK-BACKED				2		18														
GLAUCOUS						618	64					3								
GREAT BLACK-BACKED																				
OWL, BARN						2														
EASTERN SCREECH	1	1	20	16	6	18	23	1	10			3	2	10	55		8	2	1	2
GREAT HORNED	3	1	1	12	2	27	8		4	3		21	5	1	45		4	6	8	11
INDEPENDENT SAW-WHITE I																				
SP.												3								
KINGFISHER, BELTED	2	8	3	25	3	44	50		18	1		19	18	3	25		5	4	29	20
WOODPECKER, DOWNY	35	30	23	115	92	180	179	41	80	14	18	205	83	74	111	42	42	52	143	90
HAIRY	7	12	10	21	15	13	31	10	18	4	14	26	15	15	17	19	10	12	26	6
FLICKER, NORTHERN	4	30	5	71	2	149	156	2	4			189	4	13	81	4	30	19	80	56
JAY, BLUE	114	140	12	220	325	370	854	130	130	73	30	287	247	37	208	142	23	103	72	183
CROW, AMERICAN	19	528	65	451	516	2,318	818	547	511	380	308	1,450	130	203	1,115	242	199	1,082	446	646
FISH				1		206	6		38						4					6
CAROLINA						233	472					177		104	277					319
SP.				2		35								57	46					
TITMOUSE, TUFTED	58	213	71	224	254	119	284	100	211	20	40	326	41	120	163	179	89	159	237	125

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1992 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	PLEA	POCO	RACC	READ	RECT	SBUK	SLAN	SCRA	STAT	SUSQ	THOM	UBUK	WARR	WASH	WEST	WHIT	WILD	WILL	WYNC	YORK
MARSH																				
KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED	11	14	26	59	56	49	130	8	39	4	2	85	19	72	25	15	24	1	48	89
RUBY-CROWNED	1	2		9		1	13		1			10		5	6		1		1	5
ROBIN, AMERICAN	101	2	2	63	8	637	37	2	14			90	9	31	213	55	11		254	6
CATBIRD, GRAY						14	1		3			7	1	1	5	1				1
MOCKINGBIRD, NORTHERN	21			103	4	158	248	27	34			246		8	237	27	14		74	135
SHRIKE, NORTHERN																				
LOGGERHEAD																				
STARLING, EUROPEAN	72	910	462	4,302	683	9,692	6,699	2,580	2,720	721	505	12,394	373	471	3,771	199	1,232	2,524	2,738	7,031
PALM																				
YELLOWTHROAT, COMMON		2					1													
WARBLER, SP.																				
CHIPPING	2						1		1			1								7
FIELD	1	20	4	36	21	58	41	1	4			52	1	3	64	2			28	9
VESPER						1														
LINCOLN'S																				
SWAMP	6	4	4	21	10	13	16	2	12			12		4	16	5	2		1	38
WHITE-THROATED	15	133	1	1,550	64	1,870	2,051	11	323	2		1,582	27	38	801	16	264	169	871	544
LONGSPUR, LAPLAND																				
BUNTING, SNOW																				
BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED	1					99	473	1				1	1		707	7	14		75	80
GRACKLE, COMMON				6	1	296	666		1			6	1		416		5		12	442
COWBIRD, BROWN-HEADED				399		295	929		34		1	118	31	6	14	18	1			130
GROSBEAK, PINE											4									
GOLDFINCH, AMERICAN	49	86	4	113	99	122	272	172	146	139	23	171	91	54	157	174	50	565	147	158
GROSBEAK, EVENING												15	2							
SPARROW, HOUSE	60	133		715	162	451	1,781	552	715	58	171	224	260	248	98	91	120	327	373	559
TOTAL	1,745	6,777	1,665	25,938	5,965	70,609	41,189	7,094	9,628	2,018	1,932	36,569	4,816	4,217	25,294	2,986	5,051	9,548	13,399	19,203
SPECIES	46	55	45	81	59	90	100	43	61	36	29	89	57	55	71	43	66	68	60	79

SPECIES	NO. OF COUNTS			NO. OF COUNTS			SPECIES	NO. OF COUNTS			SPECIES
	TOTALS	COUNTS	AVERAGE	TOTALS	COUNTS	AVERAGE		TOTALS	COUNTS	AVERAGE	
LOON, RED-THROATED COMMON	1	1	1	10	5	2	BUTEO, SP. KESTREL, AMERICAN	1,492	57	26	6 SLAN
DOUBLE-CRESTED BITTERN, AMERICAN	36	7	3	214	44	3	GROOSE, RUFTED TURKEY, WILD	715	42	17	151 THOM
HERRON, GREAT BLUE	996	54	18	3	2	2	BOBWHITE, NORTHERN	4,966	54	92	2 SLAN
MUTE GOOSE, SNOW BRANT	6/ 951	16/ 12	4/ 79	3/1	32	12	KILLDEER YELLOWLEGS, GREATER DUNLIN	3,719	47	79	51 WEST 1 GLEN 1 SLAN
LOMINION DUCK, AMERICAN BLACK MALLARD	7,546 34,567	48 59	157 586	394 74,148 25,290	8 44 37	49 1,685 684	BUNYARKITES RING-BILLED HERRING	22,522	61	3,048	1/5 ERIE 19,321 LANC 20,620 SBUK
SHUVELEK, NUKIHEKN GADWALL	121 272	5 15	24 18	1,336 208	14 8	95 26	GREAT BLAUK-BAUKED SP.	14,891	2	2	618 SBUK 60 HARR
WIGEON, EURASIAN	1	1	1	36,318	61	595	DOVE, ROCK	143	30	5	2,950 HARR
DUCK, KING-NECKED TUFTED	213	15	14	651	34	12	GREAT MUKNEU BARRED	88	4	2	68 MARIB 10 NEWV
SCAUP, GREATER	35	5	7	10	4	2	LONG-EARED	51	15	6	2 (7)
ULUSJAWW SCOTER, BLACK WHITE-WINGED	1 1	1 1	1 1	710 36	36 12	13 3	RINGNECKER, BELIEU WOODPECKER, RED-HEADED RED-BELLIED	2,249	57	39	50 SLAN 15 GETT 161 SLAN
RED-BREASTED DUCK, RUDDY	5051 962 217	36 10 8	133 96 27	2,308 311 19	34 54 13	43 6 1	FLAUK, NUKIHEKN WOODPECKER, PILEATED PHOEBE, EASTERN	3,230	31	108	189 UBUK 19 (8) 6 SLAN
OSPREY EAGLE, BALD HARRIER, NORTHERN	3 44 123	3 15 33	1 3 4	808 130 60	22 1 16	37 130 4	FISH SP. RAVEN, COMMON	1,513	2	7	250 FRANK 43 130 EMPO
ACUMPLEK, SP. HAWK, RED-SHOULDERED BROAD-WINGED	11 51	7 24	2 2	10,312 335	81 54	189 6	THIMMOUSE, LUFLEU NUTHATCH, RED-BREASTED WHITE-BREASTED	26,028	60	434	845 GELI 24 WILD 194 PITT

- 1. PENN (21 in PA)
- 2. PENN (ALL IN NJ), GLEN 21
- 3. UBUK, HARR, CHAM
- 4. SBUK, GLEN
- 5. CLAN, BLOO
- 6. ERIE, BERN
- 7. LITI, BERN
- 8. WARR, NEWB, CHAM
- 9. UBUK, GLEN
- 10. LANC, HARR
- 11. ERIE, EMPO
- 12. GETT, CHAM
- 13. LITI, LANC
- 14. RECT, INDI

Summary of The Season - October to December 1992

One of the things noticed in the reports for this quarter was the significant number of late dates for many species. Many are given in the "Rarities" section, but many more can be found by checking the individual county reports. Perhaps due to the essentially mild weather for most of the quarter (as we sit here housebound by the Blizzard of '93), perhaps because of more birders out there reporting to their compilers, or perhaps something else.

A widespread storm at the end of October brought many migrating waterfowl down on bodies of water. Just the number of scoters seen everywhere was enough to make one wonder what the actual numbers might be of those passing through each year. Most of these have no particular reason to stop here except when bad weather occurs. **Brant** and seaducks were well-reported.

Impressive numbers of loons and grebes were noted. **Great Cormorants** have shown up in a few new localities. Long-legged waders continued in excellent numbers where there were drawdowns of local waters, notably in *Philadelphia* and *Lancaster*. Most bizarre was the American Bittern in *Erie* (see Notes). When will Pa. record its first White-faced Ibis? Perhaps that is what McWilliams had on Presque Isle, although no one will ever know for sure. We are long overdue.

The **Tufted Duck** reported in *Crawford* last quarter remained through this quarter. The **Eurasian Wigeon** in *Lancaster* has appeared at the same pond for the fourth winter in a row. Although no details were submitted, we did hear a rumor about a Harlequin Duck flying by Presque Isle.

The Hawk Watch Reports are interesting reading, just wish we could get the Waggoners Gap records to include. For the first time in many years, no Swainson's Hawk was reported. A **Ruffed Grouse** in Doylestown (*Bucks*) was several miles farther south than their usual range. We have read elsewhere that on occasion they are prone to this behavior.

And, speaking of behavior, one of the seemingly weakest flying families, rails, have a proclivity to be found anywhere, on remote islands in our oceans and seas, or even on downtown streets (*Philadelphia*, *Sora*) or a flyash basin (*Lancaster*, *Black Rail*). Remember, the only North American record for Spotted Rail was in *Westmoreland*. Even **Common Moorhen** stayed fairly late (*Tioga*, *York*) and an **American Coot** took to eating berries in *Clarion* (see Notes). **Sandhill Cranes** were seen in *Lancaster*.

Shorebirds were well represented with good numbers and late dates widespread. Appropriate habitat helps. The charts will make it easy to note the incidence of the species involved.

Although a marginal proponent of having just three gull species (large, medium, and small), they do present some interesting and challenging

identification problems. That a **California Gull** might appear in Pa. is certainly not out of the question after a tantalizing gull appeared at Blue Marsh Lake (*Berks*). The available documentation will give P.O.R.C. members much to ponder. Both **Common** and **Forster's** terns were seen into early November.

That early November storm brought an **Ancient Murrelet** to Lake Ontelaunee (*Berks*) and provided a fortunate few to be in on a first state record. Lake Ontelaunee has hosted three known alcid species over the years! All after storms with strong easterly winds. See separate write-up.

Common Nighthawks were seen quite late, with the latest being recorded in *Philadelphia* on 11/16. Barb remembers seeing one in Cape May on 11/18 that had been caught in the banding nets and was quite emaciated.

Two species of hummingbirds were noted well into the quarter. The **Erie Rufous Hummingbird** was afforded its own condominium and managed to survive adverse conditions through the end of the quarter. The *York* hummingbird, tentatively identified as a **Ruby-throated**, spent nine November days at a feeder, but was not seen after banding attempts were unsuccessful. Whether any conclusions as to species can be drawn from the photographic evidence will be the subject of a later discussion. Some experts will be looking at the photographs.

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (*Berks*) 10/23 and an **Eastern Wood-Pewee** at Prince Gallitzin State Park (*Cambria*) 11/4 were certainly noteworthy. An **Eastern Phoebe** in *Bradford* 12/26 was well-studied. This species is "routine" in the southeastern counties on CBCs, but that far north that late is excellent.

Most discouraging was the report from Allen Schweinsberg that the **Common Jackdaws** in *Union* have not been seen or heard since mid-summer. The inmate, whose cell is close to where they roosted, had not heard them either. Pennsylvania's claim to a unique species may now be history. Another corvid, **Common Raven**, was reported from Philadelphia. If accepted by P.O.R.C. it will be the third county record.

Although northern birds continue to be scarce, southern birds continue to make inroads northward (Is there a pattern here?). *Elk* reports that "Yes, finally, **Tufted Titmouse** are increasing here! Dave Sorg reports he saw 5 at his feeder at one time on 12/24, a new record for him. Also, John Wyeant saw 8 at German Settlement 12/30."

Carolina Wrens were everywhere and in excellent numbers, with outstanding numbers recorded on the CBCs. Notable were four counties recording **Marsh Wrens**, the latest in *Bucks* 12/20.

The numbers of kinglets were good, particularly of **Ruby-crowneds** on many of the CBCs. Spot-breasted thrush reports continue lackluster. In *York*, there was no fall record of Veery, Gray-cheeked Thrush, or Swainson's Thrush.

Warbler highlights were many. Johnny Miller estimated over 300 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** in Tinicum on 10/8. Imagine Ramsay Koury's surprise when he found and studied a **Yellow-throated Warbler** in New Cumberland while scouting for the Newville CBC (not found then, alas). Two **Pine Warblers** have visited Bob Billings Philadelphia feeders since at least 12/23. Perhaps they arrived for the Pennypack CBC but he wasn't home...out looking for other birds to count. All the **Palm Warblers** (13) that came through Tinicum 10/3-18 were the white-browed western race. There are a lot more records noted in the Rarities section.

When will the next northern finch invasion be? This century? We took a February 1993 trip to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and Algonquin Provincial Park and can attest to the fact that Pine Siskins are in stupendous numbers there. We were virtually never out of earshot of them. We also had hundreds of White-winged Crossbills over the four days, but only one Pine Grosbeak, and very few redpolls, so it's anyone's guess where northern finches might be. One theory proposed is that with the increased feeding stations to the north of us, the birds are just not coming south. This may be part of the answer, but would hardly seem to be the only reason. So, for this quarter's poser: What do you think might be the reason for the total lack of northern finches (excepting Pine Siskin) for the last many years? Your input is solicited.

We wish to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for supporting PENNSYLVANIA BIRDS through additional gifts.

Gloria Bickel*
Rosann Bongey
Jim Fuller
Carl Garner
Tom Garner
Kerry Grim
Sam Orr
Robert Walczak*
Eleanor Wolf
David C. Wolfe
Ronald C. Young
Harry Yurewick*

*Designates Patron (contribution of \$50.00 or more)

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Seaduck Fallout

Somerset - A drizzle began at noon on 10/30. At 1220 a flock of high altitude waterfowl became visible dropping down out of the overcast sky. They flew back and forth the length of the lake as they came lower. Individuals were dropping into the water all over the lake, with that characteristic splash and bounce that those ever-so-graceful loons make when landing. There were at least 79 loons in that flock. They just marked the beginning of a weather-induced fallout of waterfowl. An hour before sunrise on 10/31 I was at the lake listening to the squawking of seaducks. The sounds kept moving back and forth in front of me. Finally as dawn broke I could see a flock crossing back and forth. We kept counting the birds and got different numbers each time we got a glimpse through the gloom. As light conditions improved we realized they were all different flocks. One large flock of Black Scoter (67), numerous smaller flocks of Oldsquaw ($\Sigma=173$). Midmorning a single flock of Bufflehead (± 150) landed in front of me. A flock of 48 Black Scoter was present until 11/2. (Tony Marich)

Snow Goose Still Hanging Around

York - A **Snow Goose**, first reported last 9 May, has now disassociated itself from the Canada Geese. (Al Spiese)

Duck Nesting Success

Somerset - Arn Engleka and I went to the Turnpike Exit 10 beaver dam complex on 10/18 to count the evening roost flight. We counted 418 Mallard and 116 Wood Duck coming to roost that evening. This was the best count at any of the local beaver dams. The Middlecreek beaver dam had 81 Wood Duck on 10/23, while two flocks of Mallard flew over going in the direction of the Exit 10 beaver dams. The Wills beaver dam had 74 Wood Duck on 10/4 but only 3 Mallard. By 10/22 the number of Wood Duck at Wills dropped to 21, but the Mallards had increased to 22 birds. I returned to Exit 10 on 10/20 and counted 586 ducks in the evening roost flight—mostly Mallards. One evening a small flock of Mallard was followed from L. Somerset to the beaver dams. It seems quite evident the lack of ducks on this lake during the summer was the result of habitat suitability. The abundance of shallow water and vegetation-filled wetland at Exit 10 provided a much better habitat for ducks than the 1991-1992 drawdown-impacted L. Somerset. Watch the next quarter report for a summary of Wood Duck nest box usage at L. Somerset. Tony Marich

...and a Bittern? in a pear tree!

Erie - Quite bizarre was the report of an American Bittern in someone's backyard in the suburbs of Erie. Jim and Jean Stull investigated this report and indeed there was one there. In fact, not only in a backyard but it was perched in a pear tree with neck and bill pointed upward!

Feeding Habits

Chester - Phyllis Hurlock observed House Finches eating suet.

Clarion - A lone American Coot in a small farm pond at Wentlings Corners was seen jumping up repeatedly from the edge of the water to eat overhanging Arrowhead (*Viburnum recognitum*) berries. (Walter Fye *et al.*)

Golden Eagle Flight

Franklin - The most interesting sighting was a flight of 7 Golden Eagles seen from Timmons Mt. on the afternoon of 11/8 in a 3-hour time period; 5 were adult, the other 2 sub-adult. (Don and Robyn Henise)

Strange Looking Birds

Clarion - An albino Killdeer frequented the same field near Mechanicsville for about two weeks in the middle of Oct. It was pure white with pink eyes. It showed up about 4 p.m. each day in the company of a few other Killdeer or alone. (Margaret Buckwalter)

Mercer - A strange-plumaged Hairy Woodpecker began coming to a suet feeder near Hermitage in mid-Nov. This bird (a ♀, no red on the head) is brown everywhere a typical Hairy is black, with the stripes on the head being the darkest brown, and the brown color gradually fading out on the wing and tail tips. (Marty McKay)

Crows

Elk - My Benzinger Twp yard hosts a pair of Am. Crow and I was warned that if I encouraged them to come by putting out cracked corn, popcorn, bread, etc., that I would be sorry—I would be inundated by crows! This hasn't happened. What has happened is that during the summer they bring their young and it is fascinating to watch. Last summer there were 3 young. The adults disappear for a few months and then reappear at my feeder, without the family. This year they reappeared on 11/17. I know at least 1 is the same crow as it has a broken foot. It seems to get along fine. (Linda Christenson)

Waxwings

Franklin - Ken Gabler writes, "A report of Cedar Waxwings at my property (7 acres) 2 miles west of Chambersburg. I keep a list of birds by week on the property, counting only the highest number present at any one time:

Date	Number
9/27	6
10/04	25
10/11	45
10/18	150
11/01	125
11/08	100
11/15	180

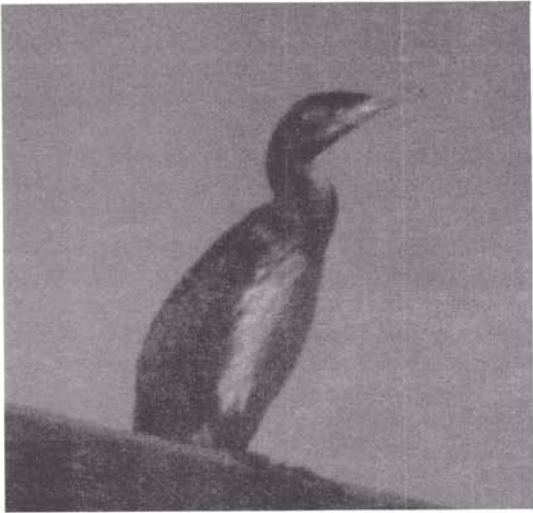
After a period of rain (3 days) the birds did not return."

Clarion - Cedar Waxwings were unusually scarce. In October a flock of 36–40 was seen in Leeper (Lois Callahan). One individual was seen in Callensburg 12/13 (Walter Fye). Those were the only sightings reported. (Margaret Buckwalter)

Cowbirds

Elk - Concern over Brown-headed Cowbird: Dave Wolfe writes: "I've had one disturbing trend at my feeders. Brown-headed Cowbird started coming in around Thanksgiving and have been hanging around ever since. This does not bode well for local breeders if the cowbirds are gaining "permanent" status thanks to my feeders!" (Linda Christenson)

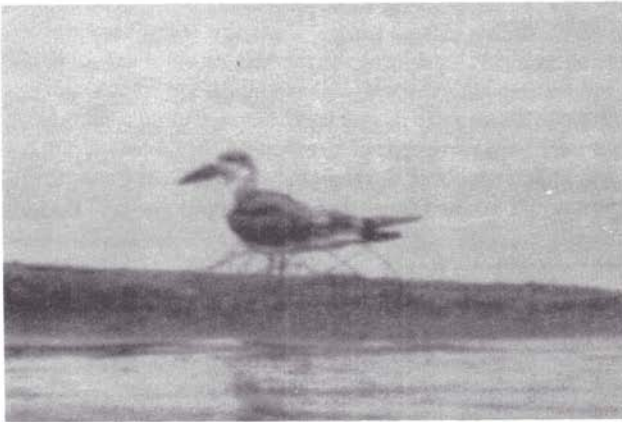
PHOTOGRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS



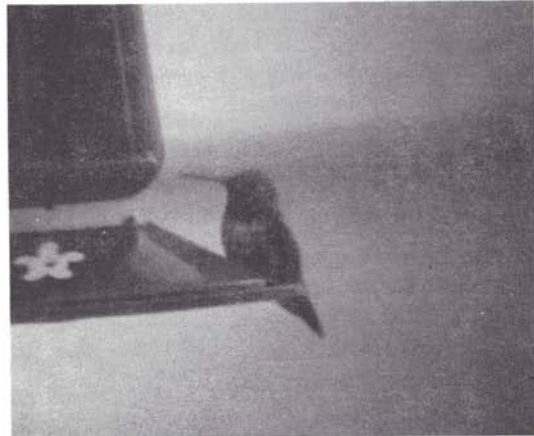
Great Cormorant, Beltzville S.P., *Carbon Co.*, 12/22/92.
Photo by Rick Wiltraut.



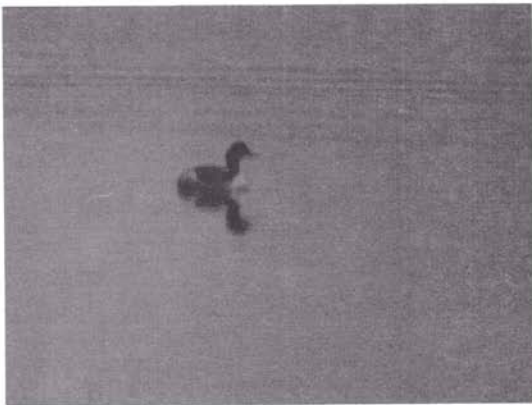
Plegadis Sp., Presque Isle S.P., *Erie Co.*, 10/15/92.
Photo by Jerry McWilliams.



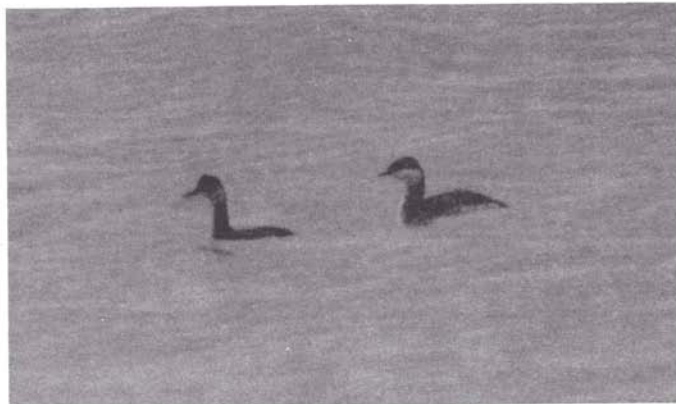
Black Skimmer, Conejehola Flats, *Lancaster Co.*, 9/27/92.
Photo by Rick Wiltraut.



Rufous Hummingbird, Elk Cr. Twp., *Erie Co.*, 9/27/92.
Photo by Jean Stull.



Eared Grebe, Prince Gallitzin S.P., *Cambria Co.*, 11/25/92.
Photo by Gloria Lamer.



Eared Grebe and Horned Grebe, Presque Isle S.P., *Erie Co.*, 11/6/92. Photo by Deuane Hoffman.



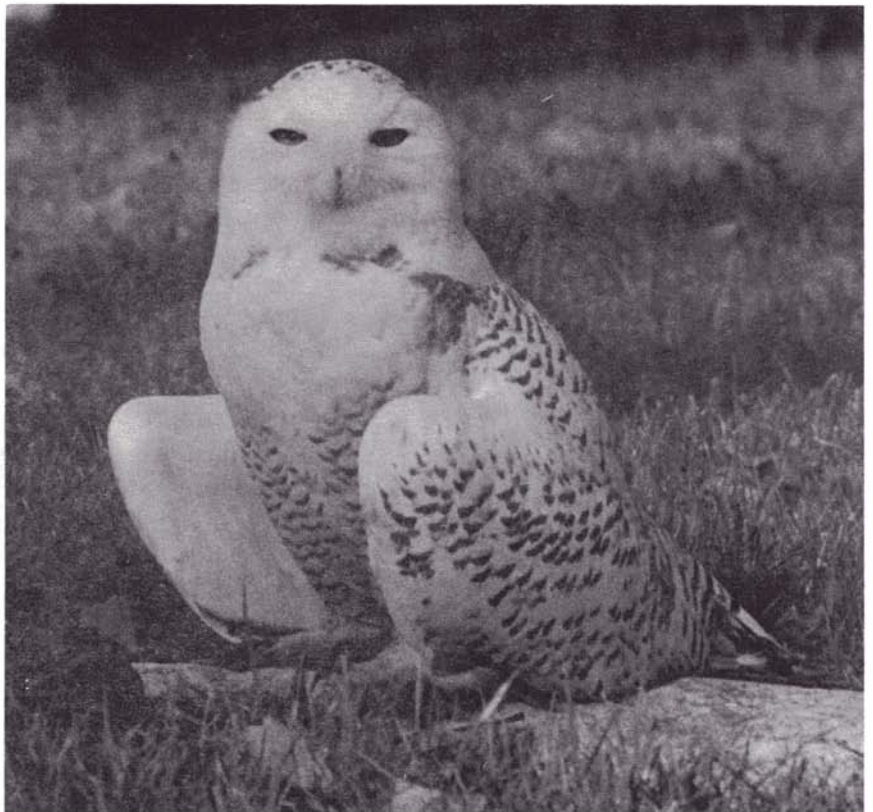
Hudsonian Godwit, Kuhn L.,
Cumberland Co., 10/27/92.
Photo by Bob Schutsky.



Tufted Duck, Pymatuning S.P., *Crawford Co.*, 11/19/92. Photo by Deuane Hoffman.



Hudsonian Godwit,
Brunner's Island, *York Co.*,
10/30/92. Photo by Al Spiese.



Snowy Owl, Shady Grove, *Franklin Co.*, 11/4/92. Photo by Richard Bell.

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	ALLEGHENY	ARMSTRONG	BEDFORD	BERKS	BLAIR	BRADFORD	BUCKS	BUTLER	CAMBRIA	CARBON	CENTRE	CHESTER
HORNED CORMORANT, DOUBLE-CRESTED	12/2-	10/24		10/10-12/18			11/27-12/18	11/1-12/19(7)	10/31(6)	10/31-12/17(10)	P	11/1
HERON, GREAT BLUE	-12/26(8)	A	10/1-12/14	A	A	P	10/4-12/20	-12/20	-11/14(2) A-11/19(12)	P	10/11(3) A	A
SWAN, TUNDRA	11/7(35)-28			10/27-12/26(70)	11/3(100)-	11/29(20)	11/6-14(22)	11/6-11/19(300+)	10/30(23)		P	
MUTE GOOSE, SNOW				10/5-28	11/1(3)	11/1(3)	10/31(100+)-12/27				11/2(12)-12/8	12/19(11)
TEAL, GREEN-WINGED	12/6		10/15	-12/27(2)			10/10-		-11/14(6)		A	
DUCK, AMERICAN BLACK	11/2-(28)			A	A	A	R	10/15-12/19(31)	-11/23(5)	P	A	12/19(34)-26
MALLARD	A(1329)	A		R	R	R	R	-12/19(121)	R	R	A	R
GADWALL AMERICAN	10/30-11/12(2)	11/6(6)		11/9-12/27(46)	10/11-11/1(3)		11/28-	11/7(3L)	11/4-25(4)	P	P	
CANVASBACK	12/26	11/6(7)		10/31-12/27(40)	10/10-		10/10-		10/31(6)-11/5	P	P	
LESSER OLDSQUAW	11/8			11/8-			12/16-			12/17		
SCOTER, BLACK				10/12(11)-11/13	11/1(5)		10/17-12/27	11/7-12/19(6)	10/31(140)-11/25	12/17(22)	10/19-11/8(10)	
BUFFLEHEAD	11/12-(6)	11/6(35)-	11/7-11/8(3)	10/31(60)-	11/1(10)		10/18-	11/7(140H)-12/19	10/30-31(400)		10/13-12/4	11/7-14(14)
MERGANSER, HOODED	10/30-12/26(3)	11/6(12)-15		10/31-12/18(30)	11/1(3)	11/17	10/31-	11/8-12/19(17)	10/31-11/25(32)	P	NOV-	12/19(6)
COMMON	12/26(2)			10/24-12/20(497)	11/1(3)	A	A	12/19(3)	11/13-23(10)	P	NOV-	12/19(3)
TURKEY OSPREY	-10/17		-10/4	A	-12/2	-10/8	A	-10/17	-10/8(2)	P	-11/16	A
EAGLE, BALD	12/23-		10/18	-10/25	10/25		-12/20	10/19	-10/8	P	P	
GOSHAWK, NORTHERN				-12/8(7)			10/17-12/25	P-12/19	-11/9	P	12/17-	
HAWK, RED-SHOULDERED	10/6-25		12/9	11/8(6)-12/26	R		11/23-27	11/27	11/13	P	10/17-11/5	12/19
BROAD-WINGED	-10/5			-11/7(35)	-12/26		A	10/4-12/22		P	A	
				-10/4(5)			-10/23			P	-10/3	
KESTREL, AMERICAN	A(5)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	A	A
MERLIN				-10/4(9)-11/3			10/3-12/20					
FALCON, PEREGRINE	A*			-10/3(6)-10/17			A					

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	ALLEGHENY	ARMSTRONG	BEDFORD	BERKS	BLAIR	BRADFORD	BUCKS	BUTLER	CAMBRIA	CARBON	CENTRE	CHESTER
YELLOWLEGS, GREATER LESSER SANDPIPER, SOLITARY				11/1 -11/8					10/31-11/14		10/25-11/4(L)	
DUNLIN SNIFE, COMMON WOODCOCK, AMERICAN			10/4(4)-10 -12/27(11)		-11/13		10/7(24)(5) 12/19(25) A		11/6(30)-10 11/5(2)-14 11/5		P -11/20	
GREAT BLACK-BACKED OWL, BARN BARRED		R		12/13(L)- R R	R R		A A					12/26 A A
SAPSUCKER, YELLOW-BELLIED FLICKER, NORTHERN PHOEBE, EASTERN	10/26-(2L) A(47) -10/17		A -10/2	10/3-12/2(121) A -12/27	K -12/13		10/5- A A	-12/19(L) -12/13(L)		P A P	P -11/5(5)	12/19(8) R -12/19
RAVEN, COMMON CHICKADEE, BLACK-CAPPED CAROLINA		R		-12/12 R R	K R R		R R R		11/13 R			K R R
WINTER KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED RUBY-CROWNED			-10/22	A A A	K R 10/11-		10/5-12/21 A A	12/11-12/19 10/11-12/19(14) 10/4-10/18	A	P 10/10(20) 10/10(40)		12/19 10/18- 10/18-
ROBIN, AMERICAN CATBIRD, GRAY			-10/27 -10/30	-10/5(4) A A	R A		A -12/19(14)	-12/19(L) -10/7	-11/12 A	P A	-11/19(L) A A	R A A
WARBLER, TENNESSEE NASHVILLE MAGNOLIA			-10/3 -10/3(2) -10/5(3)				-10/4 -10/24 -10/8	-10/4 -10/4				P -10/3
BLACK-THROATED GREEN PINE PALM	-10/11	10/3(L)		-10/11 -10/10 10/12			-10/7 -10/9 -10/18	10/4-10/11		10/31		-10/4 -10/22 -10/31

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	ALLEGHENY	ARMSTRONG	BEDFORD	BERKS	BLAIR	BRADFORD	BUCKS	BUTLER	CAMBRIA	CARBON	CENTRE	CHESTER
CHIPPING FIELD VESPER	-10/31(50) -12/26(13)	-11/8	-10/13(18) A A	-10/11 R	-12/20 A 10/18-12/19	-11/7 -12/19	-10/31 P	-10/8(8) -10/20	-12/20 A P			R
SWAMP WHITE-THROATED WHITE-CROWNED	12/26 A(281) 10/17	10/18- 10/6-	10/24- 10/6-	A A 10/24-	R A	A A P-12/26(5)	10/4- 10/4- 10/4-	-12/19 -12/19(24) 10/11-10/22	A P A-11/4(150)	P P P	A A P	R 10/18- 10/21-
MEADOWLARK, EASTERN BLACKBIRD, RUSTY GRACKLE, COMMON	-11/3(200)	10/13(2)-11/22 -12/24 -12/16	A 10/18(24) A	A 10/18(24) A	-12/27 10/4-24 A	-11/19 11/5(3)	P	-12/20(6) 10/27 A				R
GROSBEEK, EVENING			11/10	12/26(6)	12/20(15)							

CLARION CLINTON CRAWFORD CUMBERLAND DAUPHIN DELAWARE ELK ERIE FOREST FRANKLIN GREENE HUNTINGDON

HORNED CORMORANT, DOUBLE-CRESTED HERON, GREAT BLUE	10/21-11/6(3) 10/31(3) -11/16	10/31-12/20(2) 10/4(15)-12/28 10/24-12/20(7)	10/31(5) -10/24(4) A	10/31(3)- A(85) A(100+)					R R R			A
MUTE GOOSE, SNOW BRANT	11/28-12/20(11) 10/4(3)-12/27	11/2(12)-23	12/19 11/1(100)-12/11	12/3- 10/6 10/25-12/3(6)								
DUCK, AMERICAN BLACK MALLARD PINTAIL, NORTHERN	11/8(3) R	A R -12/20	11/14-12/20(23) R-12/20(600) -12/20	A R A	P R P	A R A	-10/4		R R	A R		11/13- R
AMERICAN CANVASBACK REDHEAD		11/14-28(120L) 11/28-12/20(5) 11/7(9)-28	A 12/19- 11/21(2)-	11/13(13) P P								12/5-8

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	CLARION	CLINTON	CRAWFORD	CUMBERLAND	DAUPHIN	DELAWARE	ELK	ERIE	FOREST	FRANKLIN	GREENE	HUNTINGDON
WHITE-WINGED GOLDENEYE, COMMON BUFFLEHEAD	11/15 11/6(6) 11/6(151)-7	11/5-	10/24-12/20(17) 11/7-12/28(3)	10/27- 10/24-	P P	11/13(6) 10/31(42)-		10/25-12/15(50)				11/21 10/27-
DUCK, KUDDY VULTURE, BLACK TURKEY			10/31-12/28(2) 10/8* -10/9	11/25 -12/19 A	R R	10/31(20) A	-10/4		A A		-10/26	11/4-7 R -1/21
HAWK, SHARP-SHINNED COOPER'S GOSHAWK, NORTHERN	K R	A A	-12/20 -12/20	K R 11/3	A A A	A 10/6	K R R		K R R			K R 10/19-
EAGLE, GOLDEN KESTREL, AMERICAN MERLIN	R	A	A-12/20(14)	-12/15 R P-OCT	A P	11/21 A		10/10	R	11/7-8(1) R		10/11-11/14(5) R 10/17-19
PLOVER, BLACK-BELLIED LESSER GOLDEN KILLDEER	P-OCT	-11/5(65+)	10/4 10/4(28)-11/8	-10/2(13) A	A A	A		-11/28(3)	A			P
WHITE-KUMIPED PECTORAL DUNLIN			10/24 10/31(20)	-11/3(3)				11/5-11/30(5)				
PIERKING GREAT BLACK-BACKED OWL, BARN			10/31-12/20(50)	A A R	P P C	A A R		A A	10/5 R			
SWIFT, LUTHERINE WOODPECKER, RED-HEADED SAPSUCKER, YELLOW-BELLIED		P		R A	P A	A 12/28 10/10-			R			10/11 R A
SWALLOW, TREE CROW, FISH RAVEN, COMMON	12/22	R	-10/9(5)	R R	P A	-11/28	R	11/8(L)	R		10/13	R

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	CLARION	CLINTON	CRAWFORD	CUMBERLAND	DAUPHIN	DELAWARE	ELK	ERIE	FOREST	FRANKLIN	GREENE	HUNTINGDON
KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED												
RUBY-CROWNED												
GNATCATCHER, BLUE-GRAY												
ROBIN, AMERICAN												
CATBIRD, GRAY												
THRASHER, BROWN												
CAPE MAY												
BLACK-THROATED BLUE												
YELLOW-RUMPED												
CONNECTICUT												
YELLOWTHROAT, COMMON												
GROSBEEK, ROSE-BREADED												
FIELD												
VESPER												
SAVANNAH												
WHITE-THROATED												
WHITE-CROWNED												
JUNCO, DARK-EYED												
MEADOWLARK, EASTERN												
BLACKBIRD, RUSTY												
GRACKLE, COMMON												
GROSBEEK, EVENING												

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	INDIANA	JUNIATA	LACKAWANNA	LANCASTER	LEBANON	LEHIGH	LUZERNE	LYCOMING	MERCER	MIFFLIN	MONTGOMERY	MONTOUR
LESSER SANDPIPER, SOLITARY SPOTTED				-11/13	10/4						10/8 10/4	
SNIBE, COMMON	10/19	12/29(3)		P-							10/4(3)-6 -12/20	
WOODCOCK, AMERICAN	-11/22						-10/23					
GULL, BONAPARTE'S	10/20-11/6(12)			12/20(60)			10/30		11/8-12/18(50)			12/19-24(6)
OWL, BARN BARRED												
NORTHERN SAW-WHET	R	R		R(L) R 10/28	R R 12/19(2)				R	11/23	R	12/20(2)-
FLICKER, NORTHERN	A	A		A	A		A		A		A	10/24
PHOEBE, EASTERN	-10/20(2)			A	12/19		-10/23		-10/5	-10/15	A	-12/18
LARK, HORNED		12/29(6)		A	P							
CHICKADEE, BLACK-CAPPED	R	R		A	R		R		R		R	
CAROLINA				R	R						R	
NUTHATCH, RED-BREADED	A	-12/29(2)		A	P		A	10/18-	11/21-	10/28-29	A	
KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED	A	A		A	10/6(6)		10/17-		10/2-11/7		A	
RUBY-CROWNED	-12/29			A	P		10/17		10/3-10/27		A	
GNATCATCHER, BLUE-GRAY				A(1)						12/14(5)		
CATBIRD, GRAY				A	12/19		P			-10/12		
PIBIT, AMERICAN				A								
VIREO, SOLITARY	-10/13(3)				P		-10/10					
YELLOW-RUMPED	A											
BLACK-THROATED GREEN	-10/13(3)				-10/18(2)		-10/30		10/15-11/8 10/4	-11/1(2)	A	12/13
PINE											11/1	
YELLOWTHROAT, COMMON	-10/10			-12/20								
TOWHEE, RUFOUS-SIDED	-12/26(3)			A	-10/22		-10/17		-10/20			-10/27
SPARROW, AMERICAN TREE	11/8(2)-	12/29(36)		11/19 11/29- P(L)	-12/19 P		10/24-		10/30(5)-	11/5-(3)	11/14-	12/5

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	INDIANA	JUNIATA	LACKAWANNA	LANCASTER	LEBANON	LEHIGH	LUZERNE	LYCOMING	MERCER	MIFFLIN	MONTGOMERY	MONTOUR
LINCOLN'S SWAMP WHITE-THROATED	A	A	-12/19	A	A	P	-10/23	A	10/18(12)-	11/21(3+)-	10/4(8)-11/10/4(15)-10/17-	10/24
BUNTING, SNOW	11/14-24(2)	NOV(6)	-12/19	12/2(1/1)	A	A	10/25	A	-11/20	A(8)	11/18(10)	11/3(10)-11/5(85)
BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED	A	A	-12/19	A	A	P	P	A	-10/17		-11/19(40)	
MEADOWLARK, EASTERN		A		A	A							
PINK, PURPLE SISKIN, PINE GROSBEAK, EVENING	K	11/9(2)-19	10/13-	A	11/25(4)	P	12/19	12/20			10/1(4)-11/14	10/31*
<hr/>												
	NORTHAMPTON	PERRY	PHILADELPHIA	SOMERSET	SUSQUEHANNA	TIOGA	VENANGO	WARREN	WESTMORELAND	WYOMING	YORK	
HORNED CORMORANT, DOUBLE-CRESTED				11/20-12/4(3)		11/1			11/21	11/13(2)	11/28-	
HERON, GREAT BLUE	A	A	A-10/3(220)		A	A	A	A	11/8(2)	10/22	-10/3	
SWAN, TUNDRA				10/21-11/1(35)-12/20			11/1-12/8	11/14(50+)	10/26-11/10(2000)-12/1		11/29	
MUTE GOOSE, SNOW		10/29						P(3)	12/20(4)	12/8-		
TEAL, GREEN-WINGED DUCK, AMERICAN BLACK MALLARD		A	11/1-12/10(4)	10/19-11/21(38)-12/27	A	-10/15(8)	11/7	A	A	A	A	
AMERICAN CANVASBACK	12/21		10/26-12/18(48)	10/19-11/14(14)-12/5		11/15	11/11(2)-8		11/13(9)-12/23	10/21-12/16	10/6-	10/11-
LESSEK OLDSQUAW SCOTER, BLACK		12/19		10/31(173H)-11/23		12/6(6)		11/28(1)	11/1(25)-29		10/31-	10/31-
				10/31(67H)-11/2(48)					11/1(8)		11/1	10/31(15H)-11/11

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	NORTHAMPTON	PERRY	PHILADELPHIA	SOMERSET	SUSQUEHANNA	TIOGA	VENANGO	WARREN	WESTMORELAND	WYOMING	YORK
RED-BREASTED DUCK, RUDDY VULTURE, BLACK	10/3(14H) -12/27(3)	12/13-19(9)	11/19-12/3(51) 10/19(18)-12/4	11/28(16)	11/26-27 11/1	11/28(70) 12/27	10/20(8)-23	11/29- 11/16			R
HARRIER, NORTHERN HAWK, SHARP-SHINNED COOPER'S	A R A	12/13 10/3-4(3) 11/6-21	-11/4(2)	A R A	10/4-11/31 R R	P R R	P	A A A			
RED-TAILED ROUGH-LEGGED EAGLE, GOLDEN	A	A	A P	R 11/29-(L)	R	R P-DEC	A 12/19-	R 10/31-NOV			
BOBWHITE, NORTHERN COOT, AMERICAN PLOVER, BLACK-BELLIED		10/3(3)-12/4		10/18(3)		10/17(2)	10/21-12/16	R 10/17- -10/11			
LESSER SANDPIPER, SOLITARY SPOTTED		-10/10(75)-11/8 -10/3(L)				11/2(2) 10/10 10/5		-11/8 -10/27(L)			
SNIFE, COMMON WOODCOCK, AMERICAN GULL, BONAPARTES	-12/27(2) 11/18	-11/12(10)	10/4-12/27(2) 10/22 11/1(4)			P-NOV P-NOV P-NOV		A 11/11-12/19(L)			
OWL, BARN BARRED SHORT-EARED	R R	11/12		R R	R 11/14-	R R	P-DEC	R R			
SAPSUCKER, YELLOW-BELLIED FLICKER, NORTHERN PHOEBE, EASTERN	-12/27(5) A	A A -12/19		A -10/3(E)	A -10/3	A 10/18(2)	A -10/4	11/8- A -10/16			
RAVEN, COMMON CHICKADEE, BLACK-CAPPED CAROLINA	R R	10/4(7H) R	R R	R R	R R	R R	R R	R 12/19- R			

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	NORTHAMPTON	PERRY	PHILADELPHIA	SOMERSET	SUSQUEHANNA	TIOGA	VENANGO	WARREN	WESTMORELAND	WYOMING	YORK
KUBY-CROWNED GNATCATCHER, BLUE-GRAY THRUSH, GRAY-CHEEKED											
	-12/27(4)		-12/12				10/1-11/1		-11/28(L) -10/8 10/3	10/4	10/1(E)- -11/7(L)
CAIBIKU, GRAY THRASHER, BROWN PIPIT, AMERICAN											
	-12/20(L) 10/21(50)	-12/27 10/13	-12/19(L) -11/6 10/3		-10/3		11/7(50+)		12/20(L) P 10/12-20(15)		-12/19(L)
MAGNOLIA CAPE MAY BLACK-THROATED BLUE											
		10/24(L) -10/19(4)							10/8 11/1(L)(2) 10/12(2)		-10/5
PALM BLACK-AND-WHITE CONNECTICUT											
		-10/18(L) 10/3					10/4		11/5(L) 10/4 10/2(L)		-10/25
SPARKUW, AMERICAN TREE CHIPPING FIELD											
		11/22- -12/27 A	12/10- 12/20- -10/31(12)- -12/20 -10/11(E)				11/7- -11/7 A A		11/7- A A A	P	A A A
LINCOLN SWAMP WHITE-THROATED											
		10/31 -12/19 10/3- A	11/6- 11/14 10/5- A				-11/7 A A	10/31- A	12/2(L) A A	A A A	A A A
BUNTING, SNOW BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED MEADOWLARK, EASTERN											
		12/19(12) 11/15(10,000H)	-10/21(75)		-12/28 -12/11(L)		-11/7 -11/13	-12/28(12)	A P-NOV	-11/3	A A
LOWBIRD, BROWN-HEADED FINCH, PURPLE SISKIN, PINE GROSBEEK, EVENING											
		12/24(2) 11/27(4L)-		A P	-12/1 R 10/3-12/20(3)		A A 12/6-27 12/27	10/9-11/28 11/28 12/6(10-12)	A R	11/5	K 10/17(E)

Rare and Unusual Bird Reports

(Species not expected or fewer than five counties reporting)

The following species were seen in five or fewer counties and/or were unusual for a particular county, and/or were a significantly early/late date for the state.

Pacific Loon - *Erie*: See separate report of this *1st* state record.

Red-necked Grebe - *Berks*: 3 at L. Ontelaunee 11/3 (Dean Kendall); *Cumberland*: 1 at W. Fairview 10/31 (Dick Colyer); *Erie*: first reported 10/10, with 8 on 11/20 (m.ob.) at Presque Isle; *Luzerne*: 1 on Harveys L. 10/9–29 (Bill Reid *et al.*).

Eared Grebe - *Cambria*: 1 at Prince Gallitzin SP 11/25–26 (Alice Beatty, ph. Gloria Lamer) is believed to be a *1st* Co. record; *Erie*: 1 off Gull Point 10/18 (Walt Shaffer, Jerry McWilliams, ph. Deuane Hoffman).

American White Pelican - *Philadelphia*: 1 near Ft. Mifflin 10/3 (Al Guarente).

Great Cormorant - *Carbon*: 3 (1 ad., 2 imm.) at Beltzville L. 12/20, a *1st* Co. record (R. Wiltraut, Joel Silfies); *Northampton*: 4 at Martin's Creek Quarry 11/15, a *1st* Co. record and a first away from the rivers (Arlene Koch *et al.*); see report elsewhere; *Philadelphia*: high of 10 along the Delaware R. 12/13 (Ed Fingerhood) to 12/29 (John Miller).

American Bittern - *Armstrong*: 1 at Keystone Res. 10/2 (Margaret Higbee, Nancy Karp); *Chester*: 1 at Kurtz's Fish Farm 11/1 (Bob Schutsky, Cathy Hicks); *Erie*: 1 on 11/15 (see Notes).

Snowy Egret - *Cambria*: 1 at Prince Gallitzin SP 11/13–14 (†John Salvetti, *et al.*) is believed to be a *2nd* Co. record; *Philadelphia*: 15 at Tincum 10/3 were late (Nick Pulcinella).

Little Blue Heron - *Philadelphia*: 1 in W. Fairmount Park 11/1 (Sid Lipschutz).

Cattle Egret - *Bucks*: 1 in Buckingham 11/18 (Ray Hendrick); *Lancaster*: 1 at Muddy Run Fisherman's Park 10/31; *York*: 1 on Dunkard Valley Rd. 11/1 (Dave Kubitsky).

White Ibis - *Bedford*: 1 adult at Shawnee SP 10/16 (Charles Voytko).

An all dark **Plegadis sp.** was observed at PISP 10/15. It was Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerla*) or Snowy Egret (*E. thula*) in size with an extended neck and a long decurved bill. The legs were all dark and projected beyond the tail. As it circled the point it alternately flapped its wings and glided, but unfortunately it never landed so I could thoroughly study it. See photograph. I believe the chances of a *Plegadis* in fall at PISP being a White-faced Ibis (*P. chihii*) is as good as, if not better than, a Glossy Ibis (*P. falcinellus*). There is a fall record of a *Plegadis* in Ohio that was identified as a White-faced Ibis! (Jerry McWilliams)

Eurasian Wigeon - *Erie*: A ♂ in partial molt at PISP 10/28 (Jerry McWilliams); *Lancaster*: the ♂ in Drumore Twp returned for the *4th* year in a row.

Tufted Duck - *Crawford*: The bird reported last quarter remained through this quarter at Pymatuning (m.ob.).

Black Rail - *Lancaster*: 1 at Holtwood Flyash Pond 10/12 (Bob Schutsky). This was only their *2nd 20th* Century sighting.

Virginia Rail - *Philadelphia*: 1, unfortunately dead, at 23rd & Race Sts. 10/1, had Bob Ridgely remark, "I couldn't believe it. This was a species I've never seen in Pa."; *Tioga*: Another, alive, was at The

Muck 10/15 (Bob Ross).

Common Moorhen - *Tioga*: 3 at Nessmuk L. 10/18 (Bob Ross); *York*: 1 at Long Arm Dam 10/18 (Russ Ryan).

Sandhill Crane - *Delaware*: 1 at Tyler Arboretum 10/28 (John Smith); *Lancaster*: Two at Octoraro Lake 10/30 to 11/9 (Robert Schutsky *et al.*).

Black-bellied Plover - *Cambria*: 3 at Prince Gallitzin 11/4 (John Salvetti); *Fulton*: 3 over Tuscarora Summit 11/4 (Carl Garner). (See table for other records).

Semipalmated Plover - *Crawford*: 1 at Pymatuning 10/4 (Ron Leberman); *Philadelphia*: 1 at Tincum 10/3 (Ed Fingerhood, Erica Brendel); *York*: 1 at Codorus SP 11/3 (Russ Ryan).

Hudsonian Godwit - *Centre*: 1 at Bald Eagle SP 11/1 (†Ted Floyd); *Cumberland*: 1 at Kuhn L. 10/26–11/6 (Don Henise, ph. Bob Schutsky); *York*: 1 on Brunners I. 10/20–31 was confirmed by photos 10/26 (Al Spiese).

Sanderling - *Armstrong*: 1 at Manorville 10/15 (Ed Slovensky); *Centre*: 2 at Bald Eagle SP 1/1–4 (T. Floyd); *York*: seen as late as 10/9.

Semipalmated Sandpiper - *Philadelphia*: 1 at Tincum 10/4 (Kate Somerville).

Western Sandpiper - *Centre*: 19 at Bald Eagle SP 11/1 (T. Floyd); *Montour*: 6 at the Flyash Basin 10/24 (Wes Egli *et al.*).

Least Sandpiper - *Berks*: P; *Bucks*: 1 at Nockamixon SP 11/14 (Steve Farbotnik); *Lehigh*: P; *Montgomery*: 2 at Green Lane Res. 10/8 (Kevin Crilley).

Baird's Sandpiper - *Philadelphia*: up to 2 at Tincum 10/3–4.

Curlew Sandpiper - *Lancaster*: 1 juv. at Octorara Res. 10/2 (†Bob Schutsky) to be reviewed by PORC. If accepted, this would be a *2nd* Co. record (previous were hurricane birds in the 1950s on the Conejohela Flats); this is an unusual age/plumage for eastern North America.

Stilt Sandpiper - *Philadelphia*: up to 8 at Tincum 10/3–10 (Nick Pulcinella, Freda Rappaport).

Short-billed Dowitcher - *Cambria*: 1 at Prince Gallitzin SP 11/10 (Gloria Lamer *et al.*); *York*: 1 from 10/6–18.

Long-billed Dowitcher - *Delaware*: 2 at Tincum 10/8 (John Miller); *York*: 10/16.

Wilson's Phalarope - *Philadelphia*: 1 at Tincum 10/3–4 (Al Guarente, F. Rappaport).

Red-necked Phalarope - *Chester*: 1 at Struble L. 10/16 & 11/01 (Bob Schutsky, Larry Lewis). No details.

Red Phalarope - *Lancaster*: 1 on the Conejohela Flats 11/1 (Jerry Book, Robert Schutsky, Randy Miller).

Laughing Gull - *Cambria*: 1 at Prince Gallitzin SP 11/23 (John Salvetti), again 11/25,26 was believed to be a *1st* Co. record; *Delaware*: up to 10 at Tincum I. 11/15 (Nick Pulcinella); *Montgomery*: 1 at Green Lane Res. 11/26 (Ron Grubb).

California Gull - *Berks*: A possible individual at Blue Marsh L. 11/4–9 will be reviewed by PORC.

Iceland Gull - *Berks*: Blue Marsh L. 12/1+ (Bob & Joan Silagy); *Bucks*: 1 on S. Bucks CBC 12/19 and 1 at Tullytown 12/30 (S. Farbotnik); *Erie*: 1 at Presque Isle 12/8 (Jim Stull).

Lesser Black-backed Gull - *Berks*: 1 over Hawk Mt. 11/16+ (v.o.); 2 on the Reading CBC 12/20; *Erie*: 1 at Presque Isle 12/10–22 (J. McWilliams, B.

- Schutsky).
- Glaucous Gull** - *Armstrong*: 1 at Manorville 12/6 (Debbie Livengood); *Berks*: 1 at Blue Marsh 12/22 (Bob & Joan Silagy); *Erie*: 4 at Presque Isle 12/5-21 (McWilliams, Schutsky).
- Black-legged Kittiwake** - *Delaware*: 1 at Marcus Hook 12/11 (Bob Schutsky).
- Common Tern** - *Bucks*: 1 at Peace Valley Park 11/5 (Ron French).
- Forster's Tern** - *Delaware*: up to 11/1 (Al Guarente) behind the airport.
- Ancient Murrelet** - *Berks*: See separate report of this 1st state record.
- Snowy Owl** - *Erie*: 2 at Edinboro 11/8-28 (Ron Terwilligen, Bonnie Ginader); *Franklin*: One at Shady Grove present for several weeks from 11/4 (Robert & Marion Carmack, Richard Bell) A dead Snowy Owl was found 30 miles south in Maryland in the beginning of December.
- Long-eared Owl** - *Berks*: 1 on 12/27 Hamburg CBC; *Bucks*: 1 12/27 on C. Bucks CBC (Bill Benner); *Dauphin*: 2 11/29+ in N. Hershey (Dick Williams); *Erie*: 1-2 11/26+ Presque Isle (Dave Darney); *Lehigh*: 1 at Fogelsville 11/29 (Pauline England).
- Common Nighthawk** - *Bucks*: 1 at New Hope 10/11 (Bill Hoehne); *Northampton*: 8 in Williams Twp 10/2 (Arlene Koch); *Philadelphia*: 1 at Roxborough 11/16 (Fred Ulmer); *Westmoreland*: present in Oct.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** - *Berks*: up to 10/2 at Hawk Mt. (v.o.); *Chester*: 10/2; *Westmoreland*: into Oct; *York*: A hummingbird *sp.*, tentatively identified as a ♀ **Ruby-throated**, may be impossible to confirm. Some have suggested that it could possibly be one of three look-alike hummingbirds species, mostly from the Southwest, that accidentally ventured into our area. The other consideration is that it could have been a Ruby-throated Hummingbird that found a good source of food supply, such as running sap or someone else's feeder, before it found Bill Hare's feeder on the edge of Red Lion 11/16. It was extensively viewed and photographed by many birders. It was there until 11/25 when, after an unsuccessful banding operation, it departed.
- Rufous Hummingbird** - *Erie*: The adult ♂, first seen 9/27, continues to come to a feeder w. of Edinboro. It has survived to at least Jan. 10, 1993. It was discovered by Beverly and Robert Felix at their feeder and was tentatively identified as a Rufous by them. Jim and Jean Stull were called and they confirmed the identity. Beverly and Bob have been able to attract the bird to an enclosed basement entryway, where the bird is protected from the cold. It spends the night and very cold days inside the entryway, where a feeder has been placed containing a recommended mixture to sustain the bird until spring. (ph. Jean Stull)
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** - *Berks*: 1 at HMS 10/23 (staff).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** - *Berks*: up to 10/4 at HMS (staff); *Bucks*: 1 at New Hope 10/5 (Bill Hoehne); *Cambria*: 1 at Prince Gallitzin 11/4 (John Salvetti); *Dauphin*: present into Oct.
- Least Flycatcher** - *Philadelphia*: 1 at Tinicum 10/3 (Ed Fingerhood, Erica Brendel).
- Eastern Kingbird** - *Bedford*: 1 at Beldon 10/8 (Clyde McGinnett).
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** - *Berks*: 1 at Big Spring Farm 10/18 (Bob & Joan Silagy); *Dauphin*: present into Oct; *Philadelphia*: 2 at Tinicum 10/5 (Nick Pulcinella); *York*: 4 to 10/13 at Brunners I. (Al Spiese).
- A presumed **Cliff Swallow** was at Prince Gallitzin 11/6 (Alice Beatty, Gloria Lamer, Frances Michny, John Salvetti). All observers saw the buffy rump as it flew, but no one got a good look at the head to rule out a Cave Swallow; *Lehigh*: 2 at Emmaus 10/16 (Jason Horn); record late date for Co.
- Barn Swallow** - *Berks*: 1 at Shartlesville 10/24 (Rudy Keller, Bob & Joan Silagy); *Bucks*: 1 at Nockamixon SP 11/12 (S. Farbotnik); *Chester*: 1 at Marsh Creek SP 11/2; *Dauphin*: present into Oct; *Philadelphia*: 1 at Tinicum 10/5 (Nick Pulcinella). Note: All were from s.e. counties.
- Common Raven** - *Cumberland*: Eight observed at Mud Level Road were unusual away from the mountain areas of the county (Don Henise).
- Marsh Wren** - *Bucks*: 1 at New Hope 10/17 (B. Hoehne) and 1 on the Upper Bucks CBC 12/20; *Cumberland*: 1 at Kuhn L. 11/1 (Don & Robyn Henise); *Lancaster*: 1 near Bainbridge 10/18 (Eric Witmer *et al.*); *Montgomery*: 1 at Green Lane Res. 10/17 (George Franchois).
- Veery** - *Chester*: present in early Oct; *Northampton*: 1 10/3 (Sherri Labar).
- Swainson's Thrush** - *Allegheny*: 3 at Harrison Hills Park 10/18 (Paul Hess); *Berks*: 2 in Pike Twp 10/5 (R. Keller); *Lehigh*: 1 at Whitehall Pkw 10/4 (P. England); *Westmoreland*: 1 at Powdermill Nature Reserve 10/17 (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).
- Northern Shrike** - *Cambria*: 1 at Prince Gallitzin SP 11/4 (Dave Gobert, Georgette Syster); *Carbon*: 1 near Rts. 895 and 309 12/13 (J. Horn); *Erie*: 1-2 at Presque Isle 10/31+ (m.ob.); *Warren*: State Line Rd near Lander 11/29 (Brenda Watts, Don Watts), where 1 has spent the last 3 winters; *Wyoming*: 1 at Sordoni's Farm 12/27 (Richard Koval).
- Loggerhead Shrike** - *Adams*: 2 on the Gettysburg CBC 12/26; *Franklin*: 2 on the 12/19 Chambersburg CBC (Charlie Brightbill); *Wyoming*: 1 in Lemon Twp 10/21 was Bill Reid's 1st record in n.e. Pa. since Sep. 1973.
- Bohemian Waxwing** - *Erie*: At Roderick Wildlife Area 11/8 from approximately 1325-1328. The view was from side and rear. The bird was quite noticeably larger than accompanying Cedar Waxwings, probably an inch difference. Its overall color was grayish-brown. It had typical waxwing black face mask, and its head was crested. The secondaries were tipped with white which was quite distinctive; there was also a whitish stripe going up the primary tips. The tail had a yellow tail band. The underside was not visible. Its voice was high-pitched buzzy note. Compared directly with Cedars it was lower and more buzzy. (John Pogacnik, Perry, Ohio)
- White-eyed Vireo** - *Philadelphia*: 1 Bartram Gardens 10/18 (Jack Siler).
- Philadelphia Vireo** - *Berks*: 1 Pike Twp 10/3 (Rudy Keller); *Bucks*: 1 Chalfont 10/1 (Ron French); *Mercer*: 1 in Hermitage area 10/6 (Marty McKay); *Philadelphia*: 1 at Andorra Nature Center 10/2 (Bob Ridgely).
- Red-eyed Vireo** - *Berks*: 1 Pike Twp 10/3 (Rudy Keller); *Bucks*: 2 at New Hope 10/4 (Bill Hoehne); *Dauphin*: into Oct; *Westmoreland*: 1 at SGL 296 10/18 (Don Koch).
- Orange-crowned Warbler** - *Centre*: 1 at Walnut Springs 11/3 (John Forcey), and 11/7 (Ted Floyd, Matt Rockmore); *Chester*: 1 at Struble L. 12/26 (Larry Lewis); *Lehigh*: 1 at Whitehall Pky 10/4 (Bernie Morris, Pauline England); *Perry*: 1 at Waggoners Gap 10/13 (Ramsay Koury); *Westmoreland*: 1 at Hutchinson 10/8 (Don Koch)

and 1 at Powdermill Nature Reserve (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).

Northern Parula - *Cumberland*: 1 at Carlisle 10/23 (Ethel Erickson); *Lehigh*: 1 in Allentown 10/17 (Nancy & John Boyer); *Philadelphia*: 1 at Carpenter Woods 10/2 (Erica Brendel).

Yellow Warbler - *Bucks*: 1 at New Hope 10/20 (Bill Hoehne).

Chestnut-sided Warbler - *Venango*: 1 on 10/3; *Westmoreland*: 1 at Powdermill 10/12 (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).

Yellow-rumped Warbler - *Philadelphia*: 300+ at Tincum 10/8 (John Miller).

Yellow-throated Warbler - *Cumberland*: 1 at New Cumberland 12/18 (Ramsay Koury).

Pine Warbler - *Greene*: 1 in Arensburg 12/27 (Alan Clark); *Philadelphia*: 2 from 12/23+ (Bob Billings). (Both sightings were at feeders. —Eds.)

Bay-breasted Warbler - *Berks*: 1 at L. Ontelaunee 10/4 (Matt Spence); *Indiana*: 1 at Yellow Creek SP 10/19 (Dorothy & Ed Slovensky); *Philadelphia*: 1 at Andorra Nature Center 10/3 (Bob Ridgely); *Westmoreland*: 1 at Powdermill Nature Reserve 10/11 (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).

Blackpoll Warbler - *Allegheny*: 1 at Harrison Hills Park 10/18 (Paul Hess); *Bucks*: 1 at New Hope 10/11 (Bill Hoehne); *Cumberland*: 10 at Waggoners Gap 10/13 (Don & Robyn Henise); *Philadelphia*: 1 at Franklin Square 10/15 (Jack Siler); *Westmoreland*: 3 at Powdermill Nature Reserve 10/4 (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).

American Redstart - *Butler*: 1 in Slippery Rock Twp 10/4 (Suzanne Butcher *et al.*); *Cumberland*: 1 at SGL 169 10/4 (Don & Robyn Henise); *Philadelphia*: 1 at Bartram Gardens 10/24 (Jack Siler); *Westmoreland*: 1 at Powdermill Nature Reserve 11/5 (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).

Ovenbird - *Blair*: 1 on Brush Mt. 10/13 (Marcia Bonta); *Bucks*: 1 at Chalfont 10/8 (Ron French); *Luzerne*: 1 at Harding 12/24 was killed by a cat. The specimen (confirmed by Shoemaker & Hoyson) was obtained by Martha Terry and sent to Cornell. (Bill Reid); *Washington*: 1 at a feeder in Finleyville from 12/21–12/26. (Eileen Higbee)

Northern Waterthrush - *York*: 1 at Gut Rd. 10/11 (John & Jean Prescott).

Mourning Warbler - *Bucks*: 1 at Chalfont 10/7 (Ron French).

Hooded Warbler - *Butler*: 1 in Slippery Rock Twp 10/2 (Suzanne Butcher *et al.*); *Westmoreland*: 1 at Powdermill Nature Reserve 10/4 (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).

Wilson's Warbler - *Bucks*: 1 at New Hope 12/1–25 (ph. Dee Dee Bowman); *Chester*: 1 on 10/3; *Philadelphia*: 1 at W. Mount Airy 10/4 (Steve Lawrence).

Canada Warbler - *Berks*: 1 in Dis Twp (Catherine Elwell).

Yellow-breasted Chat - *Westmoreland*: 1 at PNR 10/17 (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).

Scarlet Tanager - *Dauphin*: present into Oct; *Westmoreland*: 1 at PNR 10/8 (Bob Leberman, Bob Mulvihill).

Indigo Bunting - *Berks*: 1 on 10/24 (Ken Lebo); *Dauphin*: into Oct.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow - *Lancaster*: Up to 4 seen on the Susquehanna River from 10/4 to 10/18 (m. obs.).

Bobolink - *Montgomery*: 12 at Green Lane Res. 10/6 and 65 there 10/21 (Ron Grubb).

Brewer's Blackbirds - *Cambridia*: 4 at Prince Gallitzin SP 11/4 (Dave Gobert, John Salvetti) were believed

to be a 1st Co. record; *Indiana*: 1 at Yellow Creek SP 11/14 (Gloria Lamer, Georgette Syster, Greg Cook, Don Koch).

Northern Oriole - *Bucks*: 1 at New Hope 11/2 (Bill Hoehne); *Butler*: 1 at Lancaster Twp 11/10 (Fred Lochner); *Dauphin*: into Oct.

Pine Grosbeak - *Bradford*: 1 at Troy 11/29 (Randy Miller).

Red Crossbill - *Bradford*: 6 at Troy 11/30 (Randy Miller).

Common Redpoll - *Centre*: 1 at Black Moshannon SP 11/16 (John Freeman); *Erie*: 8 at Presque Isle from 11/8–10 (Larry Lewis, Deuane Hoffman); *Indiana*: 1 at Yellow Creek SP 11/1 (Alice Beatty *et al.*); *Luzerne*: 1 on the Dallas CBC 12/19.

EXOTICS:

Red Bishop: *Lancaster*: One was present on the Conejehola Flats from 10/3 to 10/11 (m. obs.).

Ruddy Shelduck: *Bucks*: Two present on the Delaware R. at New Hope from 10/31 to 11/21 (Bill Hoehne).

1992 HAWK WATCH REPORTS

Tuscarora Summit (Fulton)
Carl Garner, Compiler

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
Coverage - days	7	23	28	17	75
Coverage - hours	157	197	101	481	
Black Vulture	-	-	2	-	2
Turkey Vulture	-	-	158	22	180
Osprey	3	101	11	11	115
Bald Eagle	2	5	5	-	12
N. Harrier	2	29	29	21	81
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	309	943	29	1283
Cooper's Hawk	-	12	30	1	43
N. Goshawk	-	-	14	1	15
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	7	58	40	105
Broad-winged Hawk	9	2115	-	-	2124
Red-tailed Hawk	-	22	660	367	1049
Golden Eagle	-	-	15	26	41
Am. Kestrel	6	34	19	-	59
Merlin	-	-	5	-	5
Peregrine Falcon	-	2	13	-	15
Unidentified	2	28	38	10	78
Totals	26	2664	2000	517	5207

This was our 20th year of operation with daily coverage. Only Red-shouldered Hawk, Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, and Peregrine Falcon were above the 20-year average totals. The 105 Red-shouldered Hawk total was the second best ever; only 107 in 1975 was higher. The 20-year average for Red-shoulder is 64. One new daily high was 24 Red-shoulder on 10/28. The best Broad-winged Hawk day was 9/5, with 580 individuals. Six regulars plus three helpers contributed to the count.

Some of the other species seen from the lookout were: 61 Double-crested Cormorant 10/5; 21 Canada Goose 10/5; 5 Snow Goose 10/26; and 3 Black-bellied Plover 11/4. The plovers were only 20–25' directly overhead, flying in a southeast direction. The black axillas were clearly visible.

Hawk Mt. Sanctuary (Berks)
Laurie Goodrich and HMS Staff

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
Coverage - days	16	28	30	25	16	115
Coverage - hours	129	238	289	186	99	941
Black Vulture	2	3	6	10	-	21
Turkey Vulture	-	-	48	36	-	84
Osprey	51	410	70	-	-	531
Bald Eagle	6	44	11	14	16	91
N. Harrier	9	52	58	35	8	162
Sharp-shinned Hawk	28	1082	3409	109	1	4629
Cooper's Hawk	2	138	499	23	1	663
N. Goshawk	-	2	14	18	9	43
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	6	149	87	1	243
Broad-winged Hawk	132	10,523	6	-	-	10,661
Red-tailed Hawk	16	142	1675	1234	221	3288
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	1	2	1	4
Golden Eagle	-	2	24	21	9	56
Am. Kestrel	55	333	157	1	-	546
Merlin	-	20	52	1	-	73
Peregrine Falcon	-	13	28	-	-	41
Unidentified	7	32	82	44	2	167
Totals	308	12,802	6289	1635	269	21,303

The one millionth bird recorded, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, passed over the lookout on 10/8/92.

Stone Mt. (Huntingdon)
Greg Grove, Compiler

	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
Coverage - days	12	10	5	27
Coverage - hours	42	46	12	100
Osprey	29	4	-	33
Bald Eagle	2	2	1	5
N. Harrier	11	6	-	17
Sharp-shinned	118	279	3	400
Cooper's	15	26	-	41
N. Goshawk	-	1	-	1
Red-shouldered	2	3	2	7
Broad-winged	281	-	-	281
Red-tailed	40	240	23	303
Rough-legged	-	-	3	3
Golden Eagle	-	19	7	26
Am. Kestrel	27	15	-	42
Merlin	-	3	-	3
Peregrine Falcon	3	6	-	9
Unidentified	16	27	-	43
Totals	544	631	39	1214

Nine Golden Eagles flew over on 10/25 and 4 Peregrine Falcons were counted on 10/3. Observers: Greg Grove, Gloria Bickel, Doug Diffenbaugh, Margaret Kenepp, Dave Kyler.

Cornwall Fire Tower (Lancaster)
Jay George, Compiler

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
Coverage - days	18	21	20	59
Coverage - hours	110	94	93	297
Osprey	73	3	-	76
Bald Eagle	1	1	1	3
N. Harrier	12	7	13	32*
Sharp-shinned Hawk	362	281	31	674**
Cooper's Hawk	23	30	11	64
N. Goshawk	-	1	1	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	24	18	43
Broad-winged Hawk	5003	3	-	5006
Red-tailed Hawk	10	137	205	352
Golden Eagle	-	1	2	3
Am. Kestrel	54	16	1	71
Merlin	1	6	-	7
Peregrine Falcon	1	-	-	1
Unidentified	29	28	35	92
Totals	5570	538	318	6426

* indicates a significant drop from previous years.
** indicates a very serious drop from previous years.

Second Mountain (Lebanon)
Dave Schwenk, Compiler

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
Coverage - days	21	27	30	22	8	109
Coverage - hours	134	227	262	152	30	805
Black Vulture	-	-	7	106	-	113
Turkey Vulture	-	-	8	227	-	235
Osprey	30	148	12	-	-	190
Bald Eagle	3	9	4	4	-	20
N. Harrier	5	37	37	15	1	95
Sharp-shinned Hawk	30	474	1887	34	-	2425
Cooper's Hawk	8	77	248	22	-	355
N. Goshawk	-	9	33	18	2	62
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	3	86	56	4	149
Broad-winged Hawk	163	5500	9	-	-	5672
Red-tailed Hawk	76	161	602	444	16	1299
Rough-legged Hawk	-	1	1	-	-	2
Golden Eagle	-	-	15	11	-	20
Am. Kestrel	32	108	48	1	-	189
Merlin	2	8	20	-	-	30
Peregrine Falcon	-	6	8	-	-	14
Unidentified	1	10	27	6	-	44
Totals	350	6551	3052	944	23	10920

Other species seen over the lookout: 236 loons; 19 cormorants; 550 Tundra Swan; 2 Snow Goose; 1135 Canada Goose; 1 Am. Black Duck; a dark phase Red-tailed Hawk; 1 Short-eared Owl; and 33 C. Raven. The Broad-winged Hawk tally was a new lookout record.

Council Cup (Luzerne)
Alan Gregory, Compiler

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
Coverage - days	2	8	4	1	15
Coverage - hours	8	27	6	1	42
Turkey Vulture	-	9	10	-	19
Osprey	5	23	-	-	17
Bald Eagle	3	-	-	-	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk	6	52	24	-	82
Cooper's Hawk	2	6	1	-	9
N. Goshawk	-	-	1	-	1
Broad-winged Hawk	3	185	-	-	188
Red-tailed Hawk	2	16	21	1	40
Golden Eagle	-	-	1	-	1
Am. Kestrel	2	8	-	-	10
Merlin	-	1	1	-	2
Peregrine Falcon	-	1	1	-	2
Unidentified	1	18	9	-	28
Totals	24	308	69	1	402

Coverage was severely cutback by other responsibilities and participation in other ornithological projects, e.g., the Special Areas Project. Thanks to these observers for sharing the lookout: Nancy Dennis, John Fridman, Monica Gregory, Doug Gross, and Nick Short, all members of the North Branch Bird Club.

Militia Hill (Montgomery)
Marylea Klauder, Compiler

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
Black Vulture	5	9	2	16
Turkey Vulture	6	370	176	552
Osprey	135	21	1	157
Bald Eagle	8	1	1	10
N. Harrier	16	10	8	34
Sharp-shinned Hawk	296	442	181	919
Cooper's Hawk	32	66	19	117
N. Goshawk	-	2	1	3
Red-shouldered Hawk	14	23	15	52
Broad-winged Hawk	2757	9	1	2767
Red-tailed Hawk	83	188	296	567
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	10	10
Golden Eagle	-	-	1	1
Am. Kestrel	178	143	9	330
Merlin	6	6	5	17
Peregrine Falcon	14	8	-	22
Unidentified	42	49	36	127
Totals	3592	1347	762	5701

Little Gap Bird Observatory (Northampton)
Mike Schall, Compiler

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Coverage - days	9	13	13	6	4	45
Coverage - hours	41	61	81	40	20	243
Black Vulture	3	6	-	-	-	9
Turkey Vulture	-	-	26	2	-	28
Osprey	10	126	26	-	-	162
Bald Eagle	-	13	4	3	2	22
N. Harrier	-	8	12	5	-	25
Sharp-shinned Hawk	7	84	479	8	-	578
Cooper's Hawk	2	6	27	1	-	36
N. Goshawk	-	-	2	4	-	6
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	12	4	2	18
Broad-winged Hawk	15	1851	5	-	-	1871
Red-tailed Hawk	6	23	385	116	19	549
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	1	-	-	1
Golden Eagle	-	1	4	3	2	10
Am. Kestrel	10	37	23	-	-	70
Merlin	-	4	8	-	-	12
Peregrine Falcon	1	-	7	-	-	8
Unidentified	1	7	3	1	-	12
Totals	55	2166	1024	149	23	3417

Other species of interest: C. Loon (3); Double-crested Cormorant (1 Nov., 3); Snow Goose (1 Nov., 94; 095); Canada Goose (1 Oct., 1730; 03631); Ruby-throated Hummingbird (19); C. Raven (4-7 Oct., 16); Snow Bunting (2).

Rocky Ridge (York)
Jerry Dyer, Compiler

	Totals
Coverage - days	73
Coverage - hours	138
Black Vulture	64
Turkey Vulture	163
Osprey	35
Bald Eagle	15
N. Harrier	13
Sharp-shinned Hawk	223
Cooper's Hawk	21
N. Goshawk	7
Red-shouldered Hawk	7
Broad-winged Hawk	1339
Red-tailed Hawk	190
Rough-legged Hawk	0
Golden Eagle	2
Am. Kestrel	38
Merlin	2
Peregrine Falcon	3
Unidentified	7
Total	2129

The Black Vulture and Bald Eagle totals were a new site record. We also claim the "most-exotic-goshawk" award: The SST Concorde seen twice on a holding pattern for Washington's Dulles Airport.

COMPILERS and OBSERVERS

Please note the new compilers for Dauphin, Lancaster and Potter counties. We wish to thank Eric Witmer and Steve Rannells for their hard work these past several years and look forward to working with their successors.

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