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Cover: **Rufous/Allens Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus rufus/sasin*) 3 November 2005 Lower Saucon Twp., *Northampton* (*Clay Schneider*). This was a banner year for Rufous and Rufius/Allen's type hummingbirds. This bird was not trapped for positive identification but there are a few currently accepted field marks visible in this photograph that weigh in favor of Rufous Hummingbird. The outermost tail feather, r5, shows a relative wide white tip. Allen's Hummingbird shows a very narrow white tip. Counting down three feathers from r5 shows the second tail feather, r2, to be emarginated or nipple-shaped. Allen's Hummingbird shows a smooth rounded r2.

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from the Editor...

New Seasonal Editor and County Compilers.

We welcome Greg Grove as the new Seasonal Editor for the Winter Season. Greg will be stepping into that position with the 2006-2007 Winter Season issue. Most of you know Greg as the current PSO president.

We have two new county compilers to welcome. Jeff Michaels is now the compiler for Clearfield County beginning with this issue and Rob Megraw will be the compiler for Sullivan County. Rob's first county summary will be in the Spring Migration issue. Contact information for these two compilers can be found in the local notes under their respective counties. We encourage birders either living or visiting in these counties to submit their bird sightings.

Fall Migration Tables

A reminder that the 2005 Fall Migration Tables for this issue are available on the PSO website http://www.pabirds.org. For those who do not have internet access and wish to have copies of the tables, please contact the Chief Editor.

North American Birds

Many of our readers are also members of the American Birding Association and are familiar with their publication *BIRDING*. The ABA also publishes *North American Birds* which deals with distribution and identification of North American birds on a regional basis. Pennsylvania, along with Ohio and West Virginia, is included in the Eastern Highlands & Upper Ohio River Valley region. Rick Wiltraut is editor for the Pennsylvania portion of this region and I encourage all of you to submit your observations to Rick for inclusion in this important continental publication. The reporting deadlines are the same as this publication. Please submit your sightings to Rick Wiltraut, Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center, 835 Jacobsburg Road, Wind Gap, PA 18091, rwiltraut@state.pa.us

Nick Pulcinella
Editor-in-Chief

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A Magical Day at Bald Knob

Geoff Malosh

September 27, 2005 was one of those perfect afternoons at Bald Knob (a.k.a. the Imperial Grasslands, Allegheny County) which so many of us in western Pennsylvania have experienced and appreciated so often over the last decade. It was almost idyllic, in its own way. The perfect solitude of an early fall afternoon spent birding in the grasslands.

All of Bald Knob's stars were out. Here, a gorgeous male Northern Harrier, alight with the glow of the softening afternoon sun, drifted lazily over the fields, and there, Vesper Sparrows were still busily singing even this late in the season, while crowds of other sparrows – Field, Song, Chipping, Grasshopper, and even a Lincoln's – chipped and flitted furiously in the grasses and underbrush. There were Eastern Meadowlarks and Horned Larks about, and Northern Flickers, Cedar Waxwings, and American Goldfinches clamored noisily in the treetops. Small groups of migrating blackbirds and grackles, having begun their annual journey south, called back and forth amongst themselves as they passed overhead. The grassland ponds, which early in the season had held such wonders as Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red Phalarope, and American Golden-Plover, today "only" featured some yellowlegs, a few Pectoral Sandpipers, a Semipalmated Sandpiper, and one or two beautiful Wilson's Snipe, which all worked the pond edges quietly and unhurriedly. The air was warm and the sky was clear – indeed, this was Bald Knob at its best.

If this scene was all that was to come of my efforts that afternoon, I would have left happy. It is well known that the days of these spectacular grasslands are numbered; with the ongoing installation of a new toll highway and the subsequent development that will inevitably follow, opportunities for Pittsburgh birders to experience days like these are fading fast, and I have been determined to enjoy them to the last. By those standards, or really by any standards, the afternoon was already a success. But something big was about to happen – something that would stamp this September afternoon indelibly into my memory for the rest of my life. Lightning, birding-style, was about to strike once again in the famous fields of western Allegheny County.

As the sun was getting ready to disappear behind the hills, I found myself on my way back to my car, passing a small marshy pond along the way. I had already passed this way once, and had already noted the hordes of Field Sparrows that were hopping around throughout the brush and cattails at the pond's edge. They were still present, now perhaps even in greater numbers than I had noted earlier. Many were concentrated right at the pond's edge, so I veered along my path to walk right along the edge of the water. The flock was as I remembered it from an hour before – mostly Field Sparrows, with some Song Sparrows mixed in.

I turned and continued toward the car, ready to pack it up and go home. But within ten steps, I was shocked to see a small rail jump out of the reeds right in front of me! It was nothing more than a silhouette, since I was looking into the sun, so I didn't really pick up any detail other than shape and size. I nearly had a heart attack – for it was late September, and any small rail in Pennsylvania at that time could be a Yellow Rail! It only moved about fifteen feet in front of me, and the amount of rail habitat at this pond was rather limited. Meaning, it wasn't going to get away unidentified.

So I circled around to the far end of the reeds and put the sun as much at my back as I could, and began to walk back the way I had come. Before long, I could see the reeds in front of me moving, presumably as the little rail slipped between them. It had moved quite far ahead of me, much further back beyond where I had first seen it. Slowly, carefully, I crept up to the point where the rail simply ran out of room. It blasted out of the reeds again, and this time landed in plain sight – a Sora. Oh well. Not a Yellow Rail, but a nice way to end the day anyway. Soras are annual in these grasslands in the spring, and are certainly annual in the fall as well but much harder to find, and this was the first time I had ever seen one here in any month other than April or May. I watched it for a few moments poking around at the base of a nearby tree, nervously flicking its tail and keeping a constant eye on me. Satisfied, I slowly moved back into the reeds the way I had come, leaving the bird to relax and return to hiding.

I turned back to the car. Now, the sun was gone, but the light was still very good though fading fast. I came upon the sparrow flock again, and paused to have a final look. I ticked them off again in my mind: Field, Field, Field, Field, Song, Field, Field, there's that Lincoln's again, Field, Field, Song, Song, Field… and then suddenly, I felt that joyous, electric jolt that only comes when a great bird passes through your field of view. A small, orange- or buffy-colored sparrow jumped out of the reeds and headed right toward me and into the nearby brush to my left. There was no mistaking the flight style, the loopy way it dropped back into cover, the overall size and proportion – it was an *ammodramus* sparrow, and by the flash of color I had seen, and it wasn't a Grasshopper. It was something much, much better – a sharp-tailed, or dare I dream, maybe even a LeConte's!

At first I was shocked into inaction. I just stood there, waiting for the bird to reappear, but at first it did not. I turned and took a few steps in the direction that I had seen it disappear, and then saw another flash to my left again – the bird had actually gotten behind me without my knowing. But now it was out along the edge where the reeds met the brush, and was becoming more visible as it continued to move back again the way I had come, back toward where I left the Sora. Now fully in the customary birder's panic, I followed the bird for a few hundred feet, beyond the end of the reeds to a spot in the pond that is more like a grassy field with standing water pooled everywhere. It was here in the thickest of these grasses that I finally got clear looks at the bird.

I had already decided that it was not a LeConte's nor any of the other paler *ammodramus* species. The medial crown stripe was not white or light-colored, among many other obvious characteristics. It took some time, but I was finally able to put it all together and eliminate every possibility but one. This bird had a bright orange/buffy color to the supercilium, malar, upper breast, and down the flanks, which, like the upper breast, were neatly streaked. The throat was buffy but not so brightly so as the other orange areas on the bird. It had gray cheeks, a gray crown stripe, gray nape, neatly defined white belly, brownish wings, short bill… I couldn't believe it. There was no doubt – it was a Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

My best look came about five minutes after I finally made a positive ID, maybe twenty minutes or more after the sun had disappeared, when the bird worked through a patch of very tall grass but stayed visible near the top of it for about thirty seconds. The light was still good – surprisingly good, actually, since there was no cloud cover obscuring the twilight - to serve the purposes of the human eye aided by 42mm binoculars, but my camera was not so lucky. I had taken it out and made it ready, but by this time (the first legitimate photo opportunity), I was already up to digital ISO 800 just to get a 1/30th shutter speed that would underexpose the picture by ½ stop. For you non-photographers, that's not good, not even with an image-stabilized lens. I fired the shutter twice anyway, and came up with one picture of hopelessly blurry, empty grass and another of a hopelessly blurry blob flying away among some hopelessly blurry grass. Both pictures, of course, were useless.

I could have pursued the bird further, in an attempt to get an identifiable picture or even just to take advantage of the last few minutes of workable light I had, but at this time I

stopped, and backed away. I had already seen what I wanted to see, and wanted to minimize the disturbance on the chance that it would stay in the area the next morning, when picture taking might be a little more practical. It was not to be. I did hear a second-hand report that it was found again in the afternoon the next day, but several other birders, including me, who tried the next morning and for a few days thereafter, were unsuccessful.

This was the first record of Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow for Allegheny County, and one of only a few for the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania. There are two records from October 1999 in Westmoreland and Indiana Counties, but I know of no others south of the Glaciated Northwest and west of the Allegheny Front. Despite that, it is rather unreasonable to think that this was the first Nelson's to grace the grasslands of Bald Knob. They may even be annual there, but the difficulty in finding them is enormous.

In recent years, reports of Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows statewide have been on the rise, due to increased coverage of appropriate habitat at the appropriate time of year by the increasingly knowledgeable birding populace. Certainly, that is how this one was found – being in the right place at the right time, and getting a little lucky. I certainly got lucky – lucky that I ran into that Sora. If I hadn't, I would never have turned around to look at the sparrow flock for a third and final time, and would never have found the Nelson's.

Darkness had come, and while meandering back toward my car I talked on the phone for a short while, getting the word out and answering the incredulous folks who exclaimed, "you found what??" into their phones upon hearing the news. Yes, I assured them. It was true. Incredible, but true. When I hung up, there were only the last remnants of twilight left. This was one of my favorite moments of a day at Bald Knob. Since it was already this dark, and since I was still there, I lingered just a little longer. I found a rock and sat down in the field to wait, watching the emerging stars and listening to the crickets. It was a little early in the season for this, but if it were going to happen tonight, it would be any minute now. It was low, and hard to discern over the cricket chatter at first, but it was unmistakable - the hooting of a Great Horned Owl rolling across the land. It was one of the resident pair here, and I caught sight of it as it teed up on the top of a spruce way in the distance to the west, silhouetted against the last of the twilight. It was calling again, louder and clearer now, its deep voice resonating for a half-mile in every direction as it renewed its annual declaration that the grasses and pines on these hills, today anyway, were its own. Indeed, this was Bald Knob at its very best.

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Answer to Photo Quiz #10

This bird is obviously a sparrow and appears chunky, large-billed and flat-headed. These characteristics fit three species of *Ammodramus* sparrows, Henslow's, Grasshopper, and Baird's.

Unless singing from an exposed perch or seen in the hand, these sparrows can be very difficult to study since they spend most of their time hiding in dense grass. When flushed, they usually fly a short distance and then drop back into the grass. Notice that this bird is very light-colored, almost matching the color of the surrounding habitat. It has bold, but sparse, streaking on the breast forming a "necklace." The lateral crown stripes and neck are very finely streaked and the supercilium is very buffy with a hint of ochre. Also take notice to the markings on the side of the head, especially the broken postocular and moustachial stripes forming two distinct spots at the rear of the ear patch (auriculars). If you look closely, the scapulars and some the flank streaks are edged with rufous. Henslow's Sparrow is similarly marked, but is much darker overall and can be eliminated here. Grasshopper Sparrow is similarly colored, but lacks the buffy supercilium and has an unmarked buffy breast.

I photographed this Baird's Sparrow during a banding operation at the Sonoita Grasslands in southeastern Arizona, part of its very small wintering range in the U.S. They often walk mouse-like through the grass and are one of the toughest birds to see well during the winter months. Pennsylvania is smack in the middle of two records in the east, Ohio and Long Island, NY.

Rick Wiltraut

Chester County Big Year

Ted Drozdowski

The year 2005 would start out like any other. I'd set out on January 1 with a clean checklist, and I would try to find as many species of birds as I could in Chester County. I've always wanted to break the "200 annual barrier" in Chester County, but the closest I ever came was 186 species in 2002. According to the lists in this journal, only Larry Lewis had ever done it; three times during the 80's. Maybe a few other birders have broken 200 species in the county before, but if they did then they never bothered to report their totals.

January and February gave me all the typical winter birds you'd expect in those months. I was able to put two really nice birds on the list in early March: Lapland Longspur and Rough-legged Hawk. Both of these birds are very tough to find in Chester County and they gave me an added boost while waiting for migration to get underway.

Everything about 2005 was chugging along as usual until mid-March when a fire did serious damage to the facility at which I was employed. After the fire, my employer kept us in limbo for three weeks before finally deciding to shut down the facility permanently; somehow I was mysteriously thrilled.

For the next week or so my wife and I thought hard about our next move. After the severance package was disclosed, I did what every other crazy birder would do— take as much time off as humanly possible. The severance package was fair, and after 13 years in industry I decided to take the spring and summer off. I would bird and spend a lot of time with my two boys, and not worry about looking for a job just yet. The big year got an amazing boost— free time!

I waited until after the North American Migration Count in mid-May before I initially counted up my totals. On the evening of May 14, I was at 156 species. I wasn't surprised; I was seeing lots of birds. I continued to pick up some migrants well into late May. Two species rarely reported in Chester County stand out—Least Flycatcher and Mourning Warbler.

I got three quality birds in a 12-hour span in mid-June. After repeated attempts in early June for Blue Grosbeak at a nice grassland area called the Golden Triangle, I finally got one in that spot on the very late date of June 16. The night before I got a Whip-poor-will at Goat Hill, near Nottingham. That night on the way home from Goat Hill, I made a serious effort for Barn Owl just east of the Octoraro Reservoir. I was sitting in my car at a country road intersection deciding whether to head home or not when the piercing scream came from a nearby out-building. I soon located the agitated bird on top of a small shack. The next day I alerted the owner of that atlas block he had a Barn Owl that he was unaware of.

The end of June brought me to 173 species and the kids were now out of school. I was looking forward to spending a lot of time with my two sons this summer. I was thirty-six and unemployed, but comfortable. I knew I'd never have the chance again to spend so much time with my two boys while they were still young. We went to baseball games, camping, canoeing, and took a trip to northern Texas to visit my in-laws.

It was now July. I was relaxing with my family in the middle of nowhere in northern Texas when I really started pondering my future. I was currently in the middle of taking MOS classes with grant money I received as a "displaced worker." I had been out of school for 18 years and it was exciting to be back in the classroom. When I returned home from Texas it was late July. Water levels were up and I hadn't done too well with shorebirds in the spring. The big year took a sudden backseat to my family's future. I had more important things to think about: Like what I was going to do with the rest of my life. I decided to go to college. (Not back to college – I never went to college before). I enrolled at Delaware County Community College in mid-August; I decided I wanted to become a teacher. My wife said we could afford for me to work part time, and she wouldn't mind being the "breadwinner" as long as I was in college and doing well. I birded very little during the remainder of the summer. But as I was preparing for school I noticed that water levels were surprisingly low and dropping fast. I knew if I could get some late shorebirds, I still might have a shot to crack 200. The big year was back on!

I knew I didn't have to have a job until early November, so I focused on college, my family, and fall migration. September gave me two really nice birds that I don't always get: Merlin and Little Blue Heron. Even though it was now well into September, there was a lot of mud at nearby Chamber's Lake and the Coatesville Reservoir. Although I managed to pick up a couple more shorebirds, by the end September it was clear that I was running out of time. It only took one drenching storm in early October to fill everything back up. I finished the year with just 11 shorebirds and that includes Killdeer, Woodcock, and Snipe. It got even worse; my mother was sick.

By the time I started my new job on October 31st my mother had been dead for a month and I still had 189 species. I was doing well in school and my father was taking my mother's death relatively well. My focus turned back to the big year.

I knew I had a shot at getting 11 more species. I made up a list of 28 hypothetical species I could still get, but I only had two months. I also had another problem: Algebra. After being out of school for 18 years, Algebra was not something that comes back so easily. The pressure of working and going to college was getting intense. Did I mention I was also both Cubmaster and Den Leader for my youngest son's Cubscout Pack? I was also in the middle of the Cubscout popcorn sale, which I was solely in charge of, whew! I found myself busier than anybody should ever have to be.

I picked up six new species throughout November. Most of them were relatively easy: Redhead, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Black-capped Chickadee, Bonaparte's Gull, Winter Wren, and a Cackling Goose at the now full Coatesville Reservoir.

I only needed 5 more species, but I was getting discouraged because my short list was shrinking and everything was starting to freeze. I made numerous trips to Struble Lake throughout December for two birds I knew I should get with some late afternoon effort: Great Black-backed Gull and Short-eared Owl.

I didn't fool around. Every

evening that I wasn't at class you would have found me bundled up and hiking out to the dam breast at Struble Lake; unofficially the coldest and windiest spot in Chester County. Heading out to the dam breast is necessary to get good light on the gulls coming to roost in the late afternoon, plus, it puts you a little closer to where the Short-eared Owls are typically seen, if they show up at all. December 3 was a particularly brutal afternoon. After picking through 20,000 gulls and wondering why I couldn't find a single Great Black-backed Gull, I decided to start walking back to the parking lot because it would be almost dark by the time I got back. As I prepared to pack up my scope, I noticed two ducks from nowhere flying right towards me. The first bird dropped into the cove: female Common Merganser. The second bird flew in even closer to me before it dropped to the water, and there, in the frozen semi-darkness of dusk was the most cherished female Long-tailed Duck in the world. It was as if God felt sorry for my frozen butt and gave me this beautiful bird as a consolation prize.

I was back at the same spot a few more times that week picking through the same 20,000+ gulls when I finally got an Iceland Gull which was a good bird for the county.

Even though the gull flock seemed to grow throughout the remainder of December, I missed Great Black-backed Gull for the year. (I knew that the Great Black-backed Gulls on the Delaware River were waiting until the New Year to start their mid-winter vacations at Struble Lake. And I believe it was Chuck Chalfont from Gap who taunted me with the first of many GBBG's found at Struble Lake after January 1st. I believe the date was January 3rd, thanks Chuck).

I put in over 18 hours for Short-eared Owl at Struble Lake in December before I finally hit pay dirt. It was December 27th and well past sunset at the now familiar frozen dam breast. While taking the long walk from the dam back to the parking lot, I saw a large bird coursing low over the grass. The familiar, moth-like flight was apparent even in near-darkness.

Four days to go until the New Year and I had just two birds on my mind: Northern Saw-whet Owl and Red-headed Woodpecker, both very tough in the county. Several saw-whets had been reported in the southwestern part of the county. Through some networking, I was able to find out where. Two trips in the next three nights gave me no saw-whets despite several frozen hours of learning where the rewind button was on my tape player. I had 198 species logged and 22 hours left until 2006. Around 2 am on December 31, my 15-year-old son and I left Coatesville and headed back down to the southwestern part of the county to try for Saw-whet Owl one last time. After about an hour, I finally got one to come in and make all kinds of racket. I dropped my son off in Coatesville at the crack of dawn. He doesn't like birds; he just came along because we were going to be in a creepy place in the middle of the night. Now, I was off to West Chester.

My good friend Paul Earley of the West Chester Bird Club had mentioned to me that some neighbors of his recently had a Red-headed Woodpecker coming to their yard in West Chester. I had already made arrangements to meet up with Paul on the morning of the 31st. I met Paul at a very early hour and we drove a few blocks to his neighbor's house. After the homeowners wished us luck and returned to their home, Paul and I staked out a good vantage point in their yard with our eyes on the towering hardwoods. It was around 7 am. Even though it was cold and had started to flurry, I had a good feeling about this bird. It had been reliably seen for the last few days. About an hour and a half after we arrived, and with four *Picidae* species already on our morning list, the Red-headed Woodpecker showed up in all his glory. With only 9 hours of daylight left, I had reached my longtime goal of seeing 200 species in Chester County within one calendar year.

Realizing I was exhausted, I bid Paul farewell and headed home. I was relieved it was finally over, and now I could have my life back.

Looking back at my list, it's astounding to me that I got two different Rufous Hummingbirds but I missed Great Black-backed Gull! Where did I live? Such is the case when doing a big year or big day, you will always miss something.

What is remarkable about my big year is not that I reached 200 species. Any good birder could do so with a serious effort, good networking, and more than a little luck. What is truly interesting, and most memorable about my big year is all the other things I had going on while I worked on "the list." I believe we call it life: I lost a good paying job in March, I was *heavily* involved in my son's scouting program, and I spent a lot of time with my children on summer trips not birding in Chester County. I did a fair amount of atlas work during the early part of the summer, and I was able to contribute data to 25 different atlas blocks across the state. I completed my MOS certifications and was actually attending computer school and college at the same time in early September when migration was going on and my mother was sick. I started a new job on Halloween and finished my first semester with a 4.0. I took 7 months off work to make a career change and managed to stay happily married to the most wonderful woman on the planet. Most importantly, I learned something about one of the most essential elements in anybody's life: how to balance it.

By the time you read this, we will be in the process of moving to Texas to be closer to my wife's family. I will greatly miss birding in Pennsylvania and all the great birders that make this state so ornithologically special. This truly was a big year in more ways than one.

I'd like to thank the following birders for keeping me abreast on the current happenings in Chester County: Nick Pulcinella, Barry Blust, Holly Merker, John McNamara, Chuck Chalfont, Al Guarente, Martin Page, Ellie and Richard Wolf, Laura Wagner, Bill Barber, Doug Thompson, Mary Alice Knox, Paul Earley, Larry Lewis, Mike Tanis, and countless others who don't know me, but helped me nonetheless.

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Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) at Roderick Wildlife Reserve, Erie County, PA, 13-Nov-2005

Geoff Malosh

In what has become an annual event in the years since the late 1990s, Cave Swallows have been consistently recorded in the northeastern United States and southeastern Canada in mid-to-late autumn. These incursions usually involve a few to several dozen birds anywhere along the Great Lakes and the Atlantic seaboard, with sightings persisting through much of late October, November, and sometimes into December. Despite a few reports in the late 1990s and early 2000s, Pennsylvania's first officially accepted Cave Swallow occurred during one such invasion in 2002, and a few reports have persisted in each of the years since.

The Fall of 2005, however, presented a Great Lakes invasion of Cave Swallows of unprecedented proportion. On 4 November, a single-day count of 112 was reported at Hamlin Beach S.P. in New York, and dozens more were reported all along the Atlantic Coast and at scattered locations throughout the Great Lakes Region in Ohio, Michigan, and Ontario during the four-week period between mid-October and mid-November. Pennsylvania saw its first Cave Swallow of the season on the Susquehanna River in Lancaster County on 30 October, and additional birds were reported moving west along the Lake Erie shoreline in Erie County on 8 and 9 November.

So on the morning of 13 November, I decided to conduct a lake watch from the overlook at the Roderick Wildlife Reserve, which is situated on State Game Lands 134 in Erie County. The overlook sits on a bluff 100 feet above the lake, and less than one mile east of Pennsylvania's western border with Ohio. The lake is directly below the overlook, along with a minimal rocky beach punctuated by numerous small rocky sandbars. The monument grounds offer a panoramic view of the Lake Erie shoreline and bluffs in this area, with a 180-degree perspective on the lakefront as you stand facing north.

This location is probably underrated by Pennsylvania birders, who generally opt to try their luck at lake watching from various points along Presque Isle State Park. It is true that Presque Isle's position, jutting farther out into the lake than any other place in Pennsylvania, does indeed make it the best lake watching spot the state has to offer, especially on days with strong north wind, but Roderick's modest 100-foot elevation makes a startling difference in perspective compared to the flat, lake-level beaches of Presque Isle. Roderick allows birders armed with a telescope to see considerably farther out into the lake relative to their position, and when conditions are right, the seeing is surprisingly good, especially for birds on or near the surface of the water.

On the morning of the 13th, the sky was cloudy and threatening to rain, and the winds were fairly strong out of the south or southeast when I arrived at the monument at 7:45 A.M.. It didn't take long for things to get exciting. Within one minute of my arrival, I was just getting organized with putting on rain gear, setting up my scope, and readying my camera when I saw two small birds flying in from the east and headed west, below my position, perhaps 50 feet above the water and beach. I immediately recognized the swallow-like flight - slightly undulating with quick irregular wing beats interspersed with gliding. I was afforded excellent binocular views of these two birds as they passed beneath me, fifty feet below and a few dozen feet out from the bluff face. The lighting was overcast but sufficient to allow excellent and satisfying views of all necessary detail.

These two swallows were viewed mostly from above and to the birds' left at a range of about 50-60 feet. Each bird had a dark crown with orange/buffy forehead patch, dark wings and back, a pale collar across the nape cleanly dividing the dark crown and back, a buffy/orange rump, and a dark, squared tail. The underparts were generally white or grayish along the breast, belly, and flanks. The throat and cheeks unmarked and of the same pale quality as the nape. The undertail coverts were never directly visible. These two birds will be referred to as "Group 1" in the discussion to follow.

About ten minutes after this sighting, I was scoping the gulls in the water to my west in and around Conneaut Harbor, OH, which is easily visible from the overlook. I noticed movement directly above me, which turned out to be three ring-billed gulls passing overhead. But I also noticed that there was a swallow near them, fifty feet overhead and fifty or so feet out from the bluff face. This single swallow was followed by two more trailing behind, all of which continued to the west without pausing or changing direction at any time. These three birds (hereafter, "Group 2") were against the overcast sky and did not present nearly as good a viewing opportunity as Group 1. Again, I was limited to binocular views only, this time not nearly as satisfying, but good enough for a comfortable identification.

Each bird in Group 2 appeared similar to all the others. From below, the crown, including forehead, generally appeared dark, but a light collar around nape and lighter rump were distinguishable, contrasting against otherwise dark upperparts and upper wings. The birds appeared generally light underneath compared to the darker upperparts. The throat and cheeks were unmarked when compared to the rest of the underparts down to the lower belly and vent - in fact the entirety of the underparts above the undertail coverts appeared, quite simply, a dirty pale shade of gray. Undertail coverts appeared as a vaguely darker region when compared to the rest of the underparts, but the possibility that this was simply a shadow could not really be ruled out in this poor lighting. Detail was very hard to discern and little or no color could be determined. The tail was obviously squared.

Shortly thereafter it began to rain, sometimes quite steadily, and did not let up for at least 20 minutes. After the showers passed the sky cleared quickly and it actually became a pleasant sunny morning. Unfortunately, no other swallows were noted despite searching until 11:30 A.M.. Shortly before 9:00 A.M., I was joined by two other birders to assist in the search, to no avail.

I believe that I saw a total of five Cave Swallows on the morning of 13 November. There can be no doubt as to the identity of the two individuals in Group 1. The orange rump and square tail eliminates all possible identifications other than Cliff and Cave Swallows. However, Cliff Swallow is eliminated by the pale, unmarked, and somewhat buffy throat and pale buffy cheeks, instead of dark rufous cheeks with a black patch at the lower throat as in Cliff. Further, the forehead on a Cliff Swallow is white, and dark rufous on a "Mexican" (*H. p. melanogaster*) Cliff Swallow. The forehead on these birds was pale buffy/orange, generally of the same quality as the rump.

As for Group 2, again the squared tail eliminates Bank and Barn swallows immediately, the light collar and rump together contrasting with the rest of the upperparts eliminate Tree, Northern Rough-winged, and Violet-green, as well as further eliminating Bank and Barn and Purple Martin. Finally, the lack of contrast between the cheeks and (especially) the lower throat and the rest of the underparts eliminate Cliff as it did in Group 1.

The subspecies of Group 2 - "Mexican" (*P. f. pelodoma*) or "Caribbean" (*P. f. fulva*) - probably cannot be distinguished. However, Group 1 can probably be identified as *pelodoma* based on the lighter, less contrasting cheeks and throat. In fulva, the cheeks and throat are generally a darker rufous that presents a noticeable contrast when compared to the rest of the underparts, and to the pale collar. I

have seen hundreds of Cave Swallows of both the *fulva* and *pelodoma* subspecies, in Florida and Texas respectively. I believe the features of *fulva*, if present on the swallows of Group 1, would have been distinguishable in the good light in which these two birds were observed, based on my previous experience with *fulva*. This was my first record for Pennsylvania or anywhere else outside of Florida or Texas.

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Long-tailed Jaeger

Somerset County

Jeff and Retta Payne

At 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 27, 2005, Jeff had driven by Somerset Lake on his way to work and observed some shorebirds at the north end and many swallows feeding at the lake surface in the light rain and low cloud ceiling. Hoping to find a Purple Martin and to refind a Western Sandpiper for county year lists, Retta met Jeff after work and they headed back to the lake. Arriving at the southern end at about 1.30 p.m., they walked up the dam and started glassing the swallows. At 1.40 Jeff noticed a bird sitting on the water at 400-500 yards (first thought through binoculars was darkish backed gull with black on the head--possible Laughing?) and put the scope on it. The bird showed the following characteristics: a short, thick, black bill; a dark cap from upper mandible through eye and halfway down the neck when extended; white on breast, sides of face and hind neck, a medium gray with some brown tinge on mantle and wing coverts; contrasting black, long pointed primaries; and the tail appeared all black and roughly the same length as the wing tips. Jeff felt jaeger from this first look but was not sure which species. He told Retta that they had a good bird and left her to study it while he went back to the car for the digital camera and a Sibley Guide.

Retta had noted the above characteristics and had seen a pale yellow splash on the cheek when the bird turned. The bird was mostly sitting with its head in a low resting position, but it became more alert when larger birds flew by. It did not seem to be agitated by a fishing boat about one hundred yards away from it. At one point a Great Blue Heron flew over and the bird jumped off the water, made a tight turn, and then landed. Although brief, there was not a noticeable white flash in the wings and at this point they started to think that it might be a Long-tailed.

Jeff attempted several pictures with their small Olympus digital through the scope. They do not have a scope bracket for the camera and centering shots at high magnification was proving difficult. A rudimentary sketch was being drawn when the bird got up and flew north (at about 1:55) and proceeded up the lake. Retta could see it against the trees for a while and could not see any white wedges on the dark ventral surface of the wings. Jeff was mostly dropping the camera and paper scraps and the bird was lost to sight.

They left to go up the lake to try to relocate the bird. A phone call to fellow Somerset County birder Scott Bastian was unsuccessful. There was a fair amount of despair because everything was looking good for Long-tailed, but without better photos and looks at the flying bird they were afraid it was going to be a tough call.

Retta jumped out at the boat launch that is mid way up the lake, and before Jeff could get the scope etc, down to the lake she had refound the bird, it was now about 2:05. This time it was a little closer, perhaps 350 to 400 yards, and a couple more pictures were attempted and would be the clearest. The wing and tail tips still looked equal in length. The bird was more active with head up and looking around more frequently. After about five minutes it got up and started flying. Its general appearance while flying was of a light, quick bird flying with wings held in a bowed position when viewed head on. The undersides of the narrow, pointed wings were uniformly dark. When circling back toward them, there was a thin, lighter edge on the front edge of the primaries. The tail appeared all dark with a moderate wedge shape and some irregular scalloping of individual retrices was present. No streamers projected from the central retrices. The undertail and belly appeared dark gray gradually shading to a white chest. There was no dark barring across the chest. The bird circled higher for several minutes then came lower across the water and was directly in front of the boat launch at its closest approach at about 150 yards. It then circled up again and disappeared over the trees headed south/southeast at about 2:15 p.m.

A later trip back to the lake at 6:00 p.m. was unsuccessful at relocating the bird.

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Plate 1. Side view on water shows a nicely defined dark cap, white breast and elongated tail (*Jeff Payne*).

In North America, Long-tailed Jaeger breeds in western, northern and central Alaska, northern Yukon, throughout the Canadian Arctic islands and northern Quebec. Most birds winter at sea in the Pacific off southern South America and in the South Atlantic south to Argentina. Most migrate well off-shore but rarely they pass through interior North America. There are two previous accepted records for the state. **2000** Lancaster Co an adult on the Susquehanna River 22-23 May. **2003** Bucks Co an immature at Nockamixon S.P. 19 September. There is also another report under review by P.O.R.C. from McKean Co during Hurricane Isabel 19 September 2003. - *Ed.*

Long-billed Curlew *Erie County*

Jerry McWilliams

Date: August 31, 2005
Time 11: 15 AM
Weather: cloudy with heavy rain and winds in excess of 25 mph.
Remnants of Hurricane Katrina, visibility fair to poor.
Distance from bird: As close as 150 feet and as far away as 1000 feet

I arrived at Gull Point at Presque Isle State Park at 10:00 AM under fairly stormy conditions to conduct the International Shorebird Survey and to look for birds brought in by *Hurricane Katrina*. I immediately saw that there was good shorebird movement when I got to my post. There were birds in the air throughout the next three hours until the rain stopped and the wind began to die down after which many departed. I had just watched a couple of Whimbrels fly in and set down within a hundred feet of me when I caught a glimpse of another large shorebird gliding in and slightly away from me. When I trained my binocular on the bird I thought I was looking at a Marbled Godwit because of its size, buffy color, and orange in the flight feathers. As the bird angled so that I could get more of a profile look, the long thin decurved bill got my attention. I readily recognized the bird as a Long-billed Curlew.

It started to set down and I had the vegetation in the background so I could see color and plumage details a little better. Again I could see the overall buffy appearance and the orange in the flight feathers, especially the inner primaries. I could also see the plain buffy unmarked head. It lifted back up and circled over me and then headed southwest over Thompson Bay. In the meantime while the bird was circling, I was frantically digging for my camera in the backpack, which was a job since I had it wrapped in plastic.

Needless to say, I had plastic flying everywhere. I managed to take a number of flight shots as it circled, but had problems getting the bird in focus because of the heavy rain and because the objective lens of the camera got spotted with water. However I did get some, what I believe are identifiable shots, though the quality especially sharpness of the images is not that good.

I never had the bird in view for more than a minute or so, but I managed to observe the following details of the bird. Most of the time I got just the silhouette of the bird since the light was not good and it was severely backlit most of the time as it flew overhead. It was rather large and reminded of a Marbled Godwit in shape and size. The bill was the most notable feature being very long, thin, and strongly down-curved. The head was plain and showed no dark head bands, which I noticed when it flew low with the vegetation in the background. The rest of the body appeared to be buff.

I never could see the underwings clearly in good light to see the orange wing linings, but occasionally light showed through the orange inner primaries. The upperside was buff colored including the upperwing coverts which contrasted sharply with the dark outer primaries and primary coverts. The orange inner primaries were especially noticeable on the upperside when it turned. I did not get any detail on the tail pattern or color, but could see that it was short and that the feet extended beyond the tail. It made no sound as it circled the point. I suspect this bird was a juvenile based upon the more buff than orange coloration of the body.

Also, even though the bill was long, it was not extremely long like and adult, especially a female adult. I have seen and photographed many Long-billed Curlews in California, Arizona, and south Texas.

All other curlew-type shorebirds were ruled out based upon the orange inner primaries, overall buffy color, lack of head banding, and very long bill. Whimbrel was the most likely bird to confuse the curlew with, but Whimbrels have shorter bills, are not buffy, but more uniform gray-brown with little upperwing contrast, do not show orange in the flight feathers, and are smaller. Whimbrels almost always vocalize when taking off or landing. I am very familiar with Whimbrels, since I see them annually on the park and sometimes in numbers.

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Plate 1. Side view in flight showing dark brown plumage. Long-curved bill clearly evident (*Jerry McWilliams*).

Plate 2. Nearly head-on view again long-curved bill visible (*Jerry McWilliams*).

Long-billed Curlews breed from British Columbia and Saskatchewan south to Texas. Most birds winter from Washington south to northern Mexico with some birds wintering along the Gulf coast to Florida and even fewer along the Atlantic coast from South Carolina to Florida. They are casual along the Atlantic coast north of South Carolina. There are several hypothetical reports from Lancaster Co. prior to 1900. The report is under review by P.O.R.C.. - *Ed.*

BOOK REVIEW

Gene Wilhelm

ANNOTATED LIST OF THE BIRDS OF PENNSYLVANIA Second edition by Franklin C. Haas and Barbara M. Haas. Cover photograph of Red-headed Woodpecker in flight by Bob Moul. Published by Pennsylvania Biological Survey, Ornithological Technical Committee. Paperback, viii + 52 pp., including a map of Pennsylvania's 7 ornithological regions (p. viii) and 48 bar graphs, copyright 2005. Available for $7.00 including postage, go to PSO website at www.pabirds.org and click on PSO sales link.

Change is a principle of the universe and is applicable to all things, including birds. Thus it was a great pleasure reviewing this small but wonderful book. After all, small can be mighty and this axiom is so true here.

Frank and Barb Haas are no strangers to Pennsylvania ornithology, not only founding, editing and publishing the quarterly journal *Pennsylvania Birds* for fourteen years (1987 – 2000) but also producing an ornithological end product that has become well known far beyond Pennsylvania's borders for its innovative and expertise qualities. Indeed, the quarterly has become a model for other states to emulate. So many changes have occurred so quickly in the avian world of Pennsylvania since the early 1990s, however, that an updated list was seriously needed. As the authors state in Acknowledgments (p. ii): "This book is an update to *Annotated List of the Birds of Pennsylvania* (1992). . . .This publication was followed shortly by the *Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania* (Brauning, 1992) and then later by *The Birds of Pennsylvania* (McWilliams & Brauning, 2000). Since 1992, an additional twelve years of records have been contributed to *Pennsylvania Birds*."

Introduction

The book follows closely the format of the first edition by covering the regional and temporal distribution of Pennsylvania birds. The main section of the book (pp. 1-48) includes species from the official state list first published in 1990 by the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee (PORC), annual updates and records up to April 2005. The list contains two classes of sightings based on the quality of documentation: the main list includes species that have at least one record meeting required criteria and being accepted by PORC. There were 399 species on the official state bird list as of April 2005. Following the main list is a supplemental list containing an additional 40 species that almost certainly have been observed in Pennsylvania but are not on the official list because they lack physical evidence or records may represent escaped captives. Two extirpated species (Greater Prairie Chicken and Red-cockaded Woodpecker) and two extinct species (Passenger Pigeon and Carolina Parakeet) are included in this latter list.

Regional Distribution

The book next divides the Commonwealth into seven regions based on physiographic and avifauna differences. From west to east these regions are Erie Shore, Northwest, High Plateaus, Southwest, Ridge and Valley, Piedmont, and Delaware. Each region has pertinent information on landforms, elevation, climate, habitats and some of the 'hot spots' for observing birds.

Bar Graphs

The main part of the book, however, is organized as a series of bar graphs, one or more per species that illustrate the likelihood of observing each species within the seven regions and throughout the year. Names used are those of the 7th AOU checklist (1998) and its 42nd through 45th supplements to the checklist as published in *The Auk*. As stated by the authors: "Because of the difficulty of estimating populations, relative abundance is presented as the probability of an experienced birder finding each species in a day of searching through proper habitat." The probability categories used are: excellent (found on 99% or more of trips), good (found on 50-99% of trips), fair (found on 10-50% of trips), poor (found on 1-10% of trips), casual (found on fewer than 1% of trips but more than 10 records in the state), accidental (fewer than 10 records for Pennsylvania), sporadic (variable in abundance with the minimum and maximum likelihood of being seen represented by the width of the bars), and an asterisk representing a breeder or has bred species during the period 1980 – 2004. The maximum width of the bars in the regional charts matches the highest probabilities of observing species during the time of their greatest abundance. However, when the pattern of seasonal occurrence differs greatly across the state, a second and sometimes a third line are used. Only records from the late 1950s onward were normally used in determining early and late dates for regularly occurring species. Unlike regularly occurring species, every record of accidental species, recent or otherwise, is represented by a dot within the seasonal past of each chart, unless there is a strong clustering of points over a short time interval. In this case a dotted line is used. One dot is used in each region in which the species has been recorded regardless of the number of records. Minor exceptions in seasonal distribution are noted in the annotations.

Annotations

The annotations below the graphs are particularly interesting and concise listing the habitats used by each species in decreasing order of utilization. If the species breeds or winters in the state in a more restricted habitat, that fact is noted next, followed by "exception" to the expected species distribution based on the bar graphs (pp. 1-48).

The Ornithological Technical Committee (OTC) of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey (PBS) has classified a number of breeding avian species in the state as endangered (the species is in imminent danger of extirpation as a breeder unless immediate action is taken), threatened (extremely rare or rapidly declining species that probably will become extirpated unless action is taken), or candidate (rare, possibly declining species whose ultimate status is uncertain without human intervention). The OTC subdivided "candidates" into three groups: 'at risk' (species under active consideration for threatened status), 'rare' and 'status undetermined.' The legal list of endangered and threatened species is maintained by the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

All of these classifications are noted in the annotations, such as "OTC – Candidate-At Risk" or "PA-Endangered."

Finally, birders' comments about certain avian species increasing or decreasing or Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) data showing species declining are also noted. However, all sightings of accidental species are detailed and referenced in chronological order. Books consulted and journal references to records cited in the annotations are listed in the bibliography at the end of the book (p. 52).

I do suggest, however, that the authors include Lake Arthur, Moraine State Park, Butler County, in the Northwest Region description (iii) in any future edition because of the many rarities observed there since 1972. Further, I am requesting that the authors identify the abbreviation USNM for the White-tailed Tropicbird (p. 7). Perhaps it refers to the U.S. Natural History Museum, Smithsonian Institution, in Washington, DC. Also, the first bar graph for the Sandhill Crane (p. 14) should include all months for the Northwest Region since this species has over-wintered there since 2003. The Ring-billed Gull (p. 19) and Herring Gull (p. 20) bar graphs need an asterisk because of the confirmed breeding records for the Erie Shore and Erie Shore/Southwest Regions respectively. Annotation for the Winter Wren (p. 32) should include breeding beyond the mountains in the Northwest Region and for the Sedge Wren (p. 32) add that it breeds in upland grassy fields too.

In sum, this is an excellent and essential reference for field ornithologists and birders interested in the rich avifauna of Pennsylvania and represents the most current taxonomic order of Aves.

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Autumn Raptor Migration Summary 2005

Gail Farmer

Twelve hawkwatches reported counts for autumn 2005 (Table 1). Count hours ranged from 179 to 1,121, for a total of 7,542. Count days at all sites ranged from 41 to 153, for a total of 1,108. A total of 116,841 raptors representing 17 species was reported, including Swainson's Hawk (Buteo swainsoni) at Bake Oven Knob and Second Mountain.

Average count effort in Aug.-Dec. for the twelve watchsites in 2005 was slightly less than in 2004 (629 hours/site vs. 635 hours/site), with decreased effort at all sites except Bake Oven Knob (Lehigh), Hawk Mountain (Berks/Schuylkill), Rocky Ridge (York), Rose Tree Park (Delaware), and Waggoner's Gap (Cumberland County; Table 1) .

Data are available for most watchsites for viewing at the Hawk Migration Association of North America's Hawk Count website (http://raptorsonline.org/).

Composition of the flight

The four most numerous migrants overall were Broad-winged Hawks (Buteo platypterus), Sharp-shinned Hawks (Accipiter striatus), and Red-tailed Hawks (Buteo jamaicensis) (Table 2). Broad-wings made up the largest percentage of the overall flight at 35%, ranging from 13% at Stone Mountain to 80% at Militia Hill. Sharp-shinned Hawks (20% overall) ranged from 8% of the flight at Militia Hill to 33% at Waggoner's Gap. Red-tailed Hawks (16% overall) ranged from 2% at Militia Hill to 38% of the flight at Stone Mountain. Of the remaining thirteen regular migrants, only Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura), Northern Harrier (Circus cyaneus), Red-shouldered Hawk (Buteo lineatus), and Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter cooperii) made up 3% or more of the flight.

Passage rates for most species were higher this year than in 2004, with Red-shouldered Hawks and Northern Harriers increasing by more than 80% (Table 2). Counts of Northern Goshawks (Accipiter gentilis) increased by 52%, Rough-legged Hawks (Buteo lagopus) increased by 50%, Peregrine Falcons (Falco peregrinus) by 45%, Golden Eagles (Aquila chrysaetos) by 38%, and Merlins (Falco columbarius) by 36%. Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) passage rates were 25% lower this year than in 2004, and all other species differed by less than 20% from the previous year. Overall, many sites reported record breaking flights of Cooper's Hawks, Bald Eagles (Haliaeetus leucocephalus), Turkey Vultures, Red-shouldered Hawks, and Merlins.

Peak counts of Bald Eagle (Table 3), Sharp-shinned Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, American Kestrels (Falco sparverius), and Merlins were synchronous among six sites, presumably owing to a cold front during the second week of October that brought strong northwest winds the weekend of the 15th and 16th.

Seasonal highlights

Allegheny Front (*Bedford*) – No new records were set at Allegheny Front, and only 5,350 (in 758 hours) raptors were counted, compared to the 12,866 raptors counted during 799 hours in 2004. The highest one-day count was on 28 Oct., with 400 raptors recorded. The Broad-winged Hawk count was particularly low this year, with only 1,194 birds counted, making up only 22% of the flight. In 2004 the 5,556 broadwings counted made-up over 45% of flight. Red-tailed Hawks, Broad-winged Hawks, and Sharp-shinned Hawks, together made up 70% of the flight (29%, 22%, and 19%, respectively). Between 20 and 30 Oct., peak flights of Turkey Vultures (157) and Red-tailed Hawks (711) were recorded, and the first two weeks of Oct. brought the peak flight for Sharp-shinned Hawks (540 birds, 53% of total flight). On 11 Nov., Franklin Mountain (NY) observed a record-breaking 71 Golden Eagles, three days later Allegheny Front recorded 45 Golden Eagles, their highest daily count that season. More than twice as many Peregrine Falcons were counted this year than last year (50 and 21, respectively).

Bake Oven Knob (*Lehigh*) – Flights for most species were higher than the ten-year average at Bake Oven Knob, including Merlins, American Kestrels, Golden Eagles, Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Cooper's Hawks. Season records included Turkey Vultures (1,023), Merlins (150), and Cooper's Hawks (492). Sixty-nine percent of the Broad-winged Hawk flight passed between 22 and 25 Sept., with a peak count of 1,287 birds on 25 Sept. The peak count for Osprey also occurred in Sept. (56; 22 Sept.). Peak flights of American Kestrels (88) and Merlins (67) occurred on 15 and 16 Oct. (accounting for 40% of each of their total flights). Other peak counts in Oct. include Sharp-shinned Hawk (485; 16 Oct.), Cooper's Hawk (69; 19 Oct.), Northern Goshawk (6; Oct. 23), Peregrine Falcon (6; 3 Oct.), Bald Eagle (13; 16 Oct.). Peak counts in Nov. included Northern Harrier (10; 4 Nov.), Golden Eagle (6; 3 Nov.), and Red-tailed Hawk (231; 11 Nov.).

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (*Berks/Schuylkill*) – The total count at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary this year (18,310) was higher than in 2004 (15,030) and close to the ten-year average (18,551). Broad-winged Hawks, Red-tailed Hawks, and Sharp-shinned Hawks, together made-up 79% of the flight (29%, 25%, and 25%, respectively). Season records include 112 Black Vultures (Coragyps atratus) , 457 Turkey Vultures, and 198 Merlins, with a single-day record of 48 birds on Oct. 15th. Hawk Mountain had the highest count of Merlins in the state. Hawk Mountain also recorded its second highest season-total for Cooper's Hawks (1,119), versus the season record of 1,121 in 1998. Nearly 50% of the American Kestrel (188 of 468) and Merlin (85 of 198) flights occurred between 15 and 17 Oct. Peak flights for Sharp-shinned (741) and Cooper's Hawks (163) were recorded on 22 Oct. Other peak flights include Osprey (44; 22 Sept.), Turkey Vulture (67; 31 Oct.), Northern Harrier (16; 4 Nov.), and Peregrine Falcon (8; 15 Oct.).

Jack's Mountain (*Mifflin*) – Count effort at Jack's Mountain declined for a fourth year and was 25% below the average (since 1995), resulting in below average counts and passage rates for all species. The site reported record low counts of Northern Harriers (17), Red-shouldered Hawks (2), and Red-tailed Hawks (360). Peak counts included Turkey Vulture (53; 27 Oct.), Osprey (23; 19 Sept., Broad-winged Hawk (886; 19 Sept.),

Red-tailed Hawks (50; 19 Oct.), Sharp-shinned Hawk (55; Oct. 19), American Kestrel (15; 19 Sept.), Merlin (6; 19 Oct.) and Peregrine Falcon (2; 6 Oct.).

Little Gap (*Northampton*) – In 2005 Little Gap had the second highest passage rate ever (28 birds/hour versus 30 birds/hr in 2002). Season record highs were set for Black Vultures (108), Turkey Vultures (510), Red-tailed Hawks (4,298), Red-shouldered Hawks (173), Cooper's Hawks (589), and Golden Eagle (102). Counts of most species were at or above the ten-year average, except for Northern Harriers (-5%), Broad-winged Hawks (-14%), and American Kestrels (-22%) which were below average. The peak count for Broad-winged Hawks occurred on 22 Sept. Over 59% of the total Sharp-shinned Hawk flight and 47% of the Cooper's Hawk flight passed between 15 and 20 Oct. Peak counts that week included Turkey Vulture (76; 15 Oct.), Northern Harrier (14; 18 Oct.), Bald Eagle (14; 16 Oct.), American Kestrel (30; 15 Oct.), and Merlin (17; 15 Oct.). Other peak counts include Osprey (39; 25 Sept.), Red-tailed Hawk (788; 29 Oct.), Red-shouldered Hawk (29; 30 Oct.), Northern Goshawk (6; 29 Oct. and 2 Nov.), and Golden Eagle (8; 11 Nov.).

Militia Hill (*Montgomery*) – Several records were set this season at Militia Hill, including season record highs of 62 Bald Eagles and 184 Coopers Hawks, and a one-day record high of 140 Sharp-shinned Hawks (23 Oct.). On 19 Sept., 3,920 broadwings were counted in the morning and 366 more were counted in the afternoon. Sept. 21 brought 2,486 broadwings, 6 Bald Eagles, and the site reported its 175,000th bird in its 18-year history. Sixty percent of Ospreys counted in Sept. passed between the 18th and 25th (98 of 154), and most Ospreys (60%) counted in Oct. passed between 9 and 11 Oct. (49 of 103). Other peak flights included 568 Sharp-shinned Hawks (66% of total count; 15-31 Oct.), 40 Red-shouldered Hawks (43%; 29-31 Oct.), 203 Red-tailed Hawks (74%; 26-31 Oct.), 54 American Kestrels (29%; 24 Sept.), and 161 Turkey Vultures (70%; 26-29 Oct.).

Rocky Ridge (*York*) – Rocky Ridge had the third highest overall passage rate among watchsites in Pennsylvania with 23 birds per hour. Ten species of raptors passed on 24 Sept., and on the same date in little more than one hour, 2,000 Broad-winged Hawks (63% of total flight for the season) were counted streaming just above the tree line. Bald Eagle sightings this season (71) were more than two times the ten-year average. The Sharp-shinned Hawk count was 25% above average, with 260 in Oct. And the American Kestrel count was also 25% higher than average, with 39 birds recorded in Oct. and 29 in Sept. Red-tailed Hawk sightings were 35% below average, however, this could be due to somewhat limited coverage in Nov. (18.25 hours; Table 3). Peak flights for Sharp-shinned Hawks (121; 30%) and American Kestrels (22; 31%) occurred on 15 and 16 Oct. Other peak flights by species: Osprey (9; Sept. 24), Cooper's Hawk (8; 23 Oct.); Northern Harrier (7; 24 Sept.), and Turkey Vulture (58, 84% of total flight; 28 Oct.).

Rose Tree Park (*Delaware*) – At Rose Tree Park, season records were set for Bald Eagles (297) and Red-shouldered Hawks (278). Passage rates and counts for Northern Harriers (peak count of 5 on 23 Oct.) and Golden Eagles (1; 5 and 17 Nov.) were the lowest since 1999. The Broad-winged Hawk flight peaked between 18 and 20 Sept. (1,682 birds; 73% of total flight). 23 Oct. brought the highest daily count that month (379 raptors), including peak counts for Sharp-shinned Hawk (203), Cooper's Hawk (24), and Red-shouldered Hawk (42). Other peak counts included Turkey Vulture (90; 27 Oct.), Bald Eagle (15; 1 Oct.), Red-tailed Hawk (96; 11 Nov.), American Kestrel (33; 15 Oct.), and Peregrine Falcon (3; 28 Oct.).

Second Mountain (*Lebanon*) – This year at Second Mountain, 24 and 25 Sept. brought the first big flights of the season, accounting for 37% of the total flight in Sept. A one-day record high count of Bald Eagles (10 birds) was set on 24 Sept., and the season peak of 1,123 broadwings occurred on 25 Sept., together with a flight of five more Bald Eagles and one Golden Eagle. The biggest non-broadwing daily count of the season was 19 Oct., with a total of 436 birds, featuring season highs for Sharp-shinned Hawks (339), Cooper's Hawks (30), and Northern Goshawks (7). On 30 Oct. there were with peak counts of Red-tailed Hawks (126), Red-shouldered Hawks (23), and Golden Eagles (8). Counters braving cold temperatures on 25 Nov. were rewarded when a dark-morph Rough-legged Hawk was spotted, followed a few minutes later by a light morph. This was another record breaking season for Bald Eagles (96), raising the ten-year average from 23 in 1994 to 60. Golden Eagles and Cooper's Hawks were slightly above average, the Goshawk and Rough-legged Hawk were about average, and all other species were 65-85% below average.

Stone Mountain (*Huntingdon*) – The total count at Stone Mountain was below average for the second consecutive year (3,213 compared to ten year average of 4,341). This was due, at least in part, to decreased effort (257 hours, the lowest effort in the past seven years). The Broad-winged Hawk count was a record low, with only 425 birds counted (compared to a ten year average of 1,344). Other record lows include Osprey (66) and Peregrine Falcon (9). One-day record high counts included Sharp-shinned Hawk (186; 15 Oct.) and Cooper's Hawk (70; 16 Oct.). One Swainson's Hawk was seen on Oct. 23 (the same date as last years sighting of that species). The peak count for Red-tailed Hawks occurred on 23 Oct. (188). Other peak counts included Golden Eagle (14; 17 Nov.), Merlin (11; 15 Oct.), and American Kestrel (23; 11 Oct.).

Tuscarora Summit (*Fulton*) – Passage rates were lower than the ten-year average for Osprey (72; -30%), Northern Harrier (51; -27%), Red-shouldered Hawk (17; -50%), Broad-winged Hawk (1,142; -37%), Red-tailed Hawk (446; -38%), and American Kestrel (25; -37%). Counts for Turkey Vulture (457) and Bald Eagle (37) were above average and set new season record highs. Seventy percent of the Broad-winged Hawk flight (peak count was 419 on 19 Sept.) passed between 17 and 22 Sept. Bald Eagles (4; 24 Sept.) and Osprey (8; 22 Sept.) also had peak counts that month. Other peak counts included Turkey Vulture (191; 23 Oct.), Black Vulture (11; 14 Nov.), Northern Harrier (5; 3 Nov.), Sharp-shinned Hawk (153; 19 Oct.), Cooper's Hawk (6; 19 Oct.), Northern Goshawk (1; on 4 days), Golden Eagle (6; 7 Nov.), American Kestrel (3; 13 Sept. and 1 Nov.), Merlin (2; 1 Nov.), Peregrine Falcon (3; 1 Nov.).

Waggoner's Gap (*Cumberland*)

– Season record highs were set for Bald Eagles (303), Golden Eagles (242), Merlins (147), Turkey Vultures (1,814), and Cooper's Hawks (1,054), and overall, the site recorded more Bald Eagles, Golden Eagles, and Turkey Vultures than any other site in Pennsylvania. Sixty-four percent (2,609 birds) of the Broad-winged Hawk flight occurred between Sept. 11 and 19. Strong Northwest winds on the weekend of 15 and 16 Oct. brought more than 2,890 raptors, including peak counts on the 15 Oct. for Osprey (32), Bald Eagles (15), and Merlins (27; single-day record). A total of 1859 birds passed on 16 Oct., including peak counts of Black Vultures (19), Turkey Vultures (341), Sharp-shinned Hawks (1058), Cooper's Hawks (167), and American Kestrels (56). Twelve Rough-legged Hawks were counted at Waggoner's Gap (3; 14 Dec.), more than at any other watchsite. Peak counts for other species included the Red-shouldered Hawk (24; 27 Oct.), Red-tailed Hawk (387; Oct. 30), and Northern Harrier (28; 5 Nov.).

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Table 1. Watchsites reporting for autumn 2005 (Aug. – Dec.).

Watchsite	County	Hours of Observation
Allegheny Front	Bedford	758
Bake Oven Knob	Lehigh	844
Hawk Mountain	Berks/Schuylkill	1121
Jack's Mountain	Mifflin	273
Little Gap	Northampton	562
Militia Hill	Montgomery	442
Rocky Ridge	York	179
Rose Tree Park	Delaware	657
Second Mountain	Lebanon	996
Stone Mountain	Huntington	257
Tuscarora Summit	Fulton	338
Waggoner's Gap	Cumberland	1115

Table 3. Peak count dates for Osprey, Bald Eagle, and Broad-winged Hawk at Pennsylvania watchsites in autumn 2005.

	Osprey		Bald Eagle		Broad-winged Hawk	
Watchsite	Count	Date	Count	Date	Count	Date
Allegheny Front	17	24 Sep	6	25, 11 Sep	29 0	13 Sep
Bake Oven Knob	56	22 Sep	13	16 Oct	1287	25 Sep
Hawk Mountain	44	22 Sep	11	16 Oct	1811	25 Sep
Jack's Mountain	23	19 Sep	3	19 Sep	88 6	19 Sep
Little Gap	39	25 Sep	14	16 Oct	1034	22 Sep
Militia Hill	30	25 Sep	6	21 Sep, 16 Oct	4242	19 Sep
Rocky Ridge	9	24 Sep	10	3 Sep	2163	24 Sep
Rose Tree Park	18	24 Sep	20	16 Oct	69 0	21 Sep
Second Mountain	15	15 Oct	10	24 Sep	1123	25 Sep
Stone Mountain	15	15 Oct	4	23 Oct	15 3	11 Sep
Tuscarora Summit	8	22 Sep	4	11, 24 Sep	41 9	19 Sep
Waggoner's Gap	32	15 Oct	15	15 Oct	63 8	12 Sep

Table 2. Hawkwatch Results for Autumn 2005 in Pennsylvania.

ALLEGHENY FRONT (*Bedford*)
Che Mincone, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total
August	17	90.5	1	0	10	2	4	24	4	0	4	71	16	0	0	7	0	0	9	152
September	30	246	7	0	69	37	12	249	53	1	3	1,121	247	0	0	17	16	19	85	1936
October	31	194.75	5	382	39	4	23	714	132	2	65	2	961	1	5	40	16	31	176	2,598
November	30	180	6	45	0	2	10	18	14	3	40	0	305	2	110	6	2	0	41	604
December	12	48	1	0	0	3	0	1	1	2	5	0	24	1	16	0	0	0	6	60
Total	120	758	20	427	118	48	49	1,006	204	8	117	1,194	1553	4	131	70	34	50	317	**5,350**
Total per hr.			0.03	0.6	0.16	0.06	0.06	1.3	0.27	0.01	0.15	1.6	2.0	0.01	0.17	0.09	0.04	0.07	0.42	7.1
% of flight			0.4	8.0	2.2	0.9	0.9	19	3.8	0.1	2.2	22	29	0.1	2.4	1.3	0.6	0.9	5.9	100

BAKE OVEN KNOB (*Lehigh*)
Dan Kunkle, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total*
August	17	120.5	41	96	32	33	4	16	7	0	1	50	28	0	0	13	0	0	15	336
September	30	285.75	89	306	349	75	29	659	54	2	5	4677	186	0	1	75	21	25	72	6625
October	31	230	97	297	145	43	56	2858	405	23	109	43	1924	2	48	139	124	27	176	6517
November	27	208	99	324	0	23	63	140	26	32	63	0	1484	4	68	3	5	3	38	2375
Total	105	844.3	326	1,023	526	174	152	3,673	492	57	178	4,770	3,622	6	117	230	150	55	301	**15,853**
Total per hr.			0.4	1.2	0.6	0.2	0.2	4.4	0.6	0.1	0.2	5.6	4.3	0	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.4	18.8
% of flight			2.1	6.5	3.3	1.1	1.0	23	3.1	0.4	1.1	30	23	0	0.7	1.5	0.9	0.3	1.9	100.0

* Total includes one Swainson's Hawk in October.

HAWK MOUNTAIN (*Berks/Schuylkill*)
Laurie Goodrich, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid.	Total
August	17	141.65	0	0	34	24	15	15	16	0	0	143	41	0	0	29	1	3	3	324
September	30	329	10	11	316	84	37	575	152	2	2	5096	121	0	1	142	51	25	62	6687
October	31	272	51	289	130	47	62	3734	849	9	190	34	2419	1	49	294	137	24	65	8384
November	30	258.75	49	156	0	24	86	218	90	32	140	0	1796	2	58	3	9	2	17	2682
December	16	119.5	2	1	0	18	8	3	13	10	14	0	160	3	13	0	0	0	4	249
Total	124	1121	112	457	480	197	208	4,545	1,120	53	346	5,273	4,537	6	121	468	198	54	151	**18,326**
Total per hr.			0.1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	4.1	1.0	0	0.3	4.7	4.0	0	0.1	0.4	0.2	0	0.1	16.3
% of flight			0.6	2.5	2.6	1.1	1.1	25	6.1	0.3	1.9	29	25	0	0.7	2.6	1.1	0.3	0.8	100.0

JACK'S MOUNTAIN (*Mifflin*)
Ron Singer, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid.	Total
August	4	17	0	0	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	15
September	23	129.5	7	0	64	14	9	91	4	0	0	1780	29	0	0	42	1	0	3	2044
October	18	97	0	71	8	1	3	222	24	1	1	7	258	0	5	17	8	3	10	639
November	5	29.25	2	74	0	2	3	4	2	1	1	0	73	0	14	0	1	0	4	181
Total	50	273	9	145	75	21	17	317	30	2	2	1,788	360	0	19	63	10	3	18	**2,879**
Total per hr.			0	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	1.2	0.1	0	0	6.5	1.3	0	0.1	0.2	0	0	0.1	10.5
% of flight			0.3	5.0	2.6	0.7	0.6	11	1.0	0.1	0.1	62	13	0	0.7	2.2	0.3	0.1	0.6	100

LITTLE GAP (*Northampton*)
Michael Schall, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total
August	3	9	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
September	30	206	4	12	314	64	26	498	64	2	2	5340	84	0	0	128	19	15	39	6611
October	31	176.25	69	437	98	41	57	2876	475	23	128	6	2826	4	51	85	44	23	66	7309
November	27	150.5	32	121	1	17	55	128	45	13	39	0	1311	1	50	0	3	1	15	1832
December	5	20.25	3	0	0	2	1	1	4	3	4	0	77	0	1	0	1	0	0	97
Total	96	562	108	570	414	125	141	3,505	589	41	173	5,353	4,298	5	102	213	67	39	120	**15,863**
Total per hr.			0.2	1.0	0.7	0.2	0.3	6.2	1.0	0.1	0.3	9.5	7.6	0	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	28.2
% of flight			0.7	3.6	2.6	0.8	0.9	22	3.7	0.3	1.1	34	27	0	0.6	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.8	100

MILITIA HILL (*Montgomery*)
Marylea Klauder, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total
September	30	236.5	0	0	154	39	24	241	70	0	17	9131	14	0	0	114	4	4	25	9837
October	31	205	15	232	103	23	20	621	114	1	75	42	262	0	4	76	11	10	37	1646
Total	61	441.5	15	232	257	62	44	862	184	1	92	9,173	276	0	4	190	15	14	62	**11,483**
Total per hr.			0	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.1	2.0	0.4	0	0.2	21	0.6	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.1	26.0
% of flight			0.1	2.0	2.2	0.5	0.4	7.5	1.6	0	0.8	80	2.4	0	0	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.5	100.0

ROCKY RIDGE (*York*)
Randy Phillips, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total
August	7	9.75	0	0	0	2	0	5	1	0	0	2	4	0	0	1	0	1	0	16
September	20	97.75	0	0	32	34	14	152	12	0	6	3169	14	0	0	29	1	0	1	3464
October	11	53.25	0	69	14	29	13	260	18	1	6	1	103	0	2	39	1	0	2	558
November	3	18.25	0	0	0	6	1	16	2	1	1	0	37	0	2	0	0	0	0	66
Total	41	179	0	69	46	71	28	433	33	2	13	3172	158	0	4	69	2	1	3	**4104**
Total per hr.			0	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	2.4	0.2	0	0.1	18	0.9	0	0	0.4	0	0	0	22.9
% of flight			0	1.7	1.1	1.7	0.7	11	0.8	0	0.3	77	3.8	0	0.1	1.7	0	0	0.1	100.0

ROSE TREE PARK (*Delaware*)
Jim Lockyer, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	TUVU	BLVU	OSPR	NOHA	BAEA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	M AKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid.	Total
August	12	79.75	0	0	19	1	15	8	9	0	4	68	6	0	0	5	0	0	2	137
September	30	217	1	0	198	11	117	385	124	0	23	2156	23	0	0	124	13	8	34	3217
October	31	172	264	17	72	20	141	1100	160	6	158	76	168	0	2	147	21	12	38	2402
November	30	188.5	247	50	5	15	24	226	41	3	93	0	319	0	0	5	17	2	6	1053
Total	103	657.25	512	67	294	47	297	1,719	334	9	278	2,300	516	0	2	281	51	22	80	**6,809**
Total per hr.			0.8	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.5	2.6	0.5	0	0.4	3.5	0.8	0	0	0.4	0.1	0	0.1	10.4
% of flight			7.5	1.0	4.3	0.7	4.4	25	4.9	0.1	4.1	34	7.6	0	0	4.1	0.7	0.3	1.2	100.0

SECOND MOUNTAIN (*Lebanon*)
David Schwenk, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total*
August	31	172	0	0	10	8	5	8	2	0	1	115	42	0	0	15	2	0	0	208
September	30	269.5	2	0	115	41	26	321	51	10	6	2956	124	0	6	44	15	7	24	3748
October	31	227.5	74	172	64	20	51	1484	213	35	66	11	607	0	28	46	22	18	32	2943
November	30	211	91	211	1	17	47	74	28	18	44	0	636	3	38	2	0	0	7	1217
December	31	116	61	41	0	10	0	6	1	1	1	0	52	0	2	2	0	0	0	177
Total	153	996	228	424	190	96	129	1,893	295	64	118	3,082	1,461	3	74	109	39	25	63	**8,293**
Total per hr.			0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.9	0.3	0.1	0.1	3.1	1.5	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0.1	8.3
% of flight			2.7	5.1	2.3	1.2	1.6	23	3.6	0.8	1.4	75	36	0	0.9	1.3	0.5	0.3	0.8	100.0

STONE MOUNTAIN (*Huntingdon*)
Greg Grove, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total*
September	19	99.5	0	0	36	12	7	103	36	0	2	425	43	0	1	29	0	1	11	706
October	16	87.5	0	43	29	10	29	662	226	6	53	0	891	1	30	63	33	8	18	2103
November	15	70	0	0	1	3	16	23	7	3	25	0	301	0	60	1	2	0	5	447
Total	50	257	0	43	66	25	52	788	269	9	80	425	1,235	1	91	93	35	9	34	**3,256**
Total per hr.			0	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	3.1	1.0	0	0.3	1.7	4.8	0	0.4	0.4	0.1	0	0.1	12.7
% of flight			0	1.3	2.0	0.8	1.6	24	8.3	0.3	2.5	13	38	0	2.8	2.9	1.1	0.3	1.0	100.0

* Total includes one Swainson's Hawk in October.

TUSCARORA SUMMIT (*Fulton*)
Dale Gearhart, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total
September	26	164.75	0	0	57	26	15	154	20	0	1	1135	21	0	3	15	2	8	24	1481
October	22	103.25	6	372	14	7	18	427	34	2	11	7	250	0	9	7	2	3	22	1191
November	14	70.25	12	85	1	4	18	31	2	2	5	0	175	1	17	3	3	3	9	371
Total	62	338	18	457	72	37	51	612	56	4	17	1,142	446	1	29	25	7	14	55	**3,043**
Total per hr.			0.1	1.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.8	0.2	0	0.1	3.4	1.3	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0.2	9.0
% of flight			0.6	15	2.4	1.2	1.7	20	1.8	0.1	0.6	38	15	0	1.0	0.8	0.2	0.5	1.8	100.0

WAGGONER'S GAP (*Cumberland*)
David Grove, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total
August	29	184	0	0	17	23	17	29	12	0	0	124	32	0	0	40	0	2	5	301
September	30	277.25	0	0	277	137	56	1020	124	1	6	3982	180	0	5	193	33	11	72	6097
October	25	238	65	1486	154	76	109	5691	854	32	147	16	2471	2	79	163	110	52	107	11614
November	30	246	20	317	2	40	142	271	63	58	102	1	2017	2	123	1	4	1	31	3195
December	29	170	10	11	0	27	8	9	1	12	12	0	238	8	35	0	0	0	4	375
Total	143	1,115	95	1,814	450	303	332	7,020	1,054	103	267	4,123	4,938	12	242	397	147	66	219	**21,582**
Total per hr.			0.1	1.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	6.3	0.9	0.1	0.2	3.7	4.4	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	19.4
% of flight			0.4	8.4	2.1	1.4	1.5	33	4.9	0.5	1.2	19	23	0.1	1.1	1.8	0.7	0.3	1.0	100.0

TOTAL FOR ALL WATCHSITES 2005

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	Unid	Total*
August	137	824	42	130	116	89	64	108	36	0	153	479	128	0	29	86	5	6	356	1,503
September	328	2,558	121	634	1,749	527	910	4,025	614	18	5,167	35,993	965	1	158	861	150	160	7,077	52,453
October	309	2,057	884	3,708	787	336	4,254	17,764	2,664	322	853	2,630	10,722	59	557	959	416	252	9,068	47,904
November	241	1,631	665	1,227	35	215	597	1,021	262	274	413	1,797	6,660	71	485	30	39	27	2,838	14,023
December	93	473	76	52	18	50	12	30	17	32	22	160	394	22	54	2	1	4	259	958
Total	1,108	7,542	1,788	5,751	2,705	1,217	5,837	22,948	3,593	646	6,608	41,059	18,869	153	1,283	1,938	611	449	19,598	**116,841**
Total per hr.			0.2	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.8	3.0	0.5	0.1	0.9	5.4	2.5	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	2.6	15.5
% of flight			1.5	4.9	2.3	1.0	5.0	20	3.1	0.6	5.7	35	16	0.1	1.1	1.7	0.5	0.4	17	100.0
% change from 2004**			16	-14	-25	1	81	19	15	52	82	-3	-4	51	38	17	36	45	4	12

*Total includes 2 Swainson's Hawks
**Total birds per hour in 2005 vs. total birds per hour in 2004.

Pennsylvania Bird Lists For 2005

Compiled by Peter Robinson

As usual, some rarities were found in the state that stayed long enough to become additions to state and county life lists. They included the Franklin County Varied Thrush found in December 2004 that stayed until 4/2/05, the Varied Thrush in Lancaster County from 2/1 to 2/6, and the Townsend's Solitaire in McKean County 1/15 to 4/2. A Harris's Sparrow returned to Northampton County 1/18 and stayed until at least 2/19, followed by a second Harris's Sparrow in McKean County for a few days in May, and a third one seen in Juniata County 12/1 through the end of the year. Then there was the amazing record of the Redwing at Peace Valley, Bucks County – it was seen only on 2/5, but about 50 birders got there in time to see it. There was a California Gull at Lancaster County's Conejohela Flats 5/14 that was seen by at least 11 birders. Then there was the Seaside Sparrow in Dauphin County that a few birders got to see 5/25, and the 7/24 Sooty Tern at Conejohela Flats in Lancaster County that 5 people saw. A Western Kingbird found7/28 in Indiana County was seen again 7/29 & 7/30 – followed by another in Northampton County 10/30 to 11/6. There was a report 8/6 of Eurasian Collard-Doves in Chester County, and as many as three were seen until at least 8/13. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher found 8/18 in Franklin County stayed for a while, until at least 8/27. Several birders got to see a Pacific Loon at Lake Ontelaunee, Berks County, 11/25-27. A White-winged Dove was seen at a private home's feeder by some of the Bucks County area birders from 12/9 to 12/20.

There are 63 birders now whose Pennsylvania life lists are 300 or more, an increase of one from the end of 2004. Fourteen birders now have PA life lists of 350 species or more, an increase of four. There are still seven birders above the 300 mark in the PA Life List-Unassisted category -- species found by the individual, or by another person with whom they were birding at the same spot at the same time, but not including "chase" birds.

There are 12 County Life Lists of 300 or greater -- 2 for Bucks, 2 for Erie, and 8 for Lancaster County, with no additions during 2005. There were five lead changes among the County Life Lists. Geoff Malosh now has the high County Life List for Beaver County; John Fedak has the high for Clearfield, Elk and Forest Counties; Dick Byers has taken the lead in Westmoreland County. There were new high County Annual Lists for 8 of the 67 counties: Geoff Malosh's 233 species for Allegheny, Mark Vass's 202 for Beaver, Carol Hildebrand's 157 for Clinton, Deuane Hoffman's 251 for Dauphin and 158 for Lycoming, Greg Grove's 164 for Mifflin, Deuane Hoffman's 227 for Northumberland, and Tom Clauser's 225 for Schuylkill. There are two counties for which the highest annual list was accomplished back in the last century, in the 1960's – John Miller's 241 for Delaware in 1969, and his 225 for Philadelphia in 1965 (40 years ago).

This year's new "Total Ticks" category is the grand total of all species seen in all of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. If a person sees a Blue Jay in all counties, they would have 67 "total ticks". Total Ticks is simply the total of all of your county life lists. Perhaps this category will encourage some birders to venture out into different counties more often.

Pennsylvania Life Lists

1	374	Deuane Hoffman	05
2	371	Jason Horn	02
3	363	Barbara Haas	01
3	363	Dave DeReamus	05
5	360	Franklin Haas	01
5	360	Eric Witmer	05
7	358	Devich Farbotnik	04
8	356	Steve Farbotnik	04
8	356	Tom Garner	04
10	353	Robert Schutsky	05
11	351	John Fedak	05
11	351	Ken Lebo	05
11	351	Bernard Morris	05
11	351	Peter Robinson	05
15	350	Randy C. Miller	03
16	347	Arlene Koch	05
17	346	Jerry Book	00
17	346	Joyce Hoffmann	04
19	344	Al Guarente	05
20	343	Rick Wiltraut	98
21	341	Nick Pulcinella	05
22	339	Jonathan Heller	03
23	338	Jan Witmer	97
23	338	Richard Colyer	00
23	338	Harold Lebo	02
26	337	John Miller	97
27	336	William Stocku	97
28	332	William Murphy	00
29	329	Paul Schwalbe	98
29	329	Fritz Brock	03
29	329	Jerry McWilliams	04
32	327	Glenna Schwalbe	98
32	327	Steve Santner	99
34	325	Mike Fialkovich	05
35	324	Harry Franzen	96
36	321	Margaret Higbee	04
36	321	Bruce Carl	05
38	319	John Ginaven	98
39	318	Phillips Street	99
39	318	Geoff Malosh	05
41	316	Ronald Leberman	01
41	316	Richard Timm	05
43	315	Evelyn Kopf	95
43	315	Michael Schall	05
45	314	Walter Shaffer	99
46	313	Harold Morrin	96
47	311	Dana Shaffer	99
47	311	Don Henise	00
47	311	Tom Clauser	05
50	309	Matt Wlasniewski	05
51	308	Robyn Henise	00
52	307	Ernest Schiefer	00
52	307	Skip Conant	02
52	307	David Kyler	05
55	306	Ronald Leberman	03
56	305	Gene Wilhelm	92
57	304	John Salvetti	05
57	304	Mark Vass	05
59	302	Sam Stull	85
59	302	Edward Pederson	98
59	302	Rick Koval	04
62	301	Bill Etter	05
63	300	Larry Lewis	88
64	299	Keith Richards	82
65	298	Roger Higbee	99
65	298	George Malosh	03
67	297	Allan Keith	98
68	296	Ed Kwater	96
68	296	Mark McConaughy	03
70	295	Frank Windfelder	98
70	295	J. Kenneth Gabler	02
72	294	James Baxter	86
72	294	Terence Schiefer	99
72	294	William Reid	01
75	293	John Peplinski	94
76	292	Allen Schweinsberg	02
76	292	Dave Rieger	03
78	290	David Abbott	98
78	290	Chuck Tague	99
78	290	Chuck Chalfant	05
81	289	Kevin Crilley	98
81	289	Aden Troyer	05
83	288	Greg Grove	05
84	286	Wayne Laubscher	05
85	285	Armas Hill	96
85	285	Neal Thorpe	97
85	285	Thomas Reeves	03
85	285	Carl Garner	05
89	284	James Gray	83
90	283	Kerry Grim	98
90	283	Trudy Kyler	05
92	282	John Billings	98
92	282	Dick Byers	02
94	278	James Baird	81
94	278	Merrill Wood	91
96	277	Bonnie Baird	81
97	274	Gloria Lamar	92
98	273	Katrina Knight	99
98	273	Randi Gerrish	03
100	272	Scott Kinzey	99
100	272	Bob Machesney	05
102	271	James Flynn	97
102	271	Sarah Gerrish	03
102	271	Deborah Grove	05
105	270	Gary Edwards	03
106	269	Jim Dunn	05
107	268	David Hawk	05
107	268	Sam Sinderson	05
109	267	Harry Henderson	91
109	267	Scott Bills	03
111	266	Joe Meloney	94
112	265	Neil Troyer	04
113	262	Theodore Drozdowski	05
114	260	Dennis Miller	99
115	259	Linda McWilliams	92
115	259	Eugene Zielinski	00
115	259	Ross Gallardy	04
118	258	Steve Graff	00
118	258	Jeffrey Wentz	02
118	258	Marjorie Howard	05
121	257	Russell Ryan	93
122	256	Ted Grisez	96
122	256	Chuck Berthoud	05
124	255	Jeff Payne	03
125	253	Scott Bastian	99
125	253	Retta Payne	04
127	250	Stanley Glowacki	02
128	247	Nick Kerlin	05
129	245	Bill Reddinger	99
129	245	Robert Frantz	00
131	244	Harvey Troyer	99
132	242	Walter Fye	97
132	242	Jerry Troyer	99
132	242	Marvin Byler	05
132	242	Thomas Ford-Hutch.	05
132	242	Carol Hildebrand	05
137	240	Dale Gearhart	00
137	240	Gerry Boltz	05
139	239	Adam Miller	00
140	238	Roy Ickes	99
141	235	Glenn Czulada	05
142	233	Martin Page	04
143	232	Joe Strasser	94
143	232	Voni Strasser	94
145	231	Larry Brown	98
145	231	Jim Mountjoy	00
145	231	Jerry Skinner	05
148	226	Eli Troyer	99
148	226	Stan Kotala	01
148	226	Leonard Hess	03
151	225	Anthony Ford-Hutch.	05
152	224	Arlene Brown	98
153	223	Pamela Woodman	93
154	222	Linda Hess	03
155	220	Jon Dunn	04
156	219	Ann Pettigrew	96
156	219	Daniel Snell	00
156	219	Mike Ward	03
159	217	Chad Kauffman	05
160	213	Richard Murphy	99
160	213	Grant Stevenson	05
162	210	Gregg Gorton	01
163	206	Benjamin Israel	00
163	206	Dennis Weaver	00
165	205	Jeff Michaels	05
166	200	Fred Crowley	95
167	199	Candy Krenzer	99
168	190	Lewis Grove	00
168	190	Bill Keim	05
170	180	Thomas Mason	99
171	178	Helena Kotala	03
172	153	Douglas Anderson	03

PA Life Lists – Unassisted

("Chase" birds not included)

1	321	Jason Horn	02
2	320	John Fedak	05
2	320	Deuane Hoffman	05
4	319	Robert Schutsky	05

5	314	Jerry McWilliams	04
6	306	Eric Witmer	04
7	305	Ronald Leberman	03
8	299	Devich Farbotnik	04
9	293	Jonathan Heller	03
10	292	Peter Robinson	04
11	289	Franklin Haas	00
12	284	Geoff Malosh	05
13	282	Nick Pulcinella	05
14	278	Ken Lebo	05
15	276	Al Guarente	05
16	275	Skip Conant	01
17	273	Don Henise	00
18	268	Michael Schall	05
19	267	Chuck Chalfant	05
20	265	Bill Etter	05
21	264	David Hawk	04
22	263	Steve Farbotnik	00
23	261	Mark Vass	05
24	255	Dave DeReamus	04
25	254	Jeff Payne	04
26	253	Neil Troyer	04
27	250	Retta Payne	04
28	248	Mark McConaughy	03
28	248	Greg Grove	04
30	233	Ross Gallardy	03
31	226	Stan Kotala	01
31	226	Leonard Hess	03
33	222	Linda Hess	03
34	216	Thomas Ford-Hutch.	05
35	212	Jim Mountjoy	00
35	212	Anthony Ford-Hutch.	05
35	212	Grant Stevenson	05
38	207	Gregg Gorton	01
39	206	Benjamin Israel	00
39	206	Martin Page	04
41	205	Dennis Weaver	00
42	186	John Salvetti	03
43	153	Douglas Anderson	03
44	110	Helena Kotala	01

PA Annual Lists 2005

297	Deuane Hoffman
282	John Fedak
279	Tom Johnson
269	Geoff Malosh
254	Chuck Chalfant
252	Mike Fialkovich
252	Mark Vass
237	Michael Schall
229	Tom Clauser
228	Bill Etter
226	Theodore Drozdowski
219	Al Guarente
212	Matt Wlasniewski
208	Peter Robinson
199	Bob Machesney
193	Carl Garner
190	Chad Kauffman
186	Marvin Byler
181	David Hawk
180	Marjorie Howard
177	Jeff Michaels
175	Bill Keim
174	Carol Hildebrand
160	Dave DeReamus
139	Sam Sinderson

PA Annual List > Personal Best

313	Deuane Hoffman	1998
306	Robert Schutsky	1992
297	Jason Horn	2000
295	Devich Farbotnik	2002
294	John Fedak	1998
290	Joyce Hoffmann	2002
288	Barbara Haas	1986
288	Franklin Haas	1986
284	Peter Robinson	2002
283	Geoff Malosh	2004
279	Tom Johnson	2005
278	Sam Stull	1979
278	Gene Wilhelm	1983
272	Randy C. Miller	1992
268	Terence Schiefer	1985
267	Jonathan Heller	1992
267	Michael Schall	2002
263	Jerry McWilliams	1983
262	Ken Lebo	1995
262	Walt Shaffer	1999
260	Dana Shaffer	1999
260	Mark Vass	2004
259	Mike Fialkovich	1998
258	Steve Santner	1992
254	Chuck Chalfant	2005
248	Dave Rieger	2001
239	Bill Etter	2001
239	Rick Koval	2002
231	Dave DeReamus	1990
230	Gary Edwards	2000
229	Mark McConaughy	1998
228	Greg Grove	2004
226	Theodore Drozdowski	2005
225	John Salvetti	1996
224	Ross Gallardy	2004
222	Matt Wlasniewski	1995
220	Al Guarente	1998
210	Carl Garner	1997
209	Neil Troyer	1999
208	Sam Sinderson	1974
208	Gerry Boltz	2003
204	Aden Troyer	1998
204	David Hawk	2002
204	Marvin Byler	2004
200	Scott Bills	1996
192	Marjorie Howard	2004
190	Chad Kauffman	2005
186	John Salvetti	1999
177	Jeff Michaels	2005
175	Bill Keim	2005
170	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
174	Carol Hildebrand	2005
161	Martin Page	2004

Total Ticks
(Total Of All County Life Lists)

13,476	Deuane Hoffman	2005
10,028	John Fedak	2005
2,887	Al Guarente	2005
2,827	Nick Pulcinella	2005
2,735	Greg Grove	2005
2,660	Deborah Grove	2005
2,377	Geoff Malosh	2005
1,998	Jim Dunn	2005
1,732	Sam Sinderson	2005
631	Bill Keim	2005

County Life Lists
(100 Or More)

ADAMS

213	Arthur Kennel	1995
209	Deuane Hoffman	2005
206	Carl Garner	2005
193	Nonie Kennell	1995
182	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
150	Steve Santner	1995
144	Russell Ryan	1993
124	Jeffrey Wentz	2002
108	John Fedak	1998
104	Don Henise	2000

ALLEGHENY

255	Joyce Hoffmann	2004
252	Geoff Malosh	2005
251	Mike Fialkovich	2005
236	Mark Vass	2005
219	Bob Machesney	2005
208	Ed Kwater	1996
203	Sam Sinderson	2005
190	Deuane Hoffman	2004
188	Scott Kinzey	1999
185	Randi Gerrish	2003
176	Dave Rieger	2003
173	Sarah Gerrish	2003
168	George Malosh	1989
141	Greg Malosh	1991
140	Margaret Higbee	1993
139	John Fedak	2001
138	Roger Higbee	1993
133	Ross Gallardy	2004
122	Dick Byers	1999
102	Steve Santner	1995

ARMSTRONG

239	John Fedak	2000
230	Margaret Higbee	2004
211	Roger Higbee	1999
188	Scott Bastian	1997
185	Steve Graff	2000
181	Deuane Hoffman	2000
175	Bill Reddinger	1999
148	Mark McConaughy	2004
100	Steve Santner	1995

BEAVER

218	Geoff Malosh	2005
206	Mark Vass	2005
199	Bill Hintze	2000
171	Deuane Hoffman	1999
168	Nick Kerlin	1996
152	George Malosh	1998
138	Scott Kinzey	1998
124	John Cruzan	1994
113	John Fedak	1998
112	Greg Malosh	1991
108	John Snarey	1997
102	Steve Santner	1995

BEDFORD

219	Deuane Hoffman	2004
214	Ross Gallardy	2004
152	John Fedak	2000
133	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
122	Steve Santner	1995
121	Richard Murphy	1999
114	Deb Grove	2005
111	Dick Byers	2003
108	Greg Grove	2004
102	Randi Gerrish	1999
102	Sarah Gerrish	1999

BERKS

296	Ken Lebo	2005
287	Jason Horn	2002
286	Harold Lebo	2002
283	Matt Wlasniewski	2005
275	Kerry Grim	1998
272	Deuane Hoffman	2004
253	Ernest Schiefer	1999
253	Tom Clauser	2005
221	Bernard Morris	2005
207	Barbara Haas	1999
206	Terence Schiefer	2003
192	Larry Lewis	1988
179	Al Guarente	2004
174	Steve Santner	1995
170	Randy C. Miller	2002
166	Nick Pulcinella	2004
162	Jonathan Heller	2001
151	Bruce Carl	2005
149	Kevin Crilley	1998
145	Steve Farbotnik	2001
139	Scott Bills	1992
135	John Fedak	1999

BLAIR

221	Stan Kotala	2001
180	David Kyler	1996
160	Deuane Hoffman	2000
123	Helena Kotala	2002
104	John Fedak	1998
103	Steve Santner	1995
103	Deb Grove	2005
102	Greg Grove	2003

BRADFORD

230	William Reid	2001
194	Ronald Young	1993
168	Frances Biles	1985
150	Randy C. Miller	2002
150	Deuane Hoffman	2003
133	J. Kenneth Gabler	2003
129	Rick Koval	2004
111	John Fedak	2002
105	Barbara Haas	1993
102	Steve Santner	1995

BUCKS

313	Steve Farbotnik	2004
309	Devich Farbotnik	2004
290	Jason Horn	2002
288	Bill Etter	2005
254	Deuane Hoffman	2004
251	William Murphy	2000
228	Stanley Glowacki	2002
227	Thomas Ford-Hutch.	2005
215	Harry Franzen	1996
214	Anthony Ford-Hutch.	2005
202	Stan Glowacki	1991
178	Bernard Morris	2005
176	Bill Keim	2005
157	Kevin Crilley	1998
151	John Fedak	2005
151	Al Guarente	2005
148	Nick Pulcinella	2004
146	Michael Schall	2004
129	Barbara Haas	2000
121	Steve Santner	1995
111	Thomas Mason	1999
105	Jonathan Heller	2002
103	Rick Koval	2004

BUTLER

267	Gene Wilhelm	1992
203	Margaret Higbee	2004
202	Deuane Hoffman	2000
199	Dick Byers	2005
191	Bob Machesney	2005
169	John Fedak	2000
166	Ed Kwater	1996
165	George Malosh	1989
155	Randi Gerrish	2003
150	Geoff Malosh	2004
146	Sarah Gerrish	2003
144	Sam Sinderson	2002
119	Greg Malosh	1991
119	Roger Higbee	1993
100	Steve Santner	1995

CAMBRIA

227	John Salvetti	2005
177	Deuane Hoffman	2003
161	Gloria Lamer	1992
158	Ross Gallardy	2003
131	John Fedak	1998
103	Steve Santner	1995

CAMERON

151	Deuane Hoffman	2000
128	John Fedak	2005
105	Steve Santner	1995

CARBON

252	David Hawk	2005
245	Rick Wiltraut	1998
227	Jason Horn	2002
206	Bernard Morris	1998
205	Deuane Hoffman	1999
202	Robert Frantz	2000
201	Michael Schall	2005
158	Nick Kerlin	2003
128	John Fedak	2005
115	Steve Santner	1995
104	Rick Koval	2004
102	Al Guarente	2002

CENTRE

272	Merrill Wood	1991
263	Harry Henderson	1991
249	Jim Dunn	2005
245	Rick Wiltraut	1998
244	Terence Schiefer	1998
242	Deuane Hoffman	2005
239	Greg Grove	2005
232	Eugene Zielinski	2000
218	Scott Bills	1992
203	Jeff Michaels	2005
194	Deb Grove	2005
184	Paul Schwalbe	1998
184	John Fedak	2005
162	Russ Ruffing	1991
150	Nick Kerlin	2004
145	Steve Santner	1995
145	Kevin Crilley	1998
127	Barbara Haas	1999
125	Jonathan Heller	2003
111	Randy C. Miller	1998

CHESTER

268	Larry Lewis	1988
258	Nick Pulcinella	2005
252	Barbara Haas	1996
252	Phillips Street	1996
246	John Ginaven	1998
242	Deuane Hoffman	2004
240	Chuck Chalfant	2005
235	Ted Drozdowski	2005
233	Al Guarente	2005
231	Joe Meloney	1994
209	Jason Horn	2002
195	Martin Page	2004
193	Neal Thorpe	1995
167	Steve Santner	1995
150	Thomas Reeves	2003
130	Bruce Carl	2005
126	Jonathan Heller	2002
120	Randy C. Miller	1998
120	Bill Keim	2005
115	John Fedak	2004
111	Terence Schiefer	1998

CLARION

255	John Fedak	2001
229	Walter Fye	1997
210	Deuane Hoffman	2004
200	Margaret Buckwalter	1996
181	Gene Wilhelm	1992
163	Bill Reddinger	1999
152	Mark McConaughy	2003
150	Fred Crowley	1995
104	Steve Santner	1995

CLEARFIELD

186	John Fedak	2005
179	Deuane Hoffman	2004
154	Eugene Zielinski	2000

114	Paul Schwalbe	1998
100	Steve Santner	1995

CLINTON

248	Paul Schwalbe	2004
200	Wayne Laubscher	2005
189	Deuane Hoffman	2004
179	Carol Hildebrand	2005
138	Greg Grove	2005
130	John Fedak	2000
120	Steve Santner	1995
115	Deborah Grove	2005
101	Barbara Haas	1994

COLUMBIA

178	Deuane Hoffman	2004
133	John Fedak	2005
115	Richard Koval	1999
104	Rick Koval	2004
100	Steve Santner	1995

CRAWFORD

285	Ronald Leberman	2003
244	Deuane Hoffman	2004
224	Margaret Higbee	2004
219	Marvin Byler	2005
218	John Fedak	2005
211	Sam Sinderson	2002
209	Geoff Malosh	2005
208	Roger Higbee	1999
201	Gene Wilhelm	1992
164	Ed Kwater	1996
150	Greg Malosh	1991
146	Randi Garrish	2003
146	Sarah Garrish	2003
124	George Malosh	1989
123	James Flynn	1997
117	Randy C. Miller	1998
116	Dick Byers	2003
112	Steve Santner	1995
107	Jonathan Heller	1998
103	Don Henise	2000
102	Terence Schiefer	1998
100	Bill Reddinger	1999

CUMBERLAND

272	Deuane Hoffman	2004
261	Don Henise	2000
259	Robyn Henise	2000
247	Richard Colyer	1999
199	Carl Garner	2004
197	Steve Santner	1995
176	George Wertz, Jr.	1986
170	Mark McConaughy	2002
165	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
154	John Fedak	1998
125	Jonathan Heller	2001
121	Randy C. Miller	2002

DAUPHIN

281	Deuane Hoffman	2005
243	Scott Bills	2003
238	Mark McConaughy	1998
235	Grace Randolph	1996
234	George Wertz, Jr.	1986
219	Steve Santner	1995
211	Richard Colyer	1999
202	Chuck Berthoud	2005
175	Don Henise	2000
156	John Fedak	2002
140	Jonathan Heller	2003
139	Randy C. Miller	2003
128	William Reid	2001
127	Merrill Wood	1991
124	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002

DELAWARE

289	John Miller	1985
270	Al Guarente	2004
270	Nick Pulcinella	2004
256	Barbara Haas	2000
254	Skip Conant	2000
249	Thomas Reeves	2003
226	Paul Schwalbe	1998
224	John Ginaven	1999
209	Deuane Hoffman	1999
151	Jason Horn	1995
133	Martin Page	2004
130	Steve Santner	1995
119	John Fedak	2001

ELK

188	John Fedak	2005
183	Linda Christenson	1997
165	Deuane Hoffman	2005
105	Steve Santner	1995

ERIE

317	Jerry McWilliams	2004
305	Donald Snyder	2002
291	Sam Stull	1985
291	Joyce Hoffmann	2002
289	Deuane Hoffman	2001
277	John Fedak	2005
274	Ed Kwater	1996
271	Geoff Malosh	2005
268	James Flynn	1997
264	Mike Fialkovich	2005
263	Ronald Leberman	2001
257	Jason Horn	2002
253	Linda McWilliams	1992
253	Margaret Higbee	2004
249	Barbara Haas	1996
237	Roger Higbee	1999
236	George Malosh	1989
235	Sam Sinderson	2005
233	Gene Wilhelm	1992
231	Dave Rieger	2003
224	Randy C. Miller	2002
223	Bob Machesney	2003
221	Richard Colyer	2000
217	Greg Malosh	1991
208	Steve Santner	1995
204	Jonathan Heller	2002
197	Terence Schiefer	1998
180	Don Henise	2000
180	Randi Gerrish	2003
179	Sarah Gerrish	2003
178	Bernard Morris	1998
168	Marjorie Howard	2005
148	Greg Grove	2005
146	J. Kenneth Gabler	1999
144	Steve Graff	2000
139	Rick Koval	2004
110	Bill Reddinger	1999
100	Ross Gallardy	2004

FAYETTE

170	Mark McConaughy	2004
153	Deuane Hoffman	2000
126	John Fedak	2005
125	Randi Gerrish	2003
120	Sarah Gerrish	2003
119	Steve Santner	1995
111	Ed Kwater	1996

FOREST

188	John Fedak	2005
181	Deuane Hoffman	2005
141	Ted Grisez	1996
108	Steve Santner	1995

FRANKLIN

269	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
265	Carl Garner	2005
215	Dale Gearhart	2000
213	Jeffrey Walck	1989
209	Deuane Hoffman	2005
141	Don Henise	1997
130	Steve Santner	1995
114	John Fedak	1998

FULTON

205	J. Kenneth Gabler	2000
200	Daniel Snell	2000
194	Daniel Snell	1997
188	Deuane Hoffman	2004
152	Jeffrey Walck	1989
119	Steve Santner	1995
118	Robert Walker	1989
115	Dale Gearhart	2000
113	Carl Garner	2005
108	John Fedak	2001

GREENE

194	Ralph Bell	1993
183	Marjorie Howard	2005
162	Deuane Hoffman	2001
134	Roy Ickes	1996
109	Steve Santner	1995
109	John Fedak	2001
103	Sam Sinderson	2000
101	Mark McConaughy	2003

HUNTINGDON

244	David Kyler	2004
240	Greg Grove	2004
232	Trudy Kyler	2005
226	Deb Grove	2004
197	Jim Dunn	2005
191	Deuane Hoffman	2003
181	Merrill Wood	1991
178	John Salvetti	2003
171	Lewis Grove	2000
155	Eugene Zielinski	1998
122	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
106	John Fedak	1998
104	Steve Santner	1995

INDIANA

275	Margaret Higbee	2004
245	Roger Higbee	1999
233	Gloria Lamer	1992
232	Steve Graff	2000
203	Deuane Hoffman	2004
195	Anne Hedgpeth	1986
193	Leonard Hess	2003
185	Linda Hess	2003
184	John Fedak	2001
177	Mark McConaughy	2004
173	Randi Gerrish	2003
173	Sarah Gerrish	2003
137	Ross Gallardy	2003
118	Steve Santner	1995
104	Bill Reddinger	1999

JEFFERSON

225	John Fedak	2000
172	Deuane Hoffman	1998
105	Bill Reddinger	1999
104	Steve Santner	1995

JUNIATA

241	Aden Troyer	2005
232	Deuane Hoffman	2005
166	Chad Kauffman	2005
129	John Fedak	2002
118	Jonathan Heller	2002
109	Greg Grove	2005
108	Steve Santner	1995
105	Deb Grove	2004

LACKAWANNA

199	Glenn Czulada	2005
172	Deuane Hoffman	2003
169	Rick Koval	2004
158	William Reid	2001
136	John Fedak	2002
103	Steve Santner	1995

LANCASTER

321	Randy C. Miller	2003
321	Eric Witmer	2005
319	Tom Garner	2004
315	Deuane Hoffman	2005
314	Robert Schutsky	2005
306	Jerry Book	2000
305	Bruce Carl	2005
304	Jonathan Heller	2003
294	Barbara Haas	2000
292	Jan Witmer	1997
291	Harold Morrin	1996
288	Jason Horn	2002
277	Chuck Chalfant	2005
274	Steve Santner	1995
240	Larry Lewis	1988
229	Al Guarente	2004
226	Nick Pulcinella	2004
224	Richard Colyer	2000
212	Jim Mountjoy	2000
209	Ernest Schiefer	2000
201	George Wertz, Jr.	1986
198	Pamela Woodman	1993
196	Dennis Weaver	2000
185	Terence Schiefer	1998
184	Don Henise	1997
166	John Fedak	1998
161	Geoff Malosh	2005
160	Kevin Crilley	1998
157	Matt Wlasniewski	2005
150	Ted Drozdowski	2005
148	Jeffrey Wentz	2002
147	Douglas Anderson	2003
146	Steve Farbotnik	2001
145	Bernard Morris	2000
132	J. Kenneth Gabler	2001
129	Mark McConaughy	2001
119	Martin Page	2004
118	Margaret Higbee	1993
108	Roger Higbee	1993

LAWRENCE

210	Gene Wilhelm	1992
182	Margaret Higbee	2004
158	John Fedak	2000
157	Deuane Hoffman	2004
151	Geoff Malosh	2005
102	Steve Santner	1995

LEBANON

273	Randy C. Miller	2002
251	Deuane Hoffman	2005
236	Steve Santner	1995
218	Jonathan Heller	2003
208	Stephen Mallanson	1996
204	Bruce Carl	2003
202	Bruce Weaver	2000
190	Gerry Boltz	2005
189	John Fedak	2005
181	Jason Horn	1995
168	Chuck Berthoud	2005
152	George Wertz, Jr.	1986
130	Don Henise	1997
122	Barbara Haas	1996

LEHIGH

271	Jason Horn	2002
267	Bernard Morris	2005
266	Fritz Brock	2003
260	Rick Wiltraut	1998
202	Deuane Hoffman	2004
167	Michael Schall	2004
136	Robert Frantz	2000
132	John Fedak	2005
103	Steve Santner	1995
100	Al Guarente	2005

LUZERNE

280	William Reid	2001
265	Rick Koval	2004
216	Mark Blauer	1985
212	John Fedak	2005
194	Deuane Hoffman	1999
149	Kevin Crilley	1998
121	Glenn Czulada	2003
115	Bernard Morris	1998
104	Steve Santner	1995

LYCOMING

230	Paul Schwalbe	1998
216	Deuane Hoffman	2005
124	Steve Santner	1995
119	John Fedak	1999
116	Carol Hildebrand	2005
103	Don Henise	2000
101	Deb Grove	2004
100	Greg Grove	2004

McKEAN

265	John Fedak	2005
155	Deuane Hoffman	2005
117	Steve Graff	2000
103	Steve Santner	1995
103	Ted Grisez	1996

MERCER

246	Neil Troyer	2004
232	Harvey Troyer	1999
231	Jerry Troyer	1999
216	Eli Troyer	1999
213	Deuane Hoffman	1998
211	Gene Wilhelm	1992
203	Margaret Higbee	2004
191	John Fedak	2000
190	Neal Troyer	1998
166	Marvin Byler	2002
166	Geoff Malosh	2005
124	Steve Santner	1995
102	Randi Garrish	1999

MIFFLIN

204	Deuane Hoffman	2005
196	Greg Grove	2005
130	Deb Grove	2005
114	Jim Dunn	2005
113	John Fedak	1998
108	Steve Santner	1995

MONROE

222	Phillips Street	1996
176	Jason Horn	1995
167	Michael Schall	2004
162	Deuane Hoffman	2003
130	Bernard Morris	2003
111	John Fedak	2001
110	Steve Santner	1995
101	Rick Koval	2004

MONTGOMERY

275	Jason Horn	2002
260	William Murphy	1999
255	Kevin Crilley	1998
241	Harry Franzen	1996
234	Deuane Hoffman	2004
230	Bernard Morris	2005
223	Neal Thorpe	1997
185	Michael Schall	2004
184	Steve Farbotnik	2001
170	John Fedak	2005
144	Al Guarente	2002
141	Gregg Gorton	2001
137	Steve Santner	1995
129	Thomas Mason	1999
129	Nick Pulcinella	2004
118	Thomas Reeves	2004
107	Robert Walker	1989
105	Rick Koval	2004

102	Martin Page	2004
100	Barbara Haas	1996

MONTOUR

233	Deuane Hoffman	2004
218	Allen Schweinsberg	2004
212	Barbara Haas	1996
140	John Fedak	1999
119	Steve Santner	1995
104	Kevin Crilley	1998

NORTHAMPTON

286	Arlene Koch	2005
273	Dave DeReamus	2005
269	Rick Wiltraut	1998
269	Michael Schall	2005
248	Jason Horn	2002
235	Bernard Morris	2005
229	Steve Boyce	1990
227	Deuane Hoffman	2005
220	Brad Silfies	1990
220	Dennis Miller	1998
219	Adam Miller	2000
130	John Fedak	2005
117	Steve Farbotnik	2003
106	Steve Santner	1995
102	Randy C. Miller	2002

NORTHUMBERLAND

241	Deuane Hoffman	2004
220	Allen Schweinsberg	2004
166	Barbara Haas	1993
138	John Fedak	1999
112	Steve Santner	1995

PERRY

241	Deuane Hoffman	2004
235	Richard Colyer	2000
159	Don Henise	2000
157	Steve Santner	1995
141	Walter Shelly, Jr.	1992
139	Dallas Dowhower	1992
126	John Fedak	1998
120	Randy C. Miller	2003
119	Mark McConaughy	2001
117	Jonathan Heller	2001

PHILADELPHIA

290	John Miller	1985
245	Frank Windfelder	1992
245	Al Guarente	2005
243	Harry Franzen	1996
241	Barbara Haas	1996
235	Nick Pulcinella	2005
230	Skip Conant	2001
219	John Ginaven	1998
214	Thomas Reeves	2004
208	Deuane Hoffman	1999
184	Jim McKinney	1992
167	Jason Horn	1995
167	Gregg Gorton	2001
163	Stephen Lawrence	1990
155	Steve Farbotnik	2001
154	Steve Santner	1995
129	Thomas Mason	1999
120	Terence Schiefer	1998
113	John Fedak	1998
107	Kevin Crilley	1998
101	Randy C. Miller	1998

PIKE

201	Joe Strasser	1994
201	Voni Strasser	1994
174	Deuane Hoffman	2003
144	Phillips Street	1996
138	John Fedak	2001
130	Michael Schall	2002
101	Steve Santner	1995
101	Barbara Haas	2001

POTTER

218	David Hauber	1999
186	Chuck Chalfant	2005
173	Deuane Hoffman	2004
171	John Fedak	2003
104	Steve Santner	1995
104	Paul Schwalbe	1998

SCHUYLKILL

266	Tom Clauser	2005
221	Deuane Hoffman	2004
208	Mike Ward	2003
177	Jason Horn	1995
164	Bruce Carl	2003
151	Dave Rieger	2003
151	Bernard Morris	2005
151	Matt Wlasniewski	2005
133	Steve Santner	1995
127	Barbara Haas	2000
113	John Fedak	1998
109	Randy C. Miller	2003
104	Al Guarente	2002

SNYDER

215	Deuane Hoffman	2004
199	Allen Schweinsberg	2002
132	Steve Santner	1995
108	John Fedak	1998

SOMERSET

247	Jeff Payne	2004
243	Retta Payne	2004
238	Scott Bastian	1999
185	Deuane Hoffman	2004
177	Richard Murphy	1998
170	Ross Gallardy	2003
149	John Fedak	2000
126	Steve Santner	1995
109	Mark McConaughy	2004
108	Randi Gerrish	1999
107	Sarah Gerrish	1999

SULLIVAN

172	Nick Kerlin	2000
163	Skip Conant	2002
161	Deuane Hoffman	2004
132	Thomas Reeves	2003
129	John Fedak	2005
115	Randy Miller	2002
104	Steve Santner	1995
102	Rick Koval	2004

SUSQUEHANNA

204	Jerry Skinner	2005
183	William Reid	2001
182	Jerry Skinner	1999
150	Deuane Hoffman	2000
133	John Fedak	2005
105	Steve Santner	1995
103	Rick Koval	2004

TIOGA

223	Larry Brown	1998
215	Arlene Brown	1998
205	Benjamin Israel	2000
187	Deuane Hoffman	2004
175	Bruce Carl	2003
153	John Fedak	2002
120	Steve Santner	1995

UNION

231	Allen Schweinsberg	2004
193	Deuane Hoffman	2005
132	Barbara Haas	1996
117	Steve Santner	1995
110	John Fedak	2001

VENANGO

249	Gary Edwards	2003
220	John Fedak	2005
207	Deuane Hoffman	2004
175	Gene Wilhelm	1992
153	Nick Kerlin	1997
103	Steve Santner	1995

WARREN

254	John Fedak	2005
227	Harris Johnson	1986
227	Ted Grisez	1996
153	Deuane Hoffman	2001
114	Steve Santner	1995

WASHINGTON

210	Margaret Higbee	1993
209	Roger Higbee	1993
197	Roy Ickes	1996
191	Geoff Malosh	2005
161	Russ Ruffing	1991
150	Deuane Hoffman	2003
141	George Malosh	1989
115	Sam Sinderson	2002
106	John Fedak	1998
101	Ross Gallardy	2004
100	Steve Santner	1995

WAYNE

221	Joe Strasser	1994
221	Voni Strasser	1994
162	Deuane Hoffman	1998
129	John Fedak	1998
126	William Reid	1999
102	Steve Santner	1995

WESTMORELAND

239	Dick Byers	2005
231	Mark McConaughy	2004
208	Linda Christenson	1996
200	Randi Gerrish	2003
193	Sarah Gerrish	2003
189	Margaret Higbee	2004
188	Linda Hess	2003
185	Leonard Hess	2003
166	Deuane Hoffman	2003
144	John Fedak	2001
137	Steve Santner	1995
133	Roger Higbee	1993
129	Richard Murphy	1999
123	Sam Sinderson	2005
120	James Flynn	1997

WYOMING

251	William Reid	2001
191	Rick Koval	2004
152	Deuane Hoffman	2000
143	Skip Conant	2000
118	John Fedak	2000
111	Steve Santner	1995
101	Thomas Reeves	2003

YORK

270	Deuane Hoffman	2005
242	Jeffrey Wentz	2002
229	Russell Ryan	1993
194	Steve Santner	1995
185	Ann Pettigrew	1996
172	George Wertz, Jr.	1986
167	Carl Garner	2004
166	Jeff Pheasant	1995
160	Jason Horn	1995
160	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
158	Jonathan Heller	2003
154	Don Henise	2000
153	Candy Krenzer	1999
150	Randy C. Miller	1998
138	Don Henise	1997
121	John Fedak	2004
111	Barbara Haas	1996

County Life Lists (Top 50)

1	321	Lancaster	Randy Miller	2003
1	321	Lancaster	Eric Witmer	2005
3	319	Lancaster	Tom Garner	2004
4	317	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	2004
5	315	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2005
6	314	Lancaster	Robert Schutsky	2005
7	313	Bucks	Steve Farbotnik	2004
8	309	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2004
9	306	Lancaster	Jerry Book	2000
10	305	Erie	Donald Snyder	2002
10	305	Lancaster	Bruce Carl	2005
12	304	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	2003
13	296	Berks	Ken Lebo	2005
14	294	Lancaster	Barbara Haas	2000
15	292	Lancaster	Jan Witmer	1997
16	291	Erie	Sam Stull	1985
16	291	Lancaster	Harold Morrin	1996
16	291	Erie	Joyce Hoffmann	2002
19	290	Philadelphia	John Miller	1985
19	290	Bucks	Jason Horn	2002
21	289	Delaware	John Miller	1985
21	289	Erie	Deuane Hoffman	2001
23	288	Lancaster	Jason Horn	2002
23	288	Bucks	Bill Etter	2005
25	287	Berks	Jason Horn	2002
26	286	Berks	Harold Lebo	2002
27	285	Crawford	Ronald Leberman	2003
28	284	Northampton	Arlene Koch	2004
29	281	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	2005
30	280	Luzerne	William Reid	2001
30	280	Berks	Matt Wlasniewski	2004
32	277	Lancaster	Chuck Chalfant	2005
33	275	Berks	Kerry Grim	1998
33	275	Montgomery	Jason Horn	2002
33	275	Erie	John Fedak	2004
33	275	Indiana	Margaret Higbee	2004
37	274	Lancaster	Steve Santner	1995
37	274	Erie	Ed Kwater	1996
39	273	Lebanon	Randy Miller	2002
39	273	Northampton	Dave DeReamus	2005
41	272	Centre	Merrill Wood	1991
41	272	Berks	Deuane Hoffman	2004
41	272	Cumberland	Deuane Hoffman	2004
44	271	Lehigh	Jason Horn	2002
44	271	Erie	Geoff Malosh	2005
46	270	Delaware	Al Guarente	2004
46	270	Delaware	Nick Pulcinella	2004
46	270	York	Deuane Hoffman	2005
49	269	Northampton	Rick Wiltraut	1998
49	269	Franklin	Kenneth Gabler	2002
49	269	Northampton	Michael Schall	2005
52	268	Chester	Larry Lewis	1988
52	268	Erie	James Flynn	1997

County Annual Lists (Top 10 of 100 Or More)

ADAMS

201	Arthur Kennell	1992
144	Deuane Hoffman	2001
140	Carl Garner	1991
137	Carl Garner	1998
126	Carl Garner	1999
109	Carl Garner	2005
105	Deuane Hoffman	1998
105	J. Kenneth Gabler	2000
101	J. Kenneth Gabler	2001

ALLEGHENY

233	Geoff Malosh	2005
227	Geoff Malosh	2004
221	Mark Vass	2005
210	Mark Vass	2004
190	Geoff Malosh	2003
167	Scott Kinzey	1998
164	Scott Kinzey	1999
163	Bob Machesney	1996
159	Bob Machesney	1997
149	Geoff Malosh	2002

ARMSTRONG

201	John Fedak	1997
177	Scott Bastian	1996
152	Margaret Higbee	1993
141	Steve Graff	2000
133	Bill Reddinger	1998
116	Bill Reddinger	1999
113	Mark McConaughy	1998

113	Mark McConaughy	2004
112	Deuane Hoffman	1998
110	Steve Graff	1998

BEAVER

202	Mark Vass	2005
186	Bill Hintze	1999
168	Geoff Malosh	2005
161	Bill Hintze	2000
124	John Cruzan	1994
117	Deuane Hoffman	1999
110	George Malosh	1974
109	Geoff Malosh	2003
105	George Malosh	1975
102	Geoff Malosh	2002

BEDFORD

223	Sally Dick	1997
221	Tom Dick	1997
155	Deuane Hoffman	1998

BERKS

252	Ken Lebo	1995
240	Ken Lebo	1999
236	Ken Lebo	1997
229	Ken Lebo	1996
219	Ken Lebo	1998
217	Matt Wlasniewski	2003
215	Matt Wlasniewski	1999
211	Ken Lebo	2005
210	Matt Wlasniewski	1998
210	Matt Wlasniewski	2001
210	Matt Wlasniewski	2005

BLAIR

143	Beryl Sternagle	1995
141	Beryl Sternagle	2000
126	Beryl Sternagle	1990
121	Beryl Sternagle	1989

BRADFORD

147	Ronald Young	1993
146	Ronald Young	1992
141	William Reid	1999
128	William Reid	2001
102	Deuane Hoffman	1996

BUCKS

276	Devich Farbotnik	2002
253	Devich Farbotnik	2001
248	Devich Farbotnik	2004
247	Devich Farbotnik	2000
245	Devich Farbotnik	2003
232	Bill Etter	2003
231	Bill Etter	2002
230	Bill Etter	2001
225	Bill Etter	2004
224	Steve Farbotnik	1992

BUTLER

245	Gene Wilhelm	1983
229	Gene Wilhelm	1985
225	Gene Wilhelm	1982
122	Deuane Hoffman	1998

CAMBRIA

177	John Salvetti	1992
175	John Salvetti	1997
174	John Salvetti	1995
171	John Salvetti	1999
165	John Salvetti	1998
161	John Salvetti	2002

CAMERON

119	Deuane Hoffman	1998

CARBON

204	David Hawk	2002
201	David Hawk	2003
192	Michael Schall	2005
187	David Hawk	2004
183	David Hawk	2000
182	David Hawk	1999
182	David Hawk	2001
181	David Hawk	2005
162	David Hawk	1996
155	David Hawk	1998
152	Robert Frantz	1999
145	Robert Frantz	1995
145	Robert Frantz	1998

CENTRE

224	Terence Schiefer	1985
221	Molly Heath	2003
214	Terence Schiefer	1986
211	Terence Schiefer	1984
201	Jim Dunn	2003
172	Jeff Michaels	2005
170	Deuane Hoffman	1998
158	Nick Kerlin	2005
137	Nick Kerlin	2004

CHESTER

225	Larry Lewis	1988
221	Larry Lewis	1983
219	Larry Lewis	1986
200	Theodore Drozdowski	2005
197	Nick Pulcinella	2004
192	Nick Pulcinella	2005
188	Theodore Drozdowski	2002
174	Theodore Drozdowski	2001
173	Nick Pulcinella	2003
170	Theodore Drozdowski	2004
163	Theodore Drozdowski	2003

CLARION

231	John Fedak	1998
223	John Fedak	2000
219	John Fedak	1996
213	John Fedak	1997
208	John Fedak	1999
188	John Fedak	2001
152	Deuane Hoffman	1998
119	Mark McConaughy	1999
115	Bill Reddinger	1999

CLEARFIELD

155	John Fedak	1997
102	Deuane Hoffman	1997

CLINTON

157	Carol Hildebrand	2005
143	Carol Hildebrand	2004
133	Deuane Hoffman	2005
125	Greg Grove	2005
117	Deuane Hoffman	2000
115	Deuane Hoffman	1999

COLUMBIA

117	Deuane Hoffman	1997
112	John Fedak	1997
111	Deuane Hoffman	1998

CRAWFORD

208	Ronald Leberman	1994
202	Ronald Leberman	1989
201	Gene Wilhelm	1992
196	Ronald Leberman	2000
188	Ronald Leberman	2003
180	Marvin Byler	2000
180	Marvin Byler	2004
178	Marvin Byler	2005
174	Deuane Hoffman	1998
172	Marvin Byler	2001

CUMBERLAND

227	Deuane Hoffman	1989
226	Deuane Hoffman	1998
225	Deuane Hoffman	1992
221	Deuane Hoffman	2000
219	Deuane Hoffman	1999
217	Deuane Hoffman	2001
210	Deuane Hoffman	2005
148	Carl Garner	1997
138	Carl Garner	1998

DAUPHIN

251	Deuane Hoffman	2005
246	Deuane Hoffman	2003
234	Deuane Hoffman	1997
231	Deuane Hoffman	1998
230	Deuane Hoffman	2000
229	Deuane Hoffman	1996
226	Deuane Hoffman	2001
224	Deuane Hoffman	1999
210	Grace Randolph	1998
118	Chuck Berthoud	2004

DELAWARE

241	John Miller	1969
211	Al Guarente	1996
209	Al Guarente	1998
206	Al Guraente	1997
205	Al Guraente	1995
203	Al Guarente	2005
184	Al Guarente	1999
183	Al Guarente	2002
182	Al Guraente	2000
179	Al Guraente	2004

ELK

116	John Fedak	1997
113	Deuane Hoffman	1996

ERIE

264	Sam Stull	1979
256	Jerry McWilliams	1992
252	Jerry McWilliams	1991
251	Jerry McWilliams	1983
251	Jerry McWilliams	1988
251	Jerry McWilliams	2004
248	Jerry McWilliams	1989
246	Jerry McWilliams	1993
245	Jerry McWilliams	1996
244	Jerry McWilliams	1985
243	Jerry McWilliams	1979
243	Jerry McWilliams	1981
242	Jerry McWilliams	1984
240	Jerry McWilliams	1997
239	Jerry McWilliams	1994
239	Jerry McWilliams	2001
238	Jerry McWilliams	1990

FAYETTE

145	Mark McConaughy	2000
112	Mark McConaughy	1998
103	Deuane Hoffman	1998

FOREST

144	April Walters	1993
143	Richard Walters	1993
138	Deuane Hoffman	2005
132	John Fedak	1997

FRANKLIN

215	Dale Gearhart	1999
185	Carl Garner	1997
182	Carl Garner	2004
180	Carl Garner	1993
180	Carl Garner	1994
178	Carl Garner	1999
174	Carl Garner	1998
166	Carl Garner	2005
156	Kenneth Gabler	1999
156	Dale Gearhart	2000

FULTON

173	Daniel Snell	1997
128	Deuane Hoffman	1996
120	Deuane Hoffman	2001
115	Kenneth Gabler	1988
112	Deuane Hoffman	1998
108	Kenneth Gabler	2000

GREENE

137	Ralph Bell	1985
134	Ralph Bell	1986
130	Ralph Bell	1990
122	Deuane Hoffman	2000
109	Marjorie Howard	2005
107	Deuane Hoffman	1998

HUNTINGDON

205	David Kyler	1996
201	Greg Grove	2003
194	Greg Grove	1994
191	Greg Grove	1992
191	Greg Grove	2000

191	Greg Grove	2004
190	Greg Grove	2002
188	Greg Grove	2001
180	Greg Grove	1998
137	Deuane Hoffman	1998
INDIANA		
206	Margaret Higbee	1993
203	Margaret Higbee	1991
195	Steve Graff	1998
186	Steve Graff	2000
131	Deuane Hoffman	1998
115	Mark McConaughy	2003
114	Mark McConaughy	1998
107	Mark McConaughy	2001
106	Mark McConaughy	2002
100	Mark McConaughy	1999
JEFFERSON		
198	John Fedak	1997
143	Deuane Hoffman	1996
121	Deuane Hoffman	1998
JUNIATA		
188	Aden Troyer	1996
176	Aden Troyer	1997
172	Deuane Hoffman	2000
170	Deuane Hoffman	1996
167	Deuane Hoffman	1998
167	Aden Troyer	2000
166	Aden Troyer	1995
166	Aden Troyer	1999
162	Deuane Hoffman	2005
158	Aden Troyer	1998
LACKAWANNA		
169	Glenn Czulada	1996
161	Glenn Czulada	1995
117	Richard Koval	1995
103	Deuane Hoffman	1998
103	William Reid	2001
LANCASTER		
268	Deuane Hoffman	2000
258	Deuane Hoffman	2005
255	Robert Schutsky	1992
249	Jonathan Heller	1992
242	Deuane Hoffman	2001
240	Chuck Chalfant	2005
239	Jonathan Heller	1993
235	Deuane Hoffman	1998
230	Deuane Hoffman	1999
226	Jonathan Heller	2003
LAWRENCE		
210	Gene Wilhelm	1992
118	John Fedak	1997
110	Deuane Hoffman	1996
LEBANON		
222	Randy C. Miller	1999
215	Randy C. Miller	1993
213	Randy C. Miller	2002
211	Randy C. Miller	2000
210	Randy C. Miller	2003
205	Randy C. Miller	1996
204	Randy C. Miller	1998
179	Deuane Hoffman	1998
171	Bruce Weaver	1999
167	Deuane Hoffman	2001
LEHIGH		
200	Bernard Morris	1984
132	Deuane Hoffman	1998
128	Michael Schall	2003
119	Deuane Hoffman	1997
110	Michael Schall	2001
LUZERNE		
224	Rick Koval	2001
220	Rick Koval	1996
220	Rick Koval	2002
219	Rick Koval	1995
219	Rick Koval	1997
206	Rick Koval	1994
153	William Reid	1999
132	William Reid	2001
121	Deuane Hoffman	1998
LYCOMING		
158	Deuane Hoffman	2005
126	Deuane Hoffman	2000
120	Deuane Hoffman	1999
112	Deuane Hoffman	1997
103	Deuane Hoffman	1998
100	Don Henise	2000
McKEAN		
222	John Fedak	2003
221	John Fedak	2005
219	John Fedak	2002
217	John Fedak	2004
151	John Fedak	2001
119	Deuane Hoffman	1996
MERCER		
213	Harvey Troyer	1999
212	Jerry Troyer	1999
211	Gene Wilhelm	1992
210	Neil Troyer	1999
192	Neil Troyer	1997
192	Eli Troyer	1999
190	Neil Troyer	2001
190	Neil Troyer	2002
186	Neil Troyer	1998
185	Neil Troyer	2004
MIFFLIN		
164	Greg Grove	2005
160	Deuane Hoffman	1998
155	Deuane Hoffman	2000
128	Greg Grove	2003
126	Deuane Hoffman	1997
113	Deuane Hoffman	1996
100	Jim Dunn	2005
MONROE		
160	Michael Schall	2003
103	Deuane Hoffman	1999
101	Deuane Hoffman	1998
MONTGOMERY		
153	Michael Schall	2004
151	Deuane Hoffman	1999
140	Deuane Hoffman	1998
132	Deuane Hoffman	1997
126	John Fedak	1997
113	Michael Schall	2002
MONTOUR		
143	Deuane Hoffman	2000
133	Deuane Hoffman	2005
126	John Fedak	1997
115	Deuane Hoffman	1997
112	Deuane Hoffman	1998
NORTHAMPTON		
236	Michael Schall	2003
231	Michael Schall	2004
210	Adam Miller	2000
206	Michael Schall	2002
203	Michael Schall	2000
203	Michael Schall	2005
202	Michael Schall	2001
189	Dave DeReamus	1990
186	Adam Miller	1999
174	Michael Schall	1999
NORTHUMBERLAND		
227	Deuane Hoffman	2005
224	Deuane Hoffman	2003
157	Deuane Hoffman	1999
147	Deuane Hoffman	1998
144	Deuane Hoffman	1997
128	John Fedak	1997
PERRY		
202	Richard Colyer	1997
199	Deuane Hoffman	1995
193	Deuane Hoffman	1996
188	Deuane Hoffman	1998
185	Deuane Hoffman	2005
184	Deuane Hoffman	2000
179	Deuane Hoffman	1999
171	Deuane Hoffman	2001
PHILADELPHIA		
225	John Miller	1965
208	Edward Fingerhood	1996
162	Al Guarente	1992
135	Skip Conant	1999
133	Skip Conant	1998
132	Skip Conant	2000
127	Deuane Hoffman	1998
120	Skip Conant	2001
116	Skip Conant	2003
103	Skip Conant	2002
PIKE		
123	Michael Schall	2002
112	Deuane Hoffman	1999
109	Deuane Hoffman	2000
POTTER		
169	Chuck Chalfant	2004
160	David Hauber	1992
160	David Hauber	1995
160	David Hauber	1999
157	David Hauber	1993
SCHUYLKILL		
225	Tom Clauser	2005
215	Tom Clauser	2004
212	Tom Clauser	1999
210	Tom Clauser	2001
210	Tom Clauser	2002
209	Tom Clauser	1996
208	Tom Clauser	1997
203	Tom Clauser	2000
203	Tom Clauser	2003
191	Tom Clauser	1987
SNYDER		
177	Deuane Hoffman	1998
175	Deuane Hoffman	1996
172	Deuane Hoffman	1997
158	Deuane Hoffman	2000
SOMERSET		
222	Scott Bastian	1999
219	Jeff Payne	2002
218	Jeff Payne	2003
216	Jeff Payne	1996
216	Retta Payne	1996
208	Scott Bastian	1994
206	Jeff Payne	1999
202	Jeff Payne	2004
178	Christopher Payne	2004
SULLIVAN		
140	Nick Kerlin	1999
130	Nick Kerlin	1995
125	Skip Conant	1995
124	Nick Kerlin	1997
123	Skip Conant	1999
121	Skip Conant	2000
118	Skip Conant	1998
114	Skip Conant	2001
114	Skip Conant	2002
113	Nick Kerlin	1998
SUSQUEHANNA		
170	Jerry Skinner	2003
157	Jerry Skinner	2004
153	Jerry Skinner	2005
145	Jerry Skinner	1999
109	Deuane Hoffman	1997
109	William Reid	2001
107	William Reid	1999
105	Deuane Hoffman	1996
103	John Fedak	1997
103	Deuane Hoffman	1998
TIOGA		
197	Benjamin Israel	2000
174	Larry Brown	1998
167	Larry Brown	1992
163	Benjamin Israel	1999

160	Arlene Brown	1992
142	Arlene Brown	1998
122	Deuane Hoffman	1998

UNION

171	Deuane Hoffman	2004
121	Deuane Hoffman	1999
102	Deuane Hoffman	1998

VENANGO

221	Gary Edwards	2000
207	Gary Edwards	1995
194	Gary Edwards	1991
192	Russ States	1991
113	Deuane Hoffman	1998

WARREN

204	John Fedak	2003
201	John Fedak	2002
165	Ted Grisez	1992
152	Ted Grisez	1985
141	John Fedak	2001
117	John Fedak	1997

WASHINGTON

134	Russ Ruffing	1985
132	Roy Ickes	1984
100	George Malosh	1975
100	Geoff Malosh	1999

WAYNE

127	Deuane Hoffman	1997
121	John Fedak	1997
112	Deuane Hoffman	1998

WESTMORELAND

190	Mark McConaughy	1999
179	Mark McConaughy	2000
175	Mark McConaughy	2002
167	Mark McConaughy	2003
163	Mark McConaughy	1998
163	Mark McConaughy	2001
138	Mark McConaughy	2004

WYOMING

196	William Reid	1999
193	William Reid	1993
188	William Reid	2001
181	William Reid	1994
134	Richard Koval	1994
122	Richard Koval	1999
105	Skip Conant	2000
102	Skip Conant	1998
101	Skip Conant	2001

YORK

219	Bruce Fortman	1999
214	Deuane Hoffman	1999
202	Deuane Hoffman	2001
196	Russell Ryan	1992
191	Randy Phillips	1999
190	Deuane Hoffman	2005
189	Deuane Hoffman	2000
182	Deuane Hoffman	1998
178	Russell Ryan	1991
153	Candy Krenzer	1999

County Annual Lists (Top 50)

1	276	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2002
2	268	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2000
3	264	Erie	Sam Stull	1979
4	258	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2005
5	256	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1992
6	255	Lancaster	Robert Schutsky	1992
7	253	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2001
8	252	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1991
8	252	Berks	Ken Lebo	1995
10	251	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1983
10	251	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1988
10	251	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	2004
10	251	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	2005
14	249	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	1992
15	248	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1989
15	248	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2004
17	247	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2000
18	246	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1993
18	246	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	2003
20	245	Butler	Gene Wilhelm	1983
20	245	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1996
20	245	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2003
23	244	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1985
24	243	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1979
24	243	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1981
26	242	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1984
26	242	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2001
28	241	Delaware	John Miller	1969
29	240	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1997
29	240	Berks	Ken Lebo	1999
29	240	Lancaster	Chuck Chalfant	2005
32	239	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	1993
32	239	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1994
32	239	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	2001
35	238	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1990
35	238	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1999
37	237	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1995
37	237	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	2000
39	236	Lancaster	Randy Miller	1991
39	236	Berks	Ken Lebo	1997
39	236	Northampton	Michael Schall	2003
42	235	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	1998
43	234	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1980
43	234	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1982
43	234	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1987
43	234	Erie	Ed Kwater	1989
43	234	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	1991
43	234	Lancaster	Randy Miller	1992
43	234	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	1997
50	233	Erie	James Flynn	1979
50	233	Allegheny	Geoff Malosh	2005

Summary of the Season – August through November 2005

Deuane Hoffman

The fall 2005 season was marked with many highlights. Shorebirds were well documented throughout the state with many locations reporting over 20 species for the season. A quad of non-*Erie* **Jaeger** sightings proved exciting. **Rufous/*Selasphorus* sp. hummingbird** sightings continue the trend from previous years with a marked increase. Two long staying flycatcher sightings bucked usual behavior. Impressive swallow sightings this season included **Cave Swallow**, in two counties and an unbelievable **Tree Swallow** congregation in *Lebanon*. On par with recent trend "winter" finch sightings were sporadic at best.

Weather for the season was one of two extremes. August and September were very dry. Many areas in the state suffered drought conditions. This in turned produced excellent shorebirding conditions at numerous locations. With the coming of October, rain followed in abundance. This effectively ended shorebirding at most locations due to high water levels, but helped alleviate the drought.

Greater White-fronted Goose was only found in two counties this season, *Bucks* and *Crawford*. **Brant** were notably widespread this season with 14 counties reporting sightings. A single observer sighting of a **Fulvous-whistling Duck**, 9/12, *Lancaster* was seen well, but eluded proper documentation to provide a solid P.O.R.C. record. An elusive **Pacific Loon** was at Lake Ontelaunee, 11/25-11/27, *Berks*. Four separate sightings of **Eared Grebe** at P.I.S.P., *Erie* provided the only reports for the state.

A **Northern Gannet** proved an exciting, albeit brief, sighting 11/26, *Erie*. An uncommon autumn observation of an **American White Pelican,** 11/5, came from *Philadelphia*. Unexpected was the **Anhinga** seen soaring in a kettle of **Broad-winged Hawk,** 9/19, *Bucks*.

Impressive post breeding numbers for **Great Egret** came from two counties. During the last week of August counts of up to **300** birds were counted near Harrisburg, *Dauphin*. Further removed from any breeding colony the 40 **Great Egret** counted 8/20 in *Wyoming* was impressive, a high for a birder with 50+ years experience in the county! This season's only **White Ibis** was a single bird, which was a one-day wonder, 9/26, at Middlecreek, *Lancaster*.

The lone reported **Swainson's Hawk** this year came 10/23 from Stone Mountain Hawk Watch, *Huntington*. Breaking away from traditional ridge sites **Broad-winged Hawk** can be observed in large numbers just about anywhere in southeastern PA. This fact was upheld with two impressive tallies on 9/25, 3748 near McSherrystown, *Adams* and 3128 *Lancaster* near Mt. Gretna.

By far the most exciting occurrence this season was excellent shorebird numbers at numerous locations across the state. Nine counties recorded 17 species or more (*Allegheny* 17, *Beaver* 21, *Berks* 20, *Bucks* 17, *Erie* 21, *Indiana* 26, *Lancaster* 30, *Montgomery* 19, *Philadelphia* 18). Even shorebird poor *Venango* recorded 13 species to include a first county record **Baird's Sandpiper** 8/26-8/31.

The standout of this seasons shorebird highlights was the potential first state record **Long-billed Curlew** seen 8/31, *Erie*. This bird was a "fallout" victim of Hurricane Katrina. Another Hurricane Katrina related event occurred 8/31 on the Conejohela Flats, *Lancaster* with a site record 23 species recorded in one day! **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** arguably put on the best showing recorded in PA avian history. An amazing 10 counties recorded **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**. *Lancaster* led the way with 21 birds throughout the season to include a single day high, 8/28, of 6! An incredible **50 Hudsonian Godwit** were seen 8/27, *Indiana*. Multiple **Phalarope** sightings, of all three species, were well represented statewide. As usual the only **Purple Sandpiper** were 2 seen 11/30 at P.I.S.P., *Erie*.

An unusual number of **Jaeger** sightings were recorded away from *Erie*. Both *Bedford* and *Lancaster* recorded **Pomarine/Parasitic** types 10/30. A **Pomarine Jaeger** was seen 8/31, *Centre*. A well-documented **Long-tailed Jaeger** was a pleasant surprise, 8/27, at Lake Somerset, *Somerset*. Par for the course *Erie* led the way with 3 separate **Pomarine/Parasitic** sightings.

Gull excitement, an oxymoron to some, was prevalent this season. The aforementioned passage of Hurricane Katrina was the catalyst for 12+ counties recording **Laughing Gull** 8/31 and 9/1. The lone **Franklin's Gull** record came 11/12 from the Larid capital of PA, *Bucks*. Becoming a predictable yearly event is the annual sighting of **California Gull** from *Erie*; 2005 was no exception. Notable due to the southwestern PA location were the first, closely followed by the second, **Lesser Black-backed Gull** records from *Beaver*. The seasons only **Least Tern** was seen 9/29 at Blue Marsh Lake, *Berks*.

The expansion of **Eurasian Collared Dove** continues in southern PA. Away from the Shady Grove, *Franklin* stronghold, birds were recorded this fall in *Cumberland, Chester, Lancaster* and *York* counties.

Banding operations of **Northern Saw-whet Owl** at various sites throughout PA continue adding to the collective knowledge of their migration patterns. Three stations recorded the following numbers: Allegheny Front, *Bedford*, 48, Small Valley, *Dauphin*, 198 and Skytop, *Monroe*, 79. Other sites exist throughout the state but numbers were unavailable. Operation Nighthawk continues to be successful involving multiple sites across the state. The highest reported single evening tally was 1392, 8/28, *Delaware*.

The amazing realization of the annual movement of **Rufous** and ***Selasphorus* Hummingbird** into PA continued in 2005 without abatement. Twelve counties reported at least 16 **Rufous Hummingbird**. Many of these birds were banded thanks to the tireless efforts of the few licensed hummingbird banders available.

Two long staying flycatchers were unusual. First, a **Western Kingbird**, a notorious "one-day wonder" lingered eight days from 10/30–11/6 at a property in *Northampton*. Secondly, a **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** enlivened a *Franklin* farm from 8/20–8/27. All of the expected vireo species were seen this season. Noteworthy was the outstanding tally of **Philadelphia Vireo** from Buttermilk Hill Nature Sanctuary, *Venango*. During the period of 9/5–9/16 an amazing estimated **150** were sighted!

Tree Swallow, being common, rarely deems mentioning. The mind-

boggling congregation at a pond along Mt. Pleasant road, *Lebanon* cannot go undocumented. On 9/28 an estimated **3 to 4 MILLION** were counted! This unprecedented count must represent some kind of record?! Much less common in PA is **Cave Swallow**. After a long wait for our first state record, they are becoming nearly annual. This is most likely due to an increased population and increased awareness of the species annual passage through our area. *Erie* led the way with an impressive 12+ birds sighted at various locations along the Lake Erie shoreline over a 6 day span from 11/8–11/13. *Lancaster* finally recorded its first record 10/30. Unfortunately the bird was seen briefly and could not be relocated despite extensive searching.

Sedge Wren, never common in the state, were recorded in two counties. Three individuals were tallied in *Bucks*, 9/27–9/28. Additionally, a single bird was found 9/5 in a *Northampton* meadow.

Accessibility to the nocturnal flight call recordings of *Catharus* thrushes has led to an increase in birder participation. The activity of nighttime listening to passerine migration has only recently become "common" knowledge to even the most ardent of birders. High counts for the various species this past fall include 350 **Veery,** 9/6, *Berks*, 300+ **Gray-cheeked Thrush,** 9/11, *Forest*, 450 **Hermit,** 10/5, *Dauphin*, 1000+ **Wood**, 9/11, *Forest* and 1922 **Swainson's**, 9/24, *Washington*. Even the hard to determine, due to its similarity to the Gray-cheeked's call, **Bicknell's Thrush** were recorded in multiple counties including the first county record for *Washington* 9/24.

The annual procession of southbound warblers occurred without fanfare this fall. While no full-scale "fall-outs" were observed, all of the expected species were recorded-36 in all. **Connecticut Warbler,** the most sought after of our annually occurring warblers, was well represented this season with numerous sightings widespread across the state. I have always felt that, while not common, **Connecticut Warblers** are not rare, just hard to find. Possibly more birders are learning the techniques for locating these ground-loving birds?

An obliging **Harris's Sparrow** called a *Juniata* feeding station its home from 11/26 to the time of this writing in mid-April! **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** put in appearances in six counties. Other than the usual haunts in *Bucks, Erie* and *Lancaster* county birds were seen in *Allegheny* (first county record), *Dauphin* and *Westmoreland*. **Dickcissel** put on a good show with records coming from eight counties.

A first year male **Yellow-headed Blackbird**, representing a first county record for *Lebanon*, cooperated by staying put from 9/29–10/2. A late **Baltimore Oriole** was recorded 11/26 in *Erie*.

Lastly, the annual expectations for "winter" finches went mostly unfulfilled. Widespread but sparse reports of both **Crossbill** species, **Pine Siskin**, **Common Redpoll** and **Evening Grosbeak** tantalized birders with hopeful dreams that came up empty. Numerous compilers noted the continuing downward trend of **Evening Grosbeak**. After the population spike in the eastern states, in response to a spruce budworm outbreak during the 1980's, this species has continued to retract to its range back to the western USA.

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Birds of Note - August through November 2005

(Species not expected or reported in fewer than five counties this period)

This report summarizes unexpected species and species reported in fewer than five counties during the reporting period.

An * denotes species on the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee (PORC) Review List. Details or descriptions that are submitted for species on the PORC Review List will be reviewed by the committee. The term "No Desc" refers to a Review List species for which no description of the bird was submitted, or we are unaware of such a submission at this time. The PORC Review List can be found at the PSO web site http://www.pabirds.org

Birds in *Italics* are uncommon, but occur during this time period in most years.
Birds Underlined occur at least 4 to 7 out of 10 years during this time period.
Italics Underlined occur fewer than 4 to 7 out of every 10 years during this time period.

Birds reported only on the Pennsylvania Birds list-serve are noted following the observer with a PABL. Records reported only to the Atlas Project are noted accordingly.

Fulvous Whistling Duck* - *Lancaster*: a possible was reported at Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 9/12 (Deuane Hoffman). No Desc.

Greater White-fronted Goose - *Bucks*: one in Hilltown Twp. 10/24-10/26 (Bill Etter, Rob Fergus, August Mirabella, Judy Mirabella), another or the same bird was reported at Peace Valley Park starting 10/24 and was seen sporadically through the period ((Nick Zahn, August Mirabella) and another was near Newtown 11/14 (Bill Etter, Devich Farbotnik); *Montgomery*: one at Green Lane Res. 11/19 (Kevin Crilley, George A.Franchois); *Northampton*: three were heard calling and then seen as they flew across Rt 329 near Seemsville 11/26 (Dustin Welch).

Cackling Goose - *Bucks*: one at Peace Valley Park 10/26 (August Mirabella, Judy Mirabella), one or more were present through the remainder of the season; *Montgomery*: three at Green Lane Res. 11/20 (Kevin Crilley, George A.Franchois); *Northampton*: two were at Green Pond 11/26 (Dave DeReamus).

Trumpeter Swans* - *Beaver/Lawrence*: two unbanded continued to frequent various ponds in n. *Beaver* and s. *Lawrence*, and were seen by various observers throughout the period; *Berks*: one was reported at Lake Ontelaunee 9/18 (Matt Spence); *Dauphin*: one with tag #698, first reported at Susquehanna River at West Fairview, has remained at this location, in the company of two Mute Swans and other waterfowl, through the fall quarter (Ramsay Koury); *Indiana*: one seen at Saltsburg 11/15, wearing a yellow neck band with the letters/numbers OA4, had been banded as a cygnet in June 2004 at Shenango Wildlife Area near Kinsman, Trumbull County OH (Sam Eckenrod).

Pacific Loon* - *Berks*: a juvenile appeared at Lake Ontelaunee 11/25 (Rudy Keller). No Desc.

Red-necked Grebe - *Bucks*: one was at Nockamixon S.P. 10/23 (August Mirabella, Judy Mirabella), another at Nockamixon S.P. 10/29 (Bill Etter), and another at Peace Valley Park 11/29-11/30 (August Mirabella); *Dauphin*: one was observed Susquehanna River at West Fairview 10/30 (Cameron Rutt); *Erie*: seven passed Sunset Point on the Waterbird Count 10/16-11/28 with one or two other birds seen from 11/20-11/27 at the channel at Gull Point, and in Presque Isle Bay (Jerry McWilliams); *Northampton*: a pair Minsi Lake 11/21 at

Minsi Lake (Kathy Sieminski); *Venango*: two at Kahle Lake 11/9 (Russ States, Jerry Stanley, Kathie Goodblood).

Eared Grebe - *Erie*: two that passed Sunset Point on the Waterbird Count 11/18 (Jerry McWilliams) and one or two were present in Presque Isle Bay and the channel from 11/23-11/26 (Jerry McWilliams).

American White Pelican - *Philadelphia*: one at John Heinz NWR at Tinicum 11/5 (Denis Brennan, Brian Byrnes, m.obs).

***Northern Gannet** -** *Erie*: an immature observed flying east along the Lake Erie shore about one mile west of Presque Isle S.P.11/26 (Ben Coulter); *Schuylkill*: a first-year was found along a highway in the Ashland area 10/19. The bird was taken to a rehab center, but died the next day.

Great Cormorant* - *Bucks*: a very early one was at Giving Pond 8/28, moving up the fall first arrival date by several weeks (Diane Allison), also away from its normal lower Delaware River haunts, one was at Nockamixon S.P.11/24 (Bill Etter), and the highest count reported was 15 at Bristol 11/26 (Cameron Rutt, August Mirabella); *Delaware*: regular, were first reported on the Delaware River 11/2 (Doris McGovern).

Anhinga - Bucks*: a bonus at the Broadwing SEPT hawk watch site at Buckingham Twp. was one soaring with the Broad-winged Hawks 9/19 (Kirk Moulton, Lois Moulton), a first county record.

Least Bittern - *Erie*: three were reported from Leo's Landing 8/5 while another or one of the group was present there 9/3 (Mark Vass).

Great White Heron* - *Crawford*: one, possibly a returning individual from 2005, was at the Pymatuning Fish Hatchery 11/20-11/22 (Jack Christman). No Desc.

Cattle Egret* - *Crawford*: three were reported at Conneaut Marsh Nov 11-13 (Jerry McWilliams) and one at Pymatuning Goose Management Area (m.obs); *Erie*: one was feeding among cattle in a field in Franklin Twp. during the week of Nov 14 (Mary Chivers).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - Berks*: a juvenile was at Blue Marsh Lake 9/3 (Sue and Jeff Schmoyer); *Bucks*: a juvenile was at Peace Valley Park 8/31-9/12 (August Mirabella).

Glossy Ibis - Erie*: one discovered was in Thompson Bay 9/17 (Dave Wilton, Ben Coulter); *Philadelphia*: single birds were seen at John Heinz NWR at Tinicum 8/31 (Al Guarente), 9/7 (Denis Brennan), and 9/10 (Edie Parnum). No Desc.

White Ibis* - *Lancaster*: one at Middlecreek WMA 9/26 (Michael Deegan). No Desc.

Mississippi Kite* - *Bedford*: a probable sighting at the Allegheny Front Hawkwatch 9/14 (Kevin Georg). No Desc.

Swallow-tailed Kite* - *McKean*: one was seen briefly at Sugar Bay 8/31 (John Fedak).

Swainson's Hawk* - *Huntingdon*: one was seen at the Stone Mountain Hawkwatch 10/23 (Don Bryant, Greg Grove). No Desc.

Sandhill Crane - *Berks*: one flew low across Rte.183 at Blue Marsh Lake 10/2 (Joan Silagy); *Berks/Schuylkill*: three were seen from the north lookout of Hawk Mt. Sanctuary 10/15 (Arlene Koch), 10/20 (Chris Farmer), and a north-bound bird 9/5 (Bill Wallace); *York*: eight were observed flying overhead in Monaghan Twp.10/11 (Chris Rebert).

American Avocet - *Beaver*: two were at Little Blue Lake 8/16 for a first county record (Mark Vass, Geoff Malosh); *Erie*: a single bird was at Gull Point 8/5 (Ben Coulter) and two were there 8/13 (Jerry McWilliams); *Lancaster*: one Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 7/20; *McKean*: one 8/16 (John Fedak).

Willet - *Erie*: seven made a visit to Gull Point 8/10 (Ben Coulter), while a single bird was also present at GP 8/13 (Jerry McWilliams); *Lancaster*: one on the Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 7/28 & 8/28 (Doug Anderson, Chuck Chalfant, Deuane Hoffman, et al).

Marbled Godwit* - *Lancaster*: singles 8/6 &13 (Bob Schutsky, Deuane Hoffman, et al)

Hudsonian Godwit* - *Indiana*: fifty at Yellow Creek S.P. 8/27 (Tom Simmons), 4 remained on the flats and were sighted later that evening (Lee Carnahan, Evelyn Fowles, Mike Fowles); *Lancaster*: one on Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 10/8; *Philadelphia*: one rested for two hours at John Heinz NWR at Tinicum 9/22 (Mike Ferguson).

Upland Sandpiper - *Bucks*: one was at Tyler State Park 8/8 (Bill Keim).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper - *Allegheny*: one at Imperial 8/12-8/14 provided the first county record (Ross Gallardy, et al.); *Beaver*: one was at Little Blue Lake 8/20 (Mark Vass), it was joined by a second bird 8/21 (Mark Vass, Wes Fritze), providing a first county record; *Bucks*: one in Plumstead Twp. 8/27-8/31 (August Mirabella); *Dauphin*: one at the Susquehanna River from West Fairview 8/30 (Tom Johnson); *Erie*: one at Gull Point 8/31 (Jerry McWilliams); *Indiana*: one at Yellow Creek S.P. 8/31 for a first county record (Lee Carnahan, Evelyn Fowles, Mike Fowles, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Gloria Lamer, John Taylor); *Lancaster*: twenty-one with a high count of 6 on 8/28 (Dan Heathcote); Luzerne: two at Forty Fort 8/28 (Jim Hoyson, Rick Koval, Edwin Johnson); *Montgomery*: one at Green Lane Res. 9/6-9/11 (Ron Grubb, m.obs).

Whimbrel* - *Erie*: a combined total of five birds were recorded 8/13, 30, & 31 at Gull Point (Jerry McWilliams); *Lancaster*: one on the Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 8/24 & 8/31 (Deuane Hoffman, et.al.).

Long-billed Curlew* - *Erie*: one circled Gull Point following the passage of Hurricane Katrina 8/31 (Jerry McWilliams). This is a potential first state record.

Ruff* - *Lancaster*: one, probably a female, at Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 8/31 (Tom Amico, Chuck Chalfant, Deuane Hoffman, Bob Schutsky). No Desc.

Red Knot* - Erie: a season total of 11 was recorded for 8/11, 8/21, & 8/31 at Gull Point (Jerry McWilliams); *Lancaster*: three at the Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 8/24 (Deuane Hoffman). No Desc.

Purple Sandpiper* - *Erie*: two stopped to feed at the breakwaters for about 30 minutes during the Waterbird Count at Sunset Point 11/30 (Jerry McWilliams).

Long-billed Dowitcher - *Crawford*: one was seen 10/9-10/29 at Pymatuning Goose Management Area (Randy Stringer) with 10 as the high count 10/16 (Mark Vass, Geoff Malosh); *Dauphin*: one was reported from Susquehanna River from Marysville 9/1 (Dan Boger); *Erie*: a single bird was seen and heard at Thompson Bay 9/17 (Ben Coulter, Dave Wilton); *Indiana*: one at Yellow Creek S.P. 10/25 (Lee Carnahan, Margaret Higbee, Scott Speedy); *Lancaster*: 4 with a peak of 2 on 8/24 at the Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats; *McKean*: one 8/31 (John Fedak); *Philadelphia*: one was discovered at Tinicum NWR 9/18 (Frank Windfelder, Matt Sharp).

Wilson's Phalarope - *Beaver*: one at Little Blue Lake 8/16 was a first county record (Mark Vass); *Indiana*: one was present at Yellow Creek S.P. 8/27- 9/6 (Tom Simmons, Margaret Higbee, Bob Jackman, Scott Speedy); *Lancaster*: one at Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 8/20 (Tom Raub); *Schuylkill*: one was a nice find at the desilting area of Landingville Dam 9/1 (Tom Clauser).

Red-necked Phalarope - *Beaver*: one juvenile was found at Little Blue Lake 9/1 (Geoff Malosh), another juvenile 9/8-/99 (Mark Vass) may have been the same individual; *Bucks*: one was in Buckingham Twp. 8/24 (Alan Brady), and another stayed at Pine Run Dam 9/24-9/26 (August Mirabella); *Erie*: one was at Gull Point 8/31 (Jerry McWilliams), while another was at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Erie 8/31-9/6 (John DePaul); *Indiana*: one was present at Yellow Creek S.P. 8/31-9/2 (Evelyn Fowles, Mike Fowles, Regina Reeder, Dan Snell).

Red Phalarope* - *Allegheny*: one was at Imperial 9/4 (Mark Vass, Ross Gallardy, Geoff Malosh).

Jaeger species* - *Bedford*: one juvenile flying along the beach at Shawnee S.P. 10/30 (Dan Snell) No Desc.; *Erie*: Unidentified birds believed to be **Parasitics** were recorded on the Waterbird Count at Sunset Point when a single bird passed there 11/8 and three 11/22 (Jerry McWilliams), a single bird, believed to be a **Parasitic**, was observed off beach11 also 11/22 (Ben Coulter); *Lancaster*: one 10/30 at Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats (Tom Johnson). No Desc.

Long-tailed Jaeger* *Somerset*: one observed at Lake Somerset for about 35 minutes 8/27 (Jeff and Retta Payne).

Laughing Gull - *Allegheny*: one at Dashields 9/16 (Geoff Malosh, Dave Wilton), it was last reported 9/20; *Beaver*: a juvenile molting into first winter plumage was discovered at Montgomery Lock and Dam 9/16, provided a first county record (Mark Vass); *Bucks*: Present all season with 2250 remaining at Tullytown 11/19 (Matt Sharp); *Chester*: one at Chamber's Lake 8/16 (Larry Lewis); *Crawford*: a first year bird 9/5-9/6, likely a first county record, was at Pymatuning Spillway (Scott Kinzey);.*Dauphin*: one along the Susquehanna River from West Fairview 8/31 (Pete Fox, Ramsay Koury, Art Schiavo), and another 10/24 South Hanover Twp. (Tom Johnson); *Erie*: a single at Presque Isle S.P.8/30 (Chris Wood); *Indiana*: one was at Yellow Creek S.P. 9/1 and was joined by 2 more 9/3 (m.obs); *Lancaster*: multiple sightings 8/24-10/9 on the Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats (m.obs); *Montgomery*: one was at Church Rd. 9/l (George Franchois); *Somerset*: a second year bird was at Somerset Lake 8/31 (Luretta Payne); *Venango*: one at Kahle Lake 8/31 was a second county record (Kathie Goodblood, Jerry Stanley, Russ States); *Westmoreland*: one at Beaver Run Res. 9/1 (Dick Byers), and another was seen flying and heard calling over the Powdermill Avian Research Center the same day (Mike Lanzone), the first reports ever for the county.

Franklin's Gull* - *Bucks*: a first-winter was at Buckingham Twp. 11/12 (Alan Brady).

Little Gull - Erie*: one was at Gull Point 8/14, two were there 9/1, and singles were recorded on the Waterbird Count at Sunset Point 11/8, 12,&13 (Jerry MCWilliams).

California Gull* - *Erie*: one or two adults identified 11/12-11/26 at Gull Point and along the lake about one mile west of Presque Isle S.P. (Ben Coulter).

Lesser Black-backed Gull - *Beaver*: an adult was on the Ohio River near Merrill's Landing 11/19 (Mark Vass), a third-winter was found at Montgomery Lock and Dam the next day, 11/20 (Geoff Malosh); *Bucks*: counts were unusually low until after a cold front 9/18 when 95 and 25 appeared at Peace Valley Park (August Mirabella) and Nockamixon S.P. (Bill Etter), the next high count wasn't reported until 11/23 when 89 were at Peace Valley Park (Cameron Rutt); *Dauphin*:

one was noted 11/24 Susquehanna River from Harrisburg (Tom Johnson); *Erie*: at least five were present around the east end of Presque Isle S.P. 10/18-11/26 (m.obs.); Lancaster: from 9/25 on at Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats; *Lebanon*: seven (5 adult and 2 third winter) were found 11/28 at Memorial Lake S.P.(Tom Johnson); *Montgomery*: five were at Church Rd. 11/27 (Kevin Crilley, m.obs).

Iceland Gull - *Berks*: a first winter was at Lake Ontelaunee 11/15 (Drew Weber); *Bucks*: one at Tullytown 11/19 where they winter (Matt Sharp, Sandra Keller), and one passed through Nockamixon S.P. 11/27 (Bill Etter) where they are occasional migrants; *Lebanon*: a first winter was at Memorial Lake S.P. 11/28 (Tom Johnson).

Glaucous Gull - *Bucks*: the first of the season was at Tullytown 11/26 (Cameron Rutt, August Mirabella).

Least Tern - *Berks*: an adult seen well at Blue Marsh Lake 9/29 (Joan Silagy), the first record this century.

Eurasian-Collared Dove* - *Chester*: at least three present all fall in Coatesville (m.obs) and another in West Chester 9/13 (Nick and Sharon Pulcinella); *Franklin*: Shady Grove continues to be home for. Nine were observed (at one time) on the antenna of a resident near Klines Store. At least three were young doves. The most recent observation were two of the doves on the same antenna 12/29. *Lancaster*: one at Susquehannock S.P. 9/8 (Tom Amico); with another (or possibly the same bird) in Peach Bottom Village 9/20 (Bob Schutsky).

Rufous Hummingbird - *Armstrong* An adult male visited a feeder near Keystone Reservoir 9/28-10/3 (John Pulliam, Sara Pulliam) a first county record; *Beaver*: one adult female mid-Oct in Independence Twp. (Rich and Elizabeth Hoge). Eventually, it was banded 11/27 Adrienne Leppold of Powdermill Nature Reserve. It was last reported 12/7; *Berks*; an adult female was in Hamburg late Sep-11/25. It was banded by Scott Weidensaul 11/23; *Bucks*: one believed to be an imm female was in Upper Southampton Twp. 11/20-12/7 (Erv Hiller, Nan Lawrence Devich Farbotnik); *Chester*: an adult male in West Grove beginning 10/12 (Molly Daley), an imm female in West Goshen Twp. from 10/30 (Nick and Sharon Pulcinella), and two were reported in Elverson 11/7 with one being banded 11/8 (Carla Trego, Scott Weidensaul), one bird lingered until 11/18; *Dauphin*: one was in South Hanover Twp 10/19 (Jan Getgood, Tom Johnson), was banded 10/20 (Scott Weidensaul); *Fayette*: an imm male was in South Connellsville and was banded by staff from Powdermill Nature Reserve 11/9 (Joanna Adams Adrienne Leppold, Charles Sherwood); *Lebanon*: adult female was present in North Lebanon 9/15-12/1 (Liz Zehring) and banded 11/25 (Scott Weidensaul); *Montgomery*: imm female was present in Narberth 11/21-12/7 and banded 11/23 (William Roache, Nick Pulcinella), *Northampton*: two visited a feeder near Bethlehem, an imm male was there 10/12-12/12 and an imm female for a few days in mid-Nov (fide Arlene Koch); *Venango*: one at a feeder 9/23 outside Franklin was a first county record (Nancy Baker).

Selasphorous Hummingbird - *Bucks*: one was feeding on flowers at Warrington Twp. 11/6 (Ron French) but was gone by the time a feeder was brought out; *Monroe*: one was seen very briefly in a Saylorsburg yard 11/6 (Rick Wiltraut); *Montgomery*: one was in Elkins Park 10/l5-10/29. (August and Judy Mirabella, Paul Driver); *Northampton*: one unidentified selasphorus was at a feeder in Williams Twp. 9/4 (Arlene Koch).

Western Kingbird* - *Berks*: one was reported at State Hill hawk watch, Blue Marsh Lake 8/22 (Joan Silagy) No Desc.; *Northampton*: one was at the Koch farm in William's Township 10/30 (Arlene Koch). It was sporadically seen through 11/6; *Westmoreland*: one was seen just west of Powdermill Nature Reserve 11/2 (Mike Lanzone). No Desc.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher* - *Franklin*: one was along the Honodel Rd., southeast of Waynesboro 8/20-8/27 (m.obs).

Northern Shrike - *Berks*/*Schuylkill*: one paused briefly at North Lookout, HMS 11/4 (David Barber); *Bradford*: an immature was observed retrieving prey from a bush near New Era 11/5 (Trudy Gerlach); *Centre*: one was at Bald Eagle S.P. BESP 11/30 (Molly Heath); *Crawford*: one was at a feeder near Hartstown Marsh 11/10 (Irene Hochstetter); *Erie*: one was found perched on a duck blind along beach 11 on 11/13 (Randy Stringer) and possibly a different bird was at Sunset Point 11/23 (Jerry McWilliams); *Forest* : one was spotted at German Hill 11/19 (Tom and Janet Kuehl); *Westmoreland*: one at 11/19 (Ken Byerly).

Cave Swallow* - *Erie*: two were about one mile west of Presque Isle S.P. 11/8 (BC), six passed the foot of East Avenue 11/9(Jerry McWilliams) and five flew past Roderick Wildlife Reserve 11/13 (Geoff Malosh); *Lancaster*: one was found at Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats 10/30 (Bob Schutsky).

Sedge Wren* - *Bucks*: one was at Pine Run Dam 9/24 (August Mirabella), and probably the same bird again there 9/27 (Devich Farbotnik, Jason Horn), another was present at Peace Valley Park 9/26-9/27 (August Mirabella) and another or a different bird at a different Peace Valley location 10/3 (Bob Shaffer, August Mirabella); *Indiana*: one was at Yellow Creek S.P. 8/26-8/27 (Carol Guba, Margaret Higbee, Scott Speedy, m.obs); *Northampton*: one was found along a small stream in a mixed patch of cattails and jewelweed near Nazareth 9/5 (Rick Wiltraut).

Bicknell's Thrush* - *Luzerne*: one was found at Mountain Top 10/19 (Rick Koval) No Desc.; *Washington*: one was noted in a nocturnal count 9/24 in Canonsburg (Ross Gallardy). No Desc.

Varied Thrush* - *Delaware*: a male was found dead in Glen Mills 11/20 after it presumably collided with a window (Rich Clark); *Lebanon*: a male found dead on a porch in Coffeetown (Randy L. Flowers, Ken and Jane Light). No Desc.

Brewster's Warbler - *Berks*: an adult 8/26 and immature 8/29 were at a drip birdbaths near Leesport (Dean Kendall); *Erie*: one was on Pine Tree Trail at Presque Isle S.P. 9/3 (Jerry McWilliams).

Dickcissel - *Allegheny*: one at Imperial 10/23 (Ross Gallardy); *Berks*: An immature was found at Blue Marsh Lake 11/3 (Joan Silagy); *Dauphin*: were among the species noted on two night flight counts 9/19 South Hanover Twp. (Tom Johnson) and 9/27 in Harrisburg (Deuane Hoffman); *Lebanon*: one at Mt. Pleasant Rd 10/2 (Tom Johnson); *Philadelphia*: one at John Heinz NWR at Tinicum 10/23 (Edie Parnum).

Lark Sparrow* - *Bucks*: a first-winter was in Plumstead Twp.10/25 (Babe Webster); *Erie*: an immature in the beach 10 parking at Presque Isle S.P. 9/26 (Jerry McWilliams); *Montgomery*: one was a less than cooperative in Limerick 9/18-10/11 (Steve Grunwald, Kevin Crilley, George Franchois).

Clay-colored Sparrow - *Chester*: one was at A was at Waterloo Mills Preserve mid-Oct (Kevin Fryberger); *Northampton*: one in William's Twp. 9/19 (Arlene Koch); *Philadelphia*: one at John Heinz NWR at Tinicum 10/16 (Steve Kacir, Rob Hynson).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow - *Allegheny*: one at Imperial 9/27-9/28 was a first county record (Geoff Malosh, Bill Judd, Vicky Judd); *Bucks*: two were flushed at Pine Run Dam 9/27 (Devich Farbotnik, Jason Horn); *Dauphin*: one was found on a grassy island in the Susquehanna River near the PennDOT building 10/24 (Deuane Hoffman); *Lancaster*: two were seen at Susquehanna River, Bainbridge in late Sep and early Oct (m.obs.); Westmoreland: one at Powdermill Nature Reserve 10/21 (Mike Lanzone, Felisity Newall).

Harris's Sparrow* - an imm was first seen in Oakland Mills 11/26 and remained through the season (Aden Troyer, m.obs).

Blue Grosbeak* - *Berks*: two adult males, an adult female and 2 juvs were seen at Blue Marsh Lake 8/20 (Rudy Keller, Joan Silagy), another female was seen at Blue Marsh Lake 10/2 (Joan Silagy); Bucks: twelve were at The Penn-Warner Tract 8/12 where they are regular (Devich Farbotnik); *Chester*: an imm was at Bucktoe Creek Tract 10/24 (Joe Sebastiani); *Dauphin*: one was heard calling Susquehanna River from West Fairview 8/30 (Tom Johnson); *Northampton*: two that attempted nesting was last seen 8/7 (Dustin Welch).

Yellow-headed Blackbird* - *Lebanon*: an immature male at Mt. Pleasant Rd 9/29-10/2 was a first county record (Ken and Jane Light, Randy C. Miller, Kate Miller, m.obs).

Brewer's Blackbird - *Berks*: a male was first heard, then seen at Blue Marsh Lake 11/9 (Joan Silagy).

Red Crossbill - Berks one was in District Twp.10/4 (Rudy Keller) and 12 were at Hawk Mt. Sanctuary 11/20 (David Barber); *Dauphin*: a few were found near Dauphin 10/27 (Tom Johnson); *Lebanon*: one was at SGL 211 in the Cold Springs parking area 10/27 (Tom Johnson); *McKean*: a small flock of were observed near Indian Creek 11/28 (John Fedak, Tom Raught Jr.); *Westmoreland*: one was early flying over Powdermill Nature Reserve 10/23 (Mike Lanzone).

White-winged Crossbills - *Berks*/Schuylkill: two were counted at Hawk Mt. Sanctuary 8/25, but the next 2 did not appear until 11/17&11/19, followed by a few others in Dec (David Barber); *Pike*: two made a brief appearance in the Spruce Trees by PEEC's parking lot 11/6 (Ethan Huner); *Schuylkill*: one was seen at a feeding near Clamtown 11/20 (Barb Birosik).

Common Redpoll - *Berks*/*Schuylkill*: five were at Hawk Mt. Sanctuary 12/4 (David Barber); *Northampton*: twenty were in Plainfield Twp.11/23 (Kathy Sieminski).

Evening Grosbeaks - *Berks*: two were at Hawk Mt. Sanctuary 11/8 and one 11/30 (David Barber); *Clearfield*: one female was reported at a feeder in Houtzdale 11/6 (Steve Belin); *Dauphin*: one male was in South Hanover Twp 10/29 (Patricia Williams, Richard Williams); *Forest*: one was at Tionesta 12/7 (Laura Flick); *Lancaster*: two were found off of Pinch Rd. 9/18 (Randy Miller); *Lebanon*: two were at SGL145 9/18 (Randy Miller); *Montgomery*: a male flew over the Temple University Ambler Campus 11/18 (Rudy Keller); *Schuylkill*: a male was in the Owl Creek area at a feeding station 11/26 (Joe Matukonis); *Wyoming*: one was recorded flying over Tunkhannock 11/14 (William Reid).

PHOTOGRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*). Unusual in *Philadelphia*, this male was found on one of the ponds within FDR Park, 11 November 2005 (*Alan Jackman*).

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*). The only report this fall was this bird at John Heinz NWR, *Philadelphia*, 5 November 2005 (*Ronald Majors*).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*). Uncommon in *Northampton*, these two immature birds were in Freemansburg 13 August 2005 (*Dave DeReamus*).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*). This immature was a nice "yardbird" 11 September 2005, Doylestown, *Bucks* (*Thomas Ford-Hutchinson*).

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*). Miller's Pond, *Crawford,* 13 November 2005 (*Geoff Malosh*).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*). This juvenile was found at Blue Marsh Lake, *Berks*, 30 September 2005 (*Jeff Schmoyer*). It was the first sight record of a live Yellow-crowned Night Heron in *Berks*, since 1967.

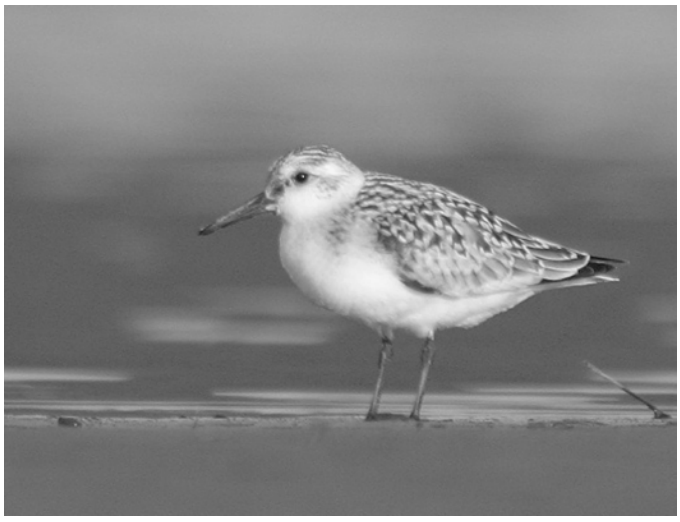
Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*). A juvenile at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks*, September 2005 (*Howard Eskin*).

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*). This bird was photographed in Laureldale, *Berks*, 17 August 2005, where it used a TV antenna as a favorite perch (*Joe Beatrice*).

American Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*). This is one of two that were at Imperial, *Allegheny*, 5 September 2005 (*Geoff Malosh*).

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*). These three were part of a flock of 50 that were present at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana*, 27 August 2005 (*Tom Simmons*).

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*). This non-breeding individual was on the Conejohela Flats, *Lancaster*, 6 August 2005 (*Tom Amico*).



Sanderling (*Calidris alba*). One of the thirty shorebird species found this fall on the Conejohela Flats, *Lancaster*, photographed 2 September 2005 (*Tom Johnson*).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*). This individual, a first for *Beaver*, was photographed 20 August 2005 (*Wes Fritz*). It was joined the following day by a second bird.

Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*). This bird was present only one day, 24 August 2005, at Buckingham Twp, *Bucks* (*Elaine Crunkleton*).

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*). This first-winter bird was present at Imperial, *Allegheny* for about five days photographed here 5 September 2005 (*Geoff Malosh*).

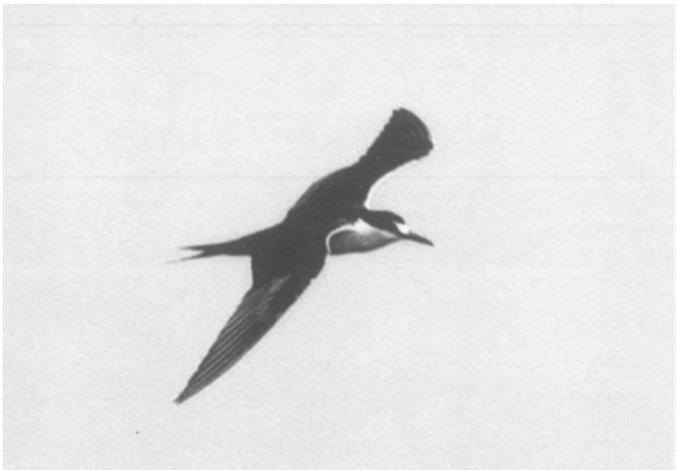
Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*). This first-winter bird was one of two that were present at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana,* 1-3 September 2005. These birds probably resulted from the passage, to the west, of Hurricane Katrina. (*Tom Simmons*).

Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*). A first-winter was photographed in Buckingham Twp., *Bucks,* 12 November 2005. The only report in the state this fall (*Alan Brady*).

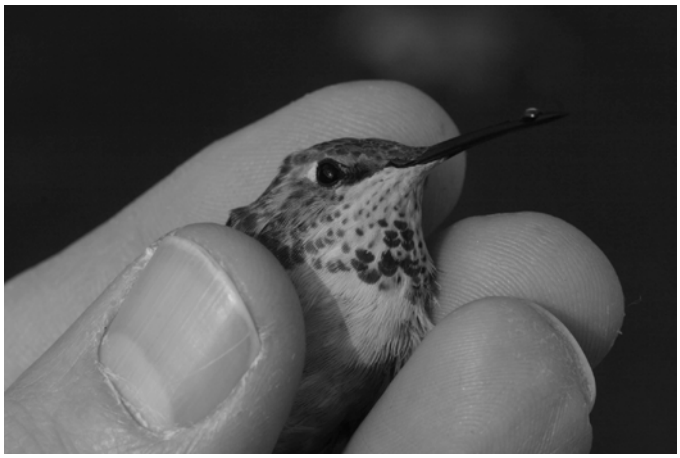
Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*). A small colony seems to be established in Coatesville, *Chester,* where as many as eight birds have been seen together. This bird was photographed 9 August 2005 (*Nick Pulcinella*).

Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*). A first-winter bird that was photographed at Dashield's Lock and Dam, *Allegheny* 16 September 2005, a first county record (*Geoff Malosh*).

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*). This first-winter was photographed in *Tullytown*, *Bucks*, 26 November 2005 (*Cameron Rutt*).



Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*). This adult was found on the Susquehanna River at the Conejohela Flats, *Lancaster* 24 July 2005. It was most likely heading south to the Chesapeake Bay and open waters following displacement from a tropical storm that passed to the west about a week earlier (*Eric Witmer*).



Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*). This bird was present in Hamburg, *Berks* from mid-September through late November, photographed here 23 November 2005 during banding (*Scott Weidensaul*).

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*). This long-staying individual in South Hanover Twp., *Dauphin*, persisted on potted salvias and sages into December. Photographed 26 October 2005 (*Cameron Rutt*).

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*). This bird was seen sporadically from 30 October- 6 November 2005 in Williams Twp., *Northampton*, a second county record. Photographed here on the day of discovery (*Dave DeReamus*).

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*). This immature female spent about six weeks feeding on pineapple sage in West Chester, *Chester*, photographed here 30 October 2005, during banding (*Sharon Pulcinella*).

Rufous/Allens Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus/sasin*). This immature, probably a Rufous, was present in Elkins Park, *Montgomery*, for about three weeks in November. Photographed here 24 November 2005 (*Paul Driver*).

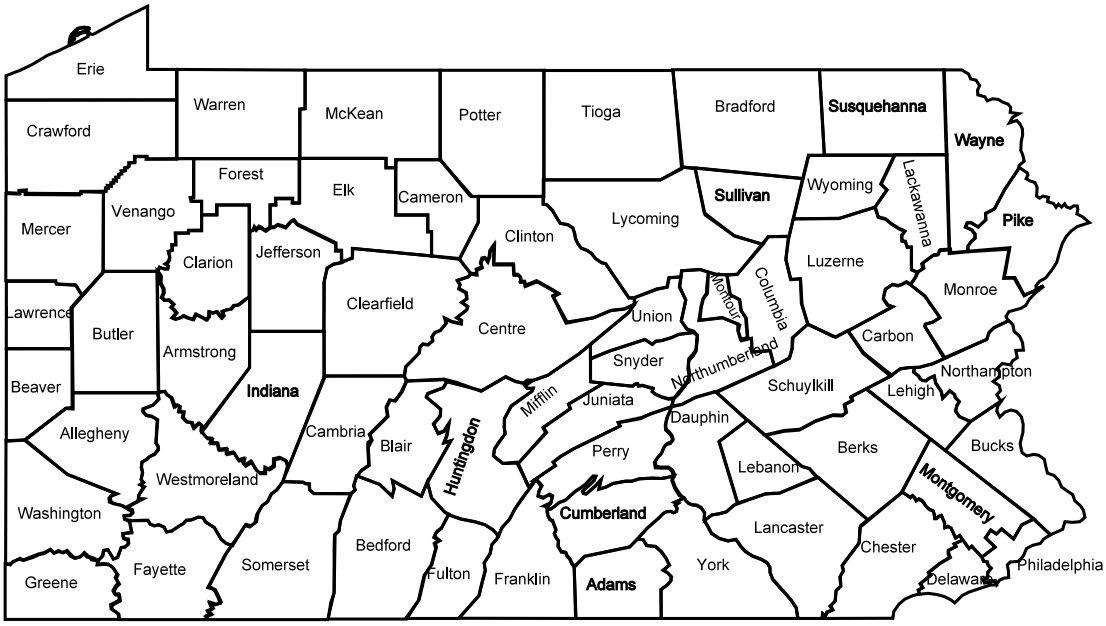
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*). This adult was present for a week in Waynesboro, *Franklin*. During this stay, it molted out the long tail feathers and began to show new feathers before it left. Photographed here 20 August 2005 the day it was found (*Chad Kaufman*).

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*). At least two were present this fall in *Bucks* including this bird videoed 3 October 2005 at Peace Valley Park (*photo from video Devich Farbotnik*).

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*). After migrating across the continent, this adult male was found dead in Glen Mills, *Delaware* after apparently striking a window 19 November 2005, only the second county record (*Richard Clark*).

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*). This immature was at Presque Isle S.P., *Erie*, 26 September 2005. There were three reports in the state this fall. (*Jerry McWilliams*).

Local Notes - August through November 2005



Adams County

Locations: East Berlin (EBER), Fairfield (FAIR), Gettysburg National Military Park (GNMP), Long Pine Run Reservoir (LPRR), Mountain Road (MTN).

Only 69 species were reported, a few more than the 56 species reported for 2004, but a lot less than the123 species reported during the 2003 August-November fall season.

A **Common Goldeneye**, uncommon in the county, was at LPRR 11/25 along with 11 **Hooded Mergansers** (BK). At L. Kay 11/22 there were 4 **Hooded Mergansers** with 2 **Ruddy Ducks** (CA). Two nice groups of **Wild Turkey** appeared at MTN – 21 on 10/7, and 20 on 10/20 (RDS). A **Common Loon** found 9/23 at LPRR (BK) was a little early.

Single adult **Bald Eagles** were seen 10/13 at GNMP when one flew low overhead then landed in a tree (CA), and 10/23 at MTN when one flew over (RDS). A **Northern Harrier** hunting in a field near EBER was spotted 11/27 (PK). The location is not known to be a "hawk watch", but a large number of **Broad-winged Hawks** were seen by Dean and Mark Scarff behind Dean's home in McSherrystown, where there is an unobstructed view to the north. The numbers seen were 287 on 9/11, 438 on 9/18, 287 during two hours 9/24, and an amazing **3748** on 9/25. Another nice sight there 9/25 was a **Peregrine Falcon**.

One of the two shorebird species reported was a **Short-billed Dowitcher** that was seen 9/24 along Stoughstown Rd.(RDS). The only report of **Common Nighthawk** was the 8 that flew over MTN 9/15 (RDS). The last **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** sighting at MTN was 10/9, after which it should be farther south (RDS). **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** were seen 9/24 at MTN (RDS), and 11/28 in FAIR (CA).

A **Winter Wren** was found 10/1 and again 10/30 at MTN (RDS). Thanks to a back yard water garden, most of the warblers reported were seen on Bull Frog Rd. between 9/9-9/13 (ANK): 6 **Tennessee**, 3 **Nashville**, 11 **Northern Parula**, 21 **Chestnut-sided**, 7 **Magnolia**, 4 **Black-throated Blue**, 57 **Black-throated Green**, 14 **Blackburnian**, 9 **Bay-breasted**, 5 **Black and white**, and 4 **American Redstart**. A **Cape May Warbler**, not easy to find in the county, was at MTN 9/24 (RDS). **Fox Sparrows** were at MTN 10/24 (RDS) and FAIR 11/28 (CA). A **Baltimore Oriole** at MTN 11/11was about a month late. At a feeder along Westminster Rd. there were 25 **Purple Finches** 10/22-23 (CBF), one of only two reports of the species.

Observers: **Peter Robinson, P. O. Box 482, Hanover, PA 17331, (717) 632-8462 pabirder@hotmail.com**, Celia Adams, Clyde & Barb Fisher, Bob Keener, Phil Keener, Art & Noanie Kennell, Dean & Mark Scarff, Ralph & Deb Siefken.

Allegheny County

Locations: Dashields Dam on the Ohio River (DASH), Imperial (IMP)

We had an incredible fall season with several species recorded for the first time in *Allegheny*. Uncommon here, a **Snow Goose** was observed flying up river with a flock of **Canada Geese** at DASH 11/27 (GM). A **Northern Pintail** in Findlay Twp.11/9 (GM), a **Northern Shoveler** on the Ohio R. 11/11 (MV) and a **Gadwall** at Findlay Twp.10/24 (MV) were highlights. The two **Ring-necked Ducks** from last season continued through Nov (MV). **Osprey** were reported at IMP 8/18 (MV, WF), Etna 9/29 (DY), and Harrison Hills Park 9/30 (PH, JS). Late birds were found at East Liberty 10/9 (DY) and at Dashields 10/17 (MV).

A **Bald Eagle** was certainly a surprise flying over Etna 8/24, and possibly the same bird flew over nearby East Liberty 9/23 (DY). One was sighted at Etna again 11/26 (DY), and 2 were at DASH 10/17 (MV). A **Sora** at IMP 9/27 was a nice find for the fall migration (GM). A **Northern Goshawk** was an exciting bird at IMP 10/23 where it made an impressive dive at prey but did not capture anything (RG). **Peregrine Falcons** were found at IMP from late Aug to the middle of Sep (v.o.).

Shorebird diversity was excellent with 17 species reported. A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** at IMP 8/12-8/14 provided the first county record and the only record in southwestern PA (RG, et al.). A **Red Phalarope** at IMP 9/4 was a fine addition to the very few records for the county (MV, RG, GM). This bird's presence was probably due to the remnants of Hurricane Katrina passing through the region and it obligingly remained for five days. Other highlights from IMP include an **American Golden Plover** 9/4 (MV) and 2 on 9/5 (GM), the 8th and 9th county records. **Semipalmated Plovers** were present 8/6-8/26 (MV, SC, RT) with a high of 3 during that time; one was present 9/12 (MV). A **Western Sandpiper** 8/20 & 8/22 (SC, RT, WF) provided the 5th county record. A **White-rumped Sandpiper** was a nice find 8/12 (MV) and 8/16 (GM), a **Baird's Sandpiper** was observed 8/12-8/15 (MV,DY,GM,DH) and 9/12 (MV), and a **Stilt Sandpiper** was a welcome sight 8/16 (GM). Single **Wilson's Snipe** were present 9/12 & 9/23 (MV). A **Pectoral Sandpiper** at IMP 10/16 was late (GM).

A **Laughing Gull** originally found at Montgomery Dam on the Ohio R. in *Beaver* flew up river into *Allegheny* and settled in for the night at DASH 9/16 (GM, DW). The bird was seen again the next morning by several observers and was last reported 9/20 (GM). This was another first county record and was certainly pushed here from the remnants of Hurricane Katrina. Two **Bonaparte's Gulls** were at DASH 9/1 (BS) and one was there 10/14 (MV). A **Common Tern** at DASH 8/21 (GM) was another species forced down from the remnants of Katrina. A bird was at Duck Hollow on the Monongahela R.10/9 was late (DW). There are very few fall records of this species in the county. A **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was observed at close range in Fox Chapel 10/4 (BSh). Subsequent searches did not reveal the bird. **Common Nighthawks** were observed migrating down the Allegheny R. valley in Aug. High counts include 143 on 8/24, 843 on 8/25, and 582 on 8/26 (DY). High counts for **Chimney Swifts** at the same location include 100 on 8/24, 200 on 8/25 and 86 on 8/26 (DY). The last report for **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was 10/7 in Shaler Twp. (JH).

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** at IMP 8/16 was the only report (GM).

Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were found in Sewickley 9/13 (GM), 9/16 and 9/18 (MV, DW, RG, SK). A **Purple Martin** was at DASH 9/1 (GM). **Philadelphia Vireos** were reported through Sep from six locations, a good showing for this least common of the vireos. A leucistic **Tufted Titmouse** was visiting a feeder in McCandless Twp. in mid-Nov. It was described as washed out beige (lacking any typical gray color) with white primaries on the right wing (MK).

Red-breasted Nuthatches were first reported in mid-Aug (a bit early) and continued through Nov. A **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** in Moon Twp.11/10 was late (GM). A **Common Raven** was an unusual find near Pittsburgh. A bird was observed flying and calling from the area near Brunot's Island on the Ohio R. 10/22 (CT, JT). An estimated 5000-6000 **American Robins** flew over the IMP area at dusk 10/23 (GM), probably headed to a roost site. A **Gray Catbird** at Sewickley Heights Park 11/12 was late (BVN).

Reports of uncommon warblers were good this fall. A **Golden-winged Warbler** was a welcome sight in Findlay Twp 9/10 (MV). Single **Orange-crowned Warblers** were reported at Sewickley Heights Park 9/13 (GM), Walker Park in Sewickley 9/18 (MV, DW, RG, SK), East Liberty 9/29 (DY), and Harrison Hills Park 9/30 (JS, PH) and 10/16 (PH). There were good numbers of reports for **Northern Parula** this fall. Single birds were in Ross Twp. 9/4 (BVN), Findlay Twp 9/6 (MV), Sewickley 9/16 (MV, DW, RG) and 9/17 (GM), Harrison Hills Park 9/24 (MH, JHa) and East Liberty 10/3 (DY). There were good numbers of **Cape May Warbler** reports with single birds at Frick Park 9/18 (TF), East Liberty 9/20 (DY), Pine Twp. 9/27 (PL, SL), Etna 10/1 (DY), Frick Park 10/2 (JS, SS), Harrison Hills Park 10/6 (PH), and East Liberty 10/14 (DY). Very uncommon in fall, a **Yellow-throated Warbler** was a nice find at Harrison Hills Park 9/24 (MH, JHa), and another was at Mayview Wetlands 10/9 (NN). **Palm Warblers** were found from early Sep through the end of the month; 25 at IMP 9/28 was a great count for this uncommon species in the county (GM). A **Cerulean Warbler** was at IMP 9/10 (MV), another uncommon fall migrant. Single **Northern Waterthrush** were found in East Liberty 8/18-8/19 (DY), Sewickley Heights Park 9/13 (GM) and Walker Park 9/18 (MV, DW, RG, SK). Single **Mourning Warblers** were nice finds at Harrison Hills Park 9/3 (GM), Sewickley 9/16 (MV, DW, RG), and East Liberty 9/18 (DY). **Wilson's Warblers** were found throughout Sep at many locations. **Canada Warblers** were in Sewickley and Harrison Hills Park during Sep (v.o.). **Prairie Warblers** were still active at IMP 8/7 (MV) where they breed. A good count of 20 **Magnolia Warblers** were at Harrison Hills 9/11 (PH). Twenty-nine species of warblers were reported.

A migrant **Dickcissel** at IMP 10/23 was an exciting find (RG). There are a few records of singing males during the breeding season, but no migrants have been recorded. A **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** was an incredible find at IMP 9/27 (GM), a first county record and only the second for southwestern PA. It was seen again 9/28 (BJ, VJ). Impressive numbers of sparrows were tallied at IMP 10/23 including 50 **Field Sparrows**, 30-40 **Savannah Sparrows**, 10 **Swamp Sparrows**, 100 **White-throated Sparrows**, and 150 **White-crowned Sparrows** (RG). Five **Lincoln's Sparrows** were found that day in nearby Findlay TWP (RG).

Fall brings large flocks of blackbirds to the area and that was certainly the case when a flock of approximately 1000 **Common Grackles** were in Pine Twp 9/30 (PL, SL) and at least that many in Sewickley in Oct (MF). Unusual was a flock of 41 **Rusty Blackbirds** in Pine Twp. 11/10 (PL, SL). Late **Brown-headed Cowbirds** were found in Pine Twp. 11/11 (PL, SL), Monroeville 11/22 (MF) and Pleasant Hills 11/24 (SSn).

A few **Pine Siskins** appeared this fall: two were heard calling and spotted flying over Penn Hills 11/6 (MF), one visited a feeder in Harmar Twp. 11/20 & 11/26 (JV).

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Armstrong County

Locations: Crooked Creek Park (CC), Keystone Reservoir (KR)

Canada Goose maxima included 115 at KR 8/27 (LG, MH, RH) and 226 at CC 11/9 (JV, JVa). Two **Mute Swans** were reported at Rosston between 9/20 (JV, JVa) and11/21 (DV). Two **Tundra Swans** at Manorville began the movement through our area 11/12 (JV, JVa). One **Wood Duck** at KR 8/4 (CG, MH) was the lone report. Four **American Black Ducks**, 11 **Mallards**, and 6 **Ring-necked Ducks** were listed 10/30 (LC) at KR. Eight **Buffleheads** stopped at Manorville 11/12 (JV, JVa). A **Hooded Merganser** at KR 8/4 (CG, MH) was the lone report. Three **Ruddy Ducks** were counted at KR 10/30 (LC).

KR yielded 12 **Pied-billed Grebes** 10/30 (LC). KR harbored at least 8 **Green Herons** 8/4 (CG, MH); 7 were still present 8/27 ((LG, MH, RH); 2 on 9/3 (EF,MF) were last. Two **Osprey** and one **Bald Eagle** were sighted 9/3 (fide EF,MF) at KR. Two **Bald Eagles** were at CC 11/21 (fide DV).

The **American Coots** count at KR 10/30 (LC) was 48. At least 20 **Killdeer** gathered at CC 10/3 (JV, JVa); last noted were 6 on 11/9 (JV, JVa) at the same location. Three **Lesser Yellowlegs** visited KR 10/30 (LC). A **Solitary Sandpiper** at KR 8/27 ((LG, MH, RH) was the lone report. Two **Spotted Sandpipers** lingered at KR 9/3 (EF,MF). **Least Sandpiper** reports, all at KR, included 6 on 8/4 (CG, MH), 8 on 8/27 ((LG, MH, RH), and 4 on 8/28 (EF,MF). A **Pectoral Sandpiper** appeared at KR 8/4 (CG, MH).

An adult **Black-billed Cuckoo** was feeding a young bird near KR 8/27 ((LG, SG, MH, RH), at the same time that 3 **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were noted.

An **Eastern Screech-Owl** was calling at Rosston 8/9, the lone report (JV, JVa). A single **Common Nighthawk** flew over Ford City 9/5 (JV, JVa). Six **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were busily feeding near KR 8/27 ((LG, SG, MH, RH). An adult male **Rufous Hummingbird** visited a feeder near KR between 9/28-10/3 (JP,SP); the bird was photographed and is identifiable with a magnifying glass; this is a first county record. **Eastern Wood-Pewees** were still feeding young near KR 8/27 ((LG, SG, MH, RH). A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** and an **Acadian Flycatcher** were both present near KR 8/27 ((LG, SG, MH, RH). A family group of **Eastern Kingbirds** was noted at KR 8/4 (CG, MH). Ten **Red-eyed Vireos** were tallied near KR 8/27 ((LG, SG, MH, RH).

A **Barn Swallow** at KR 8/27 was last (LG, SG, MH, RH). A **House Wren** lingered near KR 8/27 ((LG, MH, RH). CC yielded 8 **Golden-crowned Kinglets** 11/21 (DV). Five **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** were members of a migrant flock near KR 8/27 (LG, SG, MH, RH). Five **Eastern Bluebirds** lingered at CC 11/21 (DV). CC harbored 3 **Northern Mockingbirds** and 5 **American Pipits** 11/21 (DV). Top **Cedar Waxwing** count was 39 near KR 8/27 ((LG, SG, MH, RH).

A nice warbler fallout occurred near KR 8/27 including 5 **Blue-winged Warblers**, one "**Brewster's**" warbler, one **Nashville Warbler**, 10 **Chestnut-sided Warblers**, 2 **Magnolia Warblers**, at least 20 **Black-throated Green Warblers**, 12 **Blackburnian Warblers**, 8 **Black-and-white Warblers**, one **American Redstart**, 2 **Ovenbirds**, one **Louisiana Waterthrush**, one **Kentucky Warbler**, **Common Yellowthroat**, 2 **Hooded Warblers**, and one **Canada Warbler**. Two **Scarlet Tanagers** were found with the warbler flock (LG, SG, MH, RH).

Last reported **Chipping Sparrows** were 12 at CC 9/15 (JV, JVa). A flock of 10 **Field Sparrows** and one **Fox Sparrow** were noted at CC 11/21 (DV). First **Dark-eyed Juncos** were 3 near CC 10/23 (JV, JVa); 32 was a good count at KR 10/30 (LC). **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** were still feeding young near KR 8/4 (CG, MH). Last **Baltimore Orioles** were 4 near KR 8/27 ((LG, SG, MH, RH).

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Beaver County

Locations: Ambridge Reservoir (AR), Independence Marsh (IND), Little Blue Lake (LBL), Montgomery Lock and Dam (MLD), Raccoon Creek State Park (RCSP).

It was an exciting season in *Beaver*, with a bevy of first county records. Once again, Little Blue Lake in Greene Twp. on the West Virginia border produced excellent shorebirding, with twenty-one species reported from that location during this period, three of which provided first county records. Larids made an excellent showing with five gull species reported, two of which represented first county records, and two tern species. *Beaver* also finally penned its name into the annals of Pennsylvania hummingbird history with its first fall *Selasphorus*.

The season's first report of **Tundra Swan** was of a group of 5 on the Beaver R. at New Brighton 11/18, and another group was heard on nocturnal migration over Ambridge 12/6 (MV). Two unbanded **Trumpeter Swans** continue to frequent various ponds in n. *Beaver* and s. *Lawrence*, and were seen by various observers throughout the period. A count of 36 **Wood Duck** at AR 10/21 was noteworthy (MV). Eight **Gadwall** were at LBL 10/16 (MV), and the season's high count of **Blue-winged Teal** consisted of 22 birds at LBL 9/9 (MV). Early waterfowl reports included **Northern Shoveler** 8/14, **Northern Pintail** 8/26, and **Green-winged Teal** 8/14, all at LBL (MV). A high count of 40 **Green-winged Teal** at LBL 10/22 was impressive for *Beaver* (MV). A single **Redhead** was found on the Ohio R. at Monaca 11/26, and a **Common Goldeneye** was reported from AR 11/18 (MV).

A **Common Loon** at AR 8/20 (MV) was early enough to be considered a probable summering bird, but it was not relocated in the following days, which may indicate that the bird was on the move. Five **Great Egrets** at LBL at the late date of 11/18 was an excellent count for

this area (MV). An adult **Bald Eagle** at IND 8/31 was early for an adult to be seen in *Beaver*, especially away from the rivers (BS). More timely were two or three adult **Bald Eagles** that appeared on the Beaver R. in mid-Oct and remained through the end of the period (SG). The lower Beaver R. has become a reliable wintering location for this species. Extremely rare for *Beaver* was a juvenile **Northern Goshawk** found in Independence Twp.10/16 (GM). **Broad-winged Hawk** was last reported at RCSP 9/8 (GM). The **Osprey** nest on the Ohio R. near Industry seems to have fledged two young; two adult and two juv were last reported there 9/5. Another **Osprey**, possibly one of the Industry birds, was at MLD 10/9, which is rather late for this species in southwest PA (MV). A **Merlin** at MLD 10/16 was exciting, and another was found at LBL 10/21 (MV). A **Peregrine Falcon** was found harassing shorebirds at IND 8/31 (BS), and a second **Peregrine Falcon** frequented LBL 10/7-10/9 (MV).

Shorebirds at LBL were once again very impressive for land-locked *Beaver* and included four incredible finds: **American Avocet**, **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**, and **Wilson's** and **R ed-necked Phalaropes**. All shorebird reports that follow are from LBL.

A few groups of one to three **Black-bellied Plovers** were each present for a few days at a time between 9/13 and 10/7 (MV, GM). Two **American Golden-Plovers** were discovered 9/9-9/10, and two more were found 9/25 (MV). These probably represented the 3rd and 4th county records. The afternoon of 8/16 was certainly one for the record books: two **American Avocets** and one **Wilson's Phalarope** were present, both of which were probably first county records (MV). The avocets were frantically (but successfully) digiscoped as darkness fell (GM), but the Wilson's Phalarope was not photographed, and neither species was seen the next day. **Sanderlings** were reported sporadically between 7/17 and 9/15 (MV, GM), with a peak of 5 on 8/31 (MV). LBL may be one of the more reliable inland sites for this species, which is traditionally very difficult to find in western PA away from L. Erie. Providing the 2nd county record, a juvenile **Western Sandpiper** was present 8/31 (MV), while a juvenile present 9/1 was probably a different bird (GM). **Baird's Sandpipers** were pretty much a common sighting during this year's migration, and were present 8/15-10/1 (MV, GM), with a very impressive high count of 12 on 8/23 (GM). Two adult **Stilt Sandpipers** 8/8 were a nice find (MV), and were followed up by a single juv 8/23 (GM).

The shorebird of the season was a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** 8/20 (MV), which was joined by a second bird 8/21 (MV, WF), providing a first county record. These two birds represent only the 2nd record of Buff-breasted Sandpiper anywhere in western PA south of the Glaciated Northwest and west of the Allegheny Front, with the only other record being a bird found just eight days prior in nearby *Allegheny* 8/12. Rounding out an amazing season, one juv **Red-necked Phalarope** was found 9/1 (GM), representing the 2nd record from this location in 2005 and probably the 4th county record. Another juv **Red-necked Phalarope** present 9/8-9/9 (MV) may have been the same individual, otherwise it represents an astounding 3rd record of this species at LBL in 2005.

Other more common shorebirds reported from LBL during the period were **Semipalmated Plover**, **Greater Yellowlegs**, **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Solitary Sandpiper**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, **Least Sandpiper**, **Pectoral Sandpiper**, **Dunlin** 10/7-11/13, and **Short-billed Dowitcher** 7/15-8/20 (MV, GM).

A juv **Laughing Gull** molting into first winter plumage was discovered at MLD 9/16, providing another first county record (MV). This bird frequented the Ohio R. between MLD and Dashield's Lock and Dam in *Allegheny* until 9/20, and was photographed in *Allegheny*. It was last seen in *Beaver* 9/17 (GM). In the weeks following the 8/31 passage of the remnants of Hurricane Katrina, there were several reports of Laughing Gull from various locations in western PA, and it seems logical that this bird was part of that event. A **Lesser Black-backed Gull**, yet another first county record, was discovered on the Ohio R. near Merrill's Landing 11/19 (MV) and described as "an adult" with yellow legs. A third-winter **Lesser-black-backed Gull** was found at MLD the next day, 11/20 (ph. GM), which clearly showed fleshy legs and a black smudge on the bill. Lighting problems obscured some detail in the 11/19 sighting, which in actuality was probably the same bird as the 11/20 sighting, but the possibility exists that two individuals were present. With a handful of reports in the last two years along the major rivers in southwest PA, Lesser Black-backed Gull may be turning into a regular visitor to this corner of the state.

Gull numbers in late Nov on the Ohio R. from MLD upriver to Merrill's Landing were very impressive; a count made 11/20 yielded 3200 **Ring-billed Gulls**, 76 **Herring Gulls**, and 110 **Bonaparte's Gulls**, along with the above-mentioned third-winter Lesser Black-backed Gull (GM). Single **Caspian Terns** were discovered on the Beaver R. 8/7 and at LBL 8/21 (MV), and a **Forster's Tern** was on the Beaver R. at Rochester 9/16 (MV).

A nice count was made of 70+ **Common Nighthawks** foraging for airborne insects in the lights of a high school football stadium in Darlington 8/26 (SG). Nighthawk reports persisted until 9/9.

In mid-Oct, homeowners Rich and Elizabeth Hoge of Independence Twp. noticed an unusual hummingbird coming to their feeders, which they saw daily for several weeks without knowing exactly what it was. Eventually, Elizabeth was prompted to contact Powdermill Nature Reserve (PNR) about this hummer, and on 11/27 the bird was banded by the PNR staff and identified as an adult female **Rufous Hummingbird**, another first county record. The bird was seen and photographed by many over the next week, and was last reported 12/7.

Passerine reports this period were sparse. **Least Flycatcher**, **Great-crested Flycatcher**, and **Eastern Kingbird** all were last reported from RCSP 9/8 (GM), while **Eastern Phoebe** persisted in the county until 10/28 (MV). **White-eyed Vireos**, a breeding species at LBL, remained until 9/4 (MV). A **Blue-headed Vireo** was found at RCSP 9/28 (GM), and a **Philadelphia Vireo** was at LBL 9/30 (MV). A **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** at LBL 10/9 was very near the tail-end of the normal migration period for this species (MV).

Two **Red-breasted Nuthatches** frequented a feeder in Independence Twp. from early-Nov through the end of the period (R&EH), and five or six others were noted at AR 10/28 (MV). **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** was last found at AR 10/28 (MV). *Catharus* thrush reports from RCSP included one **Gray-cheeked Thrush** 9/14, 2 **Swainson's Thrush** 9/29, and one **Hermit Thrush** 9/29 (GM). **Hermit Thrush** was last reported from AR 10/28 (MV). **American Pipit** returned to LBL and surroundings 9/23, with a peak count of 21 there 10/21 (MV).

Eighteen species of wood warblers were found at RCSP 9/8-9/29, with the highlights being one **Northern Parula** 9/8, 2 **Cape May** 9/29, 3 **Bay-breasted** 9/14, and one **Canada** 9/8 (GM). A **Fox Sparrow** was found at IND 10/29 (KS). **Lincoln's Sparrow** reports were of one at LBL 10/1, and one at IND 10/23 (MV). A **Pine Siskin** was at IND 10/22 (BS).

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Bedford County

Locations: Allegheny Front Hawk (AFHW), Dunnings Creek Wetlands (DCW), Shaffer Mountain (SH), Allegheny Front (AF), Shawnee State Park (SSP).

Weather for the period was hot and very dry. Despite record numbers of hurricanes the associated rain largely missed the south central counties. Many streams and ponds were dry, but by November rain had restored most water levels.

On 11/14 the first major movement of **Snow Geese** (flocks of over 600) arrived in the county. More exciting was 13 **Brant** flying over AF 12/8. **Canada Geese** made their major appearance 11/10. At DCW the following were counted: 50 **Wood Duck** 11/9, one **Gadwall** 11/1, 49 **American Black Ducks** 11/9, 80 **Mallards** 11/1, 31 **Green-winged Tea**l 11/1 and one **Ruddy Duck** 11/1. Only one **Pied-billed Grebe** at SSP was reported 10/8 (DS, MS). Five **Common Loons** were counted 10/16 along with 130 **Double-crested Cormorants** at the AF.

The AFHW, an east wind site, suffered from few east wind days and those that did occur were frequently accompanied by fog and rain. Despite that setback we still managed a reasonable count. The seasonal tally from 8/15-12/15 is as follows: **Black Vulture** (20), **Turkey Vulture** (427), **Osprey** (118), **Bald Eagle** (48), **Northern Harrier** (49), **Sharp-shinned Hawk** (1006**), Cooper's Hawk** (204), **Northern Goshawk** (8), **Red-shouldered Hawk** (117), **Broad-winged Hawk** (1194), **Red-tailed Hawk** (1553), **Rough-legged Hawk** (4), **Golden Eagle** (131), **American Kestrel** (70), **Merlin** (34), **Peregrine Falcon** (50), unidentified (317) for a total of 5350. Interesting sightings were **Merlins** lingering around the site harassing ravens on multiple days, 46 **Golden Eagles** 11/13, a probable sighting of a **Mississippi Kite** 9/14 (KG), and thousands of Common Green Darners (dragonflies) migrating 9/15.

The following were counted at DCW unless noted otherwise: 2 **Sora Rails** 9/14 and 3 on 9/24, 5 **American Coot** 11/5 at SSP (DS, RR), 80 **Killdeer** 8/23, 3 **Greater Yellowlegs** 8/7, 3 **Lesser Yellowlegs** 9/14, 2 **Spotted Sandpipers** 8/7, 8 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** 8/7, 7 **Least Sandpipers** 8/23, 2 **Baird's Sandpipers** 8/10, 4 **Pectoral Sandpipers** 8/23, one late **Pectoral Sandpiper** 11/3 at SSP (DS), 3 **Dunlin** at SSP 11/5 (DS,RR), 2 **Stilt Sandpipers** 8/23, 3 **Wilson's Snipe** 9/25 and 5 at SSP 11/5 (DS,RR). A great find by Dan Snell was one juv **jaeger** species flying along the beach at SSP 10/30. Jaegers have been poorly defined at Shawnee, but records indicate Parasitic as the jaeger most often mentioned but never verified.

Two **Eastern Screech Owls** were seen at Shaffer Mt. 8/28 and 8/13 a **Barred Owl** was seen at SSP. Dave Darney banded 48 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** at the AFHW during 11banding nights. Four of the 48 owls were foreign returns (those that other's banded). Two were banded in ON, one in VA and one in eastern PA. A point to note, the eastern bird was banded by Scott Weidensaul 11/3/04. The majority of **Northern Saw-whet Owls** this year were adult birds.

On 10/2 one **Red-headed Woodpecker** was counted at the AFHW, however by this time last year we had over 23. Other migrants were one **Olive-sided Flycatcher** 8/20, 2 **Eastern Wood-Pewees** 9/2, 2 **Blue-headed Vireos** 10/30 at SSP (DS, MS), one **Yellow-throated Vireo** 9/17, and one **Warbling Vireo** 9/2. The **American Crow** still not has made full recovery from West Nile Disease in this county. Roosts are in the

hundreds, not thousands and mobbing of Red-tailed Hawks and Great Horned Owls appears to involve far less birds. **Common Raven** continues to expand its range being found throughout the county. Eighty **Tree Swallows** at DCW along with one albino and a very late **Barn Swallow** were seen 10/28. The weather to this point was still warm and dry. A small fallout of thrushes occurred late in Oct with 12 **Hermit Thrush**, **23 Wood Thrush** and 4 **Gray-Cheeked Thrush** on Shaffer Mt. Rd. 10/23. **American Pipits** were reported 10/30, and 11/13 around the mudflats created by the SSP drawdown (DS, MS, RR). The following warblers were seen at the AF and AFHW: 2 **Tennessee** 9/13, one **Nashville** 10/1, 7 **Northern Parula** 9/15, 4 **Magnolia** 9/30, 18 **Cape May** 9/7, 3 **Black-throated Blue** 9/30, 16 **Yellow-rumped** 9/30, 6 **Black-throated Green** 9/15, 3 **Palm** 9/27, one **Bay-breasted** 8/23, 5 **Blackpoll** 8/22, one **Cerulean** 9/1, one **Mourning** 9/12 and a **Yellow-breasted Chat** 9/14.

One **Vesper sparrow** was seen 10/15 at DCW. Seven **Lincoln's Sparrows** occurred 9/26 at the AF and one 10/30 at SSP (DS, MS). The first **Snow Bunting** of the season was a flyover at the AFHW 10/28. Finally **Rusty Blackbirds** made their debut 10/26 with 3 at DCW and 6 flyovers 10/27 at AFHW.

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Berks County

Locations: Blue Marsh Lake (BML), Hawk Mt. Sanctuary (HMS), Lake Ontelaunee (LO), State Game Land 110 on Kittatinny Ridge (SGL).

Dry conditions prevailed through summer, broken in fall by heavy rains from tropical storms. LO dropped to its lowest level since 1999, providing mudflats visited by shorebirds. No **Brant** were reported on the ground, but several small flocks passed over HMS, the largest of 45 birds 11/2 (DB). A small goose flock at LO 11/27 (RK) contained a **Cackling Goose** of the Richardson's type and a **Canada Goose** wearing a black and white collar (5U4E) that had been banded as a flightless juv near Akron, OH 6/9/01. A **Trumpeter Swan** was reported at LO 9/18 (MS). A juv **Pacific Loon**, closely accompanied by a **Red-throated Loon**, appeared at LO 11/25 (RK). Both birds and 3 **Common Loons** were seen by many birders until 11/27. A visiting VA birder (RR) reported the **Pacific Loon** without details 12/10, a day or two before the lake froze.

Adult and juv **Black-crowned Night-Herons** and a juv **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** were seen and photographed at BML during an evening kayaking trip 9/3 (S&JS). This was the first sight record of a live Yellow-crowned Night-Heron since 5/17/1967! The only other "recent" records are of a dead juv found at HMS 6/1/1970 (Fred Wetzel), and a bird identified by its nocturnal flight call as it flew over HMS 4/22/97 (Mark Monroe).

Sightings of adult and juv **Bald Eagles**, presumably locally nesting birds, were reported through Aug (TC,MS,MW). **Northern Goshawks**, usually seen from ridgetop hawk watches, caused a stir in unexpected places. A juv was seen in suburban Wyomissing Hills 11/5-11/6 (BS), and an adult (photographed) loudly struck a window at Baldy Hill, District Twp.11/26 (CRE). The latter bird was stunned for several hours, but apparently recovered and flew away. A **Merlin** perched daily on a tv antenna in residential Laureldale outside Reading 8/13 till well into Sep (JB). A record single day count of 49 **Merlins** at HMS 10/15 contributed to their record seasonal total of 198 birds (DB), more evidence of the increase of this falcon. A **Sandhill Crane** flew low across Rte. 183 at BML in front of the observer's car 10/2 (JS), and another flew past HMS 10/20 (DB). Because receding waters exposed mudflats in Sep, some of the more unusual shorebirds were seen.

Among the 20 species reported were a **Black-bellied Plover** at BML 10/4 (KK, JS), 2-4 **American Golden-Plovers** at LO and Lyons 9/13-10/21 (RK,KL,MW), a **Ruddy Turnstone** at LO 9/1 (KL), a **Western Sandpiper** at LO 9/20 (KL), 1-2 **White-rumped Sandpipers** at LO 8/28 and 9/13 (KL,MS), single **Baird's Sandpipers** at LO 9/3-9/17 (RK,KL,MS), 1-17 **Dunlin** at LO 9/25-10/8 (RK,KL), and 1-2 **Stilt Sandpipers** at BML and LO 9/1-9/21 (RK,KL,JS).

A first winter **Iceland Gull** was at LO 11/15 (DW). Tern reports were few, including 2 **Caspian Terns** at BML 8/5 (JS), 4 **Common Terns** at LO 8/6 (MW), a **Forster's Tern** at LO 10/9 (RK,MS), a **Black Tern** at Shartlesville 8/20 and 3 additional **Black Tern**s at LO 8/31 (SF). The standout in this group was an adult **Least Tern** well seen by telescope at BML 9/29 (JS), the first record this century. There are only three 20th century records, the most recent of a bird at Kaercher Creek Park, Hamburg 6/1/1977 (KG).

An adult female **Rufous Hummingbird** that visited the feeder of Randy Kauffman near Hamburg from late Sep-11/25 was banded by Scott Weidensaul 11/23. The lucky host had also seen a probable adult male Rufous for a day in late Sep (fide SW). A probable ***Selasphorus*** hummingbird chased bees and a Carolina Wren in the observer's Bern Twp. garden 10/3 (JS).

After last year's pronounced spike in numbers at HMS, migrant **Red-headed Woodpeckers** dipped to a very low seasonal total of 3 birds 9/18-10/2 (DB). Resident birds were at their usual few locations, and a migrant juv was at a Leesport feeder 9/19,20 (DK). Prized **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were reported 7 times, with high counts of 3 at HMS 8/26 (DB) and SGL 9/4 (KG). A **Western Kingbird** was reported at State Hill hawk watch, BML 8/22 (JS). The bird flew first northeast, then later back southwest, low enough so that the white breast, bright yellow belly and white tail edgings could be seen by the observer, who has seen the species many times in AZ and NM. A **Northern Shrike** paused briefly at North Lookout, HMS 11/4 (DB).

A large irruption of **Black-capped Chickadees**, first noted at feeders about 9/22 (DK), increased through Oct into Nov, with many birds settling in to be counted on CBC's. A leucistic bird with mostly white head and pale feet stood out in the chickadee flock at a Leesport feeder starting 10/20 (DK). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** also staged a large irruption, starting with a few birds in late Aug and increasing to waves in Sep and Oct (e.g., 30 moving along the Kittatinny at HMS 9/5-DB), and were numerous in conifer groves and at feeders through Dec. Almost daily monitoring of nocturnal flight calls at dawn from mid-Aug till early Oct in District Twp. detected the following peak thrush flights: 300 calls of **Veery** 8/23 and 350 on 9/6; 20 calls of **Gray-cheeked Thrush** 9/30; 500 calls of **Swainson's Thrush** 10/2 and 490 on 10/3; and 200 calls of **Wood Thrush** 9/6 and 9/7 (RK). Possible **Bicknell's Thrush** calls were heard 9/29 & 9/30 (RK).

Consistent warbler watchers had a good season, reporting 31 species and a hybrid. Two notable days at HMS were 9/2, yielding 15 warbler and 4 vireo species, including 42 **Black-throated Green Warblers** and 26 **Black-throated Blue Warblers**, and 9/3, yielding 18 warbler species, including 15 **Cape May Warblers** (DB). Drip birdbaths at a warbler magnet near Leesport attracted an adult **Brewster's Warbler** 8/26 and an imm 8/29 (DK). Single **Orange-crowned Warblers** were reported in Bern Twp. 9/5 (early-JS), at HMS 9/21 (DB) and SGL 10/10 (KG). A very streaky juv **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was early in District Twp. 8/30 (RK). There were 3 reports of **Connecticut Warbler**, the latest giving a good look as it splashed in a birdbath in Bern Twp. 10/9 (RK, JS). The **Mourning Warbler** capital of *Berks* near Leesport attracted 9-12 individuals to its baths 8/3-9/16, the highest count there since 1985 (DK). After being no-shows all summer, **Blue Grosbeaks** appeared in force at a spring at BML 8/20, when at least 2 adult males, an adult female and 2 juvs were seen (RK, JS). Another female was seen at BML 10/2 (JS). An imm. **Dickcissel** was found at BML 11/3 (JS). **Rusty Blackbirds** continue to be fairly regularly reported in low numbers, this season's high count having been 23 at HMS 10/15 (DB). A male **Brewer's Blackbird** was first heard, then seen at BML 11/9 (JS).

Finches did not accompany the Black-capped Chickadee and Red-breasted Nuthatch irruptions. **Purple Finch** numbers were average for recent years, with low double digit counts at some feeders. A **Red Crossbill** was calling in District Twp.10/4 (RK) and 12 were at HMS 11/20 (DB). **White-winged Crossbills** raised hopes when 2 were counted at HMS 8/25, but the next 2 did not appear until 11/17 & 11/19, followed by a few others in Dec (DB). The **Common Redpoll** flight consisted of 5 birds at HMS 12/4 (DB). A **Pine Siskin** at Leesport 7/3 (DK) was very early, or predictably unpredictable. More appeared in Sep and later, but the high count was only 23 at HMS 10/31 (DB). Also at HMS, 2 **Evening Grosbeaks** were tallied 11/8 and one on 11/30 (DB).

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Blair County

No Report. No Compiler.

Bradford County

Autumn generally remained quite warm, resulting in the impression that many migratory species remained here longer than normal.

A nice number of **Buffleheads** graced Ridgebury L.:17 on 11/10 and 30 on 11/17 (BB, LB). A late **Common Loon** was on the Susquehanna R. below Wyalusing Rocks 12/26 (SG, BW). There appeared to be more than the usual number of sightings of **Green Herons**, one notable observation being the flyover of four 8/3 near Monroeton (BF).

There were relatively frequent sightings of **Bald Eagles** (comfirmed breeding for the past two years in *Bradford*), among which was a juv 8/29 on the Towanda Creek near Monroeton (BF), an imm being mobbed by crows near Monroeton 9/15 (BF), a surprising five imm at Tioga Point 9/21 (DA), an imm near Monroeton 10/20 (BF), and one at Sugar Run 12/17 (DB, MB). A **Northern Goshawk** was seen at Standing Stone 8/22 (BR).

A **Sanderling**, not commonly seen here, was at Sugar Run on 8/27 (BR). A rare sighting here was a **Wilson's Snipe** at Ridgebury L. 10/10 (BB, LB). An unusually large number (more than seen at this location since the 80's) of **American Woodcock** were seen at the first notable snowfall 10/25 near LeRaysville (MB, RB), and one was at Oak Hill, near Troy 11/28 (RY).

A pair of **Eastern Screech Owls** were heard calling 8/29 at Ridgebury L.(BB, LB). Although greater numbers of **Short-eared Owls** have been found in Columbia Twp. in western *Bradford*, this year only one was seen, 12/4 (JH). Two large flocks of **Common Nighthawks** were seen migrating, one of c. 100 on 8/29 at Woods Road (CM, GM) and one of c. 40 at Browntown 8/30 (JS, HS).

Rare was the sighting of an imm **Northern Shrike**, which was retrieving prey from a bush near New Era 11/5 (TG). As was the case in other Pennsylvania locations this fall, **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were more in evidence here: among other sightings one was at Roundtop 9/9 and 9/27, and one at a feeder in Sayre 11/16 (RS). A late **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** was seen 12/26 on the SE Bradford CBC (JL, RL).

Roundtop, near Sayre, was an excellent place to observe fall migrant warblers: 2 **Nashville Warblers** were seen 9/1, one 9/27, and a **Northern Parula** 9/27 (RS). A **Magnolia Warbler** 10/5, a **Black-throated Green Warbler** 7/19, and a **Black and White Warbler** 7/5 were all observed near New Era (TG). A female **Mourning Warbler** and a **Canada Warbler** were at Round Top 9/1 (RS). A late **Ovenbird** was found at Woods Road 12/8 (CM).

A **Lincoln Sparrow** was a very unusual observation at Wildwood, near Sayre, 10/24 (RS). A **White-crowned Sparrow** was at Roundtop 10/31 (RS). A **Rusty Blackbird** visited to bird feeder from at least 12/13-12/27 at Woods Road (CM. A **Pine Siskin** was at a feeder in Sayre 12/1 (RS).

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Bucks County

Locations: Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA), Bristol (BRS), Broadwing SEPT (SPT), Buckingham Twp. (BUT), Core Creek Park (CCP), Delaware River (Del. R.), Hilltown Twp. (HLT), Nockamixon State Park (NSP), Peace Valley Park (PVP), Pine Run Dam (PRN), Quakertown Swamp (QTS), Rohm & Haas-Bristol (RHS), State Game Lands #157 (SGL157), Tullytown (TYT), Warrington Twp. (WGT), The Penn-Warner Tract (WNT). Historical references are from "Birds of Bucks Co." by Ken Kitson 1998 and subsequent updates recorded in this Journal. Weather statistics are from Philadelphia & Trenton (NOAA). Broadwing SEPT data was provided by Kirk Moulton.

A severe rainfall deficit continued through early October in most of the area, and then the rains came in a big way with eight or more inches, most in a couple of days. Nov rainfall was below normal, but the net for the four months was slightly above average. The temperature averaged well above normal for all four months. The warm weather may be why 14 new fall late departure dates far exceeded only four new fall early arrival dates. Fall waterfowl numbers were generally lackluster except at some southern county hot spots, where they usually are more abundant. Gulls were in abundance by the end of the period at WNT as usual. Significant shorebird habitat developed at PRN toward the end of the peak migration period producing some noteworthy reports, but variety and numbers were not what might be expected. PVP had extensive mud flats due to a drawdown of the lake for dam maintenance, but it came too late for the peak of migration. In general, expected late shorebird diversity did not materialize there. The 12th annual Broad-winged Hawk Count (SPT) held 9/13-9/24 at six county sites was rather uneventful with continued relatively low numbers of this species. A highlight was an **Anhinga** at the BUT watch site, which was convincingly documented considering it was 2500 feet high. Early passerine migrants were in adequate numbers to satisfy birders starting in mid-Aug. The later passerines, always more common and visible, were even more so this year producing nice fallouts particularly in early Oct. Irruptions of a few species added to the mix. A total of 233 species was reported for the four month period.

A **Greater White-fronted Goose** was first reported in HLT 10/24 (BE) and was seen there until at least 10/26 (RF,AM,JM). Another or the same bird was reported at PVP starting 10/24 (NZ) and was seen sporadically through the period (AM). Another was near Newtown 11/14 (BE, DF). This was only the 8th county report. The first **Cackling Goose** of the fall was reported 10/26 at PVP (AM,JM). Locally good counts of **Brant** were 29 over NSP 10/8 (DF) and 35 at WNT 11/29 (DF). One was at PVP 10/22 (KR). The **Barnacle Goose** with a plastic leg band, previously reported from the end of May through Jul in BUT, was captured and taken to a captive waterfowl keeper (fide RN), eliminating at least one escape from the wild**.** Also previously reported last season in BUT, another **Barnacle Goose** lacking a band vanished on its own (AB). Fall **Tundra Swan** reports are normally scarce here, so only one at Lake Towhee 11/27 (BE) was not unusual.

An out of season **Green-winged Teal** was at RHS 8/7 (DF) in an area where breeding has been suspected in the past. Scarce here, one **Canvasback** was reported at NSP 11/26 (BE). **Scoters** are always noteworthy to local birders. Six **Surf Scoters** were at NSP 10/17 and one followed 10/22 (BE). Another was at Bradford Dam 11/25 (KS) setting a new fall late date, although there is one previous report from early Jan. Two **Black Scoters** 10/22, 15 on 10/29, and 8 on 11/5, were noted at NSP (BE). One was at PVP 11/11(AM,IB) and 2 were at TYT 11/19 (MS,SKe). Also, noteworthy to local birders, 2 **Long-tailed Ducks** were at PVP 11/26 (CR,AM) and one 11/30 (KR). One was at NSP 11/19-11/20 and another 11/30 (BE). The only waterfowl species in good numbers was **Bufflehead** with a peak fallout 11/14 of 152 at PVP, 94 at NSP (both DF,BE), and 87 at CCP (BK). Another out of season bird was a **Hooded Merganser** at RHS 8/7 (DF) in an area where they have been seen before in the summer. A non-breeding plumaged **Common Loon** was at WNT 8/12 (DF) for a rare but not unexpected summer report. **Red-necked Grebe** reports almost matched those received for the normally much more common **Horned Grebe**. One each was at NSP 10/23 (AM,JM); NSP 10/29 (BE); PVP 10/29 (AM); and PVP 11/29-11/30 (AM). A very early **Great Cormorant** was at Giving Pond 8/28 (DA), moving up the fall first arrival date by several weeks. Also, away from its normal lower Del. R. haunts, one was at NSP 11/24 (BE). The highest count reported was 15 at BRS 11/26 (CR,AM). A bonus at the SPT hawk watch site at BUT was an **Anhinga** soaring with the **Broad-winged Hawks** on 9/19 (KM,LM). This was the first report of this species in the county. High counts of **Great Egret** were 14 at RHS 8/7 (DF) and 8 at CCP 8/25 (DF). A juv. **Little Blue Heron** was in Doylestown Twp. 9/11 (TF) for the only sighting of this now rarely reported species. **Black-crowned Night-Heron** was in short supply, in line with its now endangered status in the state. Only max of one immature and one adult were reported on several days between 8/18 and 10/3 at PVP (AM). One was at Silver Lake Park 9/10 (BK). Two adult and an imm were at RHS 11/26 (AM,CR) where it is believed they often winter. A juv. **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** was at PVP 8/31-9/12 (AM) for the only report. It is now almost expected annually there.

The SPT **Bald Eagle** count was 73, which is less than last year's 110 but above the previous 11-year average of 59. There were no regulars at NSP this summer or fall, where it was thought last year that they were getting ready to nest (BE). **Northern Harrier** had its second lowest SPT tally with only 24 compared to an average of 44. The SPT **Broad-winged Hawk** total was 6255, which is well below the average of 19,444 and consistent with low counts over the last few years. Could West Nile Virus be impacting this species? A **Golden Eagle** at PVP 11/10 (IB) was a nice find and the only report. The 127 **American Kestrels** was the third lowest SPT count and well below the average of 176. Noteworthy was a concentration of 22 migrants 10/10 hunting in close proximity at Bedminster Twp. (BE). The SPT count of 28 **Merlins** was only second to last year's record high. Although **Peregrine Falcon** nests in the county, it is always noteworthy as a migrant as well. The total for SPT was 11, which is above average. Six other migrants were reported 10/7-18 from five locations (m.obs.).

American Coot has all but vanished at area lakes in recent years where they were formerly regular in numbers. Observed predation by **Great Black-backed Gulls** and **Bald Eagles** may be a factor (BE,CC,AM). The only location for high counts in recent years is at WNT where 210 were reported 11/26 (CR, AM). A good total of 17 shorebird species was reported but several species were missed. **American Golden Plover** made its normal token appearance with one 9/17-9/18 and 2 on 9/26-9/27 at PRN (DF, AM). A juv. **Spotted Sandpiper** lingered throughout Nov at PVP and was last reported 11/30, which is a new late fall departure date. Accidental here, an **Upland Sandpiper** was at Tyler State Park 8/8 (BK). A juv. plumaged **Semipalmated Sandpiper** at PVP 11/2-11/4 set a new fall late date (AM). Video was reviewed by Paul Lehman to eliminate other species. Three **White-rumped Sandpipers** at PRN 9/17 (DF) and 9/18 (AM) were the only ones reported. A **Pectoral Sandpiper** in Lower Makefield Twp. 11/14 set a new fall late date by one day (DF, BE). Peak tallies were 36 at PRN 9/22 (DF) and 30 at PVP 10/8 (AM). Unbelievable was the total lack of **Dunlin** reports at PVP where suitable habitat was abundant. One was at Churchville Res. 10/7 (BK) for the only report. Another species considered accidental here, **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** was in Plumstead Twp. 8/27-8/31 (AM). Yet another accidental, although reported more frequently in recent years, **Red-necked Phalarope** was in BUT 8/24 (AB) and another stayed at PRN 9/24-9/26 (AM).

A count of 2250 **Laughing Gulls** lingered at TYT 11/19 (MS). A first-winter **Franklin's Gull** was at BUT 11/12 (AB), for only the 4th county report. Unusual at NSP for their meager appearance, only two reports of **Bonaparte's Gull** included a very early juv. 8/12 and one 11/14 (BE). Just as unusual were lingering **Bonaparte's** at PVP where one to three were reported 10/22-11/27 (AM). One **Iceland Gull** was scored as the first fall report from TYT 11/19 where they winter (MS,SKe), and one passed through NSP 11/27 (BE) where they are occasional migrants.

Counts of **Lesser Black-backed Gull** were unusually low until after a cold front 9/18 when 95 and 25 appeared at PVP (AM) and NSP (BE) respectively. The next high count wasn't reported until 11/23 when 89 were at PVP (CR). The first **Glaucous Gull** of the season was at TYT 11/26 (CR,AM). **Great Black-backed Gulls** are known to favor the Delaware R. at Morrisville as indicated by a good count of 220 9/1 (BK). A tally of 1375 was reported from TYT 11/19 (MS). Terns are always a good find locally but were under reported. Four **Caspian Terns** were at NSP 8/9 (BL), one was near BRS 8/13 (DF), and up to 3 were at PVP 8/17-26 (AM). **A Common Tern** was reported 8/8 at PVP (AM) and another 8/30-31 at NSP (BE). **Forster's Tern** was near BRS 8/13 (DF), NSP 8/31 (BE), PVP 10/10 (AM), and CCP 10/21 (BK). The exception to low numbers was a great count of 21 **Black Terns** at NSP 8/30 (BE). One lingered at PVP 8/30-9/1 (AM).

A **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was feeding a recent fledgling at PVP on the late date of 9/10 (AM). The only **Barred Owl** report was from NSP in early Aug (BE). The first **Long-eared Owl** report came from PVP 11/2 (AM). The only other report was one in BUT 11/15-11/24 (MH). The first **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was noted at Richland Twp. 11/12 (DF). **Common Nighthawk** numbers barely make the radar screen with "a few" compared to their continuous presence and often large numbers during fall migration of a few decades ago. Many commented that **Chimney Swifts** were late in above normal numbers. Many were later than the previous fall late date with the latest being at Falls Twp. Park 11/1 (BK). Similarly, a **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** in BUT 10/9 established a new late departure date (MH). A ***Selasphorous*** **Hummingbird** was feeding on flowers at WGT 11/6 (RFr) but was gone by the time a feeder was brought out. Another, based on video showing the feather shape of the fanned tail, was identified as a **Rufous Hummingbird** and believed to be an imm female. It was present in Upper Southampton Twp. 11/20-12/7 (EH, DF (v), NL).

SGL 157 is a local hot spot for migrant **Olive-sided Flycatchers** with individuals seen on multiple days in late Aug (BL). **Willow Flycatcher** was still feeding young in the nest at PVP 8/5, well past the BBA safe date range (AM). One identified as this species at Quakertown Swamp 9/30 sets a new fall late date (BE). Occasional **Eastern Phoebe** reports continued through Nov with the last at NSP 11/30 (BE). With the advent of West Nile Virus, a roost of 1500 to 2000 **American Crows** at NSP in late Oct (BE) has become noteworthy. A flock of 80 **Horned Larks** at HLT 11/23 (CR) was a good early count. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** flocks of 10 on 11/20 and 15 on 11/29 at WNT established a new fall late date (DF). Recent late fall, early winter reports in southeast PA probably indicate this will be the norm going forward. A count of 200 at Washington Crossing 9/29 (BK) is a good indicator of their abundance along the Delaware R. **White-eyed Vireo** has been greatly reduced as a breeder and migrant over many years, and an average of only one plus on each comprehensive report I received confirms it (m.obs).

Black-capped Chickadees were first noted 10/15 at PVP (AM) and irrupted into the area in a big way making them far more common than **Carolina Chickadee** in some areas through the period. Their relatively large size and in some cases lack of timidity, made it likely they were from points well north of our area. **Red-breasted Nuthatch** also staged a major irruption with the first report 8/26 at PVP (AM). The highest count was 15+ at NSP 10/2 (BE). A **House Wren** was late at PVP 11/29 (AM). For a species only reported five times in 70 years, **Sedge Wren** was noted on an amazing four days this fall. The first location was PRN 9/24 (AM) and probably the same bird again there 9/27 (DF,JH). The second location was at PVP 9/26-9/27 (AM) and again there 10/3 at a different location (BS,AM). **Marsh Wren** is expected in small numbers. Reports were of one at PRN 9/27 (DF), 2 at NSP 9/29 (DF,BE), 2 at Quakertown Swamp 9/30 (BE), and one at PRN 10/15 (KR). So far, no one locally has reported counting nocturnal migrating *Catharus* thrush call notes, which might shed some light on how many are actually passing our area. Fall reports of birds on the ground are always few. A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** at PVP 9/16 was the only report (CC). **Swainson's Thrush** did not fair much better with one at Northampton Twp. 9/2 (BK), one at PVP 9/5-9/10 (AM), and one at WGT 9/18 (RFr). A count of approx. 10 **Hermit Thrushes** in close proximity 11/22 at NSP (BE) is noteworthy. As usual **Gray Catbird** and to a much lesser degree **Brown Thrasher** lingered in small numbers through the period (m.obs).

A total of 34 warbler species was reported. Only **Yellow-throated Warbler** and **Prothonotary Warbler** were completely missing from reports. **Golden-winged Warbler** is a locally hard species to find, so two 8/15 at PVP were a pleasant surprise (AM) as was one at SGL157 9/4 (BE). Improved birder skills probably account for increased reports of **Orange-crowned Warbler** with 7 this fall 9/18-10/20 (m.obs). The one at BUT 9/18 set a new fall early arrival date (RS,VS). A new fall late date was reported for **Chestnut-sided Warbler** at Warwick Twp. 10/20 (RFe). Six reports of **Cape May Warbler** were above average (m.obs) with one 10/9 at PVP being a new fall late date (CC,EC). New fall late departure dates were also set for **Black-throated Green Warbler** at PVP 11/19 (CC) and **Black-throated Blue Warbler** at BUT 11/3 (RS,VS). More expected was a late **Palm Warbler** at RHS 11/26 (CR,AM). Extremely rare as a migrant here, a **Cerulean Warbler** was at PVP 8/26-8/27 (AM,DF). A **Northern Waterthrush** at BUT 10/13 (RS,VS) set a new fall late date. **Connecticut Warbler**, always sought by birders, was reported 6 times (m.obs) and a new fall early date was reported from WGT 9/3 (RF). Another new fall late date was reported for **Mourning Warbler** at Giving Pond 10/19 (DA). **Common Yellowthroat** appeared at PVP 11/13 and decided to stay through the month (m.obs). Four at WNT 11/20 (DF) was a high number for so late.

American Tree Sparrow was first noted on an early date of 10/13 at CCP (BK), but numbers overall were low through the period. A **Vesper Sparrow** reported at BUT 8/5 (AB) is an extremely rare summer record. Between 10/20 and 11/3, approx. 5 individuals were reported at PVP for the only other reports (AM). A first-winter **Lark Sparrow** was in Plumstead Twp.10/25 for only the county's 4th report (BW). **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** was again reported at PRN this fall where at least two were flushed 9/27 (DF, JH). A **White-crowned Sparrow** at PVP 10/1 set a new fall early date (AM). Very rarely reported in fall, a **Lapland Longspur** was at HLT 11/23 (CR). A **Snow Bunting** was on time in BUT 10/23 (DS). They were almost missed at NSP where they have been dependable fall migrants with only one there 11/4 (BE). PVP had one 11/5 (ES) and 11/14 (DF,BE).

A late **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** stopped at Doylestown Twp.10/21 (MHo). A good tally of 12 **Blue Grosbeaks** was made at WNT 8/12 (DF) where they are regular. An **Indigo Bunting** in Upper Makefield Twp.11/22 (FS) pushed out the fall late departure date by almost three weeks. A **Baltimore Oriole** at NSP 10/23 (BE) was well past its normal departure date. **Purple Finch** was first noted 9/10 at PVP and irrupted into the area by mid-Oct. Unprecedented for the observers, was the high count of 335 flying over during the early morning at PVP 10/18 with another 50 on 10/19 (AM,JM). **Pine Siskin** barely made it to the list this fall but one to 3 were reported sporadically at Quakertown starting 10/29 through the period (NT).Exotics: Three of the local **Egyptian Geese** were found dead along Rt 611 near Pipersville (DF). Two were at NSP in late Sep and early Oct (BE). The **Black Swan** family of five continued in HLT through the period (AM). A **European Goldfinch** appeared at feeders in Carversville for a day in late Nov (RL).Corrigenda – Vol 19:121 & 133 Mississippi Kite at Buckingham Twp. 5/2; Vol 19:134 Lincoln's Sparrow 5/13 near Newtown, and Blue Grosbeaks at Buckingham Twp. starting 5/14 should all be credited to Marya Halderman (MH) who was omitted from the Observers list. Other MH credits are for Mike Homel.

Observers: **August Mirabella, 1443 Wheaton Lane, North Wales, PA, 19454, (215) 368-0594, augustmirabella@aol.com**, Diane Allison, Ian Baldock, Alan Brady, Chuck Crunkleton, Elaine Crunkleton, Henry D'Allesandro, Sally DeStefano, Gerry Dewaghe, Howard Eskin, Bill Etter, Devich Farbotnik, Steve Farbotnik, Rob Fergus, Doug Filler (DFi), Thomas Ford-Hutchison, George Franchois, Ron French (RFr), Roy Frock (RFo), Gene Gladston, Marya Halderman, Walt Hathaway, Ray Hendrick, Barbara Hiebsch, Erv Hiller, George Hoffman, Mike Homel (MHo), Jason Horn, Steve Kacir, Bill Keim (BK), Sandra Keller (Ke), Ken Kitson, Arlene Koch, Nan Lawrence, Rob Lewis, Butch Lishman, Harry McGarrity, Bob Mercer, Judy Mirabella, Kirk Moulton, Lois Moulton , Russ Neiger, Don Parlee, Joe & Esther Pearson, JoAnn Raine, Ken Rieker, Patricia Rossi, Cameron Rutt, Bob Scheibner, Kurt Schwartz, Bob Shaffer, Matt Sharp, Diane Smith, Richard Smith, Vickie Smith, Elise Spata, Frank Spitzer, Nancy Taque, Babe Webster, Nick Zahn.

Butler County

No Report. No Compiler.

Cambria County

Locations: Dunlo area, (DA) Ebensburg Area, (EB) Patton Area (PT), Prince Gallitzin State Park, (PG).

Tundra Swans made their first appearance at PG 11/14 (RB). **Canvasbacks** were noted 12/4 & 12/8 at PG (RB). **Gadwalls**, **Ruddy Ducks**,and **Horned Grebes** were all seen at PG (RB).

First **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were seen at PG 7/13 (DG). On 8/8 **Least Sandpipers, Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Solitary Sandpipers**, **Least Sandpipers**, and **Spotted Sandpipers** were seen feeding along the shoreline at PG (DG). **Pectoral Sandpipers** were seen 8/15 at PG (DG).

A **Warbling Vireo** was seen at PT 9/18 (DG). A **Red-breasted Nuthatch** and a **Carolina Wren** were feeding on suet at EB 12/16 (JS). A **Swainsons Thrush** was seen at PT 9/27 (DG). The warbler migration was poor in the DA according to (JJ). Other observers report the usual number of migrants. An early snow brought 8 **Fox Sparrows** to a feeder at PT (DG). About a dozen **Snow Buntings** were mixed in with about 100 **Horned Larks** at PT 11/30 (DG).

Observers: **Dave Gobert, 287 Beech St. Patton, PA, 16668, (814) 674-8359, djgobert@verizon.net; John Salvetti,, 519 E. Crawford St., Ebensburg, PA, 15931, (814) 472-9298, jsalvetti70@aol.com**, Rory Bower, Judy Johns.

Cameron County

No Report. No Compiler.

Carbon County

No Report.

David Hawk, 521 Walnut Street, Lehighton, PA, 18235, (610) 377-2407, finch@ptd.net

Centre County

Locations: Bald Eagle State Park (BESP), Bald Eagle Ridge (BER), Bear Meadows, Benner Spring Fish Culture Station (BSFCS), Rt 192 (Brush Valley Rd.), Colyer Lake (COL), Jo Hayes Vista on Tussey Mt. (JHV), Millbrook Marsh (MM), Nixon Rd., Old Gatesburg Rd., Scotia Barrens (SCB), Scotia pond at SCB, Weather station entrance at SCB, Wagner Rd., Whitehall Rd.

More information about some of these locations is available at www.scbirdcl.org. SCB, BER, and JHV are parts of IBAs (see Important Bird Areas at pa.audubon.org). Almost all of the species information for this report comes from 300 postings to the State College Bird Club listserv list scbirdcl@lists.psu.edu during this period. Most statements about trends comes from analysis of this data. This report is in five parts: waterfowl migration, shorebird migration, raptor migration, warbler migration, other migrants, and other sightings.

Waterfowl migration: Several people noted that the waterfowl migration was sparser this year than previous years. All reported waterfowl migration occurred at COL and BESP. The species reported both places between 10/12-11/30 were: **Common Loon**, **Red-throated Loon**, **Horned Grebe**, **Pied-billed Grebe**, **Double-crested Cormorant**, **Tundra Swan**, **Canada Goose**, **Long-tailed Duck**, **Bufflehead**, **Red-breasted Merganser**, **Hooded Merganser**, **Common Merganser**, **American Wigeon**, **Wood Duck**, **Mallard**, **American Black Duck**, **Ruddy Duck**, **American Coot**, **Ring-necked Duck**, **Greater Scaup**, **Lesser Scaup**, **Surf Scoter**, **Northern Pintail**, **Common Goldeneye**. Reporters for COL included: (MAH, JM, NK), and reporters for BESP included (MAH, BS, DH, JY, BS with a group of birders).

Raptor migration: The two hawk watch sites JHV and BER in *Centre* are not attended daily like the Stone Mt. and Jack's Mt. sites in nearby *Huntingdon*. However most of the raptor species are seen here but not in the same numbers as the other two during fall migration. The species reported at JHV between 9/18-10/26 were: **Black Vulture**, **Turkey Vulture**, **Osprey**, **Bald Eagle**, **Northern Harrier**, **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, **Cooper's Hawk**, **Red-shouldered Hawk**, **Golden Eagle** (two imm), **American Kestrel**, **Peregrine Falcon**. The most numerous migrants at JHV during this period were **Red-tailed Hawks** that peaked in the last week of Oct. The main reporter was (CW) with help from (KE, NAB, JL) and other visitors. At the next ridge over at BER were **Osprey**, **Bald Eagle** (two imm), **Northern Harrier**, **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, **Cooper's Hawk**, **Red-shouldered Hawk**, **Red-tailed Hawk** 169 on 10/23 (DO). Over a backyard in Boalsburg close to Tussey Ridge were: **Osprey**, **Northern Harrier**, **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, **Cooper's Hawk**, 165 **Broad-winged Hawk**, **Red-tailed Hawk** 9/19 (JM). Two **Rough-legged Hawks** and eight **American Kestrels** were seen while driving along Rt 192 (Brush Valley Rd.) 11/28 (DO).

Shorebird migration: The shorebird migration was significantly less than reported the same time last year. At COL (which contains some mudflats) between 8/4-8/21 were seen: **Least Sandpiper**, **Solitary Sandpiper**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Semipalmated Sandpiper** (RS. JM, MAH, JD). A **Short-billed Dowitcher** was found at BESP 8/16 (DR via WL). The several-acre wetland near the intersection of Old Gatesburg Road and Whitehall Rd. had a **Least Sandpiper** 8/21 (RS). During the storms from Hurricane Katrina, five **American Golden Plovers** and a **Pectoral Sandpiper** were seen along flooded parts of Nixon Rd. 8/30 (RS, DH, GY). At the SCB pond were **Semipalmated Plover**, **Greater Yellowlegs**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Pectoral Sandpiper**, and **Wilson's Snip**e 9/9 (RS).

Warbler migration: Scotia Barrens (SCB) is a designated IBA (see Important Bird Areas at pa.audubon.org for more information) which is a pass-through area for a large number of migrating warblers every fall and spring. The most active areas this fall as in past years were Scotia Pond and the weather station entrance and areas close to it. The migrating warblers reported at these areas from 8/24-10/5 were the following 31 species: **Blue-winged, Golden-winged**, **Brewster's, Tennessee, Orange-crowned, Nashville, Northern Parula, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Pine, Palm, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Black and white, American Redstart, Worm-eating, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Kentucky, Connecticut, Mourning, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded, Wilson's, and Canada** (RS, JY, DH, MAH, JD, JED, JT, MR, GG, GY, WL). These areas can become extremely active under the right conditions. e.g., on 9/9, 21 warbler species were seen (RS), and on 9/14, 18 warbler species were seen (RS, MR). A Boalsburg residence (same as mentioned under Raptor migration) was also visited by a large number of these species of warblers. A **Cerulean Warbler** was seen at the BSFCS hatchery 8/12 (JM). A **Northern Waterthrush** was found at MM 8/7 (NAB).

Other migrants: The following were fallouts 8/31 from local storms created by Hurricane Katrina: **Pomarine Jaeger** (probable), many **Common Terns**, **Caspian Terns**, **Forster's Terns**, **Black Terns**, **Laughing Gulls**, **Black-bellied Plover**, and **Sanderlings** 8/31 (AK for JH). During the same day 8/31, the same tern species were found by (JY). Three **Black Terns** were seen at COL 8/31 (DH). Thirty to fifty **Common Nighthawks** were seen to fly over N. Atherton St., State College at about 7pm 8/29 (RS). A large flock of **Chimney Swifts** flew over State College borough 10/5 (MAH). **Northern Shrike** seen at BESP 11/30 (MAH). A late **Red-eyed Vireo** in Boalsburg 10/14 (JM). **Blue Jays** were moving in good numbers - well over 100 seen at SCB 9/30 (GG). Nine **Horned Larks** on Williams Rd. 11/25 (JY). **Purple Martins** (many heard, few seen) during Katrina fallout at BESP 8/31 (JY). Thousands of swallows were moving and the least common were **Tree Swallows**; big numbers of **Cliff Swallows** and **Bank Swallows** moved through, as did lots of **Purple Martins** 8/31 (AK for JH). Late **Tree Swallows** at COL 10/26 (NK). Another surprising late migrant was a **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** 10/14 (JM). Many **Gray-cheeked Thrushes** near SCB grouse sign 10/2 (JD). **Chipping Sparrows** were seen at BESP 10/22 (BS). First **Fox Sparrow** for the fall in Boalsburg 10/24 (JM), and four in Toftrees 11/11 (NK). **White-throated Sparrows** were seen in State College 9/30 (MAH) and 10/20 (MJ), and in SCB 10/2 (JD). About sixty **White-crowned Sparrows** were seen feeding in the vegetation bordering the path to the BESP pond 10/22 (BS). **Dark-eyed Juncos** arrived in State College Borough 10/18 at residence of (MJ), and at BESP 10/22 (BS). Forty **Purple Finches** arrived in the front yard of (JM) in Boalsburg 10/25. Six **Rusty Blackbirds** found at BESP 11/6 (BS and group). About 700 **Common Grackles** were gathering at MM 10/26 (NAB). **Pine Siskins** were reported in State College 10/21 (MJ) and three in Boalsburg 10/21 (JM), but they seem to be fewer in number than last year.

Other sightings: At BSFCS two **Great Egrets** found 8/15 (JM), and then five along with seven **Great Blue Herons** 9/6 (JM). A **Bald Eagle** was seen flying over BSFCS about the same time that **Bald Eagles** started showing up there last year 8/1 (JM). At the same place, a **Bald Eagle** and an **Osprey** were seen 8/21 (JM). Two adult **Bald Eagles** were seen together and alone, with and without one of the juv, perching in the nest tree several times this fall at BESP 10/31 (BS for RSc). Three juv **Cooper's Hawks**, one female and two males were seen attentively watching something at BSFCS when a mink attacked the female hawk by grabbing its leg, and after a few moments of furious struggle, the female wrenched herself free 8/4 (JM). A late **Eastern Phoebe** at MM 11/26 (NAB). A little group of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** at Upper Green's Run BESP 10/12 (MAH). More than 200 **Cedar Waxwings** seen at Toftrees 11/11 (NK). A **Northern Waterthrush** visited an artificial brook with waterfall in State College borough 8/13 (MAH). Six species of sparrows were seen during a foggy morning at BESP: **Song**, **Swamp**, **White-throated**, **Field**, **Chipping**, and **Tree Sparrow** 10/2 (MSH).

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Chester County

Locations: Bucktoe Creek Tract (BCT), Chambers Lake (CL), Chester County (Chesco), Church Farm School (CFS), Coatesville Reservoir (CR), Exton (EX), Hibernia Park (HP), Marsh Creek State Park (MC), Struble Lake (SL), Valley Forge National Historical Park (VF), Waterloo Mills Preserve (WMP), West Goshen Township (WGT).

Chester had several occurrences of birds that were somewhat unusual. The warbler migration seemed larger than usual, and **Red-breasted Nuthatches**, delightful little birds not easily found in this area, have been reported all over the county.

A lone **Snow Goose**, appearing healthy, was seen at various bodies of water with a group of 30 **Canada Geese**. The group of geese were observed flying east from EX, and three hours later found what was believed to be the same group at CR, "indicating that geese do disperse over distances of 12 or more miles." (BE). A **Cackling Goose** was at CR 11/24 (TD). The largest group of 5 **Blue-winged Teal** was at CL 9/10 (RR). These ducks are becoming increasingly difficult to find. Only one **American Wigeon** was seen;10/21 at MC (TD). Nine **Northern Shovelers** were at HBSTP 10/21 (TD), another was at HBT 11/2 (BR). A **Redhead** was at MC 12/3, and a female **Long-tailed Duck** at SL the same date (PRBA). Both of these ducks are rare in *Chester*. **Wood Duck**s were at CL 11/11-11/15 (RR). He noted that **Ring-necked Ducks** and **Hooded Mergansers** were present for a day or two. **Buffleheads** fluctuated from 50 on 11/11 to only one 11/15. Five **Lesser Scaup** were at MC 11/23 (N&SP). A female **Surf Scoter** was found with **Buffleheads** and **Ruddy Ducks** at MC 11/15. A **White-winged Scoter** was seen at MC 10/21 (TD). After being absent almost all last winter, **Ruddy Ducks** are building up in numbers this fall. Twenty-five were at MC 10/27 (BE). They increased from 94 on 11/10 to 259 counted 11/24 (TD).

Five **Wild Turkeys**, birds brought back from extirpation by reintroduction, were found at a nature preserve on Skelp Level Rd. late

Oct (JC). Two **Common Loons** were seen at MC 10/27 (BE). **Pied-billed Grebes** were seen at CR, Kurtz Fish Farm, CL, and MC. The first report of **Horned Grebes** came from MC when 2 were found 11/26 (HM, BCDC). **Double-crested Cormorants** were seen at various bodies of water with a high count of 6 at VF 10/23 (RW). An **American Bittern** was at MC 9/1 (JMa). These birds may be common in *Chester*, but are rarely seen. Five **Great Egrets** were in Downingtown 8/9 (TD). John McNamara found 3 imm **Little Blue Herons** while kayaking on MC 9/1. Since Little Blue Herons do not nest in *Chester*, one wonders how far these birds traveled after fledging.

Probably because of an increase in their population, **Bald Eagles** are increasingly being seen around the county and more often away from bodies of water. Three imms were at CL 9/24 (RM). An adult **Bald Eagle** was seen 11/24 near Phoenixville. It swooped down in an attempt to catch a road-killed opossum. This happened right in front of (KG's) car traveling along the road at the time. **Northern Harriers** were reported at HP, one (TD); two at CFS (N&SP); one at SL (HM, BCDC). Twenty-two **Broad-winged Hawks** flew over BCT in southern *Chester* (AU). This was the largest group of Broad-wings reported. KFr had a **Red-shouldered Hawk** on his property "who is doing away with all of my Garter Snakes. Almost daily I see it carrying a snake to a perch." The hawk was still there as of 10/24. A **Merlin** or two were patrolling CL and CR during the beginning of Sep. One was at CR on 9/7 (TD). A **Virginia Rail** was at CL 9/15 (TD). While kayaking, (JMa) found a **Sora** at MC 9/1. The usual location for rails in *Chester* was the Embreeville marsh which has been degraded by diverting the water to another location in the park. A **Sora** was also seen at CL 9/15 (TD) and 9/17 (CC, EC).

Eight species of shorebirds were at CR 9/7 including **Semipalmated Plover**, **Killdeer**, **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Solitary**, **Spotted**, **Semipalmated**, **Least** and several **Pectoral Sandpipers** (BE). In addition to he previous species a juv **Stilt Sandpiper** was there 9/8 (CC). A **Stilt Sandpiper** was there 10/5 (N&SP). The only **Western Sandpiper** was at CL 9/28 (LL, et al.). An **American Woodcock** was flushed at the Skelp Level Rd. nature preserve 11/4 (JC). This species is surely present in fall, but almost never reported except during its mating season in the spring.

The only **Laughing Gull** was reported at CL 8/16 (LL). **Bonaparte's Gulls** were seen at MC on at least three occasions; 7 were there 11/23 (BB), 3 on 11/23 (N&SP) and one 11/26 (HM, BCDC). Large numbers of gulls were noted at SL 12/13 with about numbers increasing from about 5000 to about 20,000 by day's end. Ring-billed Gulls made up about 90% with Herring Gull accounting for the remainder. Two **Caspian Terns** were at CL 8/29 (N&SP). Two **Black Terns** were at MC 8/27 & 9/1 (N&SP).

Eurasian Collared-Dove reports for the county are accumulating. They were first reported in Coatesville in July (LL). Three were seen there 8/8 (TD). Another **Eurasian Collared-Dove** was reported in West Chester 9/13 (N&SP).

This seemed to be the "Autumn of the **Rufous Hummingbird**" in *Chester*. An adult male was in West Grove beginning 10/12 (MD). An imm female was in WGT from 10/30 (N&SP). Two were reported in Elverson 11/7 with one being banded 11/8 (CTr, SW), one bird lingered until 11/18.

A **Philadelphia Vireo** was at CL 9/3 (LL). Three were found at HP 9/5 (NP). A more-than-usual number of **Black-capped Chickadees** have been identified this year. An unusual number of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were present this fall. Birders have reported finding them all over the county. A **Swainson's Thrush** was at a private preserve near Kennett Square 9/11(AU). A late **Wood Thrush** at the WMP 11/12, feeding on worms in the leaf litter (KFr). **American Robins** have been gathering about the county in large groups. During the end of Oct into Nov, (JC) had 2000 **American Robins** in trees around the Oaklands Corporate Center in Exton. **American Pipits** were on Given Rd., Honeybrook Twp. in early Oct. (LW). Twenty were found in HBT 10/21 (TD). One to 3 birds were seen on two occasions in WGT (N&sP). A flock of 100+ **Cedar Waxwings** in Miller Park in EX 11/4 (JC). Several flocks were reported at MC and Downingtown (HM) and many were reported at BCT 9/10 (JS, ES).

Many migrants were seen including several very colorful warblers. They included **Chestnut-sided**, **Magnolia**, **Black-throated Blue**, **Black-throated Green**, **Blackpoll**, **Black and white**, **American Redstart**, **Common Yellowthroat**, and **Canada**. A first-year **Mourning Warbler** was found 9/6, (JS, ES) in their yard. Noteworthy birds found at Welkinweir 9/10 were **Nashville Warbler** and a **Blackburnian Warbler** (LSV). Twelve warbler species were recorded at BCT 9/11. In addition to the previous species, **Northern Parula** and **Ovenbird** were found (AU). Several **Palm Warblers** were at MC 10/27 (BE). **Orange-crowned Warblers** were found at BCT 10/22 (AU) and WMP 10/24 (KFr, BrB). An unusual number of **Connecticut Warblers** were found including 2 at WMP 9/20-9/21 (KFr), one in WGT 9/22 (N&SP), one at MC 10/5 (LW), one adult at BCT 10/8, an adult male and female there 10/4 (AU), and a female and first fall male also at BCT 10/6 (JS).

A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was at WMP mid-Oct (KFr). The rarely-reported **Lincoln's Sparrow** was found at CL 9/17 (CC, EC) and 9/22 (RR). Seven species of sparrows were observed at WMP 10/24 (KFr) including **Chipping**, **Lincoln's Sparrow**, **White-throated Sparrow**, and **White-crowned**. **American Tree Sparrow**, a couple of **Fox Sparrows**, and **White-crowned Sparrows** were observed at HP 11/14 (RR). An imm **Blue Grosbeak** was at BCT 10/24 (JS). A female **Rusty Blackbird**, another rarely-reported migrant, was at CL 9/24-9/28. **Purple Finches** seem to be more numerous this year. Twelve reports were received with a max of 35+ at WMP 10/24 (KF).

S.A.
I asked (KFr) what he thought about this fall's migration. I thought that the birds were more numerous, early, and observable this year than in years past. He replied, "It very well may be that we are seeing so many birds and higher species diversity being consolidated in smaller areas around here. That enables us birders to find more birds in fragments with less effort. With all the development, there are only a few remaining places where the birds can stop over and refuel before migrating further." He suggested, "If you're able to enhance the remaining places by removing invasive plants and reintroducing native plants that offer immeasurable value to these hungry little guys, you make it that much more attractive. Not only for the birds. but for us as well." Kevin is an Environmental Manager for the Brandywine Conservancy.

Exotic: A male **Mandarin Duck**, presumably an escapee from someone's aviary, hung around CL for a week or two from mid-Sep. (RR, LL).

Observers: **Eleanor Wolf, 148 Harvest Lane, Phoenixville, PA 19460 (610) 933-6414 wolf riel@ voicenet.com**, Gary Becker, Mike Bertram, Birding Club of Delaware County, Barry Blust (BB), Brian Byrnes (BrB), Elizabeth Cahoe, Chuck Chalfant, Elaine Chalfant, Joshua Clapper, Molly Daly, Theodore Drozdowski, Bill Etter, Kevin Fryberger, Abby Garcia, Kathleen Geist, Frank Haas, Barbara Hiebsch, Phyllis and Beryl Hurlock, Sandra Keller, Rick Keyser, Kathy King, Larry Lewis, Andrew McGann, Rand McIlvane, John McNamara, Holly Merker, Lewis and Judie Norton, Martin Page, Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology, Nick Pulcinella, Sharon Pulcinella, Philadelphia Rare Bird Alert, Marita Richards, Rick Robinson, Brian Rolek, Ellen Sebastiani, Joe Sebastiani, Bob Shutsky, Linda Stockman-Vines, Carla Trego, Andie Urquhart, Laura Wagner, Wednesday Group, Scott Weidensaul, Dan and Hoy White, Richard Wolf.

Clarion County

Locations: Clarion Area (CA), Curllsville (CV), Kahle Lake (KL), Leeper (LP), Shippenville (SV).

Snow Geese are rarely seen in *Clarion*, so two flocks at Wentlings Corners 11/18 were a real surprise (WF, SM). The first report of **Tundra Swans** was from SV 11/11(MB). Waterfowl migration, best observed at KL from mid-Nov-mid-Dec, was confined to the usual species in rather sparse numbers except for 40+ **Ruddy Ducks** 11/10 (MB). Hunters and birders alike report that numbers of **Ruffed Grouse** are way down (JS, TB); only one report came from SV 10/1 (MB).

Pied-billed Grebes were rather common all season. Two **Red-necked Grebes** were at KL 11/9 & 11/15 (WF). One **Horned Grebe** appeared at KL 11/27 (ML). A **Double-crested Cormorant**, marooned on dry land in downtown Clarion, was captured and released into the Clarion R.10/28 apparently none the worse for having mistaken a wet parking lot or road surface for real water the previous night (PD, JH, BM).

From Aug-Dec numerous reports of **Bald Eagles** at KL (MB,WF, ML) and one report from the Allegheny R. at Sarah Furnace 8/26 attest to the growing population of this species (R&A McG). Only one **Northern Goshawk** appeared at LP 11/24 (LC). The first **Rough-legged Hawk** of the season was at CV 12/3 (CW). A **Wilson's Snipe** found at Leatherwood 12/14 supplied a late record (CW). Two **Common Terns** and a **Black Tern** at KL 8/3 were probably related to Hurricane Katrina (MB).

The first record of a **Short-eared Owl** for this season was reported 11/12 at CV (CW). The only report of **Common Nighthawks** was from Fisher where 8 were seen hunting 8/19 (RS). **Chimney Swifts** by the hundreds were seen entering a downtown Emlenton chimney after sunset 9/15 (MB&JH). A rare **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** migrated through CV 9/12 (CW). On 11/14 a very late **Eastern Phoebe** appeared at CV (CW). One **Common Raven** was reported at LP 11/25 (LC). Although **Red-breasted Nuthatches** breed and stay all year in Cook Forest SP in northern *Clarion*, until this year they were never common in the southern part of the county when several observers noted them at KL, CA, SV, CV from Sep-Dec.

A flock, 75+, of **American Pipits** was reported from KL 11/15 (WF). Winter **Fox Sparrows** turned up first 11/10 in SV (HB) and continued for the season. A few **Lincoln's Sparrows** occupied the same spot in SGL 63 (SV) from 10/2-10/23 and then moved on (HB&MB). The haunting whistles of **White-throated Sparrows** also could be heard in SGL 63 from 10/6-Nov (MB). The first **Snow Buntings** of the season were found at KL 11/27 (ML). Five late **Brown-headed Cowbirds** invaded feeders in SV 12/11 (MB). **Orchard Orioles** were migrating in a relatively large group, 10, at CV 8/13 (CW). The first **Pine Siskin** showed up 11/8 at CV (CW).

Observers: **Margaret Buckwalter, 249 Maple Dr., Shippenville PA 16254, (814) 782-3925, buckwalter01@alltel,net**, Hendrika Bohlen, Ted Buckwalter, Lois Callahan, Pete Dalby, Walter Fye, Janice Horn, Michael Leahy, Ray & Alice McGunigle, Shirley Monrean, Bob Moore, Ruth Schurr, Carole Willenpart.

Clearfield County

One lone female **Evening Grosbeak** was reported at a feeder in Houtzdale 11/6 (SB) and a walk around a private fish hatchery in Drifting during a snow squall produced a single **American Tree Sparrow** 11/24 (JM).

Observers: **Jeff Michaels, 808 Torrey Lane, Boalsburg, PA, 16827, (814) 466-3494, gwenjeffmarie@lazerlink.com**, Steve Belin

Clinton County

Locations: Lock Haven (LH), McElhatten (McE), Susquehanna River (SR),Woolrich (WR).

Waterfowl migration was very light during the season. The only noteworthy reports were of **Long-tailed Ducks** and one **Ring-necked Duck** on the SR at LH 11/9 (JS, WL) and one white **Snow Goose** on the SR at McE 11/15 (C&CH). One **Black Vulture** was seen at WR 11/2 (C&CH). A **Merlin** was observed along the SR at LH 11/29 (JS). A lone **Peregrine Falcon** was seen flying over Avis 10/15 (BZ). Fifteen **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were banded at Swissdale during Oct-Nov (WL).

Compared to the 2004 fall season, shorebird reports were very scarce. Other than the usual **Killdeer**, one **Lesser Yellowlegs** was found near LH 9/18 (WL) and one **Pectoral Sandpiper**, also near LH, 9/20 (WL).

The last **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** report was 9/22 at Avis (BZ). Rare for the county, a **Connecticut Warbler** appeared in a yard in WR 9/16 (C&CH). A small flock of **Rusty Blackbirds** were found at McE 10/18 (BZ). Another rarity for *Clinton*, a **Lincoln's Sparrow**, was found in a yard in WR 9/21 (C&CH). Finally, regarding finches, **Pine Siskins** began showing up at feeders at a WR residence from 10/18-Nov (C&CH).

Observers: **Wayne Laubscher, 749 E. Croak Hollow Rd., Lock Haven, PA, 17745, (570) 748-7511 wlaubsch@cub.kcnet.org,** Carol and Charles Hildebrand, Jeff Schaffer, Beth Zbegner.

Columbia County
No Report.
Doug Gross, 144 Winters Road, Orangeville, PA, 17859, (570) 458-4568, dougross@sunlink.net

Crawford County

Locations: Conneaut Marsh (CM), Conneaut Lake (CL), Hartstown Marsh (HM), Woodcock Lake (WL), Pymatuning Causeway (PC), Pymatuning Goose Management Area (PGMA), Pymatuning Spillway (PS), Pymatuning Fish Hatchery (FH), Tamarack Lake (TL).

Single **Snow Geese** showed up at FH 9/24 (MV), MB and PGMA (NT). I found 2 **Blue Geese** at the FH 9/25 and one10/5. One **Greater White-fronted Goose** was at PGMA 10/23 (RS) and another there 11/20 (MV). For the most part, **Tundra Swans** came through the area late and most were passing by and not stopping to feed or rest, the best count was 1043 on 11/17 (SK). I counted 573 **Wood Ducks** at PGMA 9/15 and 1146 were noted there 10/6 (AM). Thirty-six **Blue-winged Teal** flew over the PS 10/23, and 40 **Green-winged Teal** were at Pymatuning 10/9. **Northern Shovelers** were present at Pymatuning 8/27-11/27. A **Northern Pintail** was located at MP 8/27 (MV). **Gadwalls** peaked at (PYM) 10/21 at 65 and **American Wigeon** high count was 45 on 11/2. A single **Common Goldeneye** was seen at Woodcock Lake (RFL) 11/27 & 11/28. All **mergansers** made a good showing in the area with high counts of 1790 **Hoodeds** 11/20, 25 **Commons** 11/19, and 1804 **Red-breasteds** 11/20. Fifty-two **Ruddy Ducks** were counted at (PYM) 11/20.

The first **Common Loon** was recorded at PC 10/23 with 52 on 11/20. Nine **Horned Grebes** were on the PC 11/27, and three **Pied-billed Grebes** at CL 11/27. A record high count of 516 **Double-crested Cormorants** in the Pymatuning region occurred 11/2. The **Great White Heron** reappeared at FH 11/20-11/22 (JC). Fewer than usual (4 high total) **Great Egrets** appeared at Pymatuning this fall. Three **Cattle Egrets** were reported 11/11-11/13 at CM (JMcW) and one at PGMA (m.obs). A rather late **Green Heron** was present at FH 10/23.

A good count of 19 **Turkey Vultures** were noted at Meadville 8/21. **Ospreys** were seen at TL 9/8, and PYM 11/13 (B&MAV) and (WL) near the dam11/28 (late). An imm **Northern Goshawk** was noted at GMA 11/20 and a dark phased **Rough-legged Hawk** showed up there 11/27. **Merlins** were found at PGMA 10/9 (RS) and 10/16. I had a **Peregrine Falcon** on Wilson's Rd.(PGMA) being harassed by an **American Kestrel** 10/23.

Common Moorhens remained in the area to 10/6 (CM). A **Black-bellied Plover** was found at WL 9/19 (RFL), and single **American Golden Plovers** were noted at PGMA 9/3 (MV) and 9/8 WL (RFL, RCL). Both **Greater** and **Lesser Yellowlegs** were found here through the period but in smaller than usual numbers. Seven **Hudsonian Godwits** were feeding at the larger Miller Pond mudflats PGMA 10/2 (RFL). I saw them at a distance by 30X scope, something spooked them and they flew and landed very close to the road so I could see their upturned bills. There ringed tail with black and white broad bands and there grayish-black legs. I have had these birds many times over the years mainly single birds.10/28/78 PYM. FH 11/2/1978 also FH and 10/18/1980 Oregon NWR near Toledo Ohio and PISP, *Erie*. Two of the 7 birds were still at Miller Pond 10/5 (RFL). Two **Sanderlings** were spotted at WL 10/16 (RFL). **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were present at Pymatuning 7/7-10/16 (MO). **Least Sandpiper** from 7/10-10/23 (MO). There were 30 **Pectoral Sandpipers** at WL 8/14 and 10 there 10/16. **Dunlins**, 2, were first found 10/21 WL and 15 at FH 11/2. Mark Vass had 15 there 11/12 these numbers are smaller than usual – maybe due to the high water levels this fall at all the area lakes. A single **Stilt Sandpiper** was seen 7/21 PGMA (RCL). A **Short-billed Dowitcher** was found 7/5 PGMA (RCL, RFL) and 26 was a good count there 7/16 (MV). **Long-billed Dowitchers** were seen from 10/9 (RS) to 10/29 at PGMA 10 was the high count 10/16 (MV, GM).

Scott Kinzey had 1000 **Bonaparte's Gulls** at Pymatuning 11/17 for a high count, and a 1st year **Laughing Gull**, likely a new species for *Crawford*, 9/5-9/6 at PS. Up to 3 **Caspian Terns** were found at PYM, from 7/7-8/27 (MO). The only report of **Common Terns** were 2 at PS 7/9 (MV) and one imm **Black Tern** was at FH 7/23 (KS, BS, MV).

Both **Yellow-billed and Black-billed Cuckoos** were found at HM 7/2-8/27 (MB, RFL). An **Eastern Screech Owl** was seen at SP 11/13 (RFL), single **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were heard at Hatch Hill Rd., Wayland (Meedville) 7/24 (RFL, RCL, KM), and at Bousson's (also near Wayland) 9/12 (RCL, RFL). **Barred Owls** were found at HM 9/4-10/10 (MB) and 2 at Meadville 12/10 (RFL). **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were found at HM 7/3 & 7/10 (MB). Single **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were present at Conneaut Marsh 9/11 (BS) and 9/13 (RFL). A late **Least Flycatcher** was found at CM 9/12 (RCL, RFL). A **Philadelphia Vireo** was counted at Genia, CM, (WS, DS). Fifty-five **Tree Swallows** were counted at Mud L. near Hartstown 10/23 (MB) and a **Barn Swallow** was seen at FH 10/23 RFL.

A **Northern Shrike** was at a feeder near HM 11/10 (IH). I had 2 **Winter Wrens** across from the FH 9/25 and single ones were present at HM 10/10 & 11/5 (MB). Two **Gray-cheeked Thrush** were near the FI parking lot 10/2 (RFL). A **Blue-winged Warbler** was found at Pine Rd. HM 7/3 (MB). The last **Yellow Warbler** was one at PS 8/16 (RFL). A **Blackburnian Warbler** was seen at CM 9/15 along with a **Bay-breasted Warbler** 9/15 (WS, DS). A **Cerulean Warbler** was recorded southwest of TL 7/2 (RCL, RFL). A good find was a **Connecticut Warbler** near the Geneva Wells SM 9/15 (WS, DS). Twelve **Snow Buntings** were found at PC 11/20 RFL and 25 11/23 (SK). A late **Eastern Meadowlark** was found at PYM 11/27 (RFL). **Rusty Blackbirds** were in good numbers from 2-116 at Gena, CM and PGMA 9/25–11/13 (MO).

Observers: **Ronald F. Leberman, 11508 Pettis Rd., Meadville, PA, 16335, (814) 724-5071**, Marvin Byler, Jack Christman, Irene Hochstetter, Scott Kinzey, Robert C. Leberman, Ronald F. Leberman, Jerry McWilliams, Anthoney Marich, Karlin Marsh, Many Observers, Dona Shaffer, Walt Shaffer, Becky Smith, Randy Stringer, Neil Troyer, Bob VanNewkirk , Mary Ann VanNewkirk, Mark Vass.

Cumberland County
No Report.
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Dauphin County

Locations: Boyd's Big Tree Conservation Area (BBT), Clarks Creek Valley (CCV), East Hanover Twp. (EHT), Fishing Creek Valley (FCV), Harrisburg (HBG), Hershey IBA (HIBA), Hummelstown (HUM), Londonderry Twp. (LDT), Lower Paxton Twp. (LPT), Millersburg (MBG), South Hanover Twp. (SHT), Stony Creek Valley (SCV), Susquehanna River (SR), Susquehanna River from Fort Hunter (SFH), Susquehanna River from Harrisburg (SHB), Susquehanna River from Marysville (SMV), Susquehanna River from Royalton (SRT), Susquehanna River from West Fairview (SWF), Wildwood Lake (WL).

The **Trumpeter Swan** (tag #698), first reported at SWF 8/10 (RK), has remained at this location, in the company of two **Mute Swans** and other waterfowl, through the fall. This is the same individual that spent three months earlier this year, Jan-Mar, at L. Ontelaunee, *Berks*. It is from the Wye Marsh Wildlife Center near Midland, ON which is located near the southern shore of Georgian Bay about 75 miles north of Toronto. Wye Marsh began their Trumpeter Swan reintroduction program about 15 years ago, and it is rare, according to Wildlife Manager Renee Fountain, for one to wander south into the US. A raft of 18 **Brant** was found on the SR near Middletown 10/21 (DH).

Unusually high numbers of **Wood Ducks** and **Blue-winged Teals** were reported this fall. At WL 117 **Wood Ducks** were counted 8/30 (CRb) and about 150 were at the Highspire Res.10/27 (CBt). **Blue-winged Teal** numbers increased at SWF 8/18-9/14 (m.obs) topping out at 58 on 8/31 (RK). During the last week of Sep through the first week of Oct all three **scoters** were reported on SR at or near HBG. Two **Surf** and one **White-winged** were reported on 10/21 (DH) while a few **Black Scoters** were found 10/25 (JG, TJ). Twelve **Black Scoters** were also reported 11/3 (CRt). A few **Long-tailed Ducks** were also present during this two week period (DH, RK). **Bufflehead** arrived SHB by 10/21 (DH) and **Common Goldeneye** reports began 11/17 (CRt). A **Red-breasted Merganser** was found a SRT 10/25 (PF) and by mid-Nov many were being observed from SWF north to SMV where the high count of 17 was made 11/15 (CRt). **Ruddy Duck** was another species that was first noted in late Oct when 15 were counted 10/24 SHB (DH). Reports of Ruddies continued into early Dec on the SR and seven were even found at L.Tobias near Halifax 11/17 (SB).

The first report of **Common Loon** came from SFH 10/21 when seven were found (DH) and continued to be reported to near the end of the period when six were observed SWF 11/22 (CRt). **Pied-billed** and **Horned Grebe** were both present on the SR from 10/24-Nov (m.obs) while a **Red-necked Grebe** was observed SWF 10/30 (CRt).

American Bittern sightings began 9/4 with one SHB (BK), another was reported in Progress 10/27 (DH), and concluded with the discovery of a fresh road kill in EHT 11/12 (NC). **Great Egrets** are common along the SR through Oct. What was notable however was their concentration each evening in late Aug and early Sep on the flats in mid-river and could be viewed from either SWF or HBG. Nearly 300 were counted on a few evenings during the last week of Aug (RK, PW, RW). Combine this with another 50+ roosting in trees on the south end of City Island in early Sep (BK). The last **Great Egret** was noted 10/24 SR near Middletown (DH), while a **Green Heron** lingered at an EHT pond 10/29 (NC), and a **Double-crested Cormorant** was still at SWF 11/17 (CRt). **American Coot** was found at a variety of locations in Oct and Nov (m.obs.).

The first **Osprey** was observed SWF 8/23 (P & RW). Although most **Bald Eagle** reports are from the SR one was sighted over SHT 10/20 (TJ) and another near HUM 11/12 (PF). A **Peregrine Falcon** was observed 9/5 while conducting the nighthawk count in HBG (BK). The first **Merlin** report was of one in HER 9/30 (JC, AS) while another flew by SWF 11/5 (CRt). On an impromptu raptor count at BBT 10/23 nearly 200 individual birds were tallied in only two hours, including one **Bald Eagle**, one **Golden Eagle**, one **Northern Goshawk**, six **Red-shouldered Hawks**, and two **Merlins** (DH).

With SR levels at their lowest in three years at HBG (just over three feet) there was hope for a good shorebird migration. The first shorebird report came in 8/11 with two **Semipalmated Plovers**, both **Greater** and **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Solitary**, **Spotted**, **Semipalmated**, **Least**, and **Pectoral Sandpipers**, and two **Short-billed Dowitchers** all found on the island flats at SWF (RK). A **Buff-breasted** and two **White-rumped Sandpipers** were added 8/30 (TJ), and a **Stilt Sandpiper** was observed at this location 8/31 (RK). A **Long-billed Dowitcher** was reported from SMV 9/1 (DB). A very late discovery of a **Dunlin** at a pond in SHT 11/24 (TJ) was noteworthy. This is the latest report for this species by nearly a month, 10/27/97 had been its previous late date.

Two reports of **Laughing Gull** came in this quarter. The first SWF 8/31 (PF, RK, AS) and, the second, 10/24 SHT (TJ). An unusually large flight, for this time or year, of **Bonaparte's Gulls** was observed SWF 11/14 (CRt) and; a rather late **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was noted 11/24 SHB (TJ). The first **Caspian Tern** was seen SHB 8/22 (BH), and as many as five were observed 8/25 at SWF (RK). This species continued to be observed along the river through mid-Sep. A **Common Tern** was reported SWF 8/30 (TJ) and two **Black Terns** observations came in 8/31, the first was of two flying SMV (DB) and other was of one at SWF (RK).

Due to an unusually mild Oct the Small Valley Saw-whet Owl banding operation in northern *Dauphin*, got off to a slow start. Things picked up in early Nov when 23 **Northern Saw-whets Owls** were netted in one night leading to a final tally, by the end of Nov, of 198 (SL, SW). **Long-eared Owls** returned to roost sights near Hershey by the end of Nov. The **Common Nighthawk** count conducted from late Aug-early Sep yielded fewer than expected (BH, BK, RK, RW). The highest count came 8/27, when 15 were tallied HBG (RK, RW). More interesting were some of the other observations, such as the Great Egret roosts noted earlier in this report, and including a **Chimney Swift** roost in the chimney of the Riverview Manor Apartments on Front St. in HBG where hundreds were seen entering just before dark on a few occasions during the last week of Aug (RK, PW, RW). The latest **Chimney Swift** report was 10/17 BBT (CBI).

A **Rufous Hummingbird** arrived to an array of potted salvias/sages SHT 10/19 (JG, TJ), was banded and positively identified 10/20 (SW). It remained at this location and was observed by many through early Dec. Nesting **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were reported near Millersburg (GW) and two adults and two juv were observed at this location 8/12 (RK, JR). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** sightings began 10/9 SHT (TJ). A **Least Flycatcher** was at WL 8/23 (J&BH), **Olive-sided Flycatcher** and **Philadelphia Vireo** were reported both 8/31 & 9/5 SHT (TJ), while a **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** was found near HUM 10/6 (PF). Another **Philadelphia Vireo** was found in SGL 246, 9/17 (CBt). **Purple Martins** have become a rare sighting in the county in recent years so when one was observed with other swallows SWF 8/25 (RK) it is noteworthy. Seven **Common Ravens** were among the raptors counted at BBT 10/23 (DH).

The first **Red-breasted Nuthatch** of the season was noted SHT 8/20 (JG). Observations of this species were unusually common and were reported from various locations through to the end of the quarter (m.obs.). **Winter Wren** arrived 9/28 SHT (P&RW) and were also common through the season. A more unusual find was a **Marsh Wren** at WL 8/23 (J&BH). The first **Golden-crowned Kinglet** was noted 9/28 (CRb) while the initial **Ruby-crowned** report came in 10/11 SHT (TJ). An **American Pipit** was found SWF 8/30 (TJ), while seven others were counted on the SR islands south of the Rt. 83 bridge 10/24 (DH). **American Pipits** were still being reported SWF 11/5 (CRt). Good night flight counts were conducted during the latter half of Sep. On 9/19 and 9/25 SHT, and 9/27 HBG hundreds of **Swainson's Thrushes** were noted each night along with **Veery**, **Gray-checked**, **Bicknell's**, **Hermit**, and **Wood Thrushes** (DH, TJ). A **Gray-checked Thrush** was also observed in HBG 10/4 (DH).

Two **Orange-crowned Warbler** reports came in this fall. The first in SHT 10/11 (TJ) and the second just three days later in HBG (DH). The only **Connecticut Warbler** found was in SCV in Sep (TS) while a **Mourning Warbler** made an appearance in SHT 8/31 (TJ). A rather late **Cape May Warbler** was noted 10/21 along Progress Ave. HBG (RK). A **Blue Grosbeak** was heard calling SWF 8/30 (TJ) and **Dickcissel** was among the species noted on two night flight counts 9/19 SHT and 9/27 HBG (TJ & DH respectively).

The highlight of this season's sparrow reports was that of a **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** found on a grassy island in the SR near the PennDOT building. It was in the company of about 50 **Swamp** and a few **Savannah Sparrows** 10/24 (DH). Although there was an unusually early report of **White-throated Sparrows** at WL 8/23 (J&BH) most did not return until late Sep. The first **Fox Sparrow** was noted 10/30 CCV (RK), and the first **American Tree Sparrow** 11/19 EHT (NC). A few **White-crowned Sparrows** were found at the HIBA 11/21 (JR). **Dark-eyed Juncos** returned in early Oct.

Purple Finch were first reported 9/4 SGL 246 (RK, JR) and were present at HUM and SHT feeders through mid-Nov (m.obs.). The first **Pine Siskin** was observed 10/22 SHT and a few **Red Crossbills** were found near Dauphin 10/27 (TJ). **Pine Siskins** were also reported in FCV 11/19-20 (PF). A lone male **Evening Grosbeak** paid a visit in SHT 10/29 (P&RW).

Observers: **Richard Williams, 3 Parkside Dr., Hummelstown, PA 17036, (717) 566-6562, RWPuffin@aol.com**, Chuck Berthoud (CBt), Scott Bills, Carolyn Blatchley (CBl), Dan Boger, Greg Burgdorf, John Carricato, Nancy Cladel, Pete Fox, Jan Getgood, Bill Hintze, Deuane Hoffman, Jenni & Barry Horton, Tom Johnson, Bill Kimmich, Ramsay Koury, Sandy Lockerman, Terry Neumyer, Chris Rebert (CRb), Joan Renninger, Cameron Rutt (CRt), Art Schiavo, Tom Smith, Larry Usselman, Scott Weidensaul, Patricia Williams, Gene Wingert, Sally & Rich Zaino.

Delaware County

Locations: Darby Creek (DC), Delaware River (DR), Darlington Tract (DT), Haverford College (HC), John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum-DelCo portion (TI), Philadelphia International Airport (PHL), Ridley Creek State Park (RCSP), Rose Tree Park Hawk Watch (RTP), Springton Reservoir (SR), Tyler Arboretum (TY)

We have bittersweet feelings for the bird of the season, a **Varied Thrush** found dead in Glen Mills 11/20. Presumably the bird collided with a window. Luckily, the homeowner Rich Clark is a bit of a birder and knew it was not "just a robin." I delivered the bird to the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia for inclusion in its specimen collection. This bird died less than half a mile from the Darlington Tract, one of the most frequented birding places in the county. The only accepted record for the species in *Delaware* was at a Media feeder in January,1991.

Not many **Snow Geese** were reported migrating over the county. Their timing was within normal dates, 600 were tallied at RTP 11/27. AG scored a good bird for his "county big year" when he saw a **Cackling Goose** in Radnor Twp.11/10. Four **Tundra Swan** flew over RTP 10/26. Springton Res. was a bit of a disappointment. The dependable waterfowl species were seen briefly and in limited numbers. Probably the warm temperatures delayed the arrival of the most sought after species. A few **American Wigeon**, 33 **Ring-necked Duck**, and a **Greater Scaup** were seen in late Nov (AG). **Bufflehead** and **Ruddy Duck** were sighted beginning in Oct. **Canvasback**, **Common Goldeneye**, all **scoters** and **Long-tailed Duck** were absent. Darby Creek near Rt. 420 is always a good place for **Green-winged Teal** beginning as early as Aug and a **Blue-winged Teal** was there 9/6 and at SR 9/25 (AG). **Northern Pintail** lingered at DC near Rt. 420, but most were reported as flyovers at RTP 10/7-10/28. **Pied-billed Grebe** was present at SR.

Double-crested Cormorant are plentiful along the DR and frequently visit SR. **Great Cormorant** were first reported on the DR 11/2 (DM). The mudflats at DC attract **Great Blue Heron** and **Great Egret**

during and after breeding at the NJ rookery. This year fewer birds were present. They were drawn instead to the attractive mudflats created by the USFWS at the impoundment in the *Philadelphia* portion of the refuge.

The fall season of the RTP Hawk Watch spanned 8/18-11/30 and dozens of volunteers counted 6809 migrating vultures and raptors. This result is on the low side for the hawk watch, but some new records were set. The previous high count of **Bald Eagle** was 156 in 2001, but this fall 278 **Bald Eagles** were tallied. **Red-shouldered Hawk** also set a record with 278 birds exceeding the 2001 high of 192. Twenty-two **Peregrine Falcon** was a new high, but 281 **American Kestrel** was the second lowest fall total since 2001. Even so the 281 kestrels were 100 more birds than last year. Daily reports, monthly summaries and archives of this hawk watch can be found at www.hawkcount.org.

Virginia Rail, once the most common rail and a breeder in the county, is now frequently overlooked as a fall migrant. One was at TI 10/9 (AG). Two **Black-bellied Plover** flew over RTP 8/31 (HM, JD). On the mudflats at DC 8/13, were **Semipalmated Plover**, 500 **Semipalmated Sandpipers**, and dozens of **Least Sandpipers** (DM**,** m.obs). **Pectoral Sandpiper** was present 8/13-10/23, earlier and longer than usual. **Greater Yellowlegs** were on the DC mudflats from at least 8/13, and as late as 11/6 two flew over RTP. **Solitary Sandpiper** stopped at SR 8/27-10/9 (AG). **Wilson's Snipe** are easily seen at the Firefighter's pond at PHL, but three over RTP were unusual. Also unexpected over RTP was a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** 10/4 and a **Black Tern** 8/31 (JD, HM).

Sheryl Johnson led the 6th Annual **Common Nighthawk** count at Haverford College to a spectacular finish. She tallied 2933 birds from 8/22-9/9, a record-setting total. Included were more than 190 nighthawks 8/25 and on 8/26, 497 on 8/27, 334 on 8/29, and a high count of 1392 on 8/28. A crescendo to a stunning finish**. Chimney Swift** is another aerial insectivore that had a good and a very late migration. A new late date of 11/1 surpassed the old record of 10/20 when a swift was spotted over the cornfields of RCSP (AG).

Red-headed Woodpecker was seen four times at RTP: 10/23, 10/31 and 11/17-11/18. If the Nov sightings are the same bird, we still had two more birds than have been seen in recent migrations.

A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** at RCSP 9/20 (AG). **Least Flycatcher** also was seen at RCSP 9/3 & 9/25 (AG, m.obs). **Philadelphia Vireo** was reported three times at the Bridle Trail at RCSP 9/19 & 9/21 (AG) and 9/25 (GB, DE). Could this be the same bird hanging around for six days? Probably. **American Pipit** was present in the cornfields of RCSP 10/15 & 10/31 (AG, GB) and other pipit sightings were flyovers at RCSP 11/4.

Most warbler species were under-reported with regard to early and late dates and abundance. There were several highlights. Two **Orange-crowned Warblers**, one of the *celata* race at TI 10/9 (AG) and a second bird 10/29 in an unexpected location at DT foraging with **Ruby-crowned Kinglets**. A **Black-throated Green** 11/5 was late (AG) (11/21 is the county late date). It's not often that one gets to see both a **Tennessee Warbler** and a **Cape May Warbler** below eye level and at close range, but SJ did at HC 8/24. She saw another **Cape May Warbler** 10/9, also on the college grounds. A **Cape May Warbler** was reported at RCSP 8/25 (SK). A **Connecticut Warbler** at RCSP 9/19 and a **Mourning Warbler** on the trails of Rose Tree Park were great finds (AG).

The cornfield across from AG's nature store was busy with seven species of sparrow 10/31. He found **Field Sparrow**, **Chipping Sparrow** and **Fox Sparrow**, plus **American Pipit** along with **Purple Finch** and blackbird flocks. The highlight of the day was 13 **Vesper Sparrows** (GB, AG). **Lincoln's Sparrow** was seen 10/3 & 10/20. It seems that no one has seen an **American Tree Sparrow**, at least none were reported to me.

It's been a long time since **Lapland Longspur** have been reported, one was reported with 19 **Horned Lark**s at the runway of PHL (AG). **Bobolink** were abundant as flyovers and at the DC wild rice stands 9/28-10/9. Flocks as large as 200 were reported.

Observers:: **Doris McGovern, 209 Dogwood Rd., Media, PA, 19063, (610) 565-8484, mcgovern@masca.museum.upenn.edu,** Gary Becker, Denis Brennan, Brian Byrnes, John D'Amico, Dave Eberly, Al Guarente, Rich Horwitz, Sheryl Johnson, Sandra Keller, Holly Merker, Martin Page, Tom Reeves, Rose Tree Park Hawkwatch volunteers-Jim Lockyer, coordinator.

Elk County
No Report. No Compiler

Erie County
Locations: Gull Point (GP), Presque Isle Bay (PIB), Presque Isle State Park (PI), Sunset Point (SP), Waterbird Count (WC),

Passerine migration was uneventful with no major fallouts detected. Reduced shorebird habitat at Gull Point on Presque Isle State Park produced fewer shorebirds this year than last. However a storm fallout during the passage of Hurricane Katrina dumped a local record of 21 species of shorebirds at Gull Point including a potential first state record. Warm weather that extended well into November was probably responsible for a lackluster waterfowl migration, noted by the annual waterbird count (WC) conducted at Sunset Point. The most noteworthy event of the season was the passage of **Cave Swallows** along the Lake Erie shoreline. No less than a dozen birds were observed over the course of six days and all were moving west hugging the shoreline. Except for a few **Pine Siskins**, northern finches went unreported for the season. The following unusual birds were recorded from Presque Isle State Park (PI) unless noted otherwise.

The only **Snow Goose** this season was a blue morph in PIB 10/11 (JM). A flock of 12 **Brant** 10/9 and three 10/13 were recorded on the WC at Sunset Point (SP). There were several species of earlier than usual waterfowl this season including four **Redhead** 9/26 (JM, DS), one **Greater Scaup** on the WC 9/27 (JM), one **Surf Scoter** on the WC 9/27, and nine **Common Mergansers** 9/27 (JM). A total of seven **Red-necked Grebes** passed SP on the WC 10/16-11/28 with one or two other birds seen from 11/20-11/27 at the channel, at GP, and in PIB (JM). Unexpected were two **Eared Grebes** that passed SP on the WC 11/18 (JM). One or two other **Eared Grebes** were present in PIB and the channel from 11/23-11/26 (JM). An exciting find was an imm **Northern Gannet** that was observed flying east along the L. Erie shore about one mile west of PI 11/26 (BC).

Always rare in fall was an **American Bittern** at PI (BC). Three **Least Bitterns** were reported from Leo's landing 8/5 while one of the same or a different one was present there 9/3 (MV). A single **Great Egret** made an appearance at GP 9/3 (MV) and a rather late one was on PI 10/29 (MH). A **Cattle Egret** feeding among cattle in a field was a good find in Franklin Twp. during the week of Nov 14th (MC). At least seven **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were located near the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Erie from 8/27-8/31 (JD) and one was in Edinboro 10/14 (DS). **Glossy Ibis** are highly irregular in *Erie* so one discovered 9/17 in Thompson Bay was certainly noteworthy (DW, BC).

Northern Goshawks have been rarely reported in the county in recent years, so one seen at PI 10/17 was noteworthy (MB). The only **Rough-legged Hawk** observed for the fall season, was a dark morph bird in Erie 11/12 (JM, MFo). The average number of seven **Merlins** was tallied on PI this season 9/8-10/18 (LM, PH). More **Peregrine Falcons** than usual were counted this season with a total of 14 observed periodically from 8/8-11/14 (LS, JM).

American Golden Plovers were particularly scarce with only one reported from GP 9/30 (BC) and two at SP 10/9 (RSt). The now annual **American Avocet** was present at GP with a single bird 8/5 (BC) and two 8/13 (JM). Seven **Willets** made a visit to GP 8/10 (BC), while a single bird was also present at GP 8/13 (JM). Two **Spotted Sandpipers** flew passed SP on the WC on the late date of 10/16 (JM). **Whimbrels** were observed at GP with a combined total of five birds recorded 8/13, 30, & 31 (JM). A total surprise following the passage of Hurricane Katrina 8/31, was the potential first state record (pending PORC review) of a **Long-billed Curlew** that circled GP before flying (JM). At the same time of the curlew sighting, a magnificent fallout of 21 species of shorebirds was witnessed representing a record high number of shorebird species for the region (JM). A season total of 11 **Red Knots** was recorded for 8/11, 21, & 31 at GP (JM). The only **Western Sandpiper** reported was one 9/3 at GP (MV). During the Hurricane Katrina fallout 8/31, at least 35 **White-rumped Sandpipers** were counted at GP (JM). Only a few **Baird's Sandpipers** were reported for the season with most occurring in Aug and early Sep (m.obs). Two **Purple Sandpipers** stopped to feed at the breakwaters for about 30 minutes during the WC at SP before flying west along the shoreline11/30 (JM). A **Dunlin** appeared in the middle of the summer at GP and remained there to at least 8/14 (JM). A season total of 15 **Stilt Sandpipers** were counted at GP periodically from 8/5-10/3 (m.obs.). The only **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** recorded this fall came with the 8/31 Hurricane Katrina fallout at GP (JM). A single **Long-billed Dowitcher** was seen and heard at Thompson Bay 9/17 (BC, DW). Hurricane Katrina downed a single **Red-necked Phalarope** at GP 8/31 (JM) while another was deposited at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Erie that remained at the plant until 9/6 (JD).

Unidentified **jaegers** believed to be **Parasitics** were recorded on the WC at SP when a single bird passed there 11/8 and three 11/22 (JM). A single **jaeger**, believed to be a **Parasitic**, was observed off beach #11 also 11/22 (BC). Rare but regular in the county, was a single **Laughing Gull** at PI 8/30 (CW). A **Little Gull** was at GP 8/14 (JM), two were there 9/1 (JM), and singles were recorded on the WC at SP 11/8, 12, &13 (JM). Annual, at least in the past few years, was one or two adult **California Gulls** identified 11/12-26 at GP and along the lake about one mile west of PI (BC). At least five **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were present around the east end of PI 10/18-11/26 (m.obs). A rather late **Forster's Tern** found off beach 11 on 11/13-11/19 (BC, MF). During the passage of Hurricane Katrina 8/31, 23 **Black Terns** were observed feeding over the flooded grassy areas of GP (JM).

Surprising, was a **Whip-poor-will** calling in the pines at PI on the rather late date of 9/17 (SS). An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was quite early 8/2 at PI with singles seen at PI on the more expected dates of 8/30 (CW) and 9/8 (JW). A lingering **Eastern Phoebe** was discovered at the late date of 11/25 at the old park office on PI (MRH). A **Northern Shrike** was found perched on a duck blind along beach #11 on 11/13 (RS) and possibly a different bird was at SP 11/23 (JM). Certainly unprecedented for at least western Pennsylvania, was the number of **Cave Swallows** that were observed moving from east to west along the Lake Erie shoreline. Though all sightings were brief, the clear buffy throats, faces,

and rumps were observed. The first two birds came 11/8 about one mile west of PI (BC), then about six zoomed passed the foot of East Avenue the next day (JM). The final sighting of Cave Swallow came 11/13 when five flew past Roderick Wildlife Reserve in the northeastern corner of *Erie* (GM). Though regular and fairly common over much of the eastern Pennsylvania, **Northern Mockingbirds** are rare in most of the western half, so one at PI 8/2 (JM) and one at Edinboro 11/30 (SW) were noteworthy. Very rare in the fall in *Erie*, was a **Brewster's Warbler** on Pine Tree Trail at PI 9/3 (JM). Apparently the only **Orange-crowned Warbler** was one banded by RL 9/27 near the Niagara boat launch. A later than usual **Yellow Warbler** was discovered 10/16 at PI (JD) while the expected and timely, though rare, **Yellow-breasted Chat** was found 9/4 at PI (JM).

A rather late **Chipping Sparrow** was present along B-trail at PI 11/26. Very rare anywhere in the state, was an imm **Lark Sparrow** that was feeding with **juncos** and **Song Sparrows** in the beach #10 parking at PI 9/26 (JM). Since the loss of suitable habitat at GP where most **Lapland Longspurs** formerly occurred, they have become quite rare on the park. Therefore, it wasn't surprising that the only report was of single bird with a small flock of **Snow Buntings** along beach 11 on 11/13 (JM).

Quite unexpected was a very late **Bobolink** seen well and heard calling at GP 11/27 (JF, BC). A real surprise was a female **Baltimore Oriole** that appeared at a feeding station in Edinboro on the late date of 11/23 and remained to 11/26 (DS). The only northern finches reported were singles and small groups of **Pine Siskins** flying along Lake Erie in Nov (m.obs).

Observers: **Jerry McWilliams, 3508 Allegheny Road, Erie, PA, 16508, (814) 868-3059, jerrymcw@aol.com,** Dick Bollinger, Mark Bremer, Mary Chivers, Ben Coulter, John DePaul, Jim Flynn, Mike Fialkovich, Mike Fowles, Chuck Gehringer, Marc Henning, Margaret and Roger Higbee, Pat Howell, Scott Kinzey, Dick Kubiak, Ron Leberman, Geoff Malosh, Linda McWilliams, Walt and Dana Shaffer, Susan Smith, Donald Snyder, Linda Sporrer, Russ States, Randy Stringer, Mark Vass, Dave Wilton, Suzanne Winterberger, Chris Wood.

Fayette County

The only report of **Tundra Swan** was a bird at Jacob's Creek C. P. 11/21 (WS, DS). Oct brought the first push of waterfowl into the county. At Jacob's Creek C. P. 10/20 there were 4 **Gadwall**, 5 **Ring-necked Ducks**, a **Horned Grebe** and 2 **American Coots** (MF). Rain 10/21 brought down more birds on the lake including 9 **Green-winged Teal**, 18 **Redhead**, a **Surf Scoter**, 22 **Hooded Mergansers**, 69 **Ruddy Ducks**, a **Pied-billed Grebe**, 4 **Double-crested Cormorants**, 20 **Killdeer** and a **Greater Yellowlegs** (MF, WS, DS). The **Greater Yellowlegs** remained to10/23 (BK).

A **Solitary Sandpiper** and a **Least Sandpiper** at Mill Run Res 9/22 (WS, DS) were the only shorebirds reported.

A **Rufous Hummingbird** in South Connellsville was banded by staff from Powdermill 11/9. Interestingly, this was the same home this species visited the past two years. Capturing the bird confirmed it was a hatch year male, at least the second individual at this location (AL, JA, CS)! The first bird at this home from Dec 2003-Jan 2004 was not banded. A female was discovered and banded in Nov 2004 where it was seen until mid-Jan 2005.

Fall passerine migrants noted in the county 9/22 included a **White-eyed Vireo**, 5 **Magnolia Warblers**, 2 **Pine Warblers**, a **Black and white Warbler**, 3 **Common Yellowthroats**, a **Scarlet Tanager**, a **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**, and an **Indigo Bunting** (WS, DS).

Observers: **Mike Fialkovich, 805 Beulah Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235, (412) 731-3581, mpfial@earthlink.net,** Joanna Adams, Bob Keener, Adrienne Leppold, Charles Sherwood, Dana Shaffer, Walt Shaffer.

Forest County

Locations: German Hill (GH), Kellettville (KL), Mayburg (MB), Pleasantville (PL), Tionesta (TI), Tionesta Lake (TL)

Notable birds for the period included **Olive-sided Flycatcher**, **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, **Golden-winged Warbler**, and **Wilson's Warbler**, all from Scott Stoleson's banding station near Mayburg. All but the flycatcher were banded there.

One hundred thirty **Tundra Swans** were seen over GH 11/13, and seven **Hooded Mergansers** were located at TL 12/1. The last **Turkey Vulture** was spotted 9/27 at GH. There were several **Bald Eagle** reports from TL during the period (F&JM). Last **American Woodcock** report was 10/4 (JM).

The last **Alder Flycatcher** reported was caught and banded in Aug at MB; **Least Flycatcher** 8/11 at MB, where an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was seen 9/15 (SS, LO). A late **Eastern Phoebe** and a **Northern Shrike** were spotted at GH 11/19 (TK, JK).

The final **Blue-headed Vireo** and **Yellow-throated Vireos** were reported 10/4 at GH. (F&JM). The last **Veery** was seen and banded at MB 9/23, where a **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was banded 9/19; the last **Swainson's** and **Hermit Thrushes** were banded at MB 9/23 (SS, LO, BS, F&JM). A late **Gray Catbird** was seen in TI in early Dec (GT).

The last **Blue-winged** and **Golden-winged Warblers** were banded 9/15 at MB; the last **Tennessee** 9/23; the last **Nashville** and **Chestnut-sided Warblers** were banded 9/15 (SS, LO). Final **Magnolia**, **Yellow-rumped** and **Black-throated Green Warblers** were spotted at GH 10/4 (F&JM). A **Blackpoll Warbler** was banded 9/23 at MB (SS, LO, BS, F&JM). The last **Ovenbird** was reported at GH 10/4. Late date for **Northern Waterthrush** was 7/29; **Louisiana Waterthrush**, 7/8, both near KL (F&JM). The late date for **Hooded Warbler** was 9/23, and a **Wilson's Warbler** was reported 9/15, both at MB (SS, LO).

The first **American Tree Sparrow** was seen 11/21 at GH; the last **Chipping Sparrow** 9/23 at MB; last **Grasshopper Sparrow** 7/19 near PL (F&JM). The first **Fox Sparrow** was banded 11/4 at MB, and a **Lincoln's Sparrow** 9/22 (SS, F&JM). The first **White-throated Sparrow** was seen 11/2 at TL (F&JM).

The last report of **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** and **Indigo Bunting** were banded at MB 9/23 (SS, LO, BS, F&JM). A late **Red-winged Blackbird** was spotted at TL 11/2. **Pine Siskins** were reported at GH 12/3 (F&JM). A single **Evening Grosbeak** was reported at TI 12/7 (LF).

Observers: **Flo McGuire, HC 1 Box 6A, Tionesta, PA, 16353, (814) 755-3672, mcguires@csonline.net**, Laura Flick, Tom and Janet Kuehl, Jan Meyer, Linda Ordiway, Briana Smrekar, Scott Stoleson, Gil Twiest.

Franklin County

Waterfowl and shorebirds were rather hard to find this fall. A number of the wetland areas were dry for a lack of rain. The Greencastle Res. remained a good site for our county and water birds. **Canada Geese**, one **Brant**, **Tundra Swan**, **Wood Duck**, **American Wigeon**, **Mallard**, **Blue-winged Teal**, **Northern Pintail**, **Green-winged Teal**, **Ring-necked Duck**, **Greater Scaup**, **Lesser Scaup**, **Bufflehead**, **Hooded Merganser**, **Red-breasted Merganser**, **Ruddy Duck**, **Pied-billed Grebe**, **Horned Grebe** and **Double-crested Cormorant** all were observed there. Also, at least 16 shorebirds were seen and one for the first time – an **Upland Sandpiper**. **Wilson's Snipe** are being seen at various sites. The numbers of many waterfowl were lower than usual.

The **Sharp-shinned Hawks** and **Cooper's Hawk** seems to be thriving well with many feeder buffets in the county, much too the dismay of some humans.

Shady Grove continues to be home for **Eurasian-Collared Doves**. Nine were observed (at one time) on the antenna of a resident near Klines Store. At least three were young doves. The most recent observation were two of the doves on the same antenna 12/29.

Franklin was honored by the presence of a **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** 8/20-8/27. It was widely observed during this period by numerous birders from as far away as 200 miles. Interesting, this bird lost its tail three days after the first sighting and by the period's end the tail was beginning the grow again. This bird was observed along the Honodel Rd., southeast of Waynesboro. While watching for the flycatcher, as many as 22 **Eastern Kingbirds**, **Savannah Sparrows**, **Song Sparrows**, many **American Goldfinch**, **Killdeer**, **Great Blue Herons** and a **Golden Eagle** helped pass the time.

Despite habitat loss, the woodpeckers are holding their, thus far, but the warbler migration seems to be more along the mountain edges especially in the fall. Thanks to Bob Keener and Carl Garner for birding the South Mountain areas and getting good sightings.

The **Fox Sparrow**, **American Tree Sparrow**, **White-throated Sparrow**, **White-crowned Sparrow** and many **Dark-eyed Junco** made their return as usual. Several sightings of **Eastern Meadowlark** at different locations were good news.

Observers: **Dale L. Gearhart, P.O. Box 155, Shady Grove, PA 17256, (717) 597-3979, dgearhart01@comcast.net**, Joan Bowen, Carl Garner, Bob Keener, Regina Reeder, Joyce Schaff, and Dan Snell.

Fulton County

Locations: Cowan's Gap State Park (CGSP), Forbes Trail Road Pond (FTRP), Meadow Grounds Lake (MGL). .

Fall season highlight was the large **Black Vulture** movement 11/25. Just west of Dott, a kettle of 62 **Black Vultures** and one **Turkey Vulture** passed overhead moving southwest. To my knowledge, this incident was the highest one-day count ever in the county.

There were few waterbird migrants observed in the county. Modest numbers of **teal**, **Buffleheads**, and **mergansers** were detected at MGL and local farm ponds. Noteworthy were the 28 **Green-winged** and 4 **Blue-winged Teal** at FTRP 10/8. Late season **Killdeer** records: 19 on 11/5 FTRP, 2 on 11/25 Parks Rd. and one 11/25 Buck Valley Ponds.

The scarcity of passerine records for the season could be attributed to the lack of field-work in Aug, Sep, and Oct. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were more common than in previous years. A nice assortment of late season migrants were noted at Redbud Nature Area 11/25; four **Hermit**

Thrushes, **Winter Wren**, both **kinglets**, 24 **White-throated Sparrows**. A **Fox Sparrow** was seen 11/25 CGSP.

Observers: **Daniel Snell, PO Box 653, Shippensburg, PA, 17257, (717) 530-8313, dan_snell@hotmail.com**, Regina Reeder.

Greene County

Locations: Big Shannon Run Perry Twp.(BSR), North Market Street, Cumberland Twp. (CUM), East View, Preacher Road, Franklin Twp.(EV), Ralph Bell Farm (RBF).

In winter, the cardinals shine their bright red against the snowy backdrop, the chickadees and titmice greet you with their chatter, and the Blue Jays provide constant shrieks to welcome you outdoors. Everybody takes their turn at the feeders. Birding comes to you, mostly. In spring, the freshly molted bright colors, aerial and ground displays, and cheery songs great you everywhere. One is almost overwhelmed with the sights and sounds of the birds. In summer, the busy parents tend their young who are bubbling out of the nests and spilling everywhere. Birding is relatively easy. In fall, good luck! The bright colors of the spring are now faded and/or changed to drab winter wear that blends with the changing colors of the leaves and provides perfect camouflage for most species. The cheery songs of spring and summer are replaced with occasional chips or partial calls. I find fall birding the most challenging of all the seasons, as did other observers this fall.

In *Greene* the main large areas of water habitat we have are the Monongahela R. on the east border of the county, Duke L. at Ryerson Station SP in the west, the Waynesburg Water Dam on Wisecarver Run in center county, a good-sized pond/lake near Blacksville WV in the south, and a nice wetlands at SGL 223 in the southeastern portion of the county.

Here are the problems: 1. The river has a lot of barge and pleasure/fishing craft traffic. 2. The other four areas are small (when compared to L Arthur at Moraine SP or the Shenango Res., for instance. 3. A leak was found in the dam at Duke L. this summer and the lake has been drained for repair. Some pooled water has remained. 4. The leak at Duke L. spurred a closer look at the breastwork of the Waynesburg Water Dam (since it is somewhat older than Duke L. dam), and it was found to be in question, so they have been lowering the water levels this winter to investigate further. So, we are reducing areas that support waterfowl and shorebird activity. (Depending on how much water is drained how quickly from the Waynesburg Water Dam, it may prove excellent for shorebird activity this Spring/Summer.

Thankfully, we have a lot of little farm ponds and streams that do support other "fishing" birds. A lone **Great Egret** was at Ryerson SP 9/24 (MH). ML last observed 19 Turkey Vultures 10/23 at BSR. An adult **Bald Eagle** was seen by Kevin Willis near Khedive 9/3. ML reports that her "resident" **Sharp-shinned Hawk** likes to dine on the diners at her feeders. Since everyone must have food, she is hoping he (she) will thin out the flock of **Mourning Doves** (which number over 30) a bit this winter. An **American Woodcock** was in EV 9/27 (MH). Two **Common Nighthawks** were observed at the football field in Jefferson 9/14 (MH). Several **Chimney Swifts**, between 10-15, were noted at BSR flying in a circular pattern over the treetops (ML). The last **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were seen prior to 9/2 (ML). **Belted Kingfishers** seem to populate the county well, as they are observed in scattered areas all fall and also on the Christmas counts.

The first **Yellow-Bellied Sapsuckers** were noted 10/23 at BSR (ML). The last date for **Eastern Kingbird** was 8/20 at RBF (RB). He also reports he last heard a **White-Eyed Vireo** 9/24 and last banded a **Red-Eyed Vireo** 10/3, both at RBF. Sep 11 proved a good day for MH. She observed **Philadelphia Vireos** and **Yellow-Throated Vireos** in her yard at EV.

ML produces at nice crop of Barn Swallows at BSR. On 8/8 she watched 39 bathing on the power line during a light rain. Six days later, 8/14, there were 21, including young still being fed by the parents. Only one was seen 8/29 that was last observation. The earliest report of **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was at RBF 8/27 (RB).

While making her usual walking rounds, ML spotted a **Golden-crowned Kinglet** 11/21 at BSR. The last **Brown Thrasher** reported was one banded at RBF 10/4 (RB). On 9/29 he banded a **Nashville Warbler**, a **Cape May Warbler** 10/5, and a **Black and white Warbler** 10/8 all at RBF. The last **Yellow-throated Warbler** was found 9/11 at EV (MH). She reported the latest **Ovenbird** and the first **Yellow-rumped Warbler** 9/18 at Waynesburg Water Dam. A rare sight at the feeder was a female or imm **Scarlet Tanager** at CUM 9/10 (KR).

On 11/15, ML found a **Fox Sparrow** at her feeder in EV. On 10/15 she had the first **White-throated Sparrow** of the season. The first **White-Crowned Sparrows** 10/16 and the first **Dark-eyed Juncos** 10/14 were at RBF (RB). Two **Common Grackles** were last observed at a feeder in EV 11/21 (MH). She also found the earliest **Purple Finch** 10/29 in her yard. Thanks to all observers for their input. If you are in *Greene*, let me know what you see!

Observers: **Kathy Kern, 322 Kennel Rd., Waynesburg, PA, 15370 (724) 627-5376, n3xsj@alltel.net,** Ralph K. Bell, Marjorie Howard, Mary LaPlante, Kathy Reeves,

Huntingdon County

Locations: Huntingdon (HU), Lake Perez (LP), McAlevy's Fort (MF), Shaver's Creek Environmental Center (SC), Stone Mountain Hawkwatch (SM).

At LP, an unusually high 272 **Bufflehead** were found along with 2 **Pied-billed Grebe**, one **Common Goldeneye**, 2 **Ring-necked Duck**, one **Hooded Merganser** and one **American Coot** 11/14 (DW). SM reported one **Snow Goose** 10/26 (DK, TK) a high of 50 **Common Loons** 10/29 (DB, DK, TK), and 50 **Double-crested Cormorants** 10/17 (DB). DK spotted 75 **Black Vultures** and 8 **Turkey Vultures** near HU 11/29.

Inclement weather contributed to the lowest coverage on record at the SM (70% of 11 year average) and subsequently played a role in the below average count of 3213 raptors. Weather also was a factor in two record one-day counts of 186 **Sharp-shinned Hawks** 10/15 and 70 **Cooper's Hawks** 10/16, as a strong cold front followed an extended period of rain. Record low counts were recorded for **Osprey**, **Broad-winged Hawk**, and **Peregrine Falcon**. After a record low count of 50 in 2004, **American Kestrels** rebounded to 93 but were still well below the site average of 130 (GG). For the second year in a row, a **Swainson's Hawk** was seen 10/23 (DB, GG).

Other non-raptor migrants noted from SM include one **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** 9/14 (DK), 40 **Chimney Swifts** 10/2 (GG) and 6 **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** 9/4 (DB). A **Winter Wren** frequented the grounds of SC 11/1-11/20, even appearing within the enclosures of the resident captive raptors (AP, DW). The Grove's feeding station near MF reported high counts of 6 **Fox Sparrows** and 5 **American Tree Sparrows** 11/19 (DG, GG).

Observers: **Doug Wentzel, Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, 3400 Discovery Road, Petersburg, PA, 16669, (814) 863-2000, djw105@psu.edu**, Nick Bolgiano, Jennifer Brackbill, Don Bryant, Bill Dietz, Deb Grove, Greg Grove, David Kyler, Trudy Kyler, Jeff Michaels, Angela Petersen and Chuck Widmann.

Indiana County

Locations: Conemaugh Floodlands (CF), Indiana (IN), Lewisville (LV), Parkwood (PW), Reservoir Hill (RH), Shelocta (SH), Two Lick Reservoir (TLR), Yellow Creek State Park (YCSP)

All waterfowl reports are from YCSP unless otherwise indicated. Uncommon in our county, 2 **Snow Geese** appeared 10/28 (LC); one lingered through 11/15 (LC, MH, SS). Three **Brant** were reported independently 10/9 (LC, KSJ). A **Trumpeter Swan** seen at Saltsburg (SE) 11/15, wearing a yellow neck band with the letters/numbers OA4, had been banded as a cygnet in June 2004 at Shenango Wildlife Area near Kinsman, Trumbull County OH. The bird was seen again near Warrentown, VA, in Dec. **Tundra Swans** began moving through our area 11/15 (LC, MH, SS) when the first flock of 14 was spotted; larger flocks included 53 at YCSP (MH, KR, SS) and 64 near LV 9 (MC), both 11/22. Best **Wood Duck** count of 74 was attained during a canoe trip 8/18 (LC, MH, SS). First **Gadwall** arrived 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS) while top count of 9 was achieved 11/12 (DY). Three **American Wigeons** were first arrivals 9/17 (TS), but 12 was the high count 10/25 (LC, MH, SS). Sixteen **American Black Ducks** were listed 11/15 (LC, MH, SS). Best **Mallard** count was 70, 9/17 (LC). **Blue-winged Teal** moved through between 8/28 (MH, RH) and 11/12 (DY) with peak number of 34 on 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS). A single **Northern Shoveler** was present 8/28-8/31 (m.obs) while 3 on 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS) were the only others reported. Six **Green-winged Teal** arrived 8/31 (CG, MH); top count was 144 10/9 (LC). A single **Canvasback** stopped at Margus L.11/12 (DY), the lone report; they were accompanied by 9 **Redheads**, 3 of which lingered till 11/19 (MH, RH). Four **Ring-necked Ducks** 10/25 (LC, MH, SS) comprised the entire report for this species. Best **Lesser Scaup** counts were 18 at TLR 11/15 (LC) and 16 at YC 11/22 (MH, KR, SS). **Buffleheads** peaked 11/15 with counts of 99 at TLR (LC) and 125 at YCSP (LC, MH, SS). A brief stop at YCSP 11/19 (MH, RH) yielded a good count of 63 **Hooded Mergansers**. **Common Merganser** reports included only one 11/12 (DY) and 2 ten days later (MH, KR, SS). High **Ruddy Duck** count was 49 11/15 (LC, MH, SS).

First **Common Loon** arrived 10/25 (LC, MH, SS) at YCSP, but a major migration was witnessed there 11/22 (MH, KR, SS) when 162 were counted passing overhead. The season's first **Pied-billed Grebe** appeared 8/15 (MH, RH); by 10/9 (LC) 76 were present. YCSP yielded the first 6 **Horned Grebes** 11/12 (DY). A single **Double-crested Cormorant** appeared at YCSP 9/3-9/6 (m.obs), but the last were 4 at Saltsburg 10/22 (SE,CG, MH, SS). A **Great Egret** at YCSP 9/6 (MH, BJ, SS) was unexpected. YCSP harbored at least 14 **Green Herons** 8/27 (LC, EF, MF, BJ); 2 on 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS) were last. Last respective **Turkey Vulture** and **Osprey** were sighted 11/1 (CG, MH, SS) and 11/9 (LC, MH, SS) at YCSP. The season's first adult **Bald Eagle** was found at

YCSP 9/1 (DL, KL, ML); one flew over Lewisville 9/4 (MC); among other YCSP reports, 2 were seen 9/20 (MH, SS), one was observed catching and devouring two fish 11/1 (CG, MH, SS), and one was present 9/10-11/22 (m.obs.). **Northern Harriers** were noted 9/5 (MC) near LV and 9/10 (LC, EF, MF, CG, MH, SS) at YCSP, where one continued through 11/22 (MH). A **Northern Goshawk** was seen on the Indiana University of Pennsylvania campus 10/21 (RW) and again a few days later (MW). First **Broad-winged Hawks** were found 9/18 (MC, SS) near LV and 9/21 (MH) near SH. A **Merlin** visited YCSP 9/18 (DD, DYD) through 9/24 (SG).

A canoe trip at YCSP 8/18 yielded an adult with a young **Sora** (LC, MH, SS). Another was seen from shore 9/1 (MH, JS, JT). The first of many **American Coots** arrived at YCSP 9/17 (LC, TS); by mid-Nov at least 410 were present (LC, MH, SS). Twenty was the tally at TLR 11/15 (LC).

This was the best year on record for shorebirds at YCSP. Because of the drought and the subsequent release of water from the dam to support downstream fisheries, a large expanse of mudflats was exposed. An unprecedented 26 species visited YCSP this season setting many county records. **Black-bellied Plovers** were present between 8/16 (EF, MF) and 10/15 (LC) with the high tallies of 15 on 8/31 (CG, MH) and 20 on 9/17 (MH). A single **American Golden-Plover** arrived 9/10 (LC, EF, MF, CG, MH, SS ,TS), but as many as 4 individuals were counted 9/17 (LC,TS); last report was one 9/18 (DD, DYD). **Semipalmated Plovers** visited between 8/9 (MH, SS) and 9/24 (LC, SG, CG, MH) with best counts of 12 both 9/1 (EF, MF) and 9/18 (DD, DYD). **Killdeer** peaked 9/20 at 72 (MH, SS). **Greater Yellowlegs** were listed between 8/28 (MH, RH) and 11/5 (3RBC, TBC); high of 7 occurred 9/24 (LC, SG, CG, MH). **Lesser Yellowlegs,** which began moving during the last report period, continued through 10/15 (LC); 6 was the best count 9/17 (LC). Five **Solitary Sandpiper**s were found 8/27 (LC) with last report 9/17 (TS). A **Spotted Sandpiper** 10/28 is the latest date on record for *Indiana* (LC). While TS was kayaking 8/27, a flock of at least 50 **Hudsonian Godwits** arrived; 4 remained on the flats and were sighted later that evening (LC, EF, MF). This was a second county record; TS photographed several of the individuals that landed near his kayak. Two **Ruddy Turnstones** were noted 8/31, the lone report (CG, MH). Single **Sanderlings** were seen on 6 dates between 8/15 (MH, RH) and 9/17 (LC). **Semipalmated Sandpipers** peaked 8/31 (CG, MH) at 23; 8 on 9/24 (LC, SG, CG, MH) were last. **Western Sandpiper**, a second county record, was independently identified and reported 8/27 by LC in his canoe and TS in his kayak; by 9/3 (LC, MH, RH, SS, JT, JoT) 2 were present; 4 were counted 9/10 (TS). Nineteen was the high **Least Sandpiper** count 8/31 (CG, MH). **White-rumped Sandpiper** reports includes singletons 9/10 (TS) and 9/13 (MH) and 2 on 9/17 (LC). **Baird's Sandpipers** were present on almost every trip between 8/15 (MH, RH) and 9/24 (LC, SG, CG, MH) with as many as 6 individuals counted; one 11/8 (LC, MH, SS) provided the latest date on record. **Pectoral Sandpiper** maxima included 26 on 8/31 (CG, MH) and 25 9/18 (DD, DDY); 12 on 10/28 (LC) were last. **Dunlin** reports follow: 4 on 10/25 (LC, MH, SS), 28 on 11/1 (CG, MH, SS), and one 11/8 (LC, MH, SS). A **Stilt Sandpiper** 8/28 (MH, RH, CL, GL) was a third county record; this bird remained through the evening of 8/31 (LC, EF, MF, MH RH, GL, JT) when a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** also stopped on the flats. This was the first *Indiana* record for Buff-breasted Sandpiper. One to 2 **Short-billed Dowitchers** were identified between 8/7 (LC) and 9/20 (MH, SS) while **Long-billed Dowitcher** was listed only 10/25 (LC, MH, SS). **Wilson's Snipe** were commonly seen on the mud between 8/16 (EF, MF) and 11/5 (3RBC, TBC). High count of 8 occurred 9/20 (MH, SS). Two **American Woodcocks** near SH 10/6 (MH) were last. A second county record, **Wilson's Phalarope**, was found by kayak 8/27 (TS) and observed by many through 9/6 (MH, BJ, SS). **Red-necked Phalarope**, a third county record, was found 8/31 (EF, MF) and lingered through 9/2 (RR, DS).

A **Laughing Gull** 9/1 (EF, MF, MH, GL, JL, JS, TS, JT) was joined by 2 more 9/3 (LC, MH, RH, TS, SS, JT, JoT); it was photographed by TS. Two **Bonaparte's Gulls** circled high overhead with a flock of 31 **Ring-billed Gulls** 11/22 (MH, KR, SS). This was the only report for **Bonaparte's Gull** and one of few for **Ring-billed**. Two **Herring Gulls** visited YCSP 10/9 (LC). **Caspian Tern** reports included 4 on 8/16 (EF, MF), 2 on 8/30 (CG, MH), and 3 on 8/31 (CG, MH). Single **Forster's Terns** were sighted at YCSP 8/16 (EF, MF) and 8/27 (LC, EF, MF, BJ); 2 were there 9/3 (LC, MH, RH, SS, JT, JoT). Four **Black Terns** were a nice find 8/27 (LC, EF, MF, BJ), but dusk on 8/30 (MH, RH) produced a grand total of 14, an all-time YCSP high.

Last dates included 8/15 (MH) near SH for **Black-billed Cuckoo** and 9/14 (PJ) on RH in IN for **Yellow-billed Cuckoo**. **Eastern Screech-Owl** was noted at four locations; **Great Horned Owl** and **Barred Owl** each at only two. The **Common Nighthawk** migration was observed on only three dates: 8 at Dilltown 8/28 (CL, GL, GS) and single birds at YCSP 8/30 (MH, RH) and near SH 9/4 (MH). **Whip-poor-will** was still calling near Strongstown 8/6 (BM). Last dates included 10/9 (LC) at YCSP for **Chimney Swift** and 9/28 (MH) near SH for **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**. First **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** arrived at YCSP 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS) and near SH 9/28 (MH). Two **Eastern Wood-Pewees** were still calling at YCSP 9/20 (MH, SS). YCSP also yielded the last **Acadian Flycatcher** 9/2 (RR, DS). Last **Eastern Phoebe** frequented RH 10/27 (PJ). Last **Eastern Kingbirds** were noted at YCSP 9/3 (MH, RH). Vireo departure dates included 10/3 (MF) for **White-eyed Vireo** at CF, 10/1 for **Blue-headed** at Blue Spruce C.P. (LC,PJ), 9/13 (CG, MH) for **Warbling** at YCSP, and 9/24 (LC, SG, CG, MH) for **Red-eyed Vireo** at YCSP. Single **Philadelphia Vireos** were identified at YCSP 8/30 (CG, MH), on RH 9/4 (PJ), near LV 9/5 (MC), and at Blue Spruce C.P. 10/1 (LC, PJ).

Common Ravens continue to become more widespread with reports from five localities this period. Twenty **Purple Martins** at YCSP 9/17 (TS) is the highest tally on record. YCSP yielded the last of the **swallows** with last dates 9/6 (MH, BJ, SS) for **Tree**, and 8/31 (CG, MH) for **Bank** and **Cliff**, and 9/24 (LC, SG, CG, MH) for **Barn**.

One to 4 **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were reported from each of five feeders this period (m.obs). Last **House Wren** lingered near SH 9/25 (MH). Two **Winter Wrens** were at YC 10/4 (LC, CG, MH) and an equal number were on RH 10/27 (PJ). A **Sedge Wren** was a second county record at YCSP 8/26 (CG, MH, SS); it was seen again the following day (m.obs.). Small flocks of **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were found between 9/23 (MH) and 11/8 (LC, MH, SS). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was last listed near SH 9/9 (MH). A flock of 12 **Eastern Bluebirds** was observed near Rochester Mills 11/30 (RF). Last **Veery** was near SH 9/11 (MH); a **Gray-cheeked Thrush** near SH 9/25 (MH) was the lone report. **Swainson's Thrushes** migrated through the county 9/4 (MH) through 10/9 (PJ); at least 200 pre-dawn calls were counted 9/25 (MH). **Hermit Thrush** was still on RH 11/26 (PJ); RH also harbored the last 2 **Wood Thrushes** 9/27 (PJ). **Gray Catbird** lingered at YC 10/11 (LC, SS). A late **Brown Thrasher** was found at YCSP 11/5 (MH, RH) and 11/15 (LC, MH, SS). **American Pipits** were found in numbers on the YCSP mudflats between 9/3 (LC, MH, RH *et al*) and 11/8 (LC, MH, SS); maximum count of 75 was achieved 10/4 (LC, CG, MH).

The warbler migration was not impressive this fall; there were no major fallouts or truly large flocks. YCSP yielded only single **Tennessee Warblers** between 9/10 (LC, EF, MF, CG, MH, SS) and 9/23 (LC). One to 2 **Nashville Warblers** were listed on five dates with last report at CF 10/3 (MF). Other last dates included 9/6 (MH, BJ, SS) for **Yellow** at YCSP, 9/27 (PJ) for **Chestnut-sided Warbler** on RH, and 10/9 (PJ) for **Magnolia Warbler** on RH.. After a dearth of **Cape May Warblers** the past few years, the fall migration was a little more visible. First were 3 near SH 9/15 (MH); a flock of 22 at YCSP was the high tally 9/20 (MH, SS); last 3 were at YCSP 10/4 (LC, CG, MH). Three **Black-throated Blue Warblers** appeared at YCSP 9/24 (LC, SG, CG, MH); single birds were seen 10/4 (LC, CG, MH) and 10/9 (KSJ) at YCSP and 10/15 (LC, SS) at PRCP. Two **Yellow-rumped Warblers** 9/6 (MH) at YCSP were early; top tally was 19 on 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS). Last dates included 10/9 (LC) for **Black-throated Green Warbler** at YCSP, 9/15 (MH) for **Blackburnian Warbler** near SH, 11/1 (LC, CG, MH, SS) for **Pine Warbler** at YCSP, and 8/15 (MH) for **Prairie Warbler** near SH. One to 2 **Palm Warblers** were sighted on four dates between 9/1 (MH, JS, JT) and 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS), all at YCSP. YCSP yielded 1-3 **Bay-breasted Warblers** between 9/6 (MH, BJ, SS) and 9/20 (MH, SS); 1-2 were near SH 9/7-9 (MH). **Blackpoll Warblers** were noted on 8 dates beginning 9/7 (MH) near SH; 7 was the best count 9/20 (MH, SS) at YCSP; the last vagrant was found 10/9 (PJ) on RH. A small feeding flock of warblers near McCormick included 3 **Cerulean Warblers** 8/4 (CG, MH). Last dates were 9/20 (MH, SS) for 2 **Black-and-white Warblers** at YCSP, 9/27 (PJ) for 2 **American Redstarts** on RH, 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS) for one **Ovenbird** at YCSP, and 9/2 (RR, DS) for a **Louisiana Waterthrush** at YCSP. Two **Connecticut Warblers** were observed, singletons at CF 10/3 (MF) and at YCSP 10/4 (LC, CG, MH). Last 2 **Common Yellowthroats** were listed 10/6 (MH) near SH. A **Hooded Warbler** remained at YC 10/4 (LC, CG, MH). No **Wilson's** or **Canada Warblers** were reported.

A **Scarlet Tanager** was found at Blue Spruce C.P. 10/1 (LC, PJ). **Eastern Towhee** stayed near LV through the season's end (MC). Arrival date for **American Tree Sparrow** was 11/8 (LC, MH, SS) at YCSP. A **Chipping Sparrow** still lingered near LV 11/12 (MC). **Fox Sparrows** moved into YC 11/8 (LC, MH, SS); top counts were 7 at feeders near IN 11/10 (CG) and 6 near SH 11/28 (MH). Two **Lincoln's Sparrows** were recorded at CF 9/29 (MF), the lone report. First **White-throated Sparrows** were individuals 9/28 (MH) near SH and 9/29 (MF) at CF. **White-crowned Sparrow** arrived 11/1 (LC, CG, MH, SS) at YCSP; 14 near IN 11/9 (DJ) was a good count; a singleton lingered through end of Nov near SH (MH, RH). YCSP produced the first **Dark-eyed Junco** 9/23 (LC, CG, MH, SS). Last date for **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was 10/4 (LC, CG, MH); for **Indigo Bunting**, 9/24 (LC, SG, CG, MH), both at YCSP. Last **Eastern Meadowlark** was noted 10/9 (LC) at YCSP. **Rusty Blackbird** reports continue to dwindle; one on RH 11/3 (PJ) and 4 at YCSP 11/8 (LC, MH, SS) were the only ones noted. **Common Grackle** maxima included 275 at YCSP 9/3 (LC, MH, RH *et al*) and 100 on RH 10/27 (PJ). Three **Brown-headed Cowbirds** visited a LV feeder 11/27 (MC). Last **Baltimore Oriole** was found 9/2 (RR, DS) at YCSP. Up to 18 **Purple Finches** were observed at a feeder near IN 11/9 (DJ). Two **Pine Siskins** stopped at YCSP 11/8 (LC, MH, SS), and 2 were near SH 11/18 (MH).

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Darney (DYD), Sam Eckenrod, Ruth Ferrier, Evelyn Fowles, Mike Fowles, Steve Graff, Carol Guba, Roger Higbee, Bob Jackman, Dory Jacobs, Pat Johner, Gloria Lamer, Debra Limbach, Kurt Limbach, Matt Limbach, Bob Michny, Kevin Redvay, Regina Reeder, Kate St. John (KSJ), John Salvetti, Tom Simmons, Dan Snell, Scott Speedy, Georgette Syster, Joe Taylor, (JoT), John Taylor, Matt White, Ray Winstead, Dan Yagusic, Todd Bird Club (TBC), 3 Rivers Birding Club (3RBC).

Jefferson County
No Report. No Compiler.

Juniata County

Locations: Oakland Mills (OM), Mifflintown River Access (MRA), Groninger Valley Road (GVR), Macedonia Gap (MG), Cedar Spring Road (CSR).

Two **Green Winged Teal** were seen flying up out of creek at Metz Rd. in Thompsontown 11/27 (CK, DH). Seven **Great Egrets** flew over Juniata High School 9/21(CK). A **Rough-Legged Hawk** was seen perched at CSR 11/23 (CK). A **Golden Eagle** was seen soaring south towards *Perry* on GVR 10/27 (CK). **Merlins** were observed in the East Salem area 9/18 (AT) and in Mifflintown 10/31 and then again 11/30. It was believed to be the same one seen up until 12/14 and which was counted for our local Christmas count week (CK).

A **Common Nighthawk** seen flying overhead in OM 8/17 (ST) and three were seen there 8/21 (AT). One was also seen feeding over Juniata R. MRA 8/24 (CK, DO). Fifty **Tree Swallows** were seen flying around Muskrat Springs River access 10/10 (HP).

Ten **Fox Sparrows** and 8 **Winter Wrens** were seen at MG 11/12 (CK, AT, TP, EP). A **Lincoln Sparrow** was seen at Lost Creek Shoe Shop, OM 10/9 (AT). A **Harris Sparrow** was first seen in Oakland Mills 11/26. It has been present until the beginning of Jan (AT, AnT, DT, ST, LT). Sixteen **Purple Finches** were seen at feeders in OM 10/23 (AT). A **Pine Siskin** was seen on Rockland Rd. OM 11/27 (AT).
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Lackawanna County
No Report. No Compiler.

Lancaster County

Locations: Susquehanna River, Bainbridge (SRB), Susquehanna River, Conejohela Flats (SRCF), Middlecreek WMA (MCWMA), Pumping Station Road (PS).

The dry summer gave way to a fall that was much wetter than normal with much of the extra rainfall attributable to tropical weather. The temperatures were about normal, and overall there was a healthy mix of bird sightings for the season. As normal, shorebird sightings lead to many of the highlights with solid numbers and excellent variety all season. The rarest shorebird sighting was a **Ruff**, but other good sightings included **jaeger sp.**, **Eurasian Collared Dove** and *Lancaster*'s first record of **Cave Swallow**. On another note, the Conejohela Flats also played host to their first ever Big Sit 10/9 with 15 birders tallying a total of 83 birds. This total placed their count among the highest in the nation.

Waterfowl started appearing at SRCF during the middle of Sep with sightings of **American Wigeon**, both **Blue-winged** and **Green-winged Teal**, and **Northern Shoveler**. By the end of Oct many of the more common diving ducks such as **Ring-necked Duck**, **Hooded** and **Common Merganser** and **Ruddy Duck** had put in an appearance at MCWMA. On 9/12 a possible **Fulvous Whistling Duck** was reported at SRCF (DH). Unfortunately the bird was not photographed or relocated. There are no confirmed records of Fulvous Whistling Duck for *Lancaster*. Other unusual waterfowl reports this fall were of 75 **Brant** at SRCF 10/9 (m.obs), four **Surf Scoters** at Octoraro L. 11/15 (CC, et al) and an out of place **Long-tailed Duck** on the Conestoga R. near the Walnut St. bridge 11/25 (DS, RS). The water is deeper in this location and various diving ducks have been seen at this location over the years.

American Bittern was reported from MCWMA 8/31 as well as from SRCF. This fall herons and egrets continued at SRCF in good numbers with a high count of 70 **Great Egrets** over the Labor Day weekend (m.obs). A **White Ibis** at MCWMA 9/26 (MD) unfortunately did not remain long enough for many people to view it. It has been many years since we've had a cooperative member of this species in the county. A nice flight of 3128 **Broad-winged Hawks** was noted at the *Lancaster/Lebanon* border near Mount Gretna 9/25 (RM). This fall brought numbers sightings of individual **Merlins** and **Peregrine Falcons** along the Susquehanna R. starting 8/31 and 8/6 respectively (m.obs). The sightings came mostly from SRCF, but **Peregrine Falcons** seen near Bainbridge may have come from the breeding population at Three Mile Island. A **Merlin** also spent several weeks in Peach Bottom (BS).

Rails were quite scarce this fall with no reports of **Virginia Rail** and only two reports of **Sora** from SRCF and SRB in late Sep. Shorebirds really were the stars of the show again this fall and there were many highlights. The greatest rarity was a **Ruff** (probably a female) at SRCF 8/31 (TA, CC, DH, BS). It is worth mentioning that this was the day that western Pennsylvania was hit with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. No apparent fallout birds showed up, but the resulting front passing through did result in one of the best shorebird days ever with a total of 23 species sighted. In addition to the Ruff, other highlights included 22 **Black-bellied Plover**, **American Golden-Plover**, **Whimbrel**, 9 **Ruddy Turnstone**, 6 **Sanderling**, all five "peeps" including a high of 8 **Baird's Sandpiper**, an early **Dunlin**, 2 **Stilt Sandpiper**, 3 **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** and 13 **Short-billed Dowitcher**. Terns were also in evidence that day with 16 **Black Terns** (high for the year), 6 **Caspian Terns**, and 136 **Forster's Terns**. The official shorebird surveys that are conducted at SRCF along with input from other birders helps to provide a lot of important data on population totals as well as migration patterns in *Lancaster*. Some of the shorebird highlights are an **American Avocet** 7/20, 2005 totals of 86 **Black-bellied Plover**, 67 **American Golden-Plover**, 2 **Marbled Godwits** 8/6 &13 (BS, DH et al), **Hudsonian Godwit** 10/8, **Whimbrel** 8/24 & 8/31 (DH et.al.), **Willet** 7/28 & 8/28 (DA, CC, DH et al), a total of 129 **Greater Yellowlegs**, 327 **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Wilson's Phalarope** 8/20 (TR), a total of 4 **Long-billed Dowitchers** with a peak of 2 on 8/24, a strong tally of 51 **Stilt Sandpipers**, a total of 18 **Ruddy Turnstone** with a peak of 9 on 8/31, 3 of the increasingly endangered **Red Knot** 8/24 (DH), a strong total of 68 **Sanderling**, a total of 17 **Western Sandpipers**, a record total of 53 **Baird's Sandpiper** for the season and a record of 21 **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** with a high count of 6 on 8/28 (DHe).

Gulls were represented at SRCF by multiple sightings of **Laughing Gulls** from 8/24-10/9 (m.obs) and **Lesser Black-backed Gull** from 9/25 on. A **jaeger species** was seen 10/30 at SRCF during the search for the Cave Swallow (TJ). **Common Terns** were seen on several occasions 8/6-10/17 and **Black Terns** were present from 7/13-9/1 with a high of 16 on 8/31 (m.obs). A very large count of 650 **Forster's Terns** was noted along the Susquehanna R. from the Wissler Run Park 10/7 (BS et al). One of the rarer sightings of the fall was a **Eurasian Collared Dove** at Susquehannock S.P. 9/8 (TA) with another (or possibly the same bird) in Peach Bottom Village 9/20 (BS).

Olive-sided Flycatcher was only seen once this fall when two were seen at PS 9/3 (BC, TG). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** was seen along Pinch Rd. 9/3 (AB, RM). **Philadelphia Vireo** was only seen twice, 9/21 & 9/30. **Common Raven** was seen near Camp Shand on the *Lancaster/Lebanon* border 9/24 (SW). Over the past few years ravens have been somewhat regular in this area.

The rarest, although not entirely unexpected, sighting this season was a **Cave Swallow** that was found by Bob Schutsky at SRCF around 7:40 a.m.10/30. The bird was seen from the Blue Rock Rd. boat launch as it flew up river right past the boat launch. Many people searched for this bird later in the day, but it was not relocated. Pending acceptance this will be a first record for *Lancaster*. This fall both **Black-capped Chickadee** and **Red-breasted Nuthatch** (first seen 9/4) have been fairly numerous with strong numbers continuing into Dec. Many feeders throughout the county seem to host **Black-capped Chickadees** along with the resident **Carolina Chickadees**. Six **Marsh Wrens** were noted at SRB 9/25. A group from the Lancaster County Bird Club sighted four **Gray-cheeked Thrush** at Landis Woods in Manheim Twp. 9/21 (CC, et. al.). **Orange-crowned Warbler** was seen 9/3 off of Pinch Rd. in northern *Lancaster* (AB, RM). **Mourning Warbler** was at PS 8/27 (BC) and **Connecticut Warbler** was off on Pinch Rd. 9/11 (RM). Overall most observers reported a fairly normal variety and numbers of warblers this season.

Two **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows** were seen at SRB in late Sep and early Oct (m.obs) before the water level rose this year. By the time their normal migration peak came around the water level had covered most of the habitat. Finally, **Purple Finches** appeared in good numbers in early Oct and had thinned out considerably by mid-Nov. One **Pine Siskin** was at SRCF 10/21 and two very early **Evening Grosbeaks** were found off of Pinch Rd. 9/18 (RM).

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Lawrence County
No Report.
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Lebanon County

Locations: Lebanon Valley B.P. (LVBP), Memorial Lake State Park (MLSP), Middlecreek W.M.A. (MCWMA), Mt. Pleasant Rd. (MPR), Reistville Ponds (RV), 2nd Mountain Hawk Watch (2nd Mtn.), State Game Lands 145, 211 (SGL).

The highlights of this quarter was of an adult female **Rufous Hummingbird** banded 11/25 (SWe) in North Lebanon. It was present from 9/15-12/1 (LZ). This was close to the "selasphorus" hummingbird from last year which also showed up 9/15/04. The second highlight was the 4th county record of a male **Varied Thrush** found dead on a porch in Coffeetown (RLF). It was identified 2 weeks later. (KL, JL). The third highlight was of an imm male **Yellow-headed Blackbird** found 9/29 (KL, JL). It remained until 10/2 (RCM, KM). These are both county firsts.

A female **Northern Shoveler** with 75 **Mallards** at RV 8/25 set a new early date (RCM). At MLSP 10/12 a female **Surf Scoter** was a 4th county record (CC, BH). A **Hooded Merganser** at MLSP 10/22 also set an early date (RCM). **Pied-billed Grebe** was first found 11/5 at MLSP (DB). A **Horned Grebe** at MLSP set an early date 10/22 (RCM).

At 2nd Mtn the last **Osprey** was 11/2. The **Bald Eagle** count was 91 and counting for a season record. The 10 **Bald Eagles** that passed by 9/24 set a one day record. The **Broad-winged Hawk** big day was 9/25 with 1123 (m.obs). On 9/28 at SGL145, 3128 **Broad-winged Hawks** flew by in the morning. The last **Broad-winged Hawks** passed 2nd Mtn 10/26 (m.obs).

A **rail species** was seen at LVBP in high weeds but could not be seen well (RCM). **American Coots** were in low numbers at MCWMA and MLSP (m.obs). **Black-bellied Plovers** are accidental in the fall so 2 flying west over LVBP were the second sightings in 50 years (RCM). **American Golden Plovers** were found 9/28 (TJ) to11/4 (RCM) with up to 10 being seen at MPR. A **Semipalmated Plover** from 9/28 (TJ) to 10/7 (RCM) sent a late date at MPR. On 11/6 at MPR 96 **Killdeer** were seen (RCM). Near Camp Shand a **Spotted Sandpiper** was found 11/22 for a new late date (SW). Three **White-rumped Sandpipers** were seen at RV 8/15 (RCM) and 1–2 were at MPR until 10/5 (TJ, RCM). Two **Baird's Sandpipers** were at MPR 9/28 for the only report (RCM). There were 18 **Pectoral Sandpipers** at MPR 9/28 for a high fall count (TJ). A **Wilson's Snipe** seen 10/1-10/7 set an early date and the only Oct record at MPR (m.obs).

Gull numbers peaked at MLSP in late Nov with approximately 3000. They were approximately 70% **Herring Gulls**, 25% **Ring-billed Gulls**, and approximately 100 **Great Black-backed Gulls**. On 11/28 a 1st winter **Iceland Gull** and 7 **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** (5 adult and 2 third winter) were found (TJ).

A **Barn Owl** was reported near Meadow Rd. most of the summer and early fall (SW). **Common Nighthawks** were last seen 9/23 near Lawn (MA). A flock of 17 **Chimney Swifts** 10/14 at MPR set a new late date (RCM).

Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were in good numbers throughout the county starting 9/25 at SGL 145. A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** 9/3 at SGL145 was a good find (AB, RCM). Many **empidonax** were found this fall but could not be put down to species. A calling **Willow Flycatcher** 9/11 at SGL145 was nice (RCM). The last **Last Flycatcher** was found at Levitz Park 9/14 (AS).

A singing **Warbling Vireo** 9/18 set a new late date at SGL 145 (RCM). Also that day there were approximately 100 **Red-eyed Vireos** in the same area (RCM). **Common Ravens** were found near Camp Sand again starting 9/18. Swallows were the story along MPR. The last **Purple Martins** were seen 10/2 (RCM). The mass of mostly **Tree Swallows** 9/28 was the largest numbers of birds we had ever seen. This mass was approximately 1/3 x 1/3 mile and that was just the core. The fringes extended 200 yards out with uncountable numbers still flying in from the east, south and west. I estimated 3,097,600 to 4,000,000 (RCM, KM, SB). On 9/29 with a strong west wind there were maybe 500,000 at MPR (RCM) but along Rt 322 about 5 miles away large numbers of swallows had moved there to roost in the cornfields (JH, SW). Two late dates were set at LVBP with 2 **Bank Swallows** 10/7 and a **Barn Swallow** 10/10 (RCM).

Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported all season (m.obs). Four **Winter Wrens** were found near Camp Shand 10/29 (SW). The last **Veery** was seen at SGL211 on 9/11(MT). Ten **Swainson's Thrush** on SGL 145 on 9/25 was a good fall count (RCM). The last one was reported near Camp Shand 10/18 (SW). **American Pipits** set an early date with 34 on 10/1 at MPR (RK, RCM).

Warblers moved through the county in good numbers the first three weeks of Sep. An **Orange-crowned Warbler** 9/3 was early at SGL145. There were 21 **Nashville Warblers** 9/11 for a county high at SGL145. Three **Yellow Warblers** 10/14 set a new late date as did a **Chestnut-sided Warbler** 10/13, both near Camp Shand (SW). **Cape May Warblers** were seen from 9/11 at SGL211 (MT) to 10/25 in Palmyra for a new late date (KL). A **Black-throated Green Warbler** 11/12 near Camp Shand also set a late date (SW). A **Palm Warbler** 9/4 was the only one reported (RCM). **Blackpoll Warblers** were reported only from 9/10-9/14 at SGL145 (RCM, SW). A **Kentucky Warbler** 9/3 at SGL145 was a good find (RCM, AB). An imm **Connecticut Warbler** was found 9/11 & 9/17 in the same spot along SGL145 (RCM). The last **Common Yellowthroat** was seen 9/5 at SGL 145 (KM).

The last **Scarlet Tanager** went by 2nd Mtn 10/2 (m.obs). The first **American Tree Sparrows** were reported from MC 11/11 (AH). A **Fox Sparrow** was found dead near 2nd Mtn 11/6 (KMc). A **Snow Bunting** also visited 2nd Mtn 11/18 (SW). A **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** at MLSP 10/12 was almost late (CC). A **Dickcissel** along MPR 10/2 was a great find (TJ). It was *Lebanon's* first Oct record. A **Bobolink** at MLSP 10/12 set a new late date by five weeks (CC, BH).

Rusty Blackbirds were seen 10/2 with singles at MLSP (RCM) and MPR (RCM, KM). A single **Baltimore Oriole** at Camp Shand 11/24 set a late date by nine weeks (SW). A female **Purple Finch** 9/18 set an early date, also at Camp Shand (SW). A **Red Crossbill** at SGL211 in the Cold Springs parking area 10/27 was a first Oct record (TJ). A **Pine Siskin** 9/24 at 2nd Mtn set and early date (RCM). Two **Evening Grosbeaks** 9/18 at SGL145 were calling and flying west were also early (RCM).

Observers: **Randy C. Miller, 607 Woodland Dr., Manheim, PA, 17545, (717) 664-3778**. Mike Adams, Chuck Berthoud, Dale Bickster, Ann Bodling, Gerry Boltz, Stephanie Butler, Chuck Chalfant, Mike Dale, Pam Fisher, Randy L. Flowers, Jeff Hackman, Fritz Heilman, Barbara Hunsberger, Ann Hurst, Tom Johnson, Ramsay Koury, Ken and Jane Light, Kelly McKinne, Kate Miller, Art Schiavo, Dave Schwenk, Rosemary Spreha, Scott Weidensaul (SWe), Lee Wells, Susan Wheeler, Liz Zehring.

Lehigh County

Highlights from the Bake Oven Knob Hawk Watch includes the following observations. Two **Northern Goshawks** 10/16, 3 on 10/20, 4 on 11/2, 5 on 11/11, 4 on 11/14, and 4 on 11/25. A **Rough-legged Hawk** was seen 10/19 and 2 more 11/11. Thirty-eight **Merlin's** were counted 10/15, a new single day record. The next day an additional 31 **Merlin's** were seen. A very late **Blue-headed Vireo** was seen 11/12. A fly-over **Snow Bunting** made an appearance 10/29.

A sampling of the fall migration in Lower Macungie Twp. follows. All reports are from Jon Levin. An adult **Cooper's Hawk** was hanging around my bird feeders 11/24. A **Common Nighthawk** was seeing flying low over homes 9/16. **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** were seen 9/23-9/24. There was a **Winter Wren** 11/20. A **Brown Creeper** was observed 9/27. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet's** were seen 10/15. The following warblers were seen during the fall. A **Northern Parula** 10/15, **Magnolia** 9/21, **Black-throated Blue** and **Black-throated Green** 9/2. **Black-throated Green Warblers** were also seen 10/1. **Blackpoll** 9/21, **Black-and-white Warblers** 9/3, 9/17, and 9/24. **American Redstarts** were seen 9/4, 9/5, 9/18, 9/21, and 9/22. On 11/24 there were five species of sparrows at my feeders including **American Tree**, **Chipping**, **Fox**, **Song**, and **White-throated**. On a trip to SGL 217 just north of Leaser Lake by Jon Levin produced the following birds. A **Blue-headed Vireo**, **Golden-crowned Kinglet** and the following warblers, **Nashville**, **Chestnut-sided**, **Black-throated Blue**, **Black-throated Green**, **Palm**, and **Blackpoll**. Jon Levin's sightings from SGL 205 near Schnecksville include **Cooper's Hawk**, **White-eyed Vireo**, **Orange-crowned Warbler**, **Magnolia Warbler**, **Black-and-white Warbler** 9/11. On 10/16 **Cooper's Hawk**, **Golden-crowned Kinglet**, **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** and **Savannah** and **Lincoln's Sparrows** were seen. **Blue-headed Vireo**, **Golden-crowned Kinglet**, **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**, **Palm Warbler**, and **Savannah Sparrow** were seen 10/30.

In other parts of the county 2 adult **Bald Eagles** were seen flying over Lynn Twp. near Lynnport 9/19 (JO). Jane also saw **Purple Finches** 10/22. While playing golf, JL saw a **Merlin** near Coopersburg 11/4 (JL). A peak count of 52 **Fish Crows** (KG) was seen at the Macungie Tank Farm 10/3.

Observers: **Jon Levin, 1899 Aster Rd., Macungie, PA, 18062, (610) 366-9996, levinjl1@yahoo.com**, Kerry Grim, Jane Ostroski

Luzerne County

Locations: Harveys Lake (HL)

Six **Redheads** were at HL 12/1-12/14 (EJ, et al.). A **Red-throated Loon** was at HL on the unusual date of 8/21 (EJ, WR). Interesting shorebirds included a **Black-bellied Plover** at HL 8/21 (EJ, WR), and two **American Golden-Plovers**, two **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** and a single **Baird's Sandpiper** at Forty Fort 8/28 (JH, RK, EJ). Also at Forty Fort 8/28 were a **Forster's Tern** and **Black Tern** (JH, RK, EJ).

Two late **Tree Swallows** were at HL 10/21 (WR). A **Bicknell's Thrush** was found at Mountain Top 10/19 (RK). Two **Cape May Warblers** were in Dallas 9/21 & 10/3 (EJ). A **Connecticut Warbler** was present in Dallas 9/18-9/19 (EJ).

Observers: Jim Hoyson, Edwin Johnson Rick Koval, William Reid.
No Compiler.

Lycoming County
No Report. No Compiler.

McKean County

Waterfowl was not reported frequently this period, only 4 **Tundra Swan** were observed 11/28 near Indian Creek (JF). **Bufflehead** and 14 **Green-winged Teal** were seen near Eldred as well as numerous **Wood Ducks** and a **Pied-billed Grebe** l0/22 (JF,TRJ,TRS). Seven late **Double-crested Cormorants** were observed Near Redbridge 11/11,(JF). The last **Green Heron** observed was 9/3.

The last **Osprey** was reported 8/31. On 10/22, an adult **Bald Eagle** attempted to carry off a mallard duck decoy near Eldred (JF). The last **Broad-winged Hawk** reported in the county was 9/3 and the first **Rough-legged Hawk** was 11/26. **Merlin** seem to be observable for a good part of the year with one being seen in Bradford 8/2l (JF) and a few others seen off and on through the fall in Bradford (LF) and near Smethport (JF,TRS,TRI). On 8/31, **Swallow-tailed Kite** was seen briefly at Sugar Bay and was most likely a fallout bird for the hurricane season (JF).

Shorebirds made a good showing as water levels were down this season. The first was observed 7/20, a **Solitary Sandpiper** (JF). The three spots in the county that produce the most habitat and birds are the mudflats near Redbridge, Sugar Bay, and the Bradford Sewage Treatment Ponds. **Semipalmated Plover**, **Killdeer**, **American Avocet** 8/16**, Greater** and **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Ruddy Turnstone** 8/31, **Sanderling** 8/31, **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, **Western Sandpiper**, **Least Sandpiper**, **White-rumped Sandpiper**, **Baird's Sandpiper**, **Pectoral Sandpiper**, **Stilt Sandpiper**, **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**, **Short-billed Dowitcher**, and **Long-billed Dowitcher** 8/31 were observed this season (JF).

Yellow-billed and **Black-billed Cuckoos** were rarely seen during daylight, but picked up often on Northern Saw-whet Toot Routes and seemed quite common. The **Northern Saw-whet Owls** seemed quite common this season as well with many being observed and some seen during Toot Routes (CE, JF). A single **Whip-poor-will** was heard 7/24 along Rt 219 south of Mt. Jewett. The last **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was seen 9/3 (DF, BF) in Bradford. Twp. **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were seen this season near Eldred. (9/3,10/10 JF).

Flycatchers were uncommonly seen this fall with the last **Eastern Phoebe** 10/10 near Eldred and the last vireos were 10/10 with a **Red-eyed Vireo** and **Blue-headed Vireo** near Eldred. (JF, TRS, TRJ). A **Philadelphia Vireo** was seen on Timberdoodle Flats 9/18 as were most of the last migrating warblers. Late **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** were seen in Bradford 11/11 (JF) and an **Orange-crowned Warbler** was observed near Eldred on 10/22.

American Tree Sparrows arrived l0/22, a little behind **Fox Sparrows** 10/10 and **Lincoln's Sparrow's** were last seen 10/10 with **Red-winged Blackbirds** departing that date as well. **Rusty Blackbirds** were near Eldred from 10/10-11/11 and the last **Baltimore Oriole** was in Bradford 8/22. A small flock of three **Red Crossbills** and 14 **Pine Siskins** were observed near Indian Creek 11/28 (JF, TRJ) and two possible flocks of **Evening Grosbeaks** were seen near Farmer's Valley during the late part of Nov (LG).

Once again, coverage this quarter was low. It is a big county with lots of habitat of various kinds - come on up and enjoy it! A Block-busting weekend is being planned for the second week of June; mark the date on your calendar so you can help in Region 32 for the PBBA! Thanks.

Observers **John Fedak, 26 Race St., Bradford, PA, 16701, (814) 275-4086, jlfedak@atlanticbb.net**, Ben Coulter,, Lisa Fedak, Danny Fedak, Bailey Fedak, Craig Engstrom, Len Groshek, Tom Raught Jr., and Tom Raught Sr.

Mercer County

Location: Shenango R. Res. (SRR)

Two flocks of **Common Loons** totaling 30 birds were observed as flybys over Williamson Rd. 11/22, just before the Thanksgiving Day snowstorm (NT). Most **Tundra Swan** migrated southeast over SRR in the middle of Nov. A small skein of 15 were seen 11/15, 85 11/17, 200+ 11/18, 15 12/5, and 50 stragglers 12/16.

Not common in the county, 2 **Merlins** hung around the McKean farm on Zahnizer Rd. 9/18 - 10/2 (NT). SRR produced 3 **Pectoral Sandpipers**, 26 **Dunlin**, and one **Stilt Sandpiper** 11/5 (MV). He commented that this was the latest **Stilt Sandpiper** he has ever seen in PA. The last seen date for **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was 9/23 at SRR, and 9/5 was the last date for **Purple Martin** at WR.

Neil Troyer tallied 22 species of warblers, and most moved through 9/18-10/2, which was one week later than usual. Outstanding was his discovery of a **Connecticut Warbler** 9/24 in a logged-over fence row overgrown with blackberry bushes. He was 10 ft. from the bird for five minutes, long enough to see the prominent complete white eye ring. Two **Cape May Warblers**, absent from *Mercer* for several years, were at Skunk Run Rd. 9/23-10/1 (NT). He commented that warbler numbers "seemed to have been up from previous years".

Two **Eastern Towhees** were around all period at SRR, and continued into Dec. Three **Fox Sparrows** 11/15 at SRR were a pleasant surprise.

Observers: **Marty McKay, 841 E. Lake Rd., Transfer, PA, 16154 (724) 962-7476,** Harriet Bauer, Neil Troyer and family, Mark Vass.

Mifflin County

A female **Northern Harrier** was hunting over the farm fields 10/23. Thirty **Black Vultures** had congregated by a neighboring farm 11/14. A flock of at least 50 **Cliff Swallows** came through the area 8/7. I was pleased to find 3 **Cape May Warblers** 9/24. Also noted 10/23 was a **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**, three **Yellow-rumped Warblers**, several **Dark-eyed Juncos**, 3 imm **White-crowned Sparrows**, and one **White-throated Sparrow**. The first **American Tree Sparrow** of the fall was spotted 11/11.

Observer: **J. Irvin Zook 132 Beech Tree Lane, Belleville, PA. 17004 knjzook@pa.net**

Monroe County

Locations: East Stroudsburg (ES), Monroe County Environmental Education Center (MCEEC), Tannersville Bog (TB).

The period was marked by dry weather in August and September followed by a storm event in early October where ten inches of rain fell in a thirty-six hour period. Few reports were received. Unless noted, observations were made by the compiler.

The only **Great Egret** reported was one at an ES pond 8/23 (DS). Two **Snow Goose** flocks totaling 150 birds passed over MCEEC 11/15 and thrilled 5th graders on a field trip. Project Owlnet was conducted for the 6th season at Skytop (DS, JS). This **Northern Saw-whet Owl** banding station operated from 10/2-11/17 and captured 79 different Northern Saw-whets, including 4 owls that were already banded, 2 from southcentral PA and 2 from ON. The best night was 10/28 when 16 individuals were banded. Rainy weather accounted for the fact that the station's first owl was not captured until 10/18 (typically this occurs in the first week of Oct).

A high count of **Common Nighthawks** was 120 at Mountainhome 8/29 (DS). A **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was somewhat late at an MCEEC feeder 10/7. A **Rufous/Allen's** type hummingbird teased the observer and was seen very briefly in a Saylorsburg yard 11/6 (RW). A **Common Raven** was observed two different days during the week of 10/3 over MCEEC. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were on the move in Aug with migrants heard or seen throughout the month at MCEEC and TB with a max of 3 at MCEEC 8/31. The first **Winter Wren** of the fall was noted 10/18 at TB. Also 10/18, the first arrivals of **White-crowned Sparrow** and **Dark-eyed Junco** were recorded at MCEEC.

Observers: **Brian Hardiman, MCEEC, 8050 Running Valley Rd, Stroudsburg, PA 18360, (570) 629-3061, bhmccd@ptd.net**, Darryl Speicher, Jackie Speicher, Rick Wiltraut.

Montgomery County

Locations: Green Lane Reservoir (GLR), New Hanover Township (NHT), Norristown Farm Park (NFP), Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust (PERT), Unami Creek Valley (UCV), Upper Gwynedd Township (UGT), Upper Hanover Township (UHT), Upper Perkiomen Valley Park (UPVP).

The fall season brought a mixed bag of weather in *Montgomery*. Rainfall ranged from bone dry (0.99") in September, to near-monsoon conditions (l l -49") in October. Our biggest news was that of Green Lane Reservoir's first mudflats in three years.

Waterfowl variety and numbers were decent, with 20 species recorded. Highlights were 3 **Gadwall** on the record early date of 9/17, up to 11 **Blue-winged Teal** (significant because they were missed for the previous two fall migrations). Diving ducks had a nice showing with 2 **American Goldeneye** 11/10, 2 **Greater Scaup** 10/22, and a whopping 220 **Bufflehead** 11/14. (all KC, GF). This Bufflehead number is noteworthy because high counts were also had in at least four other counties on the same day.

Common Loons peaked at a modest 3 at Walt Rd., GLR 10/22 and **Pied-billed Grebes** were also found in small numbers (KC, GAF, m.obs). An adult **Black-crowned Night Heron** remained at GLR though Aug, and **Great Egret** numbers peaked at 5 there 8/2.(GAF, m.obs).

Raptors had a good showing, and included three hard to find species. An adult **Red-shouldered Hawk** was at Ward and Walt Rds., GLR 11/12 & 11/19 (RG, GAF). **Peregrine Falcon** first appeared at Church Rd, GLR 9/l and was seen on at least seven different dates ending 10/16 (RG,CRf, m.obs). **Merlin** was early at Church Rd. 8/12 (KC, m.obs), and 2 were at Walt Rd. 10/28 (GAF). The **Bald Eagle** nest at c GLR collapsed on a windy 11/29, but the pair began rebuilding the very next day! (RF, m.obs).

After two "bust" years in a row, Green Lane had extensive mudflats and good shorebirds for Aug and Sep. The 19 species reported exceeded our average of 15 species. High counts by species were as follows (all sightings GAF unless noted): **American Golden-Plover** (4) 8/3l + (RK), **Semipalmated Plover** (15) 8/28, **Greater Yellowlegs** (2) 8/9+, **Lesser Yellowlegs** (71) 8/28 (AJM), **Stilt Sandpiper** (6) 8/31 (RK), **Pectoral**

Sandpiper (28) 8/28+, **Sanderling** (4) 8/31 (RG), **Baird's Sandpiper** (2) 8/9+ (KR, m.obs), **Least Sandpiper** (160) 8/28, and **Semipalmated Sandpiper** (40) 8/9. Species represented by individual birds included **Black-bellied Plover** 8/28 (GAF, m.obs), **Wilson's Snipe** 8/31+ (RK, m.obs), **Short-billed Dowitcher** 8/28+ (AJM, m.obs), **Dunlin** 8/7 (RK, m.obs), and **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** 9/6-9/11 (RG, m.obs). Shorebirding came to an abrupt halt when Tropical Storm Tammy inundated the flats l0/7.

A lone **Bonaparte's Gull** was at Walt Rd., GLR 10/10, and a **Laughing Gull** was at Church Rd.9/l (GAF). **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** reached a high of 5 at Church Rd. 11/27 (KC, m.obs). Tern reports were even better, with four species observed at Church Rd. Highlights were 5 **Caspian Terns** 9/l (GAF), a **Common Tern** 8/28 (AJM), 4 **Forster's Terns** 10/10 (KC), and a high of 6 **Black Terns** 8/30 (RG).

Owls of note included a **Barred** near Knight Rd., GLR l0/31 (GLF), and a **Northern Saw-whet Owl** in NHT 10/1 (PAG). **Common Nighthawks** were anything but common with only ones and twos from 8/23-9/7 (various locations, m.obs). A late **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was in UGT until 10/10. An imm female **Rufous Hummingbird** was present in Narberth beginning 11/21-12/7 and banded 11/23 (WR, NP), and a **Selasphorous hummingbird** was in Elkins Park 11/5-11/29. (AJM, PD). An adult **Red-headed Woodpecker** was among a dozen **Blue Jays** in a Pin Oak at Church Rd. l0/3 (KC). Flycatcher reports included a **Yellow-bellied** in Elkins Park 9/10 (PD), and a "mystery" **empidonax** at Church Rd. GLR 11/7 (KC). The latter was seen three times for a total of two minutes, but no further identification could be made. Extensive searches throughout the day and for several days after proved fruitless (m.obs). A late **Blue-headed Vireo** was at Walt Road, GLR l l/6. (GAF).

Black-capped Chickadees began arriving 9/26 in western *Montgomery*, and by Nov they outnumbered our resident **Carolina Chickadees** (m.obs). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were first noted 8/26 at GL & Ambler, and elsewhere (GAF, RK,m.obs). A few remained through the period. **Winter Wren** arrived 11/19 at GLR (GAF, RG). **American Pipits** checked in on the Church Rd. flats 9/9, and eventually reached a high of 9. At NFP the high was 16 on 10/27 (KC).

Warblers were represented by a dismal 14 species. Highlights included **Nashville** and **Canada Warblers** at Church RD. **Chestnut-sided** at UPVP and UGT, and a late **Black-throated Blue** in Elkins Park 11/5 (KC, GAF, AJM, PD).

Sparrows had a better showing with 12 species reported. Our best sparrow was a less than cooperative **Lark Sparrow** in Limerick 9/18-10/ll (SG, KC, GAF). The bird was on a building lot surrounded by suburban homes, making access a real problem. Details will be submitted to PORC. Other birds of note from Church Rd, GLR included a high of 3 **Lincoln's Sparrows** l0/3-10/17, up to 3 **White-crowned Sparrows**, and a whopping 80+ **Chipping Sparrows** (including a completely leucistic bird) 10/9 (KC, GAF). Reports from PERT included 5 **Vesper Sparrows** 10/23-10/27, and 25 **Savannah Sparrows** 11/27 (PD). Several **Eastern Towhees** remained through the end of Nov at the Green Lane Nature Center, near Upper Perkiomen Valley Park, and in Upper Hanover Twp. (KC, RG, JG). A lone(ly?) male **Evening Grosbeak** flew over the Temple University Ambler Campus 11/18 (RK) (It is amazing how this bird went from nearly annual until the early 1980's to such a rarity now !).

Blackbirds worth a mention included a **Rusty Blackbird** at Church Rd, GLR 10/24, and 2 at Ambler 11/4 (KC, RK). **Bobolinks** were scarce at GLR with a high of l2 birds 8/4 (GAF). An **Orchard Oriole** there 8/7 was unusually late (KC).

Up to 9 **Purple Finches** were reliable at feeders near UPVP, UCV, and UHT beginning in Oct, but all left by the end of Nov (RG, KC, JG). **Pine Siskins** were represented by l-2 birds in the UCV 10/10 and 11/11, Walt Rd, GLR l0/15-10/16, Lansdale 10/26 and 11/23 (KC,GAF,K&JG).

Observers: **Kevin Crilley, PO Box 100, Sumneytown, PA, 18084, (215) 234-6867, kcilley@mail.montcopa.org,** Paul Driver, Rory Ferry, George Franchois (GAF), Gary Freed (GLF), Joe Greco, Ron Grubb, Steve Grunwald, Paul and Anita Guris, Rudy Keller, Steve Lawrence, Augie and Judy Mirabella, Nick Pulcinella, Ken Reiker, William Roache.

Montour County

Numbers of migrating waterfowl this fall were quite low in contrast to past years both in number of individuals and in number of species. Noticeably absent were **sea ducks**, **Tundra Swans** and **Snow Geese**. There were intermittent sightings of an adult **Bald Eagle** from Sep through ice-over in Dec at L. Chillisquaque.

Observers: **Jon Beam, Montour Preserve, 700 Preserve Rd., Danville, PA, 17821, (570) 437-3131, jdbeam@pplweb.com**.

Northampton County

Locations: Little Gap (LG), Monacacy Nature Center (MNC), Williams Township (WT).

Three **Greater White-fronted Geese** were heard calling and then seen as they flew across Rt 329 near Seemsville 11/26 (DW). On that same day, 2 **Cackling Geese** were at Green Pond (DD). Waterfowl sightings other than geese were very few. A good find was a pair of **Red-necked Grebes** 11/21 at Minsi Lake (KS). It was a much better period for waders. Quite uncommon were 2 imm **Little Blue Herons** 8/8-8/23 (R&PO). These birds spent their time on a rocky outcrop on the Lehigh R. in Freemansburg. Another uncommon wader was an imm **Black-crowned Night-Heron** at Green Pond 8/28-8/30 (DW). The Little Gap Hawk Watch counted 15,863 hawks and vultures this Fall. New seasonal records were set with 102 **Golden Eagles** (old record was 87) and 4298 **Red-tailed Hawks**.

Record late dates were set for a **Black-billed Cuckoo** at MNC 10/16, a **Common Nighthawk** at LG 10/30 (KM, EB), and **Chimney Swift** 11/1 in WT (AK). There was a late high of 17 **Chimney Swifts** in WT 10/30 (MS).

The county had 3 **Selasphorus hummingbirds** at two locations. An unidentified Selasphorus hummingbird was at a feeder in WT 9/4 (AK). Two **Rufous Hummingbirds** visited a private feeder near Bethlehem. An imm male was there 10/12-12/12 and an imm female was at the same yard for a few days in mid-Nov. Besides raptors, the LG section of the Blue Mt. is a great spot for migrant passerines. Uncommon species seen were 2 **Red-headed Woodpeckers** 9/17, an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** 9/15, and **Philadelphia Vireos** multiple dates. A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** was at MNC 8/25. A **Western Kingbird** (2nd county record) was found flycatching from a tall snag at the Koch farm in WT 10/30 (AK). It spent a sunny afternoon giving many birders great looks. The kingbird was sporadically seen through 11/6.

A singing **Sedge Wren** (4th county record) was found along a small stream in a mixed patch of cattails and jewelweed near Nazareth 9/5 (RW). Not far from this location by Gracedale, a **Marsh Wren** was seen in a large Black Willow 9/26 (RW, EB). An unusual sighting on the Freemansburg towpath was a leucistic **Golden-crowned Kinglet** 9/26 (R&PO). The bird was all white except the golden crown.

Several excellent warblers were found including a **Golden-winged Warbler** at LG 9/2 (MS). In WT, an **Orange-crowned Warbler** was seen 10/21-11/17 (AK). A late **Yellow-throated Warbler** was at MNC 9/18 (JH) while a late **Ovenbird** was found in Easton 11/10. It was a great Fall for finding **Connecticut Warblers** with three sightings from LG (MS, DA) and one at Gracedale (RW). The only uncommon sparrow seen was a **Clay-colored Sparrow** in WT 9/19 (AK). There was an early **Lincoln's Sparrow** at Gracedale 9/6 (DW). Along the Appalachian Trail at LG was an early **Dark-eyed Junco** 9/3 (MS). The **Blue Grosbeak** that attempted nesting was last seen 8/7 (DW). In Plainfield Twp. 20 **Common Redpolls** were found 11/23 (KS).

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Northumberland County

No Report. No Compiler.

Perry County

No Report.

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Philadelphia County

Locations: Art Museum (AM), Delaware River (DR), Delaware Valley Ornithological Club (DVOC), East Park Reservoir (EPR), Franklin D. Roosevelt Park (FDR), John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum-Philadelphia portion (TI), Philadelphia International Airport (PHL), Schulykill River (SR), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Wissahickon Creek (WC)

Fall was relatively warm and dry even as devastating hurricanes pounded southern states. We didn't pick-up any avian fallout from the many powerful tropical storms, but there were a variety of good sightings: **American White Pelican, Redhead, Surf Scoter, Hudsonian Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone,** record late **Chimney Swifts,** overwintering **Rough-winged Swallows,** a record setting **Hooded Warbler,** late **Ovenbird,** a **Clay-colored Sparrow,** and a **Dickcissel.**

Waterfowl numbers were low again this year, but we had a fair diversity of species. Two **Brant** found on the SR behind the Art Museum10/21-10/23 (MS, FW) are an uncommon, but fairly regular, visitor on the rivers of the city. **Brant** is rare at TI, however, and the lone bird which fed at the southern end of the impoundment for a week beginning10/30 was a delight (m.obs). A **Tundra Swan** was seen at TI 9/4 (DM). Thankfully, the **Mute Swan**, which had been seen for more than a year, died or left. The rebound in the **Wood Duck** population is clear. I counted 215 **Wood Ducks** at TI 8/28 in a brief scan. While birding FDR11/11, Alan Jackman found a male **Surf Scoter** resting quietly among hundreds of waterfowl. A week later 11/18 Alan found 3 **Redheads** on that same FDR pond along with dozens of **Gadwall, American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail** (500 high at

TI 10/30)**, Green-winged Teal**, a few **Greater Scaup**, 23 **Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead,** 12 **Ruddy Duck** and 100+ **Canada Goose**. What is the attraction of this relatively small urban water hole? And what must the food supply be to support the birds for months? **Common Merganser** were first seen at TI 11/5. A **Red-throated Loon** flyover at EPR 10/17 (MS) was the only loon report I received even though loons are regular migrants over the city and winter on the DR. A high of six **Pied-billed Grebe** at the FDR ponds compared to only two stopping briefly at the much bigger impoundment at TI, but TI did host 2 **Horned Grebe** 10/30 (MS).

The **American White Pelican** which landed on the impoundment at TI 11/5 is one of a handful of fall sightings in the state in recent years (BB, DB, m.obs). The pelican rested for a few hours and quietly disappeared even as many birders searched for it. **Glossy Ibis** were seen at TI 8/31 (AG), 9/7 (DB), and 9/10 (EP).

Volunteers at Militia Hill Hawkwatch in Ft. Washington Park, *Montgomery* monitored **Bald Eagles** entering *Philadelphia* at the northern border of the city. Consistent with the increase in this species, a new high of 22 migrating **Bald Eagles** were counted 9/3-10/26 (MK). Other resident **Bald Eagles** were reported almost daily from locations around the city. MK also reported two **Golden Eagles**. An imm **Golden Eagle** which passed the Militia Hill Hawkwatch 10/5, sailed over Philadelphia, and was seen three hours later at the Rose Tree Park Hawkwatch in *Delaware*. Another **Golden Eagle** of unknown age was seen 10/28. A **Red-shouldered Hawk** has been present at TI since mid-Sep.

In late summer refuge staff at TI began a "draw-down" of the145 acre impoundment as part of a USFWS three year multi-refuge study on the effect of draw-downs on shorebirds. It was re-filled in Sep for the arrival of migrating waterfowl. For the next two years the drawdown will be in the spring to provide feeding area for the northward migration of shorebirds and allow various comparisons of species diversity and effect on vegetation. Thus, by Aug nearly 75 acres of mudflats emerged, free from tidal inundation, and hosted breeding **Killdeer** and **Spotted Sandpiper**, plus 16 species of migrating shorebirds. The fish which remained were concentrated in shallow areas and attracted scores of **Double-crested Cormorant** and **Great Blue Heron**, **Great Egret** (120 high 9/18), several **Black-crowned Night-Heron** and long daily visits from **Bald Eagles** and **Osprey**. We were lucky to have Mike Ferguson, an avid birder, on staff at the refuge as a summer intern who conducted shorebird surveys.

The **American Golden Plover** found at TI 9/18 (MS) was joined by two more 9/25 (AG, FW) and finally a fourth arrived 10/6 (JMi). A dozen or more **Semipalmated Plover** were present 9/1-9/25. **Greater Yellowlegs** 9/1-11/6 reached a high of 60 and **Lesser Yellowlegs** 8/17-11/13 numbered 42 on 9/30 (MF). A **Hudsonian Godwit** rested among **Stilt Sandpiper** and **Lesser Yellowlegs** for two hours 9/22 (MF). **Solitary Sandpiper** were present from 9/21-9/30 (DB, EP). It's been a while since a **Ruddy Turnstone** was seen, but a bird(s?) remained from 9/3-9/18. The most abundant species on the mudflats was **Least Sandpiper,** with 690 counted 8/4 (MF); second in abundance was **Semipalmated Sandpiper**. A **Western Sandpiper** was reported for a week 9/17-9/24 (EP), a lone **White-rumped Sandpiper** was found 9/11 (FW, MF), and by 9/18 MS had found two more. **Pectoral Sandpiper** reached a high of 30 on 9/22 (MF). Three **Dunlin** were spotted 9/17 (BB) and 3 **Stilt Sandpiper** were seen for two weeks from 9/11. Both dowitchers were present: **Short-billed** dominated from 9/11-9/26, but a **Long-billed Dowitcher** was discovered 9/18 (FW, MS). **American Woodcock** were on the move in Oct. One was found at the newly created small wetland at Morris Arboretum10/2 (MD). One was flushed at EPR 10/17 (MS) and RH found parts of a woodcock, killed and eaten in Center City (probably by a **Peregrine Falcon**). No **American Woodcock** was reported from TI.

There is no quantitative data to support my observation that *Larus* numbers, and **Great Black-backed Gull** in particular, have decreased since the oil spill in late November 2004, but there are anecdotal reports. This November, more than a year after the spill, I saw oiled gulls at TI. Although clean-up efforts have ended, there must be small pockets of oil remaining along the DR. A lone **Bonaparte's Gull** visited the refuge in mid-Nov. All four tern species were reported with **Black Tern** seen only 8/31 (AG).

Barred Owl called in Germantown 10/23,10/25, 11/12, and 11/25 (KR). A credible report of a **Barn Owl** came from two staff members at the FDR golf course. The bird was seen mid-morning on 12/22 flying south over the fairways. FDR is in "spitting distance" of the last traditional Barn Owl roost/nest? location reported, the Tidewater Grain elevator, and it is also very close to the pellets that were found this summer by John Miller at the Southeast Sewage Treatment Plant. Watching **Chimney Swift** roosts has become a yearly field trip for the DVOC which gathers at whichever Manayunk area school the swifts have chosen as a roost site during migration. This year it was the Dobson School on Umbria St. where 400 birds came to roost at dusk 9/12. Another large roost was monitored at the Jenks School in Chestnut Hill (JS). Judy found 2100 **Chimney Swifts** entering the chimneys 9/21, diminishing to 950 by 10/1. A bit later 10/3-10/4 RH discovered a hitherto unknown roost with1000 birds at 19th and Carlton. The smaller roosts in Northern Liberty were active again (KS). Twenty birds over Temple University hospital 11/2 (MG) were still roosting in a chimney 11/4, but the record late sighting was 11/6 when birds were seen winging their way south along I-95 (RH, NH). The **Blue-headed Vireo** EP found at TI 11/19 was a good late bird.

Due to the warm weather the abundance of insects must have contributed to the number of lingering insectivores as MS suggested: ". . .my co-worker [at the Academy of Natural Sciences] picked up a dead Silver-haired Bat (*Lasionycteris noctwagans*) at the base of the Bell Atlantic Tower, 18th and Cherry (11/8). I guess it is not just the avian insectivores that are still around." Other remarkable obligate aerial insectivores were the **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** found again this year feeding over the aeration tanks at the NE Water Treatment plant on N. Delaware & Lewis Aves. It will be interesting to see if these swallows survive the winter as they did in 2004. If the plant maintains its operation, we could have overwintering **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** every year.

Poecile, looking and sounding a lot like **Black-capped Chickadee,** were reported in good numbers throughout the city. The origin and genetic pedigree of these birds is impossible to determine, but I think it's safe to say that they are not pure **Carolina Chickadee**. On 8/25 three **Red-breasted Nuthatch** on Spring Lane did not surprise CH. He says they normally arrive in his evergreens in late Aug.

Warbler reports were few with many common species unreported. This was the case with other passerines, including vireo and flycatcher, etc. The seasonal chart reflects the dearth of reports for warblers. A frequently late species has been **Ovenbird**. Matt Sharp thought his bird 11/10 was good, but Andy Bernick thought the three individuals he found in Center City and W. Philadelphia 11/26 were even better. A female **Hooded Warbler** in FW's Pennypack backyard from10/5-10/14 was a really late record for this species. The second latest Hooded had been 9/29/1903, and *the* record is 11/19/1887. Similar late dates are listed for the state in McWilliams and Brauning's *Birds of Pennsylvania*.

The Biopond, a traditional tiny urban oasis, on the University of Pennsylvania campus, is again providing information about how attractive this area is for migrants. SK reported more than ten species of warbler, including **Worm-eating Warbler,** which lingered for several days, and numerous other passerines.

Presumably the **Yellow-breasted Chat** found on unused railroad property was a migrant although the site could provide suitable habitat for nesting if the Chat were not too particular (RH) . This new spot which can be seen from18th St. north of Callowhill produced many good migrants for Rob: 2 **Eastern Phoebe**, **Palm Warbler**, **Field Sparrow**, and **Savannah Sparrow** 10/23.

Edie Parnum had an excellent morning at TI 10/23 when she found a **Dickcissel** off the west deck of the Visitor's Center. She thought it was a first year male. A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was reported at TI 10/16 (SK, RH). Most records for **White-crowned Sparrow** occurred from 10/17-10/20: at FDR (MS), at TI (DB), and at Morris Arboretum (MD). A lone **White-crowned Sparrow** stopped in a yard in Shawmont 11/13 (JS).

Large flocks of **Bobolinks** frequented the wild rice stands which have reemerged in the tidal areas of Darby Creek in early Sep (DB). Bobolink were also seen at EPR 9/18 (MS). The wild rice stands at TI which attracted thousands of Bobolink in past decades declined in the early 1980's and disappeared completely. Many attempts by the USFWS to reintroduce the attractive and useful plant failed. Now without any human intervention, wild rice is back and increasing.

Exotics: Three **Black Swan** were seen on the SR and reported to AM who alerted me to the fact that this Australian species is raised in *Bucks*. and although the breeder is careful, there are escapes.

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Pike County

Locations: Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) and Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

The report is a compilation from PEEC staff notes, PEEC led bird walks, and the bird registry in PEEC's Visitor Center. The fall migration and bird sightings were in par with the recent fall reports in *Pike*. Weather brought another wet hurricane season once again, but without the huge floods of last fall.

Shorebirds were once again scarcely reported in the county. Sightings from Pickerel Pond included a **Solitary Sandpiper** 9/27 (MB) and a **Wilson's Phalarope** 9/14 (TL). The phalarope was looked for many times but could not be reconfirmed with an additional sighting. Numerous **Spotted Sandpipers** were seen along the Delaware R. (MB, EH). One **Lesser Yellowlegs** was reported on the "School House" pond 9/10 (PF).

Hawk migration numbers were reported by enthusiastic hawk watchers among the PEEC staff. Sightings from around the PEEC

Campus included: 4 **Broad-winged Hawks** 9/21 (SQ), **Sharp-shinned Hawk** 9/19, 9/21 (EH, PF), 3 **Red-shouldered Hawks** 9/14 and 10/4 (SQ, EH), **Osprey** 10/4 (EH), **American Kestrel** 10/4 (EH), and **Cooper's Hawk** 9/15 (SQ). Numerous **Bald Eagles** were reported throughout the fall and continue to be common sighting.

Numerous large mixed species evening flocks foraging on insect hatched highlighted songbird migration. The two largest flocks occurred right among the PEEC cabin area. Both times the birds were foraging on unidentified small black flying insects, with fly catching being the primary eating method. The first flock observed 8/9 contained seven species of warblers plus numerous **Scarlet Tanagers**, **Eastern Kingbirds**, **Baltimore Orioles**, **Tree**, **Barn**, **Cliff Swallows**, **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers**, and **Eastern Phoebes** (MB). The other flock was observed 8/26 and contained nine species of warblers; **Tennessee**, **Black-throated Green**, **Ovenbird**, **Black and white**, **American Redstart**, **Blackburnian**, **Common Yellowthroat**, **Pine**, **Chestnut-sided** plus **Yellow-throated Vireos**, **Blue-headed Vireos**, **Scarlet Tanagers**, **Eastern Kingbirds** and **Baltimore Orioles** (MB, EH, SQ).

The true surprise of fall migration was the number of **Cape May Warblers** reported. Most sightings came from around PEEC's New Education/Dining Building and from in front of PEEC's Main Visitor Building. **Cape May** sightings occurred 9/11, 9/17 and 9/19 (EH, MB). Two **Cape May Warblers** also delighted the PEEC staff with close up looks in the PEEC parking lot 9/16.

The arrival of winter birds seemed to be on time with some surprising fall migrants seen late at the PEEC feeders including **Common Grackle** 11/23 (MB), **Red-winged Blackbird** 11/25 (MB, and **Fox Sparrow** 12/3 (MB). A late **Belted Kingfisher** was also observed on PEEC's Front Pond 11/30 (MB).

Two **White-winged Crossbills** made a brief appearance in the Spruce Trees by PEEC's parking lot 11/6 (EH) but only stayed for a minute before heading in a southbound direction. Hopefully an early sign of more winter finches to come!

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Potter County

No Report.

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Schuylkill County

Locations: Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (HMS); Landingville Dam (LVD)

Waterbirds were on the scarce side this fall, probably due in part to a lack of birds, and some part of that due to less birder hours in the field. A highlight, though, was a **Long-tailed Duck** that was at Sweet Arrow L.11/22 (DD). As for waders, a rather uncommon species for the county, single **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were seen 8/12, 8/31, and 9/1 at LVD (TC). A first-year **Northern Gannet** was found along a highway in the Ashland area 10/19. The bird was taken to a rehab center, but died the next day.

Cooper's Hawks had a good fall season at HMS with a total of 1122 migrants seen. A dark-morph **Red-tailed Hawk** circled over the north lookout 10/29 (DH, DK). **Merlins** set a new single-day record of 49 birds 10/15 at HMS (RN, AK), and also a new seasonal record of 198. Three **Sandhill Cranes** were seen from the north lookout 10/15 (AK), 10/20(CF), and a north-bound bird 9/5 (BW). **Wilson's Phalarope** was a nice find at the desilting area of LVD 9/1 (TC), along with other sandpipers. Quality mudflat conditions, however, were not common this fall, and we did not see many shorebirds. At SGL 286 near Schuylkill Haven, 12/29 was a good late date for **American Woodcock**.(BJ).

Two **Caspian Terns** made a showing at LVD 8/6 (TC), and 3 **Black Terns** were seen there 8/31 (TC).

There were some **Olive-sided Flycatcher** sightings from HMS, as well as a couple **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers**. The north lookout at HMS also produced a **Northern Shrike** 11/14 (DB), and fairly high consecutive single-day counts of 30 and 27 **Red-breasted Nuthatches** 9/5 and 9/6. An extremely late **Warbling Vireo** was seen at SGL 227 Tuscarora 10/30 (BB, JD, JhD, DK). This bird had rather greenish upper parts that we do not get to see locally, and this feature along with the timing of the sighting raised interest in the possibility of it being a western bird. **Philadelphia Vireos** were seen in a few locations in about average numbers to what we have seen recently.

HMS had a **Gray-cheeked Thrush** 9/18. Every once in a great while, if you are very lucky, you get to run into an extremely nice wave of migrating songbirds; and this event will stick in your mind for a long time. Jonathan DeBalko of McAdoo observed one of these waves in and around his yard 9/25 which had 7 **Swainson's Thrush**, 2 **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, and 15 species of warblers; including a fabulous count of 30 **Cape May Warblers**, 4 **Tennessee Warblers**, and a **Bay-breasted Warbler**. Two rather rare species in the county were seen at the north lookout of HMS: 2 **Orange-crowned Warblers** 9/21(LG) and **Connecticut Warbler** 9/10 (SS). **Pine Warbler** was seen late into the season at a New Ringgold residence 11/20 (DW).

The Pitman area produced a **Lapland Longspur** 12/4 (DK). Three **Snow Buntings** were seen in the Schuylkill Haven area 11/21 (BJ). Two **White-winged Crossbills** were seen perched at HMS north lookout 8/25 – the earliest recorded date ever for this species at HMS. Another **White-winged Crossbill** was seen at a feeding station near Clamtown 11/20 (BB). Both **Red** and **White-winged Crossbills** were seen sporadically during the latter part of fall at HMS. Our only **Common Redpolls** for the fall were a group of 5 seen at HMS 12/4 (MW). In the Owl Creek area, a male **Evening Grosbeak** was photographed at a feeding station 11/26 (JM). This species was also observed on just a few days in late fall flying past the north lookout at HMS (DB).

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Snyder County

Locations: Faylor Lake and Environs (FL), Isle-of-Que, Selinsgrove (IOQ), Middle Creek Twp. (MCT), Shade Mt. (SM), Susquehanna River (SR).

An unusual find at FL 11/11 were three **Common Goldeneye** (P&RW). At least six **Black-crowned Night Herons** were reported near the Fabridam, above Selinsgrove, along with a **Caspian Tern** 8/31 and, on the same day, about 76 **Great Egrets** were on the IOQ (MB).

A **Common Nighthawk** was observed flying over MCT 8/22 (MB). On the evening of 9/7, **Barred Owl** and **Common Raven** were among the birds heard or seen at the Mt. Pisgah Alter on SM (RC, CK, AT). A lone **Snow Bunting** was found on the west shore of the SR near the Fabridam while about 75 **Horned Larks** were feeding in the fields on the IOQ 10/26 (MB).

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Somerset County

Locations: Berlin Area (BA), Buffalo Creek (BC), Payne Property (PP), Somerset Lake (SL), Quemahoning Res. (QR)

The early part of the season was warm and dry. Passerine migration was steady and prolonged with good daily variety but relatively low numbers. Better shorebird variety than in the past several years may be attributed to exposed mud from drying lakes and ponds. Waterfowl migration was well below average in both numbers and species. The bird of the year was an adult **Long-tailed Jaeger** at SL. Winter arrived with a bang when a late October blizzard left 12" of wet snow everywhere including on many trees that had not yet lost their leaves.

Twenty species of waterfowl were reported but the largest fallout was an anemic 200 birds at SL 11/15 (AM). One **Long-tailed Duck** 10/23 (J&MM) and 2 **Redheads** 10/23 (J&MM) were reported from SL. No **loons** were reported and the only **grebes** were **Pied-billed** with a maximum of 6 at SL 11/15 (AM). At least 3 **Great Egrets** visited the county including one at SL 8/22 (AM), one in BA 8/15 (JP), and one at the Flight 93 ponds 8/23 (JP, LP). Two **Black Vultures** flew by PP 8/2l (JP, LP).

An early cold front 8/21 pushed **Northern Harrier**, **Black** and **Turkey Vultures**, **Red-tailed Hawks**, **American Kestrel**, and a surprise early **Merlin** past PP (JP). The best raptor migration past PP was caught 10/15 and included 86 birds in 1 ½ hours including an unprecedented 6 **Merlin** (JP, LP). A **Bald Eagle** was at Confluence 10/26 (AM). A **Red-shouldered Hawk** passed PP 9/27 (JP, LP) and one **Golden Eagle** was off the ridge in BA 10/9 (JP, CP) while 3 passed PP 11/15 (JP, LP).

A **Virginia Rail** was at SL 10/8 (AM) and a **Sora** was spotted at BC 9/23 (IP, LP). **American Coot** numbers were generally low with SL yielding two 10/8 and three 11/26 (AM) while Indian L. had 50 in late Nov (JP, LP). Fourteen shorebird species passed through the county this period. Noteworthy were 4 somewhat late **Solitary Sandpipers** at QR 9/20 (JP, LP), a brief visit by a **Sanderling** 8/28 at AL (AM), 5 imm **Western Sandpipers** and one imm **Baird's Sandpiper** at the Flight 93 Ponds 8127 (JP,LP), and 2 imm **Stilt Sandpipers** at SL 8/31 (JP, LP).

S.A.

The bird of the year for *Somerset* was an adult **Long-tailed Jaeger** observed for 35 minutes 8/27 at SL (JP, LP). The bird was not associated with a dramatic weather pattern, but there were low clouds and drizzle all day. The bird was observed sitting on the water and flying and digiscoped pictures were taken with details sent to PORC. A different individual Long-tailed Jaeger was a first for WV 8/24-8/26. Perhaps this time frame is a good one to watch for overland migrating Long-tailed Jaeger in the future?

A gull consistent with a second year basic plumaged **Laughing Gull** swooped by and flushed some shorebirds at SL 8/31 (LP). This was the day after the remnants of Hurricane Katrina passed through OH; unfortunately the bird quickly disappeared. Twenty **Bonaparte's Gulls** at SL 11/22 (LP) dwindled to 6 by 11/23 (AM). One **Common Tern** and 5 **Black Terns** were at SL 8/31 (JP).

A **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was late at PP 10/17 (LP), while a **Short-eared Owl** was early in BA 10/27 (JP). The last **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** spotted at PP was 10/1 (JP, LP). **Red-headed Woodpecker** was present in BA until 9/14 (LP). **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were at PP 9/20 and 9/24 (CP, JP, LP) and **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were found at PP 9/6 and 9/24 (JP). One **Warbling Vireo** 10/2 and one **Philadelphia Vireo** 9/6 were at PP (JP). Four hundred plus **swallows** of 5 species were at SL 8/27 (JP, LP) but no **Purple Martins** could be found. Good morning flights of descending thrushes were heard regularly at PP, but only a few birds were actually seen on the ground. **Gray Catbird** stayed until 10/19 and **Brown Thrasher** until 10/17 at PP (JP, LP). **American Pipits** were flyovers at BC 10/23 (LP) and on the ground at SL 10/25 (AM).

An average twenty species of warblers were seen at PP for the period. Of note were fairly late **Nashville** 10/27 (JP) and **Black-throated Blue** 10/20 (LP). An **eastern Palm Warbler** was seen 10/16 (JP). A **Connecticut Warbler** 9/15 continued LP's streak for the last several years.

American Tree Sparrows arrived at PP 11/12 just in time to see the **Chipping Sparrows** depart 11/14 (LP). **Lincoln's Sparrows** were seen in good numbers from 9/13-10/20 at PP. A great count of 21 **Fox Sparrows** were at PP feeders 11/10 with some birds still singing (LP). A high count of 75 **Indigo Buntings** were in the millet fields at PP 9/9 (JP). A dead **Pine Siskin** was at PP 8/19 (JP) and another single bird was seen sporadically throughout the fall.

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Sullivan County

No Report. No Compiler.

New Compiler beginning Spring 2006. Rob Megraw, 131 Butternut Drive, Pottstown, PA, 19464, (610) 323-0119, robert.r.megraw@xo.com

Susquehanna County

No Report.

Rob Blye, Hidden River Farm, 300 Sanatoga Road, Pottstown, PA, 19465, rblye@audubon.org

Tioga County

No Report.

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Union County

No Report. No Complier.

Venango County

Locations: Butternut Hill Nature Sanctuary (BHNS), Kahle Lake (KL), Two Mile Run Park (TMRP).

Fall migration in *Venango* was later than usual, with several species setting new late records. As usual, waterfowl migration missed us. Early on we have very low numbers of waterfowl and then when the late push comes through all lakes and ponds are frozen. For some reason the waterfowl do not seem to use the Allegheny R. as a stopover.

Common Loons were in low numbers with only a couple at any one time. Same for **Horned Grebe**. Two **Red-necked Grebe** at KL 11/9 were a nice surprise (RS, JS, KG). No other unusual waterfowl or unusual numbers.

Sharp-shined Hawk seem to be at a low point in numbers. **Broad-winged Hawk** numbers were up from the last few years. **Rough-legged Hawk** migration started here 11/9, with at least 2 individuals that week and others later on; though none seen to be lingering. A **Merlin** was seen at TMRP 10/13 (RS). **Ruffed Grouse** seem scarce while **Wild Turkey** were abundant.

Sora, uncommon for the county, was seen from 8/18-9/2 at TMRP. The drought this summer did lower the lake level at TMRP, leaving a small shorebird habitat. This brought low numbers of shorebirds, usually one or two of each species. Eleven of the 13 species observed in the county were seen here. Highlights include **Black-bellied Plover** , only third county record, at KL (JS, KG). **Semipalmated Plover**, **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, and **Pectoral Sandpiper** all at TMRP the last two weeks in Aug. Best shorebird was a first county record **Baird's Sandpiper** at TMRP from 8/26-8/31 (NB).

The remnants of Hurricane Katrina that came through 8/31 brought, or put down, some species at KL. **Caspian Tern**, **Black Tern**, and the second county record for **Laughing Gull**. A late **Forster's Tern** was observed at KL 11/9 (RS, KG, JS).

Both **cuckoos** were more common that in the last few years. A **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was found at BHNS (JS, KG) starting 11/27 and remained at least through Dec. The first county record for **Rufous Hummingbird** was one seen and photographed at a feeder 9/23 outside Franklin (NB). It only stayed a short time and was not relocated. **Red-headed Woodpecker** was reported 8/20 (DE).

Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen on numerous occasions between 8/15 & 9/14, with most records at BHNS. There were a few records of both **Willow** and **Least Flycatchers. Acadian Flycatcher** was not reported. **Horned Lark** flocks began building at KL 10/26 with high numbers reaching 250-300 birds. Twelve **Tree Swallows** were at KL 10/25, and one still remained 10/26. A **Marsh Wren** was at TMRP 10/19 the only report (RS). **Swainson's Thrushes** were in low numbers, no reports of **Gray-cheeked Thrush**. There was a mild invasion of **Red-breasted Nuthatches**.

Some passerine migration was fairly good. JS reports the best ever **Philadelphia Vireo** migration. He estimates around 150 **Philadelphia Vireos** 9/5-9/16, with most seen at BHNS. **Red-eyed Vireo** numbers were also good. Twenty-seven species of warbler were reported for the fall migration period. A **Brewster's Warbler** was seen at the Van Game Lands 8/22 (JS, KG). **Tennessee Warbler** numbers were also above the average of the last 10 years. **Orange-crowned Warbler** had two separate sightings: one 10/23 near KL (RS, NB) and one 11/2 at BHNS (JS, KG).

Another abundant migrant was **Scarlet Tanager**, with the best numbers in many years. Most sighting were at BHNS. Our first **American Tree Sparrow** of the season was 11/10. **Fox Sparrow** migration started 11/9 and lasted until the first week of Dec, giving us our first Dec records. Up to 6 **Snow Buntings** were observed mostly in with the **Horned Lark** flocks at KL starting 11/24.

Bobolinks were last seen 8/14. Usually a flock remains around the Polk wetlands, but extensive mowing eliminated all grasses there. **Pine Siskin** records for the period are 9/20 & 10/10.

Observers: **Gary Edwards, 224 Meadow Rd., Apt. 9, Seneca, PA, 16346, (814) 676-3011, gedwards@csonline.com**, Nancy Baker, Dave Edwards, Kathie Goodblood, Jerry Stanley, Russ States.

Warren County

No Report.

Ted Grisez, 10 Belmont Dr. Warren, PA, 16365, (814) 723-9464

Washington County

Locations: Buffalo Creek IBA (BC), Canonsburg Lake (CL), Mingo Creek County Park (MC).

Great Egrets were present at CL 8/21-9/21 (RG, MV) with a peak count of 3 on 9/21 (MV). The **hybrid Great Egret x Great Blue Heron**, which has spent at least the last four summers at CL, was present again this year, and was last reported 9/21 (MV). It is unknown where this bird winters when CL is frozen over, although somewhere along nearby Chartier's Creek seems to be a good possibility if indeed the bird remains local.

Shorebird reports from CL and nearby Boone Res. were typical with one notable exception: a single juv **Western Sandpiper** was found and photographed at Boone Res. 8/21-8/22, which probably represented the first county record (ph. RG, DW, BC). Other shorebirds reported from CL and Boone Res. included **Semipalmated Plover**, **Killdeer**, **Solitary Sandpiper**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, **Least Sandpiper**, and **Pectoral Sandpiper** (RG, MV). A single **Solitary Sandpiper** was found at CL at the late date of 10/10 (MV). Conspicuously absent was any report of either yellowlegs species.

Two or three **Short-eared Owls** were first reported at their traditional wintering location on a reclaimed strip mine in Robinson Twp. 11/15 (GM), and nine individuals were counted there 11/25 (MV). **Northern**

Harriers were also noted at this location throughout Nov; there is a very good possibility that they breed here, however that is not confirmed.

Yellow-billed Cuckoos persisted at MC until 9/24 (RG). At least 9 **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were visiting a feeder in *Washington* in early Aug, which was a nice count (ALT). A juv **Red-headed Woodpecker** was a good find during a club outing to BC 10/2 (W&DS, 3RBC), and a **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** was noted near Amity 11/28 (MB).

S. A.

In recent years, many birders have discovered the marvelous experience of listening to the nocturnal passerine migration in early fall. For some, simply sitting quietly and hearing the call notes of hundreds of passerines moving overhead in the darkness of night is enough, kind of like stargazing with one's ears – they're beautiful even if you can't name them. For others, nocturnal migration is an opportunity to study passerine migration in a unique way, as well as a chance to list some otherwise impossible species in a given area, such as grassland birds or even waterfowl in a suburban backyard. In late Sep and early Oct, Ross Gallardy conducted four separate counts from his yard near Canonsburg, and came up with some impressive results. The first such count made 9/24 in the two hours before dawn brought a veritable avalanche of calling migrants that included one call that sounded very good for **Bicknell's Thrush**, most certainly a first county record. In Ross's account of that morning, he relayed the excitement of hearing 2000 calls in a ten-minute span – truly astounding! Counts which he made subsequent to 9/24 never again reached these huge volumes, but some unusual or otherwise interesting species were still noted, such as a **Bobolink** at the late date of 10/9.

The following table illustrates the number of calls counted by species for each date on which a count was made. The number of minutes spent counting is also shown. Note that a single call does not necessarily relate to a single bird in one to one fashion, as the same bird may be heard calling twice or more. This table is but a minor illustration of the kind of valuable study a sharp-eared birder can make right in his or her own yard.

Nocturnal Migration, Canonsburg, PA
Total Number of Calls per Species

Date:	9/24	10/1	10/8	10/9
Elapsed time: Min.	117	40	25	45
Veery	3			
Gray-cheeked Thrush	79	15	2	5
Bicknell's Thrush	1			
Swainson's Thrush	1922	50	8	52
Hermit Thrush	2			4
Wood Thrush	107	6		
Scarlet Tanager	4	1		
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				3
Bobolink				1
Killdeer	1	1		2
warbler sp.		15	1	
thrush sp.	355	20		20
unidentified	28			1
TOTAL	**2502**	**108**	**11**	**88**

Least Flycatcher was present at MC 9/24 (RG), and a **Great Crested Flycatcher** was lingering near Meadowlands 9/20 (SC *fide* MF). All six vireo species were present at MC this fall, with 3 **Philadelphia Vireos** reported 9/11 and another single **Philadelphia** along with 2 **Blue-headed Vireos** 9/24 (RG). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were reported from MC 9/11-10/1, with an impressive 10+ counted there 10/1 (RG). **Brown Creeper** was reported near Amity 11/28 (MB), and **Winter Wren** returned to MC 10/1 (RG).

Other than counts conducted specifically for calling nocturnal migrants, *Catharus* thrushes went unreported; however, **Gray-cheeked** and **Swainson's Trushes** were quite well represented in a pre-dawn count 9/24 (RG), and both species persisted into early Oct (see the S.A. above). The county's first **Bicknell's Thrush** was also noted in a nocturnal count 9/24 (RG). The bird's call was described as being on the extremely high end of its range, much higher than the few Gray-cheeked calls that were noted on the same night as slightly higher than normal. The bird itself was relatively low to the ground so it was well heard.

Nineteen warbler species were reported this season on migration. Some highlights from MC 9/24 included **Tennessee**, **Northern Parula**, **Bay-breasted**, one **Northern Waterthrush**, and one **Wilson's** (RG). A **Canada Warbler** was found at MC 9/11 (RG). "Lots" of **Palm Warblers** were seen at BC 10/2 (W&DS, 3RBC), coinciding with a rather heavy movement of Palm Warblers noted in adjacent counties in very late Sep and early Oct (GM et. al.).

Sparrow numbers at MC 10/1 were quite impressive, with 100+ **Chipping Sparrows**, 75+ **Song Sparrows**, and 20 **White-throated Sparrows** reported that day (RG). A **Lincoln's Sparrow** was found at MC 9/24 (RG), but that species was conspicuously absent from the hordes noted 10/1. A single **Bobolink** (see the S.A. above) was counted on nocturnal migration in Canonsburg 10/9, which is slightly late for that species (RG). A large blackbird flock at CL comprised mostly of **Red-winged Blackbirds** also held a handful of **Rusty Blackbirds** on the evening of 11/7 (MV).

Observers: **Geoff Malosh, 450 Amherst Avenue, Moon Twp., PA 15108, (412) 269-1413, pomarine@earthlink.net**, Mark Bowers, Steve Carbol, Ben Coulter, Mike Fialkovich, Ross Gallardy, Walt & Dana Shaffer, Wendy Jo Shemansky, Amy Lynne Taracido, Three Rivers Birding Club (3RBC), Mark Vass, Dave Wilton.

Wayne County
No Report. No Complier.

Westmoreland County

Locations. Beaver Run Reservoir (BRR). Donegal Lake (DL). Powdermill Nature
Reserve (PNR). Trout Run Reservoir (TRR).

The only **Snow Goose** of the season was reported from Delmont l0/8 (KB). **Canada Goose** counts continue to increase in the county with a high of 600 apparently resident birds at TRR l0/l1(RCL). High count of **Tundra Swan** was of 350+ 11/18 (RCL et al.). Four **Gadwalls** were at Livermore 10/7 (KB). Peak count for **American Black Ducks** was of 40 at TRR 11/14 (RCL): 31 were at BRR 11/10 (KB). An **American Wigeon** remained at TRR from 11/10 through the end of the period (RCL). The high count for **Green-winged Teal** was of 47 at TRR 10/11(RCL). An early **Bufflehead** was at DL 11/18 (RCL). A group of 3 **Black-crowned Night-Herons** seen flying over Crisp Pond, PNR. by visiting British ornithologist David Norman 9/27 was exceptional for this area. Fifty **Broad-winged Hawks** made for a good count at PNR 9/2l (ML). Exceptional finds anywhere away from the more easterly ridges of southwest PA. Lanzone found a **Golden Eagle** at PNR 10/23 and 3 were there 11/4.

A **Virginia Rail** put down at a small PNR pond 9/26 for the season's only report (RCL). Byerly reported a **Black-bellied Plover** at Livermore 9/12 and 6 **Semipalmated Plovers** at DL 8/30 was a good count for this area (L&LH) as were 4 **Pectoral Sandpipers** the next day.

A **Laughing Gull** was at BRR 9/1 (fide BD). and another was seen flying and heard calling over the Powdermill Avian research Center the same day (ML) the first reports ever for *Westmoreland*.. A single **Bonaparte's Gull** was at Livermore 11/10 (KB). Up to 3 **Black Terns** frequented DL 8/30-8/31 (L&LH, ML, RCL).

Best count for **Common Nighthawk** was of 76 at Delmont 9/9 (KB). A flock of 50+ migrating **Chimney Swifts** was over DL as late as 9/26 (RCL) and 27 represented a good late count at Trees Mills 10/24 (KB).

Byerly found an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** at Livermore 9/5. A **Western Kingbird** seen just west of PNR 11/2 represented just the 2nd record of the species for the county (ML). Always a good find in *Westmoreland*, a **Northern Shrike** at Delmont 11/19 represented the season's lone report (KB). The first **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were seen at PNR 9/8 (ML) and another early bird was seen near Stahlstown on 9/17 (L&LH). An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was listed at Stahlstown 9/24 and 3 were banded at PNR this season fide (AL). A **Pine Warbler** was seen near Stahlstown 9/12 (L&LH). The first **Pine** at PNR was found 9/26 (ML). Late migrant warblers at PNR 10/23 included **Cape May**, **Black-throated Blue** and **Black-throated Green** (ML). A rare find in the fall, a **Yellow-throated Warbler** was at Delmont 9/3 (KB). A **Kentucky Warbler** near Stahlstown 9/27 L&LH) was rather late.

One of the best finds of the season was a **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** at PNR 10/21 (ML, FN). A flock of over 25 **Baltimore Orioles** was a good find at PNR 8/27 (ML). An early **Red Crossbill** was recorded flying over PNR 10/23 (ML).

Observers: **Robert C. Leberman, 1847 Route 381, Rector, PA 15677, (724) 593-9021 rclebermam@winbeam.com**, Ken Byerly, Dick Byers,

Len and Linda Hess, Mike Lanzone, Adrienne Leppold, Mark McConaughy, Trish Miller, Felisity Newall, Bob Mulvihill.

Wyoming County

Locations: Lake Carey (LC), South Eaton (SE).

One of the new birds for many counties this year is the **Cackling Goose**. I was fortunate to see one bird 10/29 and 2 on 11/8 all three (or both of them) at L. Carey with flocks of **Canada Geese**. There are four things that I am looking at with any possible Cackling Goose: 1. the shorter size. (With each bird that I saw, I saw the bird from its side and saw a Canada Goose directly behind it, also sidewise. In each case the Cackling Goose was roughly ½ the size of a Canada); 2. the stubby bill; 3. the shorter neck; 4. the darker chest. All of the birds I saw met these criteria. (WR).

Not unprecedented, but unusual was a flock of about 20 **Brant** flying at tree-top level near L. Carey 10/7 (LC). Joe DeMarco had the good fortune of seeing 4 **Tundra Swans** on LC 11/23. Three **Surf Scoters** were seen at LC 12/3 (WR).

Common Loon was not reported in the county through Nov, but one was seen flying up the river at S. Eaton 12/8 (WR). The only **Horned Grebe** reported was at LC 11/2.

What a year 2005 was for **Great Egrets**! Some years (including 2004) we see none in the county. Most years we have a few with the maximum about 10 birds. Imagine my surprise 8/20 when I looked at the Susquehanna R. in from of my house and saw it loaded with egrets – 40 of them. There were a few there the next day, but late in the afternoon a flock came flying down the river and the birds near my home joined them – again, about 40 birds. The continued in lesser numbers through 8/31 (WR). 8/31 was heron day at southeast *Wyoming* ! There were still 5 **Great Egrets** there, and one each of **Great Blue**, **Green**, **Black-crowned Night Heron**, and an adult **Little Blue Heron**. Five species in one day – the only day like that I've ever heard of in *Wyoming* ! Oddly, that was the last day for any of the herons except the Great Blue (WR).

Golden Eagles have been seen on rare occasions in the county, but until 8/30 I had not seen one in the county. Then on 8/30, when I was sitting in my car at SE, I looked down at the shore below me and I saw an imm **Golden Eagle** on the shore about 50ft. from me. I immediately saw the white rump and dark band on the tail on this immense bird; and, on further looking, I saw golden on the back of the head and a small amount of white peeking out from the base of the primaries. A few weeks later, when we were leaving a restaurant 10/16, my wife, Margaret and I saw another Golden Eagle gently soaring and circling above a mountain across the road in Tunkhannock Twp. (WR).

The shorebird migration was better than most years along the river at SE, especially for **Least Sandpipers**, **Semipalmated Plovers**, and **Pectoral Sandpipers**, but not nearly as good as in some of the surrounding counties. A **Forester's Tern** was at LC 10/14 (WR).

A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** was at SE 8/17. **American Pipits** were about average in number in Lemon Twp., 10/4-10/29. Several interesting warblers were found in Lemon Twp. (WR): **Orange-crowned** 10/1 and 10/4; **Cape May** 9/23; **Bay-breasted** 10/1; and **Connecticut** 9/10 and 9/30; plus one at SE 9/23.

The only **Snow Buntings** reported were at LC, 11/10 (WR). A very late oriole was an imm male at SE 8/17. The bird was complete with its black bib from the bill down to the top of the chest (WR). The only **Pine Siskin** reported was at LC, 10/31 (WR). An **Evening Grosbeak** was recorded flying over Tunkhannock 11/14 (WR).

Observers: Joe DeMarco, Sandy Goodwin, Jim Hoyson, Edwin Johnson, Rick Koval, Marge Reid, Bill Reid.
No compiler.

York County

Locations: Codorus State Park (CSP), Gifford Pinchot State Park (GPSP), Long Arm Reservoir (LAR), Rocky Ridge County Park (RRCP), Spring Valley County Park (SVCP), Wrightsville (WRIT), City of York (YORK).

There were 142 species reported during the August-November fall season, including 19 waterfowl species and 24 species of warblers. Shorebird reports were few.

The least expected of the 19 species of waterfowl was **Black Scoter**, 5 of which were at CSP 11/9 along with 300 **Ring-necked Ducks**, 2 **Canvasbacks**, and a few each of several other species (KL). This was the largest group of waterfowl reported during the season. Small numbers of a variety of species were found at GPSP, including 6 **Common Goldeneye** 11/25 (SC).

There we six reports of **Osprey**, with a high count of 10 on 9/24 at the RRCP hawk watch (RP). There were seven reports of **Bald Eagles** from different locations, and a high count of 10 at the RRCP hawk watch 9/3 (RP). Other RRCP hawk watch highlights occurred 9/24 when 7 **Northern Harriers**, 2147 **Broad-winged Hawks**, and a single **Merlin** were seen (RP). About 95% of the Broad-wings were seen between 3:00 and 4:15 pm. This helps account for the 3748 Broad-wings seen 9/25 at McSherrystown, *Adams*, which is only about 22 air miles away to the southwest.

The season's most unusual sighting was the flock of 8 **Sandhill Cranes** flying by overhead 10/11 in Monaghan Twp., northern *York* (CR).

Among the few shorebird reports was a **Short-billed Dowitcher** at CSP 10/21 that was a bit late (JLD), and an **American Woodcock** (seldom encountered after the early spring display season) found 10/29 on the *York* side of Abbottstown (CA). A banding operation in eastern *York*, a few miles from the Susquehanna R., netted 70 **Northern Saw-whet Owls**. The only **Common Nighthawk** report was the single bird at LAR 10/21 (JLD). There was a nice count of 7 **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** at RRCP 9/10 (RP). RRCP was also the site 10/9 (RP) for one of the two **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** reports, the other single bird being seen 11/25 at GPSP (SC).

Vireos made a good showing, with all species reported except for **Warbling Vireo**. There were 8 **Yellow-throated Vireos** at GPSP 9/8 (RK), a late **Blue-headed Vireo** 11/16 at Glen Rock (TS), four reports 9/3-9/23 of single **Philadelphia Vireos** at GPSP (RK), and a fairly late **Red-eyed Vireo** 10/26 at WRIT (JLD). There are probably no more than two pair of **Common Raven** in the county, but a pair was seen at the RRCP hawk watch 9/3 & 9/21 (RP). Also at RRCP was a late **Tree Swallow** 11/12 (PK). The first of several **Red-breasted Nuthatch** reports was one that was fairly early 9/2 in YORK (DH), and the high count was eleven 10/2 at GPSP (RK). The only report of **Winter Wren** was the 6 on 9/30 at RRCP (RP). Single **Gray-cheeked Thrushes**, the least common of the thrushes (except for Bicknell's), were found 9/23 at GPSP (RK) and 10/16 at WRIT (JLD).

Twenty four species of warblers were reported, primarily from GPSP, RRCP, and a residence near WRIT. One very uncommon **Orange-crowned Warbler** was seen 9/6 (early) and again 10/11 at WRIT (JLD). A late **Northern Parula** was at WRIT 10/17 (JLD). There were nice counts of **Magnolia Warbler** – 20 at RRCP 9/4 (RP) and 21 at GPSP 9/8 (RK). There were just two reports of **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, which is usually common**.** The very uncommon **Connecticut Warbler** was found 9/8 at GPSP (RK).

A late **Eastern Towhee** was at GPSP 11/25 (SC). A high count of 40 **Chipping Sparrows** were found 10/5 at SVCP (SC). Three **Fox Sparrows** 11/27 at GPSP (RK) were the only ones reported. A **Lincoln's Sparrow** was seen 9/30 at RRCP (RP). GPSP was the only site for **Purple Finches** with 14 on 11/18, 32 on 11/25, and 30 on 11/27. GPSP was also the only site for **Pine Siskin**, with one 11/18 (RK).

Observers: **Peter Robinson, P. O. Box 482, Hanover, PA 17331, (717) 632-8462 pabirder@hotmail.com**, Celia Adams, Chuck Chalfant, Steve Collins, Jack & Lil Downs, Bruce Fortman, Dan Heathcote, Phil Keener, Ramsay Koury, Karen Lippy, Ann Pettigrew, Randy Phillips, Beth Pugliese, Chris Rebert, J.R. Ruppert, Art Schiavo, Tom Simmons, Larry Sizemore.

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PHOTO QUIZ #11

Can you identify this bird? Answer in the next issue.

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Issue	Due Date	Publication Date
Dec-Feb	Mar 31	May
Mar-May	Jun 30	August
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