

## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2016-06-24 16:35:43
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Carrie Bell
<b>E-mail</b>	cbell721@verizon.net
<b>Phone</b>	2153273034
<b>Observer's Address</b>	Street Address: 721 Rosemont Ave City: Lansdale State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 19446 Country: United States
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Swallow-tailed kite
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Elanoides forficatus
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	06-06-2016 9:40 AM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Yes
<b>Link to eBird checklist</b>	<a href="http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S30103905">http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S30103905</a>
<b>County</b>	Montgomery
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	not sure if it's Upper Gwynedd Twp or North Wales
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Dodsworth Run Preserve
<b>GPS coordinates of sighting</b>	40.219520, -75.284215
<b>Habitat</b>	Flew over tree tops along the Wissahickon Creek with two turkey vultures.
<b>Distance to bird</b>	Unknown
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	Clear and windy, which is why I saw it. I had seen hawks, vultures, and a great blue heron in flight and was watching the sky.
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Leica Ultravid 8x32 binoculars
<b>Description</b>	Whitish bird appeared with two turkey vultures, but was noticeably smaller with more slender body and wings. Trailing edges of wings, ends of wings and long forked tail were clearly black. View was unmistakable, but it didn't hang around long enough to get a photo.
<b>Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)</b>	Only saw it in flight, as it appeared from over the treetops, circled higher and further away, and disappeared over the same treetops.
<b>Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)</b>	It was distinctly different from the turkey vultures and initially appeared whitish until I got my bins on it, and the edges of the wings and tail were clearly black and the long forked tail was obvious.

**Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)**

Yes. I've seen them before and the look I got was good enough to satisfy me that I was correct. I never would have reported it if I had not been sure, and communicated my sighting to August Mirabella before reporting it.

**During**

Sibley birding app for iPhone

**After**

Sibley Field Guide to Birds

**Click to edit**

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