

331-01-2001

UNUSUAL SIGHTING DOCUMENTATION  
RED PHALAROPE-BUCKS CO

Person Submitting: August Mirabella

Species: Red Phalarope

Found by: Others who misidentified it. Correctly identified by A. Mirabella.

Observers: Judy Mirabella, Devich Farbotnik, Ray Hendrick, Barbara  
McGlaughlin, Cele Deemer, George Hoffman, etc.

Date Seen: October 20, 2001 Approx. 3:30pm to 6:30pm

Where Observed: Peace Valley Park Nature Center, Bucks Co.

Conditions: Clear, sunny with sun at our backs. Seen with Zeiss 7X42 Bins & Leica APO77 Scope at approximately 25 to 75 feet.).

Description: The bird was an obvious Phalarope feeding actively along the edge of the mud flats and in the adjacent shallow water. It was striking in the bright lighting, appearing very light overall from a distance. The upper parts background color was a pale gray or in the mid-afternoon light, blue/gray. The underparts were mostly white including much of the face and neck. The cap was also white going back far beyond the eye or two-thirds to three-quarters the length of the cap. There was some black speckles left on the middle crown. The black eye stripe/patch extended behind the eye. The bird was apparently a juvenile molting into first winter plumage. It had blackish primaries and wing coverts with pale edges. The juvenile brownish plumage with streaks was still visible where the neck joined the back. A blackish broken strip went down the back of the neck and continued on the back. There were two blackish bars (scapulars) on the back on either side of the center strip. The underwing linings were mostly white with no dark bars as in Red-necked. The bill was thick from the side view and very wide from the top view. The base of the lower bill was dirty yellow. This along with the underwing color eliminated either of the other two phalaropes. The legs were dark.

Other Documentation: Video by AM & DF

331-01-2001

# Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

## Tabulation Form - Round One

Species: Red Phalarope (Phalaropus fulicaria)

Date of Sighting: 20 October 2001 to 20 October 2001

Location: PEACE VALLEY PARK

County: BUCKS

Observer(s): August Mirabella, Devich Farbotnik, Ray Hendrick

Date of Submission: 2001

Submitted by: August Mirabella, Devich Farbotnik

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

Specimen: No

Recording: Video

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead	X							
D. <del>Couchman</del> <i>Heathorn</i>	X							
P. Hess	X							
J. Stanley	X							
B. Reid	X							
R. Leberman	X							
M. Sharp	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments: 7/0

Signature (Secretary):

Date:

8/28/02