

... along the area
... spread move-
... 10-11, with
... Pymatuning L.
... W. Va. (GAH).
... and 27) near
... This flight was
... places, but this
... from the usual
... the next Nov. 13
... Canada Geese
... with a flock seen
... Cove L. Tenn.,
... Tenn., Sept. 29
... full concentration
... Oct. 14 (RFL). A
... raft, Va., Nov. 21
... in common than
... from Pymatuning
... early date of Sept.
... was at L. Arthur
... Surf scoters were
... at P.I. (DS).
... more commonly
... the-winged: Lock
... Stuart's Draft,
... present all fall at
... on Oct. 28
... one on Nov. 9
... Montour Co.,
... near Asheville.

... along the
... In the Knox-
... can be the best on
... Mt. Pa., it was
... A partial sum-
... that Tuscarora
... remain in opera-
... the peak of the
... mountain sta-
... we expect to see
... recent years atten-
... the areas well away
... which gets good
... when the weather
... for hawk migra-
... in the "hill coun-
... and-wingeds were
... The most interest-
... Pikeville, Ky., also
... on Sept. 24 a pilot
... found himself sur-
... He estimated a
... in several groups
... sight in clouds at

... migrating juveniles from Pennsylvania to
... North Carolina and Tennessee but four reports
... came from areas from the ridges, four sight-
... ings at P.I. (DS), State College, Pa., Oct. 7
... (PS), Fayette County, W. Va., Sept. 23 (DK&
... GW), and most remarkably near Charleston,
... W. Va., Aug. 20 (CB.RS). Oddly there were
... fewer Merlins than Peregrines reported with
... only 12 sightings, all at lookouts except one at
... Kingston, Tenn., Sept. 15 (BS).

There appeared to be a moderate flight of
Goshawks, many at remarkably early dates:
Aug. 15 at Ludlow, Pa. (TG), P.I., Aug. 30
(SS), early September at State College, Pa.
(JVM), Sheffield, Pa., Sept. 15 (NS) and Bear
Rocks, W. Va., hawk station Sept. 16 (GP).
The other records were all in late October in
the n. part of the Region. Rough-legged
Hawks were not numerous anywhere this year
but one was seen as far s. as Chattanooga Nov.
12 (LD&KD). At Tuscarora Mt., a total of 33
Golden Eagles was logged during the season,
with a fantastic seven on Oct. 19 (CG). Other
sightings came from Rector, Pa., in October
(*vide* RCL), one shot near Lock Haven in
November (*vide* PS), Look Rock, Tenn., Sept.
9 (BS), Elizabethton, Tenn., Oct. 13 (HF),
Harvey's Knob, Va., Oct. 28 (JHo), and one
apparently set to winter near Burke's Garden,
Va. (RP). The most unusual raptor of the season
was a Mississippi Kite at Decatur, Tenn.,
Aug. 24 (RS,LD,KD).

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS. CRANES AND RAILS — Ruffed Grouse populations are beginning to recover from the recent lows. Ring-necked Pheasants were scarce in w. Pennsylvania (PH). Historically this species has never done well s. of the Mason-Dixon line and so the report of a female with 10 young in the Shenandoah Valley, Va., Aug. 3 is of great interest. No reports of rails came in this season, and the only report of Sandhill Cranes came from Norris, Tenn., Nov. 29 (WJ).

SHOREBIRDS, GULLS, AND TERNS — This Region has very few places where there is good shorebirding, but this year, more than any recent one, there was a remarkable number of unusual records. Usually the best shorebird location is P.I., on the s. shore of L. Erie, but this year on Aug. 18, this station had one of the most spectacular flights ever seen there. In five-hours time on the heels of a storm 463 shorebirds of 20 species (including the Surf-bird mentioned above) were listed (JM&SS). Frederic brought a number of shorebirds to

Black-backed gulls, ...
Ruddy Turnstone, as well as the more com-
mon species). There was an unusually good
flight of Am. Golden Plovers: Pymatuning L.,
Sept. 23 (RFL), Montour County, Pa., Oct. 1
(SS), Austin Springs, Tenn., Sept. 10-14 (sec-
ond local record — RK&RL), and several out-
standing invasions into the Great Valley of
Virginia, Roanoke, two, Sept. 30 - Oct. 3
(NM), 13 at Stuart's Draft Oct. 21-23, 29 &
Nov. 1 (YL), and four records in Rockingham
County with 23 on Oct. 13 (R.B.C.).

Other unusual records were: Piping Plover,
Roanoke Aug. 29 - Sept. 5 (NM&MP); Whim-
brel, P.I., Aug. 25 (SS); Willet, Clinton,
Tenn., Aug. 22 (LTn,SJS), Kingston, Tenn.,
Sept. 2-3 (m.ob.); Long-billed Dowitcher
(carefully identified), P.I., Aug. 18 (DS),
Greensburg, Pa., Oct. 28 (DSm), and Dale-
ville, Va., Aug. 19-20 (BK,MP); Red Knot,
P.I., 1-6 on 5 days Aug. 25 - Sept. 24 (DS),
Saltville, Va., Sept. 2-3 (TH), Kingston, Tenn.,
Sept. 3 (CN,RS,KD,LD); Purple Sandpiper,
P.I., Nov. 10-27 (SS,JG,DS); W. Sandpiper,
P.I., Aug. 18 (DS), Clinton, Tenn., Aug. 12
(SJS,RB); Buff-breasted Sandpiper, P.I., Sept.
8 (JM) and Sept. 28 (DS), Kingsport, Tenn.,
Sept. 15-16 (RPh&TL), Kingston, Tenn., Sept.
8-13 (LTu,SJS,RB); Hudsonian Godwit, P.I.,
12 on Aug. 18 (JB), and one Oct. 13 (SS); Red
Phalarope P.I., Oct. 9 (SS); Wilson's Phalarope
Kingston, Tenn., Aug. 24 & Sept. (BS,SJS,
MD); N. Phalarope Roanoke Sept. 15, 18 &
Sept. 7 (MP), Kingston, Tenn., Sept. 14-15
(SJS), and Fayette County, W. Va., Sept. 23
(GW&DK), and Am. Avocet Louisville, Tenn.,
11 on Sept. 3 (MD), P.I., six on Nov. 3, one on
Nov. 10 (DS,SS), and Wellsboro, Pa., Nov. 5
(FW).



Sabine's Gull, Presque Isle S.P., Pa., Oct. 15, 1979. Photo/Donald B. Snyder.

Some large concentrations of grounded
Ring-billed Gulls were reported at Lewisburg,
W. Va. (CH), and the Shenandoah Valley on
the heels of the storm Nov. 11-12 that brought
other waterbirds to that area. As usual the
rare gulls came from L. Erie at P.I.: Sabine's
Oct. 15 (found moribund — AC), Lesser
Black-backed Sept. 8 & 15 (possibly only fourth
state record — SS&DS), Franklin's Oct. 25
(SS), Little Nov. 24 (CZK), and an early Glau-
cous Nov. 25 (SS). This year there were two
other interesting gull reports: from Kingston,
Tenn., where a Laughing Gull was seen Sept.
14-15 (SJS&RB) as a result of Frederic and
from Bell County, Ky., where a Franklin's
Gull was seen Oct. 13 (PA). Caspian Terns
were more common than usual and Forster's
Terns were reported from P.I., 15 on Aug. 14
and one on Oct. 24 (SS), Clinton, Tenn., Aug.
23 (DT,LTu), and S. Holston L., Tenn., five on
Sept. 29-30 (RL).

Table 1. Hawk Migration, Fall 1979

	Days		Sh.-sh.	Br.-wg.	Br.-wg. High
	Obs.	Total			
	87	8248	3010	2739	720 (9/17)
	14	241	88	82	63 (9/9)
	—	302	65	181	181 (9/9)
GP	17	3125	45	2937	806 (9/12)
	11	4315	65	4181	1593 (9/15)
	17	3110	55	2945	1151 (9/24)
(MT)	7	449	98	257	203 (9/29)
(F)	16	8286	40	8213	3407 (9/17)
(SJS)	3	1304	9	1270	1100 (9/26)
(S)	4	4105	1	4053	3726 (9/29)
	9	1275	22	1024	888 (9/23)

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Historic Record

Species: Sabine's Gull Xema sabini

Date of Sighting: 15 October 1979 to 15 October 1979

County : ERIE

Location : PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK

Observer(s): Donald Snyder

Date of Submission: 2007

Submitted by: Historic Record

Written Description: No

Photo: Yes

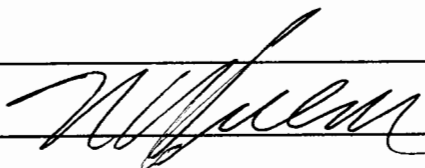
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut								
A. Guarente	x							
T. Johnson	x							
E. Witmer	x							
N. Pulcinella	x							
J. Heller	x							
G. Malosh	x							
TOTALS	6							
DECISION	x							

Comments: Reviewed at 2007 Annual Meeting. Voice Vote

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

8/24/09