

666-01-1994

Maggie Hearn
155 Dowlin Forge Road
Downingtown, PA 19355

January 31, 1994

Barbara Haas
2469 Hammertown Road
Narvon, PA 17555

Dear Ms. Haas,

I'm sorry it took so long for me to put this together for you. I hope this is what you had in mind.

I would also be interested in subscribing to your publication if you could send me some information. If the thrush returns, I will let you know.

Sincerely,

Maggie

Maggie Hearn
610-873-9468 (home)
610-648-5661 (work)

1994
We first saw the varied thrush the morning of January 6, as he pecked away at the seed we put down at a couple of old tree stumps at the edge of the woods of our front yard. His robin-like size and shape first caught my eye, but it was the remarkable coloring that sent us running for the bird books. The yellow-orange breast and fashionable matching eye stripe, contrasted with the deep black of his back and breast band, made him stand out against the snow. As a novice birder, I was thrilled to discover that we were hosting a bird that makes only rare appearances in our area, one that all my bird-watching friends had never seen before.

He returned to our ground feeders every day and apparently stayed all day long. He seemed to keep his distance from the other birds at the feeders, and although I could not pinpoint exactly what among the mix of seed he was particularly enjoying, he did show an interest in the whole kernel corn I put out for the deer and squirrels. He'd take a kernel and hop a short distance back into the woods, where he had staked out a private dining area at the base of a small tree, and there he'd take his time pecking away at the tough kernel. Then he'd come back for more. He also seemed to find the protection of the surrounding trees a pleasant place for sitting and preening.

We last saw him the morning of January 15, the weekend the first bitterly cold weather started moving in. We were disappointed when he didn't return, but hope he's moved to more moderate climes farther south, where he's thrilling some other bird-watcher while dining at their ground feeders. Maybe he'll stop by again on his way home.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*)

Date of Sighting: 6 January 1994 to 15 January 1994

Location: DOWNINGTOWN

County: CHESTER

Observer(s): Maggie Hearn

Date of Submission: 1994

Submitted by: Maggie Hearn

Written Description: YES Photo: NO Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater				X				
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams			X					
P. Schwalbe			X					
J. Skinner			X					
TOTALS			6	1				
DECISION			X					

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

9-25-94