

## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2020-09-17 14:44:30
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Matt Schenck
<b>E-mail</b>	mschenckee@gmail.com
<b>Phone</b>	570-295-5838
<b>Observer's Address</b>	212 Franklin Street Smethport PA 16749 United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	Susan Schenck
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Lark Sparrow
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Chondestes grammacus
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	08-22-2020 8:50 AM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Yes
<b>Link to eBird checklist</b>	<a href="https://ebird.org/checklist/S72678432">https://ebird.org/checklist/S72678432</a>
<b>County</b>	Clinton
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	Mill Hall Borough
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Mill Hall Community Park
<b>GPS coordinates of sighting</b>	41.112743, -77.486180
<b>Habitat</b>	open, mowed field (baseball field)
<b>Distance to bird</b>	Initially about 75 yards varied during observation from 100 yards to about 30 yards.
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	Clear, sunny day.
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Nikon Pro Staff 10x42 binoculars.
<b>Description</b>	Large, long-tailed passerine with framed facial pattern and central spot on an otherwise clean breast. In flight the bird showed white on the outer corners of the tail feathers.

**Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)**

Foraging on the ground, occasionally flying up and hawking insects but mostly picking at the grass and walking along.

**Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)**

Initially I thought this might be a Pipit but using size compared to adjacent Killdeer I was able to pretty quickly rule that out. When I first saw the bird fly I noted the white in the tail and thought maybe I had a Vesper Sparrow but the clean breast and flanks lacking streaking and the fact that only the outer corners were white versus the entire outer tail feathers would rule that species out.

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

Yes, I confirmed the identification with photos.

**During**

eBird media library

**Supporting evidence (check all that apply)**

Photograph

**Upload images, audio, video or drawings**



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