



EDITOR'S PAGE

We were saddened to learn of the passing of George Drew, in Tucson. Although health prevented this Belmont resident from active field work, his keen hearing often yielded many excellent birds, such as last years western meadowlark at his brother's orchard in Westford. Mr. Drew encouraged and instructed many young birders and advocated the publication of BIRD OBSERVER.

The staff of BIRD OBSERVER expresses its thanks to the Board of Directors of the Brookline Bird Club for permission to use its membership list. The response has been very encouraging.

For those who could not locate the Arctic loon mentioned in the November records, it can now be found on page 43 of this issue.

A word concerning the mailing dates of BIRD OBSERVER. In order to include species seen during the month immediately preceding publication, it is necessary for the compilers to wait for these records to become available. For example, to list February birds in the March-April issue, the compilers must wait until at least March 8th. Final editorial preparation, printing, and distribution of BIRD OBSERVER then requires roughly another two weeks.

In reporting sightings to the compilers (addresses on the opposite page), it is essential that certain information be included: date (and time for rare birds), location, and numbers seen. For unusual sightings, details about field marks and names of confirmatory observers should also be given.

Many readers have asked that the artist of the gull plate in the first issue be identified. Philip Martin, author and artist, take a bow!

Welcome Worcester County! We look forward to your active participation, and to your birds.

April 29th is "Johnny Horizon Clean-up Day" at Plum Island. The Johnny Horizon program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of the Interior, is a national program designed to promote environmental awareness and action. Plum Island is a favorite birding location, and if we want it to continue to be a place of natural beauty as well as a great spot for birds, a few hours devoted to this annual clean-up would be well worth the time invested. For further information please contact Mr. Herman D'Entremont, 28 Ballard Street, Newton Center 02159 (tel. 969-8146).