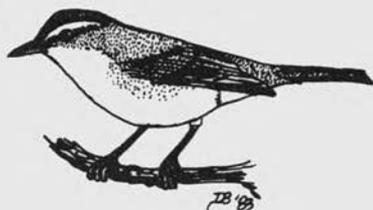


# Field Records

## April 1983



by George W. Gove, Robert H. Stymeist, Lee E. Taylor

April 1983 was a very wet, gloomy month with temperatures on the warm side, the average being 49.1°, slightly above normal, and the sixth consecutive month to be warmer than average. The high temperature was 83° on the twenty-ninth; the lowest was 34° on the second.

Total precipitation in Boston was 6.86 inches, 3.13 inches above normal, a continuation of a four-month stretch of unrelenting showers. It was the sixteenth wettest April in 166 years! The total rainfall in the first four months of this year was the fourth highest for this four-month period in 166 years. Since January 1, 26.01 inches of precipitation have descended on the Boston area, or 11.06 inches more than normal. Very little snow fell; normally April gets 0.9 inch of snow, but this year only a trace came down, and none stayed on the warm ground. The seasonal accumulation now stands at 32.7 inches, 9.2 inches less than the past average.

An interesting phenomenon occurred in the greater Boston area on the nineteenth in the afternoon when a funnel cloud or tornado was seen in the Braintree-Weymouth area. Some hail fell in the area that afternoon.

Southwest winds, those most favorable for passerine migration, occurred on April 7 and 18, and the big blows on April 28-30. A good migration was noted on the last days of the month at many locations.

### LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

The Western Grebe continued in the Third Cliff area of Scituate for more than five complete months, thus establishing a marathon record for this species on a continuous basis in Massachusetts. Double-crested Cormorants were well under way by the end of the month, with many reports of migrating flocks during the warm weather of the waning days of April.

Hérons and egrets were arriving on schedule and a push of migrants arrived at the month's end as would be expected with the warm southwest winds. An adult Little Blue Heron was noticed going over Mount Auburn on April 28, and a Tricolored Heron was reported from Chatham and East Orleans early in the month. The first Green-backed Hérons were noted on April 23, and over ten Cattle Egrets were noted on outer Cape Cod. A freshly dead Yellow-crowned Night Heron was picked up in Marshfield on April 2, the last day of freezing temperatures this month.

Returning waterfowl gained in numbers at the end of the month, especially Green and Blue-winged teal. A Eurasian Wigeon was found at West Bridgewater on April 17, a rare bird on the South Shore at any time but especially in the spring. This is undoubtedly the first spring record of a migrant in Plymouth County. The Tufted Duck continued through April 3 in Chatham. Other highlights included Northern Shoveler at Fresh Pond, Cambridge, King Eiders at Dennis and East Orleans, and a late Lesser Scaup at the Cambridge Reservoir in Waltham-Lincoln. R.H.S.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Pied-billed Grebe: 28	P.I.	1	A.Williams
Red-necked Grebe: 2,4,5	Dennis	40, 36, 14	J.Aylward#tv.o.
Western Grebe: thr. from Nov. Scituate		1	v.o.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Northern Gannet:			
1	P'town (Race Pt.)	35	R.Titus
2,19	P.I., Marshfield, Scituate	1; 10 <sup>+</sup> , 45	D.Resnick#; D.Clapp, R.Abrams
Great Cormorant:			
23	P.I.	6	BBC(S.Grinley)
Double-crested Cormorant:			
12,17	Middleboro, Marshfield	100, 45	K.Anderson#, W.Petersen
20,23	Braintree, Mt.Wachusett	200, 36	R.Abrams, P.Roberts#
27,28	P.I., Mt.A.	389, 200	P.Roberts#, S.Perkins#
Many reports of migrating cormorants on Plum Island on the last few days of the month from numerous individuals.			
American Bittern:			
15-30,22	P.I., GMNWR	1+, 1	v.o., R.Walton
Great Blue Heron:			
thr.	P.I.	max. 5 at one time	v.o.
18,23	Westboro, Mt.Wachusett	20, 8	G.Gove#, P.Roberts
Great Egret:			
11,14	Squantum, Concord	1, 1	R.Abrams, G.Gove
17,30	S.Dartmouth, P.I.	4, 4	R.Stymeist#, C.Floyd#
Snowy Egret:			
2,9	Plymouth; Essex, Squantum	1; 2, 6	P.W.Smith; I.Giriunas, R.Stymeist
24	Marshfield, Squantum	15, 14	SSBC, G.Wilson
Little Blue Heron:			
28	Mt.A.	1 ad.	S.Zendeh#+v.o.
Western Reef-Heron:			
26	Quaise Marsh, Nantucket	1	E. + C. Andrews
See article on page 124.			
Tricolored Heron:			
9,9-10	Chatham, E.Orleans	1, 1	B.Nikula, A.Williams
Cattle Egret:			
15;17,24,30	Norton; Ipswich	1; 1, 1, 11	K.Ryan; J.Berry, L.Jodrey
25-30	outer Cape Cod	10+ total	v.o.
30	Lakeville, Marshfield	6, 1	K.Holmes#, S.Smith
Green-backed Heron:			
23,25	GMNWR, Marshfield	1, 1	C.Jackson, D.Clapp
28-30,30	MT.A., P.I.	3 singles, 5	J.Barton+v.o., BBC
Black-crowned Night-Heron:			
17,23	Belmont, P.I.	12, 26	S.Sanders, B.Parker
Other reports of 1-5 individuals from various locations.			
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:			
2	Marshfield	1 found dead	D.Clapp
Glossy Ibis:			
9,12	Squantum, Marshfield	1, 1	R.Abrams, D.Clapp
21,28	Bolton, P.I.	8, 12	K.Anderson#, A.Williams
Mute Swan:			
17,23	Westport	134, 155	G.Gove#+v.o.
Snow Goose:			
16	P.I.	58	BBC
"Blue Goose":			
18	WBWS	1	D.Reynolds#+v.o.
Brant:			
thr.	Squantum	max. 400	v.o.
thr.	Newburyport area	max. 500	v.o.
Canada Goose:			
thr.,27	P.I., Mt.A.	506, 2	v.o., v.o.
Wood Duck:			
6,12	SRV, Middleboro	13, 5	R.Walton, K.Powers#
Other reports of 1-4 individuals from various locations.			
Green-winged Teal:			
1,2	P.I., Bridgewater	20 <sup>+</sup> , 25 <sup>+</sup>	BBC, SSBC
19,21	W.Bridgewater, Halifax	40, 30	W.Petersen
17,24	Wayland, P.I.	21, 38	E.Morrier, BBC
"Eurasian" Teal:			
2,20	P.I., Wayland	1 m., 1 m.	H.Weissberg, R.Forster
Northern Pintail:			
2,23,24	P.I.	50, 26, 18	v.o.
Blue-winged Teal:			
1,2	P.I., Lakeville	2, 2	D.Briggs, K.Holmes
17,30	Wayland, P.I.	11, 20	E.Morrier, BBC
Northern Shoveler:			
4,9	Milton, Cambridge	1, 1	R.Abrams, BBC(J.Holmes)
9,16	Ipswich, Boston	4-6, 1	J.Berry, BBC

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Gadwall: thr., 27	P. I., W. Bridgewater	max. 11, 3	v.o., W. Petersen
Eurasian Wigeon: 17, 28	W. Bridgewater, Monomoy	1, 1	W. Petersen# + v.o., D. Holt#
American Wigeon: thr., 9	P. I., Cambridge	max. 8, 9	v.o., BBC
Canvasback: 2, 4	Lakeville, Milton	1, 5	SSBC, R. Abrams
Ring-necked Duck: 2, 3, 5 16, 21	Lakeville, Carver, Bridgewater W. Newbury, S. Hanson	12, 205, 35 8, 35	SSBC, BBC, R. Titus V. Albee#, W. Petersen
Tufted Duck: 1-3	Chatham	1 m. from March	v.o.
Greater Scaup: 10, 23	Newburyport	30, 1	BBC
Lesser Scaup: 5; 30	Bridgewater; Lincoln	14; 1 (4/2)	R. Titus; G. Gove, R. Stymeist#
Common Eider: 22	N. Scituate	900	W. Petersen
King Eider: 5-6, 10	Dennis, E. Orleans	1 f., 2	B. Nikula#, A. Williams
Harlequin Duck: 16, 22	Rockport, N. Scituate	6, 1	V. Albee#, W. Petersen
Oldsquaw: 30	P. I.	200	BBC
Black Scoter: 10	E. Orleans	500	A. Williams
Surf Scoter: 23	Scituate	150	G. Gove#
Common Goldeneye: 10	Newburyport	200	S. Henderson#
Barrow's Goldeneye: 1-3	Newburyport	max. 8	S. Read + v.o.
ufflehead: 10, 22	Newburyport, Salem	125, 6	BBC, J. Berry
Common Merganser: 18, 21	Wayland, S. Hanson	5, 2	C. Turin#, W. Petersen
Red-breasted Merganser: 9, 10	Squantum, P. I.	150 <sup>+</sup> , 75	R. Abrams, BBC
Ruddy Duck: thr.	P. I.	max. 6	v.o.

#### HAWKS THROUGH RAILS

Ospreys were carefully counted on two occasions in the Westport area with a total of 53 seen on April 12, and it was noted that all visible nesting sites were occupied. A pair was also observed on a nest at Assawompset Pond in Lakeville where an immature Bald Eagle continued through the twenty-sixth. The eagle seen in Middleboro was probably the same bird as it was only five miles, as the eagle flies, from the pond and on the Nemasket River, the outlet of Assawompset. A total of ten Cooper's Hawks was reported for the month, and a pair of Red-shouldered Hawks was seen in apparent courtship flight and calling to each other in Petersham. The pair at Crooked Pond continued from March. Rough-legged Hawks were last reported on April 18, not a late date. Good numbers of Merlins were noted at Plum Island with a maximum daily count of eight on the thirtieth and a total for the month there of sixteen. A total of eight Peregrine Falcons was reported. (An encouraging footnote: according to New York conservation officials, two pairs of Peregrines are nesting in New York City, one on the Throg's Neck Bridge and one on the Verrazana Narrows Bridge. Three of the four birds were said definitely to be birds that were released in 1980 from the rearing program at Cornell.) G.W.G.

Turkey Vulture: thr.	Mt. Wachusett	max. 10 (4/9)	v.o.
2-3; 2, 9	Saugus; Quabbin	1; 6, 10	C. Jackson; E. Nielsen#, G. Gove#
6	Grafton, Monomoy	2, 5	A. Keas, D. Folger#
9, 18	Mt. Watatic	2, 1-2	W. Petersen#
24	Plympton	5	v.o.
thr.	singles from eight locations		v.o.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
<b>Osprey:</b>			
thr.	Lakeville	pr. on nest, max. 3 (4/6)	K.Holmes+v.o.
thr.	Westport	max. 63 (4/12)	R.Stymeist#+v.o.
23,27	Mt.Wachusett	17, 4	P.Roberts,J.Barton#
23,28	W.Bridgewater,MBO	1, 1	W.Petersen,K.Anderson
23,27,30	W.Newbury,P.I.,Newbypt	1, 1, 1	BBC,P.Roberts,F.Bouchard
<b>Bald Eagle:</b>			
2,4	Quabbin,Middleboro	2 ad. + 2 imm., 1 imm.	E.Nielsen#,D.Briggs
2-26	Lakeville	1 imm.	K.Holmes+v.o.
<b>Northern Harrier:</b>			
thr.	P.I.	max. 3 (4/23)	v.o.
21	Halifax,S.Hanson	1, 1	W.Petersen
23,27	Mt.Wachusett	8, 1	P.Roberts,J.Barton#
17,24	Marshfield	2, 1	W.Petersen,SSBC
<b>Sharp-shinned Hawk:</b>			
thr.	Mt.Wachusett	max. 30 (4/23)	v.o.
thr.	P.I.	max. 5 (4/27)	v.o.
10,20	Wayland,Braintree	1, 1	E.Morrier,R.Abrams
22,23	W.Roxbury,Belmont	3, 1 f.	M.Greenwald,L.Taylor
29+30	Mt.A.	8	R.Stymeist#
30	Ipswich.Marshfield	3-4, 1	J.Berry,S.Smith#
<b>Cooper's Hawk:</b>			
6,10	Canton,GMNWR	1 imm., 1 f.	R.Titus,R.Stymeist#
5,9;27	Mt.Wachusett	1, 1; 2	F.Bouchard;J.Barton
24,28	Marshfield,Mt.A.	1, 1	SSBC,L.Robinson#
29,30	Middleboro	1, 1	K.Anderson
<b>Northern Goshawk:</b>			
9;10,17,23	E.Middleboro;Boxford	1; 1	K.Anderson;BBC+v.o.
16,20	P.I.,Milton	1, 1	BBC,R.Abrams
23,27,30	Mt.Wachusett	1	v.o.
<b>Red-shouldered Hawk:</b>			
thr.	Boxford	2	v.o.
2	Petersham,Middleboro	2, 1	G.Gove#,SSBC
2,5,15	E.Middleboro	1-2	K.Anderson
7,9	Hanover,Mt.Watatic	1, 1	B.Sorrie,W.Petersen
29	Bridgewater	1	D.Briggs
<b>Broad-winged Hawk:</b>			
23,27,30	Mt.Wachusett	65, 81, 18	P.Roberts,J.Barton#
27,29+30	SRV,Mt.A.	9, 10	R.Walton,R.Stymeist#
27-30	singles from six locations		v.o.
<b>Red-tailed Hawk:</b>			
2	Bridgewater	15	SSBC
5;23,30	Mt.Wachusett	5; 4, 4	F.Bouchard;P.Roberts
thr.	1-2 from eleven locations		v.o.
<b>Rough-legged Hawk:</b>			
2,10;6	P.I.,Middleboro	1, 1; 1	BBC;K.Holmes
5,11;6	E.Halifax;Canton	1; 1 dark	R.Titus
9,18	Milton,Wayland(SRV)	1, 1 light	R.Abrams,G.Gove
<b>American Kestrel:</b>			
9-28	P.I.	max. 12 (4/12)	v.o.
23,27	Mt.Wachusett	33, 8	P.Roberts,J.Barton#
17;23	Wayland;Hamilton,Ipswich	3; 2, 3	E.Morrier;BBC
29	Truro	32	G.Adami
<b>Merlin:</b>			
9-30	P.I.	max. 8 (4/30)	v.o.
9,23	Squantum,SRV	1, 2	R.Abrams,R.Walton
<b>Peregrine Falcon:</b>			
1-25,28	Monomoy	max. 2	D.Folger,D.Holt
17,23	S.Dartmouth,Bolton	1 ad., 1	G.Gove#,B.Parker
23,27,30	P.I.	1, 1, 1 m. + 1 f.	B.Parker,P.Roberts,M.Argue
29,30	Truro,Newburyport	1, 1	G.Adami,R.Bouchard#
<b>Ruffed Grouse:</b>			
thr.	South Shore	3	W.Petersen
2;5	Boxford;S.Dartmouth,Westport	1; 1, 1	J.Berry#;R.Stymeist#
23;24,30	Hamilton,Mt.Wachusett;Saugus	3, 1; 1	BBC, P.Roberts;C.Jackson
<b>Wild Turkey:</b>			
2	Quabbin	1	E.Nielsen#
<b>Northern Bobwhite:</b>			
3,30	Carver, Middleboro	1, 4	D.Briggs

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Virginia Rail:			
9,16,30	Milton(FM);Ipswich,Hamilton	1; pair, 1	R.Abrams;J.Berry
24,30	Woburn,P.I.	1, 2	G.Gove#,R.Stymeist
Common Moorhen:			
25,30	Wayland,P.I.	1, 1	R.Forster,B.B.C.+v.o.

#### SHOREBIRDS

A Lesser Golden-Plover in basic plumage was seen in West Bridgewater early in the month; there are March reports of this species and most reports are from coastal locations. At least three Ruffs were seen at this location also, a male with an all white head and neck and a female on April 23 and two white-headed and white-breasted males with black coming into the lower breast on April 25 to 27. Solitary Sandpiper reports were notable for their absence; there are more and earlier reports in previous years with the early date being April 3. The Willet report is the third earliest in the past eleven years. Pectoral Sandpiper numbers were low, comparable to 1979 and 1980, and snipe were reported in low to average numbers. The Wilson's Phalarope report ties the prior record early date of April 30, 1981. G.W.G.

Black-bellied Plover:			
17,24	Winthrop,Newbury	20, 3	I.Giriunas#,G.Gove#
28,30	Newburyport,P.I.	8, 3	A.Williams,BBC
Lesser Golden-Plover:			
2,3	W.Bridgewater	1, 1	SSBC,W.Petersen
Piping Plover:			
2,23	P.I.,S.Dartmouth	1, 2	S.Zendeh,E.Nielsen#
Killdeer:			
2;3	Newbypt-P.I.,W.Bridgewater;Lakeville	5, 2; 1	BBC,SSBC;BBC
23,24	Ipswich,P.I.	2, 5	BBC
American Oystercatcher:			
28	Monomoy	8 pr.	D.Holt
Greater Yellowlegs:			
1,2,3	P.I.,Newbypt,W.Bridgewater	2, 3, 3	D.Briggs#,BBC,W.Petersen
9-10,23	Squantum,W.Bridgewater	15, 10	R.Abrams,G.Gove#
28,30	Marshfield,Newbypt	38, 200	D.Clapp,BBC
Lesser Yellowlegs:			
9,25	P.I.,W.Bridgewater	3, 5	P.Roberts,W.Petersen
30	P.I.	50	BBC
Solitary Sandpiper:			
30	W.Newbury	1	E.Nielsen
Willet:			
20	P.I.	1	A.Blaisdell
Spotted Sandpiper:			
27	W.Bridgewater	1	W.Petersen
30	Saugus,SRV,Wellesley	2, 3, 2	C.Jackson,R.Walton,K.Winkler
30	3 locations	1	v.o.
Upland Sandpiper:			
28	Newbypt,S.Natick,Marshfield	5, 1, 4	A.Williams,F.Hamlin,D.Clapp
29,30	Brewster,Eastham	4, 4	P.Bailey,B.Nikula#
30	Newbury,Lexington	9, 1	R.Stymeist#,C.Floyd#
Whimbrel:			
22,30	Monomoy,P.I.	1; 1	D.Folger,E.Nielsen+v.o.
Ruddy Turnstone:			
18	Winthrop	15	I.Giriunas
Pectoral Sandpiper:			
3,5	W.Bridgewater,Middleboro	1, 1	W.Petersen,D.Briggs
10,15	P.I.,W.Newbury	2, 1	BBC,H.Wiggin#
23,30	W.Bridgewater, P.I.	8, 3	G.Gove#,BBC
Purple Sandpiper:			
9,28	Manchester,Marblehead	100, 16	BBC,J.Smith
Dunlin:			
3, 17	Newbypt,Westport	11, 50	G.Gove#
23,27	W.Bridgewater	1, 4	W.Petersen
23-30	Newburyport	max. 85 (4/28)	BBC+v.o.
Ruff:			
23-29	W.Bridgewater	max. 2	v.o.
30	Newburyport	1 f.	R.Stymeist#
Short-billed Dowitcher:			
20,30	P.I.	1, 3	A.Blaisdell,BBC

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Common Snipe:			
1, 2	Newton, MCI-Bridgewater	1, 9	O. Komar, SSBC
18-26	W. Roxbury	max. 34 (4/18)	M. Greenwald
3, 17	W. Bridgewater, Marshfield	35, 20	W. Petersen
18	Concord, Bolton	33, 62	G. Gove
22, 23	W. Newbury, Newburyport	60, 70	W+M. Harris, BBC
Many other reports of 2-10 birds.			
American Woodcock:			
6, 9	Newton, Saugus	3, 1	O. Komar, C. Jackson
12	IRWS	10-12	BBC
23, 30	Cambridge; Lexington, Newbypt	2; 6, 12	R. Stymeist; J. Heywood; C. Floyd
thr.	individuals from 7 locations		
Wilson's Phalarope:			
30	Newburyport	1	BBC+v.o.

#### GULLS THROUGH ALCIDS

Common Black-headed Gulls were reported from Winthrop and Newburyport; reports from the latter location have been rare in recent years whereas Little Gulls have been seen there with regularity.

Two reports of Mew Gull at West Bridgewater were received; however, there were no accompanying details. This bird is rare enough and similar enough in some plumages to the Ring-billed Gull that detailed notes or photographs should be submitted to make an acceptable record. Two Glaucous Gulls were reported, one from an inland location and one on the thirtieth, making an average late date. Early Common Terns were noted on the Vineyard although no numbers accompanied the report. G.W.G.

Little Gull:			
thr.	Newburyport	max. 4 (4/17)	R. Campbell+v.o.
Common Black-headed Gull:			
17, 30	Winthrop, Newburyport	1, 1	I. Giriunas, BBC
Bonaparte's Gull:			
thr.	Newburyport	max. 30	BBC
Mew Gull:			
2, 10	W. Bridgewater	1 (no details)	SSBC (S. Higginbotham), D. Brown#
Ring-billed Gull:			
2, 10	W. Bridgewater, Newbypt-P.I.	150, 300	SSBC, BBC
21	Bolton	35	K. Anderson
Herring Gull:			
10	Newburyport-P.I.	1000 <sup>+</sup>	BBC
Iceland Gull:			
thr.	Newburyport-P.I.	max. 12	v.o.
Lesser Black-backed Gull:			
24	M.V.	1	V. Laux
Glaucous Gull:			
9, 30	Waltham (Camb. Res.), P'town	1 (1 w.), 1	G. Gove#, B. Nikula#
Common Tern:			
28	M.V.	(first)	V. Laux
Black Guillemot:			
22	N. Scituate	1	W. Petersen

#### CUCKOOS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

A very early Yellow-billed Cuckoo was found dead on April 27, and early Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were reported on the twenty-second and the twenty-sixth; the latter report was of a female found dead. Another early migrant was a Common Nighthawk on the Vineyard. A Common Barn-Owl was seen on two occasions on Monomoy, and the Harvard Barred Owl was seen through April 25. On April 8, it was seen eating a pigeon, carrying its meal from tree to tree. A pair of Barred Owls were heard calling and seen at their nest in Ipswich, and a Saw-whet Owl was photographed in Lexington. A female Red-bellied Woodpecker was seen on several occasions at Marblehead Neck. Pileated Woodpeckers were seen in Milton at a hole in a dead tree about twenty feet above ground, and in Wellesley a pair was seen excavating a hole, but when the site was checked later in the month, it was noted that the hole had been taken over by starlings. G.W.G.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo:			
27	S. Peabody	1 (dead)	R. Heil

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Common Barn-Owl:			
27,28	Monomoy	1	D.Folger+D.Holt
Eastern Screech-Owl:			
17	Westport	1 (red phase)	R.Stymeist#
23-30,30	Mt.A.,W.Newbury	2, 1 (red phase)	v.o.,C.Floyd#
Great Horned Owl:			
6	E.Middleboro	pair breeding	K.Anderson
28	P.I.(New Pines)	1 ad. + 1 yg.	A.Williams
Barred Owl:			
1-25	Cambridge-Harvard Yard	1	P.Stevens+v.o.
6,9	Kingston,Boxford	1 calling, 1	B.Sorrie#,B+W.Drummond
17	IRWS	2	C.Gove
Short-eared Owl:			
2,7,9	P.I.,E.Boston,Squantum	1, 3, 1	BBC,S.Zendeh,F.Abrams
Northern Saw-whet Owl:			
7,9	Plymouth,Lexington	1 (calling), 1 ad.(ph)	L.Briggs,P.Gay
26-30	Chatham	1	B.Nikula
Common Nighthawk:			
24	M.V.	1	V.Laux
Chimney Swift:			
28;28-30	Ipswich,Newbypt;Mt.A.	2, 4; max 20 (4/30)	J.Berry,A.Williams,v.o.
29	Marshfield	3	D.Clapp
Ruby-throated Hummingbird:			
22,26	Marblehead,Brewster	1, 1 f. (dead)	J.Smith,B.Nikula#
29	E.Orleans	1 f.	E.Gill
Belted Kingfisher:			
3,8	Carver,Dover	1, 1	BBC,F.Hamlen
17,25	Wayland,Newton	2, 2	E.Morrier,N.Komar
28,30	Mt.A.,Newburyport	3, 4	BBC
Red-bellied Woodpecker:			
8,9,23	MNWS	1 f.	R.Heil#+v.o.
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:			
thr.	Mt.A.	max. 5 (4/30)	v.o.
28	P'town	3	T.Vose
Northern Flicker:			
thr.	Mt.A.	max. 16 (4/12)	v.o.
12-24	P.I.	max. 12 (4/28)	v.o.
Pileated Woodpecker:			
5,10	Milton	1, 2	J.Tonges,D.Brown
8,9	Weston, Manchester	1, 1	D.Perron,I.Giriunas#
9,23	Mt.Wachusett	1, 1	F.Bouchard#,P.Roberts#
10-16	Wellesley	pair	K.Winkler

#### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WARBLERS

Passerine spring migration started out with strength in Eastern Massachusetts for the first year in several. The weather record for the month showed two episodes of south-westerly winds which might have been expected to bring numbers of migrants our way: April 7 and 28-30. There were few noteworthy reports from the seventh or shortly thereafter with the exception of the general arrival of Eastern Phoebe. The weather at the end of the month, however, brought a flood of migrants. First significant counts of Eastern Kingbird, Purple Martin, and House Wren occurred then. Most surprising was the arrival of a Red-eyed Vireo in Mt. Auburn on the extraordinarily early date of April 27, so surprising in fact that Bob Stymeist, when first informed of this, proclaimed: "I'd sooner believe a Whooping Crane than a Red-eyed Vireo in April." Among the wood warblers, the last three days of the month saw first arrivals for at least twelve species.

Tucked between the two promising weather episodes was a good flight on April 22-24. Included were close to 150 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 50 Hermit Thrushes, and nearly 100 Palm Warblers.

Among the more interesting reports was a very early Eastern Kingbird at Chatham on the fourth. Another photographically confirmed record of Common Raven in the coastal part of the state was received, also from Chatham. The raven appears to be extending its range rapidly eastward, a most interesting phenomenon which should be monitored closely. A Carolina Wren in Hamilton provided an unusual north shore record.

Most worthy of mention was an impeccably described Gray-cheeked Thrush at Marblehead Neck on April 27, only the second April record of this scarce migrant.

There were several bonafide rarities in the warbler genera, all occurring on Cape Cod. A single Yellow-throated Warbler turned up at Provincetown on the thirtieth; the region typically gets one each spring. Prothonotary Warblers were seen in both Chatham and Harwich. L.E.T.

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
Eastern Phoebe:			
2-3,5	5 locations,W.Bridgewater	5 singles, 5	v.o.,R.Titus
9	Hardwick,Boxford	8, 9	S.Sweet#,B.Drummond
10-30,23	Mt.A.,Boxford	4 max., 11	v.o.,BBC
Great-crested Flycatcher:			
30	Mt.A.	1	E.Nielsen#
Eastern Kingbird:			
4,28	Chatham, 2 locations	1, 2 singles	B.Nikula,v.o.
29, 29-30	SRV,Mt.A.	2, 4	R.Walton,R.Stymeist#
Horned Lark:			
16,21	P.I.,Halifax	4, 100	BBC,W.Petersen
Purple Martin:			
15,29	Middleboro, Mt.A.	3,+	J.Stiehl#,S.Perkins#
30	P'town,P.I.	12, 20	B.Nikula#,H.Wiggin#
Tree Swallow:			
3,10,11	Carver,Wayland,Stoughton	22, 28, 48	BBC,R.Stymeist#,R.Titus
11,23-30	Newbypt,P.I.	100, 75-200	M.Murphy,v.o.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow:			
16,17	Bolton Flats,W.Bridgewater	1, 1	B.Parker,W.Petersen
23,26	Ipswich,Milton	1, 2	BBC,R.Emery#
Bank Swallow:			
26,30	Lakeville,Medfield	2, 30	K.Holmes,F.Hamlen
Cliff Swallow:			
28	P.I.	2	A.Williams
Barn Swallow:			
8,9-16	Middleboro,Bolton Flats	1, 1-3	K.Holmes,F.Bouchard#
30	Mt.A.	2	BBC
Fish Crow:			
thr.,9	Mt.A.,Milton	6 max. (nesting), 20	v.o.,R.Abrams
18,22	W.Roxbury,N.Scituate	4, 5	M.Greenwald,W.Petersen
28	Winchester	4	G.Gove
Common Raven:			
9,30	Mt.Wachusett	3, 1	T.Lipsky#,P.Roberts
29	Chatham	1	R.Clem#
Red-breasted Nuthatch:			
2,4	Wareham,Bourne	2, 1	W.Petersen,D.Briggs
23-28	Mt.A.	2	BBC
Brown Creeper:			
4-30,7	Mt.A.,Dover	5 max. (4/4), 5 singing	v.o.,F.Hamlen
9, 17-23	Hardwick,Boxford	8, 15 max.	G.Gove#, v.o.
22	SRV	2 pr. (nest building)	R.Walton
Carolina Wren:			
2,17	Marshfield,Westport	2, 3	D.Clapp,J.Heywood#
23	Hamilton	1	BBC (J.Berry)
House Wren:			
27,29	E.Middleboro,Bridgewater	2 m. singing, 1	K.Anderson,D.Briggs
Winter Wren:			
9,9-30	Mt.Wachusett,Boxford	1, 2 max. (4/24)	J.O'Regan,v.o.
18,23	Lynn,MNWS	3, 4	R.Heil#
26-30,30	4 locations,Mt.Wachusett	6 individuals, 6	v.o.,P.Roberts
Marsh Wren:			
30	SRV	1	R.Walton
Golden-crowned Kinglet:			
2,9	Middleboro,Manchester	4, 6	SSBC,BBC
10-29,22	Mt.A.,W.Roxbury	6 max., 7	J.Heywood#,M.Greenwald
22	N.Scituate	15	W.Petersen
Ruby-crowned Kinglet:			
9,22	Manchester,N.Scituate	3, 50	BBC,W.Petersen
23	Boxford,MNWS	23, 70	BBC,J.Smith#
24,27	P.I.,Mt.A.	45, 28	BBC,R.Stymeist#
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:			
22-29,28-30	6 locations,Mt.A.	6 individuals, 1-3	v.o.
Eastern Bluebird:			
2,4-30	Plymouth,WBWS	1 m., 2 pr.	P.Smith,D.Reynolds#
9,10	Petersham,Middleboro	2 pr., 1	E.Nielsen#,K.Anderson

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
12,23	Marshfield, Mt. Wachusett	1, 2	D.Clapp, P.Roberts
29	Mt.A.	1 m.	S.Perkins#
<u>Veery:</u>			
30	Mt.A.	1	v.o.
<u>Gray-cheeked Thrush:</u>			
27	MNWS	1 (details)	R.Heil
<u>Swainson's Thrush:</u>			
27,30	Mt.A.	1, 1	L.Robinson, v.o.
<u>Hermit Thrush:</u>			
12,16-18	Boston, 4 locations	1, 6	E.Morrier, v.o.
23	MNWS, Mt.A.	40, 8	R.Heil, v.o.
28	P.I.	25	A.Williams
<u>Wood Thrush:</u>			
30	Mt.A.	2	BBC
<u>Gray Catbird:</u>			
8,18	MNWS, Wayland	1, 1	R.Heil, BBC
24,29-30	P.I., Mt.A.	1, 1-2	BBC, v.o.
<u>Brown Thrasher:</u>			
22,25	E.Orleans, Newton	1, 1	E.Williams, N.Komar
28,29-30	SRV, Mt.A.	1, 4	R.Walton, M.Noland#
<u>Water Pipit:</u>			
7	Newton	1	O.Komar
<u>Cedar Waxwing:</u>			
2,9	Marshfield, Manchester	7, 30	D.Clapp, BBC
10,16	Wayland, Eastham	26, 30	B.Parker, K.Anderson
18,20-30	Acton, Mt.A.	40, 10	W.Petersen, v.o.
<u>White-eyed Vireo:</u>			
29	Rockport, MNWS	1 b., 1	O.Norris, J.Smith
27-30	Mt.A.	1-2	R.Stymeist#
<u>Solitary Vireo:</u>			
25-30,27	Mt.A., Dover	6 max. (4/30), 1	M.Noland#, F.Hamlen
27,29	Newton, Baldwinville	1, 1	F.Hamlen, J.O'Regan
<u>Yellow-throated Vireo:</u>			
30	Mt.A.	1	BBC(W.+ B.Drummond)
<u>Warbling Vireo:</u>			
30	Dover	1	F.Hamlen
<u>Red-eyed Vireo:</u>			
27-29	Mt.A.	1	R.Stymeist#
<u>Blue-winged Warbler:</u>			
29,30	MNWS, Mt.A.	1 m., 1	J.Smith#, J.Paputseanus
<u>Golden-winged Warbler:</u>			
30	Mt.A.	1	W.Drummond#
<u>Tennessee Warbler:</u>			
29,30	P'town, Mt.A.	1, 1	B.Nikula, fide D.Arvidson
<u>Orange-crowned Warbler:</u>			
30	Mt.A.	1	R.Stymeist#
<u>Nashville Warbler:</u>			
29-30	Mt.A.	4	R.Stymeist#
<u>Northern Parula:</u>			
28,29	MNWS	1, 3	R.Heil#
28,28-30	Middleboro, Mt.A.	1, 10 max (4/30)	D.Briggs, v.o.
<u>Yellow Warbler:</u>			
23,29	Waltham, SRV	1, 4	L.Taylor, R.Walton
30	5 locations	17 total	v.o.
<u>Yellow-rumped Warbler:</u>			
6-28,20-30	SRV, Mt.A.	27 max., 120 max. (4/30)	R.Walton, v.o.
30	P'town, P.I.	100, 75	B.Nikula#, F.Boucharde
<u>Black-throated Green Warbler:</u>			
23-30,29-30	Boxford, Mt.A.	1-6, 1-2	v.o.
30	Dover	1	F.Hamlen
<u>Yellow-throated Warbler:</u>			
30	P'town	1	B.Nikula
<u>Pine Warbler:</u>			
9,15	Saugus, Kingston	1, 1	C.Jackson, B.Sorrie
17-30,17	Mt.A., Fall River	6 max. (4/29), 2	v.o., R.Stymeist#
21,27	Dover, Lakeville	3, 4	F.Hamlen, D.Briggs
22-30	7 locations	13 total	v.o.
<u>Prairie Warbler:</u>			
30	SRV, Saugus	2, 2	R.Walton, C.Jackson

<u>SPECIES/DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>OBSERVERS</u>
<b>Palm Warbler:</b>			
13	SRV, Mt. A.	1, 1	R. Walton, B. Phillips
18	Lynn, Mt. A.	3, 6	R. Heil, I. Giriunas
23	MNWS, Mt. A.	45, 32	J. Smith#, v.o.
24, 29	P. I., P' town	16, 15	BBC, B. Nikula
30	P. I., Mt. A.	4, 10	F. Bouchard, BBC
<b>Black-and-white Warbler:</b>			
23, 30	Mt. A.	1, 12	R. Stymeist#
29, 30	SRV	2, 4	R. Walton
30	3 locations, Mt. Wachusett	4, 3	v.o., P. Roberts#
<b>American Redstart:</b>			
30	Mt. A., WBWS	2, 1	R. Stymeist#, B. Nikula#
<b>Prothonotary Warbler:</b>			
15, 19	Chatham, Harwich	1, 1	fide D. Reynolds
<b>Worm-eating Warbler:</b>			
28	Scituate	1	D. Clapp
<b>Ovenbird:</b>			
30	Mt. A., Boxford	1, 2	B. Drummond#, BBC
30	Saugus	1	C. Jackson
<b>Northern Waterthrush:</b>			
23-30, 30	Mt. A., Boxford	1-4 max. (4/30), 1	v.o., BBC
<b>Louisiana Waterthrush:</b>			
9, 12, 24	Boxford	2, 4, 8	W. Drummond#
23-27, 23-28	Mt. A., MNWS	3 max. (4/24), 1-2	v.o., R. Heil
24, 27-28	Saugus, Dover	1, 1	C. Jackson, P. Hallowell#
26, 30	Stoughton, Rockport	1, 1 b.	R. Titus, O. Norris
<b>Common Yellowthroat:</b>			
30	Dover, Mt. A.	1, 2	F. Hamlen, v.o.
30	E. Middleboro	1 m.	K. Anderson

#### TANAGERS THROUGH EVENING GROSBEAK

The major migratory movement on April 28-30 naturally included finches and orioles as well as species lower on the taxonomic scale. Most notable were Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping and White-throated sparrow, and Northern and Orchard orioles. On Cape Cod and the islands, the whole last half of the month saw fringillids arriving in numbers. Of particular note were numbers of Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Indigo Bunting. The more northern and interior reaches of the state had to wait until the last few days of the month for first arrivals of these species. Among the more unusual reports was an early Summer Tanager at Truro on April 10. Blue Grosbeak, always a generator of excitement, occurred in good numbers and distribution with twelve individuals from seven coastal locations ranging from Provincetown and the Vineyard to Rockport. Single individuals of both Grasshopper and Henslow's sparrows were seen on the north shore during the end-of-the-month wave. These are both early records of rare spring migrants. A Lapland Longspur at Halifax on April 21 was notably late.

#### Summer Tanager:

10	Truro	1	fide R. Prescott
<b>Rose-breasted Grosbeak:</b>			
15-30, 20	Cape Cod, Everett	60+, 1	D. Reynolds, fide C. Leahy
25-29, 25-30	M. V., 6 locations	8, 7 total	V. Laux, v.o.
<b>Blue Grosbeak:</b>			
11, 25-26	Eastham, Rockport	1, 2	R. Prescott#, L. Jodrey
25-29, 26	M. V., N. Scituate	3, 1	V. Laux, M. Litchfield#
27	Plymouth, Cotuit	1, 1	L. Briggs, fide D. Reynolds
28-30	Provincetown	max. 3	B. Nikula#
<b>Indigo Bunting:</b>			
11-30, 17	Cape Cod, Westport	55+, 1 m.	fide D. Reynolds, R. Stymeist#
25	M. V., MBO	8, 3 b.	V. Laux, T. Lloyd-Evans
26, 29	Bridgewater, Mt. A.	2, 2	K. Holmes, M. Noland#
<b>Dickcissel:</b>			
2-23	Marshfield	1	D. Clapp#
<b>Rufous-sided Towhee:</b>			
3, 12	Middleboro, P. I.	1 m., 1	E. Lemmo, P. Roberts
18-23	5 locations	5 total	v.o.
30	Mt. A., SRV, Saugus	6, 4, 4	v.o., R. Walton, C. Jackson
<b>American Tree Sparrow:</b>			
15, 21	Newton, S. Hanson	2, 1	N. Komar, W. Petersen
<b>Chipping Sparrow:</b>			
23	P. I., Dover	1, 1	BBC, F. Hamlen
25-29	5 locations	6 total	v.o.
30	Mt. A., W. Roxbury	6, 2	v.o., M. Greenwald

SPECIES/DATE	LOCATIONS	NUMBER	OBSERVERS
Field Sparrow:			
5,17	Woburn,Kingston	3 m., 1 m.	G.Gove,B.Sorrie
Vesper Sparrow:			
24,28	P.I.,S.Natick	1, 2	BBC, F.Hamlen
Savannah Sparrow:			
7,10	Newton, P.I.	1, 2	O.Komar,BBC
18,23	Bolton,SRV	12, 7	G.Gove,R.Walton
24,25	P.I.,W.Bridgewater	35, 40	BBC,W.Petersen
Grasshopper Sparrow:			
29	MNWS	1	R.Heil
Henslow's Sparrow:			
30	P.I.	1	B.Schlinger
Fox Sparrow:			
2,3	Boxford,Carver	2, 1	J.Berry#,BBC
6	Dover	1	F.Hamlen
Swamp Sparrow:			
21,23	Dover,Ipswich	1, 2	F.Hamlen,BBC
24,26-30	Marshfield,W.Roxbury	2, 7	SSBC,M.Greenwald
White-throated Sparrow:			
thr.,30	Mt.A.,P.I.	50 max. 4/30, 30	v.o.,BBC
30	SRV,W.Roxbury	13,49	R.Walton,M.Greenwald
Dark-eyed Junco:			
23	Mt.A.,Mt.Wachusett	20,12	BBC,P.Roberts
Lapland Longspur:			
21	Halifax	1	W.Petersen
Bobolink:			
30	Eastham	1	H.Stabbins#
Red-winged Blackbird:			
2-30,11	Newbypt,W.Bridgewater	150±,400	v.o.,R.Titus
Rusty Blackbird:			
5,9	Stoughton,E.Middleboro	4,20	R.Titus,K.Anderson
15-17,18	Boxford,W.Roxbury	1,2	v.o.,M.Greenwald
Common Grackle:			
3,30	Middleboro,Newbypt	165, 150	BBC
Brown-headed Cowbird:			
12,17	Topsfield,Boxford	22, 20	BBC
Orchard Oriole:			
29	Provincetown,E.Orleans	1, 2	B.Nikula,P.Gill
30	Mansfield	1	J.Kricher
Northern Oriole:			
12,30	Marshfield,Mt.A.	1, 1	D.Clapp,R.Stymeist#
30	Middleboro	1	D.Briggs
Purple Finch:			
2,4	Petersham,Sharon	40, 20	G.Gove#,R.Titus
8,25	SRV,Newton	50+, 6	R.Walton,N.Komar
Evening Grosbeak:			
2,9-18	Petersham,Mt.Watatic,	100, 15	E.Nielsen#,W.Petersen
29	Mt.A.,SRV	56, 125+	S.Perkins#,R.Walton

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*Eurasian Siskin*  
*Rockport, May 5, 1983*

*Photo by P. William Smith*



*Eurasian Siskin*  
*Rockport, May 5, 1983*

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