

## MEET OUR COVER ARTIST

**BARRY W. VAN DUSEN** is an independent commercial artist living in Princeton, Massachusetts, not far from the Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary. In his commercial work he has done major illustrations for Genrad, Digital, Scandinavian Design, and American Optical, but lately he has turned his attention to natural history subjects, especially birds. Currently he is working closely with the Massachusetts Audubon Society, illustrating and producing brochures, field guides, and magazine illustrations. Some of these have, in turn, appeared in the pages of national *Audubon*, *Wildbird* magazine, and *The Boston Globe*. Barry prefers to work from life whenever possible and has gained inspiration from the works of Eric Ennion, John Busby, and Lars Jonsson -- all advocates of working directly from the living bird. In 1985, Barry had a one-man show at the Laughing Brook Nature Center in Hampden, Massachusetts, and is planning another show in the Greater Boston area soon. If you would like to be notified of future exhibits, please drop a note to him at 13 Radford Road, Princeton, MA 01541.

The portrait of the Snow Bunting opposite was created by Barry for the cover of this issue of *Bird Observer*. When we saw the beautiful, lifelike sketch of the Cox's Sandpiper that he had made from Simon Perkins' superb photograph (also printed in this issue), we wanted it for our cover. In view of the importance of the advent of this rare vagrant, Barry graciously consented to let us replace his Snow Bunting with the Cox's. The sandpiper drawing also appeared in the December 1987 issue of *Sanctuary* (27: 20). It is a tribute to Barry's skill as an artist that he was able to make the black-and-white sketch of the Cox's Sandpiper come alive.