

EDITOR'S PAGE

Dear Subscriber,

Two years ago, when BIRD OBSERVER first began publication, each issue contained 24 pages (counting the covers). With the fourth issue, our size was expanded to 28 pages. During 1974 we published three issues of 32 pages each followed by three more issues of 36 pages each. Our first two issues for the year 1975 have both contained 40 pages. We have thus increased our per issue size by 67% in these first two years.

We like our new size. Our present plans are to include in each of the next few issues

1 Where-to-go article, with map

1 or more major articles on varying topics, and

2 months' Records of bird sightings from Eastern Massachusetts.

With the present issue (Bruce Sorrie's article on Willow and Alder Flycatchers), we are inaugurating a new series: a species update detailing the changing status of some Eastern Massachusetts bird. We hope to make these articles a monthly feature.

As we hope that you have noted, the subscription rate has NOT gone up, although our costs have. The cost of paper is much higher now than it was two years ago, and we are using more of it with each issue. Unfortunately, our subscriber list has not grown as rapidly as we might wish, and thus we find ourselves in an increasingly tight economic bind.

Please help us. We prefer not to decrease the number of pages we publish; we prefer not to raise subscription rates; and so we MUST add new subscribers. We ask you to assist us in this endeavor. Please take it upon yourself this summer to introduce BIRD OBSERVER to those of your birding friends not already acquainted with our magazine and encourage them to subscribe. If each present subscriber were to obtain one new subscriber in the next three months, our financial problems would be much simplified.

Thank you.

Paula R. Butler  
Editor-in Chief

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BIRD OBSERVER, at this mailing, is now a tax exempt non-profit corporation. This status will help hold down the cost of mailing. All extra contributions, above the basic subscription rate, are tax-deductible.

Here are the "Baby Great Horned Owls" that somehow were lost on p. 10 of the January-February issue. Photo by Herman Weissberg of Manchester.

