

# MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

*Bulletin of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.*

*Cybburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore 9, Md.*



The Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.  
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Cover: Saw-whet Owl Banded by Bill Clark at Owings Mills  
 Photograph by Mel Garland  
 Headings: Irving E. Hampe, Art Editor



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## FIRST APPEARANCE OF VARIED THRUSH IN MARYLAND

B. C. Getchell

On the last day of 1965 an unusual bird appeared at the feeder of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Bostick of Ashton, Maryland. It did not appear to be in Peterson's "A Field Guide to the Birds" (Eastern). From Mrs. Bostick's description, Mrs. George Hurley identified it over the phone and sent her her copy of "Song and Garden Birds of North America", published by the National Geographic Society, to check it by. The following people came to see the western bird: Mr. and Mrs. Bernard J. Diamond, Mr. and Mrs. George Hurley, Mr. and Mrs. Norman A. MacLeod, Mr. William Russell, Dr. and Mrs. B. C. Getchell, Mr. & Mrs. A. D. Braeuninger, and Mr. and Mrs. Chandler S. Robbins. Mr. Robbins pronounced it an adult male Varied Thrush.

Mr. MacLeod photographed the thrush. On January 8, 1966, Mr. and Mrs. Robbins, Dr. B. C. Getchell, and Mr. Braeuninger photographed the bird from the Bostick's window (about 30 ft. away). The buffy orange eye stripe and black breast band seen through binoculars made recognition easy. But, of course before such an unusual bird could become a record of a bird seen in Maryland, a recognizable photograph had to be made. This bright visitor was last seen on about January 20.

The two subspecies of the Varied Thrush, *Ixoreus n. naevius* and *I. n. meruloides* are indistinguishable in the field. The breeding grounds extend from northern California to northern Alaska, mostly west of the Rocky Mountains. The winter range is from northern Baja California to southern British Columbia. The only accidental listing which the Fifth edition of the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds makes for the *I. n. naevius* subspecies is Alberta. But this Check-list records a number of sites north and east of the winter range that the *I. n. meruloides* subspecies has been found in the non-breeding season. Hence, we presume that our Maryland visitor was of the latter subspecies.

The earliest records for our eastern coast are for Long Island and Maine (1848). Since then, the Varied Thrush has visited New Jersey and all coastal states to the north, with the possible exception of Rhode Island. The Canadian Provinces of New Brunswick and Quebec are also represented in the records. From 1959 to the present there have been reports

of about 30 sightings in the East, with at least one each year. The only Varied Thrush that has been found south of Maryland was seen at Blacksburg, Va. on December 27, 1962 (Raven 34(1): 5 and 34 (3): 45).

Records for the 1965-66 winter include: Concord, N. H., and three coastal locations: Kennebunkport, Me., Fredericton, N.B., and North Hampton, N. H. (2 birds).



Varied Thrush on the Bostick's feeder  
Photo by the author, Jan. 8, 1966

For recent records I am indebted to Dr. Robert L. Pyle and to Mrs. Ruth P. Emery of the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

314 Bond Mill Road, Laurel



#### LATE SIGHTING OF SHORT-EARED OWL

Carl W. Carlson

On May 29, 1965, Mrs. Sarah Baker, Mrs. Jill Kennedy and I were birding Elliott Island marsh. At about 10 a.m. we saw a Short-eared Owl (Asio flammeus) carrying what appeared to be a Red-winged Blackbird. The owl flew at an angle as it passed us, giving us good views at about 200 yards before it alighted in the marsh grass.

Since migrants normally depart in March or early April, the present sighting suggests the possibility that Short-eared Owls may be nesting somewhere in the extensive Elliott Island marshes.

5706 Lone Oak Lane, Bethesda



OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 1965

Chandler S. Robbins

Although October temperatures averaged about 3° below normal, this trend was reversed in November and December. Not only did the average temperature remain mild, but we had no extreme cold, no severe storms, and in the central and eastern portions of the State there was no snow-fall. Conditions were perfect for the wintering of half-hardy species. Even the drought, which continued unabated throughout this period, had not reduced natural foods to the point where there was evidence of shortage.

Cold fronts passed over Maryland on Oct. 2, 3, 12, 16, and 24, and produced significant southward migrations that were best marked at Ocean City on Oct. 3-6, 11-13, 17, and 25-26. Another fine flight arrived on the 29th after a night of northwest winds but no cold front--a situation similar to but much stronger than that which prevailed on Oct. 11. At Damsite, on the east shore of the Chesapeake, the migratory peaks occurred on Oct. 13-14 and Oct. 17, with only a minor flourish on the 25th.

The table of fall departure dates presents in concise form a summary of the last migration dates that were reported from the various counties in 1965. For comparison, the latest migration date for each species is given at the left. This is followed by the latest date for each of the four preceding years, to show the variation from year to year. A zero indicates that no report was received; a dash indicates the lack of a significant departure date, and a W shows that the last departures could not be distinguished from the wintering population. Underscored dates in the table represent banded birds. Underscored dates or numbers in the text mark regional and State records. Species for which there were too few reports are omitted from the table.

Garrett and Allegany Counties are combined under the heading Western Maryland. Most or all of the reports from Garrett, Frederick, Harford, Queen Annes, Dorchester and Worcester Counties came from observers who reside in other counties. Our special thanks go to compilers Edward Mendinhall (Kent Co.), Mrs. Alicia Knotts (Caroline Co.), Don Meritt (Talbot Co.), and Dr. Robert L. Pyle (D.C. area) who gathered and summarized observations from Chapter members. Much of the real meat of this table is gleaned from the records of the Operation Recovery stations which

Table 1. Fall Departure Dates, 1965

Species	Latest	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	W.Md	Fred	Balt	Howd	Mont	D.C.	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Kent	Caro	Q.A.	Talb	Dorc	Worc	
Green Heron	11/20/48	10/26	12/ 8	10/27	10/11	11/ 1	-	-	-	10/ 2	10/ 2	0	11/ 1	10/10	9/29	-	-	-	-	-	9/27	9/25
Little Blue Heron	11/23/46	9/30	10/13			10/23	0	8/14	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	-	8/10	10/23	0	10/ 2	-	-
Common Egret	11/19/48	12/10	10/14		10/18	12/15	0	0	0	0	12/15	0	10/24	10/23	-	9/21	0	10/24	9/12	10/30	11/ 1	-
Snowy Egret	11/ 6/48	10/20			10/18	10/30	0	0	0	0	9/26	0	0	0	0	0	0	10/17	0	10/30	9/25	-
Canada Goose		11/11	10/30			11/29	0	11/23	-	0	11/29	0	0	11/27	-	W	-	W	W	W	11/ 2	-
Broad-winged Hawk	11/27/91	10/25	9/30		10/11	10/17	-	9/25	10/17	-	10/17	0	9/26	0	0	-	0	9/17	9/19	0	9/25	-
Osprey	11/23/51	10/22	10/14	10/27	10/29	10/10	-	10/ 2	0	9/16	10/10	-	9/26	-	9/26	-	-	-	-	9/19	-	9/25
Spotted Sandpiper	11/13/49			10/26	10/22	10/10	-	10/ 2	-	-	10/10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9/27	-
Solitary Sandpiper	11/ 2/06			9/21	10/ 2		0	9/11	0	10/ 2	9/23	0	-	-	0	-	0	-	-	-	-	9/15
Greater Yellowlegs	11/29/62	11/11	11/29	11/15	11/14	11/ 1	0	10/30	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	-	-	10/30	-	11/ 7	11/ 1	-
Lesser Yellowlegs	11/23/51			11/ 7	10/23	10/30	0	10/30	0	9/11	0	0	-	-	0	10/25	12/26	10/30	-	9/28	9/20	-
Laughing Gull	12/10/27			11/25	10/30		0	0	10/24	0	0	0	0	-	9/25	-	-	10/30	10/30	10/30	10/11	-
Forster's Tern	12/ 4/65	12/ 2			11/29	12/ 4	0	0	0	10/ 3	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	10/24	12/ 4	11/ 7	11/11	-
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	11/21/65	11/ 4	10/21	10/26	10/31	11/21	8/26	9/11	0	10/ 4	10/ 2	-	11/21	-	8/ 7	-	10/16	0	8/15	0	10/24	-
Black-billed Cuckoo	11/ 3/65	10/30	10/19		10/14	11/ 3	-	9/11	0	9/21	0	0	-	-	11/ 3	0	-	9/18	0	0	10/10	-
Whip-poor-will					10/ 5	10/17	-	-	-	9/ 6	-	0	-	9/19	-	-	9/17	10/17	-	-	10/ 5	-
Common Nighthawk	10/16/60	10/ 1	10/ 5	10/ 1	10/ 9	9/20	-	0	-	9/16	9/20	8/20	9/10	9/19	9/11	0	-	0	0	-	-	-
Chimney Swift	11/ 8/58	10/19	10/12	10/12	10/18	10/15	9/23	10/ 2	-	10/11	10/12	10/15	10/15	10/14	10/ 9	-	10/ 5	-	9/25	-	9/14	-
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	10/15/18	10/ 8	10/13	10/ 6	10/ 5	10/ 2	-	9/11	-	9/16	9/19	-	9/26	-	9/26	10/ 2	-	9/19	9/19	-	-	-
Red-headed Woodpecker	11/19/61	11/19	10/14		11/ 9	11/13	-	9/11	10/ 3	0	11/13	9/16	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	9/30	-
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	11/ 1/47				10/19	11/28	-	-	-	10/19	11/11	-	-	-	11/28	10/14	-	10/17	-	-	10/29	-
Eastern Kingbird	10/13/55	9/23	9/19	10/ 6	9/18	9/ 7	-	-	-	9/ 1	-	-	-	9/ 7	9/ 7	-	-	8/29	9/ 6	-	9/13	-
Gt. Crested Flycatcher	11/21/48	10/ 7	9/21	10/11	10/12	10/22	-	9/11	-	8/26	9/18	-	-	9/21	-	-	-	9/17	-	-	10/22	-
Eastern Phoebe	11/29/93	10/22	11/11	10/23	10/30	11/ 6	10/15	10/ 2	11/25	11/ 6	11/ 2	11/ 2	10/20	10/14	10/24	10/17	11/ 1	10/17	10/11	11/ 7	11/ 2	-
Yellow-bellied Fly.	10/26/55	9/22	9/18	9/29	10/ 5	10/ 4	0	0	8/24	0	9/ 4	0	0	0	0	0	10/ 4	9/26	0	0	9/27	-
Acadian Flycatcher	10/10/65	9/17	9/25	10/ 2	9/26	10/10	-	-	-	-	9/19	-	-	-	-	-	9/20	-	9/18	-	10/10	-
Trail's Flycatcher	10/ 6/64	9/27	9/29	9/22	10/ 6	10/ 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9/25	0	9/25	0	10/ 2	-
Least Flycatcher	10/21/62	9/29	10/21	10/ 9	10/ 7	10/14	0	0	9/12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9/26	0	10/13	0	10/14	-
Eastern Wood Pewee	10/31/50	10/12	10/18	10/18	10/18	10/20	-	-	9/12	9/27	10/ 2	-	-	10/ 3	9/ 9	10/ 6	10/19	10/13	-	-	10/20	-
Tree Swallow	11/26/00	10/22	11/16		11/ 7	10/30	-	9/11	-	0	10/ 3	0	-	-	-	-	10/26	10/17	9/ 5	11/ 7	10/25	-
Barn Swallow	11/21/64	10/29	9/28	9/29	11/21	9/11	-	9/11	-	9/ 2	-	-	-	-	9/ 4	9/ 6	-	-	-	9/28	9/13	-
Purple Martin	10/15/93	9/30			10/3	9/12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9/ 7	9/ 7	-	-	-	9/12	-	8/29	-
Blue Jay	11/12/45			11/11	10/26		-	10/16	10/17	W	W	W	10/26	W	10/24	10/17	W	10/23	10/ 6	10/ 2	10/16	-
White-breasted Nuthatch					10/30		W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	10/20	W	10/24	W	10/30	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	11/ 2/65				11/ 2		W	W	W	W	10/25	W	W	W	W	W	10/20	W	10/24	10/30	-	11/ 2
House Wren	11/13/54	10/22	10/20	11/17	10/25	11/ 2	10/ 2	-	10/10	10/12	10/ 2	-	10/16	9/19	9/22	10/25	-	9/17	9/26	-	11/ 2	-
Catbird	12/ 1/55	10/29	11/29	11/24	10/31	11/ 4	10/14	10/ 1	10/10	10/21	10/10	10/16	11/ 4	10/14	10/ 9	10/26	10/13	10/17	10/16	-	11/ 2	-
Brown Thrasher	11/ 7/55	11/26	10/28	10/20	10/29	11/ 3	9/ 2	-	10/10	11/ 3	10/11	-	9/28	10/14	9/26	10/13	10/ 6	10/17	-	-	11/ 2	-
Wood Thrush	11/21/26	10/26	10/12	10/20	10/20	10/24	9/17	-	10/17	9/15	10/24	-	9/23	10/ 2	9/23	9/29	9/18	10/14	-	9/28	10/24	-
Hermitt Thrush		11/ 2	11/ 9	11/15	11/ 7	11/15	-	-	10/26	11/ 1	10/24	11/15	11/ 5	11/ 3	-	10/26	10/17	-	-	-	11/ 2	-
Swainson's Thrush	11/28/58	10/29	10/30	10/20	10/24	10/24	-	-	10/17	10/10	10/24	0	10/18	-	9/19	10/24	10/10	10/17	9/26	9/28	11/ 2	-
Gray-cheeked Thrush	11/18/60	10/13	10/17	10/20	10/31	10/26	-	-	10/17	10/10	0	0	10/18	0	0	10/18	-	10/23	0	0	10/26	-
Veery	10/27/64	10/18	10/ 1	10/19	10/27	10/13	-	9/11	9/12	-	9/28	-	-	9/19	0	9/20	9/ 8	9/26	9/12	0	10/13	-
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	12/ 2/62		12/ 2		10/11	9/21	-	-	-	9/21	9/16	-	9/17	-	-	-	9/16	-	-	-	9/21	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	11/30/01	11/25	11/13	11/29	11/17	11/29	-	-	10/17	11/29	11/14	-	11/14	-	11/25	10/28	-	10/24	11/20	-	11/ 2	-
Cedar Waxwing	1/12/40				12/ 8		-	-	-	10/25	11/14	-	11/21	-	12/ 8	10/16	-	-	11/20	11/ 7	11/ 2	-

Species	Latest	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	W.Md	Fred	Balt	Howd	Mont	D.C.	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Kent	Caro	Q.A.	Talb	Dorc	Worc	
White-eyed Vireo	10/30/27	10/20	10/ 3	10/10	10/19	10/18	0	0	9/12	9/14	-	-	9/22	9/15	10/ 2	10/ 3	-	-	-	-	10/18	
Yellow-throated Vireo	10/18/64	9/22	10/13	-	10/18	10/12	-	-	-	8/27	10/12	-	-	-	-	-	9/14	-	9/10	-	-	10/ 6
Solitary Vireo	11/15/55	10/22	10/29	10/20	10/27	10/28	-	-	10/11	10/ 4	0	0	0	10/14	0	10/12	0	10/14	0	11/ 7	10/28	
Red-eyed Vireo	11/11/88	10/14	11/ 8	10/17	10/31	10/27	-	-	9/12	10/27	10/ 2	-	9/28	10/ 2	9/19	10/11	-	10/13	-	-	10/25	
Philadelphia Vireo	10/20/64	9/30	9/26	-	10/20	10/11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9/29	9/29	9/26	0	10/11	
Black-&-white Warbler	11/30/59	10/ 8	10/14	10/18	10/24	10/29	-	-	9/12	9/14	-	9/17	-	10/ 2	9/19	10/21	10/ 3	10/17	10/ 6	9/28	10/29	
Worm-eating Warbler	10/15/20	9/10	10/13	10/ 2	9/27	9/18	-	-	8/21	8/31	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	9/15	0	0	9/18	
Blue-winged Warbler	10/24/64	9/16	9/21	-	10/24	9/ 5	0	0	8/23	0	0	8/25	0	0	0	8/31	0	9/ 5	0	0	8/29	
Tennessee Warbler	11/30/89	10/10	10/16	10/26	10/21	10/17	0	0	9/11	0	0	0	0	10/ 3	0	9/28	0	10/17	0	0	10/14	
Nashville Warbler	11/ 6/49	10/10	10/21	10/10	10/28	10/25	0	-	9/ 4	9/ 2	10/ 9	0	0	0	0	10/25	0	10/13	9/26	0	10/24	
Parula Warbler	12/16/58	10/20	10/17	10/19	10/19	10/15	-	-	-	-	10/ 2	-	-	10/ 2	9/25	10/15	9/27	10/13	9/26	-	10/13	
Yellow Warbler	10/ 6/27	9/29	9/13	9/21	10/ 5	9/27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9/ 6	-	9/19	-	9/27	
Magnolia Warbler	10/27/51	10/12	10/14	10/19	10/24	10/24	0	0	10/ 9	10/10	-	9/16	-	10/ 3	10/ 3	10/24	10/15	10/13	9/26	0	10/12	
Cape May Warbler	11/10/51	10/14	10/21	10/17	10/23	10/25	0	0	0	10/ 3	9/19	0	9/26	10/ 3	0	10/20	10/14	10/24	0	0	10/25	
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	11/31/53	10/20	10/29	10/20	10/21	10/27	-	-	10/ 3	10/ 3	10/10	0	-	-	9/26	10/16	0	10/17	9/26	10/27	10/17	
Myrtle Warbler	12/20/44	12/ 4	12/18	12/ 9	11/ 7	11/25	10/14	-	11/25	11/24	-	-	11/ 7	10/27	11/13	10/28	-	-	-	-	11/ 7	
Black-thr. Green Warbler	11/12/62	10/29	11/12	10/12	10/20	10/29	-	-	10/29	10/17	10/ 2	10/ 9	10/ 6	10/ 2	10/ 3	10/14	10/ 4	10/13	9/26	0	10/18	
Blackburnian Warbler	10/21/64	9/29	10/13	9/24	10/21	10/10	-	0	0	9/ 8	0	0	0	0	9/28	9/26	0	9/27	10/10	0	0	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	10/25/65	10/ 1	9/23	10/13	10/20	10/25	-	-	-	8/31	9/19	9/ 8	-	9/26	9/26	9/26	0	9/27	0	0	10/25	
Bay-breasted Warbler	11/ 1/36	10/ 1	10/ 7	10/10	10/18	10/24	0	9/11	10/ 3	0	10/24	10/ 9	0	10/ 2	0	10/ 3	0	9/26	9/26	0	10/ 6	
Blackpoll Warbler	11/12/49	10/14	10/23	10/26	10/30	10/29	0	-	10/10	10/ 2	-	10/16	-	10/14	9/19	10/20	10/15	10/23	9/26	0	10/29	
Prairie Warbler	11/19/54	9/14	9/21	10/21	10/ 3	10/11	0	0	8/23	9/ 2	0	0	-	-	8/30	8/31	9/ 5	-	-	-	10/11	
Palm Warbler	11/20/43	10/22	10/21	10/26	11/ 6	11/ 2	0	0	0	10/26	10/ 2	0	10/ 9	0	10/ 2	10/25	10/26	10/24	11/20	11/ 7	11/ 2	
Ovenbird	11/25/55	11/ 2	10/14	10/20	10/31	10/14	-	-	9/ 6	-	-	-	-	9/28	9/18	10/ 6	10/13	10/10	9/26	-	10/14	
Northern Waterthrush	10/18/64	10/14	10/10	10/12	10/18	10/14	-	-	9/12	0	10/13	0	-	0	10/ 3	9/28	10/12	10/ 3	0	9/28	10/14	
Kentucky Warbler	10/ 5/63	-	-	10/ 5	9/12	9/13	0	0	9/ 5	8/31	-	-	-	8/13	8/30	0	0	0	0	0	9/13	
Connecticut Warbler	11/ 7/48	10/28	10/ 1	10/12	10/24	10/16	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	0	0	9/18	10/13	10/ 3	0	0	10/16	
Mourning Warbler	10/13/46	-	9/13	-	10/ 7	-	0	0	8/24	10/ 7	0	0	0	0	0	9/26	0	10/ 4	0	0	9/18	
Yellowthroat	11/13/49	10/22	10/21	12/ 7	11/ 5	10/30	9/25	-	10/10	10/ 7	10/10	-	10/16	10/ 2	10/ 9	10/14	10/13	10/20	10/30	9/27	10/30	
Yellow-breasted Chat	11/ 8/64	11/ 4	10/11	11/ 6	11/ 8	10/18	-	-	9/12	10/18	-	8/19	9/28	-	9/11	10/14	-	10/13	-	-	10/12	
Hooded Warbler	10/ 8/52	9/23	-	9/22	10/ 6	10/ 5	0	0	0	-	-	-	9/25	9/ 6	9/27	9/17	0	8/31	9/26	0	10/ 5	
Wilson's Warbler	11/29/63	10/17	10/17	11/29	10/ 6	11/ 8	0	0	9/11	0	11/ 8	0	0	0	0	9/27	0	9/29	10/11	0	10/11	
Carada Warbler	10/23/21	10/ 1	10/23	9/29	10/ 6	9/26	-	0	9/11	8/31	0	9/ 3	-	9/ 9	9/26	9/17	0	9/26	9/12	0	9/26	
American Redstart	10/29/64	10/ 8	10/20	10/23	10/29	10/27	-	-	10/ 9	9/25	9/19	-	10/12	10/ 2	9/25	10/ 5	10/ 3	10/20	9/26	9/28	10/27	
Bobolink	11/ 8/88	10/22	10/17	9/28	-	10/ 2	-	10/ 2	0	0	8/31	0	-	9/14	9/26	-	9/14	9/26	0	0	9/25	
Baltimore Oriole	11/24/61	11/24	11/11	10/16	11/21	10/28	8/23	9/11	9/ 5	10/12	-	0	12/26	-	9/17	9/13	10/ 7	9/18	-	0	10/28	
Scarlet Tanager	11/ 4/58	10/ 8	10/20	10/13	10/15	10/25	-	9/11	10/ 3	9/13	10/23	-	-	10/ 2	9/19	10/17	10/ 6	10/ 3	9/26	-	10/25	
Summer Tanager	10/28/59	9/27	9/18	10/ 6	10/ 3	10/21	-	9/11	0	9/ 4	0	0	-	0	0	9/19	0	10/21	0	9/26	9/28	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	11/25/01	10/13	10/14	10/ 3	10/20	10/ 5	-	0	10/ 3	10/ 3	9/19	0	-	0	0	10/ 4	0	9/26	9/26	0	10/ 3	
Blue Grosbeak	10/24/53	-	9/19	10/10	10/23	9/19	-	0	0	0	0	0	-	9/19	0	-	0	9/12	8/15	0	-	
Indigo Bunting	11/ 1/55	10/11	11/ 9	10/14	10/27	10/29	-	-	-	10/20	10/ 2	-	10/20	10/ 3	10/ 3	10/15	0	10/23	10/ 6	10/27	10/29	
Rufous-sided Towhee	11/24/49	-	10/21	-	11/ 7	11/ 6	-	-	10/17	11/16	-	-	10/16	-	10/11	10/22	w	10/24	w	w	11/ 2	
Savannah Sparrow	11/21/65	-	-	11/15	11/21	-	-	10/29	-	10/11	11/11	0	-	0	0	0	11/21	-	10/23	11/20	11/ 2	
Grasshopper Sparrow	11/23/92	-	10/21	-	11/ 1	1/ 1	-	9/11	-	12/26	0	0	-	0	0	0	-	9/30	-	0	11/ 1	
Vesper Sparrow	11/21/60	-	-	-	11/17	11/ 2	10/ 2	10/29	-	10/ 3	10/23	0	11/2	0	0	-	-	10/23	-	0	11/ 2	
Fox Sparrow	12/16/94	11/27	-	12/ 4	12/ 6	12/ 3	0	0	11/ 5	12/ 3	11/14	12/19	12/31	-	11/13	-	12/25	0	-	-	11/ 2	
Lincoln's Sparrow	11/ 7/65	-	10/ 1	10/31	11/ 1	11/ 7	0	0	0	0	11/ 7	0	0	0	0	10/11	10/13	10/17	11/20	0	10/25	

were in daily operation during all or most of October at Ocean City, Kent Point, and Damsite under the very capable and dedicated leadership of Mrs. Richard D. Cole, David and Margaret Bridge, and Mrs. Edward Mendinhall. More than a hundred other people contributed to the observations in Table 1. Where record-breaking numbers or dates were involved, the observers and localities are cited in the text. The great majority of the other dates were submitted by the following M.O.S. members: Western Maryland--all by Anderson J. Martin; Frederick--Carl W. Carlson, Robert W. Warfield, Mrs. Austin L. Hoffman, Mrs. Sarah S. Baker; Baltimore City and County--William Clark, Mrs. Richard D. Cole, Edward Rykiel, Stephen W. Simon; Howard--Mrs. Harry B. Rauth, Morris Collins; Montgomery--Robert W. Warfield, Carl W. Carlson, Cynthia Turner, Dr. Karl Stecher; District of Columbia--Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Pyle; Prince Georges--John W. Fales, Chandler S. Robbins; Anne Arundel--Paul and Danny Bystrak, Bill Anderson, Paul Kalka; Calvert--all by John H. Fales; Kent--Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mendinhall, Mr. and Mrs. Sam McSorley, Dr. and Mrs. John Kimmich, Dr. and Mrs. Turner Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Delario, Hilda Kane, Mel Garland, Mary Anne Emerine; Caroline--Mrs. A. J. Fletcher, Marvin W. Hewitt, Mrs. Aldridge Pepper, Mrs. Alicia Knotts; Queen Annes--David and Margaret Bridge, Mrs. Herbert Church, Mrs. Marion Metcalf, Jan Reese; Talbot--Don Meritt, Jan Reese; Dorchester--William Russell, Marcia Lakeman, Marcia Nelson, Harry T. Armistead; Worcester--Mrs. Richard D. Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Aldridge Pepper, Mrs. Herbert Church, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kuch, Dr. and Mrs. John Kimmich, Chandler S. Robbins, Capt. and Mrs. J. E. M. Wood.

Grebes, Gannets. The only Red-necked Grebes reported in Maryland during the fall were 2 seen at close range at Hoopers Island in Dorchester County on Oct. 27 by Harry Armistead. Gannets were first seen at Ocean City on Oct. 7 by Armistead and William Russell, and about 35 were seen over central Chesapeake Bay on Nov. 12 by Vern Stotts.

Hérons and Ibis. Several herons lingered past their normal departure dates. A Green Heron was at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center as late as Nov. 1 (Brooke Meanley), and single birds were seen on the Ocean City, Kent County, Annapolis, and Seneca Christmas Counts. A very late Common Egret for Piedmont Maryland was found along the Potomac River above Sycamore Landing in Montgomery County on Dec. 15 (Sheila Cochrane). A Least Bittern seen in Wicomico County near Vienna on Oct. 2 by Armistead and Mary E. Mallam appears to be the latest migrant ever reported from the Eastern Shore of Maryland, although there are later records from west of the Chesapeake. Also late were 12 Glossy Ibis at Ocean City on Oct. 3 (Armistead and Miss Mallam).

Geese. Armistead estimated 25,000 Canada Geese in the Bellevue area of Talbot County on Nov. 6; in the same locality Will Russell saw a White-fronted Goose in flight on Nov. 20. An even rarer find was a Barnacle Goose that was shot at Remington Farms south of Chestertown in late December; the mounted specimen, the first for Maryland, is in the Remington Farms collection. Two migrating Snow Geese were seen at Ocean City on Oct. 6 by Armistead and Russell, who also noted that 2 were seen by Armistead's mother at her farm in Bellevue on the following day. The earliest Maryland record is Oct. 5, 1961. The first arrival in Queen Annes County was

observed on Oct. 17 by the Bystorks. Both the Snow and the Blue Goose continue to increase in the counties just east of the Bay. New high counts of 355 Snows and 600 Blues were obtained at Blackwater Refuge on the Southern Dorchester County Christmas Count, Dec. 27. The combined Maryland Christmas Count total for the Canada Goose was just short of a quarter of a million!

Hawks. Bald Eagles were found on 8 of Maryland's 17 Christmas Counts, with a total of 30 individuals (28 in 1964, 21 in 1963, 19 in 1962, and 27 in 1961). Of the 20 birds whose plumage was specified, 7 were immatures or subadults. Once again an immature Golden Eagle spent much of the winter at Blackwater Refuge (Armistead and others). Rough-legged Hawks were present in better-than-average numbers, but they were not as common as last winter. They were identified in all Eastern Shore counties except Queen Annes and Wicomico; but west of the Bay they were found only at Lily Pons in Frederick County (Marcia Lakeman and Marcia Nelson, Oct. 2).

Pheasants, Rails and Gallinules. On Oct. 24, Carl Carlson counted 27 Ring-necked Pheasants in a field near Emmitsburg, breaking the highest Maryland tally for this species. A Sora heard 2 miles east of Crisfield on Dec. 24 by Armistead is apparently the first one recorded in Somerset County in winter. A very late Common Gallinule was seen near Denton on Dec. 13 by Mrs. A. J. Fletcher.

Oystercatchers and Plovers. An American Oystercatcher remained at Ocean City until Nov. 14 (Armistead, Miss Mallam, Mr. and Mrs. Will Russell). Armistead counted 265 Killdeer in Dorchester County on Oct. 27. Four Golden Plover seen along New Design Road in southern Frederick County on Oct. 31 by Michael O'Brien and Philip Etter are by far the latest ever seen in Maryland's Piedmont.

Woodcock. Never before have American Woodcock been reported from so many counties during the Christmas Count period; they were found west of Chesapeake Bay in Howard, Montgomery, Anne Arundel, Charles, and St. Marys Counties, and in six counties on the Eastern Shore. The most extraordinary count was 10 birds at Denton on Dec. 26.

Yellowlegs, Avocet. A Lesser Yellowlegs carefully studied at Ridgely on Dec. 26 by Terry Moore provided the first winter record for Caroline County. Three seen by Harry Armistead near Crisfield on Dec. 24 were not unexpected, as this species winters fairly regularly in adjacent Dorchester County. Maryland's short list of American Avocet records was increased by one on Oct. 3 when Carlson and the Montgomery Chapter spotted one on the 7th Street mud flat at Ocean City.

Gulls. The only white-winged gull found in Maryland during the period was an Iceland at Tilghman Island on Dec. 22 (Dr. Karl Stecher).

Cuckoos. Herbert and Hilda Douglas broke the State departure record for the Yellow-billed Cuckoo when they observed one at close range at Fort Washington on Nov. 21. Vernon Kleen broke the record for the Black-billed in Anne Arundel County (near Laurel) on Nov. 3.

Owls. On Nov. 1, 1964, Mrs. Mendinhall captured 6 Saw-whet Owls in her banding nets, breaking her own State record of 3 birds in a day. We had thought this new record would stand for many years and were totally unprepared for Jan Reese's capture of 29 Saw-whets in one night at the Kent Point banding station on the early date of Oct. 17. On Oct. 6 Mrs. Mendinhall at Damsite broke the earliest fall arrival date for the Eastern Shore when she banded the first of these little northern owls, and on Oct. 10 Dr. Richard Tousey heard one at Oxon Hill in Prince Georges County. Subsequently Saw-whets were seen in the following additional counties: Worcester (Oct. 18, Mrs. Cole); Anne Arundel (Nov. 2, V. Kleen); Talbot (Nov. 13, Jan Reese); Howard (Dec. 8, Mrs. Rauth); and Somerset (Dec. 24, Armistead). Banding totals for the fall showed 2 tagged at Laurel, 3 at Tilghman Island, 4 at Patuxent, 13 at Ocean City, 9 at Damsite, and 32 at Kent Point. The only Long-eared Owl reported was killed by a car near Royal Oak on Nov. 21 and discovered by Armistead and Gordon Chaplin. Most of the Maryland Christmas Counts did quite well on owls--often in spite of miserable weather during the pre-dawn hours. Of 331 owls listed, 157 were Screech Owls (including 30 each at Ocean City and St. Michaels), 134 were Great Horned (38 at St. Michaels), 21 were Barred (5 each at Seneca and Ocean City), 15 were Short-eared (10 in Southern Dorchester County), 3 were Saw-whets (all singles), and 1 was a Barn Owl. Harry Armistead takes laurels for identifying 46 owls of 4 species on the Crisfield count; all other high tallies of owls were cooperative ventures by several observers.

Goatsuckers. Mrs. Laurence L. Driggs heard a very late Chuck-will's-widow west of Easton on Sept. 20. David and Margaret Bridge, who band more Whip-poor-wills during fall migration than do all other Maryland netting stations combined, set a late record for the species at Kent Point on Oct. 17. Common Nighthawks, which move southward through Maryland in largest numbers during the latter half of August, reached a peak of 403 over Rockville on the evening of Aug. 23 (Phil Etter).

Woodpeckers. On Oct. 23 Mel Garland and Bill Clark found a freshly killed flicker on the road near Kent Point. They stopped to see whether it was a banded bird and found it to be a hybrid; it was an immature female with the head markings of a Yellow-shafted and with yellow secondaries, but the primaries were salmon to orange and all the tail feathers were salmon colored. Yellow-shafted Flickers were actively migrating at Bellevue as late as Nov. 20 (Russell). More than half (80) of the 132 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers banded at Ocean City this fall were captured during the three-day period, Oct. 3-5; the highest one-day total was 41 on the 5th. There was no indication of an influx of Hairy Woodpeckers this year, and the Downy Woodpecker migration was very light (only 28 banded at Ocean City).

Flycatchers. Eastern Kingbirds left the State unusually early this fall; Sept. 7 was the last date reported. The only Western Kingbird was seen at Bellevue on the late date of Nov. 20 (Will Russell). Single Acadian Flycatchers were banded at Ocean City on the record-breaking dates of Oct. 9 and 10 (Clark); another late Acadian was collected at Kiptopeke, Va., on Oct. 5 (Fred Scott) and the identification confirmed

at the U. S. National Museum. Also late was an immature Least Flycatcher banded at Ocean City on Oct. 14 by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kuch.

Jays. There was an excellent southward movement of Blue Jays. The highest one-day count at an inland location was 542 over Cylburn Park in Baltimore on Oct. 11 (Ed Rykiel). At the Kent Point O.R. station, 954 were banded and an estimated seasonal total of 60,000 flew over (Bridges). By way of contrast, only 5 Blue Jays were banded at Ocean City where this species is always very scarce.

Chickadees, Creepers. Although Black-capped Chickadees were reported as moving southward in large numbers through the Northeastern States, the influx just barely reached into Maryland. Black-caps were regular at Baltimore feeding stations; they were found in all counties along the Pennsylvania border, but were extremely scarce farther south. None were captured at O.R. stations, where they could most easily have been detected. On the Christmas Counts good numbers were found in the northern counties, 23 were tallied in Kent County, and 2 each on the Triadelphia, Seneca, and Denton counts. Brown Creeper migration reached its peak at Damsite (58 banded) and Kent Point (45 banded) on Oct. 13; at Ocean City 20 were banded on the 13th, but 56 were banded on the 17th.

Bluebirds. A heavy migration of Eastern Bluebirds was reported in late October and early November at Kent Island and other areas near the eastern shore of the Bay. C. E. Addy found 50 at Blackwater Refuge on Oct. 28, and Don Meritt and Jan Reese counted 106 at Tilghman on Oct. 31.

Warblers. During the past several years a great many fall departure records of warblers have been shattered at the various O. R. stations. In contrast, only one State record was established this autumn: a Chestnut-sided Warbler banded at Ocean City on Oct. 25 by Mrs. Aldridge Pepper. Although not record-breaking for the State as a whole, the following warbler observations are of special interest: a Black-throated Green at Lutherville on Oct. 29 (Mrs. W. F. Gerringer); a Nashville banded at Damsite in Kent County on Oct. 25 and a Magnolia banded there on Oct. 24 (Mrs. Mendinhall); a female Black-throated Blue at Hoopers Island on Oct. 27 (Armistead); a Mourning in Howard County on Oct. 7 (Mrs. Harry B. Rauth); and a Wilson's Warbler at Bethesda, Nov. 6-8 (Peg Frankel). The peak day for Myrtle Warbler migration at Ocean City was Oct. 26, when 340 were banded.

Tanagers. A Scarlet Tanager was banded at Ocean City on Oct. 25 by Mrs. Aldridge Pepper--the latest Eastern Shore record. A Summer Tanager was seen at Denton on the late date of Oct. 21 by Alicia Knotts.

Indigo Buntings. A late Indigo was seen at Hoopers Island on Oct. 27 (Armistead) and 2 were banded at Ocean City on Oct. 29 (Dr. and Mrs. John Kimmich).

Blackbirds. On Nov. 14 Will Russell estimated 140 Brewer's Blackbirds in a flock of 1,500 cowbirds in Caroline County 6 miles west of Denton; this is by far the largest concentration of Brewer's reported from

Maryland. Armistead smashed the abundance record for Boat-tailed Grackles in Maryland when he tallied 625 of them on the Crisfield count, Dec. 24.

Winter Finches. There was good variety of northern finches during the fall, but by Christmas time numbers had dwindled. Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins were reported from most counties, but numbers were far below those of two years ago (see Table 2). The only Pine Grosbeaks found in Maryland were 2 in Baltimore on Nov. 25, well seen by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lawson. A single Common Redpoll was observed at Royal Oak on the same day (Will Russell). In comparing the Christmas Count totals for 1965 with those of prior years, note that the number of party hours of coverage was 949 in 1962, 1170 in 1963, 1342 in 1964 and 1451 in 1965.

Table 2. Winter Finches on Christmas Bird Counts

<u>Area</u>	<u>Evening Grosbeak</u>	<u>Purple Finch</u>	<u>House Finch</u>	<u>Pine Siskin</u>	<u>American Goldfinch</u>	<u>Red Crossbill</u>	<u>White-wing Crossbill</u>
Accokeek	6	31	0	0	200	0	0
Allegany Co.	16	0	0	0	74	0	0
Annapolis	1	62	18	1	335	0	0
Catoctin Mt.	4	0	0	5	72	0	0
Colton's Pt.	2	1	0	1	170	0	0
Crisfield	0	1	0	2	75	0	0
Cylburn	0	0	0	0	12	0	0
Denton	82	14	0	0	85	0	6
Elkton	0	7	0	0	30	0	0
Lower Kent	0	5	0	8	197	0	0
Ocean City	14	55	0	200	1180	0	0
Port Tobacco	40	21	0	0	53	0	0
Rock Run	4	14	0	0	332	0	0
St. Michaels	100	4	56	158	425	0	0
Seneca	35	24	0	0	740	0	21
So. Dorchester	0	0	0	55	280	0	0
Triadelphia	0	24	4	0	214	0	6
1965 Md. Total	304	263	78	430	4474	0	33
1964 Md. Total	4	138	0	4	2727	0	0
1963 " "	1520	178	3	796	4009	76	195
1962 " "	9	120	11	15	1931	0	0

Evening Grosbeak. Four counties have reported arrival dates earlier than those published in the December 1965 issue: Oct. 7 at Monkton (Andrew Simon); Oct. 29 at Monument Knob (Carlson, Mrs. Baker and Nell Cooley); Oct. 30 at White's Ferry, Montgomery County (Carlson and Mrs. Baker); and Dec. 3 at Highland, Howard County (Mrs. Rauth). To complete the list, the first arrivals from two additional counties were Oct. 23 in Talbot County (Robert Sharp) and Oct. 27 at Hoopers Island (Armistead). By way of summary, the first Maryland observation was on Oct. 7, the next on Oct. 17 and Oct. 23, and then from Oct. 27 to Nov. 1, Evening Grosbeaks were found in 8 additional counties. The highest counts prior to the Christmas Counts were 40 at Tilghman Island on Oct. 30 (Meritt and Reese)

and 39 at Hoopers Island on Oct. 27 (Armistead).

Pine Siskin. Most reports were of small flocks, but west of the Chesapeake there were estimates as high as 50 in Frederick County on Nov. 14 (Carlson), and 150 at Monkton on Oct. 23 (Stephen Simon); east of the Bay Armistead counted 115 migrants at Hoopers Island on Oct. 27, and Reese and Meritt estimated 330 at Tilghman Island on Oct. 30.

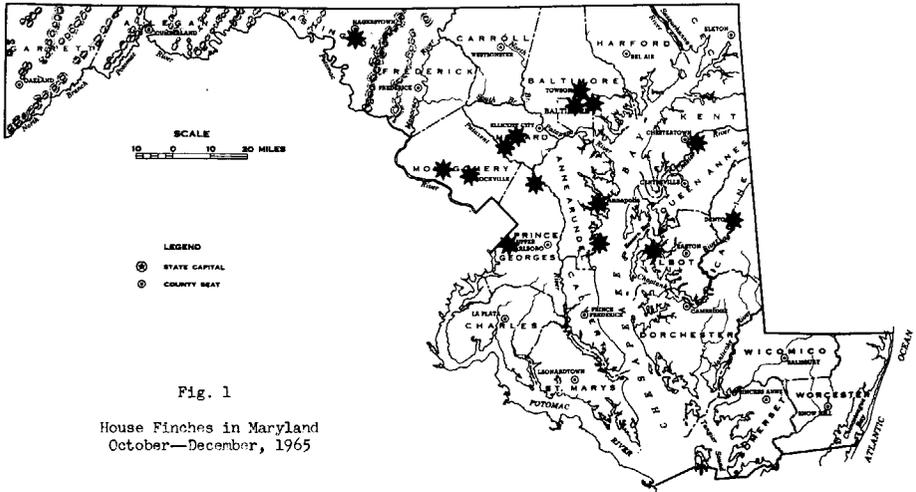


Fig. 1

House Finches in Maryland  
October—December, 1965

House Finch. Figure 1 gives a summary of the invasion of the introduced House Finch into the Free State. There were many more reports this winter than there were a year ago, when other finches also were present in small numbers. It is not clear whether there is a relationship between the movements of House Finches and those of other finches that come down from States to the north of Maryland, or whether the House Finch moves in its own independent way. This is one reason why we still wish to receive reports of all observations of House Finches during this period of rapid expansion. All reports received through the end of December were of 12 birds or fewer.

Crossbills. A few observers were fortunate enough to see White-winged Crossbills. The only ones reported prior to the Christmas Counts were one banded at Denton on Oct. 17 (Mrs. Pepper), a single at Salisbury on Nov. 7 (Samuel H. Dyke), one near Rockville on Dec. 24 (Paul O'Brien) and a flock of 11 at Bethesda on the same day (Fred Evenden). The only Red Crossbill noted was at Wango on Nov. 15 (Dyke).

Sparrows. Maryland's third Clay-colored Sparrow was identified at Ocean City on Sept. 28 by Will Russell and Harry Armistead. The bird was studied at leisure through a 25X telescope and the description of field marks observed is on file. Peak dates for Slate-colored Juncos and White-throated Sparrows at Ocean City were Oct. 25 and Oct. 29. The

prize sparrow at Ocean City was an adult Gambel's White-crown banded on Nov. 1 by Mrs. Cole. Two late sparrow records from Montgomery County deserve special mention. A Grasshopper Sparrow, probably too late to be considered a fall migrant, was seen near Brookmont on Dec. 26 (Dr. Stecher), and a Lincoln's Sparrow was studied at Poolesville on the record date of Nov. 7 (Mr. and Mrs. Carl Carlson).

Snow Buntings. This is one of the few species that arrived too late in the fall to be included in the table in the December issue. Since arrival dates are available from more counties than usual we are placing the dates on record: Oct. 30 at Lily Pons (Warfield), Nov. 7 at Blackwater Refuge (Russells, Miss Mallam and Armistead), Nov. 14 at Ocean City (Armistead), Nov. 11 near Centreville (Armistead and Miss Mallam), and Nov. 20 at Sandy Point.

Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel



#### VAGRANT NORTHERN PHALAROPE AT LILYPONS

R. W. Warfield

On October 17, 1965, while watching shorebirds at Lilypons, Frederick County, I discovered a Northern Phalarope (Lobipes lobatus) in a partly drained fish pond. The bird was wading and feeding in breast-deep water in typical phalarope fashion and would occasionally swim for short periods. It was relatively tame and I was able to approach to within about thirty feet and study it at leisure. All the field marks were visible; the needle-like black bill, the dark "phalarope-patch" through the eye, the striped back and the black legs were clearly seen. Since this oceanic species usually migrates far offshore during August and September I noted this as an interesting sight record. This is probably the first record of this species for Frederick County and perhaps the first time one has been seen in the piedmont since one was seen at Pennyfield on Oct. 5, 1963<sup>1</sup>. Carlson<sup>2</sup>, who also observed this bird on Oct. 17, has given an excellent description of it and believes that the field marks indicate that it was immature.

Upon returning to Lilypons on October 23, I was surprised to find the phalarope in almost the same location. It was feeding with a group of shorebirds which included a White-rumped Sandpiper, several Semipalmated Sandpipers, a Pectoral Sandpiper and a Dunlin. When flushed it rapidly flew around the impoundments, finally landing on water and swimming for a short time. It later rejoined the other shorebirds and while feeding it was possible to compare this bird with the others. In particular, its bill was contrasted with that of a Semipalmated Sandpiper. As noted on Oct. 17, the phalarope's bill was all black and not broad at the base. The other field marks were the same as observed on Oct. 17.

One October 30, the phalarope was still present and showed the identical field marks as noted on the 17th and 23rd of October. The bird was still very active and when flushed flew rapidly and silently from pond to pond. When flying the strongly contrasting black and white wing pattern was evident. Upon alighting it would either swim or wade and at no time was there any suggestion that the bird was ill or injured.

These observations on Oct. 30, are of particular interest in that Carlson<sup>2</sup> and others found a Red Phalarope at Lilypons on the 29th and 30th of Oct. However, their description does not agree with that observed by myself on Oct. 30 and it must be concluded that both a Northern Phalarope and a Red Phalarope were present and that the Northern was very probably the same individual as was first seen on Oct. 17.

I have conducted a limited search of the literature in an effort to find an explanation of why a bird of this species would remain so long and so late at a piedmont location. BIRDS OF MARYLAND<sup>3</sup> does not give a piedmont record for this species nor is there a previous state record later than Oct. 14. Likewise, Murray<sup>4</sup> does not give any October records for the Virginia piedmont. Bent<sup>5</sup> gives a few October departure dates most of which are for coastal locations. Stone<sup>6</sup> gives several cases where these birds have been carried far inland by severe storms. Carlson<sup>2</sup> may have at least a partial answer to this question in his observation that the bird was apparently immature. In the absence of any other specific information one can only suggest that this phalarope must be classed as a "fall vagrant."

An additional oddity is that on Oct. 30 I found two Snow Buntings near the impoundment where the phalarope was wading. I doubt if these two species have ever been seen so close together in this State.

These observations were the high points of a series of visits to Lilypons. During the period Sept. 11 to Oct. 30 16 species of shorebirds were seen. Undoubtedly more complete coverage in the spring and fall would reveal additional species.

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## HARRIS' SPARROW BANDED AT DENTON

Bob Pepper

On March 19, 1965, Mrs. Winnie Bright of Denton called Mrs. A. J. Fletcher to tell her about an unusual bird that was visiting her feeder. Mrs. Fletcher went to Mrs. Bright's home to identify the stranger. Her conclusion was an exciting one for all concerned because the bird was a Harris' Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*). She informed us about the sparrow and kiddingly told us to be sure to trap and band it.

March 20 was a cold, snowy day that sent many birds into our yard for food. On one of the first checks of our trap that morning I took out a bird that was unfamiliar to me. With the help of Peterson's field guide I confirmed that it was the Harris' Sparrow. I banded it, measured its wing (83 mm.) and took photographs, which unfortunately are not clear enough to reproduce.

There is no other record of this species for Caroline County, and there are only seven others for the State of Maryland. The only other occurrence on the Eastern Shore was an immature that was banded on Oct. 12, 1961 by Mrs. Edward Mendinhall at her home on the shore of Chesapeake Bay southwest of Chestertown in Kent County.

8007 Flower Avenue, Takoma Park, Md.

## CYLBURN CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The Cylburn count was not submitted to Audubon Field Notes this year, so is published here to maintain continuity.

Cylburn Park, Md. 180 acres of park with open spaces and deciduous woods. Also included is a small area near Lake Roland. Jan. 1, 1966; 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Cloudy with light rain in afternoon; temp. 57° to 64°; wind W to SW, 8-18 m.p.h. Nine observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours, 17 (all on foot).

Turkey Vulture, 10; Black Vulture, 5; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 7; Killdeer, 2; Herring Gull, 34; Ring-billed Gull, 38; Mourning Dove, 4; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 14; Blue Jay, 11; Common Crow, 35; Fish Crow, 1; Carolina Chickadee, 62; Tufted Titmouse, 19; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 14; Starling, 105; Cardinal, 37; Am. Goldfinch, 12; Slate-colored Junco, 50; White-throated Sparrow, 4; Song Sparrow, 6; White-breasted Nuthatch, 15.

Total, 29 species; 499 individuals. Participants: Burton Alexander, Tommy Andres, Charles Buchanan, Charles Hauss, Charlotte M. Lawson (compiler), Beth Lawson, Ono Lescure, Ed Rykiel, Paul R. Smith, Ruth Wormelle, and Curtis Wormelle.

## 1964 COUNTY BIRD LISTS

Hank Kaestner

The year 1964 marks the eleventh that county lists have been compiled. The total number of species, 292, is far below last year's record high of 307. Only three counties recorded over 200 species in 1964. Worcester again had the highest total (258), followed by Anne Arundel (210) and Baltimore (200). Counties such as Talbot and Dorchester, which usually count over 200 species, fell below this figure in 1964. As a matter of fact, only Baltimore gained in species over last year. This can in part be blamed on the compiler, although it should remain the job of the observers to send in their records either directly to the compiler, or in care of Chandler Robbins, Patuxent wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland.

This year is the first to see the inclusion of a list from Washington, D.C. Charles County was omitted from the table because it listed only 7 species.

Worcester again added to the list, with 19 species recorded nowhere else: Cory's Shearwater, Wilson's Petrel, Gannet, Harlequin Duck, Common Eider, King Eider, American Oystercatcher, Piping Plover, Whimbrel, Knot, Purple Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, American Avocet, Red Phalarope, Northern Phalarope, Gull-billed Tern, Black Skimmer, Swainson's Warbler, and Ipswich Sparrow. Red-necked Grebe (Baltimore), Brown Pelican (Queen Annes), Mute Swan (Caroline), European Widgeon (Anne Arundel), King Rail (St. Marys), Purple Gallinule (Montgomery), Long-eared Owl and Saw-whet Owl (Kent), Western Kingbird (Anne Arundel), MacGillivray's Warbler (Queen Annes), Bachman's Sparrow (Allegany) and Snow Bunting (Anne Arundel) were the other single records. The MacGillivray's warbler was the only species to be added to the 11-year composite list.

Only 23 species were recorded from every county except Charles: Turkey Vulture, Chimney Swift, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Phoebe, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Tufted Titmouse, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Eastern Bluebird, Starling, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Baltimore Oriole, Common Grackle, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, White-throated Sparrow, and Song Sparrow.

Special thanks are extended to Chan Robbins for helping me organize this compilation and to the following who took their time to send in their observations: Allegany and Washington--Carl Carlson; Frederick--John Richards, Vernon Kleen; Baltimore--Hank Kaestner, Mrs. Robert Kaestner; Harford--Mel Garland; Montgomery--John Weske; Prince Georges--Chandler Robbins, Vernon Kleen; Anne Arundel--Harold Wierenga, Prof. and Mrs. David Howard; Washington, D.C.--compiled by Robert Pyle;

(Continued on page 22)

1964 COUNTY BIRD LISTS

	G	A	W	F	C	B	H	H	M	P	A	C	W.	S	C	K	Q	C	T	D	W	S	W	Total
	a	l	r	e	l	l	r	o	o	r	n	a	D.	t	e	u	a	a	o	i	o			
	r	l	s	e	l	l	r	w	n	i	n	l	C.	M	c	e	n	e	r	l	r	c	m	r
Common Loon				x	x			x	x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	14
Red-throated Loon											x				x				x		x	x	x	4
Red-necked Grebe						x																		1
Horned Grebe				x	x			x	x	x	x		x	x		x			x	x	x	x	x	14
Pied-billed Grebe				x	x						x		x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x	12
Gory's Shearwater																								1
Wilson's Petrel																								1
Brown Pelican																			x					1
Gannet																								1
Double-cr. Cormorant						x					x				x	x	x					x	x	8
Great Blue Heron			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20
Green Heron	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	21
Little Blue Heron						x					x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	11
Cattle Egret						x					x				x	x	x	x	x					10
Common Egret				x		x					x				x		x			x	x	x	x	11
Snowy Egret						x									x	x						x	x	9
Louisiana Heron															x							x	x	4
Blck-cr. Night Heron							x								x	x						x	x	9
Yellow-cr. Night Heron							x																	2
Least Bittern											x								x					2
American Bittern							x				x	x	x						x		x	x	x	9
Glossy Ibis											x	x			x									4
Mute Swan																		x						1
Whistling Swan			x				x				x				x	x	x				x			10
Canada Goose			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20
Brant																x	x					x	x	4
Snow Goose																						x	x	4
Blue Goose																						x	x	4
Mallard			x		x	x	x				x	x	x									x	x	19
Black Duck			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	18
Gadwall											x				x							x	x	6
Pintail							x				x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	13
Green-winged Teal				x			x				x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	13
Blue-winged Teal						x					x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	12
European Widgeon											x													1
American Widgeon			x				x				x	x			x	x					x	x	x	14
Shoveler							x				x				x							x	x	3
Wood Duck			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x				x	x	x	17
Redhead							x				x				x						x	x	x	10
Ring-necked Duck							x				x	x			x						x	x	x	12
Canvasback							x				x				x	x					x	x	x	11
Greater Scaup							x				x				x							x	x	6
Lesser Scaup				x							x	x			x						x	x	x	12
Common Goldeneye											x	x			x						x	x	x	12
Bufflehead				x			x				x	x			x						x	x	x	13
Old-Squaw											x				x						x	x	x	7
Harlequin Duck																						x	x	1
Common Elder																								1
King Elder																								1
White-winger Scoter											x				x									3
Surf Scoter															x							x	x	4
Common Scoter															x						x	x	x	3
Ruddy Duck				x							x	x			x						x	x	x	11
Hooded Merganser							x				x	x			x						x	x	x	10
Common Merganser							x				x	x			x						x	x	x	10
Red-brsted Merganser							x				x	x			x						x	x	x	10
Turkey Vulture	x		x	x			x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	23
Black Vulture				x			x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	17
Goshawk							x																	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	x			x			x				x	x			x	x					x	x	x	17
Cooper's Hawk				x			x				x	x			x	x					x	x	x	14
Red-tailed Hawk			x				x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	20
Red-shouldered Hawk	x			x			x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	16
Broad-winged Hawk			x				x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	19
Rough-legged Hawk											x				x						x	x	x	6
Golden Eagle																								2
Bald Eagle							x				x				x						x	x	x	11
Marsh Hawk							x				x				x						x	x	x	13
Osprey				x			x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	18
Peregrine Falcon																								2
Pigeon Hawk							x				x				x							x	x	8
Sparrow Hawk				x			x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	19
Ruffed Grouse			x				x																	3
Bobwhite			x				x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	22
Ring-necked Pheasant			x				x				x	x	x	x	x						x	x	x	13







St. Marys--John Weske, James Banagan; Kent--Kent County Chapter of M.O.S. compiled by Edward Mendinhal; Caroline--Roberta Fletcher; Wicomico and Somerset--Sam Dyke; Worcester--Sam Dyke, Chan Robbins; also Danny and Paul Bystrak and Bill Anderson for their records for several counties.

405 Hollen Rd., Baltimore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 20 Deadline for 1965 County Bird Lists

Observers are urged to compile a check list of all birds seen in their home county during calendar year 1965 and send it to Hank Kaestner, 405 Hollen Road, Baltimore, Md. 21212. Those who have observations for several counties are requested to send separate check lists for each county.

We need more reports from all counties in order to do better in 1965. (Note elsewhere in this issue that one county had only seven species reported in 1964!)

Please compile and send in your lists immediately so that they may be published in the June issue. Thank you.

Nature Study Camp at Carey Run

Applications are being accepted for Camp at Carey Run Wildlife Sanctuary. The three sessions will run from Sun. noon until Fri. noon. July 17 - 22 (8 Girls), July 24 - 29 (8 Boys), July 31 - Aug. 5 (8 Adults). Billie Taylor will be in charge of the camp for girls. Billie Taylor and Mel Garland will operate the camp for boys and this year Mel Garland plans to include a session for adults. Adults who are interested in nature study, teaching, or working with children should find this week fascinating. Mail applications to: Mrs. C. Gordon Taylor, 75 Broadway, Frostburg, Maryland.

Statewide Bird Count

This year's edition of the Statewide Bird Count takes place on Saturday, May 7. Careful tabulations should be made of species and numbers. Total party hours (summation of the hours that each party in a given county is in the field) are important in evaluating this year's totals and comparing them to other years.

Final results should be submitted on check lists. Include a brief summary of the weather and an alphabetical list of the participants.

In order to make the June issue, we ask that all compilers either hand their final results to Melvin Kleen at the Ocean City Convention (May 14-15) or send them by May 15 to Melvin Kleen, 339 Talbot Avenue, Laurel, Md. 20810.

Please Report All Bird Nests

We would like all members to report each bird nest they find in 1966. Nest cards for this purpose can be obtained from each local Chapter, from the State Secretary or at the Ocean City Convention. After completing the nest cards, please send them to David Bridge, 12A Plateau Place, Greenbelt, Md. 20770.

Mr. Bridge maintains a file of all nest records for the State and your reports will be added to this file. He and several other workers have completed a thorough literature search and extracted all nesting records in Maryland. This backlog of information and the annual nest card reports form a large reservoir of data for future study and evaluation.

The nesting reports are doubly important in Maryland as data from the State records are forwarded to the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology for use in their North American Nest Card Program.

Nesting reports from outside the Free State should be reported directly to Cornell using the nest record cards which they supply. Maryland nest cards should be used only for nests in this State.

Request for Information

Information is desired on Saw-whet Owls recorded in Maryland and the District of Columbia during the winter of 1965-1966. I would like the dates, location, and numbers on all reports. Any roost of two or more birds should be dealt with separately. In addition to the standard information noted above, I would also like the date when maximum numbers were observed.

I am especially interested in mortality. Birds found dead or in any way incapacitated should be reported with place, date, and circumstances. If available, age and sex breakdowns would be highly desirable.

William Russell, Bird Banding Laboratory  
Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel

## In Memoriam

NITA HENRY NEVIUS

When Nita Henry Nevius died on April 19, 1966, the Talbot County Bird Club lost not only a long-time and devoted member, it also lost an ardent birder and a vital part of its organization.

Nita loved birds and often identified more species from her automobile than many who trudged over the trails and through the woods.

Hers was a sparkling and stimulating personality. At the regular breakfast hikes, she made the occasions informative and merry with readings from Forbush. Nita's common sense and wit added to many a business meeting. The Talbot County Bird Club and the M. O. S. will sorely miss her knowledge as a birder and her gaiety as a person.

Dorothy Vernon Smith and Edith Adkins

## The President's Page

V. Edwin Unger

This is the season of the year when American industry customarily reports to its stockholders. You, the stockholders of M. O. S., in a way of speaking, may properly ask at this time how things are going. Of course, the yearly financial report of operations and conditions can only be made at the end of the fiscal period (the end of April). A stock-taking of things other than financial might well be made and reported upon now.

Membership stands at a new high - 1011 as of March 25th. Convention plans are being formulated. The "matching" fund has reached the half-way point. We have an applicant for the Helen Miller Scholarship (teacher-training at an Audubon Camp). The Baltimore Chapter's five planned seminars and its Junior Program are impressive. Activities at Carey Run and at Rock Run give evidence of expanding interest and use. Plans for a work-session at Mill Creek have been announced.

In its yearly report, industry customarily appraises its facilities and its prospects for the days ahead. Following suit, we think first of that immeasurable resource represented by the dedicated services of individual members, chapter officers, committee members and chairmen, Council members, Trustees, and Officers. You will be interested to learn that our Conservation Co-chairman, Mrs. David Spring, attended, by special invitation, the President's signing of the Assateague Park bill.

Our sanctuaries represent the most obvious and most tangible of our resources. Only their purchase price can be measured in dollars. Their real value, present and potential, can not be measured. I like the evaluation expressed by the Talbot Chapter in its sanctuary brochure: "As a library is more than a place to preserve books, so is a sanctuary more than a place to conserve wildlife. A sanctuary in its broadest aspect is an active, vital area created not only for the purpose of conserving wildlife, but for the additional purpose of providing man with knowledge, with pleasure and with an insight into the basic truths of nature."

It has recently been pointed out that our present sanctuaries, valuable and useful as they are, represent more or less a type of terrain not exactly unique nor as seriously threatened as are such types as marshland and shore-line; the suggestion being made that if and when additional property is acquired, it might well be of such nature and type. The point is well taken and should be kept in mind by those who might now or later be looking for another sanctuary site. In the meantime, work is being done on our present sanctuaries (with the least possible disturbance to wildlife and the natural ecology), and their use for observation and training is expanding.

In summation, you have reason to be proud and cause to be certain that M. O. S. is healthy and robust and should continue to thrive and prosper.

Federalsburg

## BOOK REVIEWS

Collins, Henry H., Jr., and Ned R. Boyajian. FAMILIAR GARDEN BIRDS OF AMERICA. N.Y., Harper & Row, 1965. 309p. 12 color plates \$7.95.

This book of 72 garden and feeding station birds is intended for the reader who wants something more than field guide information and who does not have the more expensive reference books. The narrative accounts, which range in length from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 7 pages, include such topics as field marks, general range, habitat, habits, migration, nest and eggs, song, and food. Content, which varies from species to species, is pleasant reading and informative. At the end of each account is a brief description (not always adequate for identification) and a statement of length of incubation period, number of days young stay in the nest, measurements of eggs (!), and number of broods. Fifty-one species are illustrated in color by John C. Yrizarry; 33 others (including a few that are not given full treatment in the text) are shown in black and white. The book is decidedly eastern in emphasis; all but 12 of the principal species are on the Maryland list. Included is an account of the House Finch (male and female illustrated) which was introduced on Long Island and is now spreading so rapidly through Maryland. A good gift item for a beginner. C.S.R.

Osborn, Ben. INTRODUCTION TO THE OURDOORS. Washington D. C., Audubon Naturalist Soc., 1965. 34p., cover engraving, 1 drawing, Paper \$1.

This is a guide to obtaining maximum enjoyment from field trips. Helpful suggestions on caring for yourself in the field are followed by lists of source material on identification, ecology, outdoor recreation, and conservation. Concise, practical, definite advice is given under readily found dark print topics in the first part, entitled "Outdoor Living." Lists of books useful in identifying or understanding "The Things Around You" (part II) include vertebrates, invertebrates, flowering and nonflowering plants, rocks and minerals, and stars. "Reading the Landscape" (part III) opens one's eyes to the relationships among the individual kinds of plants and animals through an excellent selection of books on ecology. "Recreational Use of Inhabited Areas" (part IV) lists books that discuss the problems of increasing demand for outdoor recreational space in competition with other demands for land. Titles that might help someone trying to establish a camp ground or dude ranch are listed. The "Consumptive Forms of Recreation", fishing, hunting, and archery, are discussed and some titles listed. "Conservation and Education" (part V) states: "There are many programs and activities, both formal and informal, that help acquaint people with the world around them and arouse interest and concern for conservation of natural resources. The study of natural history and conservation is being made a part of the formal curriculums of schools at all levels. Effective education of young people in the care and management of their environment would seem to be a fundamental requirement for 'the good life' for our society in the future." A list of books for teachers is followed by a list of Natural History organizations. Finally there is a list of publishers' addresses. E.C.R.

# COMING EVENTS

- Apr. 1 BALTIMORE Monthly meeting. Annual Election of Officers. Speaker: Mr. David J. Smith, "Hawks and Owls" Pratt Library 8 p.m.
- Apr. 2 ANNE ARUNDEL Sherwood Forest Bird Walk. Annual Election of Officers. 8:20 a.m. Leaders: The Douglas Miner's.
- Apr. 5 BALTIMORE Tuesday walk - Lake Roland
- Apr. 5 TALBOT Audubon Lecture: Harry Pederson "Village Beneath the Sea"
- Apr. 6 KENT Monthly meeting Alumni House 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. Chandler S. Robbins on the breeding bird survey.
- Apr. 7 BALTIMORE Spring birds at Cylburn. 4 Thursday walks at 9 a.m. Leader: Mrs. C. L. Conley (ID5-7443)
- Apr. 10 ALLEGANY C. & O. Canal Walk for duck migration. Meet at White Oaks 2 p.m. Leader: Mr. John Workmeister
- Apr. 12 BALTIMORE Tuesday walk at Lake Roland
- Apr. 14 BALTIMORE Cylburn walk
- Apr. 15 TALBOT Monthly meeting Easton Library 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. Chandler S. Robbins
- Apr. 15-17 EBBA CONVENTION - Spring Mountain House, Schwenksville, Pa.
- Apr. 16 BALTIMORE Bus trip to Smithsonian Institution and National Arboretum. Reservations with Mrs. Martin Larrabee, MO4-9011, by Apr. 4.
- Apr. 17 TALBOT Breakfast Hike, Meet Easton Library 7 a.m.
- Apr. 19 BALTIMORE Tuesday walk at Lake Roland
- Apr. 21 BALTIMORE Thursday walk at Cylburn
- Apr. 21 MONTGOMERY Monthly meeting
- Apr. 22 BALTIMORE Annual Spring Lecture. Mr. John Trott of Burgundy Farm Country Day School: "Spring in the North Temperate Zone" Tickets \$1.00, preferably in advance from Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner, DR7-8990
- Apr. 23 ANNE ARUNDEL Warbler Hunt, Calvert County. Meet at Huntington School 8:40 a.m. Leader: Friel Sanders
- Apr. 23 BALTIMORE Loch Raven for early spring arrivals. Leader: Mr. Charles Buchanan, ID5-8305 Meet Hutzler's Towson parking area 8 a.m.
- Apr. 24 TALBOT Breakfast hike 7 a.m.
- Apr. 25 TALBOT Audubon Lecture: William Ferguson "High Horizons".
- Apr. 26 BALTIMORE Tuesday walk, Lake Roland
- Apr. 26 PATUXENT Monthly meeting
- Apr. 27 ALLEGANY Monthly meeting, Board of Education bldg. 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Mr. William Leeson, "Botany" Special guest: Mr. V. Edwin Unger, State President of M. O. S.

- Apr. 28 BALTIMORE Thursday walk at Cylburn  
 Apr. 30 BALTIMORE C. & O. Canal and Potomac River (Great Falls-Pennyfield level) Leaders: Birds - Mr. & Mrs. Mac Plant (377-6847), Miss Jane Daniels; Botany - Dr. Elizabeth Fisher (HO7-0676) and Mrs. Carl Francis. Meet Hutzler's Westview 8 a.m.
- May 1 TALBOT Breakfast hike. Meet Library 7 a.m.  
 May 3 BALTIMORE Tuesday walk at Lake Roland  
 May 4 KENT Monthly meeting, Alumni House 8 p.m.  
 May 5 BALTIMORE Migration Birding in Four Counties - #1 Howard. Leader: Mrs. Carl Lubbert (DR7-6346). Meet Hutzler's Towson 8:30 a.m.
- May 7 STATEWIDE Spring Migration Count  
 May 8 BALTIMORE Mill Creek Sanctuary, Talbot County. Leaders: Mr. Richard Kleen and Dr. W. Rowland Taylor  
 May 8 TALBOT Breakfast Hike  
 May 10 BALTIMORE Tuesday walk at Lake Roland  
 May 12 BALTIMORE Migration birding - #2 Baltimore County  
 May 13-15 STATEWIDE Annual Convention - Make reservations at Hastings-Miramar Hotel, Ocean City, Md.  
 May 14 BALTIMORE Lake Roland for Warblers, for those not at M.O.S. Convention. Leader: Mr. Wm. Corliss  
 May 17 BALTIMORE Tuesday walk, Lake Roland  
 May 19 BALTIMORE Migration birding - #3 Harford County  
 May 19 MONTGOMERY Monthly meeting  
 May 22 BALTIMORE Canoe trip in Dyke Marsh, near Alexandria, Va. Leader: Mr. David Bridge  
 May 24 BALTIMORE Tuesday walk - Lake Roland  
 May 24 PATUXENT Monthly meeting  
 May 26 BALTIMORE Migration birding - #4 Carroll County  
 May 28 ANNE ARUNDEL Bird Walk 8:15 a.m. at Larkins Hills; 9:15 a.m. at "Obligation"; 10:45 a.m. at Tulip Hill  
 May 28 BALTIMORE Catoctin Mt. Leader: Mr. Jerome Howe, Meet Hutzler's Westview 7:30 a.m.
- June 1 KENT Monthly meeting, annual reports, dates to be set for banding Bank Swallows and for Breeding Bird Census  
 June 5 BALTIMORE Cylburn Trails. Leader: Mrs. Raymond Geddes, Jr. 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.  
 June 8 BALTIMORE Picnic Supper - Patapsco State Park 6:30 p.m. Courtship flight of Nighthawk in Soldiers Delight 8 p.m. Leaders: Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Rowe  
 June 11-12 ALLEGANY Precamp training, Western Maryland 4-H Center  
 June 11 ANNE ARUNDEL C. & O. Canal Barge or Bicycle Trip  
 June 13-18 ALLEGANY Junior Nature and Conservation Camp at Western Maryland 4-H Center  
 June 16 MONTGOMERY Monthly meeting  
 June 25-26 STATEWIDE Carey Run Sanctuary Anniversary Weekend.  
 June 28 PATUXENT Monthly meeting