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MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21209

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Active Membership: \$10.00 plus chapter dues	Life: \$400.00 (4 annual installments)
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Sustaining: \$25.00 plus chapter dues	

Cover: Tundra Swans on Choptank River, Cambridge, MD, February 1975. Photo by Luther C. Goldman.



NEW EARLY MARYLAND EGG DATE FOR NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

JAY M. SHEPPARD

The current earliest reported egg date for Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) for Maryland is May 13 (Iliff, et al., 1996). Considering that most Rough-wings nest in narrow burrows inaccessible to inspection by most observers, this is not surprising. I now report a confirmed egg date of May 2 as the earliest for this species in Maryland.

On June 5, 2003, I found a pair of swallows nesting under a parked semitrailer located behind the Corridor Place Shopping Center on the east side of Maryland City, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The nest site was in the underside structure of the front end of the semitrailer. Sheet metal was placed under the main floor of the trailer that allowed a series of small spaces running across the underside. Each of these had a hole near the outside edge of the trailer subfloor of about 15 cm in diameter. The subfloor compartment was 10 cm high and about 30 cm across and running the 2.5 m width of the semitrailer. Only one of the compartments was in use and it had no interior barrier, allowing the swallows to move from one side of the trailer and escape out the other side.

Two nests existed under the trailer when inspected in 2003. The nests were placed toward the center of the undercarriage from their nearest access hole. Both were composed of just grasses and were approximately 7 cm high, leaving about 3 cm of space above them. At the time of their initial discovery in 2003 only one nest was active and contained young about a week old.

In very early April 2004 a pair of Rough-winged Swallows was observed perched or flying in the immediate vicinity of the trailer. On April 29 the nests were inspected by inserting my hand through the holes and feeling the contents. At that time, no eggs were detected. In the late morning of May 5, four warm eggs were found in one of the nests, and an adult was flushed from that nesting space out the hole on the opposite side of the nest. If the last egg was laid and incubation started that morning, then the latest possible date for the first egg would be May 2.

The semitrailer has been permanently parked behind a bakery shop for extra storage since at least 2000. Exactly how long the swallows have been using it for nesting is not determinable. Only one pair of swallows was present in the area in June 2003, but two were present

in 2004. The one nest that was not in use in June 2003 had a clutch of eggs on May 20, 2004. Dejong (1996) mentions the use of semitrailers as nest sites in his life history account for this species but without any details or citation provided.

LITERATURE CITED

Dejong, M. 1996. Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*). *The Birds of North America*, No. 234 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C.

Iiff, M.J., R.F. Ringler, J.L. Stasz. 1996. *Field List of the Birds of Maryland*. Maryland Avifauna No. 2. Third Edition. Maryland Ornithological Society, Baltimore, MD.

3359 Cranberry South, Laurel, MD 20724; jmsheppar@aol.com

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER FISCAL YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2003

OPERATING FUND

Income:

Membership Dues	\$30,072.50
Sales	1,125.82
Environmental Fund of Maryland.....	2,616.65
Conference 2002 (Net).....	4,807.13
World Series of Birding	2,930.89
Income, Miscellaneous	28.00
Interest & Investment Income	<u>4,497.76</u>
<i>Total Income</i>	\$46,078.75

Expenses:

Affiliations, Memberships.....	\$ 275.00
Audit & Tax Preparation	2,050.00
Awards.....	654.20
Bulk Storage.....	2,270.60
Birdlife to CD	6,552.00
Conservation	350.00
Contingencies/Miscellaneous	56.65
Executive Secretary	2,400.00
Liability Insurance	3,624.00

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OPERATING FUND

Expenses (continued):

Maryland Birdlife.....	2,327.94
Maryland Yellowthroat.....	6,285.33
Membership Database Management.....	626.48
MOS Website.....	222.99
Officers Expense.....	355.70
Office Supplies, Postage, Copies.....	787.97
Retreat.....	1,531.66
Sales Tax.....	24.04
Scholarship Committee.....	286.34
Telephone.....	609.60
World Series of Birding Expenses.....	420.00
World Series of Birding Projects.....	2,510.89
Special Expense from 2001-02.....	<u>8,935.50</u>
<i>Total Expenses.....</i>	<i>\$43,156.89</i>

ATLAS FUND

<i>Income.....</i>	<i>\$16,913.16</i>
<i>Expense.....</i>	<i>\$35,828.66</i>

EDUCATION FUND

<i>Income.....</i>	<i>\$2,404.44</i>
<i>Expense.....</i>	<i>\$1,602.58</i>

NON-DESIGNATED FUND

<i>Income.....</i>	<i>\$913.69</i>
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RESEARCH FUND

<i>Income & Carryover.....</i>	<i>\$8,575.94</i>
<i>Expense.....</i>	<i>\$4,091.00</i>

SANCTUARY FUND

<i>Income.....</i>	<i>\$ 7,203.90</i>
<i>Expense & Maintenance.....</i>	<i>\$17,994.72</i>

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

<i>Income.....</i>	<i>\$7,946.68</i>
<i>Expense.....</i>	<i>\$7,680.00</i>

2002 CONFERENCE

<i>Income.....</i>	<i>\$38,486.50</i>
<i>Expense.....</i>	<i>\$33,679.37</i>

Shiras Guion, Treasurer



THE SEASON

REPORTS BY ROBERT F. RINGLER

OBSERVERS, ABBREVIATIONS & LOCATIONS IN THIS ISSUE

Observers: Joe Alexander, Terry Allen, George Armistead, Harry Armistead, Stan Arnold, Zach Baer, Tyler Bell, Debby Bennett (reporting for Caroline Co.), Anne Bishop, Mike Bowen, Debbie Bowers, Ed Boyd, Gwen Brewer, Jim Brighton, Dave Brinker, Carol Broderick, Don Broderick, Don Burggraf, Fred Burggraf, Danny Bystrak, Mike Callahan, Cathy Carroll, Rick Cheicante, J. B. Churchill, Barry Cooper, Jane Coskren, Keith Costley, Scott Crabtree, Patty Craig (reporting for St. Mary's Co.), Marty Cribb, Ralph Cullison, Jon Cupp, Dave Czaplak, Karen Darcy, Lynn Davidson, Curtis Dew, Tina Dew, Bill Dobbins, Marian Dodson, Sam Dyke, Les Eastman, Don Eberly, Ward Ebert, Andy Ednie, Bill Ellis, Walter Ellison, Ethel Engle, David Farner, Jean Fry (reporting for Harford Co.), Larry Fry, Inez Glime, Kevin Graff, Jim Gruber, Paul Guris, Matt Hafner, Sue Hamilton, Bill Harris, Clive Harris, Karen Harris, Tom Harten, Dave Harvey, Maureen Harvey, Kevin Heffernan, Robert Hilton, Mark Hoffman, Hans Holbrook, Emmalyn Holdridge, David Holmes, John Hubbell, Steve Huy, Marshall Iliff, Simone Jenion, Kye Jenkins, George Jett, Parke John, Ray Kiddy, Elliot Kirschbaum, Nancy Kirschbaum, Jane Kostenko, Charlie Kucera, Dave Larkin, Peter Lev, Glenn Lovelace, Gail Mackiernan, Nancy Magnusson, John Maloney, Peter Mann, Tom Marko, Joel Martin, Nancy Martin, Dave Mozurkewich, Sue Neri, Lou Nielsen, Michael O'Brien, Paul O'Brien, Peter Osenton, Bonnie Ott, Mary Paul, Dave Perry, Jim Peters, Paul Pisano, Betty Pitney (reporting for Tri-County Bird Club), Danny Poet, Fran Pope, Dave Powell, Phil Powers, Kyle Rambo, Jan Reese, Sue Ricciardi, Bob Ringler, Arlene Ripley, Les Roslund, Denise Ryan, Steve Sanford, Fran Saunders, Norm Saunders, Gene Scarpulla, Lydia Schindler, Bill Schreitz, Kurt Schwarz, Sharon Schwemmer, Bill Scudder, Fred Shaffer, Lisa Shannon, Jeff Shenot, Jay Sheppard, Don Simonson, Susan Sires, Adam Smith, Jo Solem (reporting for Howard Co.), Duvall Sollers, Jared Sparks, Chris Starling, Jim Stasz, Sigrid Stiles, Eva Sunell, Rick Sussman, Debbie Terry, Mary Ann Todd, June Tveekrem, Charlie Vaughn, Jason Waanders, Marcia Watson-Whitmyre, Dave Webb, Marsha Webb, Pete Webb, Sally Wechsler, Dave Weesner, Hal Wierenga, Jordan Wilkerson, Jim Wilkinson, Levin Wiley, Paul Woodward, Michele Wright, Helen Zeichner, Dave Ziolkowski.

Abbreviations: AA – Anne Arundel Co., AL – Allegany Co.; BA – Baltimore Co.; BC – Baltimore City; CBEC – Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center, QA; CE – Cecil Co.; CH – Charles Co.; CL – Carroll Co.; CN – Caroline Co.; CT – Calvert Co.; DC – District of Columbia; DO – Dorchester Co.; FR – Frederick Co.; GA – Garrett Co.; HA – Harford Co.; HO – Howard Co.; KE – Kent Co.; MO – Montgomery Co.; MPEA – Middle Patuxent Environmental Area, HO; NEA – Natural Environment Area; NRMA – Natural Resources Management Area; NWR – National Wildlife Refuge; PG – Prince George's Co.; PRNAS – Patuxent River Naval Air Station, SM; PRR – Patuxent Research Refuge, PG/AA; PVSP

– Patapsco Valley State Park; QA – Queen Anne’s Co.; RP – Regional Park; SM – St. Mary’s Co.; SO – Somerset Co.; SP – State Park; TA – Talbot Co.; UMCF – University of Maryland Central Farm, HO; WA – Washington Co.; WI – Wicomico Co.; WO – Worcester Co.; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; WWTP – Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Locations (followed by abbreviation of county): Aberdeen Proving Ground, HA; Alens Fresh, CH; Alpha Ridge Landfill, HO; American Chestnut Land Trust, CT; Anacostia Park, DC; Ashton, MO; Assateague Island, WO; Beauvue, SM; Bel Air, HA; Berlin, WO; Bethel WMA, CE; Beulah, DO; Big Pool, WA; Bivalve, WI; Black Hill RP, MO; Blackwater NWR, DO; Bladensburg, PG; Brighton Dam, HO/MO; Broadford Lake, GA; Browns Station Landfill, PG; California, SM; Cambridge, DO; Centennial Park, HO; Centerville, QA; Charlestown, CE; Chesapeake Farms, KE; Chingville, SM; Chino Farms, QA; Cliffs City, KE; Clopper Lake, MO; Cobb Island, CH; Columbia, HO; Conowingo Dam & Lake, HA/CE; Cornfield Harbor, SM; Courthouse Point WMA, CE; Cromwell Valley Park, BA; Cumberland, AL; Cylburn Arboretum, BC; Dameron, SM; Dans Mountain, AL; Darnestown, MO; Deal Island WMA, SO; Denton, CN; E. A. Vaughn WMA, WO; Eagles Nest Campground, WO; East Potomac Park, DC; Eastern Neck Island NWR, KE; Easton, TA; Eden Mill Park, HA; Edgewood, HA; Elk Neck SP, CE; Elkton, CE; Ellicott City, HO; Elliott Island, DO; Fairlee, KE; Fairmount WMA, SO; Federalsburg, CN; Fishing Bay, DO; Flag Ponds Park, CT; Fletchers Boathouse, DC; Font Hill Park, HO; Fort McHenry, BC; Fort Smallwood Park, AA; Four Mile Run, DC; Frederick, FR; Fulton, HO; Galena, KE; George Island Landing, WO; Great Falls, MO; Great Oak Pond, KE; Greenbelt, PG; Greenbrier SP, WA; Greensboro, CN; Grove Neck WMA, CE; Gunpowder River, HA/BA; Hains Point, DC; Halethorpe Ponds, BA/AA; Hance Point, CE; Harford Glen, HA; Hart-Miller Dredged Material Containment Facility, BA; Havre de Grace, HA; Henryton, HO/CL; Herrington Manor SP, GA; Holland Island, DO; Hooper Island, DO; Hughes Hollow, MO; Hurlock, DO; Indian Creek WMA, CH; Indian Head, CH; Irish Grove Sanctuary, SO; Jefferson Patterson Park, CT; Joppatowne, HA; Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, AA; Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, DC; Kenilworth Park, DC; Kent Island, QA; Kent Narrows, QA; Kingman Lake, DC; Lake Artemesia, PG; Lake Elkhorn, HO; Lake Kittamaquindi, HO; Lake Roland, BA; Lakeside Business Park, HA; Lapidum, HA; Layhill Park, MO; Laytonsville, MO; Leonardtown, SM; Liberty Lake & Watershed, CL/BA; Lilypons, FR; Little Bennett RP, MO; Little Meadows Lake, GA; Little Seneca Lake, MO; Loch Raven Reservoir & Watershed, BA; Massey, KE; Mattawoman Creek & NEA, CH; McKeldin Area PVSP, CL; Meadowbrook Park, HO; Mears Farm, BA; Middletown, FR; Millford Mill Park, BA; Millington, KE; Morgantown, CH; Mount Pleasant, HO; Mountain Lake & Mountain Lake Park, GA; Mt. Nebo WMA, GA; Mystic Harbour, WO; Nanjemoy Creek, CH; Nanticoke, WI; National Arboretum, DC; Nolands Ferry, FR; North Beach, CT; North East, CE; North Tract PRR, AA; Oak Grove, CN; Ocean City, WO; Ocean Pines, WO; Orange Grove Area PVSP, HO; Parsonsburg, WI; Patuxent River Park, PG; Pennyfield, MO; Perry Point, CE; Perryville, CE; Pickering Creek Audubon Center, TA; Piney Reservoir, GA; Piney Run Park, CL; Piscataway Creek, PG; Pocomoke City, WO; Point Lookout SP, SM; Poplar Island, TA; Port Tobacco, CH; Pylesville, HA; Queenstown, QA; Randallstown, BA; Ridge, SM; Ridgely, CN; Rigby’s Folly, TA; Rileys Lock, MO; Roaring Point, WI; Rock Creek Park, DC; Rockburn Branch Park, HO; Rocks SP, HA; Rocky Gap SP, AL; Roosevelt Island, DC; Rumbly Point, SO; Salisbury, WI; Sandy Point SP, AA; Schooley Mill Park, HO; Scotland, SM; Seneca, MO; Silver Spring, MO; Snow Hill, WO; Soldiers Delight, BA; Solomons, CT; South Point, WO; St. Michaels, TA; Susquehanna SP, HA; Swan Harbor Farm, HA; Sycamore Landing, MO; Sykesville, CL; Tanyard, CN; Taylors Island, DO; Taylors Landing, WO; Terrapin Nature Area, QA; Tidal Basin, DC; Tilghman Island, TA; Trout Run WWTP,

GA; Truitts Landing, WO; Tuckahoe SP, CN/QA; Tunis Mills, TA; Turkey Point, CE; Upper Marlboro, PG; Upper Watts Branch Park, MO; Violettes Lock, MO; Waldorf, CH; Wango, WI; Washington Channel, DC; Washington Monument SP, WA; West Ocean City, WO; Westminster, CL; Wilde Lake, HO; Williamsport, WA; Wootons Landing, AA; Wye Island, QA; Wye Research Center, QA.

WINTER: DECEMBER 1, 2002–FEBRUARY 28, 2003

The featured events of this winter were associated with snow. At times it was bitterly cold; Chesapeake Bay froze. Heavy snows forced many birds that normally might not have been seen to roadsides or feeders; as a result some species were seen in remarkable numbers. Waterfowl were crowded into a limited number of locations by the encroaching ice.

Loons, Grebes. On Dec. 8 on Chesapeake Bay off Point Lookout Cribb saw nine **Red-throated Loons** and 44 **Common Loons**. A Common Loon was unusual in mid winter off Perry Point on Jan. 14 (Starling). A high of 60 **Pied-billed Grebes** was seen at Loch Raven on Dec. 8 (Terry) and 20 were off Four Mile Run on Jan. 14 (Bowen). Sightings of **Red-necked Grebes** were numerous with one at Kent Narrows on Jan. 1-14 (Poet +), one at Ocean City from Jan. 24 through the end of the period (Stasz, Boyd +), one at Jug Bay on Feb. 12-14 (Shenot +), one on the Potomac River in Montgomery off Riverbend Park, Virginia on Feb. 14 (D. Tella +), four at Fort McHenry on Feb. 14 (Peters), one at Point Lookout on Feb. 19-21 and another on Feb. 25-27 (Cribb +), and one at Ridge on Feb. 27 (Craig). The only **Eared Grebe** of the season was seen on the Lower Kent County CBC on Dec. 15 (Gruber).

Gannets, Pelicans, Cormorants. Cribb counted 277 **Northern Gannets** on Chesapeake Bay off Point Lookout on Dec. 8 and on Jan. 9 Craig saw three from the latter site. **Brown Pelicans** remained longer into the winter than ever before, particularly in the lower Chesapeake. Cribb saw 14 pelicans at Cornfield Harbor on Dec. 4 and three days later 41 were counted at Point Lookout (P. Webb, Sanford); one was at Poplar I. on Dec. 13 (Reese) and one was at Sandy Point on Dec. 28 (Shaffer). Laura Balascio saw an immature Brown Pelican at North East on Dec. 29; the one found dead at Charlestown about two miles away, during the first week of January (*vide* Gary Griffith) was probably the same bird. The last pelican seen at Ocean City was on Dec. 30 (Joe Byrnes). On the lower Nanticoke River 15 pelicans were seen at Nanticoke on Jan. 5 (Vaughn) and 14 were at Bivalve on Jan. 15 (Dyke). An immature Brown Pelican was a surprise soaring over Pickering Creek on Jan. 17 (Roslund, Mark Scallion). Finally, five Brown Pelicans were at Point Lookout on Feb. 23 (Cribb) and Feb. 28 (Craig). Surprising numbers of **Double-crested Cormorants** remained through the winter, topped by the 150 found by Jett on Jan. 16 on the Potomac River in Charles Co. between Popes Creek and Cobb I. Others of note were one at Flag Ponds on Dec. 19 (Ripley), one at Indian Head on Dec. 29 (Ringler), one at North East on Dec. 30 (Starling), two in DC on the Potomac River off National Airport on Jan. 1 (Hubbell +), six at Salisbury on Jan. 25 (Vaughn), one at Lapidum on Feb. 9 (Larkin), and one at Cliffs City on Feb. 21 and Mar. 2 (Ellison). Sightings of **Great Cormorants** included one at Ocean Pines on Jan. 4 and five at Ocean City on Jan. 4-5 (Hafner, Baer), one at Point Lookout on Jan. 8 (Craig), and one at Salisbury on Jan. 25-26 (Vaughn, Jenion, Dyke).

Hérons, Ibis, Vultures. The only **American Bitterns** reported were two at Deal Island WMA on Jan. 1 (Brighton) and one at Taylors Landing on Feb. 8 (Holbrook, Brighton). Con-

centrations of **Great Blue Herons** were 36 at Elliott I. on Jan. 26 (H. Armistead), 30 on the ice at Perry Point on Jan. 30 (Starling), and 15 at Great Falls on Feb. 14 (Bowen). Late herons included a **Great Egret** at Point Lookout on Dec. 23 (Craig, Cribb), a **Snowy Egret** at Saint Lawrence Neck, WO on Jan. 5 (Hafner, Baer), and a **Little Blue Heron** at West Ocean City on Dec. 6 (C. & D. Broderick). Wintering **Tricolored Herons** were one at Ocean City on Feb. 8 (Arnold) and six at Deal Island WMA on Feb. 13 (Dyke). On Feb. 1 Hubbell counted 22 **Black-crowned Night-Herons** at the north end of Washington Channel. At least 12 **Glossy Ibis** were at Deal Island WMA on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer). In Garrett Co., six **Black Vultures** at Pleasant Valley on Feb. 8 and Feb. 18 (Irene & Samuel Yoder) were rare there as were five **Turkey Vultures** at Kempton on Jan. 9 (Pope).

Geese, Swans. A **Greater White-fronted Goose** was seen in the Piscataway area around the National Colonial Farm from Dec. 29 through Jan. 30 (Brewer +), one was in Charles Co. on Jan. 22 (Craig, Cribb), and two were seen on Jutland Neck, SM on Feb. 28 (Craig); possibly the same two were 10 miles farther north at PRNAS on Mar. 2 (Rambo +). Unusual inland were seven **Snow Geese** at Meadowbrook on Feb. 1 (Brigitte Lund, Anita Picco) and five, including one blue, at Little Seneca Lake on Feb. 2 (C. Harris); also notable were 24 at Scotland on Feb. 18-19 (Craig). Reports of **Ross's Geese** in Worcester Co. may have represented only two birds as the sightings were not far apart; one near Berlin on Dec. 8 (Kevin Krogh) and these on Jan. 5: two near Snow Hill (Hafner, Baer), one near Boxiron (Brighton), and two near Ironshire, WO (Holbrook, Brighton, Starling). Sightings of small race **Canada Geese** were one at Rigby's Folly on several dates from Dec. 15 through Mar. 15 (H. Armistead +), one on Kent I. on Dec. 19 (Mackiernan, Cooper), one at Chesapeake Farms on Jan. 16 (Ellison), four at Little Seneca Lake on Jan. 20-26 with one remaining on Feb. 2 (C. Harris +), one at Wye I. on Feb. 14 (B. & K. Harris), and one near Blackwater and six at Easton on Feb. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton). The only **Brant** away from the coast were an immature at Greenbelt Lake on Dec. 2-28 (Shaffer +) and one at Point Lookout on Mar. 1 (Holbrook, Brighton). Notable inland **Mute Swans** were one at Lake Elkhorn all season (Neri +) and two adults at Piney Run on Jan. 11-19 (Ringler). Mute Swans at Chesapeake Bay locations included 50 at Solomons on Jan. 10 (Stiles) and 120 at Kent I. on Jan. 12 (Ellison, N. Martin). Highs for **Tundra Swans** were 800 at Perry Point on Dec. 6 (Starling) and 385 at Eastern Neck on Jan. 25 (Ellison).

Dabbling Ducks. A mixture of lingering **Wood Ducks** and early spring migrants were two at Flag Ponds on Dec. 19 (Ripley), one at E. A. Vaughn WMA on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer), two at Sycamore Landing on Jan. 21 (Woodward), two at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman), one at Cambridge on Feb. 1 (Roslund), one at CBEC on Feb. 8 (Dodson +), two at Liberty Lake, BA on Feb. 9 (Ringler), seven at PRNAS on Feb. 13 (Rambo), 24 at Rock Creek Park on Feb. 17 (Ryan), and a drake throughout the season at Lake Elkhorn (Neri +). Highs for **Gadwall** were 200 at Flag Ponds on Dec. 19 (Ripley), 123 at Perry Point on Dec. 29 (Starling), 42 at Galena on Jan. 7 (Ellison), and 114 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman). Single drake **Eurasian Wigeon** were at Mattawoman NEA from Nov. 29 through Dec. 22 (Jett, Brewer +), Swan Harbor Farm on Jan. 2 (Hafner), and on Assateague as seen from Eagles Nest on Jan. 5 (Hafner, Baer). Highs for **American Wigeon** were 300 at Loch Raven on Dec. 21 (Arnold) and 262 at Perry Point on Dec. 29 (Starling). Highs for **American Black Ducks** were 350 at Mattawoman Creek on Dec. 7 (Jett) and 250 at Eastern Neck on Jan. 25 (Ellison). Highs for **Mallards** were 500 at Mattawoman Creek on Dec. 7 (Jett) and 500 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman). A hybrid **American Black Duck X Mallard** was at Perry Point on Jan. 11 (Starling). Wintering **Blue-winged Teal** were single males at Showell, WO on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer), Elliott Island on Jan. 20 (Jenkins), and Westminster through Feb. 1 (Ringler). About 70 **Northern Shovelers** were at Mattawoman Creek on Dec. 7 (Jett)

and 93 were at Chesapeake Farms on Jan. 4 (Ellison +). Highs for **Northern Pintails** were 410 at Mattawoman Creek on Dec. 7 (Jett), 106 at Great Oak Pond on Dec. 24 (Ellison), and 125 at Wye Island on Jan. 5 (B. & K. Harris). A hybrid drake **Mallard X Northern Pintail** was in St. Mary's Co. on Jan. 8 (Craig). On Dec. 7 Jett also counted 143 **Green-winged Teal** at Mattawoman Creek.

Diving Ducks. Highs for **Canvasbacks** were 400 at Perry Point on Dec. 6 (Starling), 1,200 at Eastern Neck on Jan. 4 (Ellison +), and 100 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman). Notable numbers of **Redheads** were 117 at Loch Raven on Dec. 24 (Graff, Paul Noell), 20 at Little Seneca Lake on Jan. 19 (Bowen), 100 at Piscataway on Jan. 20 (Waanders, Philip Kline), 12 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman), and 57 at Rigby's Folly on Feb. 9 (H. Armistead). Highs for **Ring-necked Ducks** were 2,000 at Piney Run on Dec. 1 (Ringler), 400 at Great Falls and 300 at Clopper Lake on Dec. 7 (Bowen), 515 at Loch Raven on Dec. 18 (E. Kirschbaum, Graff), 109 at Perry Point on Dec. 29 (Starling), and 72 near Centreville on Feb. 26 (Poet). Interesting reports of **Greater Scaup** were two at Marshall Hall, CH on Dec. 7 (Jett, Allen Browne), five at Perry Point on Dec. 16 (Starling), 1,100 at Eastern Neck on Jan. 4 (Ellison +), three in DC off Gravelly Point on Jan. 14 (Bowen), 45 at Cobb I. on Jan. 16 (Jett), one at Havre de Grace on Feb. 9 (Larkin), two at Elkton on Feb. 24 (Starling), and 100 at Kent Narrows on Feb. 26 (Holbrook). Highs for **Lesser Scaup** included 4,800 in Chesapeake Bay from Tolchester Beach, KE to Eastern Neck on Dec. 13 (Ellison), 2,500 at Poplar I. on Dec. 13 (Reese), and 240 in DC off Gravelly Point on Jan. 2 (Pisano). An immature male **Common Eider** was at Sandy Point, WO on Jan. 5 (Holbrook, Brighton, Starling) and a female was at Ocean City on Feb. 2 (Roslund +). The **Harlequin Duck** previously reported at Point Lookout remained at least through Jan. 9 (Cribb +); a male was at Ocean City from Jan. 1 through Feb. 15 (Brighton +) and a female was there on Jan. 4 (Baer). Two female Harlequin Ducks flew past Assateague on Jan. 25 (Hafner, Stasz, Boyd). A female **Surf Scoter** at Fort McHenry on Jan. 27-30 (Peters) was unusual there. Reports of **White-winged Scoters** were at least 50 at Poplar I. on Dec. 13 (Reese), two on the Potomac River, PG on Jan. 28 (R. Mayhorn), and five at Point Lookout on Feb. 14 (Craig). A **Black Scoter** off Taylors Island on Feb. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton) was unusual also. The high for **Long-tailed Ducks** was 140 at Eastern Neck on Dec. 18 (Ellison); others at unexpected locations were one at Loch Raven on Dec. 15 (Terry), a drake at Greenbrier SP on Dec. 24 (Weesner), a drake at Conowingo Lake on Jan. 2 (Hafner), and a drake on the Potomac River above Williamsport on Feb. 3 (Robert Klarquist). Highs for **Buffleheads** were 200 at Eastern Neck on Jan. 4 (Ellison +), 300 on the Potomac River, CH on Jan. 16 (Jett), and 150 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman). There were 150 **Common Goldeneye** at Eastern Neck on Jan. 4 (Ellison +). Notable numbers of **Hooded Mergansers** were 114 at Mattawoman Creek on Dec. 7 (Jett, Allen Browne), 96 at Loch Raven on Dec. 24 (Graff, Paul Noell), 50 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman), and 41 at Scotland on Feb. 13 (Cribb). **Common Mergansers** at unusual locations were a male at George Island Landing on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer), two at Beauvue on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 (Craig +), one female at Harper Creek, PRNAS on Jan. 31 (Rambo), and one at Ocean City on Feb. 1 (C. & D. Broderick). Common Mergansers concentrated as ice froze out birds from scattered sites peaking with 440 at Brighton Dam on Dec. 28 (Sheppard), 5,000 at the mouth of the Susquehanna River, CE/HA on Jan. 18-19 (Starling +), 200 at Piscataway on Jan. 20 (Waanders, Philip Kline), 80 at Kentmore Park, KE on Feb. 2 (Ellison, N. Martin), 150 in Talbot Co. opposite Gainey's Wharf on Feb. 2 (Lovelace), 2,000 at Charlestown on Feb. 23 (John), and 84 on the Chester River, KE/QA on Feb. 23 (Brighton). The high for **Red-breasted Mergansers** was 77 at Cliffs City on Feb. 21 (Ellison). Flocks of **Ruddy Ducks** included

2,000 at Poplar I. on Dec. 13 (Reese), 350 at Eastern Neck on Jan. 4 (Ellison +), and 400 at CBEC on Jan. 12 (Ellison).

Diurnal Raptors, Pheasant. An **Osprey** lingered through Dec. 15 at Brighton Dam (Sussman); early spring migrants were one on the Miles River, TA on Feb. 24 (*vide* Roslund), one at Patuxent River Park on Feb. 28 (Shenot), and one at Vienna, DO on Feb. 28 (Farner). The only reports of **Northern Goshawks** were an immature at Fort McHenry on Dec. 4–9 (Peters, Costley) and an immature at Takoma Park, MO on Jan. 21 (Kerry Stone). A dark morph **Red-tailed Hawk** was seen in Wicomico Co. near Vienna on Dec. 23 (Dyke) and a partial albino was southeast of Pocomoke City on Jan. 25 (Hafner, Stasz, Boyd). It was a good season for **Rough-legged Hawks**; those seen away from traditional wintering areas were one dark morph at E. A. Vaughn WMA on Dec. 2 (C. & D. Broderick), one at Dans Mountain on Dec. 7 (Sires, Kiddy, Churchill), one at Capitola, WI on Jan. 20 (C. & D. Broderick), one light morph near the Glades, GA on Jan. 20 (Kevin Dodge), one at Street, HA on Jan. 24 (Bowers), one at Truitts Landing on Feb. 1 (C. & D. Broderick), one light morph near Trout Run on Feb. 8 (Pope), and one near Middletown on Feb. 9 (Huy). The only **Golden Eagles** seen away from Blackwater were one at Dans Mountain on Dec. 7 (Sires) and a sub-adult near Langford, KE on Dec. 21 (Ellison +). Gregory Inskip reported six Golden Eagles wintering in southern Dorchester Co. this year. Reports of **Merlins** after the CBCs were one at PRNAS on Jan. 13 (Rambo), one at Perry Point through Jan. 17 (Starling), at least two at Hains Point on Jan. 20 (Mackiernan), one at Indian Creek WMA on Feb. 2 (Jett +), one south of Middletown through Feb. 10 (Huy), one at Scotland on Feb. 18 (Craig), and one near Violettes Lock on Feb. 28 (Simonson). Single **Peregrine Falcons** were seen at Conowingo Dam on Dec. 21–30 (Greg Futral +), near Clarksville, HO on Dec. 24 (Harry Fink), near Galena on Jan. 2 (Mann), at Silver Spring on Jan. 8 (Bob Elvander), and at Black Hill RP on Jan. 18 (Rob Pauline). A **Ring-necked Pheasant** at the National Colonial Farm, PG on Feb. 8 (Shaffer +) was unusual.

Coots, Shorebirds. Concentrations of **American Coots** were 300 at Piney Run on Jan. 11 (Ringler), 400 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman), and 1,500 at Loch Raven on Feb. 2 (Jenkins). Two **Semipalmated Plovers** were very rare at Tilghman Island on Dec. 17 (Roslund). Rare in winter a **Piping Plover** was seen at Eagles Nest on Jan. 24 (Stasz, Hafner, Boyd). Wintering **Greater Yellowlegs** were 17 at Elliott Island on Dec. 30 (Arnold) and nine near Berlin on Jan. 6 (C. & D. Broderick). A **Lesser Yellowlegs** was at George Island Landing on Dec. 2 (C. & D. Broderick), two were at E. A. Vaughn WMA on Jan. 25 and one at Elliott Island on Jan. 26 (Hafner, Stasz, Boyd). An unusually high number of 18 **Willetts** was on Assateague on Jan. 5 including both subspecies but mostly westerns (Holbrook, Brighton, Starling). A **Marbled Godwit** was sighted at Ocean City on Feb. 1 (John Bjerke +). Two **Red Knots** remained at Ocean City on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer). Sightings of **Sanderlings** included 40 at Poplar Island on Dec. 13 (Reese), 16 at Flag Ponds on Dec. 19 (Ripley), 36 at Scotland on Dec. 19 (Craig +), one at Sandy Point SP on Dec. 19 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and 61 at PRNAS on Feb. 19 (Rambo). Late **Least Sandpipers** were one at Scotland on Dec. 6 (Craig) and three at Poplar I. on Dec. 13 (Reese). A **Purple Sandpiper** was at Scotland on Dec. 6–22 (Craig +) and 50 were at Poplar I. on Dec. 13 (Reese). **Dunlins** numbered 155 at PRNAS on Dec. 4 with 22 there on Feb. 13 (Rambo), 40 at Poplar I. on Dec. 13 (Reese), 20 at Tilghman I. on Dec. 17 (Roslund), 330 near Libertytown, WO on Jan. 6 (C. & D. Broderick), five at Point Lookout on Jan. 28 (Cribb), and 25 at Blackwater and 240 near Lewis Wharf, DO on Feb. 23 (H. Armistead). Single **Long-billed Dowitchers** were at Truitts Landing on Jan. 5 (Holbrook,

Brighton, Starling) and near Berlin on Jan. 6 (C. & D. Broderick). Migrant **American Woodcocks** were noted on Feb. 22, one at Dentsville, CH (F. Burggraf) and two at Taylors Island (Holbrook, Brighton).

Gulls, Terns, Razorbill. Among the **Laughing Gulls** at Upper Marlboro on Dec. 1 was one in breeding plumage (Mozurkewich). Late Laughers were two off Point Lookout on Dec. 8 (Cribb), several at Flag Ponds on Dec. 8 (Hamilton), three at Upper Marlboro on Dec. 17 (Shaffer), and one at Scotland on Dec. 19 (Craig +); two early spring migrants were at Ocean City on Feb. 25 (Dyke). The only **Little Gull** of the season was an adult at Ocean City on Feb. 25 (Dyke) and Mar. 8 (Czaplak, Todd). The only **Black-headed Gull** of the season was at Ocean City on Feb. 17 (C. & D. Broderick). Highs for **Bonaparte's Gulls** were 300 flying over Upper Marlboro on Dec. 1 (Mozurkewich), 2,739 in Chesapeake Bay off Point Lookout on Dec. 8 (Cribb), and 300 at Point Lookout on Feb. 16 (Cribb); unusual inland were six flying down the Potomac River at Sycamore Landing on Jan. 21 (Woodward). Highs for **Ring-billed Gulls** were 2,000 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman) and 6,105 in southern Dorchester Co. on Feb. 23 (H. Armistead). A **Herring Gull** on the Potomac River at Weverton, WA on Jan. 9 (Perry) was unusual; 750 were at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman). Single first-winter **Thayer's Gulls** were at Beulah on Jan. 13 (Hafner) and the Charles Co. Landfill on Feb. 14 (Jett). Single first-winter **Iceland Gulls** were seen at Blackwater on Jan. 4 (Holbrook, Brighton), Beulah from Jan. 4 through Feb. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton +), Browns Station on Jan. 10 (Ricciardi, Hafner), Charles Co. Landfill on Jan. 20 (Jett, Brewer), Ocean City on Jan. 25 (Stasz, Hafner, Boyd), Jug Bay on Feb. 15 and Mar. 1 (Bystrak), and Assateague on Feb. 19 (Fran & John Juriga). Multiple numbers of **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were three at Upper Marlboro on Dec. 17 with one remaining to Mar. 4 (Shaffer), two adults at the Worcester Co. Central Landfill on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer), four at Beulah from Jan. 13 through Feb. 1 (Hafner +) with 10 (three first-winter, one second-winter, three third-winter, three adults) on Mar. 1 (C. Harris), two adults at Browns Station Landfill on Jan. 10 (Ricciardi, Hafner), two at Anacostia Park on Feb. 1 (Hubbell), and two adults at Tanyard on Feb. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton). Lessers at other locations included one at Brighton Dam on Jan. 1-2 (Heffernan, Darcy +), an adult at the Somerset Co. Landfill on Jan. 26 (Hafner, Stasz, Boyd), and single second-winter birds at Salisbury and Berlin on Mar. 1 (C. Harris). Single first-winter **Glaucous Gulls** were at Brighton Dam on Jan. 1 (Heffernan, Darcy, Schwarz), Ocean City on Jan. 18 (Czaplak, Todd), Assateague on Jan. 24 (Stasz, Hafner, Boyd), and Upper Marlboro on Feb. 3 (Shaffer). Highs for **Great Black-backed Gulls** were 228 at Havre de Grace on Jan. 25 (Eastman) and 700 at Betterton, KE on Feb. 11 (Ellison). The **Kelp Gull** at Sandgates, SM was seen throughout the period (Kostenko +). A **Black-legged Kittiwake** was seen at Ocean City on Jan. 25 (Stasz, Hafner, Boyd) and on Feb. 17 (Dyke). Notable **Forster's Terns** were 21 in Chesapeake Bay off Point Lookout on Dec. 8 (Cribb), one near Ragged Point, DO on Jan. 4 (Holbrook, Brighton), and one at Scotland on Jan. 15 (Craig). A **Razorbill** was seen at Ocean City from Feb. 21 through Mar. 5 (Ross Gallardy +).

Owls, Hummingbirds, Phoebe, Shrikes, Vireo. A **Snowy Owl** was seen at Dans Mountain on Dec. 7 (Sires) and one was reported near North Glade, GA on Feb. 3 or 4 (*vide* Pope). A **Long-eared Owl** was found in Montgomery Co. on Dec. 14 (Mackiernan, Cooper). Top sightings of **Short-eared Owls** were six at Blackwater on Dec. 30 (Arnold), five at PRNAS on Jan. 22 (Rambo), three at Elliott I. on Jan. 26 (H. Armistead), and three at Deal Island WMA on Feb. 8 (Arnold). A **Rufous Hummingbird** visited a feeder near Claiborne, TA for at least two weeks through Dec. 15 (*vide* Roslund) and one was at a feeder at Welcome, CH from early December through mid January (*vide* Jett). Wintering **Eastern Phoebe**s included single

birds near Finksburg, CL on Jan. 18 (Ringler), at Wye Research Center on Jan. 22 (Poet), at Snydersburg, CL on Jan. 22 (Schwemmer), at Hughes Hollow on Jan. 28 (Woodward), and at Lake Elkhorn on Feb. 1 (Michelle Stewart, Barry Miller). Reports of **Loggerhead Shrikes** were one near Darnestown on Dec. 12 (Czaplak), one at Sharpsburg, WA on Dec. 13 (Wilbur Hershberger), and one near Friendsville, GA on Jan. 1 and Mar. 9 (Courtney Englar). A **Blue-headed Vireo** was seen at Hickory Point, WO from Dec. 30 through Jan. 25 (Hoffman +).

Crows, Larks, Swallows, Nuthatches, Wrens. The 5,575 **American Crows** at Mountain Lake Park on Dec. 14 (Pope) made an impressive tally for Garrett Co. About 120 **Fish Crows** were at Beulah on Feb. 1 (Ellison+). Flocks of **Horned Larks** included 310 near Chewsville, WA on Dec. 8 (Weesner), 125 at Scotland on Dec. 12 (Cribb), 400 near Ridgely on Jan. 13 (Hafner, Baer), 200 near Lilypons on Jan. 18 (P. Webb +), and 330 near Massey on Feb. 7 (Ellison); a leucistic lark was seen at Bruceville, TA on Feb. 7 (Brighton). About 75 wintering **Tree Swallows** were seen at Deal Island WMA on Jan. 11 (C. & D. Broderick) and six early spring migrants were at Blackwater on Feb. 23 (H. Armistead). On Jan. 12 Craig and Bishop found eight **Brown-headed Nuthatches** east of Broomes Island, CT. Wintering **House Wrens** were single birds near Berlin and near Girdletree, WO on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer), the former still being seen on Mar. 9 (Ellison, N. Martin), near Taylors Landing on Jan. 5 (Holbrook, Brighton, Starling), and near Reeses Corner, KE on Jan. 25 (Ellison). Hafner and Baer found the following **Sedge Wrens**: one at Truitts Landing and one at E. A. Vaughn WMA on Jan. 4 and one at Saint Lawrence Neck, WO on Jan. 5. Three **Marsh Wrens** were at Assateague on Jan. 5 (Hafner, Baer) and one was at CBEC on Feb. 8 (Dodson +).

Robins, Mimids, Pipits, Waxwings. **American Robins** invaded the state in huge numbers during January when birds that were continuing south collided with birds that were migrating north earlier than usual. Among the notable flocks seen were 250 at the National Arboretum on Jan. 11 (Pisano +), 300 at Eldersburg, CL on Feb. 2 (Ringler), and 400 at Soapstone Valley, DC on Feb. 18 (Waanders). **Gray Catbirds** wintered in above average numbers this season. Among the many reports were two near Taylors Landing on Jan. 5 (Holbrook, Brighton, Starling), one at Cromwell Valley Park on Jan. 9 (Georgia McDonald), one at Wye Island on Jan. 10 (B. & K. Harris), one at Rock Creek, MO on Jan. 16 (Toni Hartman), two at Hughes Hollow on Jan. 28 (Woodward), one at Indian Creek WMA on Feb. 2 (Jett +), two at Havre de Grace on Feb. 9 (Larkin), one at Tunis Mills on Feb. 10 (Roslund), one at PRNAS on Feb. 19 (Rambo), two at Point Lookout on Feb. 20 (Craig), and one at Terrapin on Feb. 23 (Ringler +). A **Northern Mockingbird** was north of Oakland, GA on Jan. 23 (Pope). Multiple sightings of **Brown Thrashers** this winter were two at Elliott Island on Jan. 26 (H. Armistead), three at Indian Creek WMA on Feb. 2 (Jett +), two at Bay View, WO on Feb. 8 (Arnold), 12 in southern Kent Co. on Feb. 21 (Ellison), and one near Easton and one near Trappe, TA on Feb. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton); others of note were one at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Feb. 1 (Hubbell), one at MPEA on Feb. 7 (Holbrook) through Mar. 12 (Ott +), one at CBEC on Feb. 8 (Dodson +), one at Denton on Feb. 17 (Bennett), one near Havre de Grace on Feb. 18 (Eastman), one at Federalsburg on Feb. 19 (Glime), and one at Dentsville, CH for a few weeks in February (F. Burggraf). Flocks of **American Pipits** this winter included 60 at PRNAS on Dec. 5 (Rambo), 35 at Kenilworth Park on Dec. 28 (Hilton, Pisano), 52 at Chesapeake Farms on Jan. 4 (Ellison +), 72 at New Windsor, CL on Jan. 18 (Ringler), 60 at Chaptico, SM on Jan. 22 (Craig, Cribb), 150 at Wye Island on Jan. 30 (Poet), and 60 at Scotland on Feb. 26 (Craig). A **Cedar Waxwing** with an orange-tipped tail was seen at PRNAS on Dec. 31 (Craig). Flocks of waxwings included 100 at the National Arboretum on Jan. 11 (Pisano +) and 185 at Rigby's Folly on Feb. 9 (H. Armistead).

Warblers. Single **Orange-crowned Warblers** were at Scotland on Dec. 14 (Craig), Upper Marlboro on Jan. 9 (Shaffer), and Elk Neck, CE through Jan. 24 (Charlie Gant +). A **Nashville Warbler** at Herring Run Park, BC on Dec. 8 (E. & N. Kirschbaum) was a late migrant and one seen at Cherry Hill Park, BC on Dec. 28 (Bob Rineer, Dave Walbeck) and again on Jan. 17 (Costley) was attempting to winter. Wintering **Pine Warblers** included three at Parsonsburg from Jan. 11 through February (Pitney), one female at Hance Point on Feb. 3 (Starling), three at Dameron from Feb. 15 through the end of the period (Craig), and three near Chingville on Feb. 16 and four there on Feb. 28 (C. & T. Dew). An immature female **Prairie Warbler** was seen at Eagle Cove, PG on Nov. 25 and Dec. 16 (*vide* Ringler). Sightings of **Palm Warblers** were five (including both subspecies) near Oak Grove on Dec. 15 (Lovelace), one western at California on Jan. 5 (Rambo), two westerns at Newark, WO on Jan. 5 (Hafner, Baer), one at Wye Island on Jan. 10 (B. & K. Harris), and one western near Ridge on Jan. 28 (Cribb). Wintering **Common Yellowthroats** included one at Fort McHenry from Dec. 6 into January (Peters +), one near Ironshire, WO on Jan. 5 (Hafner, Baer), and one at Point Lookout on Jan. 21 (Cribb).

Sparrows, Longspurs, Snow Buntings. **American Tree Sparrows** on the Coastal Plain were one at Greensboro on Feb. 7-10 (Scudder), one near Berlin on Feb. 20 (C. & D. Broderick), one at Taylors Island on Feb. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton), one near Golts, KE on Feb. 23 (Brighton), one at Kings Landing Park, CT on Feb. 25 (Harten), one near Centreville and six near Barclay, QA on Feb. 26 (Holbrook), and one at Waldorf on Feb. 28 (Jett). Sightings of **Chipping Sparrows** included one at Bradenbaugh, HA on Jan. 4 (Dennis Kirkwood), one in Howard Co. on Jan. 6 (Lisa Colangelo), two near Manchester, CL on Jan. 18 (Schwemmer), 18 at Denton on Jan. 29 (Steve Westre), one at Swansfield, Columbia on Feb. 15-17 (Tveekrem), one at Tunis Mills on Feb. 17 (Roslund), four at Parsonsburg on Feb. 17 (Pitney), one at Croom, PG on Feb. 26 (Harten), and two near Chingville on Feb. 28 (C. & T. Dew). One **Clay-colored Sparrow** was seen near Berlin from Dec. 28 through Mar. 9 (Stasz +) and two were there from Jan. 4 through Feb. 8 (Hafner, Baer +). There were few reports of wintering **Vesper Sparrows** with two at E. A. Vaughn WMA on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer), one near Denton on Feb. 9 (Holbrook, Brighton), one near Berlin on Feb. 20 (C. & D. Broderick), and one near Golts, KE on Feb. 23 (Brighton). Thirteen **Savannah Sparrows** were at Wye Island on Jan. 5 (B. & K. Harris) and 95 in northern Kent Co. on Feb. 15 (Ellison, N. Martin). The only **Le Conte's Sparrow** of the season was at E. A. Vaughn WMA on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer). A **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** was seen at Flag Ponds on Dec. 10 (Ripley, Bystrak) and another was at Assateague on Jan. 5 (Hafner, Baer). The only **Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow** reported was at E. A. Vaughn WMA on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer). The only **Seaside Sparrow** reported was at Fairmount WMA on Jan. 26 (Hafner, Stasz, Boyd). Notable **Fox Sparrows** were two at Rigby's Folly on Feb. 9 (H. Armistead), one at Federalsburg on Feb. 11 (Glime), one at Mariner Point Park, HA on Feb. 12 (Powers), nine near Melitota, KE on Feb. 15 (Ellison, N. Martin), and an astounding 75 in the Point Lookout/Scotland area on Feb. 17 (Craig, Cribb). **Lincoln's Sparrows** are rarely reported in winter but one was at Layhill on Dec. 14 (Sussman), one near Girdletree, WO on Jan. 4 (Hafner, Baer), one at Parkton, BA on Jan. 25 (E. & N. Kirschbaum), and one near Berlin on Mar. 8 (Czaplak, Todd). A partial albino **White-throated Sparrow** spent its second winter at Hancock, WA through Mar. 10 (Smith). There were two reports of **Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow**, one at Scotland on Dec. 14 (Craig) and one at Chesapeake Farms from Dec. 21 through Jan. 4 (Ellison +). An immature **Harris's Sparrow** was seen at a feeder near Manchester, CL from Jan. 18 through Mar. 7 (Schwemmer +) and, according to the residents, may have been present since December. Single Oregon subspecies of **Dark-eyed Junco** were reported at E. A. Vaughn WMA on Dec. 28 (M. O'Brien), Pocomoke City on Jan. 25 (Stasz, Hafner, Boyd), and Queenstown on Feb.

16-28 (Poet). There were many reports of **Lapland Longspurs** including one near Hurlock on Dec. 5 (Brighton), three near Chewsville, WA on Dec. 8 with one remaining to Jan. 4 (Weesner), 24 at PRNAS on Dec. 16 (Rambo +), three near Lilypons on Jan. 18 (P. Webb +), 24 near Ridgely on Jan. 18 (Poet, Diane Cole), one near Ironshire, WO on Feb. 8 (Holbrook, Brighton), one near Massey on Feb. 15 (Ellison, N. Martin), four at Scotland on Feb. 19 with two into early March (Craig, Cribb), one near Queenstown on Feb. 23 (Ringler +), one near Golts, KE on Feb. 23 (Brighton), one near Ruthsburg, QA on Feb. 26 (Poet), one near Millington on Feb. 26 (Holbrook), and one in Howard Co. south of Sykesville on Mar. 3-9 (Wilkinson +). Reports of **Snow Buntings** included three at Fort McHenry on Dec. 10 (Peters, Costley), 34 at Poplar I. on Dec. 13 (Reese), one at Fulton on Dec. 14 (Osenton, Solem), three at Flag Ponds on Dec. 19 (Ripley), one at Takoma Park, MO on Feb. 17-18 (Tim Male), one near Massey on Feb. 23 (Brighton), and 18 near Ridgely on Feb. 23-26 (Scudder).

Cardinaline Finches, Icterids, Cardueline Finches. A leucistic female **Northern Cardinal** was at Jefferson Patterson Park for about a week in late January (Bell). An immature male **Painted Bunting** was at a feeder at Rio Vista, St. Michaels on Dec. 2-16 (Jean Crump +). Harry Armistead noted the arrival of **Red-winged Blackbirds** at Rigby's Folly on Feb. 9 with 22 males, many singing. Reports of **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** were a female at Oak Grove on Dec. 15 (Lovelace) and a female at Churchville, HA on Dec. 28 (D. Webb, Mike Burchett, Jean Wheeler). There were 35 **Rusty Blackbirds** at Jesterville, WI on Jan. 10 (C. & D. Broderick). The only **Brewer's Blackbird** of the season was a female near East New Market, DO on Feb. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton). An aberrant **Common Grackle** with two white tail feathers was at California on Feb. 17 (Bell). About 530 **Brown-headed Cowbirds** were at Broad Neck, KE on Dec. 12 (Ellison, N. Martin). Reports of wintering **Baltimore Orioles** were one at Eutaw Forest, CH from November into March (*vide* Jett), an immature at Susquehanna SP on Jan. 2 (Hafner), one at Lock 38, C&O Canal, WA on Jan. 9 (Perry), and an adult male near Warfieldsburg, CL from January through the end of the period (Richard Jones +). **Common Redpolls** were scarce with two at Tanyard on Dec. 7 (Engle), one at Timberleigh, HO on Dec. 9 (Diane Nagengast), and one at Darnestown on Feb. 24 (Simonson). **Pine Siskins** were also scarce with one at Herrington Manor SP on Jan. 31 (Pope) and one at Blackwater on Feb. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton).

Exotics. An apparent hybrid **Greylag Goose X Canada Goose** was at Lake Needwood, MO on Dec. 7 (Marko). A **Harris's Hawk** being flown by a falconer at Terrapin on Feb. 9 caused some short-lived excitement (B. & K. Harris). Two **Nutmeg Mannikins** appeared at a Bel Air feeder from November through Jan. 15 (Cheicante).

SPRING MIGRATION: MARCH 1–MAY 31, 2003

The extremely wet weather that marked much of this season resulted in many late passerine migrants including some into June. Record numbers of Red-necked Grebes produced the major highlight of the season.

Loons. **Red-throated Loons** around the Chesapeake Bay region included two at Solomons on Mar. 1 (Holbrook, Brighton), one at Eastern Neck on Mar. 2 and five there on Mar. 23 (Ellison, N. Martin), one on the Miles River, TA on Mar. 2-11 (Roslund +), one at Port Tobacco on Mar. 8 (Jett, Brewer), two at Bivalve and one at Tyaskin, WI on Mar. 15 (Ringler), four at Elliott Island on Mar. 22 (Ellison, Mann), three at Fort McHenry on Apr. 2 (Peters +), one on the Potomac River in DC on Apr. 3-6 (Hubbell +), one at Edgewood on Apr. 4 (Eastman), one at Grove Neck on Apr. 6 (John +), three at Jonas Green SP, AA on Apr. 11 (Smith), one at CBEC on Apr. 12 (Mann +), three at Fort Smallwood on Apr. 19 (Ricciardi +), one at Jug Bay on Apr. 19 (Mozurkewich), one at Tyaskin, WI on Apr. 19 (Brighton), one at Crystal Beach, CE on Apr. 25 (Ellison), and one at Morgantown on Apr. 26 (Jett, Brewer +). At the coast 30 Red-throateds were at Ocean City on Mar. 9 (Ellison, N. Martin), eight at Truitts Landing on Apr. 6 and 45 flew over Mystic Harbour on Apr. 13 (N. & F. Saunders); a late bird flew by Eagles Nest on May 30 (Hafner). Piedmont reports of Red-throateds were one at Lake Roland on Apr. 1-5 (E. Kirschbaum +) and five at Loch Raven on Apr. 13 (Terry). **Common Loons** that were probably wintering included one at PRNAS on Mar. 2 (Rambo +), one at Perry Point on Mar. 5 (Starling), 30 at Ocean City on Mar. 5 (Vaughn, Jenion), and one at Claiborne, TA on Mar. 11 (Roslund). The first inland migrant Common Loon was at Centennial Park on Mar. 22 (Ott, Arnold +). Elsewhere this was followed by fly-over numbers of 42 on Apr. 12 and 55 on Apr. 13 at Fort Smallwood (Ricciardi +), 100 at Kent Narrows on Apr. 16 (Nielsen), and 40 at UMCF on Apr. 19 (Ott). Lingered migrants on May 29 were one at Centennial (Bob Solem, Tveekrem), one at Pylesville (J. & L. Fry), and four at Poplar Island (Reese); another was at Ocean City on May 30 (Hafner).

Pied-billed & Horned Grebes. Late **Pied-billed Grebes** were one at Chesapeake Farms on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin) and two at Lake Elkhorn on May 22 (Coskren, Solem). Concentrations of **Horned Grebes** were 33 off South Pt. on Mar. 9 (Ellison, N. Martin), 57 in Eastern Bay, QA on Mar. 16 (Crabtree), 10 at Rocky Gap on Mar. 22 (Arnold), 80 at Fort Smallwood on Mar. 23 (Ricciardi +), 44 at Eastern Neck on Mar. 23 (Ellison, N. Martin), and 32 off Rigby's Folly on Apr. 13 (H. Armistead); late were one at Loch Raven on May 14 (Jenkins) and two at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese).

Red-necked Grebes. The fallout of **Red-necked Grebes** this spring topped all previous years. After the typical February arrivals, birds appeared throughout the state with unprecedented numbers on the Potomac River. Reports were too numerous to mention all, but here are the most significant for each county: In Worcester County the peak of 13 at Ocean City was seen on Mar. 9 (Holmes). The only Somerset County report was of one at Rumbly Point and one at Crisfield on Mar. 30 (Holbrook, Brighton). In Dorchester County three were at Madison and one at Elliott Island on Mar. 7 and a late bird was at Hooper Island on May 12 (Willey). In Talbot County seven were at Poplar Island on Mar. 12, two remaining on May 29 (Reese). In Queen Anne's County seven were at Kent Narrows on Mar. 16 and one late bird at Wye Island on May 1 (Poet). The high for Kent County was four at Eastern Neck on Mar. 29 (Mann +); another was at Great Oak Pond on Apr. 18 (Ellison). In St. Mary's County two were at Point Lookout on Apr. 16 (Cribb). In Calvert County four were at Lower Marlboro on

Mar. 12 (Ripley) and the last was one at Solomons on May 1 (Hamilton). In Charles County nine were at Smallwood SP on Mar. 8 and one at Cobb Island on May 3 (Carol Gheblian +). In Prince George's County on Mar. 8 Mozurkewich saw three on the Potomac River south of National Harbor and five at Piscataway, and Jack Saba found four on Lake Artemesia; a late bird was at the mouth of Piscataway Creek on May 25 (Deanna Dawson). In Anne Arundel County seven were on Jug Bay on Mar. 1 (Bystrak), five were at Sandy Point SP on Mar. 8 (Scott Baron, Jason Platt), four were on Furnace Creek on Mar. 8 (Dodson), and one was at Stoney Beach on Apr. 20 (Ringler). In Baltimore 13 were at Fort McHenry on Mar. 4 (Peters) and in Baltimore County nine were at Loch Raven on Apr. 6-13 (Terry, Jenkins, Lev), one of which remained to the 27th (Terry). On the Susquehanna River, HA/CE 11 were seen from Lapidum and another 11 were on Conowingo Lake on Mar. 17 (Iliff, G. Armistead). Also in Harford County were three at Pylesville on Mar. 22-23 (J. & L. Fry), seven at Havre de Grace on Apr. 6 (Nielsen), and two at Lapidum on May 28 (Hafner). Additional Cecil County reports were nine at Perry Point on Mar. 5 and one at Chestnut Point on May 28 (Starling). In DC 23 were in the Washington Channel on Mar. 13 (Holmes) and a late bird was off Daingerfield Island on May 24 (Bill Cross). In Howard County one was at Lake Elkhorn from Mar. 22 through Apr. 12 (Arnold +) and one was on Stone Lake through May 10 (Osenton). In Carroll County three were at Piney Run and one at Westminster Reservoir on Mar. 23 with two remaining at the former site on Apr. 25 (Ringler). Montgomery took top honors for numbers with 116 at Seneca on Mar. 6 (Czaplak), 30 at Little Seneca Lake on Mar. 17 (Weesner), one on Seneca Creek from May 15 through June 1 (Czaplak +), and one on Clopper Lake through June 8 (Powell). Four birds were at the mouth of the Monocacy River in Frederick County on Mar. 2 (Holbrook, Brighton). Perry found Red-necked Grebes scattered across Washington County on Mar. 18 with six at Dam #4, four at Dam #5, two at Williamsport, two at Big Pool, and two at Dargan Bend; other reports were 15 at Williamsport on Mar. 5 (Shirley Ford), one at Greenbrier SP on Mar. 22 (Weesner), 12 at Big Pool on Mar. 23 (Alexander), and a late one at Williamsport on May 10 (Weesner). In Allegany County four were at Cumberland on Mar. 1-8 (Kiddy +) and three at Rocky Gap on Mar. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton). Garrett County reports were three at Jennings Randolph Lake on Mar. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton) and one at Deep Creek Lake on Mar. 27 (Pope). None was reported from Caroline or Wicomico counties.

Tubenoses, Gannets. On the Mar. 15 pelagic trip 105 **Northern Fulmars** were seen in Maryland waters (Guris +). On a May 31 pelagic trip 92 **Greater Shearwaters**, 560 **Sooty Shearwaters**, and 82 **Wilson's Storm-Petrels** were seen in Maryland waters (Ednie +). **Northern Gannets** entered the Chesapeake in good numbers again this spring with notable reports of six at Point Lookout on Mar. 1 (Holbrook, Brighton), 114 off Roaring Point on Mar. 29 (Dyke), 12 in Harris Creek, TA on Mar. 30 (Roslund +), six off Rumbly Point on Mar. 30 (Holbrook, Brighton), nine off Flag Ponds and six off North Beach on Apr. 8 (Ripley), 63 at PRNAS on Apr. 10 (Rambo), two off CBEC on Apr. 12 (Mann +), five off Rigby's Folly on Apr. 13 and one there on the 27th (H. Armistead), and three off Poplar Island on Apr. 18 (Reese). At Ocean City on May 23 Powell and Sollers saw at least 30 gannets and 10 were seen on the May 31 pelagic trip (Ednie +).

Pelicans, Cormorants. Five **American White Pelicans** were seen from Leesylvania SP, Virginia on the Potomac River in Charles County waters on May 12-14 (Laura Catterton +). Norm Saunders saw a **Brown Pelican** flying up Sinepuxent Bay, WO on Mar. 22, one at Fort McHenry on Apr. 21 (Peters) was extraordinary, and one at Cobb Island on Apr. 26 (Jett, Brewer +) was notable. Notable sightings of **Double-crested Cormorants** were nine flying up the Potomac River, DC on Mar. 5 (Pisano) and 160 doing the same on Mar. 29 (Jed Kusterer), 140 at Great Shoals Light, WI on Mar. 15 (Ringler), two at Point Lookout and eight

at Leonardtown on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis), two at Broadford Lake on Mar. 23 (Pope), birds occupying 11 nests at Cabin John, MO on Mar. 30 (C. Harris), 32 at Loch Raven on Apr. 6 (Terry, Jenkins, Lev), seven flying over Randallstown on Apr. 12 (Costley), 15 at Noland's Ferry on Apr. 12 (Churchill, Kiddy), thousands at Conowingo Dam on Apr. 20 and hundreds there on May 31 (Eastman), 2,000 at Ocean City on Apr. 26 (Hoffman +), 214 at Joppatowne on May 5 (Ziolkowski), and 23 at Lake Kittamaquondi on May 24 (Martha Chestem). The last **Great Cormorants** of the season were single birds seen on Apr. 27 at Ocean City (N. & F. Saunders) and Susquehanna Flats, CE (Starling).

Herons, Ibises. American Bitterns were reported from 18 locations including two at Hughes Hollow on Apr. 10 (Powell) and Apr. 16 (Hubbell), three at Harford Glen on Apr. 26 (Cheicante), and single late birds at Mears Farm on May 14 (Arnold, Kucera), Elliott Island on May 18 (H. Armistead), and near Bridgetown, QA on May 25 (Hilary & Ken Staver). The first **Least Bittern** of the season was found at Patuxent River Park on Apr. 18 (Holbrook), one was heard at Hughes Hollow on May 1-10 (Simonson +), one was at Tanyard on May 16 (Holbrook), one was captured in East Columbia on May 19 but later died (P. Webb), and one was heard at Sandy Point SP on May 27-28 (Schreitz). Migrant **Great Blue Herons** included six flying over Soldiers Delight on Mar. 22 (Costley), seven flying into Piney Run on Mar. 23 (Ringler), and seven flying past Fort Smallwood on Apr. 25 (Ricciardi +). Early **Great Egrets** were 14 at Deal Island WMA on Mar. 15 (D. Burggraf), two at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Mar. 16 (Mackiernan, Cooper), one at Ocean City on Mar. 16 (Arnold), one on Catoctin Creek near Middletown on Mar. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton), one at Piney Run on Mar. 23 (Ringler), one at Hughes Hollow on Mar. 24 (Woodward), and one at Lake Elkhorn on Mar. 24, three there on May 10 and one remained to May 23 (Neri +). Willey counted 101 Great Egrets at Blackwater on Apr. 4 and the best inland counts were four each at Loch Raven on Apr. 6 (Terry, Jenkins, Lev) and Harford Glen from Apr. 26 through May 11 (Cheicante +); late birds were one at Chesapeake Farms on May 17 (Ellison), two at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Arnold), and one at Swan Harbor Farm on May 29 (Cupp). Most remarkable were Czaplak's sightings near Sandy Hook, WA where three birds were seen on Apr. 26 and two occupied nests were found on May 3 on an island in the Potomac River. The only inland **Snowy Egret** was at Lake Elkhorn on May 10 (Wilkinson, Jane & Ralph Geuder); others of note were one at North East on Apr. 25 (Starling), one at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on May 1 (Paul), and one at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). Willey saw the first **Little Blue Heron** of the season at Blackwater on Apr. 4; one flying over Rock Creek Park on May 2 (Mackiernan, Cooper) was extraordinary. The first **Tricolored Heron** of the season was at Blackwater on Mar. 22 (Ellison, Mann). Cribb saw the first **Cattle Egret** of the year at Scotland on Mar. 22; also of note were 12 at Warwick, CE on Apr. 25 (Ellison), one at Fulton on Apr. 27 (Wilkinson +), and one at Anacostia Park on May 17 (Pisano, Bowen). Early **Green Herons** were single birds at Centennial on Apr. 3 (Holdridge), Ashton on Apr. 4 (Sussman), Lake Needwood, MO on Apr. 8 (Marko), and Tuckahoe SP, QA on Apr. 12 (Ellison, N. Martin). Maryanne Dolan reported on Mar. 17 that 75 **Black-crowned Night-Herons** had returned to nest sites at the National Zoo, DC. Other Black-crowns of note were one at Lake Elkhorn on Mar. 27 (Michelle Stewart), one heard flying over Waldorf on May 6 (Jett), two flying over Middletown on May 11 (Alexander), one at Oak Grove on May 18 (Lovelace), and seven at Conowingo Dam on May 31 (Eastman). Single early **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** were seen at Mystic Harbour on Mar. 22 (N. Saunders), Lochearn, BA on Mar. 26 (P. Webb), and Sligo Creek, MO on Mar. 27 (Kerry Stone); others included one at Ocean City on Apr. 26 (Hoffman +), one at Hughes Hollow on May 10-19 (Woodward), and one at Mears Farm on May 20 (Arnold, Kucera). **Glossy Ibis** made widespread appearances including three birds flying over Scotland on Mar. 24 (Cribb, Craig), 17 at Blackwater on Apr. 4 (Willey), 27 at Truitts Landing on Apr. 6 (N. &

F. Saunders), 25 on Kent Island on Apr. 9 (B. Harris), two at Perry Point on Apr. 11 and three there on the 13th (Starling), one at Bladensburg on Apr. 13 (Callahan +), two near Dameron on Apr. 14 (Stiles), one flying over Fort McHenry on Apr. 16 (Peters +), 85 at Newark, WO on Apr. 26 (Hoffman +), three flying over Sykesville on Apr. 27 (D. Harvey), one flying over Hughes Hollow on Apr. 29 (Hubbell), two flying over Allens Fresh on May 17 (Jett, Brewer), and one at Hart-Miller that remained through May 31 (Scarpulla +).

Geese, Swans. Migrant **Snow Geese** at unusual locations were three, including two blues, at College Park, PG on Mar. 3 (Hafner), two at Mountain Lake, GA on Mar. 7 (Pope), 15 at Clarksville, HO on Mar. 10 (Wilkerson), and 70, including one blue, flying over Webster, HA on Mar. 16 (M. Webb). Three broods of downy young **Canada Geese** were at Blackwater on Apr. 27 (H. Armistead). The 25 **Brant** at Eagles Nest on May 23 (Powell, Sollers) were late in migrating. Interesting reports of **Mute Swans** were five on the Potomac River opposite Williamsport on May 5 (Shirley Ford), five at Spesutie Narrows, HA on Mar. 15 (D. Webb), a pair courting at Solomons on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis), and a nest with four eggs in the Gunpowder River Marsh, HA on May 4 (Ziolkowski). The last flock of **Tundra Swans** reported was of 120 birds over Marriottsville, HO on Mar. 16 (Cullison); unusually late were one immature on Savage River Reservoir, GA on May 4 (Pope) and two at Allens Fresh on May 17 (Jett, Brewer).

Dabbling Ducks. High counts of **Gadwall** were 86 at Beauvue on Mar. 1 (Holbrook, Brighton) and 49 at Elliott Island on Mar. 22 (Ellison, Mann); late birds were a pair at Halthorpe Ponds, BA through May 12 with the male seen through May 28 (Brian Sykes) suggestive of attempted breeding. Highs for **American Wigeon** were 115 at Loch Raven on Mar. 11 (Paul Noell, John Landers) and 50 at Courthouse Point WMA on Mar. 16 (Watson-Whitmyre); late was a drake near Blackwater on May 18 (H. Armistead, Willey). The first **Blue-winged Teal** of the season were one at Easton on Mar. 9 (Allen +), one at Chain Bridge, DC on Mar. 15 (Hubbell), and two at Hughes Hollow on Mar. 22 (Simonson) and a late migrant male was at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). There were 84 **Northern Shovelers** at Chesapeake Farms on Mar. 23 (Ellison, N. Martin) and eight at Centennial on Apr. 7 (Ott); late were two at Great Oak Pond on Apr. 26 (Ellison) and an immature male at Hains Point on May 17 (Pisano). Estimates of **Northern Pintail** flocks included 250 at Oak Grove on Mar. 1 (Lovelace), 200 at Blackwater on Mar. 1 (Alexander), and 200 at Courthouse Point WMA on Mar. 16 (Watson-Whitmyre); late were a pair at Blackwater on May 18 (H. Armistead, Willey). **Green-winged Teal** peaked at 285 at Blackwater on Apr. 10 (H. Armistead) and a late male was near there on May 18 (H. Armistead, Willey).

Diving Ducks. The 118 **Canvasbacks** at Piney Run on Mar. 23 (Ringler) made an unusually high inland count and late migrants were two on Fishing Bay on May 10-18 (H. Armistead +). Interesting reports of **Redheads** were 27 at Beauvue on Mar. 1 (Holbrook, Brighton), an unusually light-colored individual at Loch Raven on Mar. 5 (John Landers +), 185 at Piscataway Creek on Mar. 8 (Mozurkewich), 545 at Hoopersville, DO on Mar. 9 (H. Armistead), 50 at Loch Raven on Mar. 9 (Terry +), and one lingering on Clopper Lake on May 25 (Powell). Highs for **Ring-necked Ducks** were 151 at Loch Raven on Mar. 15 (Lev), 48 at Aberdeen Proving Ground on Mar. 16 (D. & M. Webb), 100 at Courthouse Point WMA on Mar. 16 (Watson-Whitmyre), 100 at Beauvue on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis), 89 near Burkittsville, FR on Mar. 17 (Weesner), 109 at Liberty Lake, CL on Mar. 22 (Gail Frantz), and 167 at Hughes Hollow on Mar. 24 (Woodward). Interesting reports of **Greater Scaup** were seven at Mountain Lake, GA on Mar. 7 (Pope), four males in the Tidal Basin on Mar. 11 (Bowen), two at Pylesville on Mar. 18-23 (J. & L. Fry), one at Piney Run on Apr. 6 (Ringler),

two at Chesapeake Farms on May 17-18 (Ellison, N. Martin), one at Clopper Lake on May 26 (Powell), and two, including one leucistic bird, at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). Paula Sullivan estimated at least 4,000 **Lesser Scaup** on Mar. 9 on Piscataway Creek. Late Lessers were one at Hance Point on May 6 (Starling), two on Fishing Bay on May 18 (H. Armistead), one at Worton Landing, KE on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin), and one at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). An immature male **Common Eider** was seen at Ocean City through Mar. 22 (Sussman) from earlier. A drake **Harlequin Duck** flew by Ocean City on Mar. 15 (Ellison +) and a drake was seen at Point Lookout from Apr. 23 through May 1 (Fred Pierce +). Interesting sightings of **Surf Scoters** were one at Fort McHenry on Mar. 2 (Brighton, Holbrook), 535 on the Choptank River off Rigby's Folly on Apr. 13 with 17 remaining on May 27 (H. Armistead), three off Assateague on May 18 (Holbrook, Brighton), an adult male at Clopper Lake on May 18-26 (Powell +), and 17 at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese). Reports of **White-winged Scoters** were few with a drake at Seneca on Mar. 2 (Czaplak), four at Eastern Neck on Mar. 7 (Ellison, Mann), an immature at the Mouth of the Monocacy, FR on Mar. 8 (Ringler +), one at Fort McHenry on Mar. 10 (Peters), four at Point Lookout on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis), two at North Beach on Apr. 8 (Ripley), five at Rocky Gap on May 17 (Churchill), and one at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese). Reports of **Black Scoters** were even fewer with 200 at Point Lookout on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis), one female on Fishing Bay on May 18 (H. Armistead), and one at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese). Interesting reports of **Long-tailed Ducks** were one on the Potomac River in DC and PG as seen from Jones Point, Virginia on Mar. 1 (Hilton, Shannon), a female at Point of Rocks, FR on Mar. 2 (Brighton, Holbrook), 125 at Eastern Neck on Mar. 2 (Ellison, N. Martin), two at Greenbrier SP on Mar. 20 (Weesner), four on Clopper Lake on Apr. 5 (Powell), and three at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese). Flocks of **Buffleheads** included 250 at Eastern Neck on Mar. 23 (Ellison, N. Martin), 300 off Assateague on Apr. 5 (N. & F. Saunders), and 250 at Truitts Landing on Apr. 6 (N. & F. Saunders); late were two at Lake Elkhorn on May 21-26 (Wilkinson +). About 80 **Common Goldeneyes** were also at Eastern Neck on Mar. 23 (Ellison, N. Martin). A female **Hooded Merganser** with two downy young was seen near Elkridge, HO on Apr. 28 (Maloney), another female with 5-7 young was at Chino Farms in late April or early May (Harry Sears), and a female with four downy young was at West Ocean City on May 4-18 (Powell +). About 5,000 **Common Mergansers** were off Charlestown on Mar. 2-3 (John, Starling) and on Mar. 8 flocks of 200 were on Piscataway Creek (Mozurkewich) and at Mattawoman NEA (Jett); late were six at Hance Point on Apr. 20 (Starling) and four at Deal Island WMA on Apr. 25 (C. & D. Broderick). The best numbers of **Red-breasted Mergansers** were 100 off Assateague on Mar. 1 (Alexander), 70 at Cliffs City and 24 at Eastern Neck on Mar. 2 (Ellison, N. Martin), 21 on Piscataway Creek on Mar. 8 (Mozurkewich), 20 at Mattawoman NEA on Mar. 8 (Jett), 24 in the Tidal Basin and 12 in the Washington Channel on Mar. 11 (Bowen), and 14 on Broadford Lake on Apr. 14 (Pope). Late Red-breasteds were three at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese), a female near Blockhouse Point, MO on May 30 (Bob Mumford), and six at Eagles Nest on May 30 (Hafner). Concentrations of **Ruddy Ducks** included 500 at Leonardtown on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis), 400 on St. Jeromes Creek, SM on Mar. 17 (Stiles), and 900 on Fishing Bay on Mar. 22 (Ellison, Mann); late were one at Chesapeake Farms on May 17-18 (Ellison, N. Martin) and three on Fishing Bay on May 18 (H. Armistead).

Diurnal Raptors. **Ospreys** appeared early this year including single birds at Sharptown, WI on Mar. 1 (Brinker), Conowingo Dam on Mar. 11 (Bill Collins), Big Pool on Mar. 22 (Arnold), and Piney Run on Mar. 23 (Ringler); another lingered to May 31 at Lake Elkhorn (Wilkinson) and one was soaring over McHenry, GA on June 1 (Pope). Reports of **Swallow-tailed Kites** were one at Fort Smallwood on Mar. 24 (Ricciardi), another there on May 2 (Ralph Geuder), and one at Marydel, CN on May 14 (*vide* Roslund). Three **Mississippi**

Kites were seen at Fort Smallwood on May 12 (Ricciardi +). An adult Bald Eagle was at Broadford Lake on Apr. 28 (Pope) and a nest with two young was at Loch Raven on Apr. 29 (Gail Frantz). Two **Northern Harriers** at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Arnold) were late. The only report of **Northern Goshawk** was one at Cumberland on Mar. 22 (Holbrook, Brighton). A dark-morph **Broad-winged Hawk** was seen at Darnestown on Apr. 19 (Simonson); a late migrant Broad-wing was at Blackwater on June 2 (H. Armistead). On Mar. 23, 16 **Red-tailed Hawks** were seen migrating at UMCF (Ott +). **Rough-legged Hawks** were widely reported with one dark morph near PRNAS on Mar. 1 (Holbrook, Brighton), one light morph at Rising Sun, CE on Mar. 3 (Starling), one dark morph at Bestpitch, DO on Mar. 9 (H. Armistead), one dark morph at Oakland, GA on Mar. 14 (Pope), one at Irish Grove on Mar. 15 (D. Burggraf), and two light morphs at Elliott Island on Mar. 22 (Ellison, Mann) and one there on the 30th (Holbrook, Brighton). The only **Golden Eagles** noted were an immature at Blackwater on Mar. 9 (H. Armistead), one at Hughes Hollow on Mar. 9 (Woodward), and one at Drayden, SM on Mar. 13 (Rambo). On Apr. 24 Rambo counted 23 **American Kestrels** migrating at PRNAS. Among the numerous reports of migrant **Merlins** were one at Herrington Manor SP on Apr. 15 (Pope) and one at Rock Creek Park on May 8 (Mackiernan, Cooper). Notable sightings of **Peregrine Falcons** were one at Oak Grove on Apr. 13 (Lovelace), one at UMCF on Apr. 28 (Ott, Solem), one at Waldorf on May 4 (Jett), and one at Layhill on May 21 (Cooper, Ott +).

TABLE 1:
MIGRANT VULTURES & DIURNAL RAPTORS, SPRING 2003
FORT SMALLWOOD PARK, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
Compiled by Sue Ricciardi

SPECIES	FIRST	LAST	TOTAL	BIG DAYS
Black Vulture	2/13	5/17	183	28 on 4/23, 14 on 3/9 & 3/23
Turkey Vulture	2/13	6/4	4,164	1,457 on 3/23, 226 on 3/15
Osprey	3/7	5/30	521	57 on 4/24, 52 on 4/14
Swallow-tailed Kite	3/24	5/2	2	
Mississippi Kite	5/12		3	3 on 5/12
Bald Eagle	3/14	5/31	57	9 on 5/12
Northern Harrier	3/8	5/14	107	14 on 4/6, 13 on 4/15
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2/20	5/20	2,232	252 on 4/29, 228 on 4/23
Cooper's Hawk	3/5	5/30	503	43 on 5/1, 31 on 4/16
Northern Goshawk	3/14		1	
Red-shouldered Hawk	3/5	4/24	190	54 on 3/12, 37 on 3/9
Broad-winged Hawk	4/13	5/31	1,390	391 on 4/23, 253 on 4/24
Red-tailed Hawk	3/3	5/30	302	44 on 3/9, 24 on 3/23
American Kestrel	3/9	5/20	315	52 on 4/15, 36 on 4/6
Merlin	3/5	5/14	77	15 on 4/24, 11 on 4/27
Peregrine Falcon	4/3	5/1	4	also 1 on 4/6 & 4/25
Unidentified			44	
TOTAL	2/13	6/4	10,095	1,612 on 3/23, 855 on 4/23

Coverage: 329 hours of observation on 63 days

Pheasants, Turkeys, Rallids, Crane. A male **Ring-necked Pheasant** at Sykesville on Mar. 15 (D. & M. Harvey) has become a rarity there; six were at Taylors Island on Mar. 16 (H. Armistead). On Mar. 11 Cribb saw seven **Wild Turkeys** at Scotland. Hoffman noted two **King Rails** at Truitts Landing on Apr. 26 and one was heard at Tanyard on May 17 (Holbrook, Brighton). Three **Virginia Rails** were noted at Irish Grove on Mar. 15 (D. Burggraf). Late migrating **Soras** were one at Eastern Neck on May 10 (Floyd Parks), one near Vienna, DO on May 10 (H. Armistead +), one at Lakeside on May 10 (Larkin), and one at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +). Unexpected single **Common Moorhens** were found at Hughes Hollow on Apr. 27 (Powell), Font Hill on May 10-14 (Karan & Bill Blum +), and Ocean City on May 18 (Holbrook, Brighton). On Mar. 12 Bill Pope saw a **Sandhill Crane** in flight near Oakland, GA.

Plovers, Oystercatchers, Stilts, Avocets. The 130 **Black-bellied Plovers** seen at Eagles Nest on Mar. 9 (Ellison, N. Martin) were wintering birds; early migrants were one at Poplar Island on Apr. 18 (Reese) and one at Oak Grove on Apr. 27 (Lovelace). Peak numbers of Black-bellieds were 196 in Kent Co. (mostly in fields near Fairlee and Massey) on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin) and 139 near Powellville, WI on May 30 (Hafner); unusual were five at Scotland on May 20 (Stiles) with one remaining on May 22 (Rambo). The first **Semipalmated Plovers** of the season were three at Assateague on Apr. 26 (Hoffman); of local interest were 40 at Blackwater, 12 at Elliott Island, and 20 at Bestpitch, DO on May 18 (H. Armistead, Willey), six at Mountain Lake on May 19 (Pope), 12 at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo), four at Oak Grove on May 22 of which three remained on the 25th (Lovelace), and 13 at Swan Harbor Farm on May 23 (Hafner). Two **Piping Plovers** were seen on Assateague on Apr. 8 (C. & D. Broderick). The only flock of **Killdeer** remaining from winter to be reported was 50 at Scotland on Mar. 10 (Cribb). **American Oystercatchers** in Chesapeake Bay included two at Poplar Island from Apr. 18 into May and three there on June 4 (Reese) and one at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). Reports of **Black-necked Stilts** included one at Elliott Island on Mar. 23 (Hilton, Shannon), 17 there on Apr. 24 (Holmes), one at Truitts Landing on May 4 (Powell), and five near Blackwater on May 16 (Holbrook). Six **American Avocets** were seen at Eagles Nest on Mar. 22 (John +) and one at Salisbury on May 18 (Dyke).

Sandpipers. One **Greater Yellowlegs** was at Rumbly Point on Mar. 15 (D. Burggraf); highs were 60 near Blackwater on Mar. 22 (Ellison, Mann), 63 at Oak Grove on Apr. 14 (Lovelace), 25 at Pickering Creek on Apr. 16 (Nielsen), and 23 at Elliott Island on Apr. 24 (Holmes); late were one at UMCF on May 26 (Ott, Solem) and two at Swan Harbor Farm on May 26 (Hafner). Similar reports for **Lesser Yellowlegs** were one at Blackwater on Mar. 22 (John +), 57 at Elliott Island on Apr. 24 (Holmes), 40 at Pickering Creek on May 5 (Roslund), 94 at Poplar Island on May 13-14 (Reese), one at UMCF on May 26 (Ott, Solem), and two at Swan Harbor Farm on May 29 (Cupp). A **Solitary Sandpiper** at Scotland on Mar. 27 (Cribb) was early; late birds were one at Elkton on May 19 (Tuomo Niemenen, Starling), one at Scotland on May 20 (Cribb), one at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +), three at Fulton on May 26 (Ott, Holdridge), and one at Swan Harbor Farm on May 29 (Cupp). On the coast one displaying Eastern **Willet** was at Ocean City on Mar. 16 (Baer, Hafner) and one was at Eagles Nest on Mar. 22; the high was 300 at Assateague on May 18 (Holbrook, Brighton). Chesapeake Bay sightings of Willets included two at Poplar Island on Apr. 18 (Reese), one at Point Lookout on Apr. 19 (Cribb), and one at Rigby's Folly on May 17 (H. Armistead). The first **Spotted Sandpiper** of the season was at Lake Elkhorn on Apr. 14 (Ott +); other reports included 10 at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on May 17 (Bowen), three at Swan Harbor Farm on May 29 (Cupp), and 37 at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese). The only reports of **Upland Sandpipers** were two at Trout Run on May 2 (Pope) and one heard at Mount Pleasant on May 4 (Ott, D.

Harvey). Flocks of **Whimbrels** were 110 at Assateague on May 18 (Holbrook, Brighton), 12 flying over Scotland on May 20 (Cribb), and 70 flying over UMCF on May 21 (Ott, Solem, Holdridge); one bird was at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +) and one at Holland Island on June 6 (H. Armistead +). A **Marbled Godwit** was seen at Eagles Nest on Mar. 22 (John +). **Ruddy Turnstones** numbered two at Elliott Island on May 18 (H. Armistead), 25 near Massey and Galena on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin), one at Scotland on May 19-20 (Cribb +), 19 at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese), and 88 near Wango on May 30 (Hafner), an impressive total for an inland location. The only reports of **Red Knot** were one at Assateague on May 18 (Holbrook, Brighton) and one at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). Flocks of **Sanderlings** on Chesapeake Bay were 13 at Flag Ponds on Apr. 8 (Ripley) and 58 at Poplar Island on Apr. 18 (Reese). Flocks of **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were very impressive with 950 at Blackwater and another 850 near there on May 18 (H. Armistead, Willey), 29 at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo), 2,984 at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +), 38 at Swan Harbor Farm on May 26 (Hafner), and 2,600 at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese). Single **Western Sandpipers**, very rare in spring, were at Hart-Miller on May 7 (Scarpulla), Pickering Creek on May 17 (Holbrook, Brighton), and near Dameron on May 20 (Stiles). **Least Sandpipers** began with two near Blackwater on Mar. 16 (H. Armistead) and continued with 170 at Pickering Creek on May 10 (Roslund), 225 at Blackwater plus 100 near there and another 30 at Bestpitch, DO on May 18 (H. Armistead, Willey), 27 at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo), 17 at Oak Grove on May 22 (Lovelace), 35 at Swan Harbor Farm on May 29 (Cupp), eight at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese), several at Wango on May 30 (Hafner), and one at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). All reports of **White-rumped Sandpipers** were from the Chesapeake Bay region with one near Blackwater on May 3 and five there on May 10 (H. Armistead +), three at Rumbly Point on May 12 (C. & D. Broderick), two at Pickering Creek on May 14 (Roslund), four there on May 16-17 (Holbrook), two near Eastern Neck on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin), one at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo), one at Swan Harbor Farm on May 23-29 (Hafner +), nine at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +), 10 at Poplar Island on May 29, and one there on June 4 (Reese), and three at Blackwater on June 2 (H. Armistead). **Pectoral Sandpipers** began very early with three at PRNAS on Mar. 2 (Rambo +), one in Howard Co. near Sykesville on Mar. 9 (Ott), 15 at Scotland on Mar. 10 (Cribb), seven at Queenstown on Mar. 10 (Poet), three at Pickering Creek on Mar. 15 (Ringler), and 13 near Blackwater on Mar. 16 (H. Armistead); highs were 97 at Hope, QA on Apr. 12 (Ellison, N. Martin) and 170 at Pickering Creek on Apr. 28 (Roslund); very late were two at North Branch, AL on May 17 (Churchill). Reese found four **Purple Sandpipers** at Poplar Island on Apr. 18 and eight there on May 13-14; also late were 15 at Ocean City on May 23 (Powell, Sollers). The 2,000 **Dunlins** at Eagles Nest on Mar. 9 (Ellison, N. Martin) were wintering birds. All other Dunlin reports came from the Chesapeake Bay region including one at Rigby's Folly on Mar. 29 (H. Armistead), two at Flag Ponds on Apr. 8 (Ripley), two at Hope, QA on Apr. 12 (Ellison, N. Martin), two at Oak Grove on Apr. 13 (Lovelace), one at Chesapeake Farms on May 17 (Ellison), 625 at Blackwater and another 1,000 near there on May 18 (H. Armistead, Willey), one at Scotland on May 20-22 (Stiles +), 286 at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +), 165 at Swan Harbor Farm on May 26 (Hafner) of which eight remained there on the 29th (Cupp), 695 at Poplar Island on May 29 and six there on June 10 (Reese), and two at Wango on May 30 (Hafner). The only reports of **Stilt Sandpipers** were two at Blackwater on May 10 (Allen, Willey +) and one near there on May 16 (Holbrook). Notable **Short-billed Dowitchers** were one at North Beach on May 1 (Powell), one at Pickering Creek on May 5 and two there on May 10 (Roslund), eight at Allens Fresh on May 17 (Jett, Brewer), nine near Massey on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin), 19 at Swan Harbor Farm on May 26 (Hafner), two at Wango on May 30 (Hafner), and 15 at Poplar Island on June 10 (Reese). High counts of **Wilson's Snipe** were 20 at Kingman Lake on Mar. 14 (Bowen), 72 at UMCF on Apr. 5 (Ott +), and 22 at Swan Harbor Farm on Apr. 26

(Larkin). Craig Tumer found a nest containing one egg of the **American Woodcock** at Fort Lincoln, DC on Mar. 7 and an adult with three downy young was seen at Shorters Wharf, DO on May 3 (H. Armistead, Sparks); 12 birds were at Aberdeen Proving Ground on Mar. 16 (D. & M. Webb). The only **Wilson's Phalaropes** were two at Rumbly Point on May 12-14 (C. & D. Broderick +), one at Poplar Island on May 29 (Reese), and four at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). A male **Red-necked Phalarope** was near Blackwater on May 10 (H. Armistead +), a female was at Frederick on May 22 (*vide* Mike Welch), a female was at Assateague on May 22 (Sollers, Powell), a male was at Hart-Miller on May 24-31 (Hafner +), and two individuals were at Poplar Island on June 4 (Reese). On a Mar. 15 pelagic trip most of the **15 Red Phalaropes** seen were in Maryland waters (Guris +).

Jaegers, Skua, Gulls. On May 31 an adult **Pomarine Jaeger** was seen 45 miles east of Ocean City (Ednie +) and on May 18 a **Parasitic Jaeger** was seen off Assateague (Holbrook, Brighton). A dark **South Polar Skua** was also seen in Maryland waters on the May 31 pelagic trip (Ednie +). Early **Laughing Gulls** were one on the Miles River, TA on Mar. 2 (Roslund +), one at Ocean City on Mar. 8 (Jett, Brewer), and two at Point Lookout on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis); higher numbers were 115 near Trappe, TA on Mar. 30 (H. Armistead) and 1,000 flying northwest past Point Lookout on Apr. 16 (Cribb). **Little Gulls** appeared in new as well as traditional locations this spring beginning with an adult at Edesville, KE on Mar. 29 (Ellison, N. Martin) followed by an adult in Cecil Co. opposite Lapidum on Mar. 30 (Churchill), one in breeding plumage off Rocky Point Park, BA on Apr. 5 (D. Burggraf), one in non-breeding plumage at Back River on Apr. 6-12 (Cooper +), one at Chesapeake Farms on Apr. 6 (Brighton), an adult near Handys Point, KE on Apr. 10 (Ellison), and an adult on Prospect Bay, QA on Apr. 12 (Hafner, Baer). The only **Black-headed Gull** of the season was at Fishing Point, PRNAS on Apr. 10 (Rambo). The four **Bonaparte's Gulls** at Eastern Neck on Mar. 2 (Ellison, N. Martin) may have been early migrants there. Across the bay on Back River numbers peaked at an unusually low 700 on Mar. 15 and Apr. 12 (Cooper). Smaller flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls included 65 at Piney Run on Mar. 23 (Ringler), 184 at Wilde Lake on Mar. 24 (Zeichner, Martha Chestem +), 55 at North Beach on Apr. 8 (Ripley), 110 at PRNAS on Apr. 10 (Rambo), and the following sightings by Ellison and Nancy Martin: 70 near Handys Point, KE on Apr. 10, 40 at Hope, QA on Apr. 12, 60 immatures near Fairlee on May 13, and 60 at Chesapeake Landing, KE on May 18. Churchill found 110 migrant **Ring-billed Gulls** at Cumberland on Mar. 9 and late migrants were one at Oak Grove on May 21 (Lovelace), 130 near Cambridge on June 2 (H. Armistead), and one at Wilde Lake on June 2 (Zeichner). Sightings of **Iceland Gulls** were all in March with an adult flying by Hooper Island on Mar. 9 (H. Armistead), an immature at the Tidal Basin on Mar. 9 (C. Harris), a first-winter bird at Roaring Point on Mar. 11 (Dyke), and one at Salisbury on Mar. 13 (Dyke). A first-winter **Thayer's Gull** was at Salisbury on Mar. 11 (Dyke). Sightings of **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** included an adult plus a third-winter bird at North East on Mar. 11 (Starling), one at Conowingo Dam on Mar. 15 (Weesner), four in Maryland waters on the Mar. 15 pelagic trip (Guris +), a breeding plumage bird at Anacostia Park on Mar. 21 (Bowen), one at Randallstown on Apr. 6 (Costley), a second-summer bird at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +), and single first-summer and fourth-summer birds at Ocean City on May 29 (Hafner). A **Great Black-backed Gull** at Wilde Lake on Apr. 17 (Coskren) was late to be so far inland. The **Kelp Gull** at Sandgates, SM was last seen on Mar. 10 (Craig).

Terns, Skimmers, Alcids. The first **Gull-billed Tern** of the year was seen at North Assateague on Apr. 26 (Hoffman) and one was far up the bay at Hart-Miller on May 31 (Scarpulla +). Early **Caspian Terns** were one in the Washington Channel on Mar. 26 (Pisano), one at Centennial on Mar. 30 (Jenkins), one at Swards, DO on Mar. 30 (H. Armistead), and two at

Piney Run on Apr. 4 (Hubbell); others of note were one at Lilypons on Apr. 12-17 (Churchill, Kiddy +), one at Piney Reservoir on Apr. 13 (Churchill), 12 at Bladensburg on Apr. 14 (Mozurkewich), 29 at Crystal Beach, CE on Apr. 25 (Ellison), 20 at Fulton (Wilkinson) and six at Lake Elkhorn (Ott) on Apr. 27, and 107 at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +). Holbrook and Brighton reported the first **Royal Terns** of the season at Ocean City on Mar. 29 and Whitehaven, WI the next day; in upper Chesapeake Bay one was at Fort Smallwood on Apr. 19 (Wierenga, Davidson), two at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Arnold) and one there on the 24th (Hafner +). A **Sandwich Tern** was unexpected at Poplar Island on May 13-14 (Reese) and three at Ocean City on May 29 (Hafner) were also surprising in spring. One adult **Roseate Tern** was at Ocean City from May 18 through June 7 (Holbrook, Brighton +). Unusual sightings of **Common Terns** were one at Patuxent River Park on Apr. 18 (Holbrook), 17 at Hains Point on May 10 (Pisano), three at Little Meadows Lake and one at Rocky Gap on May 17 (Churchill), two at Seneca on May 18 (Czaplak), and one near Fairlee on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin); the breeding colony at Poplar Island numbered 555 on May 29 (Reese). An **Arctic Tern** was reported at Assateague on May 18 (Holbrook, Brighton). Early **Forster's Terns** were four at Ocean City on Mar. 5 (Vaughn, Jenion), five at Taylors Island on Mar. 16 (H. Armistead), in St. Mary's Co. one at Rodo Beach, one at St. Mary's City, and three at Leonardtown on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis), and one at Perry Point on Apr. 5 (Starling); inland birds included one at Centennial on Apr. 8 (Ott, Holdridge), several at Seneca on Apr. 26 (Eberly) and one there on May 19 (Powell), several at Broadford Lake on May 18 (Pope), and two flying over Oak Grove on May 25 (Lovelace). Two **Least Terns** were early at Deal Island WMA on Apr. 12 (N. & F. Saunders); other interesting reports were two at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on May 3 (Hubbell), two at North Point, BA on May 11 (Jenkins), and four at Bladensburg on May 17 (Mozurkewich +). Small numbers of **Black Terns** were widely scattered with two on the Susquehanna Flats west of Turkey Point on Apr. 25 (Starling), one at Great Oak Pond on Apr. 26 (Ellison), one at Broadford Lake on May 10 (Pope), one at Lake Artemesia on May 10 (Jack Saba), two at Rocky Gap on May 17 (Churchill), one at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Arnold), two at Fort McHenry on May 17 (Peters), two at Chesapeake Farms on May 17-18 (Ellison, N. Martin), and five at Seneca on May 18 (Czaplak). Five **Black Skimmers** flying up Sinepuxent Bay, WO on Mar. 23 (N. & F. Saunders) were record early. The pelagic trip on Mar. 15 tallied two **Dovekies**, one non-breeding plumage **Common Murre** (seen by Iliff only), seven **Razorbills**, and one adult **Atlantic Puffin** (Guris +). Another Razorbill was extraordinary off Assateague on May 18 (Holbrook, Brighton).

Dove, Cuckoos, Owl. A **Ringed Turtle-Dove** was seen at Tidewater Marina, Havre de Grace on Apr. 25 (Bill & Bonnie Hallock). Early **Black-billed Cuckoos** were one heard at Chesapeake Landing, KE on Apr. 29 (Ellison, N. Martin) and one at Rock Creek Park on May 3 (Wechsler); others of note were four at Mount Aetna, WA on May 10 (Holbrook), one at North Tract PRR on May 17 (Sanford +), one heard near Blackwater on May 17 (Holbrook, Brighton), and three at Rock Creek Park on May 20 (Mackiernan, Cooper). An early **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was heard at Rock Creek Park on Apr. 27 (Wilkerson) and a peak of 12 was found there on May 7-8 (Mackiernan, Cooper). Mark England kept tabs on a **Long-eared Owl** roosting near Laytonsville through Mar. 22. The latest reports of **Short-eared Owls** were one at PRNAS on Mar. 2 (Rambo +), four at Elliott Island on Mar. 9 (H. Armistead), and one at Deal Island WMA on Mar. 15 (D. Burggraf).

Caprimulgids, Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers. Two early **Common Nighthawks** were at Wilde Lake on Apr. 27 (Zeichner) followed by a high of at least 25 at Rileys Lock on May 24 (Marko +); late migrants were eight at Lake Needwood, MO on May 27 (Marko), one at Lake Elkhorn on May 28 (Wilkinson), one near North East on May 29 (Hafner), one at Rigby's

Folly on June 1 (H. Armistead), and probably the one at Mears Farm on June 4 (Arnold, Kucera). The first **Chuck-will's-widow** of the year was noted at Ridge on Apr. 12 (Cribb). Early **Whip-poor-wills** were one heard at Dameron on Mar. 9 (*vide* Craig) and one at Ocean City on Mar. 22 (Allen Deward). Single early **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were at Ocean Pines on Apr. 4 (*vide* Callahan), at Parsonsburg on Apr. 14 (Pitney), and in Garrett Co. on Apr. 14 (Pope). Migrant **Red-headed Woodpeckers** included one at Washington Monument SP on Apr. 25 (Weesner) and one near Patapsco Valley SP, HO on Apr. 26 (*vide* Ott). Pisano estimated 25 **Northern Flickers** flying north over East Potomac Park on Mar. 26.

Flycatchers, Shrike, Vireos. Single **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were seen at Potomac, MO on May 10 (Janet Millenson), Patapsco Valley SP, HO on May 10 (Darcy, Heffernan), Mount Aetna, WA on May 10 (Holbrook), Eastern Neck on May 10 (*vide* Ellison), MPEA on May 11 (Ott, Holdridge), Upper Watts Branch Park on May 11 (P. O'Brien), Layhill on May 21 (Cooper, Ott +), Seneca Creek SP, MO on May 25 (Powell +), near Upper Marlboro on June 2 (Shaffer), and Mt. Nebo on June 5 (Powell). An **Eastern Wood-Pewee** heard at Piscataway on Apr. 19 (P. Webb) was exceptionally early with the next reports of one at Cedar Villa Park, HO on Apr. 27 (Sunell) and one heard at Shad Landing, WO on Apr. 28 (K. & B. Harris). The only reports of **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** were one at North Tract PRR on May 17 (Sanford +) and one at Kingman Lake on May 20 (Paul). The first **Acadian Flycatcher** of the season was at Herring Run Park, BC on Apr. 27 (Carroll). Though one **Alder Flycatcher** was reported in Garrett Co. on May 10 (*vide* Pope) the following migrants were found: one at Ellicott City on May 11 (Ott), two heard at Wootons Landing on May 14 (Bystrak), one at Bristol, AA on May 14-15 (Bystrak), one heard at North Tract PRR on May 17 (Sanford +), one heard near Rocks SP on May 19 (Hafner), one heard at Layhill on May 24 (Ott +), and one near Rocks, HA on May 25 (Hafner). Unusually early was a **Willow Flycatcher** at White Hall, HA on May 7 (Cupp). The first **Least Flycatcher** of the season was heard at Wallman, GA on Apr. 30 (Pope) and the latest migrant was one at Rock Creek Park on May 17 (Cooper). An early **Eastern Phoebe** was at Roosevelt Island on Mar. 4 (Marko) and one was at Hughes Hollow the same day (Mackiernan, Cooper); on Mar. 22 Costley tallied 11 at Soldiers Delight. The first **Great Crested Flycatchers** of the season were one at Elk Neck SP on Apr. 25 (Starling) and one at Cylburn on Apr. 26 (Carroll). Early **Eastern Kingbirds** were one at Schooley Mill Park on Apr. 16 (Solem) and one at Upper Marlboro on Apr. 18 (Holbrook). The only migrant **Loggerhead Shrike** seen this spring was at Scotland on Mar. 23-27 (Rambo +). April 15 was the early date for **White-eyed Vireos** this year with single birds at UMCF (Ott, Holdridge, Solem), Flag Ponds (Ripley), and Upper Marlboro (Shaffer). Likewise April 22 was the day for the first **Yellow-throated Vireos** with one at Rock Creek Park (Mackiernan, Cooper) and one at Ashton (Sussman). For **Blue-headed Vireos** it was April 16 with single birds at American Chestnut Land Trust (Hamilton), Rock Creek Park (Mackiernan, Cooper), and Halethorpe Ponds, AA (J. Martin). Highs for Blue-headed Vireos were six at Rock Creek Park on Apr. 22 and 29 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and eight at North Tract PRR on Apr. 26 (Holbrook); late was one at Rock Creek Park on May 8 (Sussman) and extraordinary was one at Perry Point on May 25 (Starling). The first **Warbling Vireo** was at Crystal Beach, CE on Apr. 25 (Ellison) and one at Youghiogheny River Reservoir, GA on May 2 (Churchill) was rare there. The first **Red-eyed Vireo** was at Brush Run, East Columbia on Apr. 25 (Wilkinson) and a high of 35 was found at Rock Creek Park on May 5-19 (Mackiernan, Cooper).

Raven, Larks, Swallows. A **Common Raven** at Black Hill RP on Mar. 4 (Mackiernan, Cooper) had probably drifted over from nearby Sugarloaf Mountain. The last flock of wintering **Horned Larks** was in Howard Co. near Sykesville on Mar. 9 (Ott +). Early **Purple**

Martins were one at Lake Elkhorn on Mar. 22 (Arnold, Ott +) and one at East Potomac Park on Mar. 26 (Pisano); three at Rocky Gap on May 15 (Holbrook) were rare there. Early **Tree Swallows** were five at Rileys Lock and two at Violettes Lock on Mar. 2 (Schindler +), six at Charlestown and one at Perryville on Mar. 9 (Starling +), five at Fort McHenry on Mar. 13 (Peters), and one at Nanticoke on Mar. 15 (Ringler); best numbers were 50 at Bethel WMA on Mar. 16 (Watson-Whitmyre), a few hundred at Fort Smallwood on Mar. 22 (Ricciardi +), and 140 at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo). Early **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** were numerous with one at Hughes Hollow on Mar. 13 (Hubbell), one at Fletchers Boathouse on Mar. 15 (Hubbell), one at Gateway, HO on Mar. 22 (Sunell), one at Mouth of Monocacy, FR on Mar. 22 (Arnold), 10 at Fort Smallwood on Mar. 22 (Ricciardi +), three at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Mar. 23 (Pisano), and two at Piney Run on Mar. 23 (Ringler); a high of 25 was at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo). Three **Bank Swallows** at Scotland on May 22 (*vide* Ringler), two at Rigby's Folly on May 26 (H. Armistead), and one at Swan Harbor Farm on May 29 (Cupp) may all have been late migrants. A **Cliff Swallow** at Piney Run on Apr. 4 (Hubbell) was exceptionally early, 70 at Brighton Dam on May 3 (Ott, Magnusson, Solem +) were the most reported, and two were at Chain Bridge, DC on May 10 (Pisano) with one remaining through the 13th (Hubbell). Coastal Plain reports of Cliff Swallows were numerous this spring with two at Fort Smallwood on Apr. 28 (Ricciardi +), one near Brookview on May 16 (Holbrook), two at Allens Fresh on May 17 (Jett, Brewer), one at Chesapeake Farms on May 17 (Ellison), two at Blackwater on May 18 (H. Armistead, Willey), three at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo), and one at Pickering Creek on May 23 (Powell, Sollers). Early **Barn Swallows** on Mar. 22 were one at Soldiers Delight (Costley), one at Scotland (Cribb), and one at Fort Smallwood (Ricciardi +) and on Mar. 23 one at UMCF (Ott +), one at Centennial (Heffernan, Darcy), and two at Chesapeake Farms (Ellison, N. Martin); about 100 were at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo).

Wrens, Kinglets, Gnatcatchers. **Carolina Wrens** began nest-building at Pylesville about Mar. 12 (J. & L. Fry). The first **House Wrens** of the season were one at Kingman Lake on Apr. 15 (Paul) and one at Parsonsburg on Apr. 16 (Pitney). Two **Sedge Wrens** were at Irish Grove on Apr. 12 (D. Burggraf). Reports of **Marsh Wrens** included one heard on Kent Island on Mar. 13 (Crabtree), one at Patuxent River Park on Apr. 18 (Holbrook), one at Elk Neck SP on May 1 (Starling), and 29 in the Gunpowder River marshes, HA on May 4 (Ziolkowski). A late **Golden-crowned Kinglet** was at Henryton, HO on Apr. 27 (Schwarz) and two late **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were at Greenbrier SP on May 18 (Weesner). Early **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** were one at Laurel, PG on Mar. 24 (Rod Burley) and one at Vantage Point, Columbia on Mar. 28 (Zeichner); 30 were at Rock Creek Park on Apr. 22 (Mackiernan, Cooper).

Thrushes. A **Veery** singing at Town Point, DO on Apr. 13 (Carroll) was very early as the next was at Centennial on Apr. 22 (Ott). One **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was at Upper Watts Branch Park on May 5 (P. O'Brien), followed by high counts of four at Rock Creek Park on May 15 (C. Harris) and several heard flying over Bel Air on May 24 and 26 (Hafner). The only reports of **Bicknell's Thrush** were one at MPEA on May 9 (Holbrook), one heard flying over Rockville on May 10 (P. O'Brien), and two heard flying over Bel Air on May 24 (Hafner). A late **Swainson's Thrush** was at Rigby's Folly on May 27 (H. Armistead). The first **Hermit Thrush** seen in Garrett Co. this spring was at Mt. Nebo on Apr. 13 (Pope); a high of 13 was at Upper Watts Branch Park on Apr. 22 (P. & M. O'Brien). Harry Armistead and party listened for migrants flying over southern Dorchester Co. before dawn on May 10 and heard 200 Veeries, three Gray-cheeks, 65 Swainson's Thrushes, and 35 **Wood Thrushes**.

Mimids, Starlings, Pipits, Waxwings. Wintering **Gray Catbirds** lingered at Rockburn on Mar. 3 (Farner) and Point Lookout on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis). Late wintering **Brown Thrashers** were one at Cloverly, MO on Mar. 2 (Wilkerson) and one at Fair Hill, CE on Mar. 4 (Starling); one at Point Lookout on Mar. 16 (Ringler, Ellis) may have been an early spring migrant, which was more likely the case for single birds at Swansfield, Columbia on Mar. 19 (Tveekrem), on the Mall, DC on Mar. 24 (Folley), and at Darnestown on Mar. 26 (Simonson). Pope estimated 1,000 **European Starlings** on Mar. 23 near Trout Run, a large flock for Garrett Co. A very late flock of 70 **American Pipits** was at UMCF on May 21 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem). The largest number of **Cedar Waxwings** reported was 250 at Rock Creek Park on May 14 (Mackiernan, Cooper).

Vermivora and Parula Warblers. The first **Blue-winged Warblers** of the year were found on Apr. 25, one at Lake Roland (D. Burggraf) and two at Rock Creek Park (Mackiernan, Cooper). The only migrant **Golden-winged Warblers** found this spring were one at Rockburn on May 4 (Maloney), a female at Rock Creek Park on May 8 (Mackiernan, Cooper), one at East Potomac Park on May 8 (Pisano), and one in Queen Anne's Co. on May 10 (Rob Etgen). The only hybrid **Brewster's Warbler** was a male at Rock Creek Park on May 9-10 (Mackiernan, Cooper). The first **Tennessee Warbler** of the season was at Upper Watts Branch Park on May 3 (P. O'Brien +) and the last was at Rock Creek Park on May 25 (Mackiernan, Cooper), but there were very few in between. An **Orange-crowned Warbler** that may have wintered at the National Arboretum was last seen on Mar. 15 (Hilton +) and a migrant was at Rock Creek Park on Apr. 20 (Mackiernan, Cooper). The high for **Nashville Warblers** was four at Rock Creek Park on May 2 (Mackiernan, Cooper). Early **Northern Parulas** on Apr. 13 were one at Meadowside, MO (Sussman) and one on the C&O Canal, WA (Holbrook); a late migrant was at Terrapin on May 26 (K. Harris).

Dendroica Warblers. The first **Yellow Warbler** of the year was at Upper Marlboro on Apr. 18 (Holbrook). The first **Chestnut-sided Warblers** were one heard at Lochearn, BA on Apr. 30 (P. Webb) and one at Hallmark the same day (Ebert), followed by a peak of 15 at Rock Creek Park on May 8 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and these late birds: two at Terrapin on May 26 (K. Harris), one near Scaggsville, HO on May 27 (Solem), a female at Towson, BA on May 27 (Lev), and one at Halethorpe Ponds, AA on June 2 (Arnold, Kucera). The first **Magnolia Warbler** was at Orange Grove on Apr. 27 (Ott +) followed by a peak of 15 at Rock Creek Park on May 12-14 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and two late birds at Rigby's Folly on May 27 (H. Armistead). Very few **Cape May Warblers** were found this spring beginning with one at Rock Creek Park on May 5 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and ending with one heard at Little Bennett on May 25 (Bob Hartman). **Black-throated Blue Warblers** began with two at Herring Run Park, BC on Apr. 27 (Carroll), peaked with 25 at Rock Creek Park on May 9-14 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and ended with one female in the Towson area, BA on May 25 (Georgia McDonald). The peak for **Yellow-rumped Warblers** was 300 at Rock Creek Park on May 5 down to 10 there on May 22 (Mackiernan, Cooper); one at Greenbrier SP on May 24 (Weesner) was the latest. An **Audubon's Warbler**, the western subspecies of Yellow-rumped Warbler, was reported at Trappe, TA on Apr. 29 (Brighton). Ten **Black-throated Green Warblers** near Kempton, GA on Apr. 16 (Pope) were the first of the season with the peak of 15 at Rock Creek Park on May 2 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and a late one at Susquehanna SP on May 25 (Hafner). An early **Blackburnian Warbler** was at Milford Mill on May 1 (Sanford +), four were at Rock Creek Park on May 14 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and a late one was at Kindler, HO on May 26 (Solem). On Mar. 25 the first **Yellow-throated Warblers** were seen with three at American Chestnut Land Trust (Hamilton) and one near Fletchers Boathouse (Bowen). A **Pine Warbler** was locally early at Middle River, BA on Mar. 9 (Susan Shock) and two at Her-

rington Manor SP on Apr. 15 (Pope) were rare in Garrett Co. An exceptionally early **Prairie Warbler** was at Elliott Island on Apr. 4 (C. & D. Broderick). The first **Palm Warblers** were one at Bel Air on Mar. 22 (Cheicante) and one at Lake Elkhorn on Mar. 26 (Holdridge); highs were nine at Turf Valley, HO on Apr. 4 (Cullison), 40 at Jug Bay on Apr. 4 (Ripley), nine at Grove Neck and one at Mt. Harmon Plantation, CE on Apr. 6 (John +), and eight near Dividing Creek, SO on Apr. 12 (N. & F. Saunders), and a late one was at Greenbrier SP on May 9 (Weesner). Of the Palm Warblers identified to the yellow subspecies 11 were near Lilypons on Apr. 17 (Ralph Wall), 20 at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Apr. 21 (Mackiernan, Cooper), two at Wye Island on Apr. 24 (Poet), two at Newark, WO on Apr. 25 (Hoffman), and one late bird at Rock Creek Park on Apr. 29 (C. Harris). Of the Palm Warblers identified to the western subspecies there were three at Rock Creek Park on May 8 of which one remained through the 11th (Mackiernan, Cooper). A **Bay-breasted Warbler** at Wyman Park, BC on Apr. 22 (Carroll) was record early; others of note were one at Calvert Cliffs on May 7 (Bell), two at Millington WMA on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin), a female at Lake Roland on May 28 (Lev), and one singing at North Tract PRR on May 28 (Schwarz). **Blackpoll Warblers** were remarkably early this spring with one on the Mall, DC on Apr. 30 (Scott Michaud), one at Ellicott City on May 1 (Ott), one at Glenn Dale, PG on May 1 (Meghan Tice), one near Hellen Creek, CT and one at Jefferson Patterson Park on May 2 (Bell), and one at Dunkirk on May 2 (Ripley); high counts were 50 at Halethorpe Ponds, BA on May 18 (J. Martin), 35 at Rock Creek Park on May 19 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and 25 at Lake Roland on May 28 (Lev) and the latest was one near Rockburn on June 6 (Coskren, Solem). The only Coastal Plain report of **Cerulean Warbler** was one at North Tract PRR on May 17 (Sanford +).

Other Warblers, Tanagers. Early **Black-and-white Warblers** were one at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Mar. 29 (Hubbell) and a male at Font Hill on Apr. 3 (Schwarz) followed by a peak of 21 at MPEA on May 9 (Holbrook); late migrants were one on the Mall, DC on May 22 (Felley) and one at Terrapin on May 26 (K. Harris). The first **American Redstarts** of the season were three at Henryton, HO on Apr. 16 (Ott) with a peak of 24 at MPEA on May 9 (Holbrook); one at Centennial on June 9 (Neri) may have been a late migrant. Locally early or rare **Prothonotary Warblers** were single birds at Pennyfield on Apr. 14 (Wechsler), Harford Glen on Apr. 20 (Nielsen), McKeldin on Apr. 20 (D. & M. Harvey), Cylburn on May 11 (Sanford +), and Henryton, HO on May 12-19 (Sanford). Early **Worm-eating Warblers** were one at Elk Neck SP on Apr. 19 (John) and one at Rock Creek Park on Apr. 20 (Mackiernan, Cooper). A **Swainson's Warbler** was heard along Nassawango Creek, WI on Apr. 19 (Dyke). The first **Ovenbird** of the season was heard at Irish Grove on Apr. 12 (D. Burggraf). An early **Northern Waterthrush** was singing at Milford Mill on Apr. 22 (Sanford), a high of six was at Hughes Hollow on May 19 (Woodward), and late migrants were one at Rigby's Folly on May 27 (H. Armistead) and one at Brush Run, East Columbia on May 30 (Wilkinson). Early **Louisiana Waterthrushes** were two at Colbourne, WO on Mar. 22 (Dyke, Hoffman), one near Lilypons on Mar. 23 (Franz Hesperheide), one at MPEA on Mar. 25 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem), one at Rock Creek Park on Mar. 25 (Eric Raun), one heard near Havre de Grace on Mar. 26 (Eastman), one heard at Upper Watts Branch Park on Mar. 26 (P. O'Brien), and one at Mill Creek Sanctuary, TA on Mar. 29 (Ricciardi +). Hoffman found the first **Kentucky Warblers** of the season on Apr. 27 at Colbourne, WO, three birds. Early **Mourning Warblers** were one in Garrett Co. on May 10 (*fide* Pope), a male at Mount Aetna, WA on May 10 (Holbrook), and a male at Rock Creek Park on May 11 (Mackiernan, Cooper), and late birds were one near Bishopville, WO on May 30 (Hafner), two at Rockburn on May 31 (Ott, Solem +), and one heard at Edwards Ferry, MO on June 1 (Hilton). The first **Common Yellowthroat** of the season was singing at Irish Grove on Apr. 12 (D. Burggraf). An early **Hooded Warbler** was at Rock Creek Park on Apr. 20 (Dobbins) and a late migrant was at Pickering Creek on May

17 (Holbrook, Brighton). **Wilson's Warblers** peaked at four at Rock Creek Park on May 12 (Mackiernan, Cooper) and a late bird was at Essex Farm Park, BA on May 26 (Lev). **Canada Warblers** peaked at eight at Rock Creek Park on May 18-19 (Mackiernan, Cooper) with the latest migrant one at MPEA on May 29 (Solem, Coskren). A **Yellow-breasted Chat** at Huntingtown NRMA, CT on Apr. 16 (Ripley) was exceptionally early, or may have wintered there. Interesting **Summer Tanagers** were a male at Colesville, MO on May 11 (N. Saunders) and one singing at Millington WMA on May 18 (Ellison, N. Martin).

Sparrows, Juncos. Late **American Tree Sparrows** were 12 at Myrtle Grove WMA, CH on Mar. 8 (Jett), one at Hancock, WA on Mar. 10 (Smith), one at Fort McHenry on Mar. 10-13 (Peters), four at Broadford Lake on Mar. 13 (Pope), and one at Belmont, HO on Mar. 13 (Arnold, Sue Probst). An early **Chipping Sparrow** was at Wynfield, HO on Mar. 9 and 34 were there on the 30th (Cullison); other high numbers were 40 at Mount Pleasant on Apr. 16 (Ott) and 50 at Waldorf on Apr. 19 (Jett, Brewer). Interesting reports of **Vesper Sparrows** were two at Kenilworth Park on Mar. 29 (Hubbell), one at Jefferson Patterson Park on Apr. 12 (Ripley +), and one at Wye Island NRMA on Apr. 13 (Brighton). A **Savannah Sparrow** at Turkey Point on Mar. 7 (Starling) was probably an early migrant and the high count for the season was 40 at UMCF on Mar. 23 (Ott +); late were one at UMCF on May 21 (Ott), two at Hart-Miller on May 24 (Hafner +), and two at Alpha Ridge Landfill on May 30 (Cullison). An "Ipswich" Savannah Sparrow was reported at Point Lookout on May 1 (Ann & Tony Ziccardi). On May 30 Cullison also tallied 30 **Grasshopper Sparrows** at Alpha Ridge Landfill. Kiddy found two **Henslow's Sparrows** near Frostburg, AL on May 25. A **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** was seen at UMCF on the remarkably late date of June 2 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem). A **Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow** was singing at Flag Ponds on May 2 (Bell, Hamilton, Ripley). Three **Seaside Sparrows** were on territory at Deal Island WMA on Apr. 12 (N. & F. Saunders); others of note were one at North Beach plus some at Flag Ponds on May 2 (Bell, Hamilton, Ripley) and two or three in the Gunpowder River marshes, HA on May 4 (Ziolkowski). Highs for migrant **Fox Sparrows** were 18 at MPEA on Mar. 12 (Ott +), 20 at the National Arboretum on Mar. 14 (Pisano), and 20 at Layhill on Mar. 23 (Mackiernan, Cooper); a late bird was at Mt. Nebo on Apr. 13 (Pope). Early **Lincoln's Sparrows** were singles at Waldorf on Apr. 27 (Jett), East Columbia on May 1 (Holbrook), PRNAS on May 1 (Rambo), Rileys Lock on May 2 (C. Harris), and Harford Glen on May 7 (Powers); the only report of two was at Rock Creek Park on May 11 (Mackiernan, Cooper). Three late **Swamp Sparrows** were at Rock Creek Park on May 18 (Cooper) and one at UMCF on June 2 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem) was exceptional. Late **White-throated Sparrows** were singles at Eden Mill on May 24 (Hafner), singing at Meadowside, MO on May 24 (Sussman), and singing near Bishopville, WO on May 31 (Hafner). A late **White-crowned Sparrow** was at Scotland on May 22 (Rambo). Late **Dark-eyed Juncos** were one at Swansfield, Columbia on May 9-10 (Tveekrem) and one at Nanjemoy on May 16 (Callahan).

Cardinaline Finches, Icterids. There were secondhand reports of **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** that may have wintered in the area: two in Cecil Co. on Mar. 1 (*vide* Gary Griffith) and an immature male in Columbia on Mar. 30 (*vide* P. Webb). Early migrant Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were widespread with one at Font Hill on Apr. 19 (Wilkinson), a male at Tunis Mills on Apr. 24 (Roslund), two at Damascus, MO on Apr. 27 (Tony Heatwole), five at Washington Monument SP on Apr. 28 (Weesner), one at Snydersburg, CL on Apr. 30 Schwemmer), and one at Hance Point on Apr. 30 (Starling); the last was a male at Allview, HO on May 26 (Ralph Stokes +). Early **Blue Grosbeaks** were singles at North Tract PRR on Apr. 26 (Holbrook), Blackwater on Apr. 27 (H. Armistead), Damascus, MO on Apr. 27 (Tony Heatwole), Rock Creek Park on Apr. 28 (Wechsler), and Perry Point on Apr. 29 (Starling). An early

Indigo Bunting was singing at Fletchers Boathouse on Apr. 20 (Mike Milton). A **Dickcissel** was seen at a Harford Co. feeder for several weeks in March/April (*vide* Spike Updegrove); a male at Berwyn Heights, PG on May 17 (Mozurkewich +) was notable there. The first two **Bobolinks** of the year were at UMCF on Apr. 28 (Ott, Solem) with a high for the season there of 140 on May 7 (Ott, Holdridge, Solem); late were 60 at Dameron on May 26 (Stiles), three at Alpha Ridge Landfill on May 30 (Cullison), and two at Mears Farm on June 4 (Arnold, Kucera). Flocks of **Rusty Blackbirds** included 80 at Hughes Hollow on Mar. 22 (Simonson), 12 remaining there on May 10 (Woodward) and 26 at Vantage Point, HO on Apr. 15 (Zeichner). On Apr. 25 Rambo found four **Boat-tailed Grackles** at PRNAS and on May 22 he found five at Ridge. An early **Orchard Oriole** was at Pickering Creek on Apr. 16 (Nielsen). The first two **Baltimore Orioles** of the season were at David Force WMA, HO on Apr. 20 (Sunell, Wright).

Exotics. A **Black Swan** was at Thanksgiving Nursery, FR on Mar. 17 (Powell). A **Monk Parakeet** was seen flying over the National Arboretum on Mar. 23 (Craig Tumer).



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Editor: Chandler S. Robbins, 7902 Brooklyn Bridge Rd., Laurel, MD 20707
 Phone: 301-725-1176; fax: 301-497-5545; e-mail: Chan_Robbins@usgs.gov

Asst. Editor: Robert F. Ringler, 6272 Pinyon Pine Ct., Eldersburg, MD 21784

Layout: Janet Millenson, 10500 Falls Rd., Potomac, MD 20854

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