

Ground Dove in Massachusetts

On October 7, 1973 a Ground Dove (*Columbigallina passerina*) was discovered and photographed on the north end of Monomoy Island, south of Chatham, Massachusetts. The weather was fair and mild, affording optimum conditions for observation.

It was watched for a half hour by over forty competent birders while on a field trip conducted as part of the American Ornithologist's Union Convention held in Provincetown. I myself saw it as close as twenty-five feet with 7x50 binoculars where easily seen were the pink speckled nape and



Ground Dove, Monomoy I., Mass., Oct. 7, 1973. Photo/ Michel Kleinbaum.

chest, the scaling in the wings, and the white tail spots. There was no question of its identity when the rufous wing patches were revealed in flight.

The bird appeared to be in perfect health as it walked the dunes amid the Seaside Goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*) and beach-grass (*Amophila breviligulata*). No food was seen taken. There was no bill or feather wear from captivity; the species is almost never kept as a pet. The lack of major weather disturbances led us to conclude it was a genuine straggler.

This sighting constitutes a new state record for Massachusetts and is one of very few records north of North Carolina (see A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds, 1957). — Tom Howe, 137 Sarles Lane, Pleasantville, N. Y. 10570.

Meetings Scheduled

April 18-21. North American Hawk Migration Conference, Syracuse, New York. Full schedule of papers, seminars, organizing sessions for the coordination of all hawk watches east of the Great Plains. Field trip: Derby Hill hawk migration. Program Chairman, Pershing B. Hofslund, Dept. of Biology, Life Science Building, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth, Minn. 55812. Chairman, Host Committee, Dorothy Crumb, 3983 Gates Road N., Jamesville, N. Y. 13078.

May 9-12. Cooper Ornithological Society, 45th Annual Meeting, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Ariz. Program Chairman is David Ligon, Dept. of Biology, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque. Chairman of the Local Committee is Russell P. Balda, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff.

NORTHEAST BIRDING

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New Brunswick (July 1-11): nesting seabirds and boreal species, early shorebirds. Machias Seal I., Deer I., Tantramar Marshes, Cape Tormentine, Miscou I., forests of the interior . . . **New Brunswick, Nova Scotia (Aug. 22-Sept. 3):** pelagics, shorebirds, passerines. Deer I.; Brier I. and Bay of Fundy boat trip; coastal s.w. Nova Scotia incl. Cape Sable I., Cape Sable; "Bluenose" ferry, connecting with following tour . . . Northeastern U.S.

(Sept. 5-19): Fall migration. Part 1 (Sept. 5-12): Acadia N.P., Machias Seal I., N.B., coastal s.w. Maine, Newburyport, Plum I., Plymouth Beach, Monomoy, Jamaica Bay. Part 2 (Sept. 13-19): Jamaica Bay, Brigantine-Tuckerton-Holgate, Cape May, Hawk Mountain . . . **Canadian Islands (Sept. 25-Oct. 4):** late pelagics and fall migrants. Deer I.; Grand Manan; Brier I. and Bay of Fundy boat trip; "Bluenose" ferry. Optional third week on Monhegan I., Me.

Leaders: Davis Finch (Northeastern Maritime Regional Editor, *American Birds*), Will Russell (Field Identification Editor, *Birding*).

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