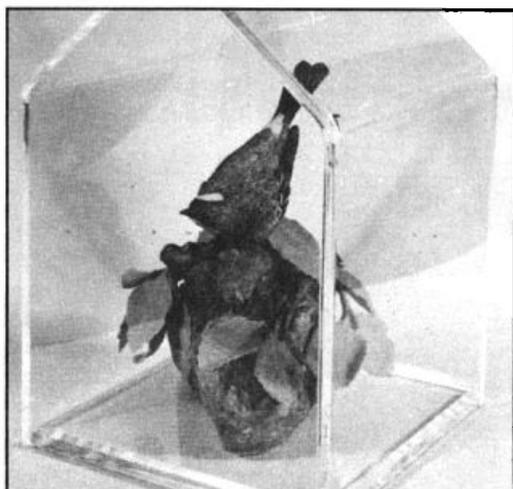


comm.). After we moved to an observation point 6 m from the site, the active parent approached the nest, exchanging calls with the older chick. We revisited the nest the following day and on July 13 both chicks were measured and banded with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service bands 806-39145 and 806-39146.

This record constitutes a northward extension of the breeding range of the species of approximately 150 nautical miles.

—*Department of Biology, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185.*



*Porcelains of Point Reyes
Collection*

\$400.00

color brochure available. send .25 to:

PATRICE BOYD STUDIO
P.O. BOX 200
PITKIN, COLORADO 81241

Communications

To the editor:

In the article on the Newburyport, Mass., Ross' Gull by Miliotis and Buckley (*AB* 29:643-646, 1975), the bird was incorrectly referred to as "the first Ross' Gull ever recorded in North America away from Arctic waters." This error was repeated in the account of the December 1976 bird shot in Newfoundland (*AB* 31:307). Although not well known, there is a previous record of Ross' Gull from Victoria, British Columbia: on Nov. 9, 1966, an immature Ross' was photographed by Ralph Fryer at Victoria's Clover Point. An excellent photograph of this bird was published in *Syesis* 4:218, 1971 (Journal of the British Columbia Provincial Museum). Thus the species should be watched for on the Pacific coast as well.

—Wayne C. Weber, Department of Zoology,
Mississippi St., Univ.,
Mississippi State, MS 39762.
[Similarly from Spencer G. Sealy,
Univ. of Manitoba, Winnipeg, R3T 2N2.]

To the editor:

The Changing Seasons for September, 1977, was a wonderful job. However, the account of the Gray-breasted Martin (*AB* 31:971) in Florida, as representing the first record in the United States, is in error. In the Checklist of the Birds of Texas and Oberholser's Bird Life of Texas (1974), you will find accounts of both specimens and nesting records for this species for Texas. Also, there are many unsubstan-

POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY



offers many outstanding natural excursions in 1978:

Transect of California
Birds of the High Sierra
Birds of SE Arizona
Birds of Ecuador
Birds of San Blas Mexico

June 14-22
June 27-July 1
July 6-13
August
Nov. 17-25 or
Dec. 22-30

For detailed information or brochure write **PRBO, 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, Ca. 94970.**

tiated sightings. While the specimens are old, sightings have been more recent. I myself recorded this species on Padre Island on April 23, 1960.

—Hazel Nichols, 3827 Holland Ave.,
Dallas, Tex. 75219

To the editor:

The article on the Cassin's Sparrow in your September 1977 issue (*AB* 30:933-941) did not mention the nesting record for the Cassin's Sparrow in Nebraska in 1974. (*Nebraska Bird Review* 42:56). After the parents and one young abandoned the nest, it and four unhatched eggs were collected and sent to the Nebraska State Museum in Lincoln.

—R. G. Cortelyou
Nebraska Ornithologists' Union
Lincoln, Nebr. 68508.

BIRD OBSERVER

of Eastern Massachusetts

Since 1973 this bimonthly magazine has summarized all important sightings from eastern Massachusetts. Major finds, such as Ross' Gull, Ivory Gull, and Steller's Eider, are documented in articles by the discoverers.

Each issue also contains a detailed map and description by a local expert of where to see Massachusetts birds. Also, there are articles to unravel knotty field problems, ornithological news, and more.

Edited by a staff of well-known enthusiasts, *Bird Observer* is the most comprehensive source of field data in New England. Now is the time to let *Bird Observer* open new doors to a greater enjoyment of nature.

Annual subscription \$6.50

BIRD OBSERVER, INC.
462 Trapelo Rd.
Belmont, MA 02178

To the editor.

I read with interest the Changing Seasons report in *American Birds* (*AB* 31:966-971) Contrary to the statement (p. 969) that both *Plegadis* ibises were present at Cat Island, Alabama, during the 1977 breeding season, only the White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) was found there this year. A paper attempting to clear up the confused ibis situation on this island will appear in *Alabama Birdlife*.

—Charles C. Duncan, Univ. of Ala.,
Birmingham, Ala. 35294.



Red Kite

BIRD BOOKS

BOUGHT AND SOLD

Annual Catalogue listing over 1200 described items available. \$8 air-mail. Bird books, whether old colour-plate books or modern reference books, are purchased. Please offer any that are surplus to your requirements.

DAVID EVANS

The White Cottage, Pitt,
Winchester, Hampshire, U.K.

Telephone Winchester (0962) 3746.

1978 NATURAL HISTORY TOURS



BIRDING WITH MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON . . .

. . . to places like Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala, islands of Trinidad/Tobago and Bermuda, Texas, Ecuador, Colorado, California, Churchill, Kenya, AND MORE!

FOR DETAILS, PLEASE WRITE:

Director, NHS Tours
Massachusetts Audubon Society
Lincoln MA 01773