

THE THREATENED GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER, PAGE 1074





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# FROM THE EDITOR

Happy New Year and welcome to your first issue of *American Birds* in 1991. Certainly before you got even this far you've noticed some changes. The cover looks different. The Table of Contents isn't in its usual place. Why aren't things where they used to be? What's going on here?

We have worked over this past year to be able to introduce not just a few suggestions of change, but some major innovations we think you'll appreciate. The shift in editorial focus you see has been done for a very simple reason: we want to broaden our scope and audience. We want to put birds in a worldwide context for our readers. There have never before been so many birders so hungry for information about birds' relationship to our quite small, very fragile, and seriously beleaguered earth. We are dedicating

ourselves here to taking a leading role in today's exciting environmental movement, particularly as it relates to birds and the protection of threatened and endangered bird species. We are concerned with renewing the earth. That means, among other things, in-

creasing the health of bird populations throughout it. Rarely could one occur without the other.

The crisis facing natural ecosystems, from pole to pole, ultimately impacts birds. At *American Birds* we are going to make as many people possible aware of the threats to their survival. I can think of no better way of doing that than to refocus our energies and put birds into the perspective of a shared environment.

For example, our major story, 2001: Birds That Won't Be With Us, examines the precarious situation of birds whose future is uncertain at best. Noted journalist Frank Graham Jr. has thoroughly researched this story and we present it to you with a call for action.

We realize that our readers are the most knowledgeable and most demanding in the birding world. We know that they have an interest in all that birding has to offer and we feel a responsibility to continually fuel that interest. Although we are offering you a quantum information leap in a more accessible format, we don't intend to change the fact that we are still the ultimate in accuracy and quality. We've kept the best of the old as we move toward the new.

We think the redesign of *American Birds* is attractive, logical, functional, and in concert with our editorial objectives. Its consistent verticality, common-sense logic, and beauty should make things easier to find and follow. We've made every effort to merge the sensibilities of our readers with our content and

to top it all off with unquestionable style.

For a clear break from tradition, we've moved our Table of Contents up front. The information found here defines the scope and feel of the magazine and serves as a guide to its sections.

OVERVIEW, which you'll find right after the Table of Contents, is a new department that presents a wide assortment of information, on everything of interest to birders. We invite you to send us items for inclusion in this section.

If you're wondering where your favorite columnist is, rest assured they're all here and better than ever. In this issue they tackle a range of topics from Siberian strays and identification toughies to Ipswich Sparrows and keeping score in the game of fieldwork.

There is a saying that something that "belongs" to **everyone** is cared for by **no one.** We know you share our commitment to ensure that the opposite is true of birds. They belong to us all. We will care for them together.

We hope you enjoy the new *American Birds.* 

-S. R. Drennan



KONSTANTIN

## American Birds is published by NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

WINTER 1990 Volume 44, No. 5

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> VICTORIA LEIDNER Art Director

KENN KAUFMAN Associate Editor

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

American Birds

The Magazine of Record and Discovery

WELCOME TO THE NEW American Birds. Welcome to the worldwide community of birders. For the past several months, the staff of shirt-sleeve professionals at this publication has been engaged in an exciting project. We have been striving for an innovative way to say "thank-you" to our cadre of loyal readers and to reach out to new birders to join us. We concluded that broadening the coverage and subject matter of American Birds, so that it is the most complete magazine in the field, was a good way to do that. The magazine you now hold in your hands is a careful synthesis of editorial redesign, reorganization, and imagination. It is a succession of changes in which you can only imagine our pride. Equally important is the fact that we have accomplished this without sacrificing our integrity or scientific credibility. This issue serves as a beginning point for a much broader enterprise that will ultimately encompass participation with an entirely new universe of readers. Thank you for your steadfast confidence in us and once again, welcome to The Magazine of Record and Discovery.



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**UCHARD FRANK** 

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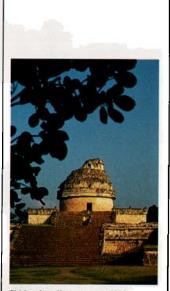
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Chichen Itza, Yucatan, page 1082

## COLUMNS & DEPARTMENTS

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Welcome to a new department wherein we explore the birding world and all who inhabit it—from the humblest hummingbird to an American president.

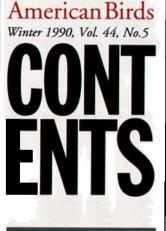
## BIRDING FOR FUN Advice from Paul R. Ehrlich on staying awake in the field.

#### FACTS, INFERENCES, AND SHAMELESS SPECULATIONS

Why, asks J. P. Myers, can the federal government save Lawrence Welk's birthplace but not the Snowy Plover...and other absurd questions.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY

The Ipswich Sparrow: missed, misidentified and misunderstood. John Farrand Jr. recaps nearly 200 years of sparrow confusion.





Gray Heron, page 1096

THE PRACTICED EYE Merg questions and	
merg answers by	
merganser expert	
Kenn Kaufman.	

## AMERICAN BIRDING 1207 Of Newburyport, Mass., a Ross' Gull, and a pink bullet fired into a critical mass. When

bird chasing came of age, by *Pete Dunne*.

#### REGIONAL REPORTS PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS SUMMER 1990 1210

THAT'S BIRD ENTERTAINMENT

Take our quiz and bedazzle family, friends, and fellow birders with your uncanny knowledge of avian/entertainment facts. You might even win a prize.



Ross' Gull, page 1209



Wood Thrush, page 1074

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2001: BIRDS THAT WONT BE WITH US Only by acting swiftly and with great resolve can we halt the accerlerating extinction of bird species. A comprehensive report from Frank Graham Jr.

#### WINTER BIRDING IN MAYAN MEXICO

An insider's guide to the birds, ruins, hotels, food, transportation, language and customs of the Yucatán. *By John Alcock.* 

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## SCIENCE

PINE BUNTING ON ATTU ISLAND, ALASKA By George F. Wagner.

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#### By George F. Wagner. FIRST SUMMER RECORD OF THE COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL FOR PUERTO RICO Bu David M. McKanzie

By Paul M. McKenzie, Wylie C. Barrow, Jaime A. Collazo, and Cynthia Staicer.

FIRST RECORD OF PROTHONOTARY WARBLER FROM GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, ECUADOR By Kenneth E. Petit

and Keith A. Tarvin.

GRAY HERONS ON BARBADOS By P. William Smith and Susan A. Smith.

#### PROTECTING THE TREASURED ESTUARIES OF BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO By Barbara W. Massey, International Council for Bird Preservation.

THE CHANGING SEASONS: SUMMER 1990 1103 By Kenn Kaufman.

THE REGIONAL REPORTS: THE NESTING SEASON 1107 June 1–July 31, 1990

Front cover: Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*). Photograph/ B. Schorre/VIREO.

OF TOURISM

close relatives. Study of all species of African Caprimulgidae show that it does not belong to any of the known species from Africa. There is ample evidence to justify treating this distinctive nightjar as a new species.

## BRAZIL

A group of British and Brazilian scientists have found the last Spix's Macaw living in the wild. Scientists found the lone bird pairing with a Blue-winged Macaw in Bahia State in Brazil, Also known as the Little Blue Macaw, most of the birds in captivity are owned by collectors who pay up to \$50,000. The International Council for Bird Preservation is desperately trying to find an owner who will allow this last wild Spix's Macaw to mate with a captive bird.

## **SOVIET UNION**

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

We will probably start to see many notices of ecotours heading for the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries in the months ahead. The Seattle Audubon Society is now offering a trip to Khabarovsk and Sakhalin Island, areas which have just recently been opened to tourism. Birds likely to be seen on the trip include Pied Harrier, Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo, Narcissus Flycatcher, Spotted Greenshanks, Longtoed Stints, Japanese Pygmy Woodpeckers and seabird colonies of Slaty-backed Gulls and Spectacled Guillemots. A side-trip to central Siberia promises Imperial Eagles, Eversmann's Redstarts, and Siberian Accentors. Dates: May 18 to June 8, 1991. Price: \$6,250.

## **BEHAVIOR WATCH**

## PELICAN DEVOURS CHICKS

Brown Pelicans are essentially plunge-diving, fisheating birds; but they have been reported occasionally scavenging, especially in extreme cases when starvation is apparent. Traditionally this species can be dependent on one species of fish at certain times of the year. At other times their diet can include as many as 30 or 40 species of fish and invertebrates.

In a recent issue of the *Condor* (Vol. 91, No. 4), Miguel A. Mora reports an extremely interesting incidence of unorthodox behavior. He observed on several different occasions, natural predation by a single Brown Pelican that fed extensively on Cattle and Great egret eggs and young in a heronry in Baja California, Mexico.

On the first occasion, Mora watched the pelican pluck two Cattle Egret eggs directly out of an active nest, break them in its pouch, regurgitate the shells, and then swallow the eggs contents. The pelican proceeded to move to another spot in the heronry and take four young egrets, trying to swallow them simultaneously. These attempts were unsuccessful and so the bird unpouched them and ate them one by one.

On subsequent occasions the author watched the pelican predate young egret chicks.

## BIGAMOUS MOCKINGBIRDS

Male Northern Mockingbirds tend to be faithful to a single mate, often pairing with her in different years and sharing all the duties of parenthood except incubation. By having a second mate, a male can sire more offspring, but bigamy usually fails because the two females keep fighting. Kim C. Derrickson (Condor, Vol. 91, No. 3) recently studied two cases of bigamy in mockingbirds in Pennsylvania. In one case no young were fledged by either female, although the first female laid 27 eggs trying. In the other, both raised young because the male avoided family squabbles by having a large territory, keeping the two females far apart, and courting the second female while the first was busy incubating.

## BROWN JAY JOINS LIST OF ARMY ANT FOLLOWERS

In second-growth tropical deciduous forest along the Rio Sabinas in Tamaulipas, Mexico, Paul D. Haemig (Condor Vol. 91, No. 4) reports that he found six Brown Jays in a mixedspecies flock following a swarm of army ants. Along with the other birds - two Melodious Blackbirds and one Ivory-billed Woodcreeper - the jays seemed to be feeding mainly on insects and other arthropods fleeing from the ants, but Haemig saw one jay capture a small frog, which the other jays tried to steal. The Brown Jay becomes the fourth tropical jay known to follow army ant swarms. Like the other three, the Brown Jay was the principal attendant at the ant swarm.



## YOUNG BLUE JAY Adopted By Fish Crows

On the campus of the University of South Florida in Tampa, a brood of Fish Crows less than a week old was joined by a fledging Blue Jay. According to Kevin J. McGowan (J. Field Ornithol., Vol. 61, No.2), the jay, about 30 days old, was soon being fed by the parents when they brought food for their own young. After 12 days the jay disappeared, and the crows continued to feed their own young. The jay probably entered the nest on its own, and although Fish Crows prey heavily on nestling songbirds, an inhibition against eating small birds in their own nest may have saved this jay from being eaten. McGowan's observation is only the second recorded instance of interspecific feeding among crows or jays.

## WILLETS NEST In Sphagnum Bog

About 100 kilometers northeast of the nearest nesting site and three kilometers from the nearest salt marsh, a small colony of Willets was recently found in a sphagnum bog in Hancock County, Maine. Jeffrey V. Wells and Peter D. Vickery (J. Field Ornithol., Vol. 61, No.1) report that one nest was located and that other Willets dove at Wells as he walked through the bog. Willets usually nest in salt marshes and on their edges, or in fields and pastures near salt marshes. This shift to a new habitat may open up other nesting areas in a part of Maine where sphagnum bogs are numerous.

## SOMETIMES THERE'S NO NEED TO START TRENDS, OR FOLLOW THEM.



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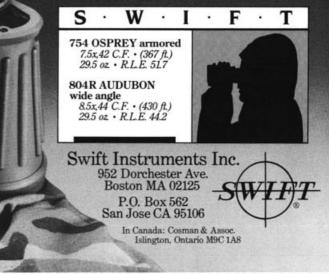
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and Ashy-faced Owl, recently "split," were observed: the latter near L. Enriquillo and the former around settlements. A Ridgway's Hawk and a notable count of 35 Golden Swallows were seen Jan. 16 near the Haitian border out of Barahona.

The following are from May 1990 at San Salvador, Bahamas (SBT). Brown Boobies were ap parently nesting on small keys off North Point in the company of Magnificent Frigatebirds. Nine Sanderlings seen May 31 near Pigeon Creek furnished one of the latest spring records for the Bahamas. Laughing Gulls, Gull-billed Terns, and Least Terns apparently breed in the interior at San Salvador's inland ponds, much as has been observed (RLN) at Anegada and Barbuda. Late migrants included two Chimney Swifts May 26, Belted Kingfisher May 26, Blackpoll Warbler May 29-30, Am. Redstart May 28, and four Indigo Buntings May 19.

**Contributors:** Jon Andrew, Audrey Downer, Chris Haney, Caribbean Images, Craig

Faanes, Orlando Garrido, Douglas Kodama, David Lee, Dave Mansfield, John Mussington, Ivan Periera, Fred Sladen, Scott B. Terrill, Greg Tye. — ROBERT L. NORTON, National Parks Trust, Box 860, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

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# The National Audubon Society's AMERICAN BIRDS presents a field ornithology workshop at Elk Lake-----

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This workshop will be led by Susan Roney Drennan, Editor of AMERICAN BIRDS and author of the definitive site guide, *Where to Find Birds in New York State*, Geoff LeBaron, Christmas Bird Count Editor, and a host of other leaders and crack field assistants. This means small groups!!

Explore one of the most pristine boreal/montane forests remaining in the Adirondacks.

Observe nesting Common Loons, Black-backed Woodpeckers, Olive-sided and Alder flycatchers, Common Ravens, Boreal Chickadees, Gray-cheeked Thrushes, and Blackburnian, Blackpoll, and Mourning warblers.

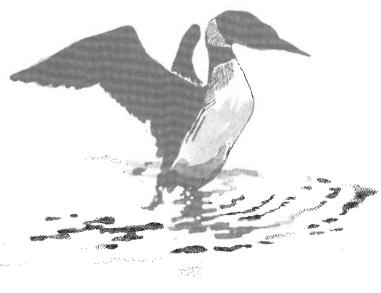
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**2001:** *continued from page 1081* east to its extreme northwest shifts the focus to the problems of migratory shorebird species.

Stan Senner, senior restoration scientist for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, worries about a complex of shorebirds characterized by relatively small populations. Among those he singles out are the Surfbird, the Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and the Bristle-thighed Curlew.

"The Surfbird is a good example," Senner says. "There may be 50,000 or so, which isn't many for the world population of a bird [ranging over much of] the Pacific Coast of the Americas. It scatters widely over Alaska and the Yukon to nest, and it winters all the way to Chile. Where the bird is vulnerable is on the stopover sites. They all bunch up at such points-as they did on migration in 1989 in Prince William Sound at the time the Exxon Valdez went aground. The trajectory of the oil spill just missed them. Half the world population of Surfbirds could have been wiped out."

Unlike the Surfbird, the Buffbreasted Sandpiper lives most dan-



Although there are still approximately 50,000 Surfbirds, they are extremely vulnerable at migratory stopover sites. Photograph/R.H. Armstrong.

gerously when at rest. The Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, now a prime target for the oil interests seeking to invade protected land tracts, provides a key portion of its



No one knows how many Buff-breasted Sandpipers there are left. Photograph/ A. Morris/VIREO.

breeding grounds. In winter, it flies to the Argentine grasslands (pampas) now disappearing under thousands of acres of corn and wheat, just as our Great Plains did decades ago.

"In autumn in the Northeast, birders love to look for 'a good bird,' and the Buff-breasted Sandpiper certainly fills the bill," Senner says. "But we have no idea how many are left. I could say 25,000 and who could dispute me? Some autumn not too far down the line, those birders might run out of good birds."

Two other ornithologists sharing Senner's concern are Colleen Handel and Robert Gill of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Both have studied the Bristle-thighed Curlew, of which there may be no more than 7000 breeding birds worldwide.

Handel has confined her studies to the breeding grounds, where she and her colleagues have found the curlews restricted almost entirely to two areas, the Nulato Hills on the Northern Yukon Delta and the Kougarok Mountains on the western Seward Peninsula.

Though the nesting curlews have seemed reasonably secure to date, Handel reports that "recently Common Ravens became attracted to garbage around Bethel and other native villages near the Yukon Delta. Ravens are increasing and could be a hazard in nesting season."

The Bristle-thighed Curlew's remnant population crosses the Pacific to winter on the Hawaiian and Marshall islands and in French Polynesia. Handel's husband, Bob Gill, sees the birds as even more threatened there than on their breeding grounds. Though it previously has survived the Pacific testing of nuclear arms, he points out that the species now must weather the possible introduction of predators (dogs, cats, rats) and the inevitable increase in tourism in these essentially unregulated areas.

Though none of the curlews is doing very well, the Eskimo Curlew is by far the most endangered—if, indeed, it exists at all.



Tourism in the Pacific and increased predators threaten the Bristle-thighed Curlew. Photograph/Jeff Marks.

A familiar sight during migration to earlier generations of shorebird hunters, the Eskimo Curlew probably now ranks number one on most birders' wishlist of 'life birds.' And there have been, in recent years, a number of reported sightings on our shorelines.

"Instead of a recovery team, we've put together an Eskimo Curlew Advisory Group [to serve] until we see if something out there is recoverable," Craig Faanes of the Fish and Wildlife Service says. "There were a couple of possible sightings last year, one in Corpus Christi and the other in Barbados. Galveston Island has become the focus of attention, but most of the more probable sightings have been inland of there in wet meadows."

Nor is everyone convinced by the reported sightings. "The last *confirmed* sighting was in the early 1960s," Kenn Kaufman, Associate Editor of *American Birds*, has said. "None of the others has been universally accepted."

## **ROSEATE TERN**

Moving from shorebirds to seabirds brings us to the Roseate Tern, a species mentioned over and over by the ornithologists surveyed.

Jeffrey Spendelow of the Fish and Wildlife Service estimates the Roseate Tern population in the northeastern United States and Canada at 3320 pairs. There are perhaps another 3000 pairs in the Caribbean.

"We don't know why this tern declined so rapidly," admits Carl Safina of National Audubon's Science staff. "It seemed to be doing pretty well until the 1950s and '60s. One of the causes may be a longterm drop-off in the abundance of prey fish."

Safina has studied Roseates off New York's Long Island, focusing on the question of why it has declined, while a very similar species (the two sometimes hybridize), the Common Tern, has doubled its numbers in recent years.

"It turns out that Roseates are much more highly specialized," he says. "They forage very heavily on one kind of prey, the sand eel, so they're more vulnerable to habitat fluctuations."

Noting another potential problem, Safina adds, "When Roseates and Commons forage together, the Roseates suffer in competition. For instance, when Bluefish chase small prey to the surface, the Common Terns seem to hover a lot better on their proportionately longer wings."

Approaching the problem from a

different perspective, Michael Gochfield, who has studied the birds for some years, says: "Reproduction in the Northeast is not the problem. They bring off good numbers of chicks. So the problem is accelerated mortality after they leave the nesting islands. They are exploited for food



After healthy decades in the 1950s and 1960s, the Roseate Tern went into a rapid decline. Photograph/A. Morris/VIREO.

on their wintering grounds in Latin America. And in the Caribbean, the local people enter the breeding colonies and collect the eggs, which they believe are aphrodisiacs. Whole colonies are disappearing under our noses."

## **RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER**

If news of the Roseate Tern's decline is relatively recent, that of the



Despite a long battle to save the Red-cockaded Woodpecker, the bird's survival is far from secure. Photograph/Rob Curtis.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker is not. In fact, the campaign to preserve the Red-cockaded must be the bird world's most protracted. Yet the basic question is still unresolved. Will this inhabitant of the Southern pine forest live or die?

"It's pretty disappointing," admits Robert Hooper, a biologist with the United States Forest Service. "It shouldn't be that hard to manage these woodpeckers, especially since most of them are on federal lands. But the bird is not being managed."

An old and somewhat tattered estimate has put the bird's breeding population at 3000 pairs, a guesstimate that, added to the helpers and other non-breeders in most Red-cockaded clans, brought the supposed species total to 10,000. Today that figure is considered very generous.

The Red-cockaded is tied to old pines in which heartrot disease has eased the bird's task of drilling their nesting and roosting cavities. Not surprisingly, forest-industry landowners strenuously object to the 75to 90-year cutting rotations necessary to create trees that would sustain the species.

Thus, although the Red-cockaded made the endangered species list in 1970, no serious management plan was undertaken for a number of years. With the forest industry calling the tune, the species continued to decline.

Jerry Jackson of Mississippi State University has estimated that, as a result of the forest industry's lack of concern, 86 percent of the remaining Red-cockaded colonies are on federal lands, including national forests, wildlife refuges, and military bases.

According to Jackson, "There isn't a single area where the Red-cockaded is increasing. The Forest Service claimed that the birds were increasing on the Francis Marion National Forest—a claim that I doubted—but, in 1989, along came Hurricane Hugo and destroyed the The newest generation of binoculars...



forest. They lost half their birds."

"As far as the various agencies go, the Southeast is a terrible region," Jackson has said. "It's the pits, mostly a bunch of good ol' boys who like to shoot quail and turkeys but who don't like controversy."

Frances James of Florida State University, a former president of the American Ornithologists' Union, is equally pessimistic.

"Almost every forest has had dramatic losses in Red-cockadeds," she says. "The Forest Service admitted most of the losses, but has said that the birds are doing all right on three national forests—Kisatchie in Louisiana, Apalachicola in Florida, and Marion in South Carolina. But Kisatchie has birds doing well in some areas, poorly in others. I've done most of my work in the Wakulla area of Apalachicola and the population there is *not* healthy. And you know what *Hugo* did to Marion."

Under pressure from the Fish and Wildlife Service to manage the little woodpeckers under the terms of the Endangered Species Act, the Forest Service has belatedly taken positive steps. Its officials have stopped some timber sales in the national forests, proposed lengthening the rotation of tree generations to leave scattered old growth, and prohibited timber removal within three-quarters of a mile of nesting sites.

"The industry response is mixed," says Gary Henry, who serves as Fish and Wildlife Service coordinator of the Red-cockaded in the Southeast Region. "Some companies hide the fact that they have birds on their land. They generally want shorter rotations. They may leave something out there, but not much that's of use in the long run."

Frances James, who is trying to refine the old Red-cockaded estimates, has sent questionnaires asking A.O.U. members to supply more specific numbers in their areas. "Positive management is needed for the Red-cockaded, including prescribed burning to kill young hardwoods that will soon grow in and take over from the pines," she says. "Without planning at least 25 years ahead, the species will just go on disappearing."

## **CALIFORNIA CONDOR**

If birding were baseball, future sightings of the California Condor would require an asterisk. This big relic of prehistory is now extinct in the wild and in the future will soar, like the home run that broke Babe Ruth's record, in conditions newly contrived by humans.

The world's population of California Condors totals 40 and is equally divided between the Los Angeles Zoo and the San Diego Wild Animal Park. Eight chicks (five males and three females), twice as many as in any previous year, were hatched in 1990. Twelve pairs are expected to reproduce in 1991.

"Those figures exceeded our wildest expectations," says Bill Toon, who directs the captive breeding program in San Diego. "But we're not out of the woods by any means. Only eight of the 16 eggs hatched last year, so there may be inbreeding problems. As we keep the program going, any problems like that will become evident."

Noel Snyder, who had directed the recovery program for the Fish and Wildlife Service, is known to favor putting the condors back into the wild in some region—maybe southeastern Arizona—that may not be as hazardous (because of lead poisoning, among other things) as the California habitat that first finished off the bird.

But that is not the party line. "The plan is to establish two separate populations," explains Toon. "But I can promise you that California has top priority. We won't release condors anywhere else until we are satisfied that we have enough good candidates to establish a wild flock here. After that we will look into the

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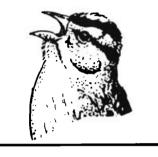
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The plan is to establish two wild populations of California Condors; one in California and one, possibly, in Arizona. Photograph/S. LaFrance/VIREO.

possibilities in Arizona. State officials have been very cooperative and, after all, Arizona was once condor habitat."

Some biologists fear that, if environmental conditions in California continue to prove lethal to the big birds, the new flock there will ultimately be abandoned. John Ogden, who headed National Audubon's condor recovery effort for many years and now is with the National Park Service, has an argument to counter them.

"Under the Endangered Species Act," he asks, "how can they not make California their first priority? They have all the habitat research behind them in California and would be starting from scratch in Arizona. Our goal in California from the beginning was to save not only the condor, but also to use the con-dor to save the habitat on which it and countless other organisms depended."

Though Toon admits that all the

environmental problems in old condor country scare him, he insists that the effort must be made in these last strongholds.

"The best way to solve the problems is to put birds back in that habitat," he says. "The condor can be the tool that will help us find out what's wrong and correct it. We hope to start releasing California Condors late this year."

## And so we end with questions:

Can vital habitats be saved from industry and commercial development?

Can damaged habitats be restored?

Can parasites be controlled when they threaten the survival of a species?

Is it worth the effort to save a species when it can only be maintained by

## 2001: BIRDS THAT WON'T BE WITH US

SPECIES NAME	STATUS	POPULATION ESTIMATE
Common Loon	Declining	Unavailable
Reddish Egret	Declining	Unavailable
Wood Stork	Endangered	<10,000
California Condor	Endangered	40 (in captivity)
Snail Kite	Endangered (subspecies)	<700
Whooping Crane	Endangered	200+
Snowy Plover	Declining	Unavailable
Piping Plover	Endangered (subspecies) Threatened	<100 <9000
Eskimo Curlew	Endangered	Possibly Extinct
Bristle-thighed Curlew	Declining	<7000
Surfbird	Declining	<50,000
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Declining	Unavailable
Roseate Tern	Endangered (subspecies)	<7000
	Threatened	<12,000
Least Tern	Endangered (subspecies)	Unavailable
	Threatened	Unavailable
Marbled Murrelet	Declining	Unavailable
Spotted Owl	Threatened	Unavailable
Red-cockaded Woodpecker		<5000
lvory-billed Woodpecker	Endangered	Possibly Extinct
Florida Scrub Jay	Declining	<10,000
California Gnatcatcher	(Endangered)	<3000
Wood Thrush	Declining	Unavailable
Loggerhead Shrike	Endangered (subspecies)	Unavailable
	Declining	Unavailable
Black-capped Vireo	Endangered	<500
Black-whiskered Vireo	Declining	Unavailable
Bachman's Warbler	Endangered	Possibly Extinct
Golden-winged Warbler	Declining	Unavailable
Golden-cheeked Warbler	Endangered	<4000
Kirtland's Warbler	Endangered	500+
Swainson's Warbier	Declining	Unavailable
Grasshopper Sparrow	Endangered (subspecies)	Unavailable
	Declining	Unavailable

continued human intervention?

Can we look past shortterm economic gains to the long-term betterment of our environment?

## Ultimately the big question is:

Whether man can do an about-face and become the force that saves birds rather than the force that destroys them.

## By 2001, we should have some answers.

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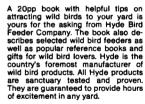
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**From now on,** the last page of American Birds is reserved for fun.

This issue, it's a bird/entertainment quiz. Next time, it could be almost anything.

So dazzle us with your knowledge and you might even win a prize.

#### 1. What is Captain Pierce's nickname on M\*A\*S\*H?



2. "Let's talk about the black bird." In what 1941 film did Humphrey Bogart speak this line?

**3.** Who are the two unmarried ladies in the game of Clue?

4. What musical comedy featured the songs "A Lot of Livin' To Do" and "Put on a Happy Face"?

**5.** Name the Ken Kesey novel in which a sane convict is sent to a state mental hospital much to the regret of the rigid head nurse.

**6.** What is the name of the famous New York jazz club named after a great American saxophonist?

**7.** A Hollywood drifter brings an aging glamour queen back to his home town. Things turn torrid in this Tennessee Williams play.

**8.** What is the name of the 1961 novel that won a Pulitzer Prize for author Harper Lee?

**9.** The group Led Zeppelin was originally billed as \_\_\_\_\_.

**10.** Name the first film produced in Nicaragua after the Sandinista Revolution.



## 11. What kind of bird was the custodian of the secret word on the old Groucho Marx quiz show You Bet Your Life?

**12.** Name a popular nighttime soap opera with a bird in the title.

**13.** What is the name of the 1985 movie, based on a true story, in which two inexperienced, middleclass young men are caught selling CIA secrets to the Soviets?

## **14.** Name this Simon and Garfunkel bird song of 1970.

**15.** Who was Cock Robin's sweetheart in "Who Killed Cock Robin?"

**16.** Name the 1985 film in which two friends from South Philadelphia are wounded in Vietnam; one physically, the other mentally.

**17.** What was the name of the 1940 movie in which Ann Sheridan says to Pat O'Brien, "Mister, the stork that brought you must have been a vulture"?

## **18.** Actor Burgess Meredith played the part of this Batman adversary on TV.

## **19.** Neil Diamond wrote the score for this 1973 bird movie.

**20.** Nine birds are mentioned in the 1958 rock 'n roll song Rockin' Robin. Can you name seven of them?

If you think that you answered less than 10

correctly, you are a well-adjusted human being whose mind is occupied with important matters.

If you think you got **10 to 12** 

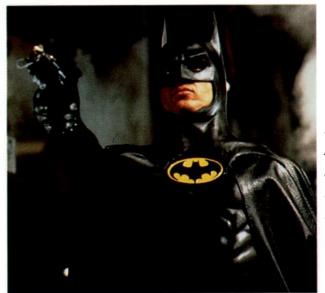
right, you can probably still perform most tasks, though not while chewing gum. If you think you answered **13 to 15** correctly, you were either at Woodstock or you've been

drinking from a lead cup.

If you think that, perchance, you have answered **more than 15** questions correctly, you are completely daffy, our kind of person, and eligible for a prize.

Write your answers on a piece of paper and mail to: American Birds Quiz, 950 Third Avenue, New York, New York, 10022.

The 25 (or so) entrants with the most correct answers will win books



Check the back page in the next issue of American Birds for another quiz, the answers to this one, and a list of the winners.

See you in April.



Every morning...rain, snow or shine... I get up early, stumble into some warm clothes, and take my dog for a walk in the woods. It's great exercise, and we've seen some magnificent sunrises. But the real pleasure is watching my dog. She loves to run around, chase squirrels, hunt field mice. You can just tell she feels part of the woods, part of nature. And when Tm cooped up at the office all day, a little of nature stays with me too.

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