

# Appalachian Region

## GEORGE A. HALL

What a winter! The birding was interesting but the weather, with its rapid shifts between extremes, was the main topic of interest. Each of the three months produced some unusually cold weather, and a major snowstorm. But there were also a series of lesser snowfalls throughout the season, interspersed with periods of mild, spring-like weather. The net result was that while December averaged colder than normal, the other two months were slightly on the warm side. Precipitation was normal in February, below normal in December, and 1.13 inches in excess at Pittsburgh in January.

The period started with normal temperatures, but an unseasonably cold wave reached the Region December 11. This caused a freeze-up of most ponds and small lakes, which remained icebound for the season. There was a major snowfall (which was not much, compared with what came later). The latter part of the month was on the mild, dry side, but a very heavy snowfall January 6–7 over-

whelmed the Region. The “Blizzard of 1996” produced record accumulations of snow at many places, especially in the south and east. Temperatures were initially very low. But a much warmer period with some heavy rains followed; coupled with melting snow, it caused some heavy flooding, particularly on the Ohio River. The February pattern was almost a duplicate of January. A major snowstorm came about February 4–6, followed by sub-zero temperatures. Amazingly, late February temperatures soared to near 80° F. The storm systems generally moved across the south and then north along the east coast. As a result, the southern areas often got more snow than the north. Thus from January 7 to February 9 at Johnson City, TN, 50 percent of the days had total snow cover.

There were plenty of birds around at the start of the season. The December freeze-up caused most waterfowl to concentrate on the major rivers, and caused some of the half-hearted species to depart. In late December most areas had excellent CBCs with long species lists and high counts. But after the blizzard of early January there were fewer reports of these species. There is no way of knowing if mortality was high, if the birds simply moved out, or—as is certainly possible—if the cold temperatures and excessive snow made it difficult for observers to be afield.

The first signs of spring migration came with the mild weather in the last week of February, which was a little late for some species. The expected species had all arrived, just in time to greet the return of winter in early March.

There was an “invasion” of the northern species, with 17 staging major southward flights. A few of these, such as Red-breasted Nuthatches, were found almost everywhere but were seldom in outstanding numbers. Other species—such as Evening Grosbeak, Pine Siskin, and especially Common Redpoll—were widespread but spottily distributed. Large numbers would come to one feeder, while another feeder a few miles away attracted none. Most of these birds arrived in December, and most remained through the periods of hard weather.

Abbreviations: H.W. (*Hawk Watch Station*),

K.C.P.P. (*Kyger Cr. Power Plant, Gallia Co, OH*); M.C.F.H. (*Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan Co., KY*); P.I.S.P. (*Presque Isle S.P., Erie Co, PA*); P.N.R. (*Powdermill Nature Reserve, Westmoreland Co., PA*); R.C.B.L. (*Robert C. Byrd Locks, Ohio River, Mason Co., WV, formerly known as Gallipolis Locks*).

## Loons to Herons

A Red-throated Loon was at Watauga L., TN Feb. 21 (GWA). Thirty Com. Loons wintering at Cherokee L., TN (RK) was noteworthy, but elsewhere there were only a few scattered single birds. It was a great season for grebes. Pied-billed Grebes were in unusual numbers, particularly in e. Tennessee where 100 wintered at Cherokee L., and >90 at S. Holston L. (RK). Horned Grebes were also reported in more-than-usual numbers. Red-necked Grebes at Watauga L., Jan. 21 (JB, AH) and Boone L., Feb. 1–15 (RK) provided the 6th and 7th records for n.e. Tennessee. One was also reported at Youghiogheny Dam, PA Jan. 7 (AM). The Eared Grebes reported from S. Holston L., TN in the fall season remained until Dec. 17 and then reappeared Jan. 8 (WC, RK). A W. Grebe was found on the Bushy Run, *Westmoreland, PA* CBC Dec. 17 (DB, JPM).

The Am. White Pelican has now been present at Johnson City/Kingsport, TN for a year (RK), and another was seen at Ft. Loudon Dam, TN Feb. 17 (RD). Up to 13 Double-crested Cormorants wintered near Kingsport, TN (RK), where they are now regular year-round. More unusual were single birds in *Fayette, PA* Dec. 7 (M&EW), and on CBCs at *Linesville, PA* Dec. 17 (*vide* RFL) and *Raystown, PA* Jan. 1 (GG).

Great Blue Herons were unusually numerous in December, with 28 in one group on the Allegheny R. near Pittsburgh Dec. 28 (JV); some high CBC counts included a record 22 at *Augusta, VA* Dec. 16 (*vide* YL); 10 at *Lewisburg, WV* Dec. 17 (CH); and four at *Morgantown, WV* Dec. 17 (LG). Most herons disappeared after the New Year, but nest building was observed in *Whitfield, GA* Feb. 27 (*vide* HD), and they were back in the *Mercer, PA* heronry Feb. 25 (EB). Up to 16 Black-crowned Night-Herons wintered at Kingsport, TN (RK).

## Waterfowl

The waterfowl season produced the best reports in years, no doubt due to concentrations of birds in the limited amount of open water. Indicative of this effect were the 19 species of waterfowl seen on the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers at Pittsburgh after the general freeze-up of the lakes (PH).





Two Brant on the Ohio River at Belpre, Ohio, across from Parkersburg, West Virginia, on December 5, 1995. Photograph/Wendell L. Argabrite.

A few Tundra Swans remained in the Region in early December: 86 in *Venango*, PA Dec. 9 (JS, KG); 48 at Allegheny N.F., PA Dec. 11 (DWO); two–three at L. Somerset, PA Dec. 12 (AM); and one in *Botetourt*, VA Dec. 9 (JF *et al.*). Reports of Mute Swans continue to increase; surely they are not all escapes. Reports came from P.I.S.P., with one Dec. 9 (JM) and four Dec. 16–17 (MF, JM); three in *Armstrong*, PA Jan. 6–Feb. 10 (MH), singles in Pittsburgh Jan. 2 (MV) and K.C.P.P., Dec. 10 (WA *et al.*); five at R.C.B.L., Jan. 14 (WA); and two at Apple Grove, WV Feb. 22 (WA *et al.*). Quite unusual for the Region were four Greater White-fronted Geese at Bristol, TN Dec. 2 (WC) and one in *Washington*, TN Feb. 15–23 (RK) providing the 3rd and 4th local records, and one at R.C.B.L., Feb. 15 (MG, WA). December records of Snow Geese came from Beaver Run Res., *Westmoreland*, PA 75 Dec. 9 (R&SG), Linesville, PA Dec. 17 (RFL), *Wood*, WV Dec. 5 and Feb. 10 (JE), R.C.B.L., Jan. 30 (WA), M.C.F.H., Jan. 16–17 (FB), and Cherokee L., TN Jan. 16 (RK, WC). Most unusual for the Region were the two **Brant** on the Ohio R. at Parkersburg, WV/Belpre, OH Dec. 5–Jan. 9 (ph., m. ob.), and one at Blairsville GA, Dec. 25–Jan. 14 (m.ob., *fide* DF). There were some high counts of Canada Geese:

16,000 at Pymatuning L., PA Dec. 17, reduced to 3000 by Feb. 24 (RFL); 2000 at M.C.F.H. and Cave Run L., KY (FB); 499 at P.I.S.P., Dec. 17 (JM); and 236, a record CBC count, in *Augusta*, VA Dec. 16 (YL). Most unusual for the Region were single “Richardson’s” Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis hutchinsi*) at P.I.S.P., Dec. 17 (JM) and Lyndhurst, VA Dec. 27 (SR).

Dabbling ducks were all in good numbers, but Green-winged Teals were exceptionally numerous, and more Gadwall and N. Shovelers were encountered than usual.

Diving ducks were in very good numbers. Of particular interest were the above-average numbers of Canvasbacks reported from most places. Some of the high counts were: Canvasback, 154 at Sand Creek, *Wood*, WV Feb. 23 (JE); Lesser Scaup, 1200 at Pymatuning L., Dec. 2 (RFL); Com. Goldeneye, 300 at Cherokee L., TN Feb. 10 (RK); and Bufflehead, 300 at Pymatuning L., PA Dec. 2 (RFL). Hooded Merganser continues to be one of the most numerous ducks in the Region, with a high count of 1650 at Pymatuning L., Dec. 2 (RFL). There were many more than the usual number of Com. Mergansers reported, but Red-breasted Mergansers were scarce.

Greater Scaup, normally quite rare in this inland Region, were above average at most places. Oldsquaws were reported from Starbrick, PA Dec. 23 (D&BW), Trout Run Res., PA Feb. 27 (RSh), Beaver Run Res., PA Feb. 28 (DL), and Watauga L., TN Jan. 17 (TM). Black Scoters were found at P.I.S.P., Dec. 19 (JM, DS). Surf Scoters were at P.I.S.P., Dec. 1 (JM) and Boone L., TN Dec. 22 (RK), while White-winged Scoters were found at P.I.S.P., Dec. 1–12 (JM) and Cherokee L., TN Feb. 10 (RK).

### Raptors

A kettle of 67 Black Vultures on the *Huntingdon*, PA CBC Dec. 17 (MK, RSi) was especially noteworthy so far north. A roost in *Cumberland*, PA had 52 Black Vultures and 15 Turkey Vultures (DHe). A Turkey

Vulture in *Erie*, PA Dec. 5 represented the latest fall record by 35 days (JSt), while spring arrival dates at most places were in the last few days of February.

There were 65 Bald Eagles reported from 15 sites (2 of which did not give numbers). After being reported in good numbers in previous seasonal reports, N. Harriers were felt to be in short supply this winter. Cooper’s Hawks were numerous, with a record high of 15 on the Pittsburgh CBC (JV), 15 on the *Indiana*, PA CBC (M & R H), and a record-high seven on the *Augusta*, VA CBC (YL). Northern Goshawks were reported from Warren, PA Dec. 6 & 10 (WE, TG, WH); *Venango*, PA Feb. 28–29 (JS & KG); 3 locations in *Centre*, PA Dec. 16, 17 & 31 (*fide* JPe); *Indiana*, PA Dec. 24 (JD); *Cumberland*, PA Jan. 18 (DHe); *Alleghany*, MD Jan. 28 (*fide* JPa); and Roanoke, VA Dec. 16 (JA, KD). Red-shouldered Hawks were reported in unusually high numbers for winter. Red-tailed Hawks were in high numbers in c. West Virginia along Interstate 79 (TF). An interesting novelty was an all-white Red-tailed at *Warren*, PA (TG WH).

The hawk of the season was the Rough-legged, which made an unprecedented influx into the Region. All Pennsylvania reporting stations had them, and they were noted as far south as *Columbiana*, OH (CB); *Tucker* (AW) and *Mason*, WV (WA); *Alleghany*, MD (JPa); *Alleghany* (MS, KD), *Franklin* (MS), and *Highland*, VA (*fide* YL); and *Sullivan*, TN (JSm). Nine Golden Eagles were seen at the Bald Eagle Mountain H.W. during December (DBr), while several were seen in *Highland*, VA Feb. 18 (Augusta Bird Club), one in *Alleghany*, MD Jan. 28 (JPa), four in *Botetourt*, VA Dec. 16 (JF *et al.*), three at Burke’s Garden, VA Jan. 27 (KH), and several in n.w. Georgia (JSe).

Merlins were reported from Meander Res., PA Dec. 16 (CB), *Centre*, PA Dec. 17 (TO, GK), Pittsburgh Jan. 9 into February (MV), Roanoke, VA Dec. 16 (JF), and 3 locations in *Botetourt*, VA Dec. 17 and Feb. 10 (m.ob.). Peregrines were seen in downtown Roanoke, VA Dec. 3 (JF) and Jan. 16 (KS), and three were listed on the Pittsburgh CBC Dec. 30 (JV).

### Turkey to Gulls

The Wild Turkey continues to expand range and increase its numbers, as illustrated by 208 on the *Indiana*, PA CBC (M&RH) and a single flock of 98 at Beaver Run Res., PA (D&KB). Both counts were made in December and there were no comments about status after the heavy snows. A Virginia Rail was found at Bristol, TN Dec. 31 (RK). The 200 Am. Coots at Conneaut L., PA Dec. 2 had



The very small Canada Goose at center (with other Canadas and Tundra Swans), present at Presque Isle State Park, Pennsylvania, December 17, 1995, was thought to represent the race *B. c. hutchinsi*—a very rare stray to the region. Photograph/Jerry McWilliams.

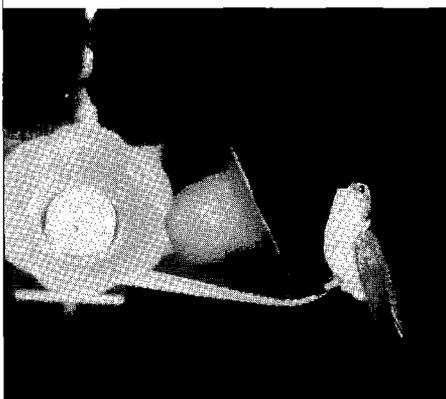
dwindled to 18 at the end of the period (RFL) The seven Sandhill Cranes in *Lawrence*, PA remained until Dec. 8 (GW) The 50 cranes at Boone L., TN Dec 16 (LR) were well e. of the usual pathway through the state. Northward migration was observed in *Murray* and *Whitfield*, GA, where 727 were counted Feb 10–27 (*vide* HD).

There were a few scattered reports of Killdeer in late December and January, but general arrival was in the 3rd week of February. A few Com. Snipe wintered in n e Tennessee (RK); 24 were seen at New Hope, VA Feb. 7(AL) and 26 in *Murray*, GA Feb. 20 (HD). An Am. Woodcock was seen at Delmont, PA Dec. 13 (KB) and one was found on the Pipestem S.P., CBC (JP), but general spring arrival was not until the last week of February.

At Pymatuning L., PA, 3600 Bonaparte's Gulls were counted Dec. 2, but only one remained for the CBC Dec. 17 (RFL) Three-hundred were at Cherokee L., TN Feb. 10 (RK). Ring-billed Gulls were quite common on streams with open water and some impressive concentrations built up: 50,000 at Pymatuning L., PA Dec 2 (RFL); 6000 at Cherokee L., TN (RK), 3297 on the Pittsburgh CBC Dec. 30 (JV); 800–1000 at Boone L., TN (RK), 405 on the Morgantown, WV CBC Dec 17 (LG); and 200 at M.C.F.H. (FB). Most of these dissipated later; the Pymatuning figure had dropped to 82 on the CBC Dec. 17, and after freeze-up the count at M.C.F.H. dwindled to one—two. Herring Gulls were unusually numerous for this Region: 424 on the Pittsburgh CBC (JV), >200 at Warren, PA Jan. 1 (B&DW). As usual, P.I.S.P. produced a series of rarer gulls: one Thayer's Gull Feb. 25 and five Feb. 29; four Iceland Gull, Feb 25–29; a Lesser Black-backed Gull Dec 11–12; seven Glaucous Gulls Dec. 11–Feb. 29; and a Glaucous x Herring hybrid Feb. 25–29 (JM). A **Lesser Black-backed Gull** on the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers Dec. 30–Jan. 1 (m.ob.) provided the first s.w. Pennsylvania record. Five Great Black-backed Gulls were at Warren, PA Dec. 23 (D&BW). The gull of the season was a **Black-legged Kittiwake** at Boone Dam, TN Dec. 27–Jan. 1 (VR, RK, WC), representing the first local record and about the 7th state record.

### Owls to Horned Lark

Long-eared Owls were reported at P.I.S.P., Dec 2 and Dec. 23–28 (DD), at 2 locations in *Venango*, PA Dec. 15–17 and Feb. 7–25 (JS, KG), ≤three at Moraine S.P., PA in February (DD), and one found dead at Burke's Garden, VA Jan 27 (KH) It was a



**Present since autumn, this *Selasphorus* hummingbird, identified locally as a Rufous, remained in Hampshire County, West Virginia, into mid-January. Photograph/ Robert Simpson.**

record year for Short-eared Owls, which were reported from P.I.S.P. in the n. to Weyer's Cave, VA (HL), *Monroe*, WV (*vide* CS), R.C.B.L. (MG, WA), and from near Chattanooga, TN (LK). High counts were 17 at Gettysburg, PA (KGa) and 15 in *Columbiana*, OH (J&DH). Most departed after the heavy snows. The big fall flight of N. Saw-whet Owls continued, with an unusual number of winter records from *Erie*, *Crawford* (JM) *Venango* (JS), *Butler* (DD), and *Cumberland* (DHe) PA; *Huntington*, WV (WA); and *Augusta*, VA (YL).

The Rufous Hummingbird reported from *Hampshire*, WV in the fall was last seen in mid-January (RS). Red-headed Woodpeckers have been declining for several years, so the unusual number of reports from 8 sites in Pennsylvania, one in West Virginia, and one in Ohio was good news. The Red-bellied Woodpecker continues to do well in newly occupied n. range in *Warren*, PA (DW) and *Elk*, PA (LC). Record CBC counts included 170 Red-bellieds at Pittsburgh (JV), 55 at Rector, PA (RCL, RM), 45 at Bushy Run, PA (RCL, RM), and 44 at Jefferson, PA (RB). More Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were reported than usual.

There were December records of ten E. Phoebes from n. and c. Pennsylvania: *Erie* (*vide* JM), *Crawford* (RFL), *Centre* (*vide* JPe), *Huntingdon* (GG), and *Westmoreland* (*vide* RCL). Most of these were CBC counts, as were the five each on the *Augusta*, VA and *Waynesboro*, VA counts (YL). The only later record came from Morgantown, WV Jan. 7 after the big snowfall (LS). Phoebes did survive the winter in n.e. Tennessee (RK). The good concentrations of Horned Larks—such as 1200 in *Lawrence*, PA Feb. 2 (BD) and 250 at *Botetourt*, VA Jan 6 (MS *et al.*)—may have been the result of the scarcity of snow-free habitat

### Corvids to Warblers

A Fish Crow at Fincastle, VA Dec 17 (TFi) was noteworthy. A Com. Raven at Morgantown, WV Jan 25 (SS) was only slightly out of range; two flying over *Greene*, PA Jan 12 and Feb. 18 & 19 (RB) were more unusual, and one in *Venango* Jan. 24 provided only the 4th county record (JS, RSt). Four ravens were seen at 2 sites in the Ridge and Valley Province of n.e. Tennessee, where they are infrequently encountered (RK). The southward movement of Black-capped Chickadees noted in the Fall continued, with 785 listed on the *Indiana*, PA CBC, twice the 10-year average (M&RH), but apparently they did not go very far south. They were very common in the Morgantown, WV area, where the CBC listed 52 Black-cappeds, 60 Carolinas, and 31 unidentified (LG), while at nearby *Marion* Black-cappeds outnumbered Carolinas (AW). Black-cappeds were also numerous in *Botetourt*, VA (MS) Two Carolina Chickadees at a feeder in *Chambersburg*, PA (KG) were noteworthy

As noted in the fall report, Red-breasted Nuthatches and Brown Creepers were part of the southward influx. Both species were in above-normal—but not exceptionally high—numbers almost everywhere in the Region. At the start of the season Carolina Wren populations were making a slow comeback, and CBC counts in December were encouraging. At *Newville*, PA the count was 37, up from last year's 23 (DHe), and 19 were listed on the *Jefferson*, PA CBC (RB). Winter survival was thought to be good at P.N.R (RM, RCL), and in n.e. Tennessee (RK), but the true picture will not be known until later. A House Wren was found on the *Kingsport* TN CBC, Dec. 27 (RK) and one was singing (!) at *Roanoke*, VA during some unseasonably warm weather Feb. 23–24 (MS) The Winter Wren was on the long list of species showing higher-than-usual numbers.

Both kinglet species were in below-normal numbers at *Dalton*, GA (HD) There were 10 Ruby-crowned Kinglets on the *Lock Haven*, PA CBC (P&GS), and few scattered reports in the north where they are usually absent. One was singing at *Morgantown*, WV Feb. 24 (SS). The *Jefferson*, PA CBC had a record count of 110 E Bluebirds (RB). Elsewhere, numbers were good in December and survival rates through the hard weather seemed good. The 10 areas reporting Hermit Thrushes were more than usual. There were few comments about wintering Am. Robins, and the spring arrivals came, as usual, in late February. The *Pittsburgh* CBC listed a record 16 N. Mockingbirds (JV). There were records from *Butler* and *Lawrence*, PA (*vide* PH), which are n of the usual range, and one in *Somerset*, PA

Jan. 18 (AM) was also out of range. The only report of Gray Catbird was of two in *Erie*, PA Dec. 30 (LCh). A Brown Thrasher was seen in *Erie*, PA Jan. 10 (SD), and single thrashers were found at 3 locations in *Washington*, TN (RK).

A flock of >50 Am. Pipits was reported from Apple Grove, WV Dec. 10 (WA *et al.*) and the 12 at Linesville, PA Dec. 17 provided a CBC first for that area (IF, JBa). The irruption of N. Shrikes was the heaviest within memory. A total of 34 birds were reported at 16 locations. The southernmost reports came from *Westmoreland*, PA (*vide* RCL, RM) and *Brooke*, WV (*vide* WA). There were only 7 reports of Loggerhead Shrikes in the usual stronghold in n.e. Tennessee (RK). A few were reported from Toccoa, GA (DBu) and one was seen in *Murray*, GA Feb. 3 (JSp). Single Solitary Vireos were found at 2 locations in *Botetourt*, VA Dec. 17, and one was seen in *Botetourt* Jan. 28 (MS, JF).

More-than-usual numbers of Yellow-rumped Warblers were present in December, with an astonishing 288 found at Loyalhanna Res., Dec. 17 (DK *et al.*) and 25–50 still there Jan. 16–22 (DL). On the morning of Jan. 23 in *Greene*, PA, 38 were seen leaving the night roost (RB). More unusual warbler records were: Cape May Warbler at Roanoke, VA Dec. 7–Jan. 1 (MS); Pine Warblers at Dalton, GA through January and February (HD); Palm Warblers at Kingsport, TN Dec. 27 and *Washington*, TN Jan. 5 (RK); and Am. Redstart at Kingsport Dec. 29 (first Tennessee winter record) (JMo).

### Cardinals to Finches

The Black-headed Grosbeak that appeared at Wexford, PA in September remained through February (RSc). A ♂ Painted Bunting was a great treat at Eton, GA Dec. 17 (HD *et al.*). A Dickcissel was found at Stuart's Draft, VA Dec. 28 (SR).

Four E. Towhees were at Pipestem S.P., WV all season (JP). Other records were: *Elk*, PA in December (DWo); Meadville, PA Dec. 30–Feb. 29 (RFL); P.N.R. to at least mid-January (RCL, RM); and *Marion*, WV Jan. 15 (AW). After several years of scarcity, the Am. Tree Sparrow staged a very heavy flight. They were very numerous everywhere in the north and were reported as far south as Roanoke, VA (JF), Pipestem S.P., WV (JP), and *Sullivan*, TN (JSm). At the stations they were evident only after a heavy snowfall. Up to four Chipping Sparrows remained at Girard, PA until Jan. 1 (JM, JBx); four were found on the *Augusta*, VA CBC Dec. 16, with one there Jan. 21 (YL), and one was seen in *Sullivan*, TN Dec. 23 (RK). Savannah Sparrows wintered

at several sites in n.e. Tennessee (RK), and four were found on the *Waynesboro*, VA CBC Dec. 28 (YL). A Lincoln's Sparrow in *Augusta*, VA Dec. 28 provided the first county winter record (SR). One was at Fincastle, VA Dec. 17 (TFi), and one was tallied at a feeder in *Carter*, TN Jan. 9–13 for a 2nd local winter record (FA). Song Sparrows were generally in low numbers. Fox Sparrows showed up in large numbers after heavy snowfalls, and at the end of the period there was a heavy northbound flight. White-throated and White-crowned sparrows were in good numbers almost everywhere in December, but numbers declined after the January heavy snow.

Five–six "Oregon" Dark-eyed Juncos were in *Erie*, PA (JM) and one was in *Indiana*, PA Dec. 20–Feb. 15 (MH). Lapland Longspurs were reported from *Erie*, *Venango*, *Armstrong*, *Indiana*, *Westmoreland*, and *Cumberland* in Pennsylvania, and 2 locations in *Augusta*, VA (YL). Snow Buntings were reported in unusually large numbers throughout w. Pennsylvania, and they were found as far south as Pipestem S.P., WV (JP) and Round Bald, *Carter*, TN (KC).

There were more E. Meadowlarks wintering near P.N.R. than usual (RCL, RM), and 11 were found near Elkton, VA Jan 19 (MGS). In the Roanoke, VA area, E. Meadowlarks, Red-winged Blackbirds, and Com. Grackles all disappeared after the heavy January snow (JT, MS). A Baltimore Oriole was at Markleton, PA Dec. 4–Jan. 8 (AM).

There was a lone Pine Grosbeak at a feeder at Cumberland, MD Jan. 8 for the only report (JPa). Purple Finches were missing from many places and were not in large numbers any location. House Finches were generally in low numbers. Small flocks of Red Crossbills were at Edinboro, PA throughout the period (DS), Conneaut Marsh, PA Dec. 30 (RFL), *Centre*, PA Dec. 17–18 (m.ob.), Slippery Rock, PA Dec. 16 (GW), *Botetourt*, VA Dec. 16–17 (JF *et al.*), and on the Elizabethton, TN CBC (WC). The only report of White-winged Crossbill was from *Allegheny*, PA Dec. 20 (RMD). The influx of Com. Redpolls was not as heavy as 2 years ago, but they were quite numerous at some places. Other places had none. Most of the records were from Pennsylvania, as far south as *Fayette* (GC) and Greencastle (CG). Outside of Pennsylvania they were reported from *Trumbull* (CB) and *Mahoning* (NB) OH, *Garret*, MD (CSk), and, most remarkably, from *Greene*, TN in early February (*vide* RK). With these were 2 reports of Hoary Redpolls, at New Castle, PA Dec. 27 (BD) and through the period in *Elk*, PA (LC). American Goldfinches were numerous at places that

did not have redpolls. Pine Siskins were present at some places throughout the Region, but many stations had none. The flocks were generally rather small, but occasionally flocks of ≤100 were present. Evening Grosbeaks staged a fairly heavy influx, but numbers and distribution did not compare with the flights a decade ago. Like the siskins, they were mostly in small flocks and were spottily distributed.

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