Arizona



Gary H. Rosenberg

(PASSERINES) P.O. Box 91856 Tucson, Arizona 85752-1856 (ghrosenberg@comcast.net)

Mark M. Stevenson

(NON-PASSERINES) 4201 East Monte Vista Drive #J207 Tucson, Arizona 85712-5554 (drbrdr@att.net) The fall was marked by continued drought, mild weather resulting in late departures, a moderate influx of northern species, and a first state record.

Abbreviations: A.B.C. (Arizona Bird Committee); A.V.S.T.P. (Avra Valley S.T.P.); B.T.A. (Boyce Thompson Arboretum); G.F.P. (Gila Farms Pond); L.C.R.V. (Lower Colorado River Valley); N.I.R. (Navajo Indian Reservation); P.A.P. (Pinal Air Park pecan grove); S.P.R. (San Pedro R.); S.W.T. (Sweetwater Wetlands Tucson); Whitewater (Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area).

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

Rare migrant Pacific Loons were found at Apache L. 3 Nov (NM), Yuma 10 Nov (ph. HD), and Lake Havasu City 19 Nov (MMS, MPo). Migrant Common Loons were present in above-average numbers, with 27 statewide 16 Oct—30 Nov. The Least Grebe from spring at S.W.T. was last seen 8 Aug (m. ob.). Another (or the same) Least Grebe appeared there 9 Nov+ (L. Halsey, ph. KK, m. ob.). Individual Horned Grebes were at Lyman L. 12 Nov (GC, DR) and Glen Canyon Dam 29 Nov+ (SB, MMS, MPo). In the L.C.R.V., 6 were above Parker Dam 30 Nov (CB, SS). The earliest migrant Western Grebes arrived in s. Arizona 21 Sep at A.V.S.T.P., about two weeks early (MMS). Five Clark's Grebes at Marana 14 Sep+ was a large group away from summering areas (M. Hickey, ph. GHR). Singles were at Willcox 22 Sep (DW), Saguaro L. 23 Sep (BP), Ashurst L. 6 Oct (T. Linda), Patagonia L. 29 Oct (SH), and Arivaca L. 16 Nov (M Scott), where casual in all cases.

The major influx of Brown Pelicans continued with an additional 28 individuals reported during the period. Neotropic Cormorants away from typical areas included singles at Paloma 3 Aug (TC), Gilbert 25 Aug (MMS), Kingfisher Pond, S.P.R. 28 Oct (PW), and S.W.T. 12 Nov (DW). A dozen in Scottsdale 9 Nov (TC) was a large group away from the Gila R. Seemingly lost, an American Bittern spent a day in a Tucson cactus garden 13 Oct (KK). The post-breeding influx of waders brought an imm. Little Blue Heron to Whitewater (JH, et al.) and single Tricolored Herons to Apache Junction (M. Moore) and Gilbert (ph. JBu), all on 15 Sep. Still casual in the state, a single imm. dark-morph Reddish Egret was at Yuma 31 Aug-12 Sep (D. Taylor, ph. HD, †MMS). Two were at Paloma 8 Oct (ph. HD). One of very few recent records, an ad. Wood Stork was at Roosevelt L. 20-21 Aug (ph. JE, vt. MPo, m. ob.).

The only flock of Greater White-fronted Geese was a group of 14 at Concho L. 9 Sep (J. Videle). Seven individuals were at scattered s. Arizona locations 4 Sep-12 Oct (m. ob.). Snow Geese were late in arriving, with the first report from Palo Verde 27 Oct (PM, CD). Likewise late, the first Ross's Goose arrived 1 Nov at A.V.S.T.P. (JH). A Tundra Swan dropped in for a brief visit at El Mirage 23 Nov (ph. TC). Recent reports have been few. The male Eurasian Wigeon returned to Scottsdale 9 Nov+ (TC, ph. JWo) for another winter. Single ad. male Greater Scaup were reported from Tempe 10 Nov (D. Clark), Lyman L. 14 Nov (MMS et al.), and Nelson Res. 25 Nov (DR, GC). "Many" were again present at Lee's Ferry 17 Nov (MMS, MPo).

The fall's heavy movement of scoters through the interior West was apparent in Arizona as well. Surf Scoter reports were of 2 at Luna L. 18 Oct (DR, ph. GC) and singles at Paloma 25 Oct (†BG), A.V.S.T.P. 25 Oct-2 Nov (P. Salomon et al.), Mammoth S.T.P. 27 Oct-7 Nov (SB, MMS), and Becker L. 3 Nov (GC, DR). Three were on Roosevelt L 3 Nov (JE, KR). White-winged Scoters were represented as well, with one at Davis Dam 19 Nov (MMS) and 4 at Parker Dam 30 Nov+ (CB, SS et al.). All of the scoters were in female or imm. plumage. Barrow's Goldeneye were again present in numbers below Glen Canyon Dam 17 Nov+, with at least 40 by 29 Nov (MMS, SB). A single male at Nelson Res. 18-27 Nov (GC, DR) was casual. Only one had arrived at Parker Dam by 30 Nov (CB, SS). A Red-

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breasted Merganser at Round Rock L. 10 Sep was early (GHR et al.).

KITES THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

White-tailed Kite reports continue to be sparse, but perhaps they are being underreported. Singles were along Stateline Rd., Portal 4 Aug+ (MK), in the San Rafael Valley 9 Aug+ (J. Prather), at Paloma 3 Oct (HD), Lochiel 6 Nov (K. Graves), Santa Cruz Flats 28 Nov (JC), Palo Verde 29 Nov (MMS, MPo), and Arlington 29 Nov (TC). Gray Hawk is casual in Maricopa; an imm. bird at Paloma 1 Aug-21 Sep was remarkable (TC, SG). Red-shouldered Hawk, casual at best, put in a good showing, with singles at Cameron 26 Aug (CL), Pasture Canyon 11 Sep+ (CL), P.A.P. 14 Sep (BM, DPa), and Tucson 3 Nov (WR, ph. GHR). This species remains on the A.B.C. review list. Broadwinged Hawks soared past Grand Canyon hawkwatch sites, peaking 21-30 Sep (CL, WR, MMS, ph. C. van Cleve), with up to 5 in a single day. They have proven to be regular migrants in small numbers at this spectacular site.

The Short-tailed Hawks in Barfoot Park, Chiricahua Mts. continued through 6 Sep (ph. JBu, m. ob.), with 2 ads. seen together on 9 Aug (JS et al.). Late Zone-tailed Hawks were at Granite Reef 15 Sep (PM, CD), Madera Canyon 4 Oct (MPo, MMS), Patagonia 13 Oct (RB), and Green Valley 27 Oct (GW). Another appeared set to winter as it turned up at various Tucson locales 19 Oct+ (m. ob.). Harlan's Hawks were more numerous than usual, with individuals in the s. Sulphur Springs Valley 3 Nov+ (SW et al.), a rare light-morph imm. near Elfrida 12 Nov (ph. CDB, GHR), at Patagonia 20 Nov+ (GB, m. ob.), e. of Scottsdale 29 Nov (MMS, MPo), and at Kino Springs 30 Nov (JC). Wandering Crested Caracaras were near Canoa 9 Aug (BM) and Santa Cruz Flats 28 Nov (JC).

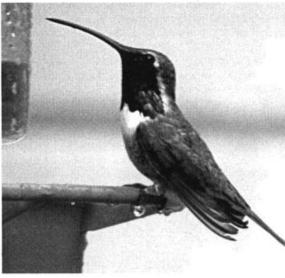
The juv. Purple Gallinule at S. W. T. was last reported 21 Aug (m. ob.). Sandhill Cranes arrived early in the se., with 5 at Whitewater 17 Sep (SH). The only Pluvialis of the year were a Black-bellied Plover at Luna L. 10 Sep (SH) and 2 American Golden-Plovers at Arlington 27-28 Oct (ph. BG; MMS, MPo). Only 4 Snowy Plovers were found, with singles at Willcox 15-21 Aug (MMS, m. ob.), 3 Sep (GW) and 27 Oct (DSj), and at G.F.P. 31 Aug (RJ, PD). Mountain Plovers were first reported 28 Oct, with 3 at Western Sod Farm (MMS, MPo). Numbers there increased to 32 by 16 Nov+ (BS, m. ob.).

Single Whimbrel were reported without details from Yuma 4 Aug (HD) and Paloma 11 Sep (BG). A Marbled Godwit at Sunrise L. 9 Sep (SH) was a good find in fall. Rarer yet was an ad. Red Knot at Willox 3 Aug (SF, vt. MPo). Eleven Sanderlings statewide 2 Aug15 Oct was an above-average showing. Four were together at Willcox 2 Aug (CDB). Up to 9 Semipalmated Sandpipers were reported 2 Aug—21 Sep, with over half from Willcox. A remarkable 75+ Pectoral Sandpipers were in alfalfa at Paloma 12 Sep (BG, DP et al.). Just 27 were reported from the rest of the state. Eleven Dunlin was about average.

Not one but 2 juv. **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** provided the first documented records for the state. The first appeared in alfalfa at Paloma 11-12 Sep (ph. BG, vt. RJ, †MMS et al.) followed by one 22-29 Sep at a sod farm e. of Scottsdale (vt. RJ; ph. RD, GHR; m. ob.). There was a previous sight report 26 Sep 1993, also from *Maricopa*. Though mostly reported without details, Short-billed Dowitchers were abundant this fall, with up to 22 reported 8 Aug—14 Sep. Most remarkable were 3 juvs. at A.V.S.T.P. 9 Sep (CDB et al.) and 4 juvs. at Round Rock L. 10 Sep (GHR et al.). The only Red Phalarope was at Thatcher S.T.P. 7 Oct (MMS).

JAEGERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

A juv. Parasitic Jaeger at Willcox 11-21 Sep (ph. †MMS; ph. SH; m. ob.) was a first for the se.; there are fewer than 10 records for the state. An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger at Nelson Res. 11 Aug (ph. D. Green; DR, JS) was also about a 10th report. Single ad. Heermann's Gulls were at Sells S.T.P. 3 Nov (†S. Matherly) and Patagonia L. 23 Nov (C. Nunes, ph. RH). A very worn Herring Gull in Gilbert 3 Aug—6 Oct (ph. RJ; m. ob.) was very unseasonal. Most occur late fall to win-



This adult male Lucifer Hummingbird attended feeders in Patagonia, Arizona, in October 2002 (here 7 October); the species is a regular visitor to Arizona in small numbers. *Photograph by Van Truan*.

ter. Reports of Sabine's Gulls were few: an ad. at White Mt. Reservoir 12 Sep (GHR et al.), a juv. at S.W.T 14-15 Sep (J. Halloway, SB), and a juv. at Page S.T.P. 26 Sep (MMS). Still casual in fall, a first-year Least Tern was near Gila Bend 3 Aug (TC).

Eurasian Collared-Doves continued to expand into more small towns and farms, with up to 7 in Benson 7 Aug (C. Cathers), 6 in Water Canyon 24 Sep (SH), and 30 in Kingman 30 Nov (K. Garrett). With the latter group were Ringed Turtle-Doves and possible hybrids. It was one of the best falls ever for Ruddy Ground-Dove, with up to 43 reported statewide. Concentrations of 8 at Patagonia 7 Oct+ (RB, m. ob.) and up to 10 at Gilbert Water Ranch 20 Oct-11 Nov (PM, CD) were remarkable. The breadth of the incursion is reflected by 2-3' at Sedona 27 Nov+ (ph. S. Clemenz), 2 near Portal 3 Oct (RW), and one in Yuma 7-9 Nov (J. King, et al., ph. HD). Several late Yellow-billed Cuckoos were noted, including an ad. carrying food along Cienega Cr., Pima 22 Sep (TC).

Late Elf Owls were noted in Miller Canyon 6 Oct (PW) and Madera Canyon 8 Oct (P. Weber). Lesser Nightwawks were also late in sw. Tucson 20 Nov (M. Gable). The Buff-collared Nightjar near California Gulch was last reported 5 Aug (JS). The remains of a Whippoor-will found in Pasture Canyon 10 Sep were thought to be of the nominate subspecies, recognized by some authorities as distinct from Mexican Whip-poor-will (ph. CL). There is one previous Arizona specimen record from near Roosevelt 4 Nov 1952. A late individual was in Scheelite Canyon 21 Oct (SH).

A 2nd female Berylline Hummingbird was observed nesting in Ramsey Canyon 8 Aug–3 Sep (JS, m. ob.). The prior female remained

through 25 Sep (M. Pretti). A male was observed there 7 Aug (JS et al.). Another male was in lower Ramsey Canyon 30 Aug-11 Sep (†J. Hirth) Nearly outnumbering the "pure" individuals, as many as 4 hybrid hummingbirds believed to involve Berylline parentage were observed in Ash, and Miller, Ramsey Canyons (TC, M. Pretti). Dispersing Violet-crowned Hummingbirds were reported 9 Sep-28 Nov from Bisbee, St. David, Benson, sw. Tucson, and Arivaca (m. ob.). Reports of a banded male Plain-capped Starthroat from Ash Canyon 7 Jul-3 Sep (B.&M. Cox) and Carr Canyon 7 Sep-18 Sep (HB) were believed to repre-

sent the same individual. An ad. male in lower Ramsey Canyon 3 Aug was reportedly unbanded (†J. Hirth). Allen's Hummingbirds, rare fall migrants, were reported by banders from Miller Canyon through the very late

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date of 24 Sep (GW).

Most intriguing was a report of a male **Eared Quetzal** from Snake Creek, *Apache* 24 Aug (†D. Cagle). There are several prior reports from areas near the Mogollon Rim, though most are from se. Up to 20 Lewis's Woodpeckers were reported from s. Arizona 6 Oct+ (m. ob.), mostly near pecan groves.

Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were well-represented, with single juvs. 13-15 Oct at B.T.A. (TM et al.) and Portal 18-27 Oct (ph. RW; RAR), and single ad. males in ne. Tucson 3 Nov (B. Nicholas) and Continental 28 Nov+ (MMS, m. ob.). Two hybrid sapscukers were in Portal 24 Oct-2 Nov (ph. RW; RAR). Yellow-shafted Flickers were along Queen Cr. 13-18 Oct (TM, IBo et al.), in

Palo Verde 27 Oct (PM, CD), and in Colorado City 17 Nov (MMS, MPo).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH THRASHERS

A Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet sw. of McNeil 30 Nov (SW, TW) was away from known breeding areas in se. Arizona. A very late wood-pewee (presumably Western) was in Tubac 22 Oct (LL et al.). Although there are still no documented records of Alder Flycatcher from Arizona, a well-studied Empidonax heard calling at Cameron 26-27 Aug (†CL) was likely this species. A late Willow Flycatcher was at Willcox 3 Oct (GW) and a very early Gray Flycatcher was at Agua Caliente Park, Tucson 3 Aug (DW). A Pacificslope/Cordilleran Flycatcher at B.T.A. 18 Oct (JBo et al.) was late for a migrant. Pacificslope is a rare and irregular winter visitor in s. Arizona; there are no confirmed winter records of Cordilleran from the state. At least 7 Eastern Phoebes were found around s. Arizona beginning 23 Oct, slightly more than typical for a fall season; this species is a rare but regular fall and winter visitor in the south. Certainly one of the highlights of the entire fall, a Great Crested Flycatcher was reported from Portal 17 Sep (†RW). If accepted by the A.B.C., it would represent only a 2nd or 3rd state record.

A Tropical Kingbird remained at Kino Springs to at least 7 Oct (SH, BP); this species is typically gone by late Sep. Several Cassin's Kingbirds lingered at several se. localities into early Nov (m. ob.), perhaps indicative of a mild fall. A Thick-billed Kingbird at S.W.T. 1-6 Aug (G. Martinez et al.), one of few recent reports from the Tucson area, was away from known breeding areas. Another lingered late along Sonoita Cr. near Patagonia 13 Oct (RB). Similarly, Western Kingbirds were reported later than usual, with one in the Santa Cruz Flats on the very late date of 28 Nov (JC). Seemingly rarer in Arizona as a migrant than it was in the 1970s and 1980s, 2 Eastern Kingbirds were at Paloma, one 14-15 Sep (PM, ph. RJ) and another 15 Sep (PD; ph.

> MMS). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher also found at Paloma 12-14 Sep (RD et al.) was the only one reported. A Northern Shrike along Hwy 160 w. of Kayenta 1 Nov+ (CL, MMS, MPo) was a bit early for n. Arizona, where this species is rare but regular in winter. A late singing Bell's Vireo was at B.T.A. 18 Oct (IBo, MMS), Red-eved Vireo used to be more regular during the early fall; this season,

singles were at Ganado L. 26-29 Sep (CBa, BJ, †MMS), Tucson on 9-11 Oct (GB; ph. TG; †MMS), and Kitt Peak 11 Oct (†RH).

Some species of corvids were certainly on the move this fall. Individual Steller's Jays were at odd localities in Oct, with one at Cornville 17 Oct (RR), one at the B.T.A. 18 Oct (IBo et al.), and one in nw. Phoenix 29 Oct (R. Rogers), but a major flight of this species was not detected. Similarly, Western Scrub-Jays were seen in the lowlands slightly earlier in the season, with singles in Phoenix 21 Sep (JWo), at Paloma 21 Sep (BG), at S.W.T. 5 Oct (JBo), and in Sabino Canyon 6 Oct (WR). Pinyon Jays invaded many se. Arizona localities, with no fewer than 16 different sightings between 14 Sep and 17 Nov, several of which involved 100 or more individuals. The highest concentration was of

150+ birds in Gardner Canyon 10 Nov (PW). This represented the first major invasion of this species in nearly a decade. Another corvid that ventures into s. Arizona during major flight years, Clark's Nutcrackers were found at a number of s. Arizona localities this fall, with no fewer than eight different sightings involving



At long last, Arizona's first documented Buffbreasted Sandpipers came this season, from Paloma 11-12 September 2002 and this juvenile at a sod farm east of Scottsdale 22 (here) to 29 September 2002. The only previous report is from September 1993. Photograph by Rich Ditch.

at least 20 individuals between 4 Oct and 9 Nov, the highest concentration being 6-8 at Ramsey Canyon 6 Oct (*fide* M. Pretti). A very late Barn Swallow was at A.V.S.T.P. 26 Nov (MMS). Red-breasted Nuthatches staged a mini-invasion, with just a few around in the lowlands in Sep and Oct. Winter Wrens were also reported at a few s. Arizona localities, including an early one in Tempe 25 Sep (DP); this species is rare and irregular in s. Arizona during the fall and winter. One of the better finds of the fall was a pair of **Black-capped Gnatcatchers** at Patagonia L. S.P. 8 Oct+ (RH, ph. D. Nelson, m. ob.); there have been fewer than 10 confirmed records of this Mexican species in the U.S.

We received an intriguing report of a Northern Wheatear from Continental 19 Oct (†M. Dalmer et al); if accepted by the A.B.C., this would represent only a 2nd state record. Mountain Bluebirds were numerous and widespread throughout s. Arizona this fall, An excellent find was a Wood Thrush at the B.T.A. 20 Oct-3 Nov (C. Wise, †MMS; ph. KR); there are fewer than 20 records of this species from Arizona. Individual Rufousbacked Robins were in Oro Valley 5-10 Oct (G. & N. Grenman), at B.T.A. 8 Nov+ (C. Peay, m. ob.; ph. GHR), and at Arivaca 23 Nov (ph. M. Scott); this represents about an average number for a fall. The only Varied Thrush of the fall was a female in French Joe Canyon 12-24 Nov (B. Starr, m. ob.; ph. KK). No fewer than 13 Gray Catbirds were found at scattered locations in both n. and s. Arizona beginning in mid-Oct (m. ob.). Although this is a rare breeding species near Springerville and shows up as a rare migrant in both spring and fall, this number of individuals is higher than usual for a given season. A Brown Thrasher at B.T.A. 5 Nov+ (G. & S. Barnes) may be the same individual that wintered there in 2001-2002.

WARBLERS THROUGH GOLDFINCHES

Tennessee Warblers, casual during the fall, were at Aztec Cr., N.I.R. 19 Sep (CL) and the

Phoenix Zoo 5-17 Oct (†R]). Eight Northern Parulas, slightly more than usual for a fall, were reported 5 Sep-18 Nov. Late Yellow Warblers included singles near Scottsdale 9 Nov (TC), at S.W.T. 10 Nov (JBo), and in Tucson 27 Nov (RH). A male Magnolia Warbler was at the Phoenix Zoo 11 Oct (†RI); there have been about 25 previous records for the state. An ad. male Blackthroated Blue Warbler was at Wenima Wildlife Area outside Springerville 6 Oct

(DR); this species is still considered rare but is annual in very small numbers during the fall. A Hermit Warbler was at Cholla L. 29



Broad-winged Hawks have proven to be regular

migrants in small numbers at the Grand Canvon

hawkwatch sites in late September, with daily counts

as high as five birds. This bird was photographed here

25 September 2002. Photograph by Christie Van Cleve.

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Sep (CL, MMS); this species is considered almost casual at migrant areas in n. Arizona. Single Palm Warblers were at A.V.S.T.P. 23-31 Oct (†MMS et al.) and Lyman L. 9 Nov (SB). Six Black-and-white Warblers and 4 American Redstarts were about average for a fall. Prothonotary Warblers, still considered casual during the fall, were at Phoenix 15-22 Sep (J. McKay; ph. JWo) and along the S.P.R. near Kingfisher Pond 6 Oct (PW). About 16 reports of Northern Waterthrush were received between 24 Aug and 27 Oct. For at least the 3rd or 4th consecutive winter, a Louisiana Waterthrush returned to the same stretch of Sonoita Creek above Patagonia L. 29 Oct+ (SH). Another Louisiana was present along the upper S.P.R. 27 Oct+ (PW et al.); this species is a rare but regular winter visitor to streams in s. Arizona. Two Kentucky Warblers were reported, one near Comfort Spring in the Huachuca Mts. 11 Aug (SH) and another from Pasture Canyon near Tuba City 3 Oct (CL); there is only a handful of fall records. The now-famous pair of Rufouscapped Warblers in French Joe Canyon was seen feeding 2 fledglings on 6 Aug (LL et al.) and noted sporadically throughout the fall. We received two other reports of this species, one from Garden Canyon 2 Sep (†H. Bergtholdt, M. Guest) and another from Paradise 30 Nov (†J. Gebler, D. Stout), both of which will be evaluated by the A.B.C.

Late Summer Tanagers were reported at S.W.T. 19 Oct (BS et al.), at Fountain Hills 7 Nov (KR), and at Yuma 20 Nov (J. King). An imm. female Scarlet Tanager was in Round Valley Wash, Chiricahua Mts. 24 Oct (†RW), providing about a 20th record for the state, most of which are from late fall. The male Flame-colored Tanager that was present in Miller Canyon all summer—and that apparently mated with a female Western Tanager, producing 2 hybrid young---was last reported 22 Aug (M. Kehl).

Individual Clay-colored Sparrows were reported at Pasture Canyon 10 Sep (CL, J. Coons), at Cameron 28 Sep (CL, BS et al.), and along the Santa Cruz R. in Tucson 10 Nov (JBo); the A.B.C. still urges caution in reporting this species in Arizona. Several Grasshopper Sparrows were reported away from known breeding areas, with one in Pasture Canyon 25 Sep (CL, MMS), one at Gray Mountain 27 Sep (CL, MMS), 4 near G.F.P. 13 Oct (RJ), and one n. of Rio Verde 14 Oct (TC); this species is rarely seen as a migrant anywhere in the state. No fewer than 20 Fox Sparrows of the subspecies schistacea (Slatecolored) were reported from around the state beginning 5 Oct. More unusual was a Sooty Fox Sparrow (unalashchensis group) at B.T.A. 26 Oct+ (PM et al.; ph. GHR, JBu); there are only a handful of confirmed records of this subspecies group from Arizona. Scattered Swamp Sparrow reports away from "regular"

areas of occurrence were of singles in Mesquite Wash along Hwy 87, Maricopa 19 Oct (TC), at Cameron 22 Oct (CL), at Pena Blanca L. 18 Nov (SH), and at Kino Springs 30 Nov (JC). A greater-than-usual number (18) of White-throated Sparrows was reported around the state, many from n. Arizona beginning in early Oct. More scarce, this year an unprecedented 23 different reports from around the state 4 Aug—13 Oct further dispelled the idea that these are released cage birds. This was a particularly good year for Dickcissel reports from around the state, with at least 12 different sightings 31 Aug—9 Oct (ph. K. Penland, m. ob.).

Bobolinks are still considered casual in s.

Arizona during fall; this

year, one was in Tucson

1 Sep (vt. B. Nicholas),

one at Willcox 14 Sep

(ph. KK), and 2 at P.A.P.

17 Sep (WR et al.). Even

rarer, Common Grack-

les were located near

Jake's Corner 2 Nov (ph.

KR), with 2 in Portal 3

Nov (ph. RW); there are

only about 10 records of

this species accepted by

the A.B.C., with several

others never submitted

for review. Orchard Ori-

oles were reported from

lower Carr Canyon 5

Oct (HB) and from P.A.P.

9 Oct (†RH); this



This Wood Thrush at Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park near Superior, Arizona 20 October to 3 November 2002 (here 27 October) furnished one of about 20 records for Arizona. *Photograph by Kurt Radamaker.*

particularly in s. Arizona, a Harris's Sparrow was at Patagonia L. 23 Nov (ph. RH). Also reported more frequently than normal, Golden-crowned Sparrows were found at seven different locations in s. Arizona 6 Oct+. In a repeat from last year, several McCown's Longspurs were found on the sod farm e. of Scottsdale this fall; a high count of 15 was there 13 Oct (RJ). A Lapland Longspur was reported from Pasture Canyon 17 Oct (CL); there are just a few records from n. Arizona.

Two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, one at Paradise 4 Aug (MK) and another at Patagonia 5 Aug (JS et al.), continued the late-spring and summer phenomenon that produced an unprecedented number of reports in 2002. Two others, one at Colossal Cave Park, Tucson 19 Oct (KK) and another at the Phoenix Zoo 22 Oct (RJ), both imm. males, better fit a well-known pattern of late-fall dispersal of young birds, yet were still fewer than usual. A Blue Grosbeak at Arivaca 3 Nov (K. Graves et al.) was late for s. Arizona, where this species sometimes lingers into winter during mild years. An Indigo Bunting was seen at Wahweap in n. Arizona 26 Sep (MMS), where its fall status is still uncertain. Singles at Kino Springs 13 Oct (SB) and Patagonia 18 Oct (RJ) were considered late migrants. Also considered late were 2 Varied Buntings at Kino Springs 1 Oct (SH), one at Peck Canyon 8 Oct (RH), and one at Arivaca 9 Oct (MMS); this species typically departs the breeding grounds by mid-Sep. It is well known that Painted Bunting reports are more frequent in s. Arizona beginning in early to mid-Aug, but species is still considered a casual visitor at any season. An ad. male Baltimore Oriole was at Vermilion Cliffs 16-17 Sep (ph. C. Olson, CL) providing one of few records for n. Arizona.

Cassin's Finches were found at scattered s. Arizona localities beginning in mid-Oct. It was clear that Lawrence's Goldfinches were on the move after several appeared in s. Arizona during the summer. By mid-Sep, the movement of this California species into the state was widespread, with nearly 20 different reports, some of which involved 25-50 individuals.

Contributors: Charles Babbitt, Steve Barlow, Robin Baxter, Chris D. Benesh, Gavin Bieber, Jerry Bock (JBo), Hank Brodkin, Jim Burns (JBu), Jack Cochran, Troy Corman (Arizona Breeding Bird Atlas), Gary Crandall, Henry Detwiler, Pierre Deviche, Rich Ditch, Cynthia Donald, Jeff Estis, Shawneen Finnegan, Steve Ganley, Tony Godfrey, Bill Grossi, Stuart Healy, John Higgins, Rich Hoyer, Bud Johnson, Roy Jones, Melody Kehl, Ken Kertell, Chuck LaRue, Larry Liese, Bill Massey, Tracy McCarthey, Norma Miller, Pete Moulton, Dick Palmer (DPa), Dave Pearson, Brandon Percival, Molly Pollock (MPo), Kurt Radamaker, Gary H. Rosenberg, Donna Roten, Rose Ann Rowlett, Will Russell, Bill Scott (SE Arizona), James Smith, Sig Stangeland, Dave Stejskal, Mark M. Stevenson, Peter Walsh, Richard Webster, David West, George West, Sheri Williamson, Janet Witzeman (Phoenix), Tom Wood, Joe Woodley (JWo), Denis Wright. 📚