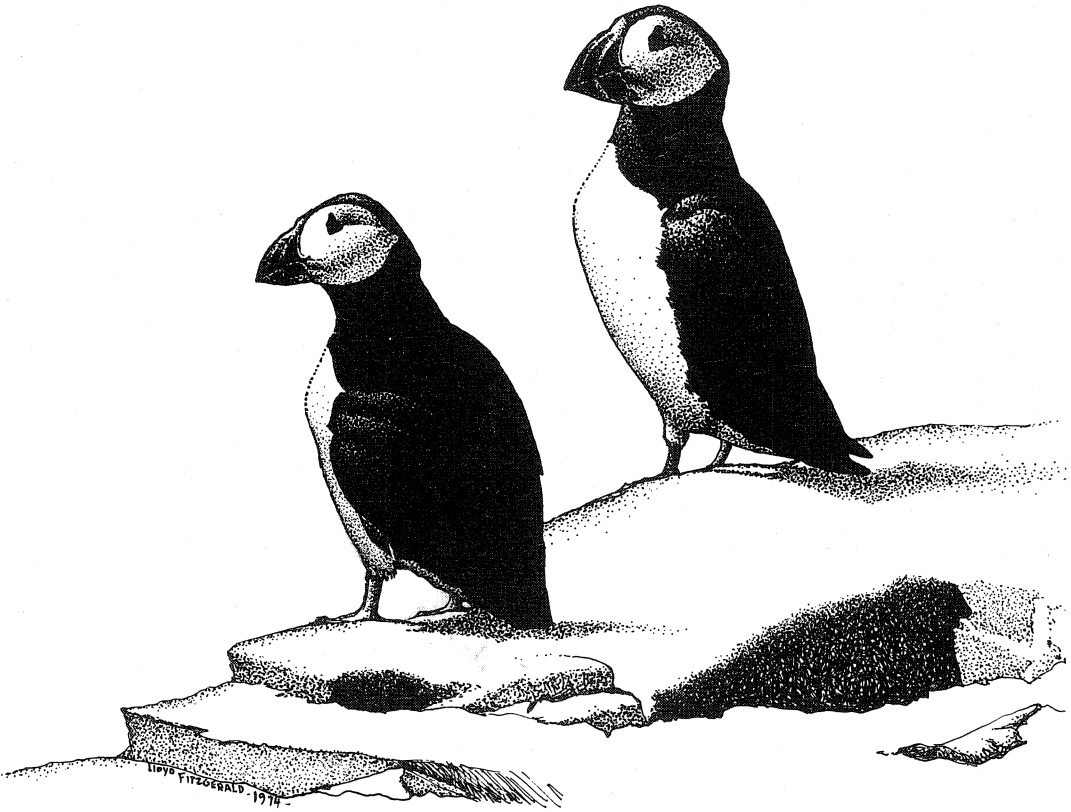


**nova scotia**

**bird society**



**april  
newsletter**

Volume 22 Number 2 1980

N O V A S C O T I A B I R D S O C I E T Y

N E W S L E T T E R

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Volume 22, Number 2

April, 1980

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## INTRODUCTION

Winter 1979-1980

On the whole it was an easy winter. We had (with occasional remissions) moderately cold weather from the freeze-up in mid-December to the third week of February, when it turned quite cold, and remained so, with snow falling gently much of the time, until March 6.

On December 16, and for three days thereafter, a drop in temperature coincided with perfectly calm conditions and our lakes were suddenly frozen, like flawless mirrors. (The Kingfishers at Eel Lake went away). It was a pity that the ice thus formed did not last - it was very beautiful - and never was such skating. But in a few days it turned warm and misty and the ice melted, (the Kingfishers returned, but briefly) and although it froze again it was not smooth and polished; nor was it really safe for a long while.

Fortunately by late February, the ice was solid enough for the smelt fishermen's huts to spring up for the "run", which must have been exceptionally good this year - that is, if it was smelts which attracted the eagles. Some sort of small fish became very abundant in the Tusket River just at this time (the last of February), and 34 Bald Eagles were counted by Canadian Wildlife officials, in the vicinity of Tusket Falls - (we usually average 7-8 eagles in Yarmouth Co.) the eagles seen fishing in the river.

This was a good year for predators generally, with many hawks and owls about; there must have been plenty of mice. Certainly there were no small birds to capture. One would have thought such a mild winter with such a little depth of snow would favor a large land bird population, but seldom before have we had so few around. The most probable cause for this was the lack of appropriate food, and it is a fact that we had few bayberries, fewer rowan berries this year, and no cones on the evergreens; even the faithful white spruces were bare. This happens periodically, and I suppose word gets around--do not stay in Nova Scotia.

It was quite remarkable to note that such small birds as we did have remaining with us were present almost 100% at feeders. At large, along the roadsides were a few Blue Jays, Crows and Ravens; in the woods Black-capped Chickadees and Golden-crowned Kinglets. As time went on the jays disappeared and one had to go deeper and deeper into the woods to find the chickadees and kinglets. (Possibly this is why there were more Brown Creeper reports than usual; they are found in deeper woods). Finally the roadsides were utterly silent, mile after mile, day after day. Lakeshores too were empty, but on the seashores a few Horned Larks and Snow Buntings would be put up at times, and a few seabirds were riding the waves where open ocean came in view. But often, field trip lists had diminished to the vanishing point.

Cheer up, there is hope for the seasons ahead. It has seemed to some of us that year by year the number of strays /rarities seen, has mounted at an ever increasing rate. We have attributed this to the increase in our numbers and improvement in our expertise in field identification. This may be true, but another reason could be a real change in the location of bird populations. Evidence for this latter condition is described in The Changing Seasons, by Paul Lehman and Brad Schram, in the last number of American Birds (Vol.33, No.6, Nov. 1979, pages 839-844). This is a fascinating article, full of promise for birders. The change is general expansion of range (data based on nesting records) of certain species, which may be to the north, south, east or west, but seems to be most often south to

north. Birds familiar to us mentioned in this article (as moving south to north) include the Mockingbird, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, White eyed Vireo, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Orchard Oriole, and the American Oystercatcher. One west to east expansion of range seems to be of the Clay-colored Sparrow.

Mockingbirds have become our familiars and the other birds mentioned here are already on our list. We should soon be seeing more of them. But what of our Cardinals? and the House Finch invasion? The wintering Pine Warblers this year (see report to follow), and the Seaside Sparrow; seen with increasing frequency, oddly enough, most frequently in the territory where our first sighting occurred - an all-Canada record - in 1962. Are these true range expansions, or just local phenomena. Time will tell, but we can help it along by keeping an eye out for unusual birds, and noting down their time and place of occurrence, these to be reported with all field marks noted to the editors of the NSBS Newsletter, preferably on Unusual Sighting forms, as soon as possible. To make assurance doubly sure, take a picture. Good Birding to all, the best summer ever.

PRD (ed.)

In the Winter Bird Report to follow, the birds seen on Christmas Counts are not included, since the data were not received in time. Look for MOST December birds in the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) section.

**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION IN GETTING REPORTS IN PROMPTLY FOR THIS ISSUE, THIS IS MUCH APPRECIATED BY THE RECORDS EDITOR AND THE BIRD REPORT EDITORS. PLEASE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!**

JSC

THE MAILING DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS  
MAY 25

PLEASE SEND:

Bird reports to the Records Editor:

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Photographs, sketches, articles and letters to the

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*Many of the birding areas in Nova Scotia "crop up" regularly in the reports. To prevent repetition of the locations of these areas in the body of the text we include this list for reference:*

Yarmouth Co.	Pinkney's Point, Tusket, Cranberry Head, Eel Brook, Pleasant Lake.
Shelburne Co.	Cape Sable Is., Lockeport, Matthews Lake.
Queen's Co.	Port Joli, Port Hebert.
Lunenburg Co.	Cherry Hill, Broad Cove, Petite Riviere, Green Bay, Crousetown, Crescent Beach, Bayport, New Ross
Halifax Co.	Three Fathom Harbour, Conrad's Beach, Lawrencetown, Cole Harbour, Mooseland, Prospect, Hartlan's Point, Chebucto Head, Crystal Crescent Beach, Dorothea Drive.
Digby Co.	Brier Is., Smith's Cove
Colchester Co.	Economy, Bass River.
Annapolis Co.	Wilmot, Round Hill, Paradise
King's Co.	Wolfville, Greenfield.
Cumberland Co.,	Lusby Marsh
APBS	Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary
CBC	Christmas Bird Counts

## WINTER BIRD REPORT

## LOONS and GREBES

Thirteen COMMON LOONS at Prospect, Dec. 13, seen on the Halifax West Christmas Bird Count, reported by RBS, and 50+ in one flock at Lawrencetown, Feb. 16, are the only two notable sightings for this species during the winter. Keith Keddy notes that they seem to be down a bit in St. Margaret's Bay, compared with 1979. Reports of the RED-THROATED LOON are of 2, Dec. 16, at Digby; 5, on the Brier I. CBC; 1, at Chebucto Head, Dec. 23, and 1, at Hartlan's Pt., Jan. 19, all these from ELM; then late in the season 1, Feb. 10, at Three Fathom Harbour (JSC) and 1, Feb. 14, in Yarmouth Harbor (CRKA) and 1, Feb. 2, off Crystal Crescent Beach (RBS); considered by the experts to be more than usual, especially the early reports.

RED-NECKED GREBES were well sighted early in the winter with 11 seen on the Brier I. CBC, Dec. 17; 5, in the Chebucto Head area Dec. 23, (ELM) and 4, Jan. 5, Head of St. Margaret's Bay (KM&ELM). On Dec. 8, Stuart Tingley counted 25 at Tidnish; Jean Morse et al., Jan. 18, found 2 or 3 in the Annapolis Basin, and there were 7 other reports of singles off the Atlantic shore, Dec. through Feb.

As in most winters St. Margaret's Bay had the highest population of HORNED GREBES, 72 of the 89 sightings being from this region. Of the 17 other sightings which ranged in number of birds seen from singles up to 20, all except 15 at Tidnish, Dec. 8 (SIT) and one at Ball's Creek, Dec. 20 (HEH) were from along the South Shore from Three Fathom Harbour to Lr. West Pubnico.

A PIED-BILLED GREBE showed up briefly at Sullivan's Pond in Dartmouth, Nov. 17, (KNK,RBS), another (the same?) at Sambro, a few miles down the coast Dec. 14, (IAM,ELM et al.), and one more at Newville Lake, Nov. 30 (SIT,PDV).

CRKA (ed)

## FULMARS, GANNETS, CORMORANTS

I spent 19-27 Feb. on the research trawler LADY HAMMOND south of Nova Scotia, from just west of Sable Island to Georges Bank - when we weren't running hard for shelter in Shelburne, that is. This cruise got us our only NORTHERN FULMAR records. The birds were quite common once we were away from the coast. As usual the great majority were in the light-phase plumage typical of the birds from Britain and west Greenland, which winter off our coasts. Not more than 1-2% could have been dark-phase.

I also saw a single adult GANNET on Feb. 20, c. 90 miles SSE of Halifax - perhaps heading for Cape St. Mary's, Newfoundland, the only Canadian gannetry in ice-free waters in winter, and where birds apparently arrive early in March.

All our CORMORANT records are of GREATS - our regular over-wintering species. Most are from the coasts adjacent to Halifax, where the highest counts were 17, apparently roosting in a tree at York Redoubt, on Jan. 13 (RBS) and 11 on Feb. 10, at St. Margaret's Bay (KNK). But there were also small numbers from December to February at St. Esprit, Cape Breton (RM) and Point Aconi (HEH), and an apparently constant group of 8 at Mahoney's Beach all through January (RDC and SPF).

RGBB (ed)

## HERON, EGRET

Dick Brown saw a GREAT BLUE HERON flying SW, 150 km SE of Cape Sable on Dec. 1. A few stragglers were seen in Dec., and one was seen as late as Jan. 18, at Lr. W. Pubnico (DJd'E).

A SNOWY EGRET spotted by JSC & JLC at Cole Harbour on the Dec. 15, Christmas Bird Count was a first for the counts from Canada. It was double-checked next day by IAM & JM, who noted the dull yellow extending well up the hindleg, a juvenile feature not known on the Little Egret (Eurasian, but not impossible here).

IAM (ed)

## GEESE AND DUCKS

Largest numbers of CANADA GEESE reported were: 1000+ at Morien Bar in late Nov. (OC) where the flock had shrunk to 400 by Jan. 18, (HEH); 300± at Martinique Beach, Feb. 3 (RBS) and 200± at West Pubnico, March 2 (CRKA). No doubt larger concentrations will be reported on some CBC'S when these are published.

Two sightings of BRANT may have been of the same flock: 58 seen Dec. 16, off Freeport, Digby Co., and 35, Dec. 17, at Brier I. (CBC, reported by ELM).

Ignoring the MALLARDS of dubious status at Sydney Park and Sullivan's Pond, reports of this species are: One at John Lusby Marsh Nov. 25 (CD), a female in Barrington Bay, Feb. 1 (BJS) and 4 at Gaspereau, Feb. 3, (JM & IAM). Ralph Johnson of Liverpool writes that there is what he terms "a built-in waterfowl sanctuary" in that town's harbor between the CNR bridge and that of Highway #3. These bridges enclose about 240 acres of water suitable for both dabbling and diving ducks, all of it within town limits where hunting is forbidden. (Another Sullivan's Pond?) One of the commonest visitors to this stretch of water is of course the BLACK DUCK and in late Feb. about 300 were sharing it with 50-100 Common Goldeneyes and 20-30 Mergansers (sp.?). Numbers of Black Ducks reported are about the same as for last winter. Along with the Liverpool flock mentioned above the 400 in Sullivan's Pond and the 264 seen on the Glace Bay CBC were the only concentrations of over 100 birds.

Wintering AMERICAN WIGEONS are rarities but 4 showed up this year: one, a female, at Lawrencetown, Dec. 1 (JSC), 2, in Sydney Harbor, Jan. 15 (HEH) and another female in Sullivan's Pond, Feb. 16, (SJF).

Still another distinguished visitor to Sullivan's Pond was a COMMON TEAL which appeared with 3 GREEN-WINGS on Jan. 3 (RBS) and was still there Feb. 29 (KNK et al). (What next? a Tufted Duck? a Smew?). The number of Greenwings at the Pond varied between 3 and 8 during the winter, and one other was seen at Three Fathom Harbour Dec. 15 (RBS).

A wintering WOOD DUCK was seen at Middle Musquodoboit, Jan. 3, by Barry Sabean.

GREATER SCAUP reports are few - only 6 all told - and of relatively small numbers; no signs of the usual late winter build-up. There were 200+ at Crescent Beach, Jan. 1 (JSC), 35 at West Pubnico, Jan. 8, (PRD) and 20, Jan. 18, at the Annapolis Causeway (JM et al.) In February when the big flocks usually appear there were just 29 at Lawrencetown on the first of the month (CF), 250+ at Crescent Beach on the 2nd. (SJF) and 75-100 at Rocky Run, Feb. 10 (JL & JSC).

One LESSER SCAUP was identified at Lingan Beach Jan. 18 (HEH).

Earliest report of wintering COMMON GOLDENEYES is of 300+ at Tidnish, Dec. 8 (SIT). There were 400 at Crescent Beach Jan. 1 (JSC) and 200 there Feb. 2 (SJF). A few apparently wintered in Bedford Basin as 9 were noted there Jan. 9, 19, Feb. 20 and 35+ Feb. 27 (KNK). In Cape Breton, HEH saw 30+ Dec. 20, and 40, Jan. 18. Numbers in Barrington Bay increased from 50 to 75 during Jan., to about 300 by Feb. 16 (BSJ), and a few, up to 40, were seen from time to time in the waters off Roberts I., during Jan. and Feb. (CRKA). Roland Chiasson reports smaller numbers than usual - about 15 - Goldeneyes wintering in Antigonish Harbor this year and suggests that this may be due to more favorable feeding conditions in the Northumberland Strait outside, where there was open water, than last year.

Rarities have a tendency to reappear in the same spots, often after a lapse of many years. This winter two BARROW'S GOLDENEYES showed up in Bedford Basin where they were seen by a number of observers from Jan. 6, to 27, and where 25 years ago two of their kind (great-great-grandparents?) became "lifers" for several members of the infant Nova Scotia Bird Society. Besides these (the 1980 ones) a maximum of 11 (7 males, 4 females) was seen Feb. 16, at Pugwash, where they were consorting with 200 Common Mergansers, 15 Red-breasted Mergansers, 50+ Common Goldeneyes and 30 Black Ducks (ELM).

BUFFLEHEADS were present in 2's and 3's and flocks of up to 20 in the usual places - St. Margaret's Bay, Three Fathom Harbour, Five Islands, Annapolis Basin - during the winter. Largest flock reported was 50+ at Smith's Cove Dec. 2 (SIT,PDV).

Like the preceding species OLDSQUAWS were present in their usual wintering areas and in "normal" numbers - a dozen scattered along a half-mile of shore, a loose flock of 15-20 feeding off a point, etc. Largest number reported was 6-1, Jan. 18, from some unspecified spot in Cape Breton (HEH).

Wintering COMMON EIDERS were seen in fair numbers at Prospect, Dec. 23, (50); at Green Bay, Dec. 30 (250+) and at Pt. Aconi, Jan. 18 (41) (RBS,JSC,HEH). All other sightings were of one or two or up to half a dozen individuals.

Very small numbers of WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS are reported, mostly in December: one well inland at Newville Lake, Cumb. Co., Dec. 9 (SIT,FLS); 2, Lower Kingsburg, Dec. 13 (CF); a male in St. Margaret's Bay, Dec. 14 (KNK) and 3, off Wedge I., Dec. 15, (RBS). At Crescent Beach 3-5 wintered with same numbers of the other two species of Scoter (S&JF) and at least 12 were seen regularly along the Lr. Economy, Five Islands shore till early February (FH).

At Sullivan's Pond (here we go again!) a RUDDY DUCK checked in on Nov. 17, and remained there being visited by most of the local birders till Jan. 9, when it moved to Dartmouth Cove, staying at the new location until Jan. 27, (KNK). The bird reported at Canal Street Feb. 16 (SJF) and at a sewer outlet in Halifax Harbour Feb. 2-10 (IAM&JM) could well be the same bird. (A further note on last year's Ruddy Duck brood at APBS, the first confirmed breeding record for Nova Scotia: Stuart Tingley reports that one juvenile was captured, banded and released by a Canadian Wildlife Service "night-lighting" crew.)

A flock of up to 19 HOODED MERGANSERS apparently elected to winter in Nova Scotia this year and took up residence in a tidal lake near Queensland, Halifax Co., where they remained until driven out by ice in late December (KNK,RBS).



There has been a regular spate of COMMON MERGANSER reports from mid-November to late February. Wintering flocks appeared in the lower Tusket River early in January and increased up to a total of 40-50 birds by late February (RR,CRKA). There were 31 at Queensland, Nov. 16, and 19 still there Dec. 7 (RBS,KNK), 52 at Pugwash Jan. 5, (SIT), 30± at Mahone Bay, Jan. 14 (RBS) and 20 in the Northwest Arm, Halifax, Feb. 19 (TE). Smaller numbers were reported from other points, mainly along the south shore during this period.

Keith Keddy's statement that RED-BREASTED MERGANSERS seem greatly reduced in numbers this year is borne out by most of the reports. Except for 50 at Lawrencetown, Feb. 1 (CF) and 60 at Little Narrows, Cape Breton (RBF) sightings were for the most part of fewer than a dozen birds. A total of 177 individuals was reported this year compared with 426 for the same period in '78-'79.

CRKA (ed)

#### DIURNAL RAPTORES

P. J. Austin-Smith reports that "a live but very debilitated TURKEY VULTURE was found near Sandy Cove, Digby Co., on Jan. 2...It was taken to the home of Mrs. Stanton...where it received excellent care until transferred to Cyril Coldwell's 'Raptor Rest Centre' on Jan. 8. The bird, an adult, received some injuries to the lower abdomen and tail region, but has improved such that it feeds without assistance." Was this a Digby Neck nester? Another bird was reported feeding on a hawk-killed grouse at Mira Gut, C.B., Jan. 13-19 (Alex Lewis, rept. to HEH). Such winter occurrences of Turkey Vultures are reasonably regular in the province.

Apart from CBC birds, the only GOSHAWKS were 1 in Halifax on Jan 24, 1 near Economy on Jan. 6, and another near there on Jan. 12. Only about 15 widely scattered reports of SHARP-SHINNED HAWKS are at hand, some as usual at feeders.

RED-TAILED HAWKS were "common in the Valley area this winter, but not so abundant as past two winters"(BCS). Only 9 post CBC birds were noted elsewhere, the most northerly being 1 in Antig. Co., on Feb. 16. Up to 4 ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS were seen around Grand Pre in early Feb., and 5 post CBC individuals were seen elsewhere, from Glace Bay to Meteghan. The RED-SHOULDERED HAWK on the Brier Island CBC (ELM) seems to be part of a continuing pattern of winter occurrences there and elsewhere in the province.

The report on the GOLDEN EAGLE in the last Newsletter has been amplified by PJA-S. The evidently subadult bird was picked up along the road between Joggins and Apple River on Oct. 4, taken to Lands & Forests at River Hebert, and thence to the Wildlife Park at Shubenacadie. It had possibly been struck by a vehicle, but was not badly hurt, and recovered under the expert care of Glen McNutt and others at the Park. After a sojourn for care and study with Cyril Coldwell, it was banded and released on the Lower Shubenacadie River on Nov. 29. Post CBC BALD EAGLES were reported in good numbers, but SM confesses in her Cape Breton report that "so many people see them that I couldn't possibly report them all". An interesting concentration of a dozen occurred around the breeding gray seals near Mabou (B.Beck). Birds left the Tatamagouche Bay area by Jan. 15, when ice covered the bay (DSM), although 2 stayed on near Mahoney's Beach (RDC). Ones and twos were reported from many, mainly coastal regions on the mainland, but there were two notable gatherings. Up to 22 occurred in the vicinity of Cyril Coldwell's "eagle feeder" at Gaspereau (as reported to MAC; IAM et al. counted 9 imm. and 6 ad. there on Feb. 3). Up to 34 were reported around the Tusket Falls (CWS survey, reported to RR,

who saw 2 ad., 2 subad., and 10 imm. there on Jan. 6). The immature-to-adult ratios are gratifying.

In addition to CBC birds, MARSH HAWKS were seen at Tatamagouche on Dec. 13, near Pubnico on Jan. 2 and 26, and around Canard and Grand Pre, Feb. 9-15.

Single MERLINS were reported near Canard on Dec. 6, near Pubnico on Jan. 5 and 10, at Antigonish on Jan. 13, and at Round Hill on Jan. 15. One at Amherst until early Feb., made CD's feeder "not very popular this winter", but a less reprehensible female in Halifax pursued Starlings and stirred up the infamous Oxford Street pigeons on many occasions through the winter. The only 1980 KESTRELS were 2 near Lawrencetown, Jan. 13-20, and 1 near Canning and Port Williams, Feb. 6 and 10. Can this be all that were seen?

#### GALLINACEOUS BIRDS

The only SPRUCE GROUSE were the CBC birds. About 19 RUFFED GROUSE were reported, and they were thought to be "down at New Ross", (KNK). It must have been fun to see "2 flushed from snow burrow, North Mountain" on Jan. 1 (JB).

An astonishing PTARMIGAN (a white bird, presumably Willow) turned up on Cape Canso in early December. It was seen one evening and next morning by Mrs. June Jarvis (who wrote a letter about it to the Mail Star) and Mr. and Mrs. W. Peters. Probably it was from the introduced Scatari Island population, but one can never tell, as pre-Scatari vagrants have turned up in Nova Scotia and Maine. Certainly the Canso Barrens look like prime ptarmigan terrain.

Outside their Valley headquarters (ca. 50 seen around Wolfville on Feb. 3 by IAM et al.) COMMON PHEASANTS were seen in ones or twos near Pleasantville and Truro in early winter, and near Pubnico and the N.S. - N.B. border in Feb. GRAY PARTRIDGE flocks reported in the Wolfville area were of 9 at Grand Pre on Jan. 20, 12 near Gaspereau on Feb. 3, and 9 near Porter's Pt. on Feb. 10.

#### MARSH BIRDS

An unidentified rail was flushed by IAM et al. on Dec. 22 near Grand Desert, and Merrill Prime found a VIRGINIA RAIL on Digby Neck on Jan. 20. One of the 2 AM. COOTS in Nov. on Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth, wintered well, but a bird between Dec. 8-22, at Lr. W. Pubnico (DJd'E) probably didn't "make it". A captured first-year COMMON GALLINULE, no doubt suffering from cold and hunger, was taken to a veterinarian in Dartmouth on Dec. 19, but died soon after, and now lives in a museum tray.

IAM (ed)

#### SHOREBIRDS

The high spring tides of late December rafted ice right to the edge of the salt marshes and then froze on the tidal flats in our bays and estuaries. In this iron-bound world, refrozen a month later on the next very high tides, a few hardy shorebirds survived at least until mid-February. KILLDEER, scarce in even a mild winter, were at Cole Harbour, Dec. 15 (JSC), at Grande Desert, Dec. 22, to about Jan. 1 (IAM,ELM) and at Petite Riviere, where Shirley Cohrs found 4 on Dec. 29 and Jan. 1. More BLACK-BELLIED Plover than usual were recorded, beginning with 3 at Conrad's Beach, Dec. 15, among a flock of Dunlin and Knot (ELM); at the same time 2 more were at Cole Harbour (JSC). At Crescent Beach there were 3 on December 29 (JSC) and still 2, thought to be overwintering, on and around February 10 (SJF,DP).

3 remained nearby at Broad Cove on Dec. 31, during the census. One active and lonely-sounding Black-belly stayed in Cole Harbour until at least Jan. 20 (IAM,ELM,KNK).

WOODCOCK were recorded on Long Island, Digby County, in early winter: 3 on Dec. 8; 2 on Jan. 3 (MHP). COMMON SNIPES winter more commonly, but I received few reports: 3 at Dorothea Drive, Dartmouth Dec. 1 (RBS); 1 at Lawrencetown Lake, Dec. 15 (JSC); 2 near Grand Desert, Dec. 22 (JM,IAM); and the last, 1 near Truro on Feb. 16 (PC). The unusually long freeze probably prevented the usual numbers of wintering birds from surviving.

One GREATER YELLOWLEGS overstayed the late fall migration at Glace Bay, Dec. 26 (fide SM). Nearly as late, though not unprecedented, was a RED KNOT with Black-bellied Plover and other shorebirds at Conrad's Beach, Dec. 15 (ELM).

PURPLE SANDPIPERS have been reported rather infrequently; in my judgement they are not as abundant as usual on the south shore. Unfortunately no one looked for this species in its most favored wintering areas in the upper Bay of Fundy. At Fox Island, Conrad's Beach, where we count on a wintering flock of 50 or more most years, only 1 was present on Dec. 15 (ELM), 20-25 on Jan. 9, and none on Jan. 9 (KNK). At other locations, numbers were low: 5 at Prospect on Dec. 23 (RBS). 2 at Green Bay ("the first ever there" in that protected bay), Dec. 29 (JSC); 8 at Economy Point, Jan. 5 (FH); and 10+ at Crescent Beach and Cherry Hill, 2-21 Feb.

Seven very late DUNLIN joined other species at Conrad's Beach on Dec. 15, feeding actively in the late afternoon gloom (ELM).

During the bitterly cold, windy morning of Jan. 1, a small flock of 6 PEEP was feeding and resting on the frozen flats of Cole Harbour unfortunately on the distant side of a deep channel, too far away for certain identification. By size, actions and flight characteristics they were either Semipalmated or Western Sandpipers. Most peep found on the east coast in winter are now believed to be Westerns, so it's a pity this group remained so distant, a group of dancing sprites in a shimmering winter landscape (ELM).

To complete the roster, rather few SANDERLINGS remained: 3, said to be emaciated, at Crescent Beach, November 16; 2 at Crescent Beach on Dec. 29, 31; and one at Cole Harbour, no doubt getting meagre rations from the frozen sand on Jan. 4 (ELM,IAM).

ELM (ed)

#### SKUA, GULLS, TERNS, AUKS

I saw a single SKUA 90 miles SSE of Halifax on Feb. 20; it was too dark to have been anything but a northeast Atlantic bird.

The most interesting gull record is the possible 2nd-winter GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL which Eric Mills saw at the sewage plant at Mill Cove, Bedford, on Jan. 11. Eric is very properly cautious about claiming a record of this Pacific coast species, but his description deserves to be quoted in full, not just because it describes the bird but because it sets out some of the subtle field characters we must look out for in trying to identify the more puzzling large gulls.

A white gull only slightly larger and bulkier than a Herring Gull. Wings when folded were only slightly longer than the tail. Head profile sloping, unlike Iceland Gull. Bill rather stout, longer and heavier than in nearby Herring Gulls, blackish almost to the base

very much unlike the pale pink bill with black tip of a nearby Glaucous Gull. Mantle, back and wing coverts and secondaries gray, the secondaries with some dirty brown-red mixture, but the primaries with uniform light gray-brown, the colour most intense on the inner webs, outer webs lighter, giving an almost silvery contrast on very close inspection but not particularly obvious at a distance. The bird extended its wings several times as it balanced on the ice, feeding, so this feature of uniformly-brownish primaries was very conspicuous against the gray of coverts and mantle. Tail and lower back were pale, streaked or barred with pale brown, much like late first-year pattern of Glaucous Gull. Underparts whitish, dirty; head whitish with dark streakings on nape, sides and crown. Colour of eye and eye-ring not noted. Legs clean flesh pink. These features, with size of body and bill somewhat larger than Herring Gull but smaller than average Glaucous Gull made me watch it carefully without having anything but the common species in mind.

Overall appearance of this bird was almost identical to the 2nd year Glaucous-winged illustrated in Pough's Audubon Western Guide. Wing tips (primaries) very similar to those shown on 1st winter G1-w in Golden Guide, p. 133.

This bird appeared quite unlike an Iceland Gull of similar age in the uniformity and extent of the even brown colour on the primaries. In addition, the bill was longer and heavier than average for Iceland Gull. Most 2nd winter Iceland Gulls here show brownish smudgy primaries contrasting with gray of coverts and mantle but the brownish colour is limited in extent, usually the first primary or two, and does not give the impression of being uniform around the wing tip on the majority of primary features. In addition, I would have expected a pale base extending farther toward the bill tip in Iceland's of this age. Size, too, plus the rather short wings relative to the tail were unusual for Iceland. Possibly Thayer's Gull could look like this, but the gray mantle should have been darker, and I suspect, the brownish wing tips strikingly patterned, more like Herring Gull or very dark Kumlien's primary pattern. In addition, Thayer's should have been smaller, rounder-headed and longer-winged (relative to tail).

Eric L. Mills

Eric Mills confirmed that our LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL was back on its usual wintering ground in Digby harbour, But he also discovered another adult bird closer to home, on Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth, on Dec. 10. It seems to have spent its time commuting between there and the Volvo plant down on the waterfront, and at one or both places it was well seen and photographed, and present at least as late as Jan. 27. (IAM,JSC). It was a bird of the British subspecies, *graellsii*. An idle speculation, but could it have been this bird which Eric saw heading west past Sable Island on Sept. 5, 1979? (see the last Newsletter).

There was a remarkable assembly of HERRING GULLS at Canso Causeway on Nov. 30, and Dec. 2. Sara MacLean and Eldon Meikle independently came up with estimates of 200,000 birds, feeding on shoals of herring trapped up against the Causeway. "The air was thick with them: the ones that were filled to capacity were sitting on the water or the shore nearly up to Antigonish" (SM). This beats the numbers saw on Jan. 15, during a 10 hour tour of the fish plants in the Sydney area; 900+ Herring, 1000+ GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULLS, 100+ ICELAND, 40 GLAUCOUS and 14 BLACK-HEADED GULLS. Both Iceland and Glaucous were present in small numbers all winter in the Halifax area but they did not go far offshore. I had 4 definite Iceland's of the

Kumlieni subspecies and one possible glaucoides on my February cruise. The only "white" gull record south of there was a Glaucous at West Pubnico on Feb. 2 (DJD'E).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKES were quite common away from shore on the southern Scotian Shelf (RGG); an adult seen just south of Cape Sable on Feb. 23, had a badly oiled belly. There are no other reports.

RING-BILLED GULL numbers on Sullivan's Pond varied from 6 to 100, depending on the weather (EAC,KDK,JSC). There were at least 100 at Eel Brook in January; these dwindled away to zero early in February but there were signs of a comeback at the end of the month (PRD,CRKA). On Feb. 21, a 2nd. year bird was seen about 15 miles ESE of Cape La Have on Feb. 21 (RGG).

The Halifax East CBC turned up a 2nd. year LAUGHING GULL at Hartlen Point (MAC,JM,TE). There were a very few BONAPARTE'S in late January in the Halifax area; an immature off Canal Street, Dartmouth on Jan. 27, and 2 adults there on Feb. 3 (ELM), and a bird in the harbour on Feb. 2 (IAM,JM). All the other "hooded" gulls were Black-headed; not that they are "black-headed" yet, but here was a bird with the rosy breast of spring plumage in Dartmouth Cove on Feb. 3 (RBS), and about 10% of the 50+ on Sullivan's Pond on Feb. 19, were similarly coloured (JSC, Audrey Smith). Canal Street and the Volvo plant are other areas in Halifax-Dartmouth where quite a few birds have been seen (10 at the plant and 25+ at Canal Street on Jan. 13: JSC), but these were probably all part of the same group as the Sullivan's Pond birds. Across the Province, there were 6 birds at the Antigonish Town Sewage Plant on Dec. 31, and Jan. 13 (RDC,SPF).

A tern? Certainly - though it's a record which missed the last issue. On Sept. 7, a SOOTY TERN was picked up dying on Melmerby Beach, Pictou Co., by Arthur McKay of Nova Scotia Lands and Forests (information via PJA-S). The bird is now in the Museum. I haven't seen it, but the description - blackish upper parts, white underparts and a white forehead - doesn't leave much room for doubt. Bob Bancroft, Regional Biologist for NSLF, suggests that it was blown up here by Hurricane David, and this seems very probable. Kevin Powers of Manomet Bird Observatory, tells me that in early September he saw large numbers of Sooty Terns (and other tropical seabirds) unusually far north, off Cape Hatteras. It may well have been blown up from there.

We have 2 records of RAZORBILLS. There was a total of 8 on Brier I., CBC on Dec. 17, and 1 at Cherry Hill on Feb. 2 (SJF). There were 9 Dovekies at Brier I. too, and much earlier in the fall what was clearly a storm-driven bird near Bridgetown on about Oct. 25 (TH,SLW). But Dovekies winter well offshore, and in late February, I found them locally abundant on the Scotian Shelf, especially close to the outer edge. I saw both COMMON and THICK-BILLED MURRES on the shelf too, though they were always less common than Dovekies and seemed to occur closer inshore. There were almost equal proportions of the two species as far as I could see, but of course, the majority of murres at sea are too far off to be identified. I also saw 8 ATLANTIC PUFFINS in all, between Brown's Bank (where else?) and George's. In addition there were 2 Puffins and 371 Thick-bills on the Brier Island CBC; also 2 Thick-bills in Sydney Harbour on Jan. 18 (HEH), one at Digby Wharf on Feb. 24 ("happily flying around under-water in search of fish": BCS) and occasional birds in Halifax Harbour in Jan. and Feb. (JM,IAM). Finally, the Halifax West CBC turned up 3 BLACK GUILLEMOTS off Prospect on Dec. 23, and there were single birds at LaHave Islands on Dec. 31 (JSC) and at Cherry Hill on Feb. 22 (SJF).

RGG (ed)

## DOVES

A ROCK DOVE on Dec. 12 at Bear Cove, Ingonish, was "a rare bird here" (TR). MOURNING DOVES, common enough through Dec., were obviously on the move as winter set in. For example, about 30 birds appeared in a farmyard near Lower Debert on Jan. 5 (PC). Then reports became few. However, they must have been common somewhere, for MAC, after having seen none in her Halifax backyard since Dec. 22, had 1 on Feb. 20, and an amazing 24 by Feb. 24!

## OWLS

Two GREAT HORNED OWLS were seen near Greenfield on Feb. 4, and another was calling near Port Joli in Jan.-Feb. But none were so lucky (?) as DSM who had a bird "hunting" regularly at his feeder in Tatamagouche. About 10 BARRED OWLS were reported. A roost of 7 LONG-EARED OWLS was discovered by BLF near Canning; surely this must be a provincial record. Three SHORT-EARED OWLS were roosting at Grand Pré on Jan. 29 (PJA-S), but only 1 was found a few days later. Another short-ear was noteworthy at the Glace Bay Sanctuary in mid-Jan. (CH). The only report of SAW-WHET OWL was 1 grasping a mouse near Lock Lomond on Jan. 5 (GC).

## WOODPECKERS

COMMON FLICKERS were reported from Yarmouth on Dec. 4, Bridgetown on Dec. 20, W. Pubnico on Jan. 2, and, most noteworthy, at Liverpool on Feb. 22 (RSJ). PILEATED WOODPECKERS were reported through the winter in ones and twos from 10 localities. Surely the smaller woodpeckers are under-reported. About 20 HAIRY WOODPECKERS were reported from 10 localities, yet both FH at Economy and SM on C.B., rate them as "numerous" this winter. About 23 DOWNY WOODPECKERS from fewer localities were noted, and SM thought them "scarce". Only 1 BLACK-BACKED THREE-TOED WOODPECKER (the same individual from Nov. to Feb.?) was seen at APBS this winter (CD). Others were at St. Esprit, Nov. 28 and 30 (RM) and at Lr. W. Pubnico on Jan. 5, and Feb. 10 (Rsd'E). Dave Gray's NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER near Prospect on the Halifax West CBC deserves mention here.

IAM (ed)

HORNED LARKS were down in number this year, few were seen on the CBC's and no large concentrations reported. Largest (and latest) flock was one of 30 at Grand Pre, Feb. 3 (IAM)

## CORVIDS

Odd GRAY JAYS were seen about the woods and a few were attendant at country feeding stations. BLUE JAYS seemed much more numerous with groups of from four to thirty coming regularly to feeders. Except at Round Hill, where WEW found them scarce they were "plentiful", "numerous" and "constantly at the feeder".

Reports from Cape Breton indicate that COMMON RAVEN numbers were "up" there. In mid-December there were fourteen at Orangedale, including one completely white bird. Early nesters, they begin their courtship in January and on Jan. 26, eight ravens were performing their circling display black against a crimson sunset sky near Eel Brook (PRD). IAM et al. estimated 150 ravens in the Wolfville area on Feb. 3, together with 5000 COMMON CROWS. These latter, the only bird seen on every winter outing seemed to be as usual in most other areas.

## CHICKADEE TO MOCKINGBIRD

The brave, winter-defying BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES were plentiful and regular at feeders in some areas:- Yarmouth, Shelburne and Queens counties, Halifax and Dartmouth cities and Cape Breton. In Amherst, Round Hill and New Ross they were, however, few in number, shy and elusive. BOREAL CHICKADEES were extremely well reported with an unusually large flock of 20 at New Minas on Jan. 28 (Gerald Dickie).

After last year's poor showing the WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH has made a good recovery - up to at least 24 individuals (from 11). They were well scattered throughout our area. Only five RED-BREASTED NUTHATCHES were seen, all singles;- Jan. 3, at Argyle Head, Jan. 15, Glace Bay, Feb. 12, Greenfield, Feb. 13, near Eel Lake and Jan.-Feb. at a Halifax city feeder (PRD, SMacL, BLF, Cohrs).

There were twelve BROWN CREEPERS seen. (1978-79=15) Five were from the SW end of the Province, three from Hants Co., two from Cape Breton and two from Halifax city.

On Dec. 22, at Port Joli, Jeanne Addleson saw a WINTER WREN.

The two LONG-BILLED MARSH WRENS discovered at Dorothea Drive, Dec. 1, by John and Shirley Cohrs, were well viewed in the days that followed and stayed around there for at least ten days. A second long-bill was at Seaforth Lake, Hal. Co., Dec. 22 (IAM).

Overwintering MOCKINGBIRDS continue to be rare; five only being reported. Viz - Liverpool (Dec.-Feb.), Shelburne town (Dec. 3), Yarmouth town (Dec.-Feb.), Dartmouth (Jan.-Feb.) and New Waterford (Feb. 9).

Robie Tufts wrote of a GRAY CATBIRD attempting to eke out an existence in a Wolfville garden in mid January - nothing heard of it since.

Five BROWN THRASHERS were reported, three well established at or near feeders. The Economy thrasher, which added a new species to the CBC, was first seen Dec. 2, and was still around on Feb. 24. The Halifax thrasher, lurking behind the old Halifax Ladies' College on Jan. 1, still remained at the end of Feb. Ethel Crathorne counted one in Dartmouth, Feb. 1, and one seen by John Phalen at Sydney on Feb. 13, was the first thrasher report there since 1972. The Seaforth (Hfx. Co.) thrasher at the Ron Jeppesen's was seen right up to the press time.

There were a good number of overwintering AMERICAN ROBINS this season. They ranged in number from singles to groups of 4/5 to a large flock of 20, in areas from Yar. Co. to Cape Breton, and on dates from Nov. to the end of Feb. Many people remarked on the fine bright plumage of these winter birds.

The only other thrush recorded was one SWAINSON'S THRUSH at Barrington, Jan. 31 (BJS)

Although GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLETS are around in the summer and indeed nest in the province they are seen mostly in winter when their sleigh-bell voices are heard from the spruce treetops. They were well reported and most people felt that they were "as usual" in number. Keith Keddy wrote that they had a particularly good year at New Ross where, in Jan. and Feb. they out numbered both species of Chickadees combined. A male Golden-crowned was a regular visitant at a suet feeder in Hammonds Plains, occasionally in company with a female (KNK).

Two correspondants mentioned RUBY-CROWNED KINGLETS. Wendy Tay saw one in her Dartmouth garden on Dec. 24, and on the same date, a male made his first visit to the suet log at the Cohrs' in Halifax. This latter bird reappeared throughout January, being joined by a female on Jan. 26. Nothing since.

A small flock of WATER PIPITS apparently stay each winter at St. Anne's Point, Lr. W. Pubnico. They were in their usual place in Jan. and Feb. with latest report of 11 dated Feb. 16. (RSD'E) A single pipit in poor condition was on the Cole Harbour railway line Jan. 20 (ELM,IAM)

The only BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS were seen at Sydney and at Petite Riviere. There was one at Sydney, Dec. 16, and fourteen there Jan. 5 (HEH). At Petite, a single bird fed on hawthorne fruit Dec. 30 (JSC, JP).

After last year's bonanza of NORTHERN SHRIKES, things were more normal this winter. Three reports were made, all of singles: Dec. 8 Round Hill, Jan. 25, Wolfville Ridge, Feb. 9, Middle W. Pubnico. (WEW,BLF,DJd'E)

STARLINGS are just...starlings most of the time, but on Feb. 24, Dick Brown saw three, far out of their usual venue -- at sea, 90 miles south of Cape Sable and 150 miles east of Cape Cod. One wonders how, why and whence.

JSC (ed)

#### WOOD WARBLERS

Since the last of November, six species of warbler have been observed, only one of these in any number. Steve Manuel saw the last BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER Dec. 5, 1979, in Halifax; the YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER remained well distributed up to and through February, 1980 (see below\*). A PINE WARBLER was noted "a dull immature bird calling from pine trees" Dec. 3, in Halifax, by IAM. Another was observed at Wolfville, Dec. 18, at the Sherman Bleakney feeder by ELM. The bird remained at this feeder for three weeks, eating suet, and seemed to be in excellent condition. The most extraordinary winter sighting this season was of two of these warblers, rare at any season here, at Ann Lee's feeder in East Pubnico, where the two remained throughout the month of February, eating small bird seed until they became so tame it was possible to observe them within a few feet. Ted D'Eon and other birders from West Pubnico and C.R.K. Allen of Tusket, saw the birds and agreed unreservedly with Mrs. Lee's identification. One bird was in well-marked and fairly bright plumage, the other rather drab, but both showed the prominent white wing-bars, plain back and faintly striped breast, faint line over the eye, dark feet and white under the tail, clearly. Both birds were lively and in good condition.

Three other species of warbler were seen in December and January: the PALM, 1, Dec. 13, at Lr. W. Pubnico (DJd'E); the COMMON YELLOW-THROAT, 1, Dec. 15 (Halifax E. CBC); 1, Dec. 22, at Grand Desert (ELM, JM), and 1 male, Jan. 13 at Porter's Lake, Hfx. Co. (IAM); the YELLOW BREASTED CHAT, 1, first seen Nov. 24, still present, Dec. 8, south end of Halifax (JM&IAM), and 1, Dec. 1; at Dorothea Drive (JL&JSC).

\*YELLOW-RUMPED (Myrtle) WARBLERS stayed in Nova Scotia all winter but few were seen compared with many winters, and most were on the Atlantic side, Martinique Beach, Cole Harbor, Dartmouth Piggery, Conrad's Beach, Grand Desert, Sambro, Crescent Beach, Broad Cove, Cherry Hill, New Ross, the Pubnicos, Yarmouth town and Brier Is. The largest number seen at one time since Christmas was "a loose flock of around 20, Jan. 2, at Cole Harbor (JM); the latest seen were small flocks



(around 10) in the Broad Cove area Feb. 2 - 10 (SJF), at Martinique Beach, 5, one in breeding plumage Feb. 2" (RBS) and 2, Feb. 9 at West Pubnico (DJD'E), 10-12 on Feb. 16-17, at Lr. W. Pubnico(RSD'E).

#### HOUSE SPARROW

Sara MacLean reports Hedley Hopkins as saying he "counted 1001 HOUSE SPARROWS" in Sydney during January. Elsewhere only a few small flocks (7-10) were noted.

#### ICTERIDS

The EASTERN MEADOWLARK appeared in January and February this year in Nova Scotia: 2 at Conrad's Beach on Jan. 8 (KNK); 8 (a flock) at Argyle Head on Jan. 28, (CRKA) and 2 at Port Joli Feb. 1-11, "seen every day feeding in field and at feeder" by Jeanne Addelson.

The YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD chose to remain in Nova Scotia rather late for strays this winter: 1, seen in early December with a flock of Cowbirds at Economy (FLS), and 1, early January in Yarmouth town (Margaret and Win Cann, fide DBK), and 1, Jan. 10, at Cape Breton Highlands National Park (PRM).

The REDWINGED BLACKBIRD made a pleasant diversity, 1-2 mostly, present throughout the winter, at feeders in the province. Early December Redwings were very generally distributed Glace Bay to Yarmouth, but by February we have only four reports: 5, noted (4 m. & 1 fe.) Feb. 1, at White Rock, Kings Co. (BLF); 3 (f) Feb. 2, at Glace Bay (AS); 1-2, Feb. 9-10, at Queensland (Vernon Keddy) and 2-3, Feb. 29 at Tusket (CRKA).

Similarly NORTHERN ORIOLES put in an occasional appearance at feeders, always a pleasing if worrisome sight - they rarely survive our winters. This year we have mostly November and December sightings as usual; four in the Halifax region (JSC,RBS,IAM), one in Liverpool (RSJ) and one in Glace Bay (SM). At Sydney HEH had a Northern Oriole at his feeder, Dec. 27 to Jan. 30; and in Yarmouth town MAN had 2 at Christmas (feeding on a fat mixture), not seen from then on, but again "appeared at the feeder in the Jan. 24 snowstorm", staying and eating small bird seed.

Very few COMMON GRACKLES were noted this winter; most of them had left by late November, at which time WEW recorded a huge flock of blackbirds at Tupperville, (Nov. 27) - 500 to 600 of Grackles, Cowbirds and Rustys, in a ratio of 1, 2, 3 in the order given. A few lingered: KNK saw a few at a feeder in Hammond's Plains Nov. 20; in Cape Breton there were four reports December through January of 1-6 of these birds (SM). Other January reports came from FLS in Economy, CRKA at Tusket. Daily counts at Antigonish ranged from 1 to 4, Dec. 1 -Feb. 23 (RDC) and at Yarmouth 2 to 20, Nov. 30 - Feb. 9, with 30, Dec. 28 (MWH). Other mid-February Grackles (small numbers) were noted at Bridgetown (TH), Tusket and Eel Brook.

The BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD did not present the problem this year that it has at other times. It has been reported generally over mainland Nova Scotia, but in relatively small numbers, December through February, flocks varying in size from 10 to 200. A possible movement from country to town is suggested by Keith Keddy's report of 50 Cowbirds, Jan. 1, down to 3 only Jan. 9, at the Hammond's Plains feeder, followed by Chris Field's report of 70, Jan. 4, up to 200, Jan. 16, at Grant Street, in Halifax. Spring sightings, maybe, were 80 Cowbirds (not present before) at Economy the first two weeks of February (FLS); one pair (m and fe.) at a feeder in Antigonish, Feb.

23 (RDC), and a flock of 8, half m, half f., which came for the first time since last summer to a feeder in Eel Brook (PRD).

#### TANAGER

One very late WESTERN TANAGER was seen Dec. 27, At W. Pubnico by Delisle d'Entremont.

#### FRINGILLIDS

Eight CARDINALS are fully documented for winter, 1979-80 in Nova Scotia; three pairs (m and f) and two singles (f). These birds have remained closely, each in his own vicinity, using one or more feeders for sustenance throughout this time. One of the single females spent the winter in the Cohrs' garden in Halifax and was reported singing on Feb. 19 (JSC). This bird was watched there by many others including RBS and KNK). The other single female stayed at the Marion Graves feeder in Bridgetown, reported there by Jean Morse, Terry Hyson and Stewart Whitman, Jan. 17 to Jan. 20. In Yarmouth, two pairs of these beautiful birds spent most of their time at the Fred Nickersons' "regularly flying in and out of the woods, usually early and late in the day, feeding on sunflower seed under the hedge" (MAN), but also traded back and forth to other gardens, notably the one at 23 Baker St., where a pair or oftener just the female favored the lobster pot feeder. These birds were present there Dec. 1, through Feb. 15 at least. The last pair of Cardinals spent the time, Nov. 4 to Feb. 20 (at least) at the Hamiltons' in Pubnico - where one of the first of our nascent colony lived for two years after the original "invasion", fall, 1973.

A late ROSE-BREADED GROSBEAK, male, was observed Nov. 15, "along the Sackville River in Bedford, eating nightshade berries" (KNK).

Six DICKCISSELS have been reported: 1, Nov. 23, Glace Bay, and 1 Dec. 3 had been present for weeks at Louise Daley's feeder in Digby (SIT,PDV); 1, Jan. 15, at Three Fathom Harbour (RBS); 1, Feb. 3, at Tusket Falls (Ruth Horton fide RR); 1, late Jan. in Glace Bay (AS), and 1, all winter at the Scott Killam feeder in Yarmouth (EK).

Twenty-four accounts of the EVENING GROSBEAK pretty well cover the province and the number of birds mentioned is somewhat less than last year. Flocks appeared briefly in November, but did not settle to feed, nor did they do so in many places in December until after Christmas. There was a slight rise in numbers in January, and a marked rise the end of February at some feeders, probably a pre-dispersal gathering. Size of flocks varied greatly, largest in Cape Breton were 40 at Sydney (HEH), 100+ at Sydney Forks (RBL), 75 at Glace Bay (AS); on the mainland, 20 at Antigonish (RDC), 40 at Amherst (CD), 30-40 at Economy (FH), "large" at Stewiacke (Myrtle Stewart), 4 at Wine Harbor (GM), 20-30 at Dartmouth (Tays and EAC), 10-100 at Halifax (CF,MAC), 25 at Wolfville (BLF), 5 at Round Hill (WEW), 30 at Paradise (Morses), "generally uncommon" at Port Joli (JUA), 31 at Hammonds Plains (KNK), 6 at Liverpool (RSJ), 45 at Pubnico (E & VH), 24 at Eel Brook (PRD), 75 at Tusket (Allens), 20-30 at Yarmouth (MWH). This may be regarded as only a sampling of numbers, for comparison with last year and next year. One curious incident was the capture of an Evening Grosbeak in Bridgetown by Terry Hyson, who discovered that it had only one leg, but that leg banded!

At the time of this report the PURPLE FINCH had not yet arrived. Nine reports represent 16 individual birds, the total for the province (seen) from Christmas through February. In most places they were not seen at all, and most of those encountered were females or immatures: 6 in the Valley region (TH,JM), 7, on the South Shore

(SJF,DJd'E), and 3 in Yarmouth Co. (MH,CRKA,PRD). This has not been a finch year, possibly because we have no cones on the evergreens. Let us hope for better days next year.

One stray arrived at - perhaps returned to - Yarmouth this year - a HOUSE FINCH, a female, which settled in Adele Hurlburt's garden in town and spent the winter there (still there at time of writing, March 3).

The PINE GROSBEAK was way down in numbers from its "explosion" two years ago. Back to "normal", it was seen mostly in the north and east of the province: Hedley Hopkins saw 10-14 Dec. and Jan. at Mira in Cape Breton, where Roy Blakeburn saw 20 on Jan. 26, at Sydney Forks and Jean McNicol reported a sighting in January at Malagawatch. The Meyerowitzes saw 6 Jan. 13, at St. Esprit, Edgar Spalding 6, Feb. 9, at Economy. Aside from that Bernard Forsythe saw only one Jan. 28, all winter at Greenwich, Kings Co.; CRK Allen saw only one, Nov. 30, in Yarmouth Co., and at New Ross and Hammonds Plains, Keith Keddy found a total of a probable 12, Dec. - Feb. and wrote "down from the flocks of up to 20 which are usually regular in this region".

One report of the COMMON REDPOLL was of eight seen in January at Malagawatch by Jean McNicol. No other reports were received (except from Frank Hennessey who wrote succinctly "none").

The PINE SISKIN also seems to be of very limited distribution: one each seen at Sydney Forks and at 12 Crest Road, Halifax (RBL,MAC); 10, regular at feeder, Economy, Jan. 26 - Feb. 17 (FH) and several present in Point Pleasant Park in Halifax during January (Erick Greene fide IAM).

It is reassuring to find the population of AMERICAN GOLDFINCHES undiminished this year. Few were seen, as usual during December, but flocks of varied size (8-30) arrived in January, noted at Mahoney's Beach, Antigonish (RDC), at Dartmouth (Tays), Black River, Kings Co., (BLF) and Eel Brook (PRD). By February distribution became more general, flocks of 6-10 at Blace Bay (SM); 100-150 both Jan. and Feb. at Lower Economy (FH); 10-15 at Dartmouth (EAC); 10 at Round Hill (WEW) 30 at Bridgetwon (Terry Hyson); 20 at Tusket (Allens). Goldfinches have remained at the feeders where they settled and are (the last two weeks) beginning to sing.

The RED CROSSBILL does not seem to have been seen this winter, the WHITE-WINGED only twice: 13, Jan. 14, at Freenfield, Kings Co. (BLF), and 10, Feb. 16 at Lawrencetown, Halifax Co. (SJF).

Four RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEES have been observed this winter, first seen in November, one at the Cohrs' in Halifax and one at the feeder at #170 Eel Brook. These were both females, and the Halifax bird (or another) was still around Feb. 29 (JSC). A bright male Towhee was found and independently identified by Derek Tay at the Tay feeder in the absence of his parents, who were delighted to confirm his identification next day, Dec. 13. This was in Dartmouth, and the bird stayed around, associating with a small flock of Whitethroats, until Jan. 31 (K & WT). Last seen was a Towhee in Hebron, Yarmouth Co., which stayed around several days, noted by Annie Saunders.

One SAVANNAH SPARROW was reported from Cape Breton for the winter, seen on the Christmas Count, Dec. 26, Glace Bay (SM). Only two other reports have come in of Savannahs, directly (one, indirectly); 2, Feb. 14, At Lr. W. Pubnico (RSd'E) and 4, Feb. 29 At Egypt (MRR). Two "IPSWICH" SPARROWS were seen Jan. 13, at Conrad's Beach (JSC). Ten of this race were counted on the Halifax E. CBC, found with 10 savannahs at Conrad's Beach (reported by ELM).

There was a GRASSHOPPER SPARROW on Wedge Island, first seen there on the Halifax E. CBC, subsequently photographed (Dec. 22) by IAM. Other observers were JM, RBS, and friends.

Ian McLaren has written "SHARP-TAILED SPARROW, 1, probable, seen on the Cole Harbor railroad Dec. 16, was perhaps the same individual there Jan. 20. It was of the Acadian race."

At least 3 SEASIDE SPARROWS were found in the Cole Harbor area. Two were found near Rainbow Haven (Cole Harbor Rd.) on the Halifax E. CBC. One immature bird was seen there by IAM, JM, TE and SM, Jan. 2; probably Jan. 19; possibly Jan. 20, and definitely Feb. 10 by IAM and James McLaren. Also a brilliant adult was seen on the Cole Harbor railroad (where it was not seen on the Christmas Count) Dec. 16 by IAM and JM. Both the adult and immature were seen closely (up to five feet each) and both were photographed.

The DARK-EYED JUNCO has been our standby this winter, universally present at feeders, and the only sparrow to be seen, very occasionally along the road and wood edges. Flocks at feeders varied from 10-50 and in most places were entirely regular in attendance. The first song - a real ringing trill - was heard here at Eel Brook on Friday, Feb. 29.

Sixteen reports of the TREE SPARROW add up to 61 individual birds, less than average for a Nova Scotia winter perhaps, but distribution was general and fairly even. Many sightings were of singles; the largest flocks only of 7 birds (at Round Hill and Lr. W. Pubnico) and 10 (at a woodlot near Antigonish). It is perhaps interesting that most Tree Sparrows were seen at feeders, and most of them stayed there all winter.

Late CHIPPING SPARROWS were an adult and an immature heard and seen well with a flock of "Myrtles" at Cole Harbor, Jan. 2 IAM, JM).

Eighteen reports of the WHITE-THROATED SPARROW add up to 113 birds, again mostly noted at feeders, December through February, and very well distributed around the province. In a few cases the number of birds (Whitethroats) at a feeder diminished through the winter, and in one such case a Sharp-shinned Hawk was seen making off with a Whitethroat. This may well have been the fate of a number of such - as was the case with some Juncos - small piles of feathers nearby to tell the tale.

The FOX SPARROW has remained very scarce indeed, with only four birds seen all winter: 2, Dec. 8, in Halifax (JM); and one each regular at feeders Dec. through February at Lower Economy (FH) and at Yarmouth (MAN).

The last migrant SWAMP SPARROW was probably the one Keith Keddy saw in the Russell Lake area Nov. 17; two others missed the boat: 1, seen Jan. 1 at Amherst Point by Stuart Tingley and 1, at Rocky Run, Feb. 10, noted by the Cohrs.

Thirty SONG SPARROWS stayed with us from December throughout the winter, according to reports, (ten only received). A few of these were seen along roadsides, but again most were at feeders, but rather irregular in attendance. It will be good, in a few weeks, to hear that cheerful song again, and see the singers in their bright new plumage balancing along the telephone wires.

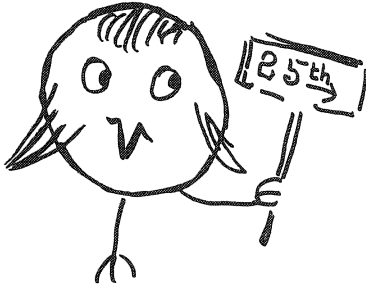
A curious late fall sighting of LAPLAND LONGSPURS was of two of these birds in company with three Robins feeding in the sedgy grass along the side of the Argyle River estuary at the Rte. 3 causeway, Nov. 25, by PRD. Eric Mills and Ian McLaren counted 23, Dec. 30, at Grand Desert, Halifax Co., 1, Jan. 20, at Cole Harbor. Two other reports for winter are: 300+, Jan. 1 at the John Lusby Marsh near Amherst, "my largest flock ever, a few Snow Buntings and Horned Larks mixed in", and 32, Elysian Fields, Cumb. Co., Jan. 13, both sightings by Stuart Tingley; later on the Grand Pre, Feb. 3, around 12 Lapland Longspurs (mixed with Larks and Buntings) (IAM, JM, SM, TE).

One hundred and ten SNOW BUNTINGS were counted on Conrad's Beach, on the Halifax E. CBC, Dec. 15. (reported by ELM). Later flocks were small this year, with the possible exception of Cape Breton: the Meyerowitzes had 2-3 dozen, Dec. 31 (the first of the season) and 40-50 were noted at Boularderie, Jan. 29, by RBF. Elsewhere flocks do not seem to have topped 20 in number (of individuals) and were mostly gone by the end of January. Oddly enough the only two reports for Feb. we have are from opposite ends of the province: 15 seen on Feb. 2, at North Ingonish by Ross Dobson and 14 seen on Feb. 10 at Lower W. Pubnico by Raymond d'Entremont.

PRD (ed)



- ERRATA:
1. NSBS Newsletter Vol. 21, No. 3, 1979, page 141, para. 3, the Yellow Warbler date April 28, at Economy (FS) should be May 28.
  2. Vol. 22, No. 1, 1980, page 28, para. 1, the 200 Common Nighthawks near Bridgewater on July 21, should be August 21.
  3. Vol. 22, No. 1, 1980, page 4A, para 2, should read, "It should be noted that though good, the numbers of our native birds were NOT unusually large for these places and season."

UP-COMING FIELD TRIPS

- Sunday April 27 KINGS COUNTY-WOLFFVILLE AREA  
Migrant ducks, loons, possibly early Corvid's nests.  
Leader: Jim Wolford. Time: 0900 hrs. Meet at the Save-Easy parking lot, Wolfville.
- Saturday June 14 \*PELAGIC TRIP LEAVING FROM PURCELL'S COVE (Alternate date: June 15) 15 to 20 mi. out - about 6 hrs. Each boat will cost \$175. Min. loading of 10 persons, max. of 14. Reservations required. Phone Don Purchase at 434-5199 for details and reservations before June 6.
- Saturday May 17 CAPE BRETON - SOUTH HEAD AREA. Early warbler arrivals.  
Leader: Sara MacLean. Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at Dearn's Corner, Hwy. intersection Port Morien and Donkin.
- Saturday May 17 YARMOUTH COUNTY. Warblers and other spring birds. Leaders: P.R. Dobson, C.R.K. Allen. Time: 0830 hrs. Meet at the C.P.R. Station in Yarmouth.
- May 17 to 19 \*SHELburne COUNTY - SEAL ISLAND. Weekend trip by boat. For details and reservations, please phone Ralph Connor at 469-8370 (home) or 426-5801 (business).
- Wednesday May 21 HALIFAX COUNTY - SHUBIE PARK. Early morning warbler walk.  
Leader: Jim Elliott. Time: 0600 hrs. Meet at the north end of the Shubie Park campsite off the Waverley Rd.
- Sunday May 25 \*HANTS COUNTY - SHUBENACADIE AREA. Leader: Roslyn MacPhee.  
Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at the Co-Op parking lot, Shubenacadie Square, in front of Scott's Restaurant. Bring a lunch.
- Wednesday May 28 HALIFAX COUNTY - SUZIE LAKE. Early morning warbler walk.  
Leader: Ed Richard. Time: 0600 hrs. Meet at the intersection of the Kearney Lake Road and the Bi-Centennial Hwy. under the overpass.
- Saturday May 31 HANTS COUNTY - PRESIDENT'S FIELD TRIP. Leader: Marg Clark.  
Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at the railroad crossing in Mount Uniacke.
- Saturday June 7 CAPE BRETON - GRAND LAKE BROWN'S LAKE. Leader: Graham Fraser. Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at the parking lot opposite the radar base, Lingan Rd., Whitney Pier, Sydney.
- Saturday June 7 ANNAPOLIS COUNTY - PARADISE. Leaders: Jean and Bill Morse. Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at Morse's: 1st house on right, moving west, within stone wall on 201, about ½ mi. from the road leading across the river to the village of Paradise. Sign in front, just inside wall, says "Burnbrae, Jean and William Morse". For further information on accommodations or camping, contact the Morse's, Box 28, Paradise N. S., BOS 1RO. BRING FLY DOPE! Scopes could be useful.

- Sunday  
June 15 KINGS COUNTY - WOLFVILLE AREA. Leader: Bernie Forsythe.  
Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at the parking lot in front of Wades next to the Wolfville Post Office. Be prepared for rough walking in order to look for nests. Bring lunch and fly dope.
- Saturday  
June 21 CAPE BRETON - BIRDS ISLANDS. Leader: Hedley Hopkins.  
Meet at Mountain View Lodge, Big Bras d'Or at 0931 hrs. Reservations are required. Contact Hedley Hopkins at 43 Central St., Sydney, N. S., B1P 2A7, or phone 562-0405.
- Sunday  
June 22 LUNENBURG COUNTY - NEW ROSS AREA. Leader: Keith Keddy.  
Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at the Ross Farm parking lot. Bring a lunch.
- Saturday  
July 5 CAPE BRETON - MALAGAWATCH AREA. Leader: Jeanne McNicol.  
Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at Big Harbour Island intersection.
- Saturday  
July 12 COLCHESTER COUNTY - ECONOMY, BASS RIVER AREA. Leader: Frank Hennessey. Time: 0800. Meet at the General Store, Bass River.
- Sunday  
July 20 KINGS COUNTY - BLOMIDON, CAPE SPLIT. Leader: Frank Himsl.  
Time: 0830 hrs. Meet at the parking lot at the end of the road past Scots Bay.
- August?  
QUEENS COUNTY - MATTHEW'S LAKE: Still under planning
- Sunday  
August 10 YARMOUTH COUNTY. Shorebird migration. Leaders: C.R.K. Allen and P.R. Dobson. Meet at the Arcadia Post Office, outside Yarmouth, at 0830 hrs.
- Saturday  
August 16 CAPE BRETON - FORCHU, FULLER'S BRIDGE. Leader: Francis MacKinnon. Time: 0800 hrs. Meet at Marion Bridge at Mira River.
- August 17 to 23 25th ANNIVERSARY BLUENOSE SPECIAL: Grand tour from N. S. through N.B. and Maine returning via M.V. Bluenose to Yarmouth. We are arranging guided expeditions at various points which will allow for travelling time for anyone taking the whole trip. Everyone is responsible for his/her own arrangements and/or reservations. Suggestions and timetables will be published in the July Newsletter. Details are not finalized, but here is the projected itinerary:  
Sun. Aug. 17 - Mary's Point  
Mon. Aug. 18 - Fundy Nat. Park  
Tues. Aug. 19 - Travel, etc.  
Wed. Aug. 20 - Grand Manan  
Thurs. Aug. 21 - Travel, etc.  
Fri. Aug. 22 - Acadia Nat. Park  
Sat. Aug. 23 - M.V. Bluenose to Yarmouth
- August 30 to Sept. 1 DIGBY COUNTY - BRIER ISLAND. Leaders: Ross Anderson, etc.  
Full details in July Newsletter.
- Sunday  
Sept. 7 LUNENBURG COUNTY - PETITE RIVIERE, ETC. Leaders: Shirley Cohrs et al. Full details in July Newsletter.

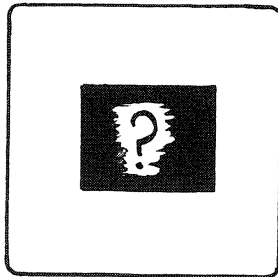
Saturday CAPE BRETON - CHETICAMP AREA. Leader: T.B.A. Time: 0800  
 Sept. 13 hrs. Meet at the Visitors' Centre, C.B. Highlands  
 National Park entrance.

Saturday YARMOUTH COUNTY - TUSKET ISLANDS. Leader: C.R.K. Allen.  
 Sept. 27 Time: 0830 hrs. Meet at the Tuna Wharf at Lower Wedge-  
 port.

October? PICTOU COUNTY - MERIGOMISH ISLAND. Leaders: The Kenneys.  
 Full details in July Newsletter.

If you have any queries, call Don or Joyce Purchase at  
 434-5199.

\* PLEASE NOTE CHANGED DATES !!!



THE SLIDE COLLECTION IS NOW IN THE HANDS OF  
 RICHARD STERN WHO MAY BE CONTACTED AT:

905 BRUSSELS STREET  
 HALIFAX, N. S.  
 B3H 2E9  
 PHONE: 423-5531

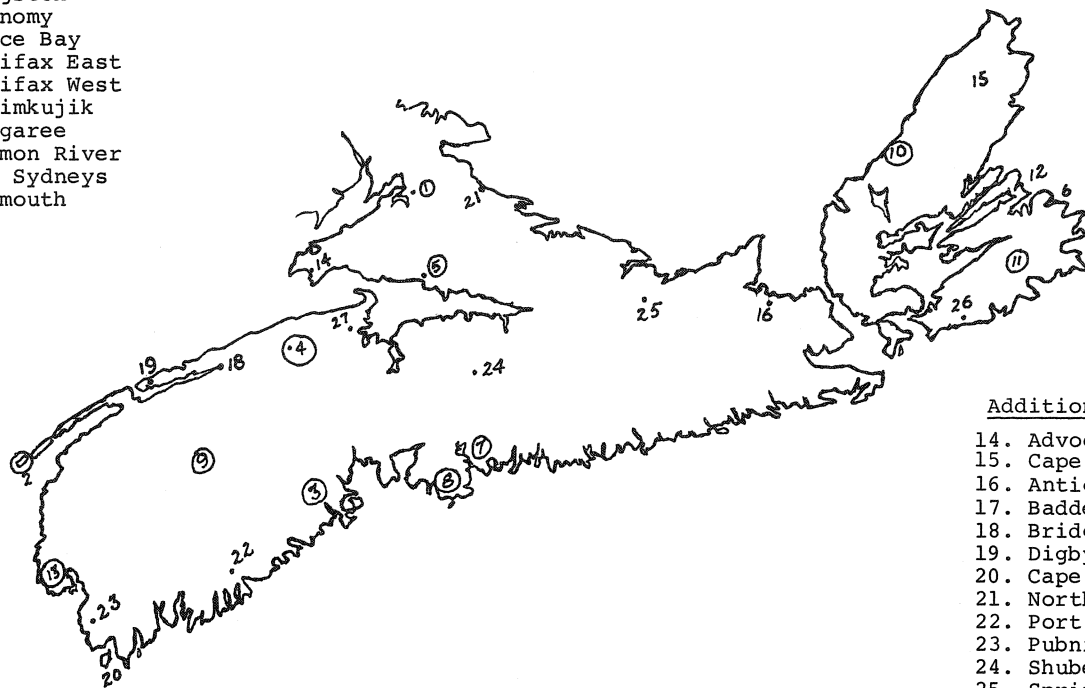
Contributions or loans continue to be very  
 welcome.



1979 - 1980 CHRISTMAS COUNTS

AUDUBON COUNTS

1. Amherst
2. Brier Is.
3. Broad Cove
4. Kingston
5. Economy
6. Glace Bay
7. Halifax East
8. Halifax West
9. Kejimkujik
10. Margaree
11. Salmon River
12. The Sydneys
13. Yarmouth



Additional NSBS Counts

14. Advocate
15. Cape Breton Highlands
16. Antigonish
17. Baddeck
18. Bridgetown
19. Digby
20. Cape Sable Is.
21. Northport
22. Port Hebert
23. Pubnico
24. Shubenacadie
25. Springville
26. St. Peters
27. Wolfville

NOVA SCOTIA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

A long, dragged-out fall, with very little cold weather, perhaps accounted for some of the unusual species and numbers of birds occurring on this year's count. Our enthusiasm for this adventure, or misery, as some wet and wind-blown observers commented this year, continues to increase with an ever increasing number of people taking part in our counts - despite a drop in the actual number of counts from a high in 1976 of 33 to this year's 27 counts.

This year's 141 species was just 1 below the all-time high count of 142 established in 1976, and the number of individuals 121,318 is lower than 1978, but when you subtract the 48,000 Kittiwakes seen last year on Brier Island, it practically is the same.

Surprising this year, Common Redpoll and Lapland Longspur were not recorded on any provincial counts for the first time in years. Other species missed year included King Eider, Saw-whet Owl, Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, and Rusty Blackbird. On the other hand, we saw a total of 26 species this year that were not recorded last year, including 6 new species to our Christmas Counts which were: Snowy Egret and Indigo Bunting, Halifax East; Arctic Loon, Gadwall and Northern Three-toed Woodpecker, Halifax West; and House Finch in Yarmouth. Other unusual species this year were: Cooper's Hawk, Bridgetown; Red-shouldered Hawk, Brier Island; Spotted Sandpiper, Salmon River; Greater Yellowlegs, Glace Bay; Catbird, Wolfville; Brown Thrasher, Economy - all extremely good records. Birds seen during the count period this year include a few extremely noteworthy records: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, St. Peter's; Magnolia Warbler, Yarmouth; Blackpoll Warbler, Port Hebert; and Western Tanager, Pubnico.

Notable decreases in numbers occurred in very few species, mostly winter finches such as Evening and Pine Grosbeak, and other birds that are forced into the province by cold weather such as Common Goldeneye, Common Eider, and Purple Sandpiper. Dramatic increases occurred in Black Duck, Red-breasted Merganser, Mourning Dove, White-breasted Nuthatch, Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler, and Slate-coloured Junco, again all due to the mild fall.

I would like to thank all those who took part in this year's count, and especially to the compilers whose well-written counts and letters made this report possible.

NOTE: CP = Birds seen in count period but not on count day.

ADVOCATE, Dec. 21; 8AM to 4:30PM. Temp. -15 to -10C. Six observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 28 (20 on foot, 8 by car). Total party miles 108 (28 on foot, 80 by car). Fresh water frozen.

Common Loon 3; Red-throated Loon 1; Red-necked Grebe 4; Canada Goose 14; Mallard 4; Black Duck 530; Green-winged Teal 5; Common Goldeneye 2; Bufflehead 23; Oldsquaw 24; Common Eider 5; White-winged Scoter 3; Surf Scoter 1; Common Merganser 5; Red-breasted Merganser 2; Ruffed Grouse 6; Purple Sandpiper 80; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 4; Herring Gull 202; Ring-billed Gull 1; murre sp., 1; Great Horned Owl 1; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Downy Woodpecker 4; Horned Lark 1; Blue Jay 8; Common Raven 9; Common Crow 21; Black-capped Chickadee 37; Boreal Chickadee 12; Am. Robin 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 10; Northern Shrike 1; Com. Starling 60; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; House Sparrow 38; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Com. Grackle 6; Brown-headed Cowbird 6; Am. Goldfinch 8; Red Crossbill 4; Dark-eyed Junco 2; Tree Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 1; Snow Bunting 20.

Total 46 species, about 1178 individuals. Frank Hennessey (compiler), Nan Hennessey, Mike Malone, Edgar Spalding, Francis Spalding, Stuart Tingley.

AMHERST, Dec. 23; 7:25AM to 4:55PM. Overcast. Wind SW 1-5mph. Temp. 33-37F. Fresh water mostly frozen. 15 observers in 9-11 parties. Total party hours 80 (53.25 on foot, 24.75 by car, skates 2). Total party miles 343.4 (61.5 on foot, 279.4 by car, skates 2.5).

Great Blue Heron 1; Black Duck 64; Com. Goldeneye 2; Com. Merganser 60; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Marsh Hawk 1; Am. Kestrel 1; falcon sp., 1; hawk sp., 1; Ruffed Grouse 9; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 49; Herring Gull 342; Rock Dove 445; Barred Owl 2; Pileated Woodpecker 4; Hairy Woodpecker 7; Downy Woodpecker 4; Black-backed 3-toed Woodpecker 3; Horned Lark 82; Gray Jay 19; Blue Jay 120; Com. Raven 69; Com. Crow 167; Black-capped Chickadee 98; Boreal Chickadee 22; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; nuthatch sp., 1; Brown Creeper 2; Am. Robin 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 53; Starling 1133; House Sparrow 794; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Com. Grackle 13; Evening Grosbeak 205; Am. Goldfinch 11; White-winged Crossbill 15; Dark-eyed Junco 1; Tree Sparrow 11; White-throated Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 4; Snow Bunting 502; finch sp., 150.

Total 40 species, about 4480 individuals. (CP: Ring-necked Pheasant). Paul Bogaard, Evelyn Coates, Con Desplanque, Hinrich Harries, Frank & Nan Hennessey, Bob Lamberton, Colin MacKinnon, Cora McKay, Harold Popma, Margaret Purdy, Al Smith, Edgar Spalding, Fran Spalding, Stuart Tingley, compiler.

ANTIGONISH, Dec. 31; 7:30AM to 4:45PM. Mostly cloudy. Wind light to brisk. Temp. 28F. Fresh water open. 6 observers in 4 parties. Total party hours 9 (4 on foot, 1½ by car, other 3½). Total party miles 65 (2 on foot, 56 by car, skies 7).

Com. Loon 2; Great Cormorant 8; Canada Goose 92; Black Duck 49; Greater Scaup 470; Com. Merganser 14; Red-breasted Merganser 8; Goshawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Bald Eagle 2a, limm.; Great Black-backed Gull 20; Herring Gull 164; Black-headed Gull 3; Rock Dove 22; Blue Jay 12; Com. Raven 10; Com. Crow 64; Black-capped Chickadee 10; Boreal Chickadee 4; Am. Robin 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet 2; Starling 65; House Sparrow 55; Com. Grackle 1; Evening Grosbeak 19; Am. Goldfinch 2; Dark-eyed Junco 5; Song Sparrow 1; Snow Bunting 17.

Total 30 species, about 1131 individuals. Alyre Chiasson, Celeste Chiasson, Roland Chiasson, (compiler), Stephen Flemming, Mrs. Sers, Marlene Teasdale.

BADDECK, Dec. 31; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Clear AM. Partly cloudy PM. Wind west 5-10mph. Temp. 20-30F. Fresh water frozen. 18 observers in 7 parties. Total party hours 24 (10 on foot, 14 by car). Total party miles 120 (14 on foot, 106 by car).

Canada Goose 1; Black Duck 54; Com. Goldeneye 14; Oldsquaw 60; White-winged Scoter 14; Com. Merganser 42; Red-breasted Merganser 70; Goshawk 1; Bald Eagle 7a; Great Black-backed Gull 19; Herring Gull 90; Belted Kingfisher 1; Hairy Woodpecker 6; Downy Woodpecker 2; Black-backed 3-toed Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 5; Blue Jay 33; Com. Raven 120; Com. Crow 112; Black-capped Chickadee 38; Boreal Chickadee 13; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 1; Am. Robin 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet 9; Starling 94; House Sparrow 134; Evening Grosbeak 10; Dark-eyed Junco 5; Snow Bunting 1.

Total 30 species, about 965 individuals. Dan Banks, Diana Banks, Doris Black, Bill Coleman, Lal Coleman, Chal Fownes, Chris King, Peter Lawsow, Richard McCurdy, Isobel MacFarlane, Pamela McKay, Edith MacPherson, Burland Murphy, Dave Smith, Cliff Sollows, Jessie Stone, Lloyd Stone (compiler), Eileen Woodford.

BRIDGETOWN, Dec. 19; 8AM to 4:30PM. Mostly cloudy. Wind NW 15 kph. Temp. -8 to -15C. Fresh water frozen. 21 observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 29 (3 on foot, 22 by car, other 4).

Total party miles 70 (3.5 on foot, 59.5 by car, 7 other).

Com. Loon 1; Great Cormorant 1; Com. Goldeneye 2; White-winged Scoter 1; Black Scoter 2; Com. Merganser 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Ruffed Grouse 3; Ring-necked Pheasant 14; Purple Sandpiper 42; Great Black-backed Gull 10; Herring Gull 100; Rock Dove 24; Barred Owl 2; Hairy Woodpecker 6; Downy Woodpecker 5; Blue Jay 40; Com. Raven 43; Com. Crow 200; Black-capped Chickadee 32; White-breasted Nuthatch 6; Am. Robin 31; Starling 98; House Sparrow 200; Red-winged Blackbird 5; Com. Grackle 5; Brown-headed Cowbird 85; Evening Grosbeak 174; Purple Finch 1; Am. Goldfinch 11; Dark-eyed Junco 7; Tree Sparrow 3; White-throated Sparrow 2.

Total 37 species, about 1165 individuals. (CP: Goshawk, Cooper's Hawk, Com. Flicker, Cardinal, Snow Bunting). Mrs. Dorothy Chesley, Helen Clark, Ann & David Cottenden, Mr. & Mrs. C. Godwin, Mrs. S. Goodwin, Mrs. M. Graves, Terry Hyson, Miss Maude Jodrey, Harry Marshall, Wilfred Marshall, Mrs. Hilda Messenger, Mrs. Adele Patterson, Eric Morris, Jean Morse (compiler), Bill Morse, Marjorie Stoddard, Stewart Whitman.

BRIER ISLAND, Dec. 17; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Overcast. South 30, then WNW 50. Temp. 50 to 25F. Fresh water open. 10 observers in 5 parties. Total party hours 33 (30 on foot, 3 by car). Total party miles 55½ (23½ on foot, 30 by car).

Com. Loon 25; Red-throated Loon 5; Red-necked Grebe 11; Horned Grebe 3; Great Cormorant 112; Gannet 6; Canada Goose 31; Brant 35; Black Duck 20; Green-winged Teal 1; Com. Goldeneye 29; Bufflehead 2; Oldsquaw 80; Com. Eider 155; Surf Scoter 3; Black Scoter 1; Com. Merganser 3; Red-breasted Merganser 71; Red-shouldered Hawk 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 9; Purple Sandpiper 26; Gt. Black-backed Gull 237; Herring Gull 541; Black-legged Kittiwake 390; Razorbill 8; Thick-billed Murre 471; Dovekie 9; Black Guillemot 37; Com. Puffin 2; Mourning Dove 2; Belted Kingfisher 1; Horned Lark 2; Blue Jay 13; Com. Raven 8; Com. Crow 141; Black-capped Chickadee 8; Boreal Chickadee 12; Am. Robin 28; Golden-crowned Kinglet 7; Starling 148; Yellow-rumped Warbler 1; House Sparrow 37; Red-winged Blackbird 10; Com. Grackle 3; Brown-headed Cowbird 51; Am. Goldfinch 3; White-winged Crossbill 2; Savannah Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 2; Fox Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 3.

Total 51 species, about 2808 individuals. (CP: Harlequin Duck, Chipping Sparrow). Ross Anderson, Sherman Boakes, Ronnie Denton, Tom Glavin, Fulton Lavender, Wickerson Lent, Eric Mills (compiler), Ian Shaw, Peter Smith, Jim Wolford.

BROAD COVE, Dec. 30; 7:30AM to 5:00PM. Mostly clear. Wind NW 20. Temp. 30F. Fresh water frozen. 21 observers in 12 parties. Total party hours 80 (64 on foot, 14 by car, 2 by boat). Total party miles 304 (95 on foot, 201 by car, 8 by boat).

Com. Loon 56; Red-throated Loon 6; Red-necked Grebe 30; Horned Grebe 49; Great Cormorant 23; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Canada Goose 59; Black Duck 96; Greater Scaup 305; Com. Goldeneye 28; Bufflehead 19; Oldsquaw 182; Harlequin Duck 1; Com. Eider 369; White-winged Scoter 20; Black Scoter 165; Com. Merganser 12; Red-breasted Merganser 99; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Rough-legged Hawk 4; Am. Kestrel 1; Spruce Grouse 1; Ruffed Grouse 12; Ring-necked Pheasant 1; Killdeer 5; Black-bellied Plover 4; Purple Sandpiper 20; Sanderling 2; Iceland Gull 2; Gt. Black-backed Gull 242; Herring Gull 2425; Ring-billed Gull 3; Black Guillemot 2; Rock Dove 5; Mourning Dove 5; Gt. Horned Owl 1; Barred Owl 1; Short-eared Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Downy Woodpecker 4; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 53; Com. Raven 28; Com. Crow 329; Black-capped Chickadee 124; Boreal Chickadee 42; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Am. Robin 2; Thrush sp. 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 30; Water Pipit 10; Bohemian Waxwing 1; Northern Shrike 1; Starling 175; Yellow-rumped Warbler 31; Palm Warbler 1; House Sparrow 251; Brown-headed Cowbird 56; Evening Grosbeak 96; Pine Grosbeak 2; Am. Goldfinch 53; White-winged Crossbill 1; Savannah Sparrow 8; Seaside Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 97; Tree Sparrow 32; White-throated Sparrow 23; Swamp Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 33; Snow Bunting 1.

Total 72 species, about 5754 individuals. Ross Anderson, Margaret Clark, John, Lise, & Shirley Cohrs, Eric Cooke,

Gillian & Jim Elliott, Tom Elwood, Sylvia Fullerton (compiler); Barbara Hinds, Fulton Lavender, Steve Manuel, Ian McLaren, James McLaren, Sandra Myers, George Perry, Don & Joyce Purchase, Stuart Tingley, Robert Turner.

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS, Dec. 30; 8AM to 4PM. Mostly clear with intermittent snow. Wind NW 15+. Temp. -2C to 1C. Lakes partially frozen, running water open. 15 observers in 9 parties. Total party hours 28½ (19 on foot, 3½ by car, 6 at feeder). Total party miles 52 (17 on foot, 35 by car).

Com. Loon 3; Great Cormorant 4; Black Duck 17; Com. Goldeneye 44; Barrow's Goldeneye 2; Oldsquaw 58; White-winged Scoter 14; Com. Merganser 1; Red-breasted Merganser 2; Purple Sandpiper 1; Glaucous Gull 1; Iceland Gull 5; Gt. Black-backed Gull 65; Herring Gull 122; Com. Murre 1; Black Guillemot 1; Downy Woodpecker 2; Gray Jay 3; Blue Jay 27; Com. Raven 17; Com. Crow 52; Black-capped Chickadee 26; Boreal Chickadee 5; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1; Am. Robin 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 7; Starling 67; Yellow-rumped Warbler 6; House Sparrow 24; Com. Grackle 30; Dickcissel 1; Am. Goldfinch 2; Dark-eyed Junco 3; Song Sparrow 2.

Total 36 species, about 634 individuals. Bert Buchanan, Jean Buchanan, Lorne Buchanan, Mrs. A. Clavel, Dorothea Cox, Bernice Doucette, Gordon Doucette, Irene Gettas, Crystal Hussey, Ross Ingraham, Pam MacKay (compiler), Gabrielle Peciva, Angus Rogers, Hazel Stockley, Stephen Warren.

CAPE SABLE, Dec. 29; 10:30AM to 2:30PM. Mostly cloudy AM to partly cloudy PM. Wind NW 30-45mph. Temp. 30-34F. Fresh water open. 2 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 4 (4 on foot). Total party miles 14 (14 on foot).

Com. Loon 8; Red-necked Grebe 9; Great Cormorant 3; Black Duck 365; Com. Goldeneye 32; Oldsquaw 14; Com. Eider 525; White-winged Scoter 7; Black Scoter 20; Com. Merganser 14; Red-breasted Merganser 6; Black-bellied Plover 1; Sanderling 20; Iceland Gull 9; Gt. Black-backed Gull 220; Herring Gull 430; Bonaparte's Gull 1; murre sp. 1; Black Guillemot 7; Horned Lark 2; Com. Raven 4; Com. Crow 19; Savannah Sparrow 1; Snow Bunting 28.

Total 25 species, about 1746 individuals. Betty June Smith (compiler), Sidney Smith.

DIGBY, Dec. 30; 8AM to 5PM. Mostly cloudy AM. Partly cloudy PM. Wind NNW 30-50mph. Temp. 29F. Fresh water partly frozen. 6 observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 10 (6 on foot, 4 by car). Total party miles 30 (5 on foot, 25 by car).

Com. Loon 1; Red-necked Grebe 8; Horned Grebe 15; Great Blue Heron 1; Great Cormorant 7; Canada Goose 3; Mallard 2; Black Duck 495; Greater Scaup 17; Com. Goldeneye 97; Bufflehead 52; Oldsquaw 36; Com. Eider 1; White-winged Scoter 6; Red-breasted Merganser 13; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Bald Eagle 1a; Ring-necked Pheasant 5; Glaucous Gull 1; Iceland Gull 2; Gt. Black-backed Gull 80; Lesser Black-backed Gull 1; Herring Gull 700; Ring-billed Gull 1; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; Rock Dove 35; Blue Jay 28; Com. Raven 45; Com. Crow 280; Black-capped Chickadee 24; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1; Starling 186; House Sparrow 35; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Evening Grosbeak 22; Purple Finch 2; Dark-eyed Junco 4; Tree Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 6; Song Sparrow 1; Snow Bunting 35.

Total 42 species, about 2257 individuals. (CP: Downy Woodpecker, Am. Goldfinch). Kay Banks, Louise Daly, Mrs. H.S. Emerson, Barry Sabean (compiler), Janet Sabean, Edith Wightman.

ECONOMY, Dec. 27; 8AM to 4:30PM. Overcast with snow. Wind N 40-60mph. Temp. 28-30F. Fresh water partly frozen. 20 observers in 9 parties. Total party hours 77 (69 on foot, 8 by car). Total party miles 228 (71 on foot, 157 by car),

Red-throated Loon 1; Black Duck 419; Com. Goldeneye 11; Bufflehead 6; Oldsquaw 8; White-winged Scoter 15; Com. Merganser 11; Red-breasted Merganser 6; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Ruffed Grouse 4; Purple Sandpiper 14; Gt. Black-backed Gull 27; Herring Gull 250; Ring-billed Gull 1; Rock Dove 30; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Horned Lark 1; Blue Jay 35; Com. Raven 52; Com. Crow 158; Black-capped Chickadee 120; Boreal Chickadee 59; Brown Thrasher 1; Am. Robin 8; Golden-crowned Kinglet 79; Starling 180; House Sparrow 213; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 2; Evening Grosbeak 3; Pine Grosbeak 5; Am. Goldfinch 57; White-winged Crossbill 6; Dark-eyed Junco 92; Tree Sparrow 3; White-throated Sparrow 3; Fox Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 5; Snow Bunting 20.

Total 40 species, about 1911 individuals. (CP: Mallard, Green-winged Teal, Red-tailed Hawk, Barred Owl, Downy Woodpecker). Ross Baker, John & Shirley Cohrs, Des Cousens, Terry & Sylvia Craig, Tom Elwood, Frank & Nan Hennessey, Jen Jeranek, Cora McKay, Ian & Jamie McLaren, George Perry, Marjorie Peterson, Margot Purdy, Edgar Spalding, Francis Spalding (compiler), Stuart Tingley, Robert Turner.

GLACE BAY, Dec. 26; 7:30AM to 3:30PM. Heavy rain. Wind ESE 15-30mph. Temp. 33-37F. Fresh water open. 6 observers in 6 parties. Total party hours 48 (48 by car). Total party miles 114 (114 by car).

Canada Goose 53; Black Duck 264; Oldsquaw 8; Com. Merganser 3; Red-breasted Merganser 12; Ruffed Grouse 2; Greater Yellowlegs 3; Iceland Gull 60; Gt. Black-backed Gull 180; Herring Gull 595; Black-headed Gull 2; Rock Dove 12; Blue Jay 3; Com. Raven 6; Com. Crow 100; Black-capped Chickadee 5; Starling 410; House Sparrow 150; Evening Grosbeak 36; Savannah Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 2.

Total 21 species, about 1817 individuals. Isabel Abernethy, Bertha Hopkins, Hedley Hopkins, Sara MacLean (compiler), Edith MacLeod, Arthur Spencer.

HALIFAX EAST, Dec. 15; 7AM to 5PM. Temp. 14-18F. Wind NW 4-8 mph. Fresh water mostly frozen. Wild food crop good.

31 observers in 15 parties. Total party hours 109 (79 on foot, 30 by car). Total party miles 405 (108 on foot, 297 by car).

Com. Loon 25; Red-throated Loon 4; Red-necked Grebe 6; Horned Grebe 20; Great Cormorant 28; Snowy Egret 1; Canada Goose 4200; Black Duck 227; Green-winged Teal 1; Com. Goldeneye 49; Bufflehead 87; Oldsquaw 122; Com. Eider 14; White-winged Scoter 14; Com. Merganser 9; Red-breasted Merganser 157; Goshawk 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Bald Eagle 1a., imm.; Am. Kestrel 2; Ruffed Grouse 1; Am. Coot 1; Killdeer 1; Black-bellied Plover 5; Com. Snipe 7; Red Knot 1; Purple Sandpiper 29; Dunlin 8; Sanderling 7; Iceland Gull 1; Gt. Black-backed Gull 78; Herring Gull 1430; Ring-billed Gull 137; Black-headed Gull 21; Laughing Gull 1; Rock Dove 38; Mourning Dove 42; Belted Kingfisher 1; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Downy Woodpecker 4; Horned Lark 11; Blue Jay 72; Com. Raven 99; Com. Crow 420; Black-capped Chickadee 185; Boreal Chickadee 28; Brown Creeper 2; Long-billed Marsh Wren 1; Mockingbird 1; Am. Robin 58; Golden-crowned Kinglet 67; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; Northern Shrike 1; Starling 1232; Yellow-rumped Warbler 109; Palm Warbler 3; Com. Yellowthroat 2; Yellow-breasted Chat 1; House Sparrow 492; Eastern Meadowlark 4; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Com. Grackle 14; Brown-headed Cowbird 236; Indigo Bunting 1; Dickcissel 1; Evening Grosbeak 110; Pine Grosbeak 2; Am. Goldfinch 103; Savannah Sparrow 27; Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow 10; Grasshopper Sparrow 1; Sharp-tailed Sparrow 2; Seaside Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 161; Tree Sparrow 99; White-throated Sparrow 66; Fox Sparrow 2; Lincoln's Sparrow 1; Swamp Sparrow 23; Song Sparrow 64; Snow Bunting 231.

Total 83 species plus 1 additional race, about 10737

individuals. Ross Anderson, Hazel Carmichael, Margeret Clarke, John & Shirley Cohrs, Eric Cooke, Gillian & Jim Elliot, Tom Elwood, Sylvia Fullerton, Bill Freedman, Charlotte Harriman, Frank Hims1, Barbara Hinds, Fulton Lavender, Steve Manuel, Ian McLaren (compiler), Jamie McLaren, Eric Mills, Sandra Myers, Pat & Roger Pocklington, Don & Joyce Purchase, Alister Robertson, Elizabeth & Richard Stearn, Karl & Wendy Tay, Betty Topple, Dorothy Welch.

HALIFAX WEST, Dec. 23; 7:30AM to 5:30PM. Overcast. No wind. Temp. 30-36F. Fresh water partly frozen. 35 observers in 15 parties. Total party hours 113 (87.5 on foot, 24.5 by car, 1 by boat). Total party miles 356 (102 on foot, 251 by car, 3 by boat).

Com. Loon 34; Arctic Loon 1; Red-throated Loon 1; Red-necked Grebe 13; Horned Grebe 9; Gannet 1; Great Cormorant 143; Canada Goose 1; Mallard 57; Black Duck 464; Gadwall 1; Green-winged Teal 4; Greater Scaup 1; Com. Goldeneye 27; Oldsquaw 104; Com. Eider 63; White-winged Scoter 15; Surf Scoter 1; Black Scoter 7; Com. Merganser 3; Red-breasted Merganser 32; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Bald Eagle 1a.; Ruffed Grouse 7; Am. Coot 1; Purple Sandpiper 80; Sanderling 2; Glaucous Gull 6; Iceland Gull 49; Gt. Black-backed Gull 511; Herring Gull 3166; Ring-billed Gull 89; Black-headed Gull 1; Thick-billed Murre 2; Black Guillemot 10; Rock Dove 618; Mourning Dove 11; Gt. Horned Owl 1; Hairy Woodpecker 16; Downy Woodpecker 15; Northern 3-toed Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 3; Blue Jay 386; Com. Raven 11; Com. Crow 426; Black-capped Chickadee 221; Boreal Chickadee 13; White-breasted Nuthatch 8; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 4; Mockingbird 2; Am. Robin 57; Golden-crowned Kinglet 42; Starling 2272; Yellow-rumped Warbler 8; Yellow-breasted Chat 1; House Sparrow 1311; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Northern Oriole 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 375; Cardinal 2; Evening Grosbeak 379; Purple Finch 6; Pine Grosbeak 10; Am. Goldfinch 72; White-winged Crossbill 2; Rufous-sided Towhee 2; Savannah Sparrow 5; Dark-eyed Junco 248; Tree Sparrow 27; White-throated Sparrow 43; Fox Sparrow 2; Swamp Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 63.

Total 77 species, about 11583 individuals. (CP: Pied-billed Grebe). Ross Anderson, Hazel Carmichael, Bill & Kevin Caudle, John Cohrs, Shirley Cohrs (compiler), Ethel Crathorne, Gillian & Jim Elliot, Bill Freedman, Sylvia Fullerton, Dave Gray, Phyllis & Ward Hémèon, Frank & Mary Hims1, Barbara Hinds, Fulton Lavender, Steve Manuel, Ian & James McLaren, Anne, Chris, Eric & Karen Mills, Sandra Myers, Roger Pocklington, Joyce & Purch Purchase, Elizabeth & Richard Stern, Darleen & Jack Stone, Betty & Wes Topple.

KEJIMKUJIK NATIONAL PARK, Dec. 16; 7:15AM to 5:10PM. Overcast with intermittent snow AM. Mostly clear PM. Wind S to SE, 0-15mph. Temp. 32-46F. Fresh water mostly frozen. 18 observers in 11 parties. Total party hours 49½ (32½ on foot, 17 by car). Total party miles 207 ¾ (48½ on foot, 159¼ by car).

Com. Loon 1; Black Duck 2; Com Goldeneye 6; Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Ruffed Grouse 9; Barred Owl 1; Pileated Woodpecker 4; Hairy Woodpecker 6; Downy Woodpecker 8; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 32; Com. Raven 48; Com. Crow 25; Black-capped Chickadee 274; Boreal Chickadee 28; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; Brown Creeper 6; Am. Robin 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 102; Starling 9; House Sparrow 27; Dark-eyed Junco 6.

Total 23 species, about 605 individuals. (CP: Evening Grosbeak). Norm Bowers, Chris Charlton, Royden Charlton, Margaret Cheesman, Chester & Shirley Fancy, Robert Film, Goldie Gibson, Peter Hope (compiler), Barb MacDonald, Len MacDonald, Eric Mullen, Granville Nickerson, Cheryl Olsen, Tom Sheppard, Bill Silver, Rick Swain, Marcus Wadlington.

KINGSTON, Dec. 31; 7:30AM to 5:00PM. Overcast. Wind W to SW, 9-17mph. Temp. 19-25F. Fresh water mostly open. One observer. Total party hours 9½ (2 on foot, 7½ by car). Total party miles 82 (1 on foot, 81 by car).

Com. Loon 2; Red-throated Loon 2; Red-necked Grebe 4; Horned Grebe 9; Oldsquaw 9; Com. Eider 6; White-winged Scoter 18; Red-breasted Merganser 9; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Purple Sandpiper 25; Gt. Black-backed Gull 17; Herring Gull 282; Rock Dove 150; Mourning Dove 30; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Downy Woodpecker 4; Blue Jay 42; Com. Raven 2; Com. Crow 71; Black-capped Chickadee 18; White-breasted Nuthatch 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1; Am. Robin 14; Starling 115; House Sparrow 167; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Com. Grackle 4; Brown-headed Cowbird 2; Evening Grosbeak 2; Am. Goldfinch 26; Dark-eyed Junco 58; Tree Sparrow 16; White-throated Sparrow 1.

Total 33 species, about 1118 individuals. Larry Nelly (compiler).

MARGAREE, Dec. 27; 8AM to 4PM. Overcast with intermittent rain AM. Overcast PM. Wind NNE. Temp. 38-50F. Fresh water open. 10 observers in 4 parties. Total party hours 28 (17 on foot, 11 by car). Total party miles 95 (14 on foot, 81 by car).

Black Duck 5; Com. Goldeneye 41; Oldsquaw 18; White-winged Scoter 6; Com. Merganser 13; Bald Eagle 4a, 2imm.; Ruffed Grouse 2; Gt. Black-backed Gull 53; Herring Gull 54; Dovekie 23; Downy Woodpecker 4; Gray Jay 12; Blue Jay 73; Com. Raven 80; Com. Crow 203; Black-capped Chickadee 69; Boreal Chickadee 20; Brown Creeper 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 4; Starling 110; House Sparrow 228; Evening Grosbeak 18; Pine Grosbeak 8; Dark-eyed Junco 1; Snow Bunting 9.

Total 25 species, about 1063 individuals. Anne Bellis, Thomas Bellis (compiler), Brenda Hart, Frances Hart, Alison Ingraham, Baxter Ingraham, David Ingraham, Leslie Ingraham, Sylvia Ingraham, Alex Miller.

NORTHPORT, Dec. 26; 8AM to 4PM. Overcast with fog and intermittent rain AM and moderate rain PM. No wind. Temp. 36F. Fresh water open. 2 observers in one party. Total party hours 8 (4 on foot, 3 by car, other 1). Total party miles 24 (4 on foot, 20 by car).

Canada Goose 3; Mallard 2; Black Duck 6; Bufflehead 4; Oldsquaw 16; Ruffed Grouse 1; Gt. Black-backed Gull 36; Herring Gull 370; Blue Jay 11; Com. Raven 2; Com. Crow 76; Black-capped Chickadee 5; Starling 34; House Sparrow 62.

Total 14 species, about 628 individuals. D. Scott MacNeil, Robert G. MacNeil (compiler).

PORT HEBERT, Dec. 16; 7:30AM to 4:30PM. Overcast with intermittent light rain AM. Mostly cloudy PM. Wind SW 15-25mph. Temp. 40-48F. Fresh water party frozen. 10 observers in 9 parties. Total party hours 67 (59 on foot, 7 by car). Total party miles 250 (80 on foot, 170 by car).

Com. Loon 12; Red-throated Loon 3; Red-necked Grebe 29; Horned Grebe 36; Great Blue Heron 1; Great Cormorant 294; Gannet 15; Canada Goose 1537; Mallard 1; Black Duck 1154; Green-winged Teal 5; Com. Goldeneye 61; Bufflehead 79; Oldsquaw 57; Harlequin Duck 5; Com. Eider 106; White-winged Scoter 21; Surf Scoter 37; Black Scoter 9; Com. Merganser 21; Red-breasted Nuthatch 75; Goshawk 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Bald Eagle 1a.; Am. Kestrel 4; Ruffed Grouse 1; Black-bellied Plover 2; Greater Yellowlegs 1; Com. Snipe 1; Purple Sandpiper 57; Dunlin 20; Sanderling 2; Gt. Black-backed Gull 253; Herring Gull 692; Ring-billed Gull 1; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; Black Guillemot 56; Rock Dove 21; Mourning Dove 2; Belted Kingfisher 2; Hairy Woodpecker 7; Gray Jay 19; Blue Jay 57; Com. Raven 39; Com. Crow 124; Black-capped Chickadee 141; Boreal Chickadee 37; Brown Creeper 1; Am. Robin 12; Golden-crowned Kinglet 79; Starling 80; Yellow-rumped Warbler 72; Palm Warbler 1; House Sparrow 52; Red-winged Blackbird 5; Com. Grackle 2; Brown-headed Cowbird 10; Evening Grosbeak 19; Pine Grosbeak 5; Am. Goldfinch 5; Savannah Sparrow 3; Dark-eyed Junco 22; Tree Sparrow 28; White-throated Sparrow 42; Swamp Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 22; Snow Bunting 205.



Total 69 species, about 5773 individuals. (CP: Greater Scaup, Pintail, Marsh Hawk, Blackpoll Warbler, Fox Sparrow). Jeanne Addelson, Ross Anderson, Des Cousens, Russel Crosby, Frank Hennessey, Nan Hennessey, Fulton Lavender, George Perry (compiler), Francis Spalding, Robert Turner.

PUBNICO, Dec. 30; 8AM to 4PM. Mostly cloudy with light snow. Wind 25-30mph. Temp. 35F. Fresh water partly frozen. 23 observers in 6 parties. Total party hours 42 (20 on foot, 22 by car). Total party miles 296 (20 on foot, 276 by car).

Com. Loon 11; Red-necked Grebe 2; Horned Grebe 4; Great Blue Heron 1; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Canada Goose 52; Black Duck 189; Greater Scaup 92; Com. Goldeneye 20; Bufflehead 2; Oldsquaw 18; Com. Eider 8; scoter sp. 1; Com. Merganser 10; Red-breasted Merganser 7; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Bald Eagle 1a, 3imm.; Marsh Hawk 1; Merlin 2; Am. Kestrel 4; Ruffed Grouse 3; Ring-necked Pheasant 1; Gt. Black-backed Gull 142; Herring Gull 483; Ring-billed Gull 13; Rock Dove 7; Belted Kingfisher 1; Com. Flicker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Horned Lark 7; Blue Jay 9; Com. Raven 10; Com. Crow 238; Black-capped Chickadee 47; Golden-crowned Kinglet 6; Water Pipit 1; Northern Shrike 2; Starling 83; Yellow-rumped Warbler 12; House Sparrow 83; Brown-headed Cowbird 57; Cardinal 2; Evening Grosbeak 12; Am. Goldfinch 1; Dark-eyed Junco 16; Tree Sparrow 1; White-crowned Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 14; Song Sparrow 4; Snow Bunting 1.

Total 57 species, about 1694 individuals. (CP: Gray Jay, Am. Robin, Purple Finch, Western Tanager. C.R.K. Allen, Kirk Atkinson, Albert d'Entremont, Craig d'Entremont, Delisle d'Entremont, Raymond d'Entremont, Andrew D'Eon, Bertin D'Eon, Lester D'Eon, Maurice D'Eon, Ted C. D'Eon (compiler), Wendell D'Eon, Phyllis Dobson, Marion Hilton, Sylvia Hilton, Larry McKenzie, Ethelda Murphy, Greg Murphy, Barbara Ruff, Eric Ruff, Michael Rymer, Edgar Hamilton, Vernita Hamilton.

SALMON RIVER, Dec. 15; 7:45AM to 4:15PM. Mostly clear with light snow. Wind NNW 10-20mph. Temp. 12-18F. Fresh water open. 7 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 16 (6 on foot, 10 by car). Total party miles 116 (6 on foot, 110 by car).

Mallard 2; Black Duck 20; Oldsquaw 32; Surf Scoter 7; Red-tailed Hawk 5; Bald Eagle 4a, 1imm.; Spotted Sandpiper 1; Gt. Black-backed Gull 415; Herring Gull 250; Black-headed Gull 7; Bonaparte's Gull 2; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Downy Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 11; Com. Raven 410; Com. Crow 190; Black-capped Chickadee 30; Boreal Chickadee 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 3; Starling 256; House Sparrow 64; Evening Grosbeak 4; Purple Finch 1; Am. Goldfinch 14; Dark-eyed Junco 14.

Total 25 species, about 1748 individuals. Otis Cossitt, Bertha Hopkins, Hedley Hopkins (compiler), Frances Hussey, George MacInnis, Brian MacNeil, Jackie MacNeil.

SHUBENACADIE, Dec. 23; 8AM to 4:30PM. Mostly cloudy. Wind 10mph. Temp. 29F. Fresh water open. 5 observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 16 (13 on foot, 3 by car). Total party miles 59 (9 on foot, 50 by car).

Canada Goose 82; Black Duck 242; Green-winged Teal 2; Com. Merganser 265; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Bald Eagle 5a, 10imm.; Am. Kestrel 1; Ruffed Grouse 4; Gt. Black-backed Gull 1; Herring Gull 7; Rock Dove 53; Gt. Horned Owl 1; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 6; Black-backed 3-toed Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 5; Blue Jay 53; Com. Raven 158; Com. Crow 370; Black-capped Chickadee 48; Boreal Chickadee 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Am. Robin 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 33; Northern Shrike 1; Starling 613; House Sparrow 125; Brown-headed Cowbird 221; Evening Grosbeak 67; Purple Finch 13; Pine Grosbeak 3; Pine Siskin 17; Dark-eyed Junco 16; Tree Sparrow 5; White-throated Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 3.

Total 37 species, about 2446 individuals. Mary Geddes, Mary Lawlor, Roslyn MacPhee (compiler), Jean Schwartz, Lorne Weaver.

SPRINGVILLE, Dec. 16; 7:45AM to 1:15PM. Mostly clear to partly cloudy AM. Clear PM. Wind light. Temp. 28-36F. Fresh water frozen. 4 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 22 (20 on foot, 2 by car). Total party miles 36 (6 on foot, 30 by car).

Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Bald Eagle 3a.; Gt. Black-backed Gull 11; Herring Gull 37; Rock Dove 13; Pileated Woodpecker 3; Downy Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 26; Com. Raven 26; Com. Crow 170; Black-capped Chickadee 12; Boreal Chickadee 13; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Starling 96; House Sparrow 62; Brown-headed Cowbird 380; Evening Grosbeak 4; Dark-eyed Junco 7.

Total 22 species, about 872 individuals. Harry Brennan, Jean Brennan, Fred Kenney (compiler), Margaret Kenney.

ST. PETER'S, Dec. 30; 7:30AM to 5PM. Six observers. Total party hours 8 (5 on foot, 3 by car). Total party miles 80 (15 on foot, 65 by car).

Red-necked Grebe 8; Horned Grebe 2; Black Duck 7; Oldsquaw 8; White-winged Scoter 10; Com. Merganser 6; Red-breasted Merganser 6; Goshawk 1; Bald Eagle 1imm.; Gt. Black-backed Gull 45; Herring Gull 118; Ring-billed Gull 1; Com. Murre 1; Dovekie 2; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 10; Com. Raven 77; Com. Crow 146; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 4; Starling 38; House Sparrow 84; Evening Grosbeak 10; Purple Finch 2; Pine Siskin 2.

Total 25 species, about 592 individuals. (CP: Red-tailed Hawk, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Mockingbird, Am. Robin, Red-winged Blackbird, Com. Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Pine Grosbeak, Snow Bunting). M.H. Digout (compiler).

THE SYDNEY'S, Dec. 27; 8AM to 4PM. Overcast with fog and heavy rain. Wind SE 2-12mph. Temp. 36-44F. Fresh water open. 4 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 16 (4 on foot, 12 by car). Total party miles 110 (2 on foot, 108 by car).

Com. Loon 1; Great Blue Heron 1; Great Cormorant 2; Mallard 16; Black Duck 164; Com. Goldeneye 26; Oldsquaw 37; White-winged Scoter 20; Red-breasted Merganser 19; Bald Eagle 1a.; Iceland Gull 150; Gt. Black-backed Gull 1600; Herring Gull 1850; Rock Dove 25; Downy Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 13; Com. Raven 2; Com. Crow 60; Black-capped Chickadee 5; Am. Robin 1; Starling 410; House Sparrow 264.

Total 22 species, about 4717 individuals. (CP: Pied-billed Grebe, Black-headed Gull, Com. Grackle, Baltimore Oriole, Am. Goldfinch). Otis Cossitt, Bertha Hopkins, Hedley E. Hopkins (compiler), Eldon Meikle.

WOLFVILLE, Dec. 22; 7:30AM to 5:30PM. Mostly cloudy. Wind west, slight. Temp. 30F to 28F. Fresh water frozen. 51 observers in 19 parties. Total party hours 171 (80 on foot, 24 by car, 67.5 other). Total party miles 321½ (86½ on foot, 235 by car).

Red-throated Loon 1; Canada Goose 45; Mallard 20; Black Duck 1436; Pintail 3; Com. Goldeneye 9; Com. Merganser 30; Hooded Merganser 1; Goshawk 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk 11; Red-tailed Hawk 45; Rough-legged Hawk 19; Bald Eagle 5a, 5imm.; Marsh Hawk 2; Merlin 3; Am. Kestrel 3; Ruffed Grouse 5; Ring-necked Pheasant 286; Gray Partridge 15; Com. Snipe 4; Iceland Gull 1; Gt. Black-backed Gull 979; Herring Gull 3091; Rock Dove 1771; Mourning Dove 166; Short-eared Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; Com. Flicker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 14; Downy Woodpecker 34; Horned Lark 79; Blue Jay 562; Com. Raven 320; Com. Crow 26810; Black-capped Chickadee 218; Boreal Chickadee 5; White-breasted Nuthatch 17; Red-breasted Nuthatch 3; Brown Creeper 3; Catbird 1; Am. Robin 139; Golden-crowned Kinglet 16; Starling 3845; Pine Warbler 1; Com. Yellowthroat 1; House Sparrow 2450; Red-winged Blackbird 13; Com. Grackle 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 656; Evening Grosbeak 251; Purple Finch 14; Pine Siskin 3; Am. Goldfinch 309; Savannah Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 1059; Tree Sparrow 53; White-throated Sparrow 49; Swamp Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 117; Snow Bunting 43.

Total 60 species, about 45051 individuals. Ron Arsenault, Adeline Bayne, Nancy Bleakney, Sherman Bleakney, Sherman Boates, Dora Boersma, Curtis Chipman, Cyril Coldwell, Carolyn Crawford-Smith, George Curry, Andy Dean, Kenneth Dean, Lelia Dean, Rachel

Erskine, Bernard Forsythe, Mark Forsythe, Sandra Forsythe, Mary Forbes, Kevin Gaul, Jamie Gibson, Merritt Gibson, Ed. Goldstein, Lisa Hammett-Vaughan, Chris Hawes, Mark Hawes, Tom Herman, Mark Hillis, Etta Hudgins, Bob Lutes, Barb MacDonald, William Martell, Randy Milton, Oscar Morehouse, Ruth Morehouse, Reg Newell, Julie Porter, Shirley Prescott, Barry Sabean, Janet Sabean, Bob Simmons, Peter Smith (compiler), Bill Thexton, Brenda Thexton, David Timpa, Jean Timpa, Sean Timpa, Lillian Tufts, Robie Tufts, Eva Urban, Sherman Williams, Jim Wolford.

YARMOUTH, Dec. 16; 8AM to 5PM. Mostly cloudy AM. Mostly clear PM. Wind 30 to 15mph. Temp. 43-50F. Fresh water open. 22 observers in 6 parties. Total party hours 46½ (23 on foot, 23½ by car). Total party miles 198 (21 on foot, 177 by car).

Com. Loon 5; Red-throated Loon 2; Horned Grebe 2; Great Blue Heron 6; Double-crested Cormorant 2; Canada Goose 906; Mallard 4; Black Duck 1116; Green-winged Teal 13; Greater Scaup 5; Com. Goldeneye 41; Bufflehead 35; Oldsquaw 40; Com. Eider 2; Surf Scoter 1; Com. Merganser 37; Red-breasted Merganser 9; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Bald Eagle 1a, 2imm.; Marsh Hawk 1; Merlin 1; Am. Kestrel 1; Ruffed Grouse 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 9; Killdeer 2; Purple Sandpiper 36; Sanderling 2; Glaucous Gull 1; Gt. Black-backed Gull 947; Herring Gull 2066; Ring-billed Gull 42; Rock Dove 110; Mourning Dove 14; Barred Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; Com. Flicker 3; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Downy Woodpecker 1; Horned Lark 52; Blue Jay 45; Com. Raven 49; Com. Crow 286; Black-capped Chickadee 77; Boreal Chickadee 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 5; Mockingbird 2; Am. Robin 32; Golden-crowned Kinglet 14; Northern Shrike 1; Starling 369; Yellow-rumped Warbler 29; Yellow-breasted Chat 1; House Sparrow 140; Red-winged Blackbird 10; Com. Grackle 10; Brown-headed Cowbird 75; Cardinal 3; Dickcissel 2; Evening Grosbeak 20; Purple Finch 1; House Finch 1; Pine Grosbeak 4; Am. Goldfinch 8; Sharp-tailed Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 33; Tree Sparrow 7; White-throated Sparrow 41; Song Sparrow 4.

Total 69 species, about 6794 individuals. (CP: Magnolia Warbler, Northern Oriole, Fox Sparrow, Snow Bunting). C.R.K. Allen, M. Allen, L. Baker, Ted d'Eon, P.R. Dobson, G. Elliot, J. Elliot, M. Feavoyour, J. Graves, M.W. Hilton (compiler), A. Hurlbert, E. Killam, G. MacCrae, E. Murphy, M.A. Nickerson, H. Robbins, B. Ruff, E. Ruff, M. Ryner, E. Schoenhoeffer, S. Schoenhoeffer, V. Sellows.

#### Summary of Highest Counts of Individuals - 1979 Christmas Count

The following is the list of species seen on this year's Christmas Count, the highest number of individuals, as well as where they were seen in the province.

The Nova Scotia all-time list now stands at 296 species, plus 3 additional races, with the addition of the 6 new species spotted this year, which are underlined in this report. There were 31 new highest counts of individuals which are indicated by underlined numbers in this summary.

Of the 141 species recorded for this year, Halifax East and Wolfville were tied for spotting 29 high counts, almost an upset by Wolfville, followed by Halifax West with 17, Broad Cove 14, Port Hebert 10, Yarmouth 9, and Amherst 7. It is interesting to note that out of the 27 counts, 23 are places in this summary with high counts.

Com. Loon 56 (Broad Cove); Arctic Loon 1 (Halifax West); Red-throated Loon 6 (Broad Cove); Red-necked Grebe 30 (Broad Cove); Horned Grebe 49 (Broad Cove); Gannet 15 (Port Hebert); Great Cormorant 294 (Port Hebert); Double-crested Cormorant 2 (Yarmouth); Great Blue Heron 6 (Yarmouth); Snowy Egret 1 (Halifax East); Canada Goose 4200 (Halifax East); Brant 35 (Brier Island); Mallard 57 (Halifax West); Black Duck 1436 (Wolfville); Gadwall 1 (Halifax West); Pintail 3 (Wolfville); Green-winged Teal 13 (Yarmouth);

Greater Scaup 470 (Antigonish); Com. Goldeneye 97 (Digby);  
 Barrow's Goldeneye 2 (Cape Breton Highlands Nat. Park); Bufflehead  
 87 (Halifax East); Oldsquaw 182 (Broad Cove); Harlequin Duck 5  
 (Port Hebert); Com. Eider 525 (Cape Sable); White-winged Scoter 21  
 (Port Hebert); Surf Scoter 37 (Port Hebert); Black Scoter 165  
 (Broad Cove); Hooded Merganser 1 (Wolfville); Com. Merganser 265  
 (Shubenacadie); Red-breasted Merganser 157 (Halifax East); Goshawk  
 2 (Antigonish & Wolfville); Sharp-shinned Hawk 11 (Wolfville);  
 Cooper's Hawk 1 (Bridgetown); Red-tailed Hawk 45 (Wolfville); Red-  
 shouldered Hawk 1 (Brier Island); Rough-legged Hawk 19 (Wolfville);  
 Bald Eagle 15 (Shubenacadie); Marsh Hawk 2 (Wolfville); Merlin 3  
 (Wolfville); Am. Kestrel 4 (Port Hebert & Pubnico); Spruce Grouse  
 1 (Broad Cove); Ruffed Grouse 12 (Broad Cove); Ring-necked Pheasant  
 286 (Wolfville); Gray Partridge 15 (Wolfville); Am. Coot 1  
 (Halifax East & Halifax West); Killdeer 5 (Broad Cove); Black-  
 bellied Plover 5 (Halifax East); Com. Snipe 7 (Halifax East);  
 Spotted Sandpiper 1 (Salmon River); Greater Yellowlegs 3 (Glace  
 Bay); Red Knot 1 (Halifax East); Purple Sandpiper 80 (Advocate &  
 Halifax West); Dunlin 20 (Port Hebert); Sanderling 20 (Cape Sable);  
 Glaucous Gull 6 (Halifax West); Iceland Gull 150 (The Sydneys);  
 Great Black-backed Gull 1600 (The Sydneys); Lesser Black-backed  
 Gull 1 (Digby); Herring Gull 3166 (Halifax West); Ring-billed Gull  
 137 (Halifax East); Black-headed Gull 21 (Halifax East); Laughing  
 Gull 1 (Halifax East); Bonaparte's Gull 2 (Salmon River); Black-  
 legged Kittiwake 390 (Brier Island); Razorbill 8 (Brier Island);  
 Com. Murre 1 (Cape Breton Highlands Nat. Park & St. Peter's);  
 Thick-billed Murre 471 (Brier Island); Dovekie 23 (Margaree);  
 Black Guillemot 56 (Port Hebert); Com. Puffin 2 (Brier Island);  
 Rock Dove 1771 (Wolfville); Mourning Dove 166 (Wolfville); Great  
 Horned Owl 1 (Advocate, Broad Cove, Halifax West & Shubenacadie);  
 Barred Owl 2 (Amherst & Bridgetown); Short-eared Owl 1 (Broad Cove  
 & Wolfville); Belted Kingfisher 2 (Port Hebert); Com. (Yel.-sh.)  
 Flicker 3 (Yarmouth); Pileated Woodpecker 4 (Amherst & Kejimikujik  
 Nat. Park); Hairy Woodpecker 16 (Halifax West); Downy Woodpecker 34  
 (Wolfville); Black-backed 3-toed Woodpecker 3 (Amherst); Northern  
 3-toed Woodpecker 1 (Halifax West); Horned Lark 82 (Amherst); Gray  
 Jay 19 (Amherst & Port Hebert); Blue Jay 562 (Wolfville); Com.  
 Raven 410 (Salmon River); Com. Crow 26810 (Wolfville); Black-  
 capped Chickadee 274 (Kejimikujik Nat. Park); Boreal Chickadee 59  
 (Economy); White-breasted Nuthatch 17 (Wolfville); Red-breasted  
 Nuthatch 4 (Kejimikujik Nat. Park); Brown Creeper 6 (Kejimikujik  
 Nat. Park); Long-billed Marsh Wren 1 (Halifax East); Mockingbird 2  
 (Halifax West & Yarmouth); Gray Catbird 1 (Wolfville); Brown  
 Thrasher 1 (Economy); Am. Robin 139 (Wolfville); thrush (sp.) 1  
 (Broad Cove); Golden-crowned Kinglet 102 (Kejimikujik Nat. Park);  
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1 (Halifax East); Water Pipit 10 (Broad Cove);  
 Bohemian Waxwing 1 (Broad Cove); Northern Shrike 2 (Pubnico); Com.  
 Starling 3845 (Wolfville); Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler 109  
 (Halifax East); Pine Warbler 1 (Wolfville); Palm Warbler 3 (Halifax  
 East); Com. Yellowthroat 2 (Halifax East); Yellow-breasted Chat 1  
 (Halifax East, Halifax West & Yarmouth); House Sparrow 2450 (Wolf-  
 ville); Eastern Meadowlark 4 (Halifax East); Red-winged Blackbird  
 13 (Wolfville); Northern (Baltimore) Oriole 1 (Halifax West);  
 Com. Grackle 30 (Cape Breton Highlands Nat. Park); Brown-headed  
 Cowbird 656 (Wolfville); Cardinal 3 (Yarmouth); Indigo Bunting 1  
 (Halifax East); Dickcissel 2 (Yarmouth); Evening Grosbeak 379  
 (Halifax West); Purple Finch 14 (Wolfville); House Finch 1  
 (Yarmouth); Pine Grosbeak 10 (Halifax West); Pine Siskin 17 (Shu-  
 benacadie); Am. Goldfinch 309 (Wolfville); Red Crossbill 4 (Advo-  
 cate); White-winged Crossbill 15 (Amherst); Rufous-sided Towhee 2  
 (Halifax West); Savannah Sparrow 27 (Halifax East); Savannah  
 (Ipswich) Sparrow 10 (Halifax East); Grasshopper Sparrow 1 (Halifax  
 East); Sharp-tailed Sparrow 2 (Halifax East); Seaside Sparrow 2  
 (Halifax East); Dark-eyed (Slate-coloured) Junco 1059 (Wolfville);  
 Tree Sparrow 99 (Halifax East); White-crowned Sparrow 1 (Pubnico);  
 White-throated Sparrow 66 (Halifax East); Fox Sparrow 2 (Halifax  
 East & Halifax West); Lincoln's Sparrow 1 (Halifax East); Swamp  
 Sparrow 23 (Halifax East); Song Sparrow 117 (Wolfville); Snow  
 Bunting 502 (Amherst).

1955-1980

Our Anniversary activities are progressing well.

SO FAR:-

We have heard an excellent and enthusiastically received lecture from Eric Mills, the first speaker in our special lecture series.

We have had a series of six articles on bird-watching published province-wide in the Mayflower magazine. These have generated much interest and the society has received many favourable comments and a lot of mail.



By the time you receive this issue:-

- Ian McLaren and Martin Edwards will have given their lectures (March 12 and April 9)
- The Commemorative Edition of the Newsletter should be out (it is now at the Printer)
- The Museum Display in Halifax will have begun.

Still to come:-

- All the many and varied Field Trips\*
- The Museum Display will run until May 4. This includes a display on bird-banding, still photographs, slide show, taped bird calls, mounted bird specimens and bird carvings.
- The Fall Lectures
- The Founders' Reception
- The bird identification course\*

\* Details in this issue  
For the other (fall) events, see the July issue.



#### OLD COLLECTIVE NOUNS

Have you heard of a **BADELYNGE** of Duck; a **COMPANY** of Widgeon; a **FALL** of Woodcocks; a **FLEET** of Swans; a **LEK** of Blackcock or Black Grouse; or a **SEDGE** of Herons?

## WINTER 1980

TWO MONTHS AT A SUBURBAN FEEDING STATION  
(an anniversary year project)

January 1, New Year's Day

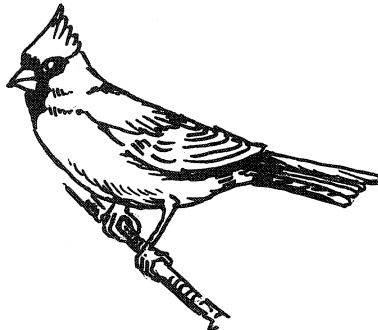
On arrival home from Lun. Co. (Broad Cove Xmas Count), was startled to find a pair of birders prowling about the garden. Discovered they were attempting to get the Cardinal and Towhee on their 1980 list. They did!

- January 3: Two White-breasted Nuthatches on the suet log, together. Perhaps a pair? One bird a good half inch larger.
- January 4: More company Cardinal watching. She performed on cue. Noticed that whereas the Towhee has become braver and quite nonchalant, feeding with the White-throats and House Sparrows, the Cardinal is much more "scary" than before, preferring to sit and feed under the quince rather than on or under the sunflower tray as before-- a nasty experience with a cat, perhaps.
- January 5: Saturday: Wall to wall Cowbirds this morning--over 100, only about ten female. Evening Grosbeaks very hungry, feeding vociferously at the window feeder and trying to get in, sitting between the double windows.
- January 6: Ruby-crowned Kinglet that arrived between Christmas and New Year's, is still about. Feeding on suet and fat log - how long can it last - 18<sup>o</sup>F today. An interesting fact about the "rarities"--Kinglet, Towhee and Cardinal is that they are all in immaculate plumage--birds right out of the book, as it were. All three look fat and happy; even the Kinglet's red crown is most obvious.
- January 8: Twenty-seven Goldfinches--we've had one's and two's up to now but today, the gang arrived, gorging at the "droll Yankee" feeder all day--eight at a time, filling the perches.
- January 9: Brown Creeper is back, winding up the old maples at the bottom of the garden.
- January 11: Gales of wind and torrential rain all day. Wringing wet, miserable looking Grosbeaks and Finches fed with water dripping from their bills. Even the Bluejays were subdued as, looking half their size and twice as dark, they struggled to keep their footing on the feeder.
- January 17: Goldfinches, now up to 50+--difficult to count as they flit from tree to ground to three feeders. Their plumage is interesting; many of them have made a good beginning on their spring plumage and seem quite yellow around the "chops", surely somewhat early?
- January 21: Very little activity of late: haven't seen the Towhee or the Cardinal for six days. Need some snow to bring the birds to the feeders.
- January 22: Hooray! Cardinal here today, briefly, so at least she's still alive. For no good reason (no change in weather and no snow) all the birds are around and active: dozens

of Goldfinches, Grosbeaks, Bluejays and Chickadees, a White-breasted Nuthatch, a Brown Creeper, the resident Whitethroats and the Ruby-crowned Kinglet, all eating their heads off. Also, with the Goldfinches, a single Pine Siskin, a rare bird this winter and first I've seen.

- January 23: Snow and freezing rain--birds galore and active--and the Towhee is back! Presumably the great activity yesterday was caused by fore knowledge of the storm--feeding up in advance. Whoever coined the word "bird brain" may have been wrong! tho' maybe it's just instinct!
- January 25: Four woodpeckers all told. Male and female each of Hairy and Downy. The female Downy is huge and for some reason unknown, except to her, prefers the smaller suet feeder, where she overlaps at both ends. Her tail grips the bottom of the wire basket by bending under at an angle of over 120°, while her head twists about at a weird angle--most uncomfortable looking.
- January 26: A Red-breasted Nuthatch--first this year! A Ruby-crowned Kinglet flitted about at the suet log, this one a female. So we have two Ruby-crowns about. When the male comes the red crown is very obvious.
- January 28: A fat red Robin in the Japanese flowering crab. Seemed in excellent colour too.
- January 29: I have noticed that the Cardinal, when quiet, flicks her tail up and then slowly lowers it in the manner of a Hermit Thrush; not as frequently as the latter, as she is not still as much--a much more nervous bird.
- February 2: Upon noticing a single Goldfinch "frozen" to the droll Yankee feeder for over twenty minutes, I investigated further and found a Sharpshin sitting quietly, midway up a thick pine tree. No wonder there hasn't been much activity lately. The smallest Sharpie I have ever seen in some kind of transition plumage--blue-grey chequers all over the brown back.
- February 3: Very quiet all day--suspect the hawk is still about.
- February 9: Having trailed around sewer outlets, piggeries, railway lines and beaches most of the day, it is relaxing to sit with a mug of tea in one hand and binoculars in the other and watch the birds come to me. Most of the usuals are around, without exception in very fine plumage. No end-of-winter, tatty-looking individuals around here!
- February 10: The Cardinal is like a clock. She comes to feed under the barberry every night at a certain state of light (always too dim to photograph). In December it used to be around 4:30-4:45, but now is about 5:30. It is like a movie script: the Whitethroats come first, then the Cardinal, and then, sometimes, the Towhee. They all eat frantically for about five minutes -- then away for the night.
- February 13: Goldfinches are yellower every day and are beginning to be quite belligerent to each other.

- February 15: A flock of twenty-five glamorously-named Dark-eyed Juncos came today--first for this year. They stayed for a few hours and then were gone again. Unlike Chickadees, who move in flocks around a circuit each day and arrive together from time to time, juncos seem quite sporadic--perhaps their circuit is much larger, or perhaps they just wander without plan.
- February 19: While I was away for the weekend, the first Purple Finches arrived--four, two of each sex. Saw one today a brilliant male. This arrival is a month earlier than last year.
- February 20: Today the Cardinal sang, sitting in the sun in the top of the Forsythia!
- February 21: Spring must really be here--a mild soft day, with all the birds very vocal. No Song Sparrows yet, but the resident Whitethroats assaying their characteristic song.
- February 22: Now the Chickadees have begun to sing their spring "fee bee" song.
- February 24: Snow, freezing rain and drizzle today. Washed out the field trip planned, but feeder birds made up for it, fifteen species. A male Purple Finch on the window-ledge in the dining room at first light. The "come and go" Goldfinch numbers are up again to around forty.
- February 26: In bed with 'flu--serenaded by the Purple Finches who sang all day. I'd forgotten how they do go on--and on and ON. Four females have joined the flock.
- February 27: Some Whitethroats sing in the dark. A clear spring song drifted in the bedroom window at 7:30 p.m.
- February 28: First real SNOW storm of the winter - about 6-8 inches Stopped about noon when the sun came out and dozens of birds, red, blue and yellow, as well as grey, white and brown bombarded the feeders, suet logs and the ground shovelled out under the Christmas tree where the sparrows find it safe and sheltered. I finally managed to get a photograph of the Towhee and Cardinal together.
- February 29: The Grosbeak's bills are turning green already. Perhaps it is time to begin looking for the Fox Sparrows--everthing else points to an early spring this year.





UNITED KINGDOM STAMP ISSUE

These delightful bird stamps were issued by the British Post Office, January 16, 1980, and depict the Kingfisher, Dipper, Moorhen and Yellow Wagtail.



## OSPREY RELOCATION ' 79

Glen R. Rhodenizer, Forest Resources, Department of Lands and Forests has sent us an interesting communication concerning Ospreys. To quote: "One of the main nesting areas for the Osprey is in Lunenburg County at Indian Path...For their nesting sites they have chosen selected powerline poles (top beam structures) at different intervals along the Indian Path power line route. This route carries the main supply of power for the immediate and adjacent areas.

Why have the Osprey chosen this location? The Osprey are one of the few raptorial species that require two different types of habitat before they can successfully raise and rear their young. (1) an available and abundant food supply in association with fresh and/or salt water; (2) old snags (30-50') in height or similar structures (power line poles) in an area where the adults can have a panoramic view of the immediate and surrounding countryside...With the above factors in mind and since the area supports no natural nesting sites (snags), it is easier to see why the Osprey chose their nesting location. However, over the past several years, respective to the Osprey's arrival, there have been numerous power interruptions...These are very costly.

A joint wildlife management project cost shared between the Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forests and the Nova Scotia Power Corporation is being implemented this fall... to construct and erect artificial nesting platforms for the Osprey. These platforms will be erected in the immediate area of each existing nest (8) but far enough away from the power line so as not to cause any power disturbances.

It is hoped that when the Osprey return in the spring of 1980, they will choose the artificial platforms instead of their previous nesting location...there is no guarantee...we await their return."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor, NSBS Newsletter:

I wish not to sound self-righteous nor to preach to anyone, but I would like to make an appeal to the general memberships to support the proposed project of a bird column in the newspaper. It has been almost a year since I forwarded a manuscript to Keith Keddy, and as a common worker of the labor force, I would like to assure the general memberships that one need not have to be a Roger Tory Peterson to contribute essays on birds.

Our Newsletters are indeed very interesting and most enlightening, yet the general public doesn't see them. So, a column would be our opportunity to express our views publicly. Even if they only realize that this society exists, then it is the first positive step toward making them aware not only of the various species of birds, but the utmost importance they play in safeguarding our world. For example, in Reader's Digest note the following: "The total offspring of a single pair of flies, if they survived to the end of the summer, would create a mound big enough to cover Germany to a depth of 14 metres or 42 feet." Using the state of Massachusetts, Chester A. Reed figured out that with five insect-eating birds per acre, in a state of 8,000 square miles, a bird population of not less than 25,600,000 resulted. On this basis, EACH day, these birds required the enormous total of 2,560,000,000 insects. Think of it! one day, one state, and substitute it for Nova Scotia alone, and it is an exceedingly frightening condition to portray without protection from our birds.

Our column would reach a fair number of children, and as we all know, a child's brain is quite unbiased and if a favorable impression toward our birds is planted with them as a child, then it is unlikely that they will abuse them as they grow older. Teachers could be publicly encouraged to use our articles as a tool in educational projects in the schools, in the same manner in which they presently use the "Uncle Ray" columns. There is so much more that could be stated, but I would like to conclude with the following: that if we, the general membership, could contribute even one article, what a difference it would make. Like most people, I have my times when my schedule is very busy, but a deep devotion for the fascinating world of birds should compel us to make time for their defence.

--Terry Wentzell,  
Bridgewater.

Editor, NSBS Newsletter:

This week, my sons and I saw two Pileated Woodpeckers. It was on Tuesday afternoon about 2:30 p.m., a lovely sunny afternoon. We saw them from our living room window which is facing Tatamagouche Bay and about 50 yards from the water. We are bounded on the north by a park of dense trees and on the south by a line of trees and then a huge, open field.

One bird was pecking away at the top of my clothesline pole (a big, old, bare tree) and the second bird was very near in a clump of thicket near the ground on another tree. Their drumming was quite loud.

We watched them for a few minutes and then I went out doors and walked up to the one on the clothesline pole to watch. They seemed

to completely ignore me and went on with their work. Unfortunately, a young boy came through our back yard on a snowmobile and when he got near the trees where the birds were, he shut off the machine and they flew away.

My husband, Don, wishes me to report a sighting he had on November 5, 1979, in almost the same spot near the clothesline pole, of a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.

As well, my 15 year old son, Andrew, who knows a lot of birds, reported seeing a Pileated Woodpecker in October, in the village of Tatamagouche, on the main street in some big, old trees.

Perhaps this will be of interest to you. It was very exciting for us, for we have been wanting to see a Pileated for years.

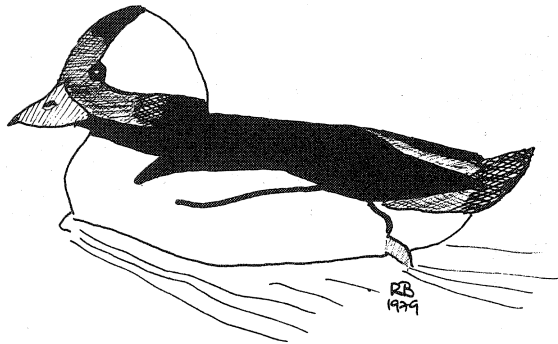
Yours very truly  
Lois, Andrew, and Robbie  
MacDougall, Tatamagouche.



## TERRA NOVA NATIONAL PARK-FULL OF SURPRISES!

It's been a year now since I arrived in Newfoundland to take up residence in Glovertown and work in Terra Nova National Park and what a year it's been. If there's one thing you can say to sum up what's to be expected, it's "expect the unexpected"! Newfoundland may lack in breeding songbirds, but its location guarantees more than its share of vagrants including some that the most rabid "twitcher" would travel some distance for. A birding holiday in Newfoundland is a "must" for anyone wanting to increase his North American list and the Terra Nova area is a good place to start, considering its closeness to Gander and many of the seabird colonies offshore. While the Park and the Glovertown-Clareville area in general does not have any species in unusual numbers, it is a good place to go looking for birds.

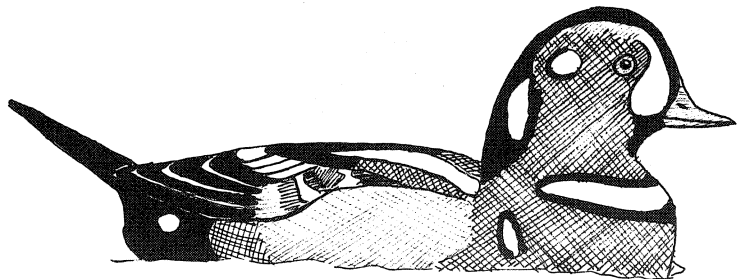
My first experience in Newfoundland was not a good one. I drove off the ferry at Port-aux-Basques, on December 10, right into a snow-bank! (to be fair to Newfoundland, my snow tires were not in the best condition). The trip was otherwise uneventful except for the atrocious weather and road conditions, and I spent the next few days settling in. However, once a birder, always a birder, and within a week I was out leading the Christmas Bird Count. Since my knowledge of Newfoundland and the Park was limited to six days, I was really getting in at the deep end, but the regulars pitched in and found 28 species, of which a Northern Shrike was a first for the count. The next few days pointed out the advantage of checking out the count area in advance, as I added Bufflehead, Barrow's Goldeneye and both crossbills. Apart from a few errant Bohemian Waxwings on January 4, things were quiet over the New Year, but not for long! In the following week a Hawk Owl turned up in the Park, but each time I went looking for it, the weather came looking for me! It knew a mainland when it saw one! I did, however, see more than my share of Northern Shrikes and occasional Willow Ptarmigan, Bald Eagles and Goshawks over the next month or so. The wintering flocks of Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Black Duck and a Common Merganser or two, kept me occupied until the first migrants started to pick their way gingerly over the Cabot Strait.



A Brown Creeper on March 7, was probably an overwintering bird but two Common Loons, a Flicker and several Robins on April 5, were certainly new arrivals. Over the next few weeks I was on my guard for migrants and welcomed a Tree Swallow that should have known better, on April 8, and several species in the early wave, including Canada Goose, Hermit Thrush, Rusty Blackbird and Fox Sparrow, as well as returning ducks, the most unusual of which was a Harlequin (my first addition to the Park list). Iceland Gulls were still present in large numbers at Port Union on the Bonavista Peninsula along with a few Glaucous Gulls on April 26, but most winter birds had departed by then. Ospreys, Greater Yellowlegs and Rubycrowned Kinglets in the first week of May, showed that summer was on its way and the first wave of warblers brought in Magnolia and Yellowrumped Warblers and then Black-and-White and Yellow Warblers by mid-month, when the more sensible Tree Swallows arrived. By the end of the month most of the warblers and thrushes were in and I also had Ringbilled Gull, Belted Kingfisher, Common Snipe, Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Greenwinged Teal, Common Tern, Solitary Vireo and Chipping Sparrow on my list.

The summer was very much a learning experience for me, although I did manage to write a weekly bird column in the Gander Beacon, and not make too many errors on arrival dates and abundance (but where were the Winter Wrens !). Newfoundland does not have the variety of breeding warblers that Nova Scotia does, but being able to find Blackpoll Warblers and Northern Waterthrushes in large numbers, makes up for this. Common species on the mainland become rewarding targets here where the sighting of a Blackburnian Warbler or Rosebreasted Grosbeak is the equivalent of a Philadelphia Vireo or Scarlet Tanager in the Maritimes. I had a fair share of good finds and managed to add several species to the Park list such as Least, Alder and Olive-sided Flycatchers, Bank Swallow, Solitary and Redeyed Vireos, Cape May, Blackburnian and Canada Warblers, Common Grackle, Brownheaded Cowbird, Rosebreasted Grosbeak and Chipping Sparrow. With more opportunity to get out into the field, I could probably have added more, but thirteen new species over the summer should satisfy a regular appetite; no need to overindulge!

At the end of the summer I had a list of over 100 species and I began to search for returning migrants. The Terra Nova area lacks in good shorebird habitat (although the Spotted Redshank in 1974 would disagree!) but it is possible to see most species on regular visits to Big Brook Flats and elsewhere. Apart from the common species, Stu Tingley and I saw American Golden Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Pectoral Sandpiper, Shortbilled Dowitcher, Baird's Sandpiper, Dunlin, White-rumped Sandpiper, Sanderling and Red Phalarope over the fall, so it is worth watching the beaches. Most of the songbirds leave early, so any birds around in late August-October, can be considered migrants. Among these I found a female Indigo Bunting on August 20, Solitary



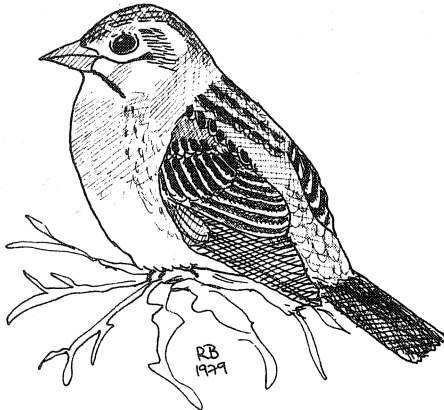
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1979

and Red-eyed Vireos on August 24-5, a Least Flycatcher on September 1, Chipping Sparrows on September 10, a Cape May Warbler on September 16, and Common Redpolls on September 30. Stu added an Eastern Wood Pewee on October 13, and kept tabs on things while I was away in England.

When I arrived back at the end of October, the first wintering birds were beginning to trickle in and I was soon searching for the unexpected again. It took a while, but on November 20, a drake Harlequin in full plumage brightened the rather drabber Goldeneyes and set the stage for the first Barrow's Goldeneye a couple of days later, when the regular wintering flock of Buffleheads put in its appearance at Traytown. The gulls were not to be outdone either, with first two Blackheaded Gulls and then an assortment of Iceland and Ringbilled Gulls and Blacklegged Kittiwakes at Happy Adventure. Apart from the unexpected bonus of several Mourning Doves, the big question was obviously what would stay around for the Christmas Bird Count? The first Dovekies and a Northern Shrike with the first snow were good signs but some lingering Robins on December 10, were obviously on their way south and a Hooded Merganser at Dark Cove on December 6, could not be hoodwinked into moving to the count area. A flurry of excitement on December 12, revolved around the identity of a mysterious bird that appeared briefly at the Park Housing Area; was it a Northern Oriole or a Blackheaded Grosbeak? Only the bird and possibly an adult female Goshawk seen ten minutes later, know!

The great day came, and my reputation was on the line (I had promised a new count record!). Would the birds and the non Christmas shopping observers co-operate? Thankfully everything worked out fine (even the weather for once!) and Terra Nova now has a new record of 34 species. I managed to find the Harlequin and a few passerines, Hector Chaulk added the Buffleheads and the only crossbills at Traytown, Gaileen Marsh persuaded all the Happy Adventure gulls to remain and even found a late Mourning Dove, Francois Millette spotted a Goshawk and Kevin Moore may have seen a Marsh Hawk. Pride of place has to go to the intrepid trio of birders from St. John's; Bill Montevicchi, John Piatt and John Wells, who braved the gale force winds to find some Dovekies and Black Guillemots, a record number of Bald Eagles and unexpected Canada Geese and a Mallard. My reputation stands and my resolution for next year is to go one better! It was a great way to round out my year.

--Roger Burrows



BOOK REVIEW

Title: Research is a Passion With Me  
 Author: Margaret Morse Nice  
 Editor: Doris Huestis Speirs  
 Publisher: Consolidated Amethyst Communications Inc.  
 12 Crescent Town Road, Unit 310  
 Toronto, Ontario, M4C 5L3  
 Price: Hard cover \$12.95  
 Soft cover \$9.95

This autobiography recounts the life of a house-wife and zoologist who became the leading authority on the Song Sparrow and an ornithologist of international distinction. Margaret Morse Nice, born in 1883, grew up in New England. As a child, her father's garden and long walks in the country, unhindered by the motor car, afforded her the intimate contact with her environment which fostered a life-long love of nature. Indeed, it was her tenderness for individual creatures which was to fire all her later research.

She trained as a zoologist, devoting her first study to the feeding habits of the Bobwhite, an endangered species. In order to demonstrate its value for man, she fed "appreciative" Bobwhites a diet of carefully-counted weed-seeds and insects. The staggering intake, when reported, contributed toward government protection of that bird.

Marriage to a physiologist interrupted her research. For several years she observed the strict confinement to the duties of wife and mother expected of a woman in the early 1900's. Eventually, when the tedium of her role became intolerable, she sought relief: the family moved to Oklahoma and there, in 1919, she tells us, a newspaper article was responsible for her becoming an ornithologist. It advocated an open season on Mourning Doves from August. She had a hunch that the doves still nested in August, and she began her observations (later to be published), recording their nesting habits on the campus of the university well into October! It was her "determination to refute error and save the young doves from a lingering death" that had roused her to action. Soon this energy was taking her on long country walks, for serious study of local birds, about whom existing information was slight and unreliable. Over succeeding years she thus studied each species to be found in Oklahoma, taking censuses to determine seasonal changes in population. Her narrative is an exciting and affectionate account of expeditions in strange terrain and of sudden discoveries in the field:

*I had not dreamt that such (birds) existed: the absurd little Bush Tit, the sedate Canyon Towhee, the astonishing Lewis' Woodpecker, the Cassins' Sparrow with its exquisite refrain. All these birds were mine...Oklahoma...was mine, for I loved it passionately.*

Margaret Nice searched all available references, consulted both local naturalists and specialists, and eventually, with her husband, brought out the first systematic study of The Birds of Oklahoma (1924).

Meanwhile, though her family grew in size, she somehow managed both roles ("our new baby kindly timed her arrival after the Fall migration and before the Christmas census"). A move to Ohio in 1927, brought the opportunity for nest-watching, already a keen interest, just a few steps from her front door. Thus began her famous study of the behavior of the Song Sparrow -- that most common species, about whom so little was known. Her account is livened by quotations from

her journal, giving meticulous observations and providing an immediacy to the dramatic moments of her story. She learned to hear the subtle variations in the songs; to trap and colour-band a few of the sparrows in order to distinguish birds that looked much alike, and to follow them year after year. There were frustrations: eggs watched for days would be destroyed, nests could not be located, or birds would disappear. All were of small importance compared with the joy -- as when she discovered each male to have a unique personality, and his own individual song. Her determination throughout her research was unyielding and the methods she developed were innovative. Her findings refuted much that had been previously written. Among them:

*The books said that this species has two notes besides its song, and that incubation lasts ten to fourteen days and is performed by both sexes. I discovered that these birds had more than twenty-one utterances besides the many songs possessed by each male, and that incubation lasts twelve to thirteen days and is the function of the female alone.*

Eventually her book, The Watcher and The Nest (1939), was to tell of the intricate personal relationships of her several chosen sparrows. Her scientific report on the Song Sparrow appeared first in Germany 1933/34, no American journal at the time being ready to publish a paper of such length.

Research is a Passion With Me moves briskly through the many episodes of a full and confident life; hardly a page is without its lively anecdote. She takes us on her many travels abroad, to congress meetings, to family events, and introduces us to a wide circle of friends (a chapter is devoted to Konrad Lorenz). Underlying it all is that passion for research; that desire to know and to protect nature which was the work and delight of her life. The book is beautifully written and attractively produced. I recommend it to anyone interested in birds; Margaret Nice, though a specialist herself, wrote primarily to "arouse people's interest, capture their imaginations, whet their curiosity, start them on problems". I think her autobiography does this.

--Phoebe Roper

Frank Robertson of New Waterford, N. S., whose weekly column "For The Birds", has been a regular feature of the Cape Breton Post for the past ten and a half years, has recently published a book of poetry and prose, entitled The Humble Bowl, which should be of interest to members of the N. S. Bird Society. In 1978, Mr. Robertson was awarded the first Life Membership issued in the Nova Scotia Bird Society by the Cape Breton branch in recognition of his contribution to birding.

This volume of 41 poems and 35 prose commentaries, contains several poems about birds, notably one entitled "Seabird", inspired by the sighting of a Shearwater, far out over the water at Brier Island, during a Bird Society outing there. Halifax people can buy the book at Talbot's Book Shop, Halifax Shopping Centre, and efforts have been made to make it available at bookstores throughout Cape Breton and the eastern Mainland. Others can obtain a copy by writing to Robertson Print-Craft Ltd., 33 Main St., Glace Bay, N. S. The price is \$2.50.



BIRD IDENTIFICATION COURSE

The Bird Identification Course advertised in the January issue has been postponed until the Fall.

The course will be given only if a minimum of twelve persons sign up with Roger Pocklington before August 31. Application may be made now by writing to Roger at:

19 GUY STREET,  
DARTMOUTH, N.S.  
B3A 2P4



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NOVA SCOTIA BIRD SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER

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April, 1980

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