



# Records of Vermont Birds

## FALL MIGRATION-1978

1 AUGUST - 30 NOVEMBER

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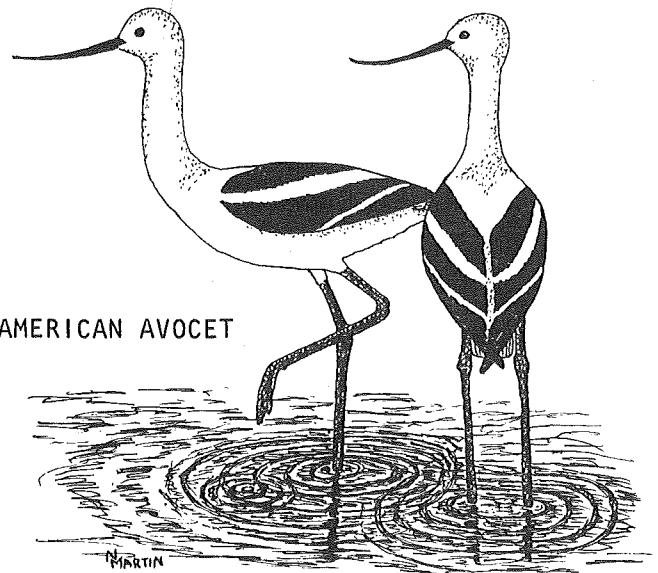
The Autumn of 1978 was dry with moderating temperatures. Rainfall was nearly 4 inches off the average accumulation expected. August and November were particularly drier than usual. Temperatures during the season's four months were close to indicated norms. In the light of this data it is interesting to note that 18 species of warbler lingered into October, only 1 less than in the very mild Autumn of 1975. However, only 7 species of this total remained beyond the second week of the month and only 1 was noted after the 20th. These results tend to indicate that an increase in coverage led to this increase in late sightings. It is notable that a series of sub-freezing nights seemed to lead to the cutoff date on the 20th of October. The dryness of the season led to excellent numbers of shorebirds being reported, with a remarkable 30 species sighted including several rare forms. Reports of Whimbrel, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, HUDSONIAN GODWIT, Stilt Sandpiper (record late date) and Wilson's Phalarope (new high count) spiced the shorebird watching this Fall. However the rarest species reported was the AMERICAN AVOCET, 2 of which were seen in September at Dead Creek constituting the second record for the state.

The season's observations tend to indicate a lack of strong wave activity by migrants with a more or less even series of reports of small passerine migrants throughout the earlier months of the season. Nonetheless a few dates seemed to stand out with good flights from 8/30 to 9/3 including fine numbers of vireos and warblers; a strong flight of thrushes and warblers occurred between 9/16 and 9/19; the best warbler days at Winhall were 9/10 and 9/22. The later movements of the sparrows seemed to peak on 10/12 and surrounding dates with good counts of Juncos, White-crowned Sparrows and Lincoln's Sparrow from various parts of the state on the 12th.

Winter finches and other Boreal eruptives showed little sign of moving into Vermont in anything but minimal numbers with the exception of the Pine Grosbeak and perhaps the Northern Shrike. As for the other species, the Purple Finch departed the state for the most part, the Evening Grosbeak was in modest numbers, the Pine Siskin and Crossbills went virtually unreported and the Common Redpoll went without a report. The Pine Grosbeak was well reported from all parts of the state with particularly good numbers noted in the central region of the state. Ten Northern Shrikes were reported, with most in northern counties. This number was a little above average in comparison with the last three Autumns. Most unusual and unprecedented was the invasion from the south by the Tufted Titmouse. This bird has long been an uncommon winter visitor in Vermont and has recently been confirmed for the first time as a Vermont nesting species in Atlas blocks in Londonderry and Arlington. This Fall 36 were seen through much of the state mostly at feeders; this compares with 6 in 1977, 1 in 1976, and none in 1975. The Boreal Chickadee showed little sign of dispersal with 3 singles seen outside their usual range.

Some of the better birds of the season were the previously mentioned shorebirds, the 4th report of

DOVEKIE for the state [not listed in Spear is a November 1969 report from Putney (Audubon Field Notes, vol. 24, #1)], the second and best documented report of LITTLE GULL, the report of a probable SPRAGUE'S PIPIT, a species unreported from Vermont, a stunningly early Bohemian Waxwing in September, a single report of the always unusual Connecticut Warbler, and a mid-August report of the rare Northern Three-toed Woodpecker, an unusual date for a species presumed to be solely a winter visitor. Overall a record total of 233 species were reported for the season. This compares to a previous high of 229 in 1975.



AMERICAN AVOCET

### LOONS THROUGH HERONS

The Common Loon, which is barely holding its own as a breeder in Vermont, was twice confirmed during the Fall with adults accompanied by flightless young seen on Little Averill and East Long Ponds in Averill and Cabot respectively (LNM et al.). Although the migration was poorly reported, small numbers were reported from most of the species' haunts and two fine counts were achieved: 20 on Lake Memphremagog on 11/1 (FO), and 60+ were seen at Shelburne on 11/11 (BSE, ORE, WGE). There were a half dozen reports of the Red-necked Grebe: first was 1 on 10/5 at the Barre Reservoir (LNM, MFM); 1 was seen at Lake Fairlee on 10/8 (GFE, WGE); 3 were noted in Bridport on 10/23, the seasonal maximum (WS); another was found in Fairlee on 10/29 at Lake Morey (GFE, WGE); 2 were found on Lake Memphremagog on 11/1 (FO); finally 1 was seen in Charlotte on 11/20 (WGE, BDF, CR). There were only 4 reports of the Horned Grebe; 4 were seen on the Barre Reservoir on 10/5 (LNM, MFM); a large movement occurred on the southern portion of Lake Champlain on 10/23 with an estimated 300-400 sighted at Bridport (WS); 1 was seen at Burlington on 11/5 (WGE, BSE, ORE); 11 were seen there on 11/19 (WGE, BSE, ORE); last reported were 2 on 11/20 at Charlotte (WGE, BDF, CR). Pied-billed Grebes were widely reported although nowhere in large numbers; reports were received from Quechee, St. Albans, Winhall, Marshfield, Colchester and White River Junction. Latest was 1 at White River Junction on 11/23 (WGE, GFE). The Double-crested Cormorant was reported 4 times: 9 were seen in Ferrisburg on 8/28 (BPG et al.); 1 was found at Colchester Point on 10/3 (BDF); 1 was seen on the Jetty in Burlington harbor on 10/5 (WGE, BSE, ORE); and 1 was seen on Lake Fairlee on 10/7 (GFE, WGE). The Great Blue Heron was widely reported with high counts being: 15 on 8/18 at Dead Creek WMA (WGE, GLE); 13-15 at St. Albans Bay on 8/19 (GFE, WGE et al.); 9 on 8/20 at Lake Hardwick (MFM); and 8 on 9/19 at Herrick's Cove (LNM, MCH). The last reported was 1 on 11/30 at Plainfield (MFM). The Green Heron appears to have been in normal numbers during the season; it was seen regularly during August at Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (JJD, MCD); 5-6 were seen at St. Alban's Bay on 8/19 (GFE, WGE et al.); 3 were seen at Herrick's Cove on 9/19 (LNM, MCH); 2 were noted at Colchester on 10/3 with 1 lingering until 10/5 (CAW WGE et al.). Cattle Egrets were seen on 8/28 at Pantong until a number was not specified (BPG); 2 individuals of this species lingered very late with both birds exceeding the previous late date for the species by a week or more: 1 bird was seen in Bethel from 11/1-11/7 (JHa) and was subsequently seen in Stockbridge from 11/12-11/16 (FL); another egret was seen in Middlesex on 11/7 and located again this time in West Bolton on 11/14 (fide FCH). A Snowy Egret, a rare wanderer from the coast and points south, was reported from Herrick's Cove on 9/19 (LNM, MCH). Unusual was the report of 2 Black-crowned Night Herons from Bethel 8/5-8/6 where the species

is a rare visitor (JHa); the maximum reported from the Champlain Valley, where this nocturnal heron is regular, was 10 on 8/12 at Dead Creek WMA (GFE, WGE et al.); latest reported was 1 at Colchester on 10/3 (CAW, WGE et al.). There was a single report of the elusive Least Bittern - 1 seen at Colchester on 9/10 (WGE). There were 5 reports of the American Bittern: 1 was seen in Ferrisburg on 8/12 (JID, MCD); 2 were seen at the Barre Reservoir on 8/20 (MFH); 1 was at Marshfield on 9/12 (MFH); 2 were found at the South Slang in Ferrisburg on 9/17 (JID, MCD); the last reported was 1 seen in Colchester on 10/3 (CAW, WGE et al.).

WATERFOWL

The Canada Goose was reported in lower numbers than in the previous three Autumns. Only ca. 3700 total were reported with most being seen during the first week of October, in particular on the 2nd and 3rd. The species lingered into the winter on Lake Champlain. The earliest of ca. 3400 Snow Geese reported were 5 on 10/3 in Proctor and a small flock seen in Colchester on the same date (LHP, BDF). The heaviest movement of the season was recorded on 10/20 with ca. 200 in East Craftsbury (FO, JW); 800-1000 at Marshfield/Plainfield (MFH); 333 including 8 "Blue" individuals at Marlboro (WJN); "thousands" in Barnard (JLB); and 25 at Winhall (WJN). Other reports included: 600+ in Burlington on 11/5 (WGE, BSE, ORE); 300 at Winhall on 11/8 (WJN); and 75-100 at Underhill on 11/12 the latest reported (HGW). The Mallard over the last twenty years has become the commonest duck in western Vermont; however it remains uncommon in eastern and central Vermont. Maxima from each region were 130 at Burlington on 11/4 (WJN, WGE); and 11 at the Barre Reservoir on 10/5. The Black Duck, though still quite common, has lost ground to the Mallard in the western portion of the state. A count of 100 was achieved on 10/22 at Burlington (WJN); many reports were received from eastern Vermont where the species is still the commonest duck. There were four reports of the Gadwall beginning with 1 at Colchester on 9/14 (WGE, BSE, ORE); 7 were seen in Colchester on 9/29 (WGE, BSE, ORE); 3 were reported from Button Bay State Park on 10/22 (WJN); and 8 were seen there on 10/23 (ALG, JHN). The Pintail was reported in limited numbers; 1 was found at Colchester on 9/14 (WGE, BSE, ORE); 2 were reported from Winhall on 9/18 (WJN); 1-3 were present in Colchester from 9/28-10/5 (WGE, BSE, CAW et al.); 1 was seen in Burlington on 10/3 (WJN); and latest were 3 on 11/8 at Winhall (WJN). The Green-winged Teal was widely reported in good numbers. Six were located at Dead Creek WMA on 8/12 (GFE, WGE et al.); 6 were seen in Plymouth on 8/21 (SBL, JDL); 10 were sighted at Lake Hardwick on 9/10 (RDE); 10+ were reported from Colchester on 9/28 (WGE, JHe); the seasonal maximum of 50 was reported from Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN); 11 were sighted at the Barre Reservoir on 10/5 (MFH, LNH); and 10 were seen at the Sand Bar WMA on 11/14 (WJN). The Blue-winged Teal was well reported this Autumn with maxima being 30 on 8/30 at Dead Creek WMA (WJN), 30 on 9/10 at Hardwick Lake (RDE), 30 at Herrick's Cove on 9/24 (WJN), and 40+ at Colchester on 9/28 (WGE, JHe); a good count for the extreme Northeast was 9 on 9/9 at Ferdinand (BSE, ORE, WGE et al.). Last reported was 1 on 10/19 at Colchester (WGE, JHe et al.). There were six reports of the American Wigeon. First reported this Autumn were 2 at Lake Hardwick on 8/7 (LNM, WGE, MFZ); 4 were reported from the Barre Reservoir on 8/22 (MFH); 8 were identified in Ferdinand on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE et al.); 6 were seen at Herrick's Cove on 9/19 (LNM, MCH); 2 were sighted at the Barre Reservoir on 10/5 (LNM, MFH); the last reported were 2 on 11/8 at Bethel; the latest report yet submitted to these records (JHa). The Northern Shoveler was reported twice - 2 were seen at Colchester on 8/19 (GFE, WGE et al.) and 1 was reported from Lake Hardwick on 9/10 (RDE). The Wood Duck was well reported with maximum counts being 55+ on 9/19 at Colchester (BSE, WGE); and 37+ at Dead Creek WMA on 9/23 (WGE, BSE, ORE); the species seemed to depart early with late reports on 10/5 at the Barre Reservoir and 10/8 at Quechee (MFH, EH). As usual few Ring-necked Ducks were reported giving no good indication of the volume of their fall migration; perhaps the majority of Ring-necks pass over Vermont without landing. Records included: 2 at South America Pond in Ferdinand on 9/8 (MFH); 1 at Moose Bog in Ferdinand on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE et al.); 7 were seen at South America Pond on 9/9 (MFH); and 1 was found in Burlington on 10/16 (WGE). There were only two reports of the Canvasback; 1 was reported from the Barre Reservoir on 10/5 (LNM, MFH); and 1 was seen at Button Bay State Park on 10/23 (ALG, JHN). Only two reports of Greater Scaup were received; 80+ were seen in Colchester on 10/18 (WGE, JHe et al.); this number had diminished to 21 on 10/19 (WGE, JHe). There were correspondingly few reports of the Lesser Scaup, 1 apiece were seen on Island and Lewis Ponds on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE, GPG, BFG, HLY); 4 stayed in Burlington 9/24-10/3 (WGE); 1 was seen on Lake Fairlee on 10/8 (GFE, WGE); 1 was reported from Burlington on 10/22 (WJN); 1 was sighted at Lake Morey on 10/29 (GFE, WGE); and lastly 1 was identified in Burlington on 11/4 (BSE, ORE, WGE). The earliest Common Goldeneye was a single female seen at Colchester Point on 8/19 (GFE, WGE et al.); also early was 1 at Ferdinand on 9/7 (MFH). High counts were: 25-30 on 10/26 at Addison (WS); 36 at Shelburne on 11/4 (BSE, ORE, WGE); and 54+ at Burlington on 11/19 (WGE, BSE). The first report of Bufflehead was of 3 individuals seen on Caspian Lake on 10/27 (FO); good counts were: 20 on 11/4 at Burlington (WJN, WGE, BSE); and 23 also at Burlington on 11/20 (WGE, BSE). There were only two reports of the Oldsquaw. 1 was reported from Blodgett's Supply in Burlington on 10/22 (WJN); and a lone male was noted at Lake Memphremagog on 11/1 (FO, JW). The earliest White-winged Scoters reported were 6 on 10/22 at Burlington (WJN); 5+ were reported from Button Bay State Park on 10/23 (ALG, JHN); 30 were seen in Panton on 10/27 (WS); 6 were sighted on Lake Memphremagog on 11/1 (FO, JW); 2 were found in Shelburne Bay on 11/11 (WGE); and 2 were seen in Burlington on 11/19 (BSE, WGE). There were only two reports of the normally common Surf Scoter. 1 seen on the Barre Reservoir on 9/22 was quite early (RDE); in the only other report 10 were noted on Lake Memphremagog on 11/1 (FO, JW). The Black Scoter made an early appearance with 2 reported from the Barre Reservoir on 9/22 (RDE); 23 (20 males, 3 females) were seen on Caspian Lake on 10/15 (FO, JW); 17 were reported from Lake Morey on 10/29 (GFE, WGE); and 2 were noted there on 11/5 (ALB, DPK). There was a single report of the scarce Ruddy Duck: 2 seen on Lake Fairlee on 10/8 (GFE, WGE). Reports of the Hooded Merganser were down after two good reports in the previous two Autumns. Earliest were 4 apparently immature birds seen on Mitchell Pond in Sharon on 8/2 (GFE, WGE); 5 were reported from Lake Hardwick on 8/14 (DPK); 1 was sighted in Woodstock on 9/7 (LNM); 3 were seen on Lewis Pond on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE, GPG, BFG, HLY); 1 was noted in Burlington on 10/16 (BSE, ORE, WGE); 3 were seen on Marshfield Pond on 10/24 (MFH); 4 were found on Caspian Lake on 10/27 (FO); 4 were on the Marshfield Reservoir on 11/19 (MFH); last noted were 5 at White River Junction on 11/23 (GFE, WGE). Numbers of Common Mergansers were up versus last Autumn's. The first report was of a single individual at Dewey's Pond in Quechee on 8/18 (WGE, GLe). High counts were: 20 on 9/17 at Weathersfield (LNM, MCH); 35 on 10/27 on Caspian Lake (FO, JW); and 32 on Barre Reservoir and 25 on Marshfield Reservoir on 11/19 (MFH). The species continued into the winter in good numbers. There

were only two reports of Red-breasted Merganser - 6 were seen on Caspian Lake on 10/15 (FO, JW), and 5 were noted in Colchester on 10/18 (WGE, JHe et al.).

VULTURES, HAWKS and FALCONS

There were 46 Turkey Vultures reported on Hawk Watches this Autumn with an additional 34 reported by field observers. Maximum reports were: 14 on 8/18 at Dead Creek WMA (WGE, GLe); and 13 on 9/23 from the Skyline Drive in Weathersfield (EE et al.). The latest reports were: 1 on 10/21 at West Brattleboro (WJN); and 3 on 10/23 in Reading (GPO). Continuing an encouraging trend the Accipiters were reported in good numbers with totals exceeding the previous fall's, although observer hour figures were slightly lower. Thirty-six Goshawks were seen on Hawk Watches and only 3 others were reported by other observers. Apparently no invasion of this species was in the offing this year. For the second consecutive year encouraging numbers of Cooper's Hawks were reported by hawk watchers. 53 total were reported (.08/observer hr.), a small improvement over last year; outstanding were 32 seen from Putney Mt. on 10/7 (ASW et al.). Sharp-shinned Hawk was, as usual, by far the commonest Accipiter. A total of 495 were reported from hawk watches with an additional 19 reported by other observers. The best weekend for "sharpie" migration among the season's appointed watch dates was that of the 7th and 8th of October with 245 total sighted. The best single day count of the weekend and season was 144 from Putney Mt. on 10/7 (ASW, et al.). Once again this Autumn a sharp-shin ran afoul of South Woodstock's banding nets, this individual being banded and released on 10/11 (VINS). The Red-tailed Hawk was reported in numbers that were very consistent with last fall's report: 99 (.15/observer hr.) were sighted on watches versus 103 (.18/observer hr.) last year. Hardier individuals of this very tough species were seen into the winter months. The Red-shouldered Hawk report for this Autumn brought in mixed results. Only 16 were reported on official watch dates with no notable maxima. On the other hand, results from Winhall indicate a fairly good migration in mid to late October, with 32 total reported and a maximum of 6 on 10/30 (WJN). Perhaps, as with the Red-tail, the majority of this species' migration occurs later than the regular hawk watch dates. An immature of this species was observed to capture a snake and carry it to a high tension wire to feed, only to be electrocuted, in late August (HR). 563 Broad-winged Hawks were reported by hawk watchers, far less than the 1500 reported last year. The best day reported from other New England watches was 9/13 with one watch (Mt. Wachusett in Princeton, Ma.) totaling 10,086. The best report from the Winhall Hawk Lookout was 50 on 9/12 which corresponds closely with this flight (WJN). The best count received was 91 from Putney Mt. on 9/9 (ASW et al.); the last sighting of the season was of a single bird at the WHL on 10/25 (WJN). A total of 6 Rough-legged Hawks were reported this autumn: first was 1 seen from the WHL on 10/24 (WJN); 1 was reported from Windsor on 10/25 (JL); 1 was noted in Clarendon on 10/27 (LHP); another was seen in Ferrisburg on 11/10 (JID, MCD); 1 was reported from Marshfield on 11/11 (MFH); and 1 was noted in Cabot on 11/17 (BBC). There were 4 Bald Eagles reported this fall. This compares with totals of 5, 8 and 5 for the past three fall reports. Earliest reported of this autumn's birds was an adult seen on 8/28 at Ferrisburg (BPG); an immature was reported from "Lake Champlain" on 8/31 (MFH); a single adult was sighted from Hogback Mt. on 9/17 (JHT, LBo); last was an adult reported from Peru on 11/8 (C. Williams fide WJN). Numbers of Marsh Hawks improved slightly with 31 reported from Hawk Watches (.05/observer hr.) as compared to a previous best of 21 (.04/observer hr.). 15 others were sighted by field observers this autumn. Seventy Osprey were reported on Hawk Watches (10/obs. hr.) an improvement over 59 sighted last year. Fifteen additional individuals were reported by field observers with 1 seen at Herrick's Cove on 10/28 being the latest (WJN). Only 2 Peregrine Falcons were reported: 1 was described from White Rocks Mt. on 9/9 (LHM); and 1 was seen from Colchester Point on 10/4 (BDF). A total of 6 Merlins were sighted, an immature was seen in Norton on 8/2 (LNM, WGE, MFZ); 1 adult male was reported from Burlington on 9/6 (WGE); 1 was seen from Colchester Point on 10/4 (BDF); 1 was sighted from Gile Mt. on 10/7 (GFE, WGE); and singles were noted at the WHL on 10/8 and 9 (WJN). The American Kestrel returned to average numbers with 124 reported on Hawk Watches (18/obs. hr.), with a maximum of 14 seen from Skyline Drive in Weathersfield on 10/7 (EE et al.).

UPLAND GAME BIRDS THROUGH RAILS

The Ruffed Grouse continues to be reported in large numbers; Oatman emphasizes the best numbers he's seen during his residence in the Northeast Kingdom. The largest count reported was 12+ from South Newfane on 9/22 (BBo). The Turkey continues its expansion, sometimes into areas where there is no indication that they historically occurred. Henry Potter finds them "very common near Clarendon," 14 were reported from Sandgate on 8/30 (HT); 1 was reported in August from Plainfield well north of their known historical range in Vermont (HA, DA, fide JSW); lastly an unspecified number was reported from Barnard on 10/31 (MLW). Once again the Bobwhite was reported this Autumn, probably due to attempts by hunters to establish them here. 1 was heard calling repeatedly in Brighton on 8/1 (WGE, LNM, MFZ); and 1 was seen in Taftsville on 9/18 and 9/19 (LHW). The Virginia Rail was reported twice. 1 was heard at the Dead Creek WMA on 8/12 (GFE, WGE et al.) and 1 was seen in Colchester on 10/3 (CAW, WGE et al.). As usual, there were a handful of reports of the Common Gallinule from the Champlain Valley. High counts were 4 on 8/12 at Dead Creek (GFE, WGE et al.) and 4 on 9/10 at Colchester, apparently the latest report (BSE, ORE, WGE). There was only a single report of the American Coot; 1 was seen at Dewey's Pond in Quechee on 10/16 (EH).

SHOREBIRDS

Perhaps the best shorebird record of the past Autumn was that of a pair of AMERICAN AVOCETS reported from the Dead Creek WMA in Addison on 9/22. This report, accompanied by belated but excellent details, represents the second record of this striking species for the state and the first in over a century (DMc). The Semipalmated Plover was widely reported in average numbers. 2 were seen at Dead Creek in Panton on 8/12 (GFE, WGE et al.); 1 was reported from Lake Hardwick on 8/14 (DPK); 2 were located at the Dead Creek WMA on 8/30 (WJN); 1 was seen at Lake Hardwick on 9/5 (MFH); the high count from Burlington, where they were seen daily, was 11 on 9/12 (WGE); also high were 7 on 9/19 at Colchester (BSE, ORE, WGE); latest was 1 noted in Burlington on 10/22 (WJN). The Killdeer was reported in its normal good numbers throughout the state with most maxima at 30-35; the best count received was 150-200 from Barre on 9/22 (RDE), the last reported was 1 seen in Shelburne on 11/20 (BDF, CR, WGE). There were 6 reports of the Lesser Golden Plover; 1 was seen in Colchester on 9/19 (WGE); 68 were reported from Addison on 9/23 (WGE, BSE, ORE); 2 were noted at Colchester on 9/29 (WGE); 8 were sighted at Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN); 1 was seen in Colchester on 10/5 (CAW, WGE, et al.); and 1 was located at Dead Creek WMA on 10/6 (BBP). The earliest

of 7 reports of the Black-bellied Plover was of 1 on 9/25 at Burlington (WGE); subsequently 6 were seen at Colchester on 9/29 (WGE); a 'flock' was reported from Dead Creek WMA on 10/6 (BBP); 4 were noted in Colchester on 10/19 (WGE, JHe et al.); 6 were sighted at Dead Creek WMA on 10/22 (WJN); 1 was seen in Addison on 10/26 (WS); last reported were 2 on 11/2 at Colchester (BSE, ORE, WGE). The Ruddy Turnstone was reported twice: 1 was sighted at Blodgett's Supply in Burlington from 9/7-9/8 (WGE, GFE); another was seen there from 9/24-9/26 (WGE, BSE). There were two reports of the elusive American Woodcock: 1 was seen at Lake Hardwick on 8/1 (MFH); another was reported in the third week of October at 'Magic Mt.' in Londonderry (fide NS). The Common Snipe was widely reported in good numbers. Five were seen on 8/1 at Lake Hardwick (LNM, WGE, MFZ); 18 were noted at Dead Creek WMA on 8/12 (WGE, GFE et al.); 11 were at Lake Hardwick on 8/25 (LNM); 10 were seen there on 9/10 (RDE); 7 were located at Dead Creek WMA on 9/23 (BSE, ORE, WGE); 1 was seen there on 10/3 (WJN); 9 were noted on the same date at Colchester (CAW, WGE et al.); 5 were found at Button Bay State Park on 10/23 (ALG, JMN); last seen were 5 at Shelburne on 11/4 (WGE, BSE, ORE). New to the Records of Vermont Birds were two reports of the rare HUDSONIAN GODWIT. 1 was seen on a farm pond in Glover on 9/3 (LNM); and another was sighted at Colchester on 9/28 (WGE, JHe). Excellent was the report of a WHIMBREL on 8/14 in Addison (BBP). There were three reports of the Upland Sandpiper: 16 were seen at the Dead Creek WMA and Button Bay State Park on 8/12 (GFE, WGE et al.); 5 were seen in Addison on 8/14 (BBP); and 4 were seen in Addison and at Button Bay on 8/18 (WGE, Gle). The Spotted Sandpiper appeared to be in average numbers. Maximum counts came from Lake Hardwick with a best count of 30 on 8/1 (MFH); the latest individual was seen on 10/6 at South Newfane (BBo). The Solitary Sandpiper was anything but that at Lake Hardwick this Autumn with counts of 40 and 31 on 8/1 and 8/25 respectively (MFH, LNM); later reports were of singles on 9/18 at Woodstock (JMN) and 9/28 at Colchester (WGE, JHe). The Greater Yellowlegs was reported in good numbers from several areas. High counts were: 16 on 9/23 at Dead Creek WMA (BSE, ORE, WGE); 12 on 9/29 at Colchester (BSE, ORE, WGE); and 15 on 10/3 at Dead Creek WMA (WJN); the last reported were 4 seen at Colchester on 11/5 (BSE, ORE, WGE). There were seven sightings of the Lesser Yellowlegs. First were 5 at Lake Hardwick on 8/1 (MFH); 3 were there on 8/4 (LNM, WGE, MFZ); 3 more were seen there on 8/25 (LNM); 2 were reported from St. Albans Bay on 8/19 (GFE, WGE et al.); 2 were found at Lake Hardwick on 9/5 (RDE); 2 were noted at Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN); the last reported was 1 found in Addison on 10/27 (WS). There were two reports of the rare Red Knot. 1 was reported from the unusual location of Reading on 8/1 (JMR); the second was seen in Colchester on 9/29 (WGE). There was a good flight of the Pectoral Sandpiper. 3 were seen at Lake Hardwick on 8/4 (LNM, WGE, MFZ); 1 was seen there on 8/14 (DPK); 1 was reported from Dead Creek WMA (BBP); 6 were noted there on 8/18 (WGE, Gle); 1 was found at Lake Hardwick on 9/10 (RDE); they were seen on seven dates in Burlington. The best numbers of the season were noted in late October: 20+ were seen at Colchester on 10/19 (WGE, JHe et al.); 150+ were reported from Dead Creek WMA on 10/22 (WJN); and 15 were sighted in Addison on 10/27, the last report of the season (WS). There were 5 reports of the White-rumped Sandpiper, all much later than usual. 1 was seen in Bridport on 10/20 (WS); 2 were seen at Dead Creek WMA on 10/22 (WJN); 3 were noted in Burlington on 10/24 (WS, BSE); 4 were reported from Addison on 10/27 (WS); the last seen were 2 at Shelburne on 11/4 (WGE, BSE, ORE). Three reports of the Baird's Sandpiper was average: 6 were noted at Button Bay State Park on 8/1 (CWJ); 1 was seen there on 8/12 (GFE, WGE et al.); last reported was an exceptionally late individual seen on 10/22 at Dead Creek WMA (WJN). The Least Sandpiper was widely reported in good numbers. Maximum counts were: 20+ on 8/3 at Lake Hardwick (MFH); 14 on 9/7 at Burlington (WGE); and 15 on 9/19 at Herrick's Cove (LNM, MCH). The late date was 10/3 when 1 was sighted at Dead Creek WMA (WJN). Dunlin were in good numbers this autumn in the Champlain Valley. First reported were 4 seen on 9/26 in Burlington (WGE); 20 were reported from Colchester on 10/3 (CAW, WGE et al.); a 'flock' was reported from Shelburne on 10/14 (BDF); 20+ were seen at Colchester on 10/19 (WGE, JHe et al.); 60+ were found at Dead Creek WMA on 10/29 (JID, MCD); the last seen were 3 at Shelburne on 11/4 (BSE, ORE, WGE). There was a single report of the Short-billed Dowitcher. 7 were sighted at Lake Hardwick on 8/20 (MFH). Two to four Dowitchers seen on 10/2 at Colchester were probably Long-billed (JHe). The Semipalmated Sandpiper appeared to be in average numbers, counts of 25 and 12 were received from Lake Hardwick on 8/1 and 8/20 respectively (MFH); about 15 per day were seen at Burlington during the season with a maximum of 62 on 9/12 (WGE); the last reported were 2 on 10/3 at Colchester (WGE, CAW et al.). There was one sighting of the scarce and difficult to identify Western Sandpiper. 1 was noted in Burlington on 8/30 (WJN). The Sanderling was reported in normal numbers beginning on 8/2 when 3 were seen at Prouty Beach in Newport (LNM, WGE, MFZ); at Burlington where about 5 per day were seen. The maximum count was 9 on 9/12 (WGE). The species continued into October with 3 seen in Colchester on 10/18 (WGE, JHe et al.); and 7 at Burlington on 10/22 the last reports (WJN). There was a single report of STILT SANDPIPER, the 6th state record on the exceptional date of 10/20 in Addison (WS, WBE). Also notable was the third state record of the BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER: 1 was seen on 10/22 in Addison (BBP). There was a single report of the Northern Phalarope - 7 were sighted northwest of the Four Brothers Island on 8/16; apparently these birds were in New York (LNM). The rare WILSON'S PHALAROPE was reported for the second consecutive fall: 3 were seen at Lake Hardwick in mid-August, the sixth record for the state and the fifth in the last four years (LNM).

#### GULLS, TERNS and ALCID

The Great Black-backed Gull was only reported from Burlington; the earliest reported from there was 1 on 10/16. Black-backs were not seen regularly until early November but by then 1-2 per day were seen mostly in Shelburne Bay (BSE, ORE, WGE). As usual the Herring Gull was common on Lake Champlain with a maximum report from Burlington of 145+ on 11/4 (WJN, BSE, ORE, WGE); the species was reported in its normal scattered small numbers from eastern Vermont. There was a report of a possible THAYER'S GULL, the first record of any sort of this newly split species for Vermont. A single bird was noted at Blodgett's in Burlington on 11/4 (WJN). The description stresses a dark iris and the replacement of black with dark grey in the wingtips. After consulting various articles the editor believes that the description does not rule out Kumlien's Gull or Iceland Herring Gull hybrid as possible determinations of the bird's identity. The Ring-billed Gull was reported in good numbers from most large bodies of water in the state. Maximum counts were 100+ on 8/1 at Newport (LNM, WGE, MFZ); 650+ at Burlington on 9/26 (WGE); and 600+ at Burlington on 11/4 (WJN, BSE, ORE, WGE). In several reports from Dead Creek WMA an average of 100+ were seen there. As usual, a few individuals occurred in eastern Vermont during October and November. The first report of Bonaparte's Gull for the season was 5 seen on 8/1 at Newport, the only report away from Lake Champlain this Fall

(LNM, WGE, MFZ). High counts from the Lake were: 160+ on 11/4 in Burlington (WJN, BSE, ORE, WGE); and 170+ in Shelburne on 11/11 (BSE, ORE, WGE). The last sighting in Addison county was on 11/13 (BPG); the latest from Chittenden county were 8-10 seen in Charlotte on 11/20 (BDF, CR, WGE). One of the best sightings of the Autumn was Vermont's second report of LITTLE GULL and the first verified by more than a single observer. A single adult was located at Shawnee Shores on Lake Champlain in Addison county on 10/20. This individual was joined by an immature on 11/12 and the two remained through the end of the period (WS, et mult. ob.). The Common Tern was reported only from the Burlington area with a maximum of 49 on 8/19 (GFE, WGE, et al.); the late date was 9/14 with 2+ reported from Colchester (BSE, ORE, WGE). There was a single report of the early departing Black Tern. A group of ca. 20, approximately half immature, was noted in Ferrisburg through 8/14 (JID, MCD). Extraordinary was the discovery of a DOVEKIE in the parking lot of a store in Rochester on 11/26. The bird subsequently died and the specimen now resides at VINS headquarters in Woodstock (E. Artz, VINS).

#### DOVES THROUGH OWLS

Both the Mourning Dove and Rock Dove were reported in about average numbers. There was a single report of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 1 noted in Winhall on 8/1 (WJN). There were good numbers of the Black-billed Cuckoo reported mostly during August. One was banded at South Woodstock on 8/16 (VINS); 1 was reported from Clarendon on 8/22 (LHP); 1 was seen in Hartford on 8/25 (WGE, GFE); the last noted in Winhall was 1 on 8/30 (WJN); 4 were banded at Marshfield (MFH); the last reported was South Woodstock's second individual banded on 9/14 (VINS). There was only a single report of the Screech Owl. 1 was reported from Addison on 8/14 (BBP). Apparently the Great Horned Owl gave observers the slip this Fall with only 3 reports for the season. Hopefully these results do not indicate a decline. There were three reports of the Snowy Owl, all in November; 1 was reported from Bridport on 11/4 (PaN); 1 was seen in Colchester on 11/8 (MLY); and 1 was reported from a feedlot in Alburg on 11/15 (Mr. Hutchins fide FCH). The Barred Owl was reported from Marshfield (3); Winhall; Timmouth (2); South Reading; and Woodstock. Apparently the species is continuing in good numbers. A single Long-eared Owl was sighted on the Long Trail south of Camel's Hump in mid-October (CR). The Saw-whet Owl was well reported for an extremely elusive species. Marion Metcalf banded two, 1 at Ferdinand and 1 at Marshfield; and 1 was noted calling from 11/10-11/13 in South Newfane (BBo).

#### GOATSUCKERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

There was a single report of the Whip-poor-will - a single individual seen in Georgia on 9/2 (JID, MCD). The first indication of the Common Nighthawk migration was a group of 6 seen over Barre on 8/2 (MFH); the peak of this year's flight was from 8/27-8/30 with 400+ seen on those days. The best count during this period was 230+ on 8/28 in Norwich (TL). Late dates were: 9/3 with 2 at Norwich (TL, WGE); and 9/4 with 1 at the WHL (WJN). As usual the bulk of the Chimney Swift migration was during August with counts ranging up to 200 at the old Bridgewater woolen mill during the month. Late dates were: 9/9 with 2 sighted in Ferdinand (BSE, ORE, WGE et al.) and 9/10 with 1 seen at the WHL (WJN). The Ruby-throated Hummingbird was widely reported with reports from 8 townships. Most departure dates are from the first and second weeks of September, but a single bird was seen on 10/17 in Clarendon (LHP). The Belted Kingfisher appeared to be in average numbers although there were few reported; the species lingered in small numbers into December. The Common Flicker was in about average numbers with maximum counts: 12 on 9/3 in Clarendon (LHP); 16 in the Island Pond area on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE et al.) and 25 on 10/3 at Dead Creek WMA (WJN). The latest reports were: 1, the last of 4 banded this Fall, at South Woodstock on 10/25 (VINS); and 1 seen on 10/28 at Winhall (WJN). The Pileated Woodpecker seems to be becoming less shy or perhaps more common. There were reports from 15 townships with a few comments made remarking on various individuals' unconcerned attitudes towards observers. There were two reports of the scarce Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 was noted on 8/9 in South Pomfret (BJM, fide LNM); and another was seen in Wallingford on 8/29 (DHD). The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was reported in about average numbers; 9 were banded, 8 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS), the best count achieved was 4 on 9/2 at Winhall (WJN), late dates were: 10/4 with 1 at Burlington (WGE), and 1 seen in Randolph on 10/6 (EWC, MCC). The Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers were both reported in normal numbers. There was a single report of the scarce and local Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker - a single bird was seen in Ferdinand on 9/7 (MFH). The even scarcer Northern Three-toed Woodpecker was reported once with 1 seen in mid-August in Averill (LNM).

#### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SWALLOWS

The best counts of Eastern Kingbird were achieved in August. 20 were seen at the Dead Creek WMA on 8/12 (GFE, WGE, et al.), and 50 were sighted there on 8/30 (WJN). The latest report comes from Clarendon with 1 seen on 9/21 (LHP). Most observers noted the departure of the Great Crested Flycatcher in late August. 3 were banded at South Woodstock including the latest 1 on 9/7 (VINS). After the low numbers reported last Autumn it is encouraging to note the apparent recovery of the population of the Eastern Phoebe. 20 total were banded, 19 at South Woodstock as compared with 12 last year (VINS, MFH); the latest reports were: 1 at Winhall on 10/12 (WJN), 1 noted in East Barnard on 10/13 (JLB) and 1 seen in Woodstock on 10/21 (JMN). The Yellow-bellied Flycatcher had not left its breeding grounds in the Northeast Kingdom in early August with 4-5 seen in Island Pond and Holland on 8/1 and 8/2; in the latter location a used nest was discovered (LNM, WGE, MFZ). However a few migrants were seen in central Vermont later in that week with individuals in Pomfret and South Stratford (HR, EEB). The first migrant noted at Winhall was on 8/26 (WJN); 11 were banded, 9 in Marshfield (MFH, VINS), the latest reported was 1 found in Winhall on 9/17 (WJN). There was a single report of Alder Flycatcher - a bird seen and heard calling in Brighton on 8/1 (LNM, WGE, MFZ). Four undifferentiated Traill's Flycatchers were banded at South Woodstock, the latest on 9/14 (VINS). A total of 20 Least Flycatchers were banded this Fall with 14 caught in Marshfield (MFH, VINS), apparently in average numbers. The species was last reported on 9/10 in Burlington (WGE); an unidentified Empidonax flycatcher seen on 9/16 in Wilder was probably ascribable to this species (GFE, WGE). Interesting was an active nest of the Eastern Wood Pewee in Maidstone on 8/2 (LNM, MFZ, WGE); the migration seemed about average with widespread reports of small numbers. Late dates were: 1 seen on 9/17 in Winhall (WJN) and 1 seen in Shelburne on 9/19 (CAW, WGE et al.). Only a single report was received of the early departing Olive-sided Flycatcher - 2 were seen in Ferdinand and 1 at Maidstone SP on 8/1 (LNM, WGE, MFZ). The Horned Lark was reported by only three observers. It was reported from Dead Creek throughout August with a maximum of 50 on 8/30 (WJN). Migratory records were scarce: 10 were seen over the WHL on

10/7 (WJN), 4 were seen in Burlington on 10/21 (WGE), 5 were located at the Dead Creek WMA on 10/22 (WJN), and 1 was heard going over at night on 11/7 in Burlington (WGE). The greater portion of the migration of the Tree Swallow occurred in August with high counts of 100+ on 8/18 at Dead Creek WMA (WGE, Gle), and 500+ there twelve days later (WJN). Late reports were: 1 seen at Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN), and 1 sighted in Colchester on 10/5 (CAM, WGE, et al.). Interesting was the sighting of an albino of this species on 8/18 on Fish Bladder I. in Grand Isle County (RWK, Jok). Maximum counts of the rather early departing Bank Swallow were 50 on 8/1 at Lake Hardwick (MFH), and 50 on 8/12 at Dead Creek WMA (GFE, WGE et al.). The latest reports this Autumn were 8/28 with 24+ sighted in Quechee (WGE), and 8/30 when 1 was seen at Dead Creek WMA (WJN). All of the maximum counts of the Barn Swallow were from the Dead Creek WMA. 100+ were seen there on 8/12 (GFE, WGE et al.), 120+ were seen on 8/18 (WGE, Gle), and 100+ were noted there on 8/30 (WJN). Later individuals were 1 at the WHL on 9/12 (WJN), and 2 found in Burlington on 9/14 (WGE). The Cliff Swallow was reported in small numbers for the most part during August, the best count achieved was 30+ on 8/28 at Quechee (WGE), and the last reported were 10 on 9/10 at the WHL (WJN). The Purple Martin was reported in small numbers and departed earlier than usual. The best count was 4-5 on 8/19 in Colchester (GFE, WGE et al.); the last seen was 1 on 8/30 at the Dead Creek WMA (WJN).

#### JAYS THROUGH WRENS

The elusive Gray Jay was reported only from the unincorporated town of Ferdinand. 3 were banded there by Marion Metcalf, 1-2 were heard there on 8/1 (LNM, WGE, MFZ), and 7 were seen there on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE, MFH et al.). The Blue Jay may have been in slightly higher numbers. 36 of 52 banded were caught in Marshfield (MFH, VINS) and the per day average at Burlington was 9 (WGE). The banding results are somewhat better than in previous years perhaps indicating higher than average numbers. The Common Raven was reported from Hancock (2), South Strafford (2), South Newfane (2), Timmough (2 dates), Norwich, 10 on 10/7 at Gile Mt. in Norwich, Winhall (throughout season with a maximum of 10 on 11/1), Marshfield (up to 2 on 3 dates), Ferdinand (6), Plainfield (3), Addison (2 from Snake Mt.) and on Mt. Mansfield. This great bird obviously is now widespread, if uncommon, in Vermont including areas where it had been extirpated in the recent past. The single best flight day this Autumn for those Common Crows that choose to leave the Green Mountain state seems to have been 10/22 with ca. 2000+ seen at Chimney Pt. (JID, MCD), and about 500+ more seen at Dead Creek WMA (WJN); another good count was 400+ on 11/5 at Burlington (WGE). The Black-capped Chickadee was seen in its usual high numbers. 10 per day were seen in Burlington (WGE), 7-9 per day were reported from Woodstock (JMN), 10-12 per day was the report from Randolph (EWC, MCC), and counts up to 18 were achieved in South Strafford during the season (HR). Eighty-six were banded for the fall, 58 in Marshfield, for an average season (MFH, VINS). There were four reports of the Boreal Chickadee. 6 were seen in Ferdinand on 9/9 (MFH, BSE, ORE, WGE et al.), 1 was seen at Sterling Pond in Smuggler's Notch on 10/26 (PFZ), 1 was located in Burlington on 10/27 (WGE), the last report was of 1 found in Winhall on 11/12 (WJN). Apparently there was a limited amount of wandering by this boreal species later in the season. Unprecedented is the best way to describe this autumn's invasion of the Tufted Titmouse. At least 36 were reported from feeders around the state. Reports were received from: Rochester (4 on 10/22), Stockbridge, Woodstock, Bethel, Springfield, North Pomfret, Reading, Burlington (2), Norwich, Guilford (4), Dummerston, North Ferrisburg (2), Dorset (2), South Newfane (2), Winhall, East Barre, Plainfield (banded), Marlboro (3-4), Manchester (2), Arlington (2) and Rupert (2). Both the White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported in about average numbers, 3 of the latter and 2 of the former were banded last autumn (VINS, MFH). The Brown Creeper was also noted in normal numbers; 7 were banded this fall with 5 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS); the best count of the season was 6 at South Newfane on 10/27 (BBO). The House Wren was not noted in unusual numbers; 3 were banded, 2 at South Woodstock (VINS, MFH), the last sighted was 1 in Burlington on 10/12 (WGE). There were mixed opinions regarding the status of the Winter Wren. Norse felt this Autumn's flight was about average with several days with 2-3 individuals seen in Winhall; Ellison on the other hand felt the species continued in diminished numbers, as he saw very few; 5 total were banded this fall, 4 of them at Marshfield (MFH, VINS). The latest reported was 1 at Winhall on 10/30 (WJN). The Long-billed Marsh Wren was reported in relatively small numbers from western Vermont. The seasonal maximum of 10 was recorded on 8/30 at the Dead Creek WMA (WJN); 4+ were seen in Colchester on 9/19 (BSE, ORE, WGE), 1 was seen at Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 the latest date from there (WJN); 1 noted at Colchester on 10/18 was the season's latest report (WGE, JHe et al.).

#### HIMIDS THROUGH THRUSHES

4 observers report the Mockingbird; 2 were seen in Rutland on 10/19 (NLN), 2 were seen most of the season in Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), and 4 were noted throughout the fall in Burlington (WGE). In Westford, young left the nest 8/18 (PJK). This entertaining and aggressive species appears to be holding its own in our patently cold and blustery state. Twenty-five of 46 Gray Catbirds banded this fall were netted at South Woodstock, with maximum counts of 4 on both 8/9 and 8/30 (VINS, MFH). The maximum field reports indicate that the best flight of the season was during the last two days of August with 10 at Dead Creek WMA on 8/30 (WJN) and 15 seen in Hartford on 8/31 (WGE). Another good flight seemed to occur in the third week of September with high counts from Woodstock and Clarendon (JMN, LHP); the last reported was 1 seen in Wilmington on 10/18 (WDH). The Brown Thrasher was as usual reported in lower numbers than the Catbird. Just 2 were banded (VINS); the best count was 4 on 8/31 at Hartford (WGE); late dates were: 10/13 with 1 at Timmough (GTL) and 11/5 when 1 was sighted at Colchester (BSE, WGE). The American Robin was reported in average numbers. A total of 32 were banded this fall, 27 at South Woodstock (VINS, MFH). Maximum counts were: 70+ from 9/6-9/7 in Burlington (WGE), 50+ at Woodstock on 9/27 (JMN), 100 at Plainfield on 10/11 (MFH), 100 at Winhall on 10/25 (WJN), and the peak dates at Clarendon were considered to be 10/25-10/31 (LHP). Robins continued in diminished numbers through November with a few lingering into December. Twenty-nine Wood Thrushes were banded this fall, 22 of them at South Woodstock, this indicating an average season (VINS, MFH); the best count this season was 7 on 8/24 at South Woodstock (VINS), the last reported was 1 banded at South Woodstock on 10/13 (VINS). The Hermit Thrush was reported in normal numbers with the peak of its migration in mid-October; 74 were banded this Autumn, 47 at Marshfield and Ferdinand (MFH, VINS); maximum counts were 8 at South Woodstock on 10/12, sandwiched by days when 6 apiece were caught (VINS), and 5 on 10/5 at Winhall (WJN). The latest reports were: 1 at Winhall on 10/24 (WJN), and 1 on 10/31 at South Woodstock (VINS). Following a trend that became apparent two years ago, the Swinson's Thrush was one of the commoner and more prominent migrants of

the season. 210 were banded this fall, 114 in Marshfield and 96 in South Woodstock (MFH, VINS), maximum counts were: 11 on 9/8 at South Woodstock (VINS), 9 on 9/16 at Norwich (GFE, WGE), and 10 on 9/17 at Winhall (WJN), the latest reported was 1 netted at South Woodstock on 10/20 (VINS). As usual, there were a handful of reports of the Gray-cheeked Thrush. 4 total were banded, 2 at South Woodstock (VINS, MFH); other reports were: 1 at Winhall on 9/3 (WJN), another there on 9/8 (WJN), 1 banded at Shelburne on 9/19 (CAW et al.), 1 seen in Colchester also on 9/19 (WGE, BSE). Both birds banded at South Woodstock were caught at later dates, the latest on 10/12 (VINS). Twenty-nine Veeries were banded this fall with 20 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS); high counts were: 4 at South Woodstock on 8/2 (VINS), and 15 at Winhall a day later (WJN). The late dates were: 3 at Norwich on 9/16 (WGE, GFE), and 1 at South Woodstock on 9/21 (VINS). There were twelve reports of the Eastern Bluebird involving about 100 birds; high counts were: 25 seen in Chester on 9/10 (DEH), and 25+ at Clarendon on 9/25 (LHP). The latest sightings were: 1 in Arlington on 11/1 (Mrs. Davis fide NS), and 11/3 when 1 was sighted in Clarendon (LHP).

#### KINGLETS THROUGH VIREOS

Numbers of the Golden-crowned Kinglet improved somewhat over last year's. Sixteen were banded, with 13 by Marion Metcalf (versus 5 last fall) (MFH, VINS). The peak flight days of the season appear to have been 10/15 (24+ at Burlington) and 10/16 (26+ at Winhall). The species continued into the winter months in small numbers. The Ruby-crowned Kinglet continues in about the same numbers as the past two autumns. 52 were banded this year (49 and 48 in 1976 and '77) with 41 at northern stations (MFH, VINS). The peak flight appears to have been in mid-October with most high counts occurring then; latest were: 1 at Burlington on 10/27 (WGE) and 1 at Winhall on 10/29 (WJN). An interesting report was of an apparent post-breeder heard singing in Woodstock on 8/4 (JMN). There were 11 reports of the Water Pipit. The earliest sighted was 1 at Stratton Mt. on 9/17 (ACB); 2 were seen in Shelburne on 9/19 (WGE, CAW et al.); 1 was sighted in Barre on 9/22 (RDE), 7 were noted in Shelburne on 9/27 (WGE, BSE, ORE); 3-4 were found in Cambridge on 10/1 (WGE); 3 were reported from Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN), 4 were sighted in Colchester on 10/5 (CAW, WGE et al.), 1 flew over the WHL on 10/5 (WJN); 30-40 were noted at Quechee on 10/11 (EH); 35-40 were reported from Woodstock on 10/12 (ALG); and 1 was seen in Burlington on 10/12 (WGE). One of the most intriguing and perplexing reports of the Autumn involved the report of a SPRAGUE'S PIPIT from the Dead Creek WMA on 8/13. While the detailed report Teaves Little doubt that the bird was a pipit and not a Water Pipit, it is not clear at all that the bird was ascribable to this prairie species and not to a complex of very similar Eurasian species, the most likely of which is the Meadow Pipit which breeds in Greenland. However the strongest case appears at this time to be for Sprague's. Unfortunately without specimen or photograph a definite identity for this bird remains a mystery (BBP, JP). Also extraordinary was the report of a single Bohemian Waxwing seen on Mt. Mansfield on 9/22 far and away the earliest Fall arrival of this rare winter visitor to Vermont and perhaps also for Northern New England as a whole (PFZ). The Cedar Waxwing has a reputation as a late breeder, so a nest with 2 eggs on 8/15 in West Arlington was only mildly surprising, being perhaps two weeks later than normal (CSC). The species was noted in good numbers early in the season with counts of 50+ at Clarendon on 8/25 (LHP), and 110+ on 9/9 in Charleston (BSE, ORE, WGE, MLY). 6 were banded this season by Marion Metcalf. The species remained into the winter in large numbers in the Champlain Valley with a count of 100+ on 11/28 in Ferrisburg (JID, MCD). Ten Northern Shrikes were reported, exceeding last year's tally by one and equaling that of 1976. First was 1 seen in Colchester from 10/18-11/5 (WGE et al.), 1 was located in East Craftsbury on 10/22 and another was seen in Albany the same day (FO), 1 was noted in Timmough from 10/31-11/25 (GTL), 1 was found in Pomfret on 11/4 (EEB), an immature was sighted in Burlington on 11/4 (WGE, BSE, ORE), 1 was noted in Pomfret on 11/8 (JLB), 1 was seen in Quechee on 11/11 (CSG), 1 was reported from Plainfield on 11/18 (MFH) and an adult was sighted in Burlington on 11/19 (WGE). There was one report of the scarce Loggerhead Shrike - a family group of 5 was found in Ferrisburg on 8/7 (JID, MCD). This is encouraging news in the face of distressing declines suffered by this species throughout its northern range. The Eurasian Starling seems to be more than holding its own in the face of recent harsh winters. As usual, there were few reports of the Yellow-throated Vireo. On 8/6 an adult was seen apparently carrying food to young in Sharon (GFE). Late dates were: 1 on 8/31 at Hartford (WGE), and 1 seen in Clarendon on 9/3 (LHP). There was an average flight of the Solitary Vireo; 23 were banded with 18 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS), maximum counts were generally around 3-4; the latest sighted was 1 at Winhall on 10/13 (WJN). The majority of the Red-eyed Vireo migration occurred in late August and the first week of September with the best counts being achieved on 8/31. 50 were banded, 40 at Marshfield which seemed about average (MFH, VINS), the last reported were 2 on 10/15 (WGE). Thirteen Philadelphia Vireos were seen this autumn matching last year's good total, 5 were banded at Marshfield (MFH), 1 was seen in Norton on 8/2 where there was suspected breeding in the Summer (LNM, WGE, MFZ); 1 was sighted in Hartford on 8/31 (WGE); 1 was reported from Norwich on 9/2 (WGE); 1 was noted in South Strafford on 9/3 (HR); 1 was found in Burlington on 9/10 (WGE); 1 was located in Colchester on 9/10 (WGE); 1 was sighted in South Newfane on 9/18 (BBO); the last reported was 1 at Colchester on 9/19 (BSE, WGE). The Warbling Vireo was reported throughout August in average numbers, the last reported were 4 sighted in Burlington on 9/7 (WGE).

#### WOOD WARBLERS

The Black-and-white Warbler was reported in about average numbers. 28 were banded this fall, with 15 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS). The best counts submitted were: 7 on 8/2 at South Woodstock (VINS) and 5 on 9/1 at Winhall (WJN). The latest reports were: 1 on 9/24 at Winhall (WJN), and 2 at South Woodstock on 9/26 (SBL, VINS). There was a single report of the uncommon Golden-winged Warbler - 1 was reported from Warren on 8/13 (JLB). Forty total Tennessee Warblers were caught and banded this fall, 38 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS). The best count of the season was 24+ on 8/31 at Hartford (WGE), about 4 per day were seen in Burlington. The records tend to indicate a smaller flight this year than in the recent past. The latest report was of 2 seen in Burlington on 10/20 (WGE). There were two reports of the rare Orange-crowned Warbler; 1 was banded on 8/30 at Marshfield (MFH), and 1 was seen in Winhall for the second consecutive fall on 9/22 (WJN). The Nashville Warbler was reported in average numbers, 27 were netted, 20 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS); the high count of 6 was on 8/31 in Hartford (WGE); the last reported was 1 banded at South Woodstock on 10/19 (VINS). There were the usual handful of Northern Parula reports: 2 were banded at Marshfield (MFH), 3 were seen in Hartford on 8/31 (WGE), 1 was seen in Norwich on 9/17 (WGE, GFE), 1 was noted in Colchester on 9/19 (WGE), the last reported was 1 found in Winhall on 9/22 (WJN). The Yellow Warbler was in about average numbers.

File 78

A maximum of 15+ was reported from Dead Creek WMA on 8/12 (GFE, WGE et al.). Most Yellow Warblers departed by early September as usual but 2 were banded at Shelburne on 10/8 (CAW). The Magnolia Warbler declined versus totals from previous autumns; 15 were banded at South Woodstock (VINS) and high counts were: 7 at Winhall on 9/1 (WJN), and 6+ at Woodstock (JMN), the last was 1 banded at South Woodstock on 10/11 (VINS). Fewer Cape May Warblers were banded this fall with only 1 caught at Marshfield (MFH); however Field reports improved slightly. The earliest migrants of this species detected were: 1 at Colchester on 8/19 (GFE, WGE et al.), and 1 seen in Winhall on 9/22 (WJN). High counts were: 6 at Hartford on 8/31 (WGE), 9 at Wilder on 9/1 (WGE) and 4 at Winhall on 9/10 (WJN). The latest reported was 1 at Winhall on 9/27 (WJN). Sixty-four of 72 Black-throated Blue Warblers were banded at Marshfield this autumn (MFH, VINS). The peak numbers of the season occurred in the second week of September with the best count being 5 on 9/10 at Winhall (WJN), the last reported was 1 netted at South Woodstock on 10/13 (VINS). The Yellow-rumped Warbler was reported in somewhat higher than normal numbers. 142 were banded this fall, 108 at Marshfield - a rather higher than usual total (MFH, VINS). High counts were: 50+ on 9/17 at Norwich (WGE), 300 on 9/19 at Herrick's Cove (LNM, MCH), 50+ at Woodstock on 9/23 (JMN), 50 at Herrick's Cove on 9/24 (WJN), 50+ at Clarendon on 9/25 (LHP), and 70+ at Colchester on 10/5 (CAW, WGE et al.). The last was one seen in Winhall on 11/8 (WJN). The Black-throated Green Warbler was reported in average numbers; 28 were banded by Marion Metcalf in Marshfield and Ferdinand. The best counts of the season included: 7+ at Woodstock on 9/6 (JMN), 5 at Winhall on 9/13 (WJN), and 6+ at Norwich on 9/17 (WGE). The last reported were 2 on 10/15 in Burlington (WGE). About average numbers of the Blackburnian Warbler were reported. 21 were banded, 20 from Marshfield (MFH, VINS). The best counts were from late August and the first week of September - 5 were seen in Woodstock on 8/30 (JMN), 3 were noted at Winhall on 9/3 (WJN), and 8 were reported from Hartford on 9/3 (WGE). The last reported was South Woodstock banding station's only individual of the season on 9/27 (VINS). Thirty-three of 35 Chestnut-sided Warblers were netted at Marshfield (MFH, VINS); the best count was 10 on 8/5 at Winhall (WJN); the latest dates were: 9/15 with 1 at Winhall (WJN); and 2 seen at Norwich on 9/16 (GFE, WGE). The earliest Bay-breasted Warblers were 1 at Hartford on 8/17 (WGE), and 1 at Winhall on 8/21 (WJN), 23 were banded, 15 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS), high counts were: 6 at Hartford on 8/31 (WGE), 5 at Winhall on 9/1 (WJN), and 12+ at Norwich on 9/17 (WGE); the latest reported was 1 banded at Shelburne on 10/2 (CAW). The earliest fall arrivals in lowland areas of the Blackpoll Warbler were 8/30 at Marshfield (MFH), and 9/2 at Norwich (WGE). 17 were banded, 8 at South Woodstock and 9 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS). The peak of the migration in eastern Vermont appears to have been 9/8-9/11 with high counts from Woodstock and South Woodstock; the latest reported was 1 seen at Colchester on 10/4 (CAW et al.). There were 5 reports of the Pine Warbler. 1 was noted at Woodstock on 8/12 (JMN), 1 was sighted at North Ferrisburg on 9/1 (JID, MCD), 1 was seen in Burlington on 9/26 (WGE), 1 was found at the WHL on 10/8 (WJN), and 3 were reported from Tinnmouth on 10/11 (GTL). There were a handful of reports of the Palm Warbler. 1 was sighted in Dummerston on 9/19 (BBo), the best count of the season was 5-6 on 9/20 at South Newfane (BBo). 1 was banded at South Woodstock on 9/27 (VINS), 1 was seen at Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN), 1 was banded at Shelburne on 10/5 (fide CAW), 1 was found at Colchester on 10/5 (WGE, CAW et al.), 1 was banded at Plainfield on 10/8 (MFH), 1 was reported from Winhall on 10/12 (WJN), and the last was seen in Burlington on 10/20 (WGE). Thirty-one of 59 Ovenbirds were caught in Marshfield (MFH, VINS), maximum counts were: 8 on 8/3 at Winhall (WJN), and 5 on 8/16 at South Woodstock (VINS); the last reported was 1 netted at South Woodstock on 10/19 (VINS). The Northern Waterthrush was reported in slightly below average numbers with 9 banded at South Woodstock and Marshfield (MFH, VINS), maximum counts were: 3 on 9/7 at Burlington (WGE), 2 at South Woodstock on 9/14 (VINS), and 3 banded at Shelburne on 10/6 (CAW); the last of 6 banded during early October at Shelburne was 1 on the eighth (CAW). The final date of a series of reports of a single Louisiana Waterthrush in Hartford was 8/17 (GFE). There were fewer than usual Mourning Warblers banded this fall but this may have been due to a cutback in banding at South Woodstock; 7 total were banded, 4 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS). Field reports included: 1 at Woodstock on 8/30 (JMN), 1 at Wilder on 9/1 (WGE), 1 at North Ferrisburg on 9/1 (JID, MCD), and 1 at Winhall on 9/10 (WJN). The birds banded at South Woodstock were all netted at later dates, the last on 10/13 (VINS). Once again there was a single report of the scarce CONNECTICUT WARBLER. Whit Nichols found 1 at Marlboro on 9/20. The Common Yellowthroat was just that with 108 banded, 84 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS). High counts were: 9 on 8/31 at Hartford (WGE), and 20 at Winhall on 9/22 (WJN). The last reported was 1 at Burlington on 10/20 (WGE). There were two reports of the rare Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 was seen in Pomfret on 8/19 (LNM, MCH), and 1 was seen on the exceptional date of 10/14 in Shelburne (BDF, CR). Numbers of the Wilson's Warbler seemed to be somewhat lower this autumn. 11 were banded, 8 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS); early migrants were 1 at Marshfield on 8/16 (MFH), 1 at Clarendon on 8/20 (LHP) and 1 at Hartford on 8/22 (WGE). 1 per day was seen in Burlington with no counts exceeding 2; the last reported was 1 banded at Shelburne on 10/3 (fide CAW). The Canada Warbler was reported in average numbers with 66 banded, 47 in Marshfield (MFH, VINS); as usual the majority of the migration occurred in August with maximum counts of 7 on 8/6 at Winhall (WJN) and 5 on 8/9 at South Woodstock (SBL, VINS). The latest was 1 at Tinnmouth on 9/24 (GTL). Average numbers of the American Redstart were reported this fall. 44 were banded, 34 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS), most high counts were between 8/26 and 9/2; the last reported was an exceptional late October individual on 10/19 banded at South Woodstock (VINS).

HOUSE SPARROW THROUGH Tanager

Numbers of the House Sparrow were stable. Maximum counts of the Bobolink were: 30 on 8/13 at White River Junction (WGE, GFE), 50+ at Clarendon on 8/25 (LHP), and 30 at Dead Creek WMA on 8/30 (WJN). The last individuals reported were 1 at Winhall on 9/6 (WJN) and 1 at Island Pond on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE, MLY). The best counts of the Eastern Meadowlark were: 25 on 8/30 at Dead Creek WMA (WJN), and 24+ at Woodstock on 9/24 (SBL, JDL), the latest reported was 1 at Dead Creek WMA on 11/4 (WJN). The Red-winged Blackbird continues to thrive, with high counts being 1000+ at Clarendon on 10/2 (LHP), and 500+ at Woodstock on 10/14 (SBL, JDL). A roost once again developed in Burlington this fall with an estimated 10,000-15,000 birds spending evenings at the interval; small numbers continued into December. The majority of the Northern Oriole flight occurred in August with most high counts from the last three days of that month; the last reported was 1 at a South Newfane feeder from 10/26-11/1 (BBo). The best flight of the Rusty Blackbird in many years occurred this autumn. There were 6 total reports beginning on 9/7 with 20 at Cabot (MFH), 50+ at Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN), 150+ were seen in Colchester on 10/3 (CAW, WGE et al.). The best count of the season and one of the best in recent memory was 5000+ on 10/5 at Clarendon (LHP). The last

reported was 1 on 10/12 at Burlington (WGE). Both the Common Grackle and the Brown-headed Cowbird appeared to be in average numbers despite rather low high counts of 150+ for each species. Numbers of the Scarlet Tanager seemed about average with 21 total banded, 13 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS). The best counts reported were: 10 on 9/1 at Wilder (WGE), 6+ at Clarendon on 9/3 (LHP), 8 on 9/7 at Burlington (WGE), and 7-9 at Woodstock on 9/11 (JMN); the latest reported were 2 at Burlington on 9/29 (WGE).

FINCHES, BUNTINGS AND SPARROWS

The Cardinal was widely reported from the valley areas of the state. 3 per day were noted at Burlington (WGE); they were considered "common throughout the season" in Clarendon (LHP); and 2 were banded at Plainfield including a hatch year bird (MFH). The Rose-breasted Grosbeak returned to normal numbers after last autumn's bonus numbers. 15 were banded, 13 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS); high counts were: 10 on 8/3 at Winhall (WJN) and 12+ on 8/25 at Clarendon (LHP). The last reported was 1 at Colchester on 10/5 (CAW et al.). The Indigo Bunting was sparsely reported as usual; 3 were banded at South Woodstock (VINS); high counts included 9 at Brandon on 8/18 (WGE, Gle), and 9 at Hartford on 8/31 (WGE). The latest reports were: 1 at Clarendon on 9/25 (LHP), and 1 banded at Shelburne on 10/4 (fide CAW). The Evening Grosbeak was reported in good though not exceptional numbers. The species arrived for the season in early August. A notably early date for the Champlain Valley was 8/4 at North Ferrisburg (JID, MCD); high counts included 200+ at Barnard on 11/21 (RLe), 100+ at Clarendon on 11/22 (LHP), and 60 at Plainfield on 11/30 (MFH). The Purple Finch departed the state again this autumn with good numbers banded and a good flight reported from October; 100 of 108 banded were netted at Marshfield and Plainfield (MFH, VINS). High counts were: 25+ on 10/7 at Gile Mt. in Norwich (GFE, WGE), and 40 at the WHL on 10/25 (WJN). A few individuals were reported into the winter months. There were 4 reports of uncommon but increasing House Finch; 1 was seen in Woodstock on 9/7 (LNM), 1 was reported from South Woodstock on 9/13 (IMS), 1 was sighted at Herrick's Cove (WJN), and 1 was banded at Shelburne in late September (CAW). Widespread reports and good numbers augured a good flight year for the Pine Grosbeak; earliest were 3 on 10/27 at Stone's Throw in East Craftsbury (FO, JW). Subsequent reports included: 1 at Burlington on 10/31 (WGE), 3 at Winhall on 11/5 (WJN). Norse reported seeing groups of 25 on several days thereafter. 3 were seen in Cabot on 11/7 (LNM), 10 were reported from Marshfield Pond on 11/11 (MFH), 8 were found in Shelburne on 11/11 (BSE, ORE, WGE et al.), 9-10 were seen at Madonna Peak on 11/12 (WGE, JHe et al.), 2 were at Quechee on 11/15 (LD), 10 were noted at the Barre Reservoir on 11/19 (MFH), 5 were sighted in Clarendon on 11/20 (LHP), and 23 were seen in Cabot on 11/30 (LNM). Very few Pine Siskin reports were received this fall. A good flight does not appear likely for this species. 1 was seen at Maidstone Lake from 8/1-8/3 (LNM, WGE, MFZ); 1 was seen at Winhall on 8/8 (WJN); there were no reports between this date and 10/1 when 6 were seen in Cambridge (WGE). After this date a small flight was noted in late October in Winhall beginning on 10/11 with 3 birds and peaking on the 19th with a count of 20 (WJN). Numbers of the American Goldfinch seemed about average; 7 were banded, 6 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS), 5 per day were seen in Burlington (WGE), a maximum of 100 was reported from Winhall on 10/30 (WJN); the species continued into the winter months with scattered flocks reported from feeders. There was a single report of the Red Crossbill; 4 were seen in Cabot on 11/9 (MFH). The White-winged Crossbill was reported only twice, 6 were seen in Norton on 8/2 (LNM, WGE, MFZ), and 4 were reported from the Barre Reservoir on 10/5 (MFH, LNM). Numbers of the Rufous-sided Towhee were average; 3 were banded at South Woodstock (VINS); maximum counts were 4 at Tinnmouth on 8/5 (GTL), and 5 on 9/27 at Winhall (WJN); the latest reported was 1 on 10/11 at Tinnmouth (GTL). The Savannah Sparrow was reported in good numbers with maximum counts being 40+ at White River Junction on 9/16 (WGE), 36+ on 9/23 at Dead Creek WMA (BSE, ORE, WGE), and 10 at Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN). The last sighted was 1 at Burlington on 10/20 (WGE). There were 6 reports of the uncommon Vesper Sparrow. 3 were found in Averill on 8/3 (LNM, WGE, MFZ), 3 were seen in Addison on 8/12 (GFE, WGE et al.), 5-6 were reported from Panton on 8/18 (WGE, Gle), 1 was noted at White River Junction on 9/16 (WGE), 4 were sighted in Burlington on 10/12 (WGE), and 1 was seen at Dead Creek WMA on 10/22 (WJN). Rather late was a Dark-eyed Junco nest with 3 eggs found at Maidstone Lake SP on 8/2 (MFZ, LNM, WGE). 155 juncos were banded this fall, 74 at South Woodstock and 81 at Northern stations (MFH, VINS). The best counts of the season occurred between 10/10-10/15 with 80+ at South Newfane on 10/10 (BBo), 75+ at Burlington on 10/12 (WGE), 525+ at Clarendon on 10/12 (LHP), 34 banded at South Woodstock on 10/13 (VINS), and "hundreds" on Church Hill in Woodstock on 10/15 (JMN). Good numbers continued into late October and much smaller numbers remained into December. The earliest returning Tree Sparrow was found in Quechee on 10/12 (EH); other early dates were 1 on 10/20 at Winhall (WJN), and 2 at Tinnmouth on 10/23 (GTL). Small flocks were seen around the state by the fourth week of October. The best counts of the season were from early November with 50 at the Dead Creek WMA on 11/4 (WJN) and 30+ at Shelburne on 11/5 (BSE, ORE, WGE). The species had settled into its regular winter haunts by the end of the month. Seldom netted in the fall, 3 Tree Sparrows were banded in Plainfield by Marion Metcalf. The Chipping Sparrow seemed to be in average numbers; 3 were banded, 2 at Marshfield (MFH, VINS), high counts were: 25+ on 9/3 in Clarendon (LHP), 50+ at Island Pond on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE, MLY), and 50+ at South Newfane on 9/27 (BBo), the latest reported was 1 seen in South Newfane on 10/31 (BBo). There were a handful of reports of the Field Sparrow, a family group was reported from Brighton on 8/2 (LNM, WGE, MFZ), 3 were seen in Hartford on 9/4 (GFE, WGE), 1 was banded at South Woodstock on 9/13 (VINS), 3 were noted in Norwich on 9/17 (WGE), 1 was sighted in Woodstock on 9/24 (SBL, JDL), 2-3 were found at Quechee on 10/8 (WGE), 1 was banded in Plainfield on 10/9 (MFH), 1 was reported from Winhall on 10/12 (WJN), and the last reported was 1 seen in Tinnmouth from 10/17-10/18 (GTL). There were three separate reports of the White-crowned Sparrow on the early date of 9/24, the first of three banded at Marshfield (MFH), 1 at Herrick's Cove (WJN) and an immature, the first of 40 on 10 dates at Burlington (WGE). The best counts were: 4 at South Newfane on 10/10 (BBo), 14+ at Burlington on 10/12 (WGE), and ca. 5-6 at Bethel on 10/15 (AS), the last reported was 1 at Tinnmouth on 11/11 (GTL). As usual the White-throated Sparrow was a common and conspicuous migrant. 268 were banded for the autumn with 174 at Northern stations (MFH, VINS), the best counts of the season were: 80+ at Colchester on 9/19 (BSE, ORE, WGE), 100+ on 9/27 at South Newfane (BBo), 80+ in Burlington on 10/2 (WGE), 24 at South Woodstock on 10/3 (VINS), 80+ at Colchester on 10/5 (CAW, WGE et al.), and 200 were seen at Dead Creek WMA on 10/22 (WJN). The species stayed on into the winter in diminished numbers. The Fox Sparrow was well reported, earliest reported were 1 at Gale Meadows on 9/24 (WJN), and 1 banded at Marshfield, also on 9/24 (MFH). Other reports include 2 at South Newfane on 10/10 (BBo), 2 seen in Burlington on 10/12 (WGE), 1 banded at Plainfield on 10/12 (MFH), 5 of South Woodstock's 14 individuals banded were caught on 10/19 including a very "sooty" bird which may represent an

Individual from one of the Pacific Coastal races (VINS). 5 were seen in Clarendon on 11/1 (LHP), 5-6 were noted in South Newfane on 11/5 (BBo), this count increasing to the seasonal maximum of 12+ on 11/7 (BBo). Another group of 6+ birds was noted at South Newfane from 11/12-11/16 (BBo), 3 were seen in Winhall on 11/14 (WJN). The last reported were 1 at Winhall on 11/22 (WJN) and 1 in Burlington on 11/29 (FCH). A total of 35 Lincoln's Sparrows were reported by field observers beginning on 8/2; birds were reported from Marshfield, Plainfield, Island Pond, Colchester, Burlington (14 on 7 dates), Woodstock, West Brattleboro, Winhall and South Strafford. Nineteen were banded this autumn, 15 at South Woodstock (VINS, MFM). Maximum counts were 3 at Island Pond on 9/9 (BSE, ORE, WGE, MLY), 3 at Colchester on 9/10 and 10/5 (WGE, BSE, ORE, CAW), and 4 banded at South Woodstock on 10/12 (SBL, VINS). The latest reported was 1 at West Brattleboro on 10/25 (BBo). Thirteen of 15 Swamp Sparrows banded were netted at Marshfield (MFM, VINS); maximum counts were 10 at Dead Creek WMA on 10/3 (WJN), and 9 at Colchester on 10/5 (CAW, WGE et al.); 3 per day were reported from Burlington for the season. The latest report was of a single bird seen in Winhall on 10/31 (WJN). Song Sparrows were still feeding fledgling young in Woodstock in the first week of August (JHN). The species occurred in its usual abundance with a seasonal maximum of 50+ at Clarendon 11/11-11/15 (LHP). In general maxima were scattered throughout the season without a discernable peak and a number of individuals of the species remained into the winter. There was a normal total of 7 reports of the Snow Bunting with good counts occurring in late October and early November; earliest were 75 at Addison on 10/20 (WS). 200+ were seen in Addison on 10/27 (WS), 100+ were reported from Dead Creek WMA on 11/4 (WJN); 18 were noted at Colchester on 11/5 (BSE, ORE, WGE), a migrant was heard calling overhead at night on 11/7 in Burlington (WGE), 1 was found in Bethel on 11/10 (JHa), and 2 were sighted in Burlington on 11/19 (BSE, ORE, WGE).

Contributors are reminded to send in rare and unusual bird sightings at once (or to call the Vermont Bird Alert) and to submit seasonal cards promptly at the end of each season. This publication is only as complete as you make it. If you need sighting cards, write VINS, Woodstock 05091. Or, call us at 457-2779.

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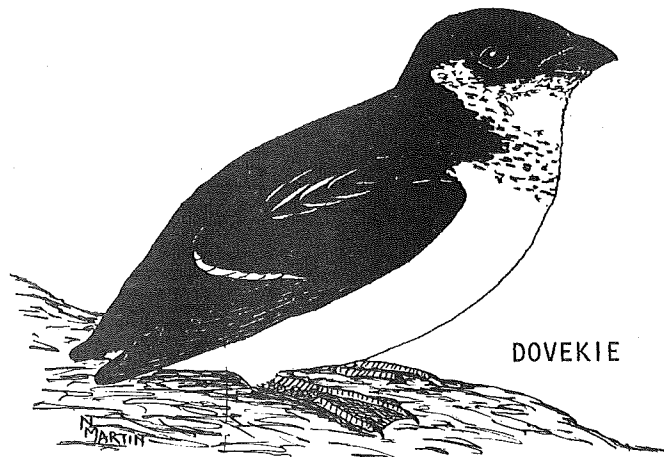
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RECORDS OF VERMONT BIRDS  
FALL MIGRATION 1978 (PUBLISHED JANUARY 1980)



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EXAMPLE: Golden Snow 30SA 10B 11D means that Snow Geese are present from the last week in March (30) until the first week in May (10A) and again in the autumn from the second week in October (10B) through the last week in November (11D).																																			
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