

WINTER: 1 December 1973 - 30 March 1974

Sarah B. Laughlin

ANATIDAE: swans, ducks and geese

CANADA GEESE, 1 December, one report on Saxton River, Christmas Count (DC). In March the first were reported in Weathersfield by the Reservoir on fourth (EE); 17 March in Manchester Center, thirteen in the snow in Ricky Prum's backyard; 23 March, fifty-eight in Herrick's Cove, in Rockingham (DC); thirty in North Hero Bay (MFM) (GM) (ME); fifty in Randolph at tree level, 24 March (CCH).

MALLARDS, reported in December (on 16th) in Thetford, with three males and twenty-one females browsing (JAM); 15 December, ten on Saxon's River, Christmas Count (DC).

No reports through the winter until March, 9 March in Herrick's Cove (DC); 5 March in Westminster (RAB); and regularly through March.

BLACK DUCKS 8 December on Connecticut in Thetford (JAM); 5 December on Saxon's River, Christmas Count (DC). No reports until 8 March in Weathersfield (EE) and regularly thereafter.

PINTAIL, one male at Brattleboro's Retreat Meadows on 30 March (LPM) (ASW et al).

WOOD DUCKS, present on 15 December on Saxon's River (Christmas Count) (DC); report 29 March of three males and one female in Rutland (DLB).

RINGNECKED DUCKS, 30 March there were four males at Herrick's Cove (DC).

COMMON GOLDEN EYES, 15 December nine males and 3 females on Saxon's River (Christmas Count) (DC); not reported again until March (doubtlessly due to no one looking!) 9 March, three in Herrick's Cove (DC); 6 March, four on Ottaquechee near Woodstock (FM); 23 March from the Champlain Islands: thirty on Sandbar, thirteen on Grand Isle, seven on North Hero (MFM) (GM) (ME); 31 March twenty near Burlington (FO).

BUFFLEHEAD, one reported on Lake Champlain near Burlington, 31 March (FO).

HOODED MERGANSERS Again, there are no reports from December until early March, with (JAM) reporting three females on Lake Fairlee on 16 December and the next report 9 March, three on North Springfield Reservoir (EE); two on Connecticut near Hartford (GE) (WE); 9 March, three in Weathersfield (EE); 16 March, two in the snow in Rockingham (DC); two on the Connecticut in Hartford (GE) (WE); one in Danby (RAB); 31 March, four on Champlain near Burlington (FO).

Common Mergansers were reported throughout the winter as would be expected with a wary group of thirty-five on the Connecticut near Hartford on December (JAM); twenty on the Saxton River (Christmas Count) 15 December (DC); Don Clarke adds that they have been present every winter for the last three years, spending mornings sleeping or feeding on the ice below the Route 12 bridge in Gageville and moving upstream or occasionally downstream to the Connecticut during the day. Reported 23 February on the Lamoille in Cambridge (FO) (JW); 3 March, thirteen on Connecticut in Hartford (GE) (WE); 10 March in Weathersfield at the Reservoir (EE); 6 March on Ottaquechee with sixteen the high there on 18 March (FM); from 14-30 March at the Retreat meadows in Brattleboro (LPM) (AWS); 31 March on Lake Champlain (FO).

CATHARTIDAE - VULTURES

Only one sighting during the winter period, with a TURKEY VULTURE in Rockingham on 8 March (TW).

ACCEPTRIDAE - Hawks and Eagles

GOSHAWK, 19 March, an adult flying along the Connecticut River near Fairlee (DZ).

SHARP-SHINNED, 12 March on, for two weeks a Sharp in (Guilford (LPM).

COOPERS, there were more reports of Coopers than of the other Accipiters: 7 January mature female perched on brush heap near Mrs. Wendell Weeks' home in Wallingford; 18 February at Sherry Mahady's bird feeder in Hartford where he dined on chickadee; 15 March, an immature "differing from Goshawk by size and wing angle (not indented) thus giving the bird a large-headed appearance" notes Tom Will in Londonderry.

RED-TAILED HAWKS were present all winter, with reports on 15 December from Saxon's River (DC); 22 January from Weathersfield (EE); 1 February from Thetford (DZ); 9 February from Taftsville (SBL); 28 February from Weathersfield (EE); 30 February from Thetford (DZ); 6 March from Danby (B&WW); 7 March two in Londonderry (TW); 8 March from Manchester Center (RPr); 15 March in Wolcott, two to three weeks early reports (LM); 18 March in Randolph (RGS); 18 March in Quechee (ELT); 19 March in West Brattleboro (ASW); 20 March in Pomfret (RL); 21 March, first sighted in Montpelier (FO); 22 March, pair in Bridgewater Corners (ND); 23 March in Hancock and again in Brandon (EH); with non-wintering individuals apparently returning late March - 24 March pair in Manchester (TW); Taftsville ((ND) individuals in Hartford, West Hartford, and Pomfret (EH); 25 March in South Woodstock; 28 March in Danby (B&WW); 29 March in Hartford (G&WE); (BBP) sums it up for the Champlain Valley as well as for Vermont "normal numbers in an open winter?".

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK reported from Woodstock, near a bird feeder, on 29 and 30 March (JMN).

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK, 19 December in Woodstock (FM); 2 January in Wolcott, perhaps hunting ducks (G&JY); 19 January in North Bridgewater (FM); a regular sighting from the Champlain Valley 31 January (BBP); 16 February, a light phase in Cornwall (BBP).

MARSH HAWK, 10 March in Brattleboro (LPM); 26 March in Wolcott (LM).

No report of OSPREY.

MERLIN OR PIGEON HAWK, an 11 February report (DC) was unable to confirm at a feeder in Westminster; 28 February on Church Hill in Woodstock (JMN); 17 March in Plainfield (LN); 20 March in Wallingford (B&WW); 20 March in Brattleboro (DVW).

AMERICAN KESTREL OR SPARROWHAWK, no reports from 15 December when two were at Saxton's River (DC); until 28 February in the Champlain Valley, where (BP) reports their numbers down; 31 February in Wolcott first of the year there (JY); regular reports thereafter through March.

WILD TURKEY, there is an uninitialed report of a male turkey present all winter at a Mrs. Crawford's bird feeder in East Arlington. The bird reportedly arrived regularly at 6:30 a.m!

RUFFED GROUSE reported throughout the winter.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT (introduced) roosts regularly throughout the winter on JMN's woodpile in Woodstock.

RAILIDAE no reports

CHARADRILDAE

KILLDEER returned on the 5th of March, according to our first reports: Weathersfield (EE); and Clarendon (B&WW) and were as far north as Plainfield on the 7th (ME) and Wolcott on the 15th (LM). Twenty-one were reported from Bennington on 24 March, (MU); 25 March, twenty, and in Manchester/Dorset (TW) (RD) (RPr).

SCOLOPACIDAE

AMERICAN WOODCOCK, first report was 5 March at Guilford (RG); 6 March one was picked up dead at the Hewitville School by teacher, Mrs. Dutton; 12 March, nesting displays in Guilford (RG).

No reports of Snipe, Upland Plover.

LARIDAE

GREAT BLACK-BACKED, only three observed, on Champlain on 31 March (FO).

HERRING GULLS, reported through the winter: 15 December on Connecticut (DC); 14 January on Ottaquechee (FM); March reports from Connecticut River (DC) (GE) (WE).

RING-BILLED GULLS, reported 2 March from White River Junction (DZ); 5 March from Weathersfield (EE); and from Burlington in late March, thirty-fourty on 31st (FO) (MFM).

COLUMBIDAE - Doves and pigeons
ROCK DOVES, around in numbers as always.

MOURNING DOVES, appear to be increasing in number and appearing more frequently at feeders. Reported regularly through winter from Wallingford (BW); Bennington (NS); three hundred plus on Saxton River, Christmas Count (DC); twenty-two in a tree in Sharon on 7 January (SBL) (MV, FM, SM, DLB, DC, G&WE, TW, MDE, RAB, E&MC, MR, AFS, BBP, WW, NS, DZ); returned to Plainfield 17 March (MM). Is anyone observing them regularly in winter in northern quarter of Vermont?

STRIGIDAE-OWLS

SCREECH OWL, detected only once this winter by RECORDS OF VERMONT BIRDS observers; Don Clarke got one to answer a recording in Grafton on 15 December.

GREAT-HORNED OWL, doubtlessly around far more than it is detected. This magnificent species was observed regularly in Wallingford (BW) (WW); 8 December in Woodstock (DJ); and in Hartford 16 March (GE) (WE).

SNOWY OWLS, two mid-January sightings from Middlebury were reported to (BBP) 21 February, one seen near West Glover (FO); 5 March one "very large" Snowy observed in West Hartford (TD) (PC). Not a big snowy winter.

BARRED OWLS, 13 February, a Barred observed on Christian Street near Hartford at 9:30 a.m. sitting on a telephone wire! (SM); 19 February near swampy area in White River Junction, at noon on a cloudy day (PC) (TD); 22 February in Norwich where I-91 crosses the Ompompanoo-

sic River (JAM): 1 March, one dead by I-91 in Norwich, now a Dartmouth College Museum specimen (SBL); in Shrewsbury dooryard on 31 March (PEP).

SAW-WHET OWL, only one reported by Larry Metcalf on the Goddard Campus in Plainfield. Larry describes the strange call of the Saw-whet: "the sound produced was not the typical sound described by the bird manuals; it was somewhere between a whistle and the sound produced when you forcefully pronounce "TOO".

ALCEDIIDAE-Kingfishers

BELTED KINGFISHERS, only one over-wintering report, from Woodstock on 19 January (EH); two reported from a Manchester-Dorset field trip on 24 March (TW) (TRD) (RPr).

PICIDAE

COMMON FLICKER, 4 March early date! - reported from Woodstock (JMN).

PILEATED WOODPECKER, apparently present in limited but stable numbers in Vermont, with reports during the winter from Shrewsbury (PEP); Londonderry, where more than one pair were present (TW); Quechee (FM, ECS); Sherburne on 16 December (PCH); Middlebury (BBP); Springfield (DC); and Bellows Falls where (DC) reports them enlarging a hole in an American Sycamore tree during March.

ARTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER, only one report from Ferdinand in the Northeast Kingdom, 18 February (BB).

HAIRY WOODPECKERS, common throughout and reported by many observers usually at feeders. Tom Will adds that Hairys are at least twice as common as Downys in his area; twenty-eight reported on Saxton River, Christmas Count.

DOWNY WOODPECKERS, common throughout and reported regularly at feeders with drumming beginning in late February (JMN); thirty-six reported from Saxton's River, Christmas Count.

TYRANNIDAE-Flycatchers

EASTERN PHOEBE, the Phoebes were back by the end of winter, with the earliest record 21 March in Plainfield in a heavy snowstorm (MFM); 25 March, Bennington (MU); 28 March, South Strafford (H&ER); 30 March, Manchester Center (RPr); Hartford on same date (GWE).

ALAUDIDAE

HORNED LARKS, 25 February flock of twenty-five and feeding in corn field stubble in South Royalton (SBL); 5 March and 14 March, flock of five in East Craftsbury (FO) (JW); 9 March, nine larks in Hartford-Hartland area (GE) (WE); 16 March, one in Rockingham (DC); 23 March, 8 in Rochester (EH). Best horned lark field trip of season report by (MFM, GN, & MC) from Montpelier to Lake Champlain on 23 March: Alburg, six; North Hero, two; Williston, forty; Colchester Pond, nineteen; South Hero, twenty-five; Sand Bar, ten; Keelers Bay, three; Grand Isle, twenty-eight; Montpelier, four; Waterbury, two; Burlington, eight.

CORVIDAE

CANADA JAY, reported from two locations this winter: 1 January at a Cabot feeder (BBC) and 18 February in Ferdinand (B&RB).

BLUE JAY, abundant throughout

COMMON RAVEN, ravens were seen regularly in a few locations: 30 January heard croaking overhead in Londonderry (TW); 18 February overhead in Ferdinand (BB); 23 February in Thetford, where JA Massey says "Spotting this bird soaring and gliding in the teeth of the wind, I thought to myself either here is the Jonathan Livingston Seagull of crows or the first Raven I've seen in Vermont". It then flew overhead showing the wedged shaped tail. 24 February through 29 February seen regularly along Connecticut near Fairlee (DZ); 26 February, two in Sharon; 1 March in Peru (TRD); regularly in March in Weathersfield (EE); 12 March in Woodstock (MLW); 22 March in Plainfield (MFM).

COMMON CROW, crow numbers reported up through the winter and regularly from 3 March on in flocks up to thirty or fifty, with the largest flocks of several hundreds moving through Middlebury 6 March (BBP); several observers report the thrill of hearing the crows returning and "talking" in late winter/early spring: Marion Metcalf notes that some people call this time of year "crow winter".

PARIDAE

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES, present at everyone's feeder; Tom Will reports several "waves" of visitants with an apparent peak in total winter population in late January and early February; Julie Nicholson reports the mating song "feeobee" starting in January in Woodstock.

BOREAL CHICKADEE, one on 16 February in Middlebury (BBP) and two in East Craftsbury on 14 March (FO).

SITTIDAE

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCHES, reported throughout winter at our regular observers' feeders.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCHES, reported in more numbers some places than the White-breasted: thirteen red-breasted in Middlebury, 17 February (BBP). Distribution seems spotty this winter, however; only one at a Woodstock feeder (FKT); one appearance at a South Strafford feeder on 15 March (H&ER); ratio of three white-breasted to one red-breasted reported in Londonderry (TW).

CERTHIDAE

BROWN CREEPERS, reported present throughout but not common; 7 March, first winter sighting in East Craftsbury (FO).

TROGLODYTIDAE

CAROLINA WREN, reported in two localities: 12 February in Saxton's River at a bird feeder (KS); March in Norwich at a feeder (SBL).

MIMIDAE

MOCKINGBIRD, one reported in Manchester Center on 26 March by Ricky Prum, who describes the "Flashmarks of white wing and tail patches".

BROWN THRASHER, one reported secondhand, 13 January, in Middlebury by BBP who didn't see it but will vouch for the observer.

TURDIDAE

ROBIN, one reported 15 December from woodstock (FM); three wintering robins in Bennington County (NS); migrants reported 1 March in Plainfield (R&LL). 5 March in Peru (TRD); 6 March in Bennington (MV); 7 March in Middlebury (BBP); 5 March in Woodstock (SMa); 15 March at Lake St. Catherine (RAB); 21 March in Weathersfield (EE); 29 March from East Poultney (AMH); one hundred plus reported from Bennington 24 March (MV).

BLUEBIRDS, sighted 8 March in Dorset (JesB); a pair 12 March in Sandgate (Davies); 15 March in Pittsford (EFP); pair on 18 March in Arlington (JDS); 29 March in Weathersfield (EE).

SYLVIIDAE

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLETS, definitely spent the winter in Vermont; twenty-three were counted on the Saxton's River, Christmas Count (DC); called fairly common in Londonderry until mid-March and, thereafter common (TW); 20 January, three birds feeding with five chickadees in Woodstock, came closer to observe the chickadees feeding from her hand (JMN); 28 February in Weathersfield (EE); three in Middlebury, 17 February (BBP); 14 February, fourteen in Peru (TW) (JF); one in Rutland, 31 March (DB).

No reports of **RUBY-CROWNED**.

BOMBYCILLIDAE

CEDARWAXWINGS, numbers down this winter; two reported from Saxton's River, Christmas Count (DC); two from Middlebury, 17 February (BBP).

LANIIDAE

NORTHERN SHRIKE, present through winter and observed in a number of locations: 21 December in Wallingford (W&BW); 22 December in Norwich (JAM); 1 January, an immature in Weybridge (BBP); 5 January in Plainfield (LM); 31 January, an adult in Middlebury and one in Cornwall

(BBP); 9 February in Londonderry chasing chickadees, who got away (TW); 24 February in Plainfield (LM); 3 March in Ferrisburg (CMH); 17 March in Wallingford (BW); 24 March in Barre (LM); 27 March in Manchester Center (RPr).

No **LOGGERHEAD SHRIKES** reported.

STURNIDAE

STARLINGS, unfortunately, returned in abundance and flocks in early March.

No reports of **VIREOS** or **WARBLERS**

HOUSE SPARROWS - abundant

ICTERIDAE

EASTERN MEADOWLARK, no reports of over-wintering Meadowlarks; first reported back in mid-March: 14 March in Wolcott (JY); 19 March in Barnard, at a feeding station amidst the snow (SM); 20 March in Wallingford (BW); 25 March, flock of fifteen, 27 March, flock of twenty-five, in Manchester Center (RPr); 26 March in Barnard and Rochester (RAB); 30 March, one eating corn in Randolph (EC); 31 March in Randolph Center (D&JF).

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRDS, two reports of wintering red-winged, one from White River Junction (ADu) and one from Middlebury feeder (R&MM). First reports of migrants from 28 February in Winhall, twenty males (WJN); many reports from first week in March, building up in numbers through Westminster Flats mixed with Grackles (DC). 22 March report of flocks of thousands pouring through the Otter Creek Valley and heading South up the river (BW); two thousand on 23 March in Hartford, (one female) (GE) (WE).

RUSTY BLACKBIRD, 2 December, one individual reported from Wolcott (SBY); 8 March reported as early in Winhall (WJN); 13 March, one rusty bird, 25 March, fourteen in black plumage in Wallingford (BW).

COMMON GRACKLE, 21 December observation at a Plainfield feeder (MFM); one over-wintering in Pomfret (EH). Migration first reported 5 March (EE), called early in Winhall (WJN), and building to a peak 8 March (BBP); flocks of thousands in Westminster (DC) on 7 March.

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRDS, two hundred and thirty reported on Saxton River, Christmas Count (DC). Reported through winter with flocks of two hundred through March (SM) (SBL).

FRIGILLIDAE

CARDINAL reports continue to increase; pairs were present at feeders around Vermont through the winter.

EVENING GROSBEAKS, were notably scarce in Vermont this winter Londonderry (TW); Craftsbury (FO); Randolph (E&MC); although Marion Metcalf regularly had seventy-five at her Plainfield feeder and T. Beach reported several hundred perched in trees in Arlington on 24 March.

PURPLE FINCH, a few reports through winter from Londonderry (TW); in March: Randolph, a pair (E&MC); 24 March, Plainfield (MFM); Wallingford (BW); South Strafford (H&ER); Bennington (MU); Wolcott on 22 March (LM); Sherburne (JO).

HOUSE FINCHES, are reported from Bennington by (MV); 20 March "my House Finch is back and on March 27 brought another male and another female. They are very aggressive birds and really clear out the feeder."

HOARY REDPOLLS, 3 March, three Hoarys banded in Plainfield (MM); 8 March, three in Bennington (MV); 9 March, one female Hoary in Craftsbury (FO) (JW); 23 March white unmarked rump observed closely, "overall bird much lighter than others of flock of Common Redpolls". Grafton (DC).

COMMON REDPOLLS, common throughout the state this winter, with numbers building up in late February and early March in most of the state. 3 February, one hundred plus in Orange (LM); 9 March, one hundred in Craftsbury (JW) (FO).

PINE SISKIN, very rare this winter, it appears. Only three reports: 10 February, single bird in Londonderry (TW); 28 March, flock of 25 in Wallingford (BW); 30 March, one in Shrewsbury (AFS).

GOLDFINCH, present off and on in small numbers through the winter.

RED CROSSBILL, 15 February, from Middlebury "only one this winter" (BBP); 7 March, seven flying overhead "first since last fall" (FO).

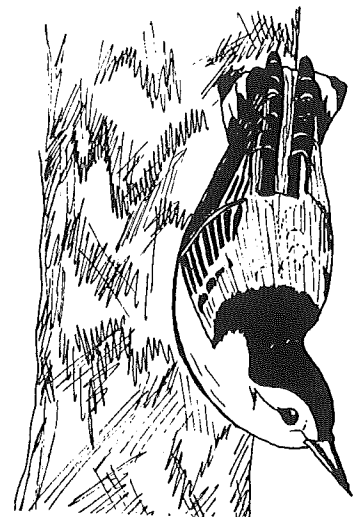
WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL 11 February from Howard Woodin's feeder, in Middlebury, one male (BBP); 25 February "first sighting ever" for M. Vince; one male and one female at her Bennington feeder "their bills were clearly visible as were the white wing bars, the male was a lovely shade of apricot." (MV).

DARK-EYED JUNCO, not around in great numbers; absent from Plainfield 5 December to 16 March; flock of three hundred plus sighted in Bennington at the Mount Anthony Country Club on 6 and 7 March (MV).

TREE SPARROWS, wintered over with numbers increasing in March.

FIELD SPARROW, 15 December carefully observed in Putney Meadows (TW).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW, 14 December at Goddard in Plainfield (MFM); 17 February at Middlebury feeder (BBP); first (scholarly sparrows!); 14 March in Bridgewater (JHB).



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FOX SPARROW, first reported 8 March at Tom Will's Londonderry feeder; most reports from 20 to 26 March.

SONG SPARROW, last sighting 22 December in Taftsville; first sighting 10 March in Pomfret (both by FM); 11 March in Hartford (SM); flock of fifteen feeding by road in Sharon (SBL); most sightings 23 March on (EH, EE, MV, LM, PRr, MFM, BW).

SNOW BUNTINGS, sighted first in Vershire, pre-winter season on 12 November and again 6 December, regularly every week or so thereafter. High count 21 January one hundred-one hundred twenty-five. Fed on cracked corn (DWa). Observed through winter to March 23 around eastern Vermont.

LAPLAND LONGSPURS, sighted only by (DWa) in Vershire; one pair with Snow Buntings on 30 December off and on to 22 January.

of the state until May 11 when 1 was seen in Brattleboro (TW). The largest flock of Greenwinged teal reported was of 100 on April 14 at Middlebury (BBP). Bluewinged teal occurred throughout the state in average numbers with a first date of April 13 at Dead Creek and Springfield (WE,GE, DC). American wigeon were first reported on April when 6 were seen at Vergennes (TCG), the maximum count was of 10 birds on April 20 at Dead Creek (OCAS). 17 Shovelers were reported this spring occurring from April 13 until May 4 when the high count of 6 reported from the Champlain Islands (CVA). Wood ducks occurred throughout the season in average numbers. Maximum counts of Ring-necked ducks, Greater scaup, and lesser scaup were 45 at Rockingham on April 13, 75 at Wilder on April 8, and 86 at Missisquoi and the Champlain Islands on May 4 respectively, (WE,GE,DC, CVA). Common goldeneye and Bufflehead were both in average numbers. Oldsquaw rare in spring were seen at Lake Morey where 1 female was seen at Wilder where 6 were seen during high winds on May 1, all reports (WE, GE). 1 Surf scoter was seen on Lake Morey on April 28. (WE,GE). Hooded mergansers were in average numbers this spring. Common mergansers were reported throughout the season with a maximum count of 60 on April 20 at Hartland dam (WE,GE). There were three reports of Red-breasted mergansers the first was of 3 on April 3 at Vergennes (TCG), others were seen at Wilder on April 4 and 9 in a grand total of 3 (WE,GE). OSPREY, HAWKS, VULTURES: The hawk flight totaled 409 individuals reported of which 152 were Kestrels, 73 Red-tailed hawks, 48 Ospreys, 48 broadwinged, 26 Turkey vultures, 25 red-shouldered, and 12 Harries all other species were reported in numbers less than 10. The flight of Turkey vultures was of special interest, the first report was on April 6 from Brattleboro where 2 were seen on that date (ASW, LPM), vultures were widespread in good numbers over the whole season with an exceptional record on April 30 from Cabot in the Northeast kingdom (DE). Accipiters were all distressingly low with only 8 sharp-shinned, 2 Cooper's and 4 Goshawks reported, also there was considerable mixup as 2 birds I consider most likely Goshawks were reported as

SPRING: 1 April - 30 May 1974 Walter Ellison

LOONS

Common loon first appeared on April 27 when 1 was seen in Norwich, (SR, MR, KS), the last report for this species was on May 16 when 1 was seen flying north of White River Jct. (DZ). Red-necked grebe appeared in their usual sparing numbers with a grand total report of 20 birds the first of these being 1 at Chimney Pt. on April 13, 3 others appeared at Lake Morey in Fairlee from April 28-May 4. A high count of 16 was seen at Wilder on 5 May with a large flock of Horned grebes which were held down by high winds. All records, (WE,GE). Horned grebe was first reported at Wilder on April 22 where 5 were seen at the time. A high count of 177 occurred on May 1 at Wilder during high velocity winds, indicating how many grebes are missed as they fly over the state at high altitudes. All records, (WE, GE). Pied-billed grebe was first reported on April 6 at Brattleboro, (ASW, LPM). The migration was a fairly average one for the most part. A Double crested cormorant was seen at Wilder in late April (Date not obtained) (RN). Unusual heron sightings were of 1 Little blue heron May 16 Manchester (RPr), 3 Cattle egrets were seen on May 4 with 2 at Swanton and 1 in the Champlain Islands (CVA), 1 Great egret was reported on the Lemn Fair on May 10 (BBP). Unusual for the location was a Black-crowned night heron on April 13 at Fairlee (DZ, MAC). Great blue heron, Green heron, Least bittern, and American bittern were reported in average numbers. There were two reported of Glossy ibis, 1 was seen in Ver-

shire on May 11-14 an area where they are quite rare, (DGe), and 1 was reported on May 20 from Vergennes (TCG). WATERFOWL: There was an excellent waterfowl flight with large numbers of ducks with many of the rarer species represented. Canada geese first appeared in early March and continued until June 2 in average numbers the peak count was of 1000 at Weybridge on April 20 (OCAS). Snow geese first appeared in the first week of April and averaged 200-250 per flock with a grand total of 875 reported. Apparently Vermont received the bulk of the Snow geese migration only because 765 were reported in the entire area of Maine, New Hampshire and Eastern Mass. In addition to regular Snows blue morphbirds were seen in Weybridge on April 20 (OCAS). The peak weekend for Black duck and Mallard was that of the 14th of April when flocks of over 200 birds apiece for both species were found in the Rockingham Springfield area and flocks of over 100 were found throughout the state. On April 14 220 Mallards were seen in Rockingham and Springfield on the same day and at the same place 289 Black ducks were seen (DC). These and other peak flocks gradually wained after the 14th. The rare Gadwall appeared in the Conn. Valley with two reports, the first being on April 12 in Norwich at Pompanoosuc (WE, GE). The other was sighted at Wilder on April 15 (WE, GE). These also were the only reports received. There was only 1 large flock of Pintail that was reported that of 50 seen on April 14 at Middlebury (BBP). Pintail occurred sparingly in other parts

HERONS

Records

WINTER '73-'74

RAB Richard A. Bartlett
TB T. Beach
DLB Don L. Blades
JesB Mrs. Eugene A. Bond
GHB G.H. Bramhall
B&RB B.&R. Buxton
BBC Barbara Carpenter
MCC Rev. Mary C. Clapp
EWC Elizabeth W. Clapp
DC Donald Clark
PC Patty Coutermarsh
TRD T.R. Dibble
TD Tom Doubleday
JD Jan Drevitson
ND Neil Drevitson
ADu Anita Durosier
ME Marion Eastman
EE Eleanor Ellis
GE George Ellison
WE Walter Ellison
WBE W.B. Emmons
MDE Mrs. W.B. Emmons
D&JF David & Jennifer Fireston
JF Jill Fox
RG Rosamund Guild
EH Edward Hack
AMH A.M. Hamilton
CMH C.M. Harris
PCH Patricia C. Heffernan
CH Cecil Hoisington
DEH David E. Horan
RL R. Larsen
SBL Sarah B. Laughlin
R&LL R.&L. Lavalley
SM Mrs. Frank (Sherry) MaHady
SMa Susan Mahony
DM Donna Martin
JAM Joseph A. Massey
FM Fred Merrill
JMe Jean Merrill
GM G. Metcalf
LM Larry Metcalf
MFM Mrs. Marion F. Metcalf
R&MM R.&M. Mundstock
JMN Julia M. Nicholson
FO Frank Oatman
J&EO John & Elizabeth Ohly
PEP Mrs. Arthur E. Patten
AEP Arthur E. Patten
EHP E.H. Pease
BBP Bruce B. Peterson
JP Judith Peterson
EFP E.F. Phillips
RWP Roy W. Pilcher
AP Alan Pistorius
MP M. Poole
CP Mrs. Robert Powell
RPr Richard Prum
BR Bill Ragette
H&ER Herman & E. Redden
DR D. Roose
MR Mary Russell
BR Brad Ryan
KS Kat Shepard
JDS J. Donald Simson
NS N. Simson
RGS R.G. Solbert
AFS Anne F. Spencer
ECS Eleanor Clark Swaim
FKT Mrs. Francisca K. Thomas
MV Marion Vince
DWa Doris Walke
BCW Betty Weeks
NWW Wendell Weeks
MLW Martha L. Williamson
DVW Douglas V. Wilson
G&JY Gordon & Janice Young
SBY S.B. Young
DZ David Zumeta