

# Records of Vermont Birds

## SPRING MIGRATION 1981

1 MARCH - 31 MAY

WILLIAM J. NORSE, SEASONAL EDITOR

Following the trend of 1980, this was essentially an early spring, with many very early arrival dates, especially for passerines in the latter part of April and during May. February was exceptionally mild, following a frigid December and January, temperatures reached the 60's (F) and both Canada Geese and Red-winged Blackbirds were on the move by Feb. 19th. Temperatures returned to more nearly normal levels in early and middle March, but the melting of ice, which commenced in February, brought an early and productive northward movement of waterfowl, with some on the move early in the month.

However, the passerines were delayed in March by the return of cold weather. American Robins, for example, I considered to be generally late this year. They did not become abundant until April. Late March and early April, however, were quite warm, the thermometer reaching a record 73° in Burlington on April 4, and the early migrants - Icterids, Robins, et al streamed through in numbers. Such April migrants as the Hermit Thrush, Rough-winged Swallow, and Solitary Vireo turned up quite early.

Some cool weather returned in mid-April with a record low 23° at Burlington April 21. Our record-setting Spring Hawk Watch (see Spring 1981 Hawk Report) was taken during this period, a good hawk-watching day being April 26th, despite north winds.

May was warmer than the average, with an 83°F reading at Burlington on May 5th, and the insectivorous May migrants streamed through, many of them with very early arrival dates. With relatively little adverse weather, many species breeding north of us just over-flew Vermont. I considered the "budworm" species of warblers (Bay-breasted, Black-poll, Cape May, Tennessee) as scarce at my southern Vermont location. This was no doubt due to the lack of adverse weather to ground them. An easterly weather system May 11-12 probably was the cause of the state's first ARCTIC TERN specimen found along the Stage Rd. in E. Barnard.

Rutland observers reported small warbler waves 5/5 & 13, and a major wave 5/17. At the VINS Banding Station in Woodstock, they considered 5/15 and 5/26 to be the best days with 16 and 18 species netted respectively. At Winhall and nearby areas I thought 5/5, 5/15 & 5/26 to be good days.

Improved coverage in many areas, especially around Rutland, the northwest portion, and around Woodstock produced, as I mentioned before, a lot of early arrivals. Many of these dates compare with arrivals 250 miles south of here. It is interesting to note that a few of the early "firsts" were way up north at St. Albans. There were some very good counts of shorebirds for spring, mostly around the Colchester area.

Rarities, of course, are the spice of birding and we had quite a few this spring. The best were GOLDEN EAGLE (2 reports), ARCTIC TERN, NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER (3 reports), YELLOW-HEADED

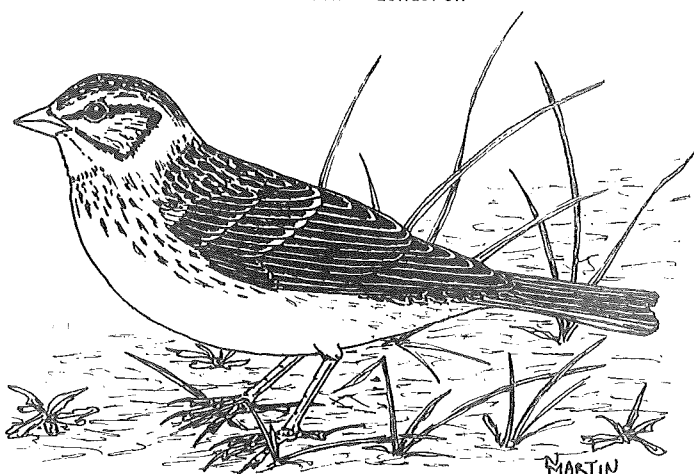
BLACKBIRD, AND SMITH'S LONGSPUR (final acceptance by VT Records Committee pending). Other birds of interest included GREAT EGRET, GLOSSY IBIS, SPRUCE GROUSE, BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER, GLAUCOUS GULL, RED-HEADED WOODPECKER, LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE, & BREWSTER'S WARBLER.

The BIRDATHON was taken mainly on May 23, and the "Northern" team of Walter Ellison, George Ellison and Nancy Martin led with 134 species, followed by the "Southern" team of Annette Gosnell, Don Clark, Whitney Nichols and Chris Kibbe, who got 127 species. Five other groups also topped 100 species. I might add that the Ellison-Martin team turned in an excellent detailed report with numbers on all species, and that one day provided the bulk of our "high counts" in the species write-up, the Island Pond area, especially, turning up one high count after another.

A free flying Egyptian Goose was seen in May in the Charlotte-Ferrisburg area by many observers. One wonders if this exotic was derived from the same source as the Ruddy Shelducks of a few years ago.

Two hundred twenty-four species, plus 1 hybrid were reported for Spring 1981.

SMITH'S LONGSPUR



### LOONS AND GREBES

The first Common Loons of the season were 2 3/23 in the Connecticut River at Norwich (HSR) followed by 2 on 3/25 at Shelburne (DBa). A total of 46 were reported for the season. Notable concentrations were (both flying over Hawk Watches) 6 on 4/26 at Sykes Ave., White River Jct. (NLM, WGE) and 12 flying west from the Winhall Hawk Look-out (hereafter WHL) 4/25 (WJN). A total of 17 were seen from the WHL for the season (WJN). The final report was of two at Dix Reservoir, Barre 5/26 (RJR). A fine total of 12 Red-necked Grebes were reported, 3 on 4/1 Wilder (WGE), 6 on 4/25 at Alburg (DKL, RBL), 1 4/26 Lake Morey, 1 Lake Fairlee 4/26, 1 Wilder 4/26 (all NLM, WGE), 2 Dewey Marsh 5/2 (RD). A total of 47 Horned Grebes were reported, 2 4/1 Wilder (WGE), 2 4/11 Wilder (NLM, WGE), 3 4/18 Addison (NLM, WGE), 1 4/10 Smarset Reservoir (KMC), 26 4/25 Alburg (DKL, RBL), 4 4/26 Wilder, 8 4/26 Lake Fairlee, 1 4/26 Ompompanoosuc (all NLM, WGE). Eight Pied-billed Grebes were reported, mostly in late April. The first were 2 4/11 Milton to Burlington (NLM, WGE), 1 4/18 Burlington (NLM), 1 4/26 Berlin Pond (MFM), 1 4/26 Lake Fairlee (NLM, WGE), 1 4/27 Gale Meadows (Winhall) (WJN), 1 4/30 Dix Res., Barre (RJR), 1 5/23 Berlin Pond (MFM).

CORMORANT AND WADING BIRDS

There were but two records of the Double-crested Cormorants 5 4/18 Addison (NLM, WGE) and 8 5/22 Alburg (DKL, RBL). The first Great Blue Heron was 1 3/22 Rockingham (NLM, WGE), then 1 3/28 Windsor, 1 3/28 Norwich (both NLM, WGE), 2 4/1 Gale Meadows (WJN), 1 4/3 Rutland (CJF), 1 4/4 Springfield (MAP). The highest count was 9 5/23 Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (NLM, WGE, GFE). One report of the Great Egret 1 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE, GFE). No report of either Cattle Egret or Snowy Egret. The first Green Heron was seen 4/28 at Berlin Pond (RJR), 1 5/1 Danby (CJF) small numbers were seen through May. The first Black-crowned Night Heron was 1 4/18 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE), all reports were in the Champlain Valley. Maximum 4 5/30 Dead Creek WMA (ELW). There were two reports of the elusive Least Bittern 1 5/23 West Rutland Marsh (WJN), 1 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (SBL), first American Bittern was 1 4/8 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE) next 1 4/20 Gale Meadows (WJN), max. 4 4/23 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE). There is a report of a Glossy Ibis 3 miles N.W. of the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge (JNi, RNI).

WATERFOWL

When discussing Canada Geese it should be recognized by all that we have two distinct populations occurring in Vermont. One, the truly wild birds, largely overfly the state to their North Canadian breeding grounds, except for stopovers at such places as Dead Creek WMA, other spots along Lake Champlain, and lesser numbers at Herrick's Cove. The second group are the feral descendants of released birds, which include all those breeding in the state and most of those seen in May and June and through the summer, the ones seen feeding along the roads, and those that are excessively tame. The records for both of these groups are lumped together, and frequently it is difficult to assign a particular record to one or the other. The feral birds are descended in part from releases at Dead Creek WMA and in part from a large feral population, numbering many thousands, resident around the New York City area, spreading north up the Hudson Valley and into Western New England. These birds originated from Bronx Zoo releases and from Sportsmen's Clubs on Long Island, many years ago. The first Canada Geese were on the move 2/19 with the warm weather, 3 Winhall (WJN), 8 were seen 3/4 Norwich (HSR), 2 on 3/13 Winhall (WJN), 6 Hartland 3/10 (ELW). The highest count was 3900 4/8 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE). There were three records of the Brant, 1 5/21 Blodgett's Beach-Burlington (WJN), 1 5/27 Prouty Beach-Newport (WS, et al), 1 5/27 Young Island (SBL, ALG et al). Snow Geese appeared in numbers in late March. First 1 3/24 Dead Creek WMA (JDS), 30 3/27 Weybridge (MN), 60 Pomfret 3/29 (EH), 78 3/28 Hinesburg (WRB), 120 3/29 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE), 100+ 3/30 Winhall Hawk Lookout (hereinafter WHL) (WJN), scattered reports in April, the last-1 5/21 Alburg (DKL, RBL). Mallard - the remarks concerning the Canada Goose apply equally to the Mallard. First 4 3/1 Rutland (CJF), 3 3/13 White River Jct. (WGE), max. 46 3/22 (20 Herrick's Cove, 26 Springfield) (NLM, WGE). Broods by late May Cummings Pond, Woodstock (CC), Herrick's Cove 5/20 (WJN). Black Duck first 1 3/1 Rutland (CJF), 2 3/14 Rutland (CJF), max. 54 3/22 Herrick's Cove and Springfield (NLM, WGE), brood 5/19 Woodstock (JMN). Gadwall - 6 3/22 Herrick's Cove (KMC, ELW), 2 4/11 Burlington (NLM, WGE), 4 4/18 Burlington (NLM, WGE). Northern Pintail - 4 3/15 Herrick's Cove (ELW), 5 3/17 Manchester (RuS), 6 3/21 South Hero (NLM, WGE), 8 Herrick's Cove 3/22 (ELW), 1 3/26 Mt. Holly (AEB), 2 4/3 Herrick's Cove (WJN), last 1 5/23 Burlington (NLM, WGE, GFE). First Green-winged Teal, 1 3/29 Plainfield (MFM), 6 3/29 Conn. River (RHH), also 4 4/4 Springfield (MAP), 1 4/8 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 10 4/8 Pittsford (NLM, WGE), max. 22 4/18 Champlain Valley (NLM, WGE, et al), late dates 4 5/3 Burton Island (JMC), 2 5/8 Rutland (CJF), 1 5/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN). First Blue-winged Teal drake 3/24 Dead Creek WMA (JDS), 1 4/4 Plainfield (MFM), 3 4/8 Pittsford (NLM, WGE), 3 4/17 Gale Meadows (WJN), late 1 5/14 Springfield Meadows (WJN), and 5/26 Timmuth (PB), high count 18 Sand Bar to Dead Creek 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE). The American Wigeon was reported mainly from Herrick's Cove. Up to 8 birds were present there 3/19 to 3/29 (KMC, ELW, WJN, NLM, WGE), 6 were reported from the Conn. River (location unspecified) 3/29 (RHH). The only ones from the north were a pair 3/29 Arnold Bay (TAS). There were three reports of the scarce Northern Shoveler, 2 4/18 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE et al) 2 5/3 Burlington Intervale (WS), 2 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (ALG, WJN, DC, CDK). Wood Ducks moved

-2-

widely in March this year, due no doubt to early ice breakup - 1st, 3/21 Clarendon (CJF), 20 3/22 Herrick's Cove to Springfield (NLM, WGE, MAP), 2 3/28 Sunderland (KRH), 2 3/31 Quechee (KRT), 2 3/30 Plainfield (MFM). Most birds moved through in April, a count of 10 4/27 at Gale Meadows (WJN) was noteworthy for there. Nesting was underway at most locations by late May. It was a good spring for Ring-necked Ducks, up to 20 were seen at Herrick's Cove from 3/16 to 4/3 (ELW, MAP, KMC, WJN, RHH, NLM, WGE). Also 3 3/27 Blodgett's Beach, Burlington (WRB), 22 3/24 Hubbardton to Addison (NLM, WGE). Late dates were 3 4/28 Shoreham (WGE et al), 4 4/26 Berlin Pond (MFM), 1 5/1 Gale Meadows (WJN), 2 5/2 Dewey Marsh (RD), pair 5/19 Berlin Pond (RJR), 5/23 Birdathon (MFM et al). There were four reports of the Canvasback - 4 3/8 Herrick's Cove (KMC), 6 Herrick's Cove 3/15 (ELW), 10 3/21 N. Hero (NLM, WGE), 2 Herrick's Cove 3/22 (NLM, WGE). There were but three reports of Greater Scaup - 7 3/21 N. Hero (NLM, WGE), 7 4/1 Wilder (WGE), 1 4/3 Herrick's Cove (WJN). Eleven Lesser Scaup reported - 1 3/28 Weathersfield (NLM, WGE), 2 Conn. Riv. (where?) 3/29 (RHH), 5 3/24 Addison (NLM, WGE), 3 4/28 Addison (WGE, et al), also at least 5 undetermined Scaup (NLM, WGE). Common Goldeneyes were first reported 3/14 at Herrick's Cove (ELW). They built up to 50 there 3/22 (ELW). Last seen there 2 4/22 (WJN). The largest count was 115 Grand Isle 3/21 (NLM, WGE). Late were 2 Sand Bar WMA 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE) possible breeders. There were nine reports of Bufflehead - 10 Shoreham 3/20 (ELW), 1 Herrick's Cove 3/26 (WJN), 1 Addison 3/29 (NLM, WGE), 4 4/1 Wilder (WGE), 3 4/8 Button Bay SP (NLM, WGE), 2 4/9 Barnard (EH), 2 4/11 Burlington (WGE), 7 4/18 Button Bay SP (NLM, WGE, et al), 2 5/2 Dewey Marsh (RD). There was but one report of Oldsquaw - 1 female 3/21 Grand Isle (NLM, WGE). Amazingly there were no reports of any Scoters which must be due to some lapse in coverage. The first Hooded Mergansers were 2 3/14 Rutland (CJF), up to 15 were at Herrick's Cove 3/22 & 26 (NLM, WGE, WJN, ELW), also 1 5/8 Benson (CJF), 3 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS), and 5/22 Gale Meadows nesting in a natural cavity (WJN). Common Mergansers which probably overwintered were first reported with 10 3/5 Rutland (RHH). They rapidly built up in numbers in March with 25 Shoreham 3/20 (ELW), 60 3/21 Grand Isle (NLM, WGE), 2 3/20 E. Montpelier (MFM), 49 Herrick's Cove to Springfield 3/22 (NLM, WGE), 80 Burlington 3/23 (WRB), 30 4/3 Herrick's Cove (WJN). Late records probably represent breeders or potential breeders, 2 5/6 Rochester (MCy), 2 Seymour Lake-Morgan 5/26 (JEC). There were five reports of the Red-breasted Merganser - 1 male 3/8 Herrick's Cove (KMC), 4 3/24 Addison (NLM, WGE), 21 4/11 Burlington (NLM, WGE, et al), 2 4/24 Barre Res. (MFM), 20 4/28 Addison (WGE, et al).

DIURNAL RAPTORS

The Spring 1981 Hawk Watch came up with a spectacular 2,210 total, best ever for a spring hawkwatch. The Turkey Vulture continues its increase in Vermont. The hawk watchers recorded 30 vultures. The first one occurred 3/10 at New Haven (JID, MCD). Also 1 3/10 at Shaftsbury (EdS), 1 3/24 Center Rutland (NLM, LHP), 1 3/28 Herrick's Cove (NLM, WGE), 2 3/29 Springfield (AH), 2 3/29 Dead Creek WMA (TAS), 1 3/29 Shoreham (NLM, WGE). Many more sightings occurred in April, when the main influx took place, with a maximum of 4 per day. Seven Goshawks were recorded on hawk watches. Nine other reports were submitted, 1 3/23 Westminster (MAP), 1 3/19 Mt. Holly (AEB). Other dates were in April with the last 5/31 at Starksboro (WRB, PMB). An immature was seen 4/5 at Starksboro eating a chicken! (WRB, PMB). Three hundred twenty-one Sharp-shinned Hawks were seen on hawk watches. Some were seen in February, probably over-wintering birds. The first definite migrants were 1 3/25 WHL (WJN), 1 Rutland 4/22 (RHH), 1 4/26 Woodstock (JMN). Best count 58 4/26 Deer Leap-Bristol (JJA et al). A pair was seen in courtship 5/9 Ferdinand (NLM, WGE, EE et al). Thirteen Cooper's Hawks were seen on the hawk watch, 7 additional sightings were submitted, 1 3/23 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 3/29 No. Pomfret (EH), 1 3/29 Hartford (WGE), 1 4/3, 1 4/9 Hartford (WGE), 1 5/9 Timmuth (GTL), 1 5/23 Chippenhook (SBL, BLR). Red-tailed Hawks overwintered in many places. One hundred ninety-eight were seen on the hawk watches. Early reports were 1 Rutland 3/1 (RHH), 1 3/13 Plainfield (MFM), 4 3/17 Salisbury and New Haven (CJF), 1 3/22 Timmuth (GTL), 1 Springfield 3/23 (ELW), 1 3/23 Woodstock (JMN), 1 3/24 West Haven (FSA). High Count was 47 at Mt. Philo 4/26 (WS et al). A nest with young was discovered on a

steep cliff - West Haven 5/14 (SBL, JDL). Three different albinistic Red-tails were reported - Haverhill-Newbury 4/12 (TL), 1 Waitsfield 3/12 (ADH), 1 3/5 Starksboro (WRB, PMB). It is possible that some of these birds might be referred to the western race *kriderii*, which has been recorded in the east. Twenty-nine Red-shouldered Hawks were seen on the hawk watches. First migrants 3/13 Norwich (AH), 1 3/15 Grafton (DC), 1 3/22 Fair Haven (FSA), 1 3/22 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 1 3/30 WHL (WUNJ). High count 5 4/3 Hartford (WGE). One thousand one hundred forty-four Broad-winged Hawks were seen on the hawk watches. A very early bird was seen 3/24 at Clarendon (LHP), 1 4/16 WHL (WUNJ), 2 4/18 No. Hero (MFM), 11 4/19 Norwich (WGE), max. 294 4/26 White River Jct. (WGE et al). Three Rough-legged Hawks were seen on the hawk watch - 1 3/22 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 4 3/21 No. Hero - Sand Bar WMA (NLM, WGE), 1 4/18 WHL (WUNJ), 1 5/1 Danby (CJF), 2 5/8 Woodstock (JMN) -



GOLDEN EAGLE

very late. There were two reports of the seldom seen GOLDEN EAGLE, 1 imm. 3/18 So. Hinesburg (WRB), 1 imm. 3/29 Westford (MJM, SAM, SJC). It was certainly a good spring for eagles, for there were no less than 10 reports of the Bald Eagle, but the pattern suggests that there may have been no more than two or three birds which were seen repeatedly. The records follow - 1 "Spring 81" North Hartland, mouth of Ottauquechee River (RbR), 1 imm. 3/5 So. Royalton, White River (TF), 1 ad. 3/11 Randolph Center (TM), 1 imm. Leicester 3/25 (KMC), 1 imm. 3/21 mouth of Ompompanoosuc (TL, HSR), 1 imm. 4/2 Bethel (JHa), 1 ad. 4/25 Troy (CJN), 1 imm. 4/26 White River Jct. (NLM, WGE), 1 ad. 4/29 So. Wallingford (JVI, PhB), 1 ad. 5/21 Canaan (CBH). Thirteen Northern Harriers were seen on the hawk watches, 18 others were reported. The earliest was 1 3/17 Wells River (EGV), 2 3/24 Dead Creek WMA (JDS), 1 3/21 No. Hero (NLM, WGE), 1 3/29 Ferrisburg (TAS), 1 3/30 Timmouthe (PB). Late ones 1 5/17 West Haven (SBL, JDL), 1 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (ALG, DC, WDN, CDK, SBL). Seventy-four Ospreys were recorded on the hawk watches. The first was a phenomenonally early 2 3/7 along the Walloomsac River, Bennington (HWT, JMT), 1 4/4 WHL (WUNJ), 1 4/4 Barnard (MLW), 2 Herrick's Cove 4/4 (MAP), 1 4/8 Brownington (CSA), max. 25 Westford 4/26 (MJM, et al), last 5/23 Ferdinand (NLM, WGE, GFE). One Peregrine Falcon was seen on a hawk watch 4/27 at Deer Leap (Bristol) (JJA, et al). Five others were seen - 1 3/31 Shoreham (ELW), 1 4/26 Riverton (MFM), 1 4/29 Bethel (MFM), 1 5/3 Ferrisburg (WS), 1 imm. 5/8 Albany (MFM). Five Merlins were seen on the hawk watches - 1 4/3 Hartford (WGE), 2 4/26 White River Jct. (WGE, GFE), 2 4/26 Mt. Philo (WS, JID). Seventy-one American Kestrels were seen on the hawk watches. First 3/1 Rte. 30 Fair Haven (FSA), 1 3/1 Rutland (RHH), 1 3/18 Plainfield (MFM), 1 3/20 Shoreham (ELW), 3 3/22 Springfield (MAP), 1 3/24 Brownsville (JEH, BMH), max. 24 Dead Creek WMA 4/18 (NLM, WGE, et al).

#### GALLINACEOUS BIRDS

Two reports of the Spruce Grouse both at Moose Bog in Ferdinand, 2 5/10 (WS, CWS), 1 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Ruffed Grouse population seems to be reasonably stable. They were widely reported, the most reported in one day

was 4 Island Pond 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE). A Common Bobwhite 3/7 at Brownsville (JEH, BMH) probably stemmed from some stocking project by sportsmen, which have occurred in various parts of the state. Unusual were 2 Gray Partridges 3/29 at Colchester (MLY), probably derived from established populations farther north in Canada. Ten were seen in the St. Albans area from 5/2 to 5/30 (JMC), who says he has seen them in the area for years. A Ring-necked Pheasant was reported on the Shrewsbury Birdathon 5/23 (AFS). About 25 Wild Turkeys were reported, mostly from the western portion of the state where it is more abundant - 2 4/15 No. Pomfret (TSTJ).

#### RAILS AND GALLINULES

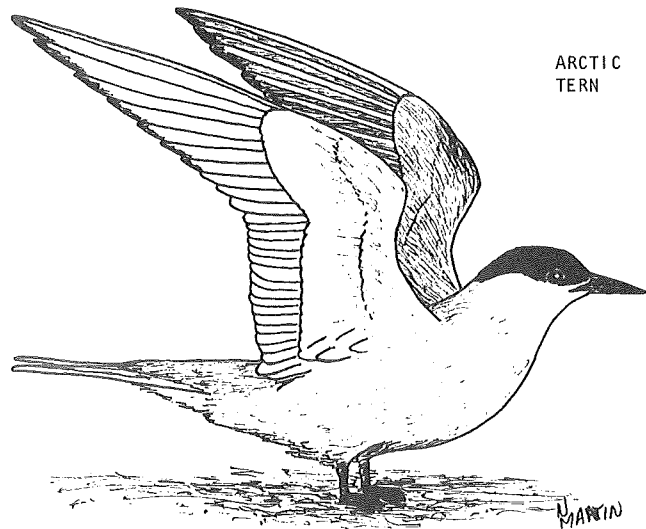
There were seven reports of the Virginia Rail - 1 Dead Creek WMA 4/18 (NLM, WGE, et al), 2 4/28 W. Rutland Marsh (WGE, RIM, LiM), 1 5/3 Shoreham (ELW), 1 5/10 W. Rutland Marsh (RHH), 2 5/16 Dead Creek WMA (RHH), 1 5/23 W. Rutland Marsh (WUNJ), 5 5/23 Dead Creek WMA, 1 5/23 Newport (NLM, WGE, GFE). There were four reports of the Sora - 2 4/18 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE, et al), 1 5/23 Newport (NLM, WGE, GFE), 1 5/23 W. Rutland Marsh (WUNJ), 1 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (SBL, LHP, BLR, DCA, CWS, AVS). There were three reports of the Common Gallinule - 1 4/26 on top of Mt. Philo (WS), 1 5/14 Williston (CCY), 1 Dead Creek WMA 5/23 (DCA, CWS, AVS).

#### SHOREBIRDS

There were two records of the Semipalmated Plover, 1 5/23 Colchester Point (NLM, WGE, GFE), 5 5/23 Colchester, mouth of Winooski River (RBL, DKL). First Killdeer of the year 1 3/13 Burlington (CWS), followed by 1 3/15 Pompanoosuc (TL), 1 3/27 Timmouthe (PB), 2 3/28 Quechee (KRT), 2/27 Burlington (WRB). After which they became widely distributed. Highest count 10 5/21 Dead Creek WMA (WUNJ). Black-bellied Plover 1 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (ALG, WDN, DC, CDK). Two Ruddy Turnstones were seen 5/23 at the mouth of the Winooski River in Colchester (RBL, DKL). First American Woodcock 3/2 Herrick's Cove (MAP, JWP) early, 1 3/22 Hartford (GFE), 1 3/23 Rutland (CJF), 1 3/28 Stockbridge (EH), 3/28 1 Herrick's Cove, 1 Hartford (NLM, WGE). Highest counts 6 St. Albans Bay 4/27 (JMC), 6 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). First Common Snipe 1 4/5 Herrick's Cove (MAP), 1 4/5 Clarendon (CJF), 1 4/7 Dead Creek WMA (JID, MCD), 2 4/10 Albany (TP), 2 4/10 No. Pomfret (MHR, TCR), largest number 6 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). There were eight reports of Upland Sandpiper - 5 5/2 Shoreham (ELW), 3 5/3 Shoreham (ELW), 2 5/3 Charlotte (RNS), 2 5/3 Ferrisburg (WS), 4 5/8 Newport (MFM), 2 5/23 No. Ferrisburg (NLM, WGE, GFE), 1 5/26 Springfield Meadows (WUNJ), 2 5/2 Burlington (RNS, GaL). The Spotted Sandpiper arrived Herrick's Cove 1 4/28 (WUNJ), 1 4/28 Sherburne (WGE et al), 2 5/1 West Arlington (CJF), 6 Rutland 5/1 (RHH), 2 5/3 St. Albans Bay (JMC). Highest count was 12 5/8 Hardwick Lake (MFM). Solitary Sandpiper first seen 1 5/1 Shoreham (ELW), 2 5/8 Gale Meadows (WUNJ), 2 5/17 West Haven (SBL, JDL). High Count 6 5/16 Addison (JID, MCD). Last ones 1 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (SBL), 1 5/23 Hardwick Lake (MFM), 1 5/24 Gale Meadows (WUNJ). An early Greater Yellowlegs was at Barre Res. 3/10 (MFM) followed by 1 3/29 Conn. River (Location?) (RHH), 1 4/6 Brownsville (KMC), 1 4/17 Barre Res. (MFM), 1 4/30 Victory Bog (DHM). High counts 4 5/8 Hardwick Lake (MFM), 3 5/20 Springfield Meadows (WUNJ), last 5/23 Colchester (RBL, DKL). There were five records of the Lesser Yellowlegs - 1 5/8 Hardwick Lake (MFM), 2 5/9 Middlebury (JID, MCD), 4 5/18 Springfield-Rockingham Town Line Pond (MAP), 1 5/20 same place (WUNJ), 1 5/23 Hardwick Lake (MFM). There were three reports of Pectoral Sandpiper - 1 4/6 Brownsville (KMC), 1 5/9 Middlebury (JID, MCD), 1 5/23 Chittenden Co. Birdathon (C. Archer). Least Sandpiper, first 1 5/8 Hardwick lake (MFM), 4 5/16 Lewis Creek (JID, MCD), 1 5/20 Springfield-Rockingham Town Line Pond (WUNJ), 18 5/21 Dead Creek WMA (WUNJ), 9 5/22 West Swanton, 10 5/22 Colchester (DKL, RBL), 50+ 5/23 Sand Bar WMA (NLM, WGE, GFE), 8 5/23 Colchester Pt. (NLM, WGE, GFE), 6 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (SBL), 1 5/25 Quechee (NLM, WGE). There was one Dunlin report 3 5/27 Champlain Islands (SBL, ALG, JoK, FWK). This was a good spring for Dowitchers in the Champlain Valley, presumably Short-billed at this time. Twenty-two at Sand Bar WMA 5/21 (RBL, DKL), 59 Colchester 5/22 (RBL, DKL), 150 Sand Bar WMA 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Semipalmated Sandpiper frequently rare in spring, was seen two different days, 4 5/22 Colchester (RBL, DKL), 4 5/23 Colchester (NLM, WGE, GFE, DKL, RBL).

GULLS AND TERNS

There were three reports of the Glaucous Gull - 1 imm. 3/22 Conn. River at White River Jct. (TL), 1 second year 4/18 Burlington (NLM, WGE, et al), 1 5/23 Chimney Point (RWP, MY, CY). The following records of the Great Black-backed Gull were concentrated in March and April; 1 3/21 Grand Isle (NLM, WGE), 2 3/22 Herrick's Cove (NLM, WGE), 4 3/23 Burlington (WRB), 1 3/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 6 3/29 Arnold Bay-Lake Champlain (TAS), 2 4/11 Burlington (NLM, WGE), 1 4/18 Button Bay SP, 1 4/18 Burlington (NLM, WGE), 1 5/23 Burlington (AFS). As usual one feels that Herring and Ring-billed Gulls are under-reported. First Herring Gulls reported, 55 Herrick's Cove 3/22 (NLM, WGE), 3 3/31 Newport (CWS), 3 3/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN), high count was 100+ Burlington 4/18 (NLM, WGE), 6 Shelburne 5/22 (RHH), 3 5/21 Button Bay, Blodgett's Beach (WJN), 5 5/29 Seymour Lake, Morgan (JEC). The first Ring-billed Gull reported was 3/17 E. Montpelier (MEM), 50 there 3/18 (MEM), 8 at Shoreham 3/20 (ELW), 100 3/21 Grand Isle (NLM, WGE). The largest count was 1500 4/11 Burlington to Grand Isle (NLM, WGE). First Common Terns were 3 St. Albans Bay 5/3 (JMC), also 3 5/23 Colchester (NLM, WGE, GFE). A new state record, and an exciting find, was an ARCTIC TERN in weakened condition along Rte. 106 in Felchville (Reading) 5/12 (found by KMC, subsequently seen by DC and EE). The bird was seen at close range and was observed to have a piece of fishing line around his neck. Attempts to capture it were unsuccessful. The following day 5/13 MHR discovered a weakened ARCTIC TERN (no fishing line) along the Stage Road in East Barnard, about 30 miles from the other sight-



ARCTIC  
TERN

ing. She saw the bird first at 07.45 when returning at 09.30 the bird was discovered dead by the side of the road (bird now VINS specimen). Whether this represents one or two Arctic Terns is indefinite. 5/12 and 13 were preceded by stormy days with easterly winds. This specimen is the first state record for the species, and has been accepted as such by the VT Records Committee. Black Terns were at Dead Creek WMA 5/3 (WS), 3 5/16 Lewis Creek (JID, MCD), 4 Dead Creek WMA 5/17-21 (WRB, WJN), 22 Newport, 2 Colchester, 1 Dead Creek WMA 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE).

DOVES THROUGH KINGFISHER

Rock Doves were reported in usual numbers. Mourning Doves over-wintered in such numbers in Vermont, even at higher elevations, that arrival dates of true migrants are difficult to determine. The maximum count was 50 Rutland 3/8 (CJF). There were no reports of Yellow-billed Cuckoo. First Black-billed Cuckoo, 1 Shoreham 5/14 (ELW), 2 Shoreham 5/20 (ELW) reported nesting. Fairly widespread by 5/23 on the Birdathon (many observers). There were 8 reports of the Great Horned Owl scattered throughout the state with a maximum of two. The Barred Owl was widely reported as a resident species. There was but one Screech Owl report; 1 5/23 Dead Creek WMA, called up with the use of tape (NLM, WGE, GFE). There were two reports of the elusive Long-eared Owl - 1 3/24 West Haven (NLM, WGE), 1 4/24-25 Bethel (JHa). Short-eared Owl, 1 hunting 5/26 Shoreham (ELW), 1 reported 5/23 on the Birdathon (CWS, DCA, AVS). There were seven reports of the Saw-whet Owl - 1 3/6 Winhall (WJN), 1 3/16 Vershire (TG), 1 3/22 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), 2 3/31 Orleans (CWS), 1 5/8 Moose Bog,

Ferdinand (CWS), 1 5/16 Albany (AEP), 2 5/23 Moose Bog (NLM, WGE, GFE). There were nine reports of the Whip-poor-will - 1st 4/30 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/5 Woodstock (JDL), 1 5/8 Panton (WRB). The others were concentrated in late May with a high of 5 5/23 Island Pond Airport (NLM, WGE, GFE). The first Common Nighthawk was at Dead Creek WMA 5/14 (ELW), 2 5/19 Springfield (MAP), Rutland 5/21 (SBL, BLR). They were widespread there by 5/23 and were recorded on the Birdathon by many observers. Chimney Swifts returned to many locations in April; 10 Rutland 4/28 (CJF, RHH), 1 4/29 No. Bennington (NLM), 1 4/30 Hartford (WGE), 1 4/30 Springfield (MAP), 5/4 Middlebury (WS). The maximum was 2-300 returning to a chimney at Bridgewater Mill (HT). The first Ruby-throated Hummingbird was seen way up north at St. Albans 5/4 (JMC), 1 Woodstock 5/9 (JMN), 1 5/11 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD). The maximum was 7 at Ferrisburg 5/30 (JID, MCD). The first Belted Kingfisher was 1 3/1 Rutland (over-wintered?) (RHH), 1 3/23 Rochester (MCy), 1 3/28 Wilder (NLM, WGE), 1 4/3 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 1 4/4 Shoreham (ELW), 1 4/6 Barre Res. (MEM), max. count 5 4/11 Grand Isle (WGE, NLM), 5 4/28 W. Rutland to Dead Creek (WGE, et al).

WOODPECKERS

The first Common Flicker was seen and heard 3/22 No. Pomfret (MHR, TCR), 1 3/29 Conn. River (where?) (RHH), 1 4/1 Shrewsbury (LPS). A good movement occurred 4/4 when present at Quechee (KRT), Winhall (WJN), Pittsford (BMZ), high count was 12 Herrick's Cove 4/11 (EE). Pileated Woodpeckers were widely reported and seemed in normal numbers. There were three reports of the scarce Red-headed Woodpecker - pair 5/10 So. Starksboro (PKr), 1 ad. 5/16 Grand Isle (DKL, RBL), 1 5/23 Weybridge (RWP, MY, CY). First Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was 1 Winhall 4/7 (WJN), then 2 4/9 Hartford (WGE), the next was not reported until 4/17 Leicester (PFZ, BPG), max. 10 4/18 Winhall (WJN). Hairy Woodpecker and Downy Woodpecker seemed in stable and usual numbers. A high count of Downies was 9 Champlain Valley 4/28 (WGE et al). There were reports of the Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker all from the N.E. Kingdom - 1 female 3/31 Island Pond (CWS, DCA), 3 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS), 1 5/23 Moose Bog (NLM, WGE, GFE). There were three reports of the rare and elusive Northern Three-toed Woodpecker - 1 female 3/31 Island Pond (CWS, DCA), 1 male 5/11 Buxton's Cabin - Ferdinand (WS), 1 female 5/21 Buxton's Cabin (WS, et al).

FLYCATCHERS

The first Eastern Kingbird occurred in the north at Ferrisburg 4/30 (JID, MCD), followed by another at Shoreham 5/1 (ELW). First in the south was 1 5/1 W. Arlington (CJF), then 1 5/2 So. Londonderry (WJN), max. 10 5/21 Dead Creek WMA (WJN). Like the Kingbird the first Great Crested Flycatchers were in the Champlain Valley - 1 5/1 Shoreham (ELW), 1 5/3 Ferrisburg (WS), 1 5/3 St. Albans (JMC), followed by 1 5/5 Woodstock (JMN), 2 5/8 Benson (CJF), 1 5/8 Winhall (WJN), max. 10 5/23 on the Birdathon (NLM, WGE, GFE). Eastern Phoebe first reported, 1 3/28 No. Pomfret (MHR), 1 3/29 Pomfret (MBD), 1 3/29 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 3/29 Wallingford (RHH), 2 3/29 Springfield (MAP). By 3/30 they had become widespread, 5/day was the maximum, seen twice by NLM & WGE 4/11 & 4/23. There were three reports of the late arriving Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - 4 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE), 1 5/25 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/28 (VINS Banding Station). Willow Flycatcher was first noted 5/23 on the Birdathon, 1 Newport, 1 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE, GFE), also 2 5/25 Hartford (NLM, WGE), max. 3 5/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN). Alder Flycatcher, first 5/23 Springfield Dam (ELW), 2 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE), 3 5/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN), one "Traill's" banded 5/26 (VINS). Least Flycatcher arrived 5/1 Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 1 5/3 East Creek, Rutland (RHH), 1 5/4 Woodstock (JMN), max. 8 5/27 Woodstock (NLM, WGE). The normally late arriving Eastern Wood Pewee was seen 5/9 at Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 1 East Creek Rutland 5/15 (RHH), next 1 5/23 Sand Bar WMA (NLM, WGE, GFE), 1 5/24 Woodstock (JMN), max. was only 2 - Shoreham 5/28 (ELW). Olive-sided Flycatcher, first 1 5/16 Winhall (WJN), 3 5/23 Winhall and Peru (WJN), 1 5/23 Bloomfield (NLM, WGE, GFE).

LARK AND SWALLOWS

Horned Lark records refer to two distinct populations, the wintering "Northern" race, and the breeding "Prairie" race, to which the May records certainly refer. The earliest was a pair (breeding race?) 3/11 Fayston (HKO, ADH), 40 Rutland 3/21 (CJF), maybe of the Northern race, as may

be 40 3/22 Herrick's Cove (NLM, WGE). Almost certainly of the breeding race were 4 5/23 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE, et al), also 5 3/28 St. Albans Bay (JMC), 9 4/9 White River Jct. (WGE), 14 4/18 Addison (NLM, WGE, et al). Tree Swallows arrived in March, 1 3/29 Timmouh (GTL), 6 Chester 3/29 (RHH), 2 3/30 Mt. Holly (AGB), 10 3/30 Rutland (CAM), 3/30 Timmouh (PB), 7 3/31 Orleans (CWS, DCA), 1 4/1 Gale Meadows (WJN). From 4/3-4 on they became widespread everywhere. High counts 450-500 White River Jct. 4/26 (NLM, WGE, GFE), 400 4/12 Fairlee (NLM, WGE), 100 4/30 W. Rutland Marsh (WJN). They were observed in S. Strafford at their old tricks of ejecting E. Bluebirds from nest boxes (HR). First Bank Swallows were 3 4/30 Hartford (WGE), 10 5/9 S. Londonderry (WJN), 6 5/10 Rutland (RHH). Highest count was 100± 5/20 Herrick's Cove (WJN). Rough-winged Swallows first on the early date of 4/12 3 Hartford (NLM, WGE), 3 4/18 Burlington (NLM, WGE et al), also 1 4/29 Springfield (MAP), 1 4/28 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 4 5/1 E. Creek Rutland (RHH), 3 5/6 Springfield (ELW), high count 10 5/20 Herrick's Cove (WJN). On the whole, Barn Swallows seemed late, and their numbers were not outstanding - 1 4/18 Burlington (NLM, WGE), 1 4/25 Woodstock (JMN), 2 4/27 Winhall (WJN), 1 4/30 Shoreham (ELW), 1 4/30 Woodstock (NLM). Seasonal high seems to have been 50 5/14 Herrick's Cove (WJN). First Cliff Swallows were 25 4/30 at the colony site at Finast Supermarket, Rutland (WJN). These birds were already repairing last year's nests! Next 2 5/5 Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 10 5/5 Monkton-nest building (JID, MCD), 6 5/16 Rutland (RHH). High counts were 30 5/23 at the Finast site, Rutland (WJN), 15 5/23 Morgan (NLM, WGE, GFE). Adults were feeding young by 5/29 at Morgan (JEC). Purple Martins arrived 4/18 1 WHL (WJN), 2 4/18 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE et al). They were reported to be widespread at Middlebury and Dead Creek by 5/3 (WS). Away from the Champlain Valley 1 5/25 Woodstock (WGE, SBL, NLM), 2 at the Newport colony 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE), high count 20 Ferrisburg 5/16 (JID, MCD).

#### CORVIDS THROUGH CREEPERS

There were two reports of the Gray Jay; pair nest building 3/31 Island Pond area (CWS, DCA), and 2 Brighton 5/9 (NLM, WGE, EE et al). Blue Jays thinned out during the spring, as most of the wintering birds departed early due to the mild February. There was a hiatus before returning migrants came in in late April (WGE, WJN). The highest daily count submitted was 35 5/21 Shoreham (ELW). Common Ravens have extended their territory in Vermont into the Champlain Valley and as far south as Rutney Mtn. (as reported in recent hawk watches). They were reported widely through the period, with 4 being the high count per day (several obs.). Common Crows over-wintered in most of the valley areas. In montane areas where they do not winter, they began to come in about 3/1. A high count was 190 migrating NE, Ferrisburg 3/1 (JID, MCD). Black-capped Chickadees as usual were present in good numbers at all feeders during the winter, and their numbers seemed high everywhere. The best count submitted was 43 4/13 Hartford (WGE). There were 9 reports of Boreal Chickadee not all of them in the N.E. Kingdom where they generally occur - one 3/18 Sunderland (IBU) - this was the final date for a bird that had been present at a feeder, 1 3/19 Lincoln - present since around Town Meeting Day (PR), 1 3/19 Bethel (PBR) last day for wintering bird, 7 3/31 Island Pond-Morgan (CWS, DCA), 1 4/2 Bethel (PBR) - "possibly a different bird", 1 4/7 Albany (TP), 1 4/4 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 6 5/9 Moose Bog - "including a pair nest building" (NLM, WGE, EE et al), 5 5/23 Moose Bog-Buxton's Cabin (NLM, WGE, GFE). There were only seven reports of the Tufted Titmouse which seems too few for its true numbers - 2 March & April - "nested in bird box on tel. pole in our yard-box empty by 5/22" - Fair Haven (FSA), 1 March & April Randolph (EWC, MCC), 1-3 Springfield 3/1-5/7 "seen pulling roots from ground 4/4" (ELW), 1 5/23 W. Rutland Marsh (WJN). White-breasted Nuthatches were reported everywhere up to about 4 per day. Red-breasted Nuthatches were in good numbers in the south in montane areas - 10-12 per day in Winhall (WJN), but in the Island Pond area CWS and DCA remarked on their scarcity 3/31. Brown Creeper over-winters in many areas. Returning birds - 1 East Creek, Rutland 3/28 (RHH), 2 3/29 Hartford (NLM, WGE), 1 4/4 Rutland (CJF), 2 4/7 Winhall (WJN). High counts were 5 4/28 Rutland (WGE), 5 5/23 N.E. Kingdom (NLM, WGE, GFE).

#### WRENS

House Wrens seemed to be late and in poor numbers,

some observers had not recorded them at all! There were no April sightings. The first was 5/3 Andover (EHP), 1 5/4 S. Strafford (HR), 1 E. Creek, Rutland 5/4 (RHH), 1 Randolph 5/4 (EWC, MCC), 1 5/6 Woodstock (NLM), 1 5/6 Hartford (WGE). Winter Wrens which have been scarce in recent years did fairly well. First 3/30 Stockbridge (EH), 1 4/5 S. Starksboro (WRB, FMB), 1 4/8 Winhall (WJN), 1 4/8 Albany (TP), 1 4/17 Leicester (PFZ), max. 7 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). Long-billed Marsh Wren - first 1 4/28 W. Rutland Marsh (WGE et al), 1 4/30 same place (WJN), 5 5/14 Dead Creek WMA (ELW), max. 50 Dead Creek WMA 5/30 (ELW). There was one report of the rare Carolina Wren, 1 4/24 W. Rutland at feeder (LHT).

#### MIMIDS

The Mockingbird is well established, particularly in the Champlain Valley, and where established it generally over-winters. Breeding was reported from most of these areas. One particularly far north 4/20 St. Albans Bay (JMC), 2 5/7 Plainfield (MFM). The first Gray Catbird occurred way up at St. Albans 5/5 (JMC), 4 Rutland 5/6 (RHH), Woodstock 5/8 (ELW, VINS), 1 5/8 Timmouh (GTL), 1 5/10 Randolph (EWS, MCC). They became generally distributed after 5/14, and numbers seemed as usual to be much greater in the valleys than in the mountain areas. High counts were 10 5/27 Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 10 5/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN). Brown Thrasher - the first one was reported on the phenomenally early date of 4/5 at Vershire (VRM). The date suggests a bird that may have wintered somewhere in the north. The next sighting was on the more normal date of 4/28 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 2 5/1 Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 1 5/2 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/3 Timmouh (GTL), 2 5/4 E. Creek Rutland (RHH), 1 5/6 Springfield Dam (ELW), 2 5/10 Royalton (MCY), max. only 3 5/2 Winhall (WJN).

#### THRUSHES

American Robins probably over-wintered in some areas. First probable migrant 3/1 Woodstock (JMN), 1 3/16 Woodstock (WGE), 1 3/17 Woodstock (MHR), 1 3/18 Herrick's Cove (ELW), 1 3/23 Fair Haven (FSA), 6 E. Creek Rutland 3/26 (RHH), 1 3/26 Timmouh (GTL), 1 3/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN). After 3/28 they became widespread in all parts of the state. High counts - 50 4/8 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 44 4/18 Dead Creek WMA (NLM, WGE et al), 45 4/25 Hartford-Woodstock (NLM, WGE). Robin's egg found on the ground at Woodstock 5/19 (JMN). The Wood Thrush moved in early this year - 1 4/27 Cambridge (JGG, RYG), 1 4/28 Woodstock (JMN), 1 4/28 Clarendon (CJF), 1 4/28 Rutland (RHH), 1 5/3 Hartford (NLM, WGE), 1 5/5 Springfield (MAP), 1 5/7 Randolph (EWC, MCC), and up at St. Albans Bay 5/14 (JMC). The best counts were 8 5/25 Hartford-Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 5-several dates-Winhall (WJN). The Hermit Thrush also appeared early, 1 4/7 Winhall (WJN), 2 4/9 Hartford (WGE), 3 4/11 Stockbridge (EH), 1 4/13 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), 1 4/18 Williston (MFM), 1 4/18 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 1 4/22 Woodstock (JMN, SBL). Best counts - 5 Winhall 4/17 (WJN), 6 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes did very poorly. I suspect most of the breeding population of the two came in after 6/1. Although I considered the breeding populations of the Swainson's down in numbers, and it has been declining for several years for reasons that are unclear, there were decent populations around during June. The Swainson's was only recorded twice, 1 5/23 Peru (WJN), 3 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE); Gray-cheeked only once - 1 5/11 Winhall (WJN). The Veery continued as a numerous breeding species. A very early bird E. Creek Rutland 4/30 (RHH), 1 Springfield 5/2 (ELW), 1 Shrewsbury 5/2 (LPS), 1 Winhall 5/3 (WJN), 1 5/11 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/16 Timmouh (GTL), 1 5/7 Norwich (MEM), 1 5/17 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), high counts 15 5/20 Winhall (WJN), 11 Island Pond 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE). On 5/31 a bird that had been banded 6/3/80 at VINS hit a window and was killed (JMN). The Eastern Bluebird continues relatively scarce. First 4 3/6 Arlington (NS), 1 3/23 W. Haven (fide FSA), 2 3/26 Brownsville (BMH), 1 male 3/26 Randolph (MFM), 2 3/28 W. Hartford (DJH), 1 3/29 Pomfret (MBD), 2 3/30 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 2 3/30 Timmouh (GTL, PB), 2 3/31 Woodstock (NLM, WGE). The initial report of 4 was the max. for the season. At Timmouh the breeding pair had eggs on 5/8, young hatched by 5/15, 5 young fledged by 6/6 (GTL).

#### GNATCATCHER AND KINGLETS

There were ten reports of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher with several of these being breeding pairs. First 4/21 1



male banded (VINS), 2 Springfield Dam Nature Center 5/6 (ELW) - breeding pair, 2 5/4 White River Jct. (WGE), 4 4/28 W. Haven (WGE, LiM, RiM, MSB), 1 5/5 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/7 Rutland (JCh), 3 5/16 Lewis Creek (JID, MCD), 6 singing males W. Haven 5/17 (SBL, JDL), 1 5/20 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 5 5/23 Sand Bar WMA (NLM, WGE, GFE). Golden-crowned Kinglets seemed to be far down in numbers continuing a trend started a few years ago with frigid weather in the southern U.S. Only three observers reported this species at all, on 3/31 at Island Pond, however, CWS and DCA found them everywhere. Others were 1 4/6 Shrewsbury (LPS), 18 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Ruby-crowned Kinglet was also relatively poorly reported, missed by many observers. The first was 1 4/11 Winhall (WJN), 1 4/22 Hartford (WGE), 1 4/23 Tinnmouth (GTL), 1 4/23 Woodstock (JMN), 2 4/26 Liggard Pond, Chittenden (RHH), 1 5/1 (VINS), 6 5/1 Shoreham (ELW), 1 5/5 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD). The last noted was 6 Island Pond 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE) where it breeds - 6 was the max. count/day.

#### PIPIIT THROUGH STARLING

There were two reports of Water Pipit, 1 4/9 White River Jct. (WGE) and the extraordinary date 1 5/23 Lewis (NLM, WGE, GFE). There were three records of Bohemian Waxwing - 30 3/6 Plainfield (MFM), 20 3/7 W. Windsor (MGO), 4 4/12 Lincoln Hill. S. Hinesburg (WRB, PMB, MJM). The Cedar Waxwing has two distinct populations. It winters in areas such as the Champlain Valley, Conn. Valley, and Piedmont and is present very early. In the other areas, mostly Green Mtns. where it does not occur in the winter, it is one of the latest of spring migrants, not appearing in numbers until June. Twenty-three were at the Health Center in Woodstock 3/4 (NLM), 64 3/21 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 15 Church Hill Woodstock 3/23 (MHR), 10 3/27 Hartland Hill, Woodstock (WRC), 20 3/29 Shoreham (NLM, WGE), 6 4/25 Woodstock (JMN), 12 Rutland 4/26 (RHH), 50 4/16 Rutland (CJF). The late movement commenced with 2 at Woodstock 5/22 (ELW), and continued into June. A count of 86 at Burlington 4/18 (NLM, WGE) was high for the spring. Only one Northern Shrike was reported 3/9 Mt. Holly (AEB). A Loggerhead Shrike was reported and well described 3/29 Dead Creek WMA (TAS, BF). Starling numbers seemed down and they seemed to be late in arriving at breeding areas - Gale Meadows and Winhall (WJN), but this was not commented on by any others.

#### VIREOS

The Yellow-throated Vireo arrived very early for Vermont - 1st 5/1 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), next 5/3 Ferrisburg (WS), 1 5/14 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/16 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 2 Woodstock 5/19 (NLM, WGE), 2 5/20 Herrick's Cove (WJN), max. 3 5/23 Sand Bar WMA (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Solitary Vireo also arrived very early - 1st 4/11 Winhall (WJN), 1 4/13 Hartford (WGE), 5 E. Creek, Rutland 5/1 (RHH), 1 5/2 Tinnmouth (GTL), 1 5/15 (VINS). Other high counts 5 5/6 Hartford (WGE), 5 4/30 Winhall (WJN). The Red-Eyed Vireo, one of our most plentiful and widespread breeding birds also arrived early, 1 5/8 Rutland (CJF), 1 5/8 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/9 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 5/11 Winhall (WJN), 2 5/15 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 1 5/15 Tinnmouth (GTL), 12 5/16 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD) which was the high count. The Philadelphia Vireo was first noted on the very early date of 5/8 at Strafford (HR) well described, seen and heard singing, next, also early 1 5/14 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 5/23 Otter Creek Audubon Birdathon (W. Elton), pair seen 5/29 Shorham (ELW). The Warbling Vireo arrived early in a number of locations - 1 5/1 Shoreham (ELW), 1 5/1 Springfield (MAP), 1 5/1 Woodstock (NLM, WGE, JMN), 1 5/3 Ferrisburg (WS), 4 5/5 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 6 5/9 Middlebury (JID, MCD), also 4 5/8 (VINS), 6 5/21 Dead Creek WMA (WJN).

#### WOOD WARBLERS

First Black-&-white Warblers were 6 at E. Creek Rutland 4/22, 1 there 4/28 (RHH), 1 4/28 Woodstock (SBL), 1 5/1 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/2 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/3 Hartford (WGE), 1 5/3 Springfield (MAP), 1 5/4 Rochester (Mcy), 1 5/5 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 4 5/6 Springfield (ELW), high counts 10 5/6 Hartford (WGE), 9 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE). Golden-winged Warbler records 1 at Ira 5/19 (RHH), 1 Castleton 5/19 (CJF), 5/23 W. Rutland Marsh (SBL, BLR, LHP), 5/23 W. Rutland Rte. 4 (RWP, CY, MY). Blue-winged Warbler, 1 5/15 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/19 Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 1 5/23 Brownsville (RMC), 5/23 W. Rutland Rte. 4 (RWP, CY, MY). "Brewster's" Warbler 5/23 Chittenden Coun-

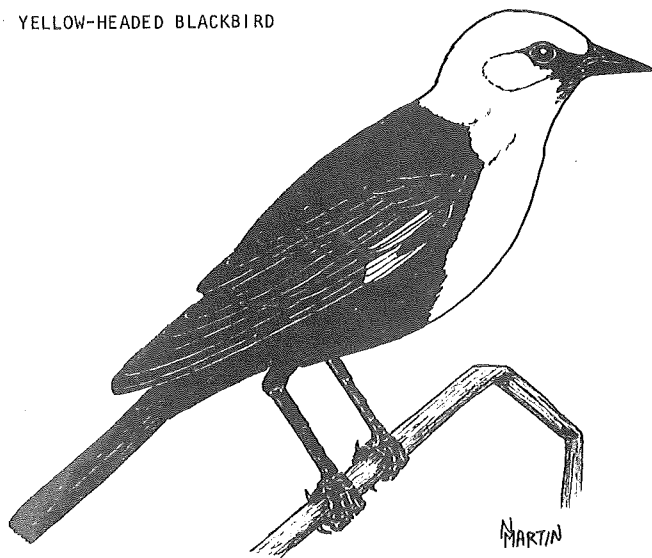
ty Birdathon (C. Archer et al). Tennessee Warbler first 1 Norwich 5/7 (MEM), 8 Shoreham 5/10 (ELW), 1 Ferrisburg 5/10 (JID, MCD), 1 E. Creek Rutland 5/11 (RHH), 1 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS), 1 5/14 Woodstock (WGE). High counts were the aforementioned 8, and 6 Hartford 5/25 (NLM, WGE). The first Nashville Warbler was 1 5/2 Woodstock (JMN), followed by 4 E. Creek, Rutland 5/4 (RHH), then a host of sightings on 5/5 - 2 Woodstock (NLM), 2 Winhall (WJN), 1 Stockbridge (EH), 2 (VINS). Good counts were 15 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS), 22 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). Northern Parula not too well reported, many observers apparently missed it. Three 5/6 Hartford (WGE), 1 5/8 Winhall (WJN), 1 E. Creek, Rutland 5/9 (RHH), 3 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS), 1 5/26 Brownsville (JEH, BMH). High count 6 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Yellow Warbler was first seen at W. Rutland Marsh, 2 5/3 (RHH), followed by 2 5/5 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 1 5/5 (VINS), 4 Woodstock 5/8 (ELW), 1 5/8 S. Strafford (HR), 4 5/9 Middlebury (JID, MCD), 1 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS), high count 50 Shoreham 5/11 (ELW). The Magnolia Warbler seemed under-reported also. First 4 5/6 Winhall (WJN), 6 East Creek, Rutland 5/9 (RHH), 6 5/9 Ferdinand (NLM, WGE, EE, et al), 1 5/10 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 20 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS) which was the seasonal high, also 16 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Cape May Warbler seemed scarce to the writer, many probably overflew southern Vermont due to the lack of conditions suitable for "grounding" migrants. First 2 5/6 Hartford (WGE), 1 5/8 Hartford (WGE), 4 5/9 Moose Bog (NLM, WGE et al) which was the season's high. Also 1 5/10 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 1 5/15 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/20 Winhall (WJN), and 1 5/23 Moose Bog (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Black-throated Blue Warbler was recorded first on the very early date of 4/29 - 2 E. Creek Rutland (RHH), 1 5/5 Rochester (Mcy), 1 5/5 (VINS), 1 5/8 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/9 Dead Creek WMA (JID, MCD), max. 8 Island Pond 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Yellow-rumped Warbler also arrived phenomenally early - 1 3/29 Cuttingsville (DMS). More normal were 2 4/18 Addison (NLM, WGE) and 1 4/22 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 4/25 Woodstock (JMN), 1 4/26 Tinnmouth (GTL), 6 4/29 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), high counts 50 5/11 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 50 5/9 Island Pond (NLM, WGE). Black-throated Green Warbler - first 4 E. Creek, Rutland 4/29 (RHH), 1 5/5 Woodstock (WGE), 1 5/7 Winhall (WJN), 5 5/7 Hartford (WGE), 3 Springfield 5/6 (ELW), 5 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS), max. 7 5/6 Hartford (WGE). One report of Cerulean Warbler, at the established breeding site at Sand Bar WMA 3 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE, CWS, DCA, AVS). Blackburnian Warbler was first seen 5/5 3 singing males Stockbridge (EH), 1 5/6 Rochester (Mcy), 4 Springfield 5/6 (ELW), 11 5/6 Hartford (WGE), 1 E. Creek, Rutland 5/11 (RHH), 5 5/11 Moose Bog (WS, CWS), high count 17 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). Chestnut-sided Warbler - first 5/5 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/5 Quechee (BKW), 2 5/6 Stockbridge (EH), 5 5/6 Hartford (WGE), 2 5/6 Winhall (WJN), 2 5/7 Tinnmouth (GTL), 6 E. Creek, Rutland 5/11 (RHH), "several" 5/10 S. Strafford (HR), 1 5/11 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 5/12 Middlebury (Mcy), high count 36 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). Bay-breasted Warbler 1 5/8 Hartford (WGE), 1 5/10 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 2 E. Creek, Rutland 5/11 (RHH), 1 5/22 Winhall (WJN), 5/23 Plymouth Lake-Shrewsbury Mtn. (SBL, BLR, LHP), 6 5/24 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 1 5/24 Woodstock (JMN), 6 Shoreham 5/24 (ELW), 1 5/25 Hartford (NLM, WGE), max. 6. Blackpoll Warbler - first 1 5/14 Londonderry (WJN), 1 5/16 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 4 E. Creek Rutland 5/22 (RHH), 2 5/23 Newport, Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE), 2 Shoreham 5/24 (ELW), 1 St. Albans Bay 5/24 (JMC), 2 Hartford 5/25 (NLM, WGE), 2 Woodstock 5/26 (NLM, WGE), max. 4. Pine Warbler seven reports - 1 4/12 Lake Morey (NLM, WGE), 1 4/29 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/6 Hartford (WGE), 1 5/7 Springfield (ELW), 1 5/23 Newport (NLM, WGE, GFE), 1 5/23 Rutland (CJF), 1 5/25 Quechee (NLM, WGE). There were three reports of the Prairie Warbler - 1 5/23 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 1 5/27 Weathersfield (BBF), 3 5/31 Woodstock (NLM, WGE). Surprisingly there was only one Palm Warbler report, 1 4/18 Sand Bar WMA (MFM). The Ovenbird was first recorded on the early date of 4/28 Woodstock (JMN), 1 E. Creek, Rutland 5/4 (RHH), 1 5/5 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 5/6 Woodstock (NLM), 4 5/6 Hartford (WGE), 2 5/6 Winhall (WJN), 5/8 S. Strafford (HR), 1 5/8 Benson (CJF), 2 5/9 Weathersfield (ELW), high counts 10 5/23 Winhall and Peru (WJN), 7 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). The first Northern Waterthrush was 1 5/3 No. Pomfret (MHR, TCR), 1 5/9 Peru (WJN), 1 5/10 Sherburne (NLM, WGE), 1 5/15 (VINS), 1 5/17 Woodstock (JMN), high count 11 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Louisiana Waterthrush with only 4 reports seemed under-reported. Certainly there were a

lot more of them around in June. One 4/17 Leicester (PFZ), 1 4/29 No. Springfield (KMC), 1 4/30 Winhall (WJN), and 5/23 Plainfield Birdathon (TCR, MHR, IAM). Five Mourning Warbler reports were submitted, which also seems low, but many of them came in in June. One 5/24 Clarendon (CJF), 3 5/23 Brunswick-Bloomfield (NLM, WGE, GFE), 2 5/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 2 5/26 (VINS), 1 5/27 (VINS). Common Yellow-throat - 3 way up at St. Albans Bay 5/4 (JMC) were the first, 2 5/5 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 3 5/6 Springfield (ELW), 1 5/8 Hartford (WGE), 1 5/9 W. Rutland Marsh (RHH), 2 5/9 Tirmouth (GTL), 5 5/9 Dead Creek WMA (JID, MCD), peak counts 25 West Rutland Marsh, E. Dorset, Winhall (WJN), 44 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE) all 5/23. Willson's Warbler eight reports - one banded Woodstock 5/20 (NLM, WGE), 1 5/22 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/23 Woodstock (SBL), 1 5/24 Rutland (CJF), 2 Shoreham 5/24 (ELW), 1 Hartford 5/25 (NLM, WGE), 1 5/26 (VINS), 1 Shoreham 5/31 (ELW). Canada Warbler - first 1 Shoreham 5/14-15 (ELW), 1 5/16 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/16 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 12 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE) which was the high count, 6 5/23 Winhall and Peru (WJN), 3 5/25 Hartford (WGE). American Redstart - first 5/9 Winhall (WJN), 2 5/10 Hartford, Mendon (NLM, WGE), 2 5/10 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 6 E. Creek, Rutland 5/13 (RHH), 4 Shoreham 5/16 (ELW), 1 5/16 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 5/17 Rutland (CJF), 1 Castleton 5/19 (CJF), 1 5/19 (VINS). By far the highest count was 24 Island Pond 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE).

#### HOUSE SPARROW, ICTERIDS AND Tanager

House Sparrows seem to be in usual numbers, a partial albino was noted at W. Rutland 4/21 (LHT). Bobolink - first 5/5, 3, Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 6 5/6 Brownsville (JEH, BMH), 4 5/10 Mt. Holly (AEB), 1 5/11 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/12 Rutland (CJF), 5 5/13 Shoreham (ELW), 6 W. Rutland Marsh 5/16 (RHH), 2 5/17 Albany (TP), high counts 10 Shoreham 5/31 (ELW), 8 5/21 Dead Creek WMA (WJN). Eastern Meadowlark - first Clarendon 3/22 (CJF), 9 3/25 Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 2 Conn. River (where?) 3/29 (RHH), 6 3/27 Saxtons River (KMC, WC), 2 3/30 Herrick's Cove (MAP), 1 3/30 Quechee (KRT), 1 3/31 (Morgan (CWS, DCA), 1 Shoreham 4/4 (ELW), high count 25 4/18 Addison (NLM, WGE, et al). An adult male YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD, third state record for the species, was seen 3/29 at N. Ferrisburg with 500-600

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD



other blackbirds (TAS). Red-winged Blackbirds were on the move during the February thaw; 2/19 Winhall (WJN), 500 2/21 Hartford, Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 2/28 Rutland (CJF). They became widespread in early March; 100 Mt. Holly 3/1 (AEB), 8 3/1 Woodstock (JMN), "everywhere" Shoreham 3/1 (ELW), 25 Rutland 3/2 (RHH), Winhall 3/4 (WJN), 1 3/6 Tirmouth (GTL), 1 3/5 Essex (LJE), 350-400 3/11 Burlington (CWS). By far the highest count was 3100+ 3/29 Rutland and Addison Co. (NLM, WGE). Northern Oriole - first 5/2 Woodstock (JMN), widespread after that, 2 5/5 Hartford-Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 1 5/5 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 1 5/6 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 1 5/6 Woodstock (NLM), 1 5/6 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 1 5/7 Vershire (VRM), 1 Randolph 5/7 (EWC, MCC), 1 5/9 Plainfield (MFM), 1 Chester 5/9 (ELW), 2

5/10 Tirmouth (GTL), 1 5/11 St. Albans (JMC), 2 5/11 Brownsville (JEH, BMH), 1 5/14 Pittsford (BMZ), high count 15 5/21 Dead Creek WMA (WJN). The Rusty Blackbird which has been declining in recent years for reasons not altogether clear, was reported 10 times; 1 3/16 Weybridge (MN, ABI), 1 3/18 White River Jct. (WGE), 1 3/21 Clarendon (CJF), 2 4/8 Colchester (CWS), 1 4/9 Gale Meadows (WJN), where it formerly bred, 2 4/26 same place (WJN), 1 5/2 Gale Meadows (WJN), 1 5/23 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), 1 5/23 Jericho (CB), 1 5/27 Prouty Beach, Newport (WS, et al). The Common Grackle was also moving in February, 30 3/21 Hartford, Woodstock (NLM, WGE), "several" 3/1 Shoreham (ELW), 1 3/1 Rutland (CJF), 25 Mt. Holly 3/1 (AEB), 20 3/10 Brownsville (JEH, BMH), 1 3/11 Winhall (WJN), 2 3/13 Randolph (EWC, MCC), 1 3/14 Pomfret (MHR, TCR), 3 3/16 Fair Haven (FSA), max. by far 2500 3/29 Rutland and Addison Counties (NLM, WGE). The Brown-headed Cowbird overwintered in many areas - 1 3/1 Rutland (JPM), 6 Mt. Holly 3/1 (AEB), 1 3/2 Rutland (CJF), 5 5/3 Benson (CJF). The highest count by far was 500+ 4/23 White River Jct. (WGE). The Scarlet Tanager - first 1 Springfield 5/6 (ELW), 2 Hartford 5/6 (WGE), 1 5/8 Benson (CJF), 1 5/10 Winhall (WJN), 1 5/10 Fair Haven (FSA), 1 5/10 Tirmouth (GTL), 1 5/14 Woodstock (JMN), 4 5/16 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 2 5/16 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 1 5/16 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), max. 10 5/23 Winhall and Peru (WJN).

#### FRINGILLIDAE

The Cardinal was reported from most parts of the state at low elevations, rarer or absent in the mountains, max. 5-7 per day at several locations. The Rose-breasted Grosbeak also arrived early this year. First 5/1 Woodstock (SBL), 1 5/2 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/2 Springfield (MAP), 1 5/2 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), 2 5/6 Winhall (WJN), 3 5/6 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 2 5/7 Springfield (ELW), 1 Tirmouth 5/8 (GTL), 7 Ferrisburg 5/9 (JID, MCD), 1 5/10 Fair Haven (FSA). The high count was 20 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). Indigo Bunting, usually a late arriver - first 5/12 Vershire (VRM), 2 5/15 Shoreham (ELW), 1 5/15 Randolph (EWC, MCC), 1 5/16 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 1 Rutland 5/19 (RHH, CJF), 1 5/20 Woodstock (JMN), 1 Sandbar WMA 5/23 (NLM, WGE, GFE), 1 5/23 Peru (WJN), max. 4 Hartford 5/25 (NLM, WGE). Evening Grosbeaks were present thru the winter in most areas. They were gone by mid-May from non-breeding areas. Late dates 2 5/15 Winhall (WJN), 24 Rutland 5/14 (RHH), 1 5/16 Pittsford (BMZ), 5/18 S. Strafford (HR), 5/20 Cambridge (RYG, JGG). A count of 11 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE) likely represents a breeding population. Counts of 75-100/day in many locations during March and April. Purple Finch - some probably overwintered - 1 3/1 Mt. Holly (AEB) may have done so. More likely arrivals from the south were 8 4/3 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), 2 4/6 Fair Haven (FSA), 1 Randolph 4/8 (EWC, MCC), 2 4/15 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 1 4/16 Albany (TP), 1 4/17 Winhall (WJN), after this they became widespread, high counts 20 4/28 Winhall (WJN), 18 5/4 White River Jct. (WGE). House Finch this ever-expanding species reported from 10 locations, as far north as Randolph, Vergennes, and Plainfield. A maximum of 10 were seen 3/25 Springfield (ELW). Seen building nest in Rutland 3/21 (WGE). Pine Grosbeaks remained into March from the winter's moderate flight. Late reports were 14 3/14 Plainfield (MFM), 10 3/16 Winhall (WJN), 2 3/19 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 1 3/16 Woodstock (WGE), 3 3/23 Woodstock (JMN), 2 3/25 Woodstock (NLM, WGE), 8 3/25 Albany (TP), 3 3/30 Winhall (WJN). Common Redpoll - there were considerable numbers around in March from the winter flight and some lingered into April. The heavier numbers were in the northern part of the state. Late dates were as follows: 8 3/25 Woodstock (HJS), 2 3/27 Springfield (ELW), 1 3/27 Shrewsbury (LPS), 7 3/28 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), 12 3/28 Fair Haven (FSA), 1 3/29 Mt. Holly (AEB), 30 3/31 Plainfield (MFM), 8 3/31 Stockbridge (EH), 25-30 4/2 Woodstock (HDC), 5-6 4/3 Mt. Holly (AEB), 2-3 4/3 Randolph (EWC, MCC), 2 4/6 Norwich (WGE), 4 4/13 Albany (TP). Two high counts were 500+ 5/21 No. Hero (WGE) and 500 Ferrisburg 3/22 (JID, MCD). Pine Siskins occurred through the period, more numerous in the northern part. Early dates - 8 3/2 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 2 3/3 Fair Haven (FSA), 5 3/12 Albany (TP), 3/19 Shrewsbury (LPS), pair 4/5 Summit and Maple Street, Burlington-building nest in a Norway Spruce (CWS) - nest building in Burlington 4/11 (WGE), copulation noted - Hartford 5/8 (WGE). Late dates 4 5/23 Newport (NLM, WGE, GFE), 5 5/16 Shoreham (ELW), 30-40 5/16 Rutland (NLM, WGE), 5/14 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 5/15 S. Strafford (HR), high count 50 Albany during April (TP). American

Goldfinch wintered in many areas. In the montane areas where they did not winter, they appeared mostly in May. Some representative dates - 1 5/1 Mt. Holly (AEB), 5 5/7 Woodstock (JMN), 2 5/8 Albany (TP), 2 5/12 St. Albans (JMC), high count 60 Springfield 5/7 (ELW). There were no reports of either Crossbill! Rufous-sided Towhee - first 4/14 Tinnmouth (GTL), 1 4/26 White River Jct. (WGE), 1 4/27 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 4/30 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 2 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 5/2 Woodstock (JMN), high count 8 5/24 Clarendon (CJF). First Savannah Sparrow 3/29 Plainfield (MFM), 2 4/6 Ompompanoosuc, Norwich (WGE), 1 Randolph 4/9 (EWC, MCC), 1 4/12 Pittsford (BMZ), 2 Dead Creek WMA 4/23 (JID, MCD), 1 4/30 Rutland Airport (WJN). The high count was 45 4/23 White River Jct. (WGE). There were three records of the elusive Grasshopper Sparrow all from the Champlain Valley. One pair 5/4 through end of period, Shoreham (ELW) nest found 5/30 with 6 eggs, 1 5/21 Button Bay SP (WJN), 3 5/23 Panton (NLM, WGE, GFE). Vesper Sparrow first 1 4/4 Rutland (CJF), 3 4/9 White River Jct. (WGE), 3 4/12 Burlington (PFZ), 6 4/18 Addison (NLM, WGE, et al), 1 4/28 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/4 Dead Creek WMA (JID), highest count 7 4/26 White River Jct. (NLM, ALG, WGE, GFE). Dark-eyed Junco over-wintered in many areas, early March birds are likely from this source. There was a definite movement in late March into areas where they did not winter. One 3/26 Tinnmouth (GTL), 1 3/27 Hartford (WGE), 1 3/27 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), 10 3/27 Mt. Holly (AEB), 3 3/28 Winhall (WJN), 6 3/28 E. Creek, Rutland (RHH), 11 3/30 Pittsford (BMZ), 25 3/30 Woodstock (JMN), 10-15 3/30 Vershire (VRM). Highest count by far was 300 3/30 Shrewsbury (LPS). The Tree Sparrow seems to be declining as a migrant, particularly at the higher elevations, where I used to feed 100 or more a day at my Green Mtn. location. I am now lucky to see two or three for the season. The cause of this remains obscure. Late dates included 2 Dead Creek WMA 4/23 (JID, MCD), 2 4/27 Albany (TP), 1 4/28 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 1 4/30 Lake Memphrangaog (DHM), and amazingly 1 reported Morgan 5/27 (JEC). High count was only 20 3/1 Woodstock (JMN). Chipping Sparrow - two birds on the phenomenally early date of 3/30 Mt. Holly (AEB), 1 4/12 Hartford (WGE), 1 Tinnmouth 4/14 (GTL), 1 Ferrisburg 4/18 (JID, MCD), high count 15 Island Pond 5/9 (NLM, WGE, EE). Field Sparrow - first 1 4/3 Herrick's cove (WJN), 1 4/7 Tinnmouth (GTL), 2 4/8 Benson (CJF), 1 4/9 Hartford (WGE), 2 4/13 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 2 4/20 Rutland (RHH), max. 7 Woodstock 5/3 (JMN), 7 Woodstock 5/31 (NLM, WGE). White-crowned Sparrow - first 7 5/7 Berlin (MFM), 1 5/8 Rutland (CJF), 1 5/9 Benson (CJF), 2 5/14 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 2 5/15 Winhall (WJN), 2 5/16

Tinnmouth (GTL), Last seen 1 5/25 Marshfield (MFM), max. 7 5/7 Berlin (MFM). The White-throated Sparrow over-wintered in many places, 9 early March dates refer to such individuals. First migrants - 1 4/6 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 4/8 Cambridge (RYG, JGG), 1 4/12 Hartford (WGE), 1 4/11 Winhall (WJN), 1 4/11 Vershire (VRM), 1 4/14 Taftsville (FrM), 2 4/14 Mt. Holly (AEB), 1 4/14 Randolph (EWC, MCC), 6 4/13 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 6 E. Creek, Rutland 4/15 (RHH). The max. count by far was 61 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE). The Fox Sparrow seems under-reported this spring. Two 3/29 Ferrisburg (JID, MCD), 1 E. Creek, Rutland 3/30 (RHH), 1 3/30 Tinnmouth (PB), 1 3/31 Winhall (WJN), 1 3/31 Stockbridge (EH), 1 4/2 Bethel (PBR), 1 4/2 Woodstock (JMN), 2 4/5 Mt. Holly (AEB), 2 4/7 Sunderland (fide NS), 1 4/9 Shrewsbury (LPS), 1 4/12 Rutland (CJF), final dates 4/18 Winhall (WJN), 1 4/23 Shrewsbury (LPS), high count only 3 4/11 Winhall (WJN). The Lincoln's Sparrow was reported 6 times. One 5/8 Hartford (WGE), 1 5/14 Woodstock (JMN), 1 5/15 (VINS), 5 5/23 Island Pond (NLM, WGE, GFE), 1 5/26 Herrick's Cove (WJN), 2 banded 5/27 (VINS). Swamp Sparrow - first 1 4/11 Gale Meadows (WJN), 8 4/18 Addison (NLM, WGE, et al), 30 4/28 W. Rutland to Addison (WGE et al) which was the max. count. The Song Sparrow over-wintered in some areas - 1 3/1 Sharon (MCy), 3/1 Shoreham (ELW), these two may represent over-wintering birds. The real movement set in after March 20 - 3 3/23 St. Albans Bay (JMC), 3 3/26 Randolph (EWC, MCC), 3/27 Tinnmouth (PB), 3/21 Tinnmouth (GTL), 3 3/28 Hartford (WGE), 3/28 No. Pomfret (MHR), 1 3/28 Winhall (WJN), 7 3/28 Plainfield (MFM), high count 30 4/3 Herrick's Cove (WJN). Lapland Longspur - 8 males 4/25 Dead Creek WMA (WS). A SMITH'S LONGSPUR, a new species for Vermont, apparently a subadult male, was seen 4/25 at Sykes Ave., White River Jct. (NLM, WGE) - verification report on file. The report has been accepted by the Vt. Bird Records Co. as a hypothetical record. Snow Bunting only one report 2 3/22 Herrick's Cove (NLM, WGE).

Editor's Note: A report has just been received of a White Fronted Goose observed in late March 1981 off South Hero (CSP). This report has been submitted to the Vermont Bird Records Committee, and would constitute a first state record for the species.

The Records of Vermont Birds is published quarterly by the Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Subscription is on an annual basis, dating from the original month of subscription. Yearly Subscription \$5.00.

SPRING 1981 CONTRIBUTORS

FSA	Betty Allen	LJE	Lynn Erb	JFM	Janet Martin	RbR	Robert Rooks
JJA	Jeffrey Allen	BDF	Brian Farrell	NLM	Nancy Martin	CSA	Cindy Sarville
PB	Philip Ballou	BF	Bruce Flewelling	MJM	Mike Maurer	CWS	Chris Schultz
DBa	Dave Barash	TF	Ted Foulk	SAM	Sandy Maurer	WS	Wayne Scott
CB	Chris Barnes	CJF	C.J. Frankiewicz	LiM	Linda MacKay	DMS	David Sears
AEB	Arlene Barton	BBF	Bertine Frederickson	RiM	Richard MacKay	LPS	Linda Selvey
PMB	Pat Beecher	MGo	Myra Goodman	TM	Tom Melanchuk	NS	Nancy Simson
WRB	Will Beecher	ALG	Annette Gosnell	FrM	Frances Menning	RNS	Bob Spear
ABi	Ann Bilodeau	TG	Mrs. Thomas Griffith	LMN	Larry Metcalf	AFS	Nancy Spencer
PhB	Phillis Binkley	MJG	Mary Jane Gurdziel	MFM	Marion Metcalf	JAS	J. A. Stallone
PhR	Peggy Brainard	BPG	Bea Guyett	MEM	Mary Metz	EdS	Edith Stewart
MSB	Marilyn Breselor	JGG	June Guyette	DHM	Don Miller	JDS	Jim Stewart
JLB	Jenepher Brettell	RYG	Robert Guyette	SUM	Susan Moore	RuS	Ruth Stewart
EEB	Nora Brooks	EH	Ed Hack	VRM	Valerie Mullen	HJS	Harold Stillwell
AAB	Ada Brown	Jha	Jo Haikara	MN	Marge Nelson	TSTJ	Mrs. T. St. John
LBu	Louise Burns	DJH	Duane Harrington	WDN	Whit Nichols	TAS	Tom Striker
DCA	Dwight Cargill	KRH	Karleen Hayden	JMN	Julie Nicholson	AVS	Anne Van Sweringen
JEC	John Carter	AH	Avis Head	CJN	Clem Nilan	KRT	Kevin Taft
MCy	Melissa Cary	ADH	Ann Day Heinzerling	JNi	Jim Nissen	FKT	Francisca Thomas
SJC	Steve Cavrak	WH	Wesley Herwig	RNi	Ruth Nissen	HT	Helen Thompson
JCh	Jim Chase	BMH	Beryl Hinton	WJN	William Norse	HWT	Helene Toolan
HDC	Howell Chickering	JEH	John Hinton	FO	Frank Oatman	JMT	James Toolan
WRC	Winona Chickering	CBH	Cecil Hoisington	TP	Teen Palen	LFT	Leo Trepanier
JMC	Jules Chicoine	RHH	Rhoda Horne	EHP	E. H. Pease	VINS	Vermont Institute of Natural Science Bird Banding Data
EWC	Elizabeth Clapp	HbO	Harvey Horner	MAP	May Peavey	VFBC	VINS Field Birding Class
MCC	Mary Clapp	KH	Karl Hurd	RWP	Roy Pilcher	JVI	Jean Viebrock
DC	Don Clark	SAI	Sami Izzo	AP	Alan Pistorius	EGV	Wendy Vogt
CCo	Chad Collins	DSJ	David Jenne	EP	Elizabeth Plump	BKW	Bobby Warner
MAC	Mary Converse	CDK	Chris Kibbe	LHP	Henry Potter	ELW	Elizabeth Weeks
WC	Walt Cottrell	DPK	Doug Kibbe	CSP	Craig Provost	IHW	Irving Whitcomb
KMC	Kenneth Cox	JoK	Jo Kixmiller	REP	Bunni Putnam	JWV	Joseph Whitehorne
CC	Cornelia Cummings	RWK	Richard Kixmiller	HSP	Hugh Putnam	MLW	Martha Williamson
WLC	Will Curtis	PKr	Peter Kreisel	TR	Therese Raymond	JW	John Wires
MBD	Beezie Drake	JDL	David Laughlin	HR	Herman Redden	CCY	Cathy Yandell
RD	Roberta Dubrosky	SBL	Sally Laughlin	RJR	Ronald Regan	MLY	Marilyn Yost
JID	John Dye	DKL	Dorothy Lavallee	MHR	Mary Holland Richards	MY	Mark Youngstrom
MCD	Margaret Dye	RBL	Richard Lavallee	TCR	Tom Richards	CY	Connie Youngstrom
EE	Eleanor Ellis	GAL	Gale Lawrence	HSR	Harold Rising	BMZ	Blanche Zauchinger
GFE	George Ellison	GTL	George LeBoutillier	BLR	Betty Rist	PFZ	Peter Zika
WGE	Walter Ellison	EBL	Ericka Lefren	CLR	Carole Roberson		
		TL	Ted Levin	PR	Peg Rood		
		CAM	Carol Martin				