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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

AN INTRODUCTION TO WINTER BIRDING AT QUABBIN ..... Mark Lynch	297
ESCAPES VERSUS VAGRANTS: A COMMENT . . Richard Veit	309
SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT FIELD GUIDES - OLD AND NEW ..... Leif J. Robinson	312
THE AUDUBON SOCIETY MASTER GUIDE - A BRIEF REVIEW ..... Dorothy R. Arvidson	314
THE GREAT BARN OWL CAPER . . . . . David E. Clapp	315
FAREWELL TO THE WESTERN REEF HERON. . Martha Vaughan	319
BEHAVIOR-WATCHING FIELD NOTES ..... Donald and Lillian Stokes	324
FIELD RECORDS: SEPTEMBER 1983 . . . . .	326
HEAD-BOBBING BEHAVIOR IN MALE FLICKERS . . . Mary Dickinson Bird and James E. Bird	339
INDEX, VOLUME 11, 1983 . . . . .	341
AT-A-GLANCE . . . . .	343

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## TIME TO RENEW

You will find a BIRD OBSERVER 1984 renewal form tucked into the front of this issue. We would very much appreciate it if you would send in renewals as soon as possible. Thank you.

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NEW STATE CHECKLIST AVAILABLE. The 1983 Massachusetts Bird List (third edition), Fauna of Massachusetts Series No. 1, by Brad Blodget has just become available. This is a 24-page booklet listing the birds of Massachusetts, fully annotated with space to check your finds and appendices on Problematicals and Infrequent Vagrants. Bearing the Western Reef Heron on the cover, this up-to-date publication is available for one dollar (postage included) from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife  
Field Headquarters  
Westboro, MA 01581.

Send a \$1.00 check (not cash) made out to the above state division and mark the envelope: Attention Non-Game Division.

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## THE NATURE OF WINTER - A NATURAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

Winter is an ideal time to learn about nature. Living things do not die or disappear in winter, as is commonly believed; they just change form. In this workshop, DONALD and LILLIAN STOKES will explore bird behavior and bird nests, mammal signs and tracks, evidence of insects, the ecology of snow, winter weeds, and the lives of trees, shrubs, and vines. Adaptations in the form and behavior of plants and animals and how these function to further the cause of survival and reproduction will be highlighted. The workshop will consist of an evening session with slides and live material, followed by a day-long field trip in the Concord area.

Leaders: Donald and Lillian Stokes are co-authors of A Guide to Bird Behavior, Volume 2, and A Guide to Wildflower Lives (available fall 1984). Don has also written A Guide to Nature in Winter, The Natural History of Wild Shrubs and Vines, and A Guide to Observing Insect Lives.

Evening Session: Wednesday, February 8, 1984, 8-9:30 P.M. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 404 Concord Avenue, Belmont.  
Field Trip: Saturday, February 11 (alternate date February 12).

Cost: \$25. Send a check made out to Bird Observer to 462 Trapelo Road, Belmont MA 02178. Mark the envelope, "Nature Workshop," and include your return address and phone number. Limited to twenty participants.

## MASSACHUSETTS GULLS - A BIRDING WORKSHOP

Bird Observer again invites you to participate in a two-part gull workshop. WAYNE R. PETERSON will conduct an evening seminar on Massachusetts gulls: their biology, evolution, ecology, historical status, and identification. Through the use of slides, study skins, and discussion, participants will be introduced to the subtleness of larid molt and to the many complexities affecting the aging process of gulls. In addition to exposing the group to some of the more important larid literature, a follow-up field trip to Newburyport will provide an opportunity for the group to put to use information gained from the indoor session. And yes, Thayer's Gull will be included.

Evening Seminar: Thursday, March 15, 1984, 8-9:30 P.M. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 404 Concord Avenue, Belmont. Field Trip: Saturday, March 17, 1984 (alternate date March 18) in Newburyport.

Cost: \$25. Send a check to Bird Observer, 462 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA 02178 and mark the envelope "Gull Workshop." Include your return address and phone number. Limited to twenty participants.

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