

A BIRDER'S GUIDE TO EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

I am pleased to announce that the book, *A Birder's Guide to Eastern Massachusetts*, a joint publishing venture of Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts, Inc., and the American Birding Association (ABA), will be available in late summer 1994.

The book contains twenty-three chapters arranged in six clusters: North Shore, South Shore and Southeastern Massachusetts, West of Boston, Quabbin Reservation, Boston Area, and Cape Cod and the Islands. Early versions of most chapters have appeared in *Bird Observer* over the course of two decades, and all of these chapters have been updated for the book. Several new where-to-go-birding chapters are also contained in the book. Other chapters written especially for the book include an introductory chapter, an appendix on specialty birds of Massachusetts, and a section of bar graphs, all written by Richard Forster; an appendix on pelagic birding by Wayne Petersen; and an appendix on hawkwatching by Paul Roberts. Janet Heywood produced most of the maps for the book. Those of you who are familiar with other books in ABA's *Birder's Guide* series can expect the usual high quality editorial and production standards. We at *Bird Observer* are delighted that this book will soon be available for our readers and other interested birders.

The origins of the book lie in our recognition that Bird Observer's previous book, *Where to Find Birds in Eastern Massachusetts*, published in 1978, was both long out of print and long out of date. The joint venture with ABA resulted from a number of factors, both philosophical and practical. Both organizations share common goals—both are interested in promoting and enhancing recreational birding, the study of birds, and the enjoyment of birds. It seems fitting that a book about finding birds in an area with such a rich tradition in birding, fostered by the influence of such notable individuals as Ludlow Griscom and Roger Tory Peterson, should receive more than regional attention and should be published by an organization that already had a bird-finding guide series well established. This joint publication venture is, therefore, a symbiosis in which both organizations and their respective but overlapping constituencies can benefit. It combines local expertise with high quality publication standards for the benefit of the largest possible audience.

Both organizations realize that public awareness and education are major factors in the conservation efforts necessary to ensure the continued existence of the birds upon which we and our memberships ultimately rely. We hope that this book will help with these efforts by making the birds of our region more accessible, and their understanding and appreciation more enjoyable.

William E. Davis, Jr., President

A Birder's Guide to Eastern Massachusetts
ABA Birdfinding Guide Series



In early June *A Birder's Guide to Eastern Massachusetts* will go to the printer. We expect to be able to ship orders two months later, just in time for you to catch the start of fall migration.

This comprehensive guide to coastal and inland birding locales contains twenty-three chapters, each accompanied by at least one map. Barry Van Dusen has drawn the bird illustrations. The birdfinding instructions include mileages between suggested stopping points and have been field-checked for accuracy.

Two special sections cover hawkwatching and pelagic birding—both providing a thorough overview of each phenomenon as it occurs along the Massachusetts coast. A Specialties section directs the birder to the best sites for regional species. The seasonal abundance and relative occurrence bar-graphs cover each species recorded for the Eastern Massachusetts area. Lists of rare and accidental species are included also. The guide is fully indexed for locations and species with a time-saving abbreviated table of contents box on each pair of index pages to let you see immediately which chapter corresponds to each index entry.

The guide's wire-O binding allows it to stay open flat to any page, while the wrap-around back cover protects the pages and provides a titled spine for locating the shelved book.

Prepublication Special Offer Through July 31, 1994
Mail Orders Only

ABA MEMBERS: \$11.95 **NON-MEMBERS: \$14.95**

Regular Member Price \$13.95 **Regular Non-Member Price \$16.95**

Add \$3.50 shipping for one book; 60 cents for each additional book

Mail orders to:

ABA Sales, PO Box 6599, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80934-6599

(for overseas members only—offer valid through September 30, 1994)