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ABOUT THE COVER ARTIST

A frequent contributor to *Bird Observer*, Massachusetts artist Barry Van Dusen is currently developing material he gathered on a recent trip to India, and enjoying experimenting with large formats and oil-on-paper painting, a medium that offers exceptional control over texture and line strength. Barry will be an exhibiting artist at the Yankee Heritage Arts and Nature Festival, a multiple-artist show to be held April 24-26 at several locations in the Blackstone River Valley. For information, call the Nature Arts Organization, the Festival's sponsor, at (508)865-7102. Barry often illustrates Massachusetts Audubon Society publications, including the recently published *Grasslands of Northeastern North America*, and *Birds of Massachusetts*, from which our cover illustration was taken.