

SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER, 1977

September in Boston was cloudy and wet with seasonal temperatures. The temperature averaged 64.4° , 0.1° below normal. The month began summer-like with several very warm days; the highest temperature was 92° on the 2nd and the low was 47° on the 22nd. No records were broken.

Rain totalled 4.03", .87" over normal and more than double September of last year. The most in 24 hours was 1.55" on the 20-21st. Measurable amounts fell on 13 days, 4 over average and the most in September since 1956. Fog occurred on 13 days.

Northwest winds, those most favorable for migrating birds in the fall occurred on the 6th, 10th, 11th, 14th, 18th, and the 29th.

LOONS THROUGH TUBENOSES

Numbers of migrant Common Loons were noted by the third week of September, when 100 were counted passing Sandy Neck, Barnstable Sept. 21 (RAF#) and inland, 225 were observed flying south over Mt. Wachusett Sept. 18 (PMR). The first migrant Red-throated Loons likewise arrived this month; one was at P.I. Sept. 14 (DTB) and two were noted in flight at S.N. with Commons Sept. 21 (RRV#). The productive waters north and east of Provincetown continue in their capacity to support vast numbers of pelagic species of diverse origins, in some cases in unprecedented abundance for New England. When such species as Northern Fulmars, Greater, Sooty and Manx Shearwaters, jaegers, Gannets and Black-legged Kittiwakes all congregate together in a limited region in extraordinary abundance, one must infer that a peculiar characteristic of that geographical locality and the habitat contained therein, rather than the coincidental displacement of each species simultaneously, is responsible for the observed phenomena. Of course weather patterns have a profound influence upon the distribution of seabirds in the southern Gulf of Maine, as is so obvious to Massachusetts birders, and as was again supported by this month's observations. All maximum counts of seabirds were made following (or during) the passage of northward moving low pressure systems, bringing strong NE-SE winds to Cape Cod, yet it would be stretching the imagination to assume that such weather systems were, in themselves, entirely responsible for the simultaneous unprecedented abundance of Northern Fulmars, Greater and Manx Shearwaters and jaegers, species emanating from distinctly different geographical distributions. Without the storms, these numbers may not have been visible from shore, however, it may be proposed that these birds were already present in New England waters prior to the arrival of the low pressure systems. Some peculiar characteristic of the waters off Provincetown, then, in conjunction with its geographical location, provided for the spectacle observed there throughout the course of the fall. On Sept. 25, while the winds were from the SE at 30 kn., the following species were noted moving NW-SE past Race Pt., Provincetown, frequently feeding in the vicinity of the surfacing porquas so characteristic of that area in the fall: 250+ Northern Fulmars, 40,000+ Greater Shearwaters, 800+ Sooty Shearwaters, 50+ Manx Shearwaters and 8 Leach's Storm-Petrels (RRV, MJL, SAP, PDV, BN, CAG#).

Most surprising in these totals was the abundance of Northern Fulmars. The indication, from recent New England experience as well as data compiled by MBO on Georges Bank and the Gulf of Maine, is that fulmars rarely arrive anywhere in local waters in any numbers before late October at the earliest. Counts of the magnitude of 250 have only been made from shore in Massachusetts on one other occasion (Jan. 1977), later in the winter when the species has reached maximum abundance on the offshore fishing banks. It is a well known fact that the Northern Fulmar has been steadily increasing as a winter resident in the Gulf of Maine in recent years, however the observed abundance in late September seems disproportionate to the observed increase elsewhere. Furthermore, the vast majority of this September's birds were in the "double-light" phase, contrary to the predominance of dark individuals usually observed early in the fall off New England. Whereas 40,000 is, by a wide margin, the largest number of Greater Shearwaters to ever be observed from shore in New England, the species' superabundance in the North Atlantic in the summer, along with its known autumn migratory route, would lead one to expect the eventual observation of such numbers from shore under extremely favorable conditions. Indeed, the numbers of Greater Shearwaters that were actually present off New England at that time can only be surmised. The total of 50+ Manx Shearwaters observed on 9/25, in addition to counts of 20 at Provincetown and 10 at Eastham on 9/21 (BN), is indicative of that species' continued increase in local waters, and it is interesting to note that a number of Manx Shearwaters were noted visiting nesting burrows on an island off southeastern Newfoundland this past summer. Sixty-five Northern Fulmars were observed from Rockport Sept. 22 (SAP) and 20 were seen from Manomet Pt. Sept. 25 (KH) and a single was seen at Nantucket, where rare, Sept. 24 (WRP). Over 1000 Cory's Shearwaters were counted from Nantucket Sept. 23 (EFA#), while Cory's north of Nantucket included 35 in Buzzard's Bay Sept. 18 (PH), one at S.N. and 2 at Provincetown Sept. 25 (SH,RRV#). The only Manx Shearwaters north of Cape Cod were two at Rockport Sept. 25 (RAF), and 25 Leach's Storm-Petrels at S.N. Sept. 25 was the largest number reported (SH). It is remarkable how abruptly Wilson's Storm-Petrels depart New England waters sometime in early August; 2 were at S.N. and 7 were at Rockport Sept. 25 (HTW,RSH), and another was seen at Rockport the next day (HLJ).

GANNET THROUGH HERONS

Higher counts of Gannets were 110 at Rockport and 2000+ at Provincetown, both Sept. 25 (v.o.). The first migrant Great Cormorants were noted during the second week of the month; 4 at Rockport Sept. 11 (RSH) and 3 at N. Scituate Sept. 17 (RRV,MJL), all of which were typically immatures. Inland migratory Double-crested Cormorants included 225 counted over Mt. Wachusett Sept. 18 (PMR) and 135 over Weston Sept. 25 (LJR). The dusk flights of herons at P.I. were closely monitored this month; on Sept. 3, 30 Little Blue Herons (26 adults), 570 Snowy Egrets and 7 Louisiana Herons were present (SAP,PDV). Of 72 Cattle Egrets reported (cf. 7,24,12,37 Sept. totals since 1973), 38 at Marshfield Sept. 11 (WRP) and 15 at Ipswich Sept. 26 (JWB) were noteworthy. In addition to the heron totals listed above, 6 Great Egrets were noted at Duxbury Sept. 2 (WRP), 65 Snowies were at Monomoy Sept. 4 (RRV,WRP#)

and 75 Snowies were at N. Scituate the same day (RPE#). Four to five juvenal Yellow-crowned Night Herons, of somewhat obscure origin, were reported, including one at Monomoy Sept. 4 (WRP), 1-2 at Eastham Sept. 5-18 (WRP#), one at P.I. Sept. 10-23 (v.o.) and one at Scituate Sept. 18 (SH).

WATERFOWL

The first suggestions of arriving Brant were 33 in the Scituate area Sept. 28 (MFL,BAL), and the summering bird at Monomoy was seen Sept. 4 (WWH,WRP#). Fourteen Snow Geese at S.N. were somewhat early Sept. 14 (DC) and were unique for the month. Arrivals of the routine dabbling ducks were noted throughout the month without any surprises, Four male Redheads were at Fresh Pond, Cambridge Sept. 15 (LJR) and 4 Ring-necked Ducks appeared at Nantucket Sept. 25 (WRP). A single Oldsquaw observed in Nantucket Sound Sept. 25 (HD'E#) may have been an early migrant, or possibly a summering individual. Although White-winged Scoters were generally scarce, with a total of 33 reported, 800+ Surf Scoters were counted at Monomoy Sept. 24 (HTW) and 560 Black Scoters were seen passing Rockport Sept. 25 (RPE). Thirty Ruddy Ducks were at Westborough Sept. 29 (BB). Single Hooded Mergansers occurred at Weston Sept. 11 (LJR) and Bolton Sept. 21 (HWM), and the first Red-breasted Mergansers arrived, including one at Monomoy Sept. 4 (CAG#) and one at P.I. Sept. 21 (MJL).

RAPTORS

The most well defined waves of migrant raptors occurred on Sept. 11, 18 and 22, following the passage of cold fronts from the northwest, when the migratory movement was most apparent along the inland ridges and vantage points, such as Mt. Wachusett. The following table depicts the distribution of occurrence of the three commoner species observed in September at Mt. Wachusett; we are grateful to Paul Roberts for supplying these data.

	9/11	9/18	9/22
Sharp-shinned Hawk	17	42	88
Broad-winged Hawk	205	345	1556
Osprey	3	12	13

From this table, it is apparent that the bulk of the birds were migrating on the 22nd, and the counts of Ospreys were particularly encouraging. Migrating hawks were also noted from less ideally situated vantage points on the above three dates. For instance, on Sept. 11, RAF noted 16 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 114 Broad-wingeds, a Marsh Hawk and 6 Ospreys over Framingham, and coastally, 22 Sharp-shinneds and a Cooper's Hawk were noted at Marblehead Neck Sept. 22 (CB), both instances suggesting the extent of the migratory movements on the respective days. It was an encouraging month for both Cooper's Hawks and Ospreys; 9 of the former (cf. 2,5,4,6 Sept. totals since 1973) and 69 of the latter (cf. 0.19,26,48+ Sept. totals since 1973) were reported, inclusive of the aforementioned migrants. Only two Red-shouldered Hawks were reported, one at Winchester Sept. 12 (GWG) and one at Mt. Wachusett Sept. 15 (PMR), we will have to await the October records to determine

any change in status for this species. An immature Bald Eagle was seen at W. Tisbury Sept. 25 (AAC) and another was at Mt. Wachusett Sept. 27 (PRB). Two reports of inland migrant Marsh Hawks were 4 at GMNWR Sept. 7 (PMR) and 3 at Mt. Wachusett Sept. 18 (PMR). Peregrine Falcons totalled 11 for September (cf. 4,5,8-9,9+ Sept. totals since 1973), while 31 Merlins were reported from 17 coastal localities (cf. 19,12,35,49 Sept. totals since 1973). The gradual increase in Peregrines is just perceptible over the last four years, whereas numbers of Merlins seem to be somewhat below 1975 and 1976. The gradual increase in the comprehensiveness of this reporting procedure must, of course, always be taken into consideration whenever comparative statements regarding abundance are to be made. Forty-five American Kestrels were reported from 12+ localities during the course of the month (v.o.).

RAILS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

Six Soras were reported from 5 localities (v.o.) and groups of Common Gallinules included 7 at P.I. Sept. 3 (WVanC) and 15 at GMNWR Sept. 11 (RC).

While the increasing breeding success of American Oystercatchers on the Cape and Islands is well documented and no surprise to most observers, a count of 32 at Nantucket Sept. 7 (EFA,GF#) is the highest for recent years in the state. The total had dwindled to 7 there by Sept. 23 (WRP), and 9 were at Monomoy Sept. 4 (RRV#). The higher September concentrations of Semipalmated Plovers were 200+ at Revere Sept. 2 (RRV,SAP), 325+ at Monomoy Sept. 4 (WWH#) and 200+ at Newburyport Sept. 11 (RRV#). Piping Plovers seemed somewhat scarce this fall compared to recent years, although this is difficult to quantify. The only reports were of 4 at Monomoy Sept. 4 (MJL#) and 15 at S.N. Sept. 18 (WRP). Sixty-nine Golden Plovers from 16 localities, including 17 inland at Lancaster Sept. 21 (HWM), represented a near-average total for the month. Totals of Black-bellied Plovers at Newburyport Sept. 3 and 5 were 730 and 520, respectively (RSH,RRV). Fifty-two Whimbrels were recorded from 10 coastal localities in September; eight to ten Solitary Sandpipers at S. Peabody Sept. 19 (RSH) represented the maximum for that species in September, and one was seen on the sandflats at Monomoy Sept. 4, where unusual (RRV#). Lesser Yellowlegs at Newburyport numbered 125 Sept. 5 and 75 Sept. 11 (RRV#), and 30 were noted at Duxbury Sept. 11 (WRP), the species being somewhat more uncommon on the South Shore than in other portions of the state. The larger collections of Red Knots were 500 at Scituate Sept. 10 (MFL#), 150 at Duxbury Sept. 10 (RF#) and 250+, including one pure albino, at S.N. Sept. 18 (WRP). A White-rumped Sandpiper at Westboro Sept. 28 was noteworthy in that inland records are few for the species (BB).

Baird's Sandpipers numbered between 4 and 8 at P.I. during the period Sept. 10-27 (GWG,SAP), and four additional singles occurred at Plymouth, S.N. and Monomoy at various dates throughout the month. A count of 350 Dunlin in the Newburyport-P.I. region Sept. 10 was high for that date (BBC-SPG), yet was not reflected elsewhere in the state. The familiar problem of distinguishing the species of dowitchers during the "borderline" period in late September was quite apparent at P.I.

this year; in any case, 150 dowitchers, mostly juvenals, present there Sept. 28 were thought to be predominately Short-billed (SAP#) while 14 and 20 adult Long-billeds were identified there Sept. 3 and 11, respectively (RSH,RRV#). A total of 10 Stilt Sandpipers occurred, including one at Scituate, where decidedly uncommon, Sept. 11 (WRP). Thirty-seven Western Sandpipers were identified on dates distributed evenly throughout the month; of those noted after the 15th, the vast majority were juvenals. At P.I., 4-6 Buff-breasted Sandpipers were present Sept. 10-15 (v.o.), a particularly early migrant was noted at Duxbury Sept. 2 (RW), and one was at Scituate Sept. 11 (WRP). Marbled Godwits included one at Monomoy Sept. 4 (RRV#), 2 at P.I. Sept. 3-10 (WVanC), and singles at Ipswich Sept. 17 (WRP) and Katama Sept. 25 (AAC). September Hudsonian Godwits totalled 33. A count of 1200 Sanderlings was made at Revere Beach Sept. 23 (SZ). Only sporadically reported so far inland, a Red Phalarope reported from GMNWR Sept. 22 was remarkable (HWF). The six Wilson's Phalaropes at P.I. Sept. 3 had diminished to two there Sept. 17 (v.o.). Non-storm-blown Northern Phalaropes included 4 at P.I. Sept. 3 (RPE) and one at Monomoy Sept. 4 (RRV#); others were 40 at Manomet Sept. 20 (WRP) and 50 there Sept. 26 (MBO staff).

JAEGERS THROUGH TERNS

A particularly heavy flight of migrating jaegers was noted from selected vantage points along the shores of Cape Cod Bay, and at Provincetown, following easterly storms Sept. 20, 21 and 25, and an unusual predominance of light phase adults was noted by all observers. This increased ratio is most applicable to the Parasitic Jaeger, by far the most abundant species occurring in our littoral regions, and likewise the most numerous species observed this month. The results are tabulated below:

Pomarine Jaeger:

21,23	1st Encounter, Nantucket	30,2	BN, EFA#
21,25	Manomet, Nantucket Sound	2,6	MBO staff, HD'E#

Parasitic Jaeger:

20,21	Manomet, S.N.	80 (2 dark adults), 80	WRP, BAH; RRV, RAF#
21,25	1st Encounter, P'town	170, 85-100	BN#; RRV, PDV#
25	Nantucket Sound	40	HD'E#

All observers mentioning ages and color phases of Parasitic Jaegers indicated that 90% or more of the birds seen were light phase adults. On Sept. 20, an adult Long-tailed Jaeger was carefully studied as it flew by Manomet Pt. (WRP, BAH), for one of the very few recent inshore sightings of this otherwise highly pelagic migrant.

An adult Black-headed Gull present throughout the month with 300 Bonaparte's Gulls at Revere Beach was most likely the same individual that summered (SZ, RSH). Post-breeding assemblages of Laughing Gulls included 62 at Revere Sept. 5 (RSH) and 124 at Quincy Sept. 29 (SSBC). An adult Franklin's Gull in winter plumage was found Sept. 4 at E. Orleans (BN), the third Franklin's Gull to occur in the first two weeks of September since 1975. (It should be noted that the 1975 individual, listed in B.O.E.M. as occurring in the last week of Septem-

ber, actually occurred in the first week.) Two adult Little Gulls were present at Newburyport harbor Sept. 18 (DTB) and three were at Revere Beach Sept. 26 (SAP). The easterly storms in late September brought 150+ Black-legged Kittiwakes to Manomet Sept. 20 (WRP#) and 500+ to Provincetown Sept. 25 (RRV,SAP). Most surprising was the almost unbelievably high total of 9 Sabine's Gulls seen this month, which warrant individual listing: one immature at S.N. Sept. 18 (WRP,RFP), three adults, two with dark hoods, at Manomet Pt. Sept. 20 (WRP,BAH), 3 at 1st Encounter Beach Sept. 21 (BN), and single immatures off Provincetown Sept. 21 (FJG) and at Nantucket Sept. 21 (WRP). A near-average total of 9 Forster's Terns occurred during September, and the typical post breeding flock of Common Terns at Nantucket numbered 2000+ Sept. 25 (WRP). The latest Roseate Terns were 4 at Ipswich Sept. 5 (JWB), one at P.I. Sept. 10 (RAF) and one at S.N. Sept. 21 (RAF). Six Least Terns lingered until Sept. 25 at S.N. (SH), and one was at Provincetown the same day (SAP). A Caspian Tern noted at Katama Sept. 25 (AAC) may have originated in the south, considering the origin of that storm, and 15 Black Terns at Monomoy Sept. 4 was the only sizeable group noted in September (RRV,WWH#). The number of Black Skimmers in eastern Massachusetts was outstanding: 19 immatures were at Monomoy Sept. 4 (WWH#), 9 immatures were at S.N. Sept. 4 (RB#), an adult was as far north as Newburyport Sept. 11 (RHS) and 9 were at Plymouth Beach Sept. 29 (GLS#). These totals are perhaps indicative of increased breeding success to the south of us.

ALCIDS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Single unidentified large alcids were seen from Rockport Sept. 20 and 25 (SAP,RAF) and early Dovekies were at Manomet Pt. Sept. 25 (KH) and one at Rockport Sept. 26 (GLS). A Black Guillemot was found at Gloucester Sept. 10 (RAF,KSH).

Ten Yellow-billed Cuckoos were noted from 8 different localities throughout the month (v.o.), while Black-billeds numbered 12 from 6 localities. A Barn Owl was found at Hingham Sept. 10 (SSBC), and a Saw-whet Owl was heard calling in Framingham Sept. 3 (RAF,KSH). Fourteen Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were noted from 12 different localities (v.o.). A vagrant immature Red-headed Woodpecker was found at Sudbury Sept. 15 (RW), and an adult was at Chatham Sept. 30 (HWM). Twelve migrant Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were noted from coastal localities during the period Sept. 20-28 (v.o.).

RRV

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH MIMIDS

Western Kingbirds were reported from only two locations during the month, one was noted at Plum Island from the 8th-10th (S.Henderson & v.o.), and from 1-2 were located on Nantucket between the 12th-24th (EFA,GLS,WRP). In the previous four years, 4,3,4 and 7 were noted during the month of September. A single Great-crested Flycatcher was noted on Plum Island on the 14th (RPE#), and as many as 15 Eastern Phoebees were found on Long Island, Boston on the 29th (J.Grugan#). Single Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were noted from MNWS on the 1st

(RSH), from Weston and Lancaster on the 3rd (LJR,HWM), from Stoneham on the 4th (M.Martinek), two from Monomoy on the 4th (RRV#) and one was found singing and chasing warblers on Crane's Beach, Ipswich on the 18th (JWB). Two were banded during the month at MBO. Ten empidonax flycatchers were present at MNWS on the 1st (RSH), and another was found on Nantucket on the 25th (WRP). One - two Eastern Wood Peewees were noted on Morris Island, Chatham on the 30th (RJ,HWM). Olive-sided Flycatchers were found in Stoneham on the 4th (M.Martinek), and another was present in Marshfield on the 10th during the SSBC Round-up.

Tree Swallows continued to build up at Plum Island, where a maximum of 10,000 were found on the 17th (BBC-NBK), a maximum of 12,000 were noted at Duxbury on the 10th (SSBC), and 10,000 were present in Falmouth on the 12th (EPG). Other high counts included 3000 in Marshfield on the 17th (SSBC-BAL), and 5400 were counted at White Horse Beach, Plymouth on the 26th (MBO staff). A single Bank Swallow was noted at Plum Island on the 3rd (RPE#), and as many as 10 Barn Swallows were observed there on the 29th (BBC-SPG). Two Purple Martins were still present on Plum Island on the 3rd (BBC-WVC), and a single martin was noted on the 18th in Scituate (R&SH).

Blue Jays were migrating with over 85 noted in South Peabody on the 23rd (RSH). Red-breasted Nuthatches were found in exceptional numbers throughout eastern Massachusetts, with 25 noted on the BBC weekend on Nantucket (Sept 2-5), and 48 in Weston on the 18th (LJR). A single Brown Creeper was noted on Nantucket on the 25th (WRP). A single Winter Wren was found in Annisquam on the 16th (HTW), as many as 5 Carolina Wrens were found in Marion on the 5th (GWG), and singles were noted in Sandwich on the 18th (WRP#), and Marshfield on the 28th (BAL#). Forty-two Long-billed Marsh Wrens were counted along the South River, Marshfield on the 17th (WRP). At Manomet 56 Gray Catbirds were banded and over 125 were noted on Nantucket during the weekend of the 2-5th (BBC-WCD).

THRUSHES THROUGH VIREOS

Over 350 American Robins were found in Salem on the 7th (CB). Two Swainson's Thrushes were found at Nahant on the 22nd (SAP#), and a Veery was found there on the 15th (SAP#). Gray-cheeked Thrushes were found at MNWS on the 6th (RSH) and 12th (MK). A Wheatear was found at the north end of Monomoy on the 29th (Bill & Bev Klunk). Last year 3 Wheatears were found during September, as well as 1 on Nantucket in Sept. 1975. Single Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were found on Monomoy on the 4th (WRP#), and at MNWS on the 8th (MK,CB). At the Glades in North Scituate one was noted on the 13th (EB#), 28th (BAL) and 2 on the 17th (MFL). Two Gnatcatchers were banded on the 19th at Manomet. An early migrant Golden-crowned Kinglet was found in Annisquam on the 4th (HTW). Ruby-crowned Kinglets were arriving in small numbers generally after the 16th. As many as 45 Water Pipits were present in Lancaster during the month (HWM), other reports included 6 on the 18th in Scituate (R&SH), 1 in South Peabody on the 20th (RSH) and 17 in Framingham on the 29th (RAF). During the first weekend of the month over 300 Cedar Waxwings were found on Nantucket (BBC-WCD), and 125+

from Nantucket (BBC-WCD) and from P.I. on the 11th (RHS). A single Hooded Warbler was noted at P.I. on the 9th (RPE,JG). On the 18th 2 Wilson's Warblers were noted in Truro (SAP#) while 3 were observed in Nahant (LC). Two Canada Warblers were found on the 18th at Nahant (J.Nove). Twenty-two American Redstarts were banded on the 11th at Manomet, and 30 were noted in Stoneham on the 4th (M.Martinek).

Bobolinks were reported in high counts during the 1st week of the month with 250+ on Nantucket (BBC-WCD), 250+ in Concord on the 4th (RAF) and 150 in Sudbury on the 5th (RAF). Other counts included 65 in Framingham on the 11th (RAF), and 12 in South Peabody on the 19th (RSH). One or two Yellow-headed Blackbirds were found on Nantucket on the 5th (BBC-WCD) and on the 22nd (GLS#), (CF. 1,3,5,3 for the last four Septembers). As many as 28 Rusty Blackbirds were observed in Haverhill on the 28th (WCD) and 4 were noted in Woburn on the 30th (GWG). A Summer Tanager was found on the 18th in Sandwich (RFP). The only other recent fall report was by CAG at Orleans 9-10-75. Two reports of Black-headed Grosbeaks were received during the month, on the 18th at Wachusett Meadows, Princeton (WC, R&DH), and one at Peabody on the 22nd (JJC). No details were submitted with these reports, and with the bulk of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks migrating (21) at Princeton on the 17th (RHS), these records are open for question. At least 5 Blue Grosbeaks were noted during the month with singles reported from Corn Hill, Truro on the 3rd (RRV#), and 18th (HHD'E), from South Peabody on the 22nd (RSH), from Chatham on the 24th (HC,HTW) and from Nantucket on the 28-30th (B&BK,EFA). High counts of Indigo Buntings were reported from many localities as the bulk flight passed through (7 in Weston on the 18th (LJR), 12 in Lancaster on the 21st (HWM)). Two Dickcissels were reported, one at Annisquam on the 9th (HTW) and another at Scituate on the 11th (WRP). This represents a record low number of Dickcissel reports over the past years (CF. 14,7,4,12). Evening Grosbeaks were moving through after the 21st of the month with scattered reports from several locations; the only reports prior to the 21st were of a flock of 20 in Baldwinville on the 1st (JDO'R), and also on that day a single bird was noted from Whitman (WRP). A high count of 24 Purple Finches was made from Framingham on the 29th (RAF). A Pine Siskin was heard calling at South Peabody on the 23rd (RSH).

A Lark Bunting, thought to be an immature male, was found in South Peabody on the 19th, where it remained until the 23rd (RSH,v.o.). A full report of this discovery and the history of Lark Bunting in Massachusetts appears elsewhere in this issue.

Savannah Sparrows were reported in good numbers with over 350 counted on Nantucket Sept. 2-5 (BBC-WCD), over 70 at South Peabody between the 19-24th (RSH), and 150 in Framingham on the 21st (RAF). During the week of the 25th, a Grasshopper Sparrow was banded in Waltham (K.Harte) and another was banded at MBO on the 25th (staff). Three Seaside Sparrows were found at Fort Hill, Eastham on the 18th (SAP#). A maximum count of 20 Vesper Sparrows was made at the Marconi Station area in South Wellfleet on the 18th (RRV#), with only 1 reported from P.I., on the 3rd (WVC).

were counted in Fitchburg on the 25th (P.Sorenson). A Loggerhead Shrike was identified in Wollaston on the 12th (DTB), (cf. 3,7,8,3 for the last four years during September).

White-eyed Vireos were found at MNWS from the 1-6th (RSH#), Eastern Point, Gloucester on the 5th (RRV#), and at Crane's Beach, Ipswich on the 18th (JWB). Yellow-throated Vireos were reported from Plum Island on the 3rd (GWG), MNWS on the 18th (LC), and from the Glades, North Scituate on the 28th (BAL,MFL). Maximum numbers of migrant Red-eyed Vireos occurred during the first week of the month with 25 counted on the 2nd at Nahant (RRV#) and 20 on the 3rd at Plum Island (RPE#). A high count of 15 Red-eyed Vireos was reported on the 30th at Chatham (RJ,HWM). Thirty-one Philadelphia Vireos were reported during the month; following is the complete report:

Philadelphia Vireo:

3,5,10,22	MNWS	2,2,1,1	RAF#,CB,RAF#,SAP#
3,4,10	P.I.	1,1,2	BBC(WVC),MK,BBC(SPG)
2,9,11,15	Nahant	3,3,4,1	RRV#,SAP#,RRV#,MJL#
3,10	Gloucester (E.Pt.)	4,2	RAF#,KH#
4,30	Chatham	1,2	WRP#,HWM#
17	Princeton	1	RHS

WARBLERS THROUGH LONGSPURS

A Prothonotary Warbler was discovered on the 10th in Marshfield during the South Shore Bird Club Round-up (HWH). Two Golden-winged Warblers were banded at Manomet on the 11th and 13th. Blue-winged Warblers were still moving though our area up to the 12th, with as many as 7 reported from Marblehead Neck (v.o.). Twenty Tennessee Warblers were reported from Lancaster on the 21st (HWM). Only two reports of Orange-crowned Warblers were recorded; one on the 13th at MNWS (JJC), and one at Truro on the 18th (HHD'E). Over 40 Cape May Warblers were found on Nantucket between the 2-5th (BBC-WCD). Yellow-rumped Warblers arrived in good numbers after the 18th, with only one reported before that date on the 4th from Monomoy (BN,CAG). A Blackburnian Warbler was found in the Glades, North Scituate on the 28th, where a single Chestnut-sided Warbler was also noted on the 28th (MFL,BAL). Eleven Palm Warblers were observed in South Peabody on the 19th (RSH). Six Connecticut Warblers were reported during the month as follows:

Connecticut Warbler:

3	MNWS	2,1	RAF
11	Framingham, Manomet (MBO)	1,b.	K.Hamilton,staff
13 on,23	P.I.(Kettle Hole), Harvard (ONWR)	1,1	v.o.,HWM

Three Mourning Warblers were observed; in Framingham one was noted on the 5th and another on the 18th (RAF,KH), and one was seen on the 11th in Nahant (SAP#). As many as 60 Common Yellowthroats were found on Nantucket on the 2-5th (BBC-WCD). Twenty-six Yellow-breasted Chats were banded during the month at Manomet Bird Observatory (20 were banded there in Sept. 1973, 24 in Sept. '74, no report in '75, and 14 in Sept. '76). Other reports of chats came from MNWS on the 1st (CB),

Lark Sparrows were in evidence from the 5-25th at Marconi, So. Wellfleet where one bird was present (WRP#). Other Lark Sparrows were reported from Truro on the 18th, when 2 were noted (HHD'E). Also on the 18th a single was found on P.I. (DTB#). On the 10th, a Lark Sparrow was recorded from Norwell (MFL,BAL), and yet another from West Tisbury on the 25th (J.Bryant#). Dark-eyed Juncos started returning after the 18th when small flocks were reported from many localities. Chipping Sparrows were reported in good numbers from South Wellfleet on the 4th, when 25 were reported (MJL#), 15 in Weston on the 5th (LJR) and 20 in Lancaster on the 22nd (HWM). A single Clay-colored Sparrow was noted at Corn Hill, Truro on the 30th (RJ,HWM). Only a single White-crowned Sparrow was noted during the month at Plum Island on the 28th (GLS#), while White-throated Sparrows first arrived after the 10th, with larger flocks of 25-50 individuals toward month's end. Lincoln's Sparrows began returning on the 10th with reports from Gloucester (RAF#), 2 in Bolton (HWM) and 1 in Quincy (SSBC). Lincoln's Sparrows were present from the 11th on in Framingham with a maximum count of 5 on the 21st. Eight Lincoln's were found at Corn Hill, Truro on the 18th (RRV#), and 1-2 birds were also found in So. Peabody (RSH), Nahant (SAP), No. Scituate (BAL), MBO 1 banded, and from Long Island (J.Grugan). As many as 50 Song Sparrows were present from the 19th on in South Peabody (RSH). The first Lapland Longspur was a single bird found on Plum Island on the 18th (SLD,SD).

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