



MARYLAND BIRDLIFE



Bulletin of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

SEPTEMBER 1992

VOLUME 48

NUMBER 3

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Cyburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21209

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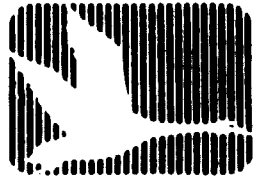
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Cover: Baird's Sandpiper at Lily Pons, Maryland, September 9-11, 1990. Photo by Steve Whitcomb.



CAROLINA WREN NESTING IN MY CAR

ELLICOTT McCONNELL

The following experience may be of interest. I regularly park my car in the same spot in front of our house, located in a wooded area near Easton, Maryland. During the first part of May, 1991, I repeatedly noticed a Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) in the vicinity of the car whenever I prepared to drive off, but thought little of it as they are common here and can be seen almost every day of the year tirelessly searching nooks and crannies around our home. On May 14, however, I had already driven more than one hundred yards when a wren flew up in front of the windshield; I then realized what should have been obvious before, that the birds had built a nest somewhere in the car. I soon found the nest, on the ledge in the front of the firewall which contains the air intake, washer fluid reservoir, etc., accessible to the wrens through a small space in front of the windshield, but otherwise covered by the trailing edge of the hood.

There was no alternative but to remove the nest, which contained six typical eggs, a large clutch, but by no means unheard of. Wishing to make the best of a poor situation, and thinking that a friend who is licensed to rescue and retain wild birds might find the nest a useful educational tool, I decided to blow the eggs. I was able to blow two obviously unincubated eggs with no trouble, but a third egg, which crumbled under slight pressure, contained a well-developed embryo. Inspection of the rest of the eggs revealed that three of the six were fresh, and three were in a late stage of incubation.

Inasmuch as the car is used on a daily basis, and is often away from home, it appears that in the bird's forced absence during this year's (1991) cool spring weather maintained the nest at incubation, but no coddling, temperatures even when the car was parked for hours in the full sun.

More curious is the presence of what have to be considered two separate clutches of eggs at different stages of development. Had the first clutch, in fact, died, and the bird, sensing this, produced a second clutch of eggs in the same nest? Or perhaps the first female was killed and her nest taken over by a second female, which laid a new clutch of eggs in the presence of an older one. Neither alternative seems very likely, but one or the other must have been the case.

9611 Galleys Cove Lane, Easton, MD



THE SEASON

SPRING MIGRATION, MARCH 1 - MAY 31, 1992

DANIEL R. SOUTHWORTH and LINDA SOUTHWORTH

As a result of the mild winter, many birds arrived early. The spring was cold, however, with average temperatures farther below normal each successive month; many species lingered. Check the arrival and departure dates in Table 1 to compare how each species varied from the medians. Following the trend of recent spring periods, northern finch reports were low. Warbler and other passerine sightings were generally poor.

Observers: Henry and George Armistead, Maurice Barnhill, John Bjerke, Rick Blom, Connie Bockstie, Larry Bonham, Ed Boyd, Carol and Don Broderick, Gwen Burkhardt, Martha Chestem, John Churchill, Dave Czaplak, Phil and Barbara Davis, Bob Dixon, Ethel Engle, Jane Farrell, Roberta Fletcher (reporting for Caroline County), David Gersten, Inez Glime, Jim & Patricia Gruber, Dave Harvey, Marvin Hewitt, Robert Hilton, Mark Hoffman, Dick Homan, Marshall Iliff, Ottavio Janni, George Jett, Dennis Kirkwood, Harry Krueger, Dave Kubitsky, Ellen Lawler, Morris Lippencott, Doug Lister, Nancy Magnusson, Mike & Grazina McClure, Stauffer Miller, Dotty Mumford, Paul Nistico, Mariana Nuttle, Michael O'Brien, Matthew O'Donnell, Bonnie Ott, Jim Paulus, Betty Pitney (reporting for Wicomico Bird Club), Kyle Rambo, Jan Reese, Sue Ricciardi, Bob Ringler, Wilbur Rittenhouse, Norm Saunders, Gene Scarpulla, William Scudder, L. T. Short, Steve Simon, Teresa Simons, Connie Skipper, Jo Solem (reporting for Howard County), Dan & Linda Southworth, Jim Stasz, Mary Twigg, Dave Walbeck, Mark Wallace, Robert Warfield, Joy Wheeler, Jim Wilkinson, Erica Wilson, Helen Zeichner. Banding was conducted at Eastern Neck NWR by Jim and Trish Gruber.

Pelagic Reports: There were some excellent sightings during the pelagic trips organized out of Ocean City by Gene Scarpulla. The trip leaders are acknowledged under the Observers, but sightings are listed in the text as (Scarpulla+).

Abbreviations: DC - District of Columbia, NWR - National Wildlife Refuge, PRNAS - Patuxent River Naval Air Station (St. Mary's), SP - State Park, UMCF - University of Maryland Central Farm (Howard), WMA - Wildlife Management Area.

Locations: Place names (with counties in parentheses) not in the index of the state highway map: Assateague Island (Worcester), Barren Island (Dorchester), Black Hill Park (Montgomery), Blackwater NWR (Dorchester), Blockhouse Point (Montgomery), Deep Creek Airport (Anne Arundel), Deep Creek Lake (Garrett), Eastern Neck NWR (Kent), Fort Smallwood Park (Anne Arundel), Fulton Pond (Howard), Green Ridge (Allegany), Hains Point (DC), Harford Glen Park (Harford), Hart-Miller Dredged Material Containment Facility (Baltimore), Hooper Island (Dorchester), Hughes Hollow (Montgomery), Irish Grove Sanctuary (Somerset), Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary (Anne Arundel), Lake Elkhorn (Howard), Lake Kittamaquundi (Howard), Little Meadows Lake (Garrett), Loch Raven (Baltimore), McKeldin Area of Patapsco Valley State Park (Carroll unless noted otherwise), Noland's Ferry (Frederick), Pennyfield Lock (Montgomery), Piney Run Park (Carroll), Poplar Island (Talbot), Remington Farms WMA (Kent), Rockburn Branch

Park (Howard), Rock Creek Park (DC), Rocky Gap SP (Allegany), Sandy Point SP (Anne Arundel), Schooley Mill Park (Howard), Sugarloaf Mountain (Frederick), Swallow Falls SP (Garrett), Sycamore Landing (Montgomery), Triadelphia Reservoir (Howard unless noted otherwise), Truitts Landing (Worcester), Town Hill (Allegany), Tuckahoe SP (Caroline unless noted otherwise), Violettes Lock (Montgomery).

Loons, Grebes. The first **Red-throated Loon** reported was a single bird at Sandy Point on March 27 by Stasz, who also found 3 at North Beach on April 8. One adult was at Blockhouse Point on April 2 (Czaplak, Gough), 500+ at Assateague on April 5 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 300+ near Governor Run on April 6 (Lippencott), 2 at Sandy Point on April 20 (Czaplak), and 200 were tallied on the April 25 pelagic trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+). Later reports included a single flyover at Blackwater on May 9 (H. Armistead), 2 first-winter birds at Seneca on May 17 (Mary Anne Todd), and 1 at Ocean City on May 22 (Czaplak). Migrant **Common Loons** included 1 at Cambridge on March 14 (Czaplak), 1 at North Point on March 15 (Blom), 43 inland at Deep Creek Lake the same day (Iliff), single birds at Loch Raven on March 20 (Simon), Triadelphia on March 21 (Magnusson), off Coltons Point and in St. Clements Bay on March 25 (Ringler), at Deep Creek Lake on March 26 (Skipper), and at Piney Run on March 29 (Ringler). High counts for the Common Loon were 80 in Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 79 migrating through Ellicott City on April 9 (Ott), 78 at North Beach on April 9 (Stasz), 62 at Rocky Gap on April 21 (Simons), 95 at Loch Raven on April 22 (Simon), and 31 over Town Hill on April 28 (Paulus). Other Common Loons of note were 1 over the Pocomoke River on May 16 (Ringler), 3 at DC on May 29 (Janni), 1 at Triadelphia on May 30 (Farrell, Solem), and 1 at Lake Linganore on May 30 (Miller). Czaplak noted 2 **Pied-billed Grebes** at Little Seneca Lake on March 7 and 6 there on April 4. Simon found the high of 16 at Loch Raven on March 23. A Pied-billed chick was at Lilypons on May 18 (Czaplak) and 2 were seen there on May 20 (Miller). Inland **Horned Grebes** included 5 at Rocky Gap on March 8 (Twigg), 13 at Violettes Lock on March 31 (Bonham), and at least 12 at Little Seneca Lake the same day (Marie Plante). Horned Grebes numbered 53 at PRNAS on March 4 (Rambo, Lister), Jett discovered 40 at Point Lookout on March 14, Stasz reported 98 at North Beach on April 8th, and 54 were noted the same day at Poplar Island (Don Meritt, Reese). A **Red-necked Grebe** was reported at Ocean City on March 3-8 (Krueger+). Dotty Mumford discovered an **Eared Grebe** near Bay Ridge on March 22 and found another Anne Arundel County Eared Grebe in the South River near Quiet Waters Park on March 25.

Tube-noses, Gannets, Pelicans. Ocean City pelagic birders, braving very rough waters, were rewarded with 18 **Northern Fulmars** on March 1; 3 were notched on the April 25 trip (Scarpulla+). The April 25 trip also yielded 11 **Sooty Shearwaters**, 2 were in Maryland waters on May 15 with 7 **Wilson's Storm Petrels** (Ken Bass+), and 7-8 Sooties were spotted off Ocean City on May 21 (Hilton, Janni). A **Manx Shearwater** and 10 Wilson's Storm Petrels were checked off on the April 25 Ocean City pelagic trip (Scarpulla+). **Northern Gannets** once again made a strong showing with 213 on the March 1 Ocean City pelagic trip (Scarpulla+); 257 were at North Beach on March 11 (Stasz), and many flew by PRNAS the same day (Rambo, Lister). Other Gannet reports included 3 adults flying over the Chesapeake Bay in Harford County, seen from Betterton on March 14 (Stasz, Iliff), 33 at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge the same day (Czaplak), 6 at Cobb Island on March 15 (Stasz, Jett), 1 flying and diving for food in waters off Fort Smallwood Park the same day (Ricciardi), 9 at Cove Point on March 21 (Stasz), 2 off Coltons Point and 2 over the Potomac near Cobb Island on March 25 (Stasz, Ringler), 24 at Blackwalnut Point, Talbot County and 1 adult over the Wicomico River at Nanticoke on April 3 (Stasz), 80 at Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 10 at Deal Island and 80+ at Wenona the same day (Stasz), 2 adults at Bellevue on April 5 (H. Armistead+),

Table 1. Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Spring 1992

SPECIES	ARRIVALS		DEPARTURES	
	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN
Common Loon	3/31	3/27	5/21	5/24
Pied-billed Grebe	3/14	3/14	5/6	4/30
Horned Grebe	3/11	3/2	5/1	4/22
Double-crested Cormorant	3/27	3/28	6/2	6/1
American Bittern	4/8	4/10	5/4	5/5
Great Egret	4/3	3/30	—	—
Snowy Egret	4/10	3/31	—	—
Little Blue Heron	4/17	4/3	—	—
Cattle Egret	4/7	4/10	—	—
Green-backed Heron	4/17	4/17	—	—
Glossy Ibis	4/12	4/4	—	—
Tundra Swan	2/27	2/21	3/31	3/29
Snow Goose	2/21	—	4/2	4/5
Wood Duck	3/2	2/23	—	—
Green-winged Teal	3/8	3/16	4/28	4/25
Northern Pintail	2/21	2/16	3/30	3/16
Blue-winged Teal	3/21	3/23	5/12	5/4
Northern Shoveler	3/12	3/15	4/13	4/13
Gadwall	3/9	3/2	4/15	4/5
American Wigeon	3/5	3/7	4/18	4/19
Canvasback	2/25	2/25	4/1	4/4
Redhead	3/1	2/16	3/24	3/27
Ring-necked Duck	2/25	2/16	4/18	4/13
Greater Scaup	3/11	—	4/2	4/2
Lesser Scaup	3/6	3/6	4/30	4/19
Oldsquaw	3/20	3/23	4/13	4/13
Surf Scoter	3/16	—	4/26	4/19
Common Goldeneye	2/20	2/28	4/4	4/12
Bufflehead	3/5	3/6	4/28	4/24
Hooded Merganser	2/28	2/22	4/15	4/17
Common Merganser	2/17	2/11	4/4	4/11
Red-breasted Merganser	3/18	3/22	5/12	5/7
Ruddy Duck	3/20	3/16	5/5	4/25
Osprey - coastal plain	3/15	3/7	—	—
Osprey - upland	4/3	3/31	—	—
Northern Harrier	3/5	3/12	5/8	5/10
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3/10	3/13	5/12	5/10
Cooper's Hawk	3/12	3/13	—	—
Broad-winged Hawk	4/16	4/12	—	—
Rough-legged Hawk	—	—	3/27	4/4
American Kestrel	3/11	3/3	—	—
Merlin	4/4	4/1	5/6	5/10
Common Moorhen	4/25	4/27	—	—
American Coot	3/19	3/13	5/1	4/27
Black-bellied Plover	4/25	—	5/29	6/9
Semipalmated Plover	5/4	—	5/31	5/31
Killdeer	2/22	2/23	—	—

Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Spring 1992

SPECIES	ARRIVALS		DEPARTURES	
	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN
Greater Yellowlegs	3/28	3/16	5/19	5/25
Lesser Yellowlegs	4/6	3/29	5/16	5/16
Solitary Sandpiper	4/19	4/19	5/20	5/18
Spotted Sandpiper	4/20	4/11	5/28	5/25
Ruddy Turnstone	4/27	—	5/29	6/1
Sanderling	4/15	—	6/5	6/5
Semipalmated Sandpiper	5/4	4/28	6/6	6/6
Least Sandpiper	4/21	4/17	5/22	5/24
White-rumped Sandpiper	5/8	—	6/8	6/7
Pectoral Sandpiper	3/29	4/3	5/5	4/25
Dunlin	4/12	4/18	6/2	5/27
Short-billed Dowitcher	4/21	4/19	6/1	6/10
Common Snipe	3/13	3/8	5/3	5/7
American Woodcock	2/28	2/28	—	—
Laughing Gull	3/30	3/29	—	—
Bonaparte's Gull	3/27	3/26	5/4	5/9
Ring-billed Gull	2/10	2/16	5/28	5/23
Caspian Tern	4/9	4/10	5/24	5/30
Royal Tern	4/14	4/13	—	—
Common Tern	5/15	4/14	—	—
Forster's Tern	4/12	4/8	—	—
Least Tern	5/4	4/24	—	—
Black Tern	5/9	5/7	5/2	6/1
Black-billed Cuckoo	5/7	5/2	—	—
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5/3	5/3	—	—
Short-eared Owl	—	—	3/20	4/4
Common Nighthawk	5/7	5/7	—	—
Chuck-will's-widow	4/28	4/19	—	—
Whip-poor-will	4/21	4/18	—	—
Chimney Swift	4/15	4/12	—	—
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	4/27	4/19	—	—
Belted Kingfisher	3/16	3/9	—	—
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3/27	3/16	4/22	4/14
Eastern Wood-Pewee	5/2	5/2	—	—
Acadian Flycatcher	5/2	5/2	—	—
Willow Flycatcher	5/16	5/9	—	—
Least Flycatcher	5/2	5/2	5/21	5/17
Eastern Phoebe	3/12	2/28	—	—
Great Crested Flycatcher	4/27	4/25	—	—
Eastern Kingbird	4/24	4/17	—	—
Purple Martin	3/29	3/29	—	—
Tree Swallow	3/21	3/13	—	—
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	4/2	3/31	—	—
Bank Swallow	4/18	4/18	—	—
Barn Swallow	4/3	4/1	—	—
Red-breasted Nuthatch	—	—	5/3	5/1
Brown Creeper	3/24	3/27	4/20	4/20

Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Spring 1992

SPECIES	ARRIVALS		DEPARTURES	
	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN
House Wren	4/20	4/18	—	—
Winter Wren	—	—	4/23	4/15
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3/24	3/21	4/13	4/19
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4/10	4/8	5/9	5/10
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4/10	4/11	—	—
Eastern Bluebird	2/22	2/23	—	—
Veery	4/29	4/27	5/22	5/23
Gray-cheeked Thrush	5/12	5/16	5/25	5/26
Swainson's Thrush	5/2	5/3	5/28	5/29
Hermit Thrush	4/9	4/1	5/5	4/23
Wood Thrush	4/24	4/20	—	—
American Robin	2/20	2/17	—	—
Gray Catbird	4/24	4/24	—	—
Brown Thrasher	4/9	4/10	—	—
American Pipit	3/18	3/11	5/4	5/2
Cedar Waxwing	—	—	5/31	5/30
White-eyed Vireo	4/20	4/17	—	—
Solitary Vireo	4/20	4/18	5/7	5/10
Yellow-throated Vireo	4/27	4/25	—	—
Warbling Vireo	4/28	4/26	—	—
Red-eyed Vireo	4/25	4/22	—	—
Blue-winged Warbler	4/28	4/25	5/12	5/10
Golden-winged Warbler	4/28	4/29	5/12	5/9
Tennessee Warbler	5/4	5/5	5/21	5/18
Nashville Warbler	4/30	4/25	5/17	5/16
Northern Parula	4/19	4/16	—	—
Yellow Warbler	4/25	4/18	—	—
Chestnut-sided Warbler	5/1	5/1	5/21	5/17
Magnolia Warbler	5/3	5/5	5/26	5/28
Cape May Warbler	5/3	5/3	5/19	5/21
Black-throated Blue Warbler	4/30	4/29	5/20	5/19
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	5/15	5/16
Black-throated Green Warbler	4/29	4/24	5/21	5/17
Blackburnian Warbler	5/3	4/29	5/22	5/17
Yellow-throated Warbler	4/12	4/10	—	—
Pine Warbler	3/16	3/3	—	—
Prairie Warbler	4/23	4/21	—	—
Palm Warbler	4/6	4/7	5/4	5/1
Bay-breasted Warbler	5/4	5/4	5/22	5/17
Blackpoll Warbler	5/3	5/9	5/30	6/3
Cerulean Warbler	4/28	4/26	—	—
Black-and-white Warbler	4/17	4/12	—	—
American Redstart	4/26	4/24	5/30	6/2
Prothonotary Warbler	4/23	4/23	—	—
Worm-eating Warbler	4/27	4/24	—	—
Ovenbird	4/19	4/12	—	—
Northern Waterthrush	4/28	4/24	5/24	5/25

Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Spring 1992

SPECIES	ARRIVALS		DEPARTURES	
	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN	10-YEAR MEDIAN	1992 MEDIAN
Louisiana Waterthrush	4/4	4/8	—	—
Kentucky Warbler	4/29	4/30	—	—
Mourning Warbler	5/18	5/13	5/30	6/3
Common Yellowthroat	4/20	4/17	—	—
Hooded Warbler	4/27	4/22	—	—
Wilson's Warbler	5/7	5/5	5/21	5/20
Canada Warbler	5/5	5/3	5/27	5/20
Yellow-breasted Chat	4/30	4/28	—	—
Summer Tanager	5/1	4/27	—	—
Scarlet Tanager	4/27	4/24	—	—
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5/1	5/2	5/21	5/22
Blue Grosbeak	4/30	4/27	—	—
Indigo Bunting	4/29	4/25	—	—
Rufous-sided Towhee	3/28	3/18	—	—
American Tree Sparrow	—	—	3/20	3/25
Chipping Sparrow	3/28	3/30	—	—
Vesper Sparrow	4/2	4/4	—	—
Savannah Sparrow	3/29	3/29	5/12	5/9
Grasshopper Sparrow	4/25	4/23	—	—
Fox Sparrow	2/22	2/26	3/28	4/4
Lincoln's Sparrow	5/4	5/4	5/22	5/21
Swamp Sparrow	—	—	5/11	5/14
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	5/17	5/17
White-crowned Sparrow	—	—	5/11	5/11
Dark-eyed Junco	—	—	5/1	4/24
Bobolink	5/1	4/28	5/25	5/18
Red-winged Blackbird	2/20	2/21	—	—
Rusty Blackbird	3/11	3/9	4/30	4/28
Common Grackle	2/19	2/23	—	—
Brown-headed Cowbird	2/22	2/12	—	—
Orchard Oriole	4/27	4/23	—	—
Northern Oriole	4/27	4/26	—	—
Purple Finch	—	—	5/6	4/23
Pine Siskin	—	—	5/12	5/20

19 on the Choptank River between Cambridge and Tilghman Island on April 8 (Reese, Merrit), 12 at Bellevue on April 11 (Paul Spitzer, H. Armistead), 12 at North Beach on April 17 for the last of the season there (Stasz), 1 on the Potomac near Piney Point on April 19 (Ann Hobbs), 1 at Rock Point on May 11 (Jett), and 6-10 seen at Ocean City on May 21 (Hilton, Janni). A **Brown Pelican** was at Assateague on April 23 (Hoffman) and 75 were noted at Ocean City on April 25 (Reese). A **Pink-backed Pelican** escaped from the Baltimore Zoo on May 3 and was seen at Conowingo from May 19 through the summer (Glenn Therres).

Cormorants. **Great Cormorants** included 1 at North Beach on March 9 (Stasz), 6 at Cobb Island Light, St. Mary's County on March 25 (Stasz), 1 at Baltimore Light, Anne Arundel County on March 27 (Stasz), 1 at Cobb Island on March 29 (Stasz, Iliff), an immature at Ocean Pines on May 2 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), an adult at Elliott Island on May 9 (H. Armistead), and 1 at Ocean City on May 22 (M. O'Brien). **Spring Double-crested Cormorants** were prominent once again with 1 at Ocean City on March 1 (Hoffman), peak counts of 130 at Leonardtown and 300 at Abells Wharf, St. Mary's County on March 25 (Stasz, Ringler), 242 in DC on April 11 and 59 on May 30 (Czaplak), up to 200 at Conowingo on April 6 (Kent Michaellek), 3000 in the Assateague and Ocean City area on April 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 2000+ at Ocean City on April 25 (Reese). The numerous inland reports included 6 at Town Hill on April 1 (Paulus), 23 on the Potomac at Pennyfield on April 10 (Krueger), 9 at Loch Raven on April 13 (Wheeler), 7 at Little Seneca Lake on April 23 (Czaplak), 49 at Centennial on April 24 (Farrell), 12 over Town Hill on May 1 (Paulus), 27 at Triadelphia on May 10 (Magnusson), 4 immatures at Jennings Randolph Reservoir, Garrett County on May 24 (Stasz), 1 immature at Big Pool on May 25 (Stasz), another immature near Frederick on May 27 (Miller), 59 in DC on May 30 (Czaplak), 1 bird at Rocky Gap on May 31 (Simons), and 1 at Loch Raven on June 2 (Wheeler).

Herons, Ibis. Single **American Bitterns** were seen in 11 counties this spring from March 21 at Cove Point (Stasz), to May 14 at Port Tobacco (Jett). Hoffman noted a **Least Bittern** at Assateague on April 23, and 2 birds were at Lilypons on May 20 (Miller, Czaplak). Migrant **Great Blue Herons** included 18 at Assateague on April 3 (Hoffman), and 1 at North Branch on May 19 seen dragging a four-foot branch (Twigg). **Great Egret** reports included several at Deal Island WMA on March 12 (Charles Williams), and single birds at Assateague on March 15 (Hoffman) and Denton on March 21 (Stasz, Iliff). Inland Greats included single birds at Lake Elkhorn on April 7 (Farrell, Waughs), at Centennial on May 22 (Bockstie, Solem), and flying over Fletcher's Boathouse, DC on May 29 (Janni). The first reports of **Snowy Egrets** were several at Deal Island WMA on March 12 (Charles Williams), 2 at West Ocean City on March 14 (Hoffman), 1 inland at New Germany SP on April 8 (Twigg), an inland bird at Lilypons on April 30 (Warfield), 1 at Loch Raven on May 2-3 (Simon), and 7 at Eastern Neck on May 28 (Grubers). An adult **Little Blue Heron** was seen throughout the spring beginning March 23 at Harford Glen Park (Kirkwood). Another adult was spotted flying up the Bay at North Beach on April 1 (Stasz), and single birds were at Assateague on April 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien) and at Annapolis on April 11 (Iliff). **Tricolored Heron** reports included several at Deal Island WMA on March 12 (Charles Williams), 1 flying up the bay near Barren Island on March 29 (Morris & Randi Lippencott, Iliff), 1 at North Beach on April 11 (Stasz), 3 at Assateague on April 12 (Hoffman), and 1 at Deep Creek Airport, Anne Arundel County on April 18 (Ringler, Stasz, Bill Kulp). Paul Nistico observed a flock of 10 **Cattle Egrets** at Accokeek during April 25 - May 9, and other reports included about 15 at Ocean Pines on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 25 near Oakland, Anne Arundel County on April 18 (Ringler, Kulp, Stasz), 155 at West Ocean City on April 26 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 65 at Easton on May 1 (Reese). Single early **Green-backed Herons** were at Ellicott City (Ott) and Lake Kittamaquundi (Zeichner) on April 10. **Black-crowned Night-Herons** included 30 at West Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman), 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 11 (Stasz), 2 at Wilde Lake on April 13 (Zeichner, Chestem, Ott, Solem), several at Lilypons on April 18-30 (Miller), 5 along the C&O Canal near Bethesda on May 9 (Homan), and an immature at Centennial on May 22 (Farrell, Bockstie). Single **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** were at Hughes Hollow on April 6 (Krueger) and Annapolis on April 7 (Stasz, Iliff, Walbeck+), Hoffman noted 2 adults at West Ocean City on April 23, and 2 were at Rock Creek Park on April 24 (Janni). Connie Skipper discovered an immature Yellow-crowned at Bittinger on May 5. **Glossy Ibis** reports were 5 near Snow Hill on March 21 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 11 at Blackwater

on March 29 (Stones), 100 near Libertytown, Worcester County on April 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Hains Point on May 2 (Janni), 3 seen flying over Fort Smallwood Park on May 2 (Ricciardi), and 3 at Fulton Pond on May 8 (Chestem, Magnusson, Solem+).

Swans, Geese. Sightings of **Tundra Swans** included 2500 at Eastern Neck on March 1 (Grubers), 137 at PRNAS on March 4 (Rambo, Lister), 180 inland at Loch Raven on March 8 (Simon), and 260 over Hammond Village, Howard County on March 9 (George Chase). Czaplak identified a **Tundra x Trumpeter** hybrid swan at Lilypons on March 22. The Grubers counted 62 **Mute Swans** at Eastern Neck on March 31 and Harry Armistead reported a disturbing 360 birds with 10 active nests at Barren and Hooper Islands on May 24. A **Greater White-fronted Goose** was reported in Gaithersburg on March 1 (Matthew O'Donnell) and at Triadelphia on March 15 (Saunders). The last large flocks of **Snow Geese** remaining before heading north were the 15,000+, including 150 blue phase, at Sudlersville on March 5 (Grubers), 4500+ at Kennedyville the same day (Reese), and 500 at Blackwater on April 5 (Jett). Inland reports included 1 blue and 1 white at Woodmark Lake, Howard County on March 16 (Zeichner), and 1 blue and 1 white on March 24-25 at UMCF (Chestem, McClures). The Armisteads estimated 1700 whites and 12 blues on March 29 at Blackwater down to 14 whites and 8 blues there on April 18. Mark Hoffman discovered 210 **Brant** at Ocean City on March 12, and 80 were still there on May 9. The Grubers estimated 10,000 **Canada Geese** flying north over Chestertown on March 2, and Jim Paulus reported 280 inland at Town Hill on March 3. Jim Stasz noted 4 of the rare, small race at Huntleys Pond, Davidsonville on March 8 and another at Sandy Hook on March 16. A Canada Goose with 7 young was at Hughes Hollow on April 26 (Donna Kuroda+).

Exotic Waterfowl. A **Black Swan** was reported at Deal Island WMA from March 19 through April 8 (many observers). An **Egyptian Goose** was at Loch Raven on April 9 (Stasz, Iliff) and a **Common Shelduck** was there on April 10 (Stasz). A male **Falcated Teal**, probably the same bird seen in Montgomery County last spring, was reported off Roxbury Road in Howard County during March 20-24 (Wallace).

Puddle Ducks. The high report for **Wood Ducks** was 70 at Wagram Creek, Worcester County on March 22 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and Wallace recorded 19 at Big Branch on March 18. Teresa Simons discovered 36 at Pinto on March 23 and an adult with 8 young at North Branch on April 24. The high counts for **Green-winged Teal** were 175 at Blackwater on March 29 (H. Armistead+), 21 at Deep Creek Lake on March 26 (Skipper), 100 at Assateague on April 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 30 at Loch Raven on April 11 (Simon), and 50 at Deal Island WMA on April 25 (Czaplak). The only notable reports for **American Black Ducks** were 150 at Assateague on March 15 (Hoffman), 130 at Loch Raven on March 28 (Simon), and a hen with 10 chicks at Deal Island WMA on April 25 (Czaplak). Early nesting **Mallards** included separate groups of 14 and 10 downy young at Lake Elkhorn on April 7 (Southworths) and 14 downy young at Chesapeake Beach on April 9 (Stasz). The high **Northern Pintail** report was 152 at Remington on March 15 (Grubers). Czaplak noted 2 **Blue-winged Teal** at Blackwater on March 14, Hoffman reported 20 at Assateague on April 17, and Stasz found a solo male at North Beach on May 14. **Northern Shovelers** were 70 at Pocomoke City on March 13 (Hoffman), 153 at Remington on March 15 (Grubers), 55 at Blackwater on March 29 (H. Armistead+), a pair at Big Pool on April 14 (Iliff), and an adult male on May 2 at Hurlock (Wilson+). Forty **Gadwalls** were at Assateague on April 5 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien). Simon discovered a drake **Eurasian Wigeon** at Loch Raven from April 4-10. Reports for the **American Wigeon** included 133 at Loch Raven on March 4 (Simon), 131 at Remington on March 15 (Grubers), 29 at North Branch on March 23 (Twigg), 79 at Deep Creek Lake on March 26 (Skipper), and 20 at Laytonsville on March 29 (Hilton).

Aythya Ducks. Reports of lingering **Canvasbacks** were scarce this spring with 300 the high for the season at West Ocean City on April 4, down to 3 females on April 12 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien). Inland Canvasbacks included 20 at Rocky Gap and 4 at Cumberland on March 22 (Simons), and a single bird at Lake Kittamaquidi on April 18 (Chestem). Mumford noted a **Redhead** near Bay Ridge on March 22, Skipper found 5 at Deep Creek Lake on April 2 for the high of the season, and Wallace discovered a pair in western Howard County on April 13. The scarcity of Redheads this season noticeably contrasts with the outstanding count of over 1000 **Ring-necked Ducks** at Little Seneca Lake in late March (M. O'Brien). Other Ring-necks were 193 at Big Branch on March 3 (Solem), 110 at Piney Run on March 7 (Blom), 80 at Pocomoke City on March 13 (Hoffman), 60 at Rocky Gap on March 21 (Simons), 521 at Deep Creek Lake on April 2 (Skipper), 1 male at Schooley Mill on May 7 (Magnusson), a female at Berlin on May 9 (Hoffman), and 2 males seen upstream from Great Falls on May 10 (Hilton). **Greater Scaup** reports included 1 at Rocky Gap on March 7 (Simons), a drake at Wilde Lake on March 20 (Ott, Zeichner, David Holmes), a female at Triadelphia on March 22 (Farrell, Solem), 8 at Seneca on March 27, 1 in DC on March 28 and 6 at Blockhouse Point on April 5 (Czaplak), and 11 in Garrett County at the Oakland sewage ponds on April 15 (Iliff). Czaplak found 940 **Lesser Scaup** at Cambridge on March 14, the Grubers counted 400 Lesser Scaup at Eastern Neck on March 21, 68 were at North Branch, 20 at Rocky Gap and 4 at Cumberland on March 22 (Simons), 120 were in the Ocean City area on March 22 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), 89 at Little Meadows Lake on March 31 (Skipper), and 1 in DC on May 31 (Janni, Czaplak).

Other Diving Ducks. Reese found single **Common Eiders** at Ocean City on April 24-26. Harry Armistead discovered a subadult male **Harlequin Duck** at Elliott Island on May 9. **Oldsquaws** at PRNAS numbered 430 on March 4 (Rambo, Lister). Many Oldsquaws were reported inland with several at Triadelphia from March 21 (Magnusson) through April 12 (Farrell, Solem+) including a high of 25 on March 22 (Gerald Elgert), 18 in Allegany County on March 22 (Simons), 11 at Little Meadows Lake on March 31 (Skipper), 15 at Violettes Lock on March 31 (Bonham), the season high of 4000 on the Choptank between Cambridge and Tilgham Island on April 8 (Reese, Don Merrit), 3 at Piney Dam, Garrett County on April 14 (Iliff), a male at North Branch on May 10-11 (Stasz), and late single birds at Sandy Point on June 1 (Janni) and North Point on June 2 (Wheeler). At Ocean City on April 26 were 37 **Black Scoters** (Reese). **Surf Scoters** were also evident with 40 at Cobb Island on March 15 (Jett), a male at Havre de Grace on March 28 and 300+ at North Beach on March 29 (Stasz), 1 inland at Rocky Gap on April 4-20 (Twigg), 60 at Assateague on April 5 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), the high of 2850 on the Choptank near Cambridge on April 8 (Reese, Don Merrit), and an immature male at Deep Creek Lake on April 14 (Iliff). Czaplak spotted a late Surf Scoter at Ocean City on May 22. **White-winged Scoters** were not to be left out with 650+ at North Beach on March 29 (Stasz) and 600 at Poplar Island on April 8 (Reese). A pair of inland White-winged Scoters was at Triadelphia on March 31 (Chestem, Zeichner). There were 213 **Common Goldeneyes** at PRNAS on March 4 (Rambo, Lister). Concentrations of **Buffleheads** were 600 at Bellevue on April 11 (Paul Spitzer, H. Armistead) and 136 in DC the same day (Czaplak), 54 at Loch Raven on April 20-22 (Simon), 30 at Rocky Gap and 5 at North Branch on April 21 (Simons), 1 still at Loch Raven on May 18 (Simon), and a female from May 22 to the end of the month near Frederick (Miller). Fifty-one **Hooded Mergansers** were at Deep Creek Lake on March 26 (Skipper), 22 at Lilypons on March 27 (Krueger); lingering birds were a female at Deep Creek Airport on May 3 (Stasz) and a female near Jefferson on May 17 (Miller). Czaplak found a Hooded Merganser hen with 8 chicks at Lilypons on May 15, and Mary Anne Todd discovered an adult bird with 5 ducklings at Hughes Hollow on May 27. Steve Simon had a nice sighting of 94 **Common Mergansers** at Loch Raven on March 2; late birds were 1 at Trappe on April 12 (Reese), 5 at Loch Raven on April 13 (Simon), 4 at Rocky Gap on April 21 (Simons), and 1 in DC on May 29 (Janni). Highs for

Red-breasted Mergansers were 40 at Pinto, 23 at Rocky Gap, and 13 at Cumberland on March 22 (Simons); 200 at Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien); 300 at Eastern Neck on April 13 (Grubers); and 3 immatures at Rocky Gap on May 31 (Stasz, Blom, Simons). Mark Hoffman found 400 **Ruddy Ducks** at the Pocomoke City sewage ponds on April 12.

Diurnal Raptors. **Black Vultures** made an early appearance at Town Hill with 4 on March 5 and a total of 10 from March 5 to April 25 (Paulus). Czaplak counted 45 at a cow carcass at Boyds on April 12. Connie Skipper found 8 early **Turkey Vultures** in Garrett County along Oakland_Sang Run Road on March 3. An early **Osprey** was spotted at Bucktown on March 1 (Alice & Edgar Jones). Other Ospreys of note were 1 at Triadelphia on March 16 (Gerald Elgert), 1 at Cumberland on April 1 (Twigg), and 6 in DC with two nests on May 2 (Czaplak). Jane Farrell spied a **Bald Eagle** at Triadelphia on March 22, Teresa Simons noted another at Green Ridge on March 29, and Stauffer Miller notched 1 at Knoxville on April 5. A late migrant **Northern Harrier** was near Dawsonville on May 10 (Hilton), and a possible breeding bird was at Tuckahoe SP on May 29 (Rittenhouse). Jim Stasz identified an adult female **Sharp-shinned Hawk** at Cooksville on May 25 and recorded 10 **Cooper's Hawks** at Cove Point on April 11. Czaplak spotted 2 Cooper's and 110 **Broad-winged Hawks** migrating at Seneca on April 17, and Farrell counted 38 Broadwings at Centennial the same day. A **Northern Goshawk** was spotted at North Branch on March 23 (Twigg). The last reports for **Rough-legged Hawks** were 1 at E.A. Vaughn WMA, Worcester County on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), a dark phase at Irish Grove on April 4 (Stasz), and 2 birds at Elliott Island the same day (Julie Kelly). Late **Golden Eagles** were 2 immatures at Remington on March 15 (Grubers), 1 at Blackwater on March 31 (Krueger), an adult at Eastern Neck on April 13 (Grubers), and 1 at Centennial on April 17 (Farrell). **Merlin** reports included single birds at Ocean Pines on March 8 (Janni), at Lilypons on April 6 (Krueger), over Town Hill on April 14 (Illif, Stasz), and at Chesapeake Beach on May 13 (Stasz). Sightings of **Peregrine Falcons** included 2 adults at Ocean City through March 14 with 1 through April 12 (Hoffman), a male "tundrius" at Jug Bay on March 12 (Stasz, Blom), 1 in DC on March 13 (Frank Daspit), 2 inland on the

Table 2. Hawk Migration at Town Hill, Allegany County, Spring 1992
compiled by Jim Paulus

Species	First	Last	Total	Best Days
Osprey	3/25	5/3	104	19 on 4/22, 16 on 4/11
Bald Eagle	3/12	4/17	10	3 on 3/25
Northern Harrier	3/8	4/18	41	10 on 4/8 and 4/16
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3/5	5/2	116	25 on 4/18, 18 on 4/16
Cooper's Hawk	3/3	5/1	9	2 on 3/25 and 4/10
Red-shouldered Hawk	3/1	4/4	55	17 on 3/9, 10 on 3/25
Broad-winged Hawk	4/12	5/1	1005	637 on 4/17, 243 on 4/16
Red-tailed Hawk	3/1	5/2	255	33 on 4/11, 19 on 3/25
Golden Eagle	3/1	4/17	21	4 on 3/8
American Kestrel	3/3	4/24	37	12 on 3/25
Merlin	4/13	4/23	3	also one on 4/16
Unidentified			114	

Total
(49 days, 224.5 hrs) 3/ 1 5/ 3 1770 673 on 4/17, 308 on 4/16,
107 on 4/18

Table 3. Hawk Migration at Fort Smallwood Park, Spring 1992
compiled by Paul and Cecily Fritz

Species	First	Last	Total	Best Days
Black Vulture	3/29	4/24	15	8 on 3/29, 3 on 4/7 and 4/24
Turkey Vulture	3/17	5/10	494	112 on 3/29, 56 on 4/17
Osprey	3/17	5/10	195	47 on 4/11 and 4/17, 23 on 4/25
Bald Eagle	3/22	4/25	10	3 on 3/29 and 4/2
Northern Harrier	3/17	5/10	85	31 on 4/17, 27 on 4/11
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3/17	5/10	2100	518 on 4/17, 431 on 4/11
Cooper's Hawk	3/17	5/10	246	57 on 4/17, 50 on 4/24
Red-shouldered Hawk	3/17	4/25	71	13 on 3/29, 4/11 and 4/12
Broad-winged Hawk	4/11	5/10	373	262 on 4/17, 60 on 5/2
Red-tailed Hawk	3/29	5/2	42	14 on 4/17, 9 on 3/29
American Kestrel	3/17	5/10	273	77 on 4/11, 67 on 4/17, 56 on 4/12
Merlin	4/1	5/10	15	6 on 4/17, 4 on 4/25
Peregrine Falcon	4/17		1	
Unidentified			36	
Total (19 days, 104.5 hrs)	3/17	5/10	3956	1071 on 4/17, 646 on 4/11, 446 on 5/2

Maryland side of a cliff near Harpers Ferry on March 15 (David Gersten), an adult near Taylors Island the same day (Ed Bruce), another at Ellicott City on April 9 (Ott), and 1 at Frederick on May 23 (Jett).

Gallinaceous Birds. An exotic **Chukar**, no doubt escaped, was reported at Hughes Hollow on March 29 (John Wilson). Eastern Shore sightings of **Ring-necked Pheasants** were 2 at Remington on March 21 (Jared and Zach Parks), 1 banded bird at Nanticoke on April 3 (Stasz), 1 at Greensboro on April 15 (Bob Fletcher), 1 at Bellevue on April 17 and 2 heard calling on May 23 (H. Armistead+), 1 heard calling at Smoky Road, Calvert County on April 24 and seen on May 12 (Stasz), and 1 at Seward on May 2 (Wilson). Eighteen **Wild Turkeys** were at Federalsburg on March 15 (Glime). Other reports included 8 in Queen Anne on March 16 (Grubers), 1 heard gobbling in Pocomoke State Forest on March 22 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 in Bethesda on March 28 and May 21 (Homan), several heard at Fleming Mill on April 5 (Stasz), 1 at Prettyboy Reservoir on April 7 (Stephen Buhl) and April 20 (Charles Doyle, Hobart Hughes), at least 6 calling at Smoky Road, Calvert County on April 24 (Stasz), and 1 heard near Hibley's Mill, Howard County on May 2 (Stasz).

Rails, Cranes. The first calling **Black Rails** of the season were 2 heard early near Rumbly Point on April 3 (Stasz, Effinger). Another was at Assateague on April 16 (Hoffman), and another was calling at Easton sewage plant on April 25 (Stasz, Iliff). Jim Stasz heard a **Clapper Rail** calling at Chesapeake Beach on April 11, and Harry Armistead discovered a Clapper Rail nest with 8 eggs on May 24 at Barren Island. A **King Rail** was calling at Cove Point on March 21 (Stasz), another was at Truitts Landing on April 18 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and one more was near Franklin Manor, Anne Arundel County on May 9 (Iliff). Early reports for **Virginia Rails** were 8 at Truitts Landing on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Hughes Hollow on April 17 (Czaplak), and 1 at the Wildfowl Trust near Grasonville on April 18 (Nistico). The high count was the 126 totaled by Harry Armistead in southern Dorchester County on May 9. **Soras** noted included 1 at Assateague

on April 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 2 at Pinto on April 25 (Simons), 1 at Truitts Landing on May 2nd and 4th (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Finzel Swamp on May 9 (Walbeck+), 1 at Lilypons on April 29 (Krueger) and May 11 (Jett), and 4 in southern Dorchester County on May 9 (H. Armistead). Phil Norman reported a Sora in Howard County at the Plumtree Branch pathway on May 16, and 1 was at Hughes Hollow on May 17 (Don Simonson). Krueger reported a **Common Moorhen** at Lilypons on April 29. Steve Simon counted 700 **American Coots** at Loch Raven on March 4 and 13, Czaplak found 50 Coots at Little Seneca Lake on March 7, Hoffman discovered 90 at the Pocomoke City sewage ponds on March 13, and Skipper noted 60 at Deep Creek Lake on March 26. Once again a **Sandhill Crane**, seen by many birders, was found near the Choptank in Talbot County on March 8 (Hilton, Janni) and last reported there on April 15 (Reese); and a Sandhill was heard calling at night at Eastern Neck on May 28 (M. O'Brien).

Plovers, Oystercatchers, Stilts, Avocets. Mark Hoffman reported the high for **Black-bellied Plovers** with 160 at Ocean City on March 12. George and Harry Armistead found 9 at Blackwater on April 18 and 1 at Laytonsville on May 27 (Dwight Mueller). The first **Semipalmated Plovers** of the season were single birds at Assateague on April 23 (Hoffman) and North Branch on April 24 (Simons). The high count was 312 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Ricciardi, Stasz, Dixon). Mark Hoffman found 7 of the endangered **Piping Plovers** at Assateague on March 15. High counts of **Killdeer** were 35 at Liberty Reservoir on March 14 (Ringler), 40 at Allens Fresh on March 25 (Stasz, Ringler), and 71 at Fulton on March 21 (Farrell). Jan Reese counted 45 five miles southeast of Trappe on March 29, Stasz discovered 89 along Sudley Road, Anne Arundel County on April 1, and Betty Pitney reported 2 young birds leaving a nest in Parsonsburg on April 12. There were no March reports for **American Oystercatchers**, but Jim Stasz recorded 2 at Wenona on April 5. Frequent reports of spring **Black-necked Stilts** continue with 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 17-19 (Iliff, Stasz+), two pairs at Deal Island WMA on April 25 (Czaplak), 3 near Newark on May 1 (Hoffman), 1 at Hurlock sewage ponds on May 2 (Wilson+), 1 at Allens Fresh on May 3 (Jett), 1 at North Beach on May 3 (Jett), 1 at Blackwater on May 17 (Krueger), and 2 at Hart-Miller on May 17-18 (Ricciardi, Stasz, Dixon). It was a good spring for **American Avocets** at Hart-Miller with 9 from May 17 through the end of the month and one pair copulating (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz+). Mary Gustafson reported an avocet at Blackwater on April 4.

Sandpipers. Early **Greater Yellowlegs** were at Deal Island WMA on March 12 (Charles Williams). A single bird was at Eastern Neck (Grubers) and 32 at Cambridge on March 14 (Czaplak), and 3 were at Assateague on March 15 (Hoffman). Other reports included 40 at Blackwater on March 29 (H. Armistead+), 35 at Assateague on April 12 (Hoffman), 50 at Deal Island WMA on April 25 (Czaplak), 22 at Chesapeake Beach on May 6 (Stasz), and a single bird at Laytonsville on May 30 (Czaplak). Ten **Lesser Yellowlegs** were at Assateague on March 15, and 70 were there on May 4 (Hoffman). Stasz found 33 Lessers at Chesapeake Beach on May 13 and an early **Solitary Sandpiper** there on April 11. Warfield noted 1 at Lilypons on April 10 and Simon located 17 Solitaries at Loch Raven on May 10. Stasz found a late migrant Solitary at Chesapeake Beach on June 8. **Willet** reports included 1 at Deal Island WMA on April 11 (Jett), 2 near Public Landing on April 12 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 17 (Iliff, Stasz), 2 at Cove Point on May 9 (Stasz, Boyd), 1 at Jug Bay on May 11 (Stasz), and a bird of the western race (the only one of the season) at North Beach on May 21-24 (Stasz, Iliff). Hoffman tallied 95 Willets along coastal Worcester County on April 24 and a nest with 4 eggs in West Ocean City on May 9. The first **Spotted Sandpiper** of the season was in DC on March 31 near Fletcher's Boathouse (Homan), another was seen from a boat on the Choptank near Tilghman Island on April 8 (Reese, Don Merrit), and Twigg reported 1 inland at Rocky Gap and 2 at Little Meadows Lake on April 10. Reese turned

up an **Upland Sandpiper** in Easton on April 19, Czaplak checked off a bird at Shady Side on April 20, and Miller notched an Upland near Frederick on April 27. **Whimbrel** reports were numerous with 3 birds at Assateague on April 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 3 on the April 25 pelagic trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+), 50 at Assateague on May 4 (Hoffman), and about 40 seen flying over Hashawha Environmental Center, Carroll County on May 25 (Ringler). The only **Marbled Godwit** of the season was at Hart-Miller on May 23 (Janni, Hoffman). The migration of **Ruddy Turnstones** was on schedule with the first bird at North Beach on May 9 and 4 there on May 14 (Stasz), 11 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), 28 at Barren and Hooper Islands on May 24 (H. Armistead), 4 at the Wye River Yacht Club on May 29 (Stasz), 1 at North Branch on May 31-June 1 (Twigg+), and 2 at North Point. (Wheeler).

Wintering **Red Knots** were discovered at Ocean City with 4 there on March 12 and 2 on April 4 (Hoffman). Migrants were 1 at Chesapeake Beach on May 9 (Stasz, Boyd), 2 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), and another at North Beach on May 19 (Stasz). Krueger estimated 1200 **Sanderlings** at Assateague on April 18 and there were about 1650 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz). The first reported Semipalm was a single bird at Chesapeake Beach on April 28, and 77 were there on May 14 (Stasz). Miller noted 15 Semipalms at Lilypons on May 27, and Czaplak counted 50 in DC on May 31. The only **Western Sandpiper** was inland at North Branch on May 31 (Simons, Paulus, Twigg), and Mark Hoffman notched 4 very early **Least Sandpipers** at Assateague on March 15. High counts for the Least included 100 at Assateague on April 23 (Hoffman), 105 at Chesapeake Beach on May 2 (Stasz), 36 at North Branch on May 16 (Simons), and 538 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz). Reports for the **White-rumped Sandpiper** were 1 at Chesapeake Beach on May 3 and 3 there on May 10 (Stasz), 1 at Blackwater on May 11 (Jett), and 40+ at Hart-Miller on June 4 (Stasz, Iliff). Steve Simon spotted a very early **Pectoral Sandpiper** at Loch Raven on March 1, the high count was 25 at Easton on April 17 (G. Armistead), 3 were at Chesapeake Beach on May 10th (Stasz), and Warfield found an even later bird at Lilypons on May 20th. Jan Reese and Don Merrit noted 6 **Purple Sandpipers** at Poplar Island on April 8 and the high count of 62 at Ocean City on April 26. Robert Hilton found 10 Purple Sandpipers remaining in Ocean City on May 21. Hoffman estimated 2000 **Dunlins** in Ocean City on March 12, 260 were counted at Blackwater on March 14 (Czaplak), and 8 were found at Allens Fresh on March 15 (Jett, Stasz). Other Dunlin reports included 1000 at Blackwater on April 5 (Jett), 12 at Easton on April 17 (G. Armistead), 486 at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), 50 throughout Barren and Hooper Islands on May 24 (H. Armistead) and 3 inland at Lilypons on May 27 (Miller). A **Curlew Sandpiper** made an appearance at Hart-Miller and was seen off and on by several birders from May 17 through May 23 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz+). Steve Simon discovered a **Stilt Sandpiper** at Loch Raven on May 9, another, in breeding plumage, was at Chesapeake Beach, May 9-14 (Iliff, Stasz, Boyd), and others were at Blackwater on May 3 and Cambridge on May 17 (Krueger). The only **Ruff** report for the season was the female Jim Stasz spotted at Jug Bay on April 12.

Short-billed Dowitchers were a little early with 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 11 (Stasz), 5 at Assateague on April 17 and 60 there on May 4 (Hoffman), and 7 at Lilypons on April 22 (Krueger). The high was 118 at Hart-Miller on May 17 inland; 6 were found at North Branch on May 18 (Simons) and in Frederick County on May 14 (Miller). Harry Armistead and party saw 2 calling **Long-billed Dowitchers** at Blackwater on March 29. There were 57 **Common Snipe** at Jug Bay on March 6 (Chris Swarth), 42 at Sycamore Landing on March 7 (Mike Bowen, Saunders), 45 at Stockton on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 34 were totaled at Lilypons on March 17 (Warfield), 44 visited UMCF on April 8 (Magnusson), up to 30 were observed at Otter Point Creek Marsh, Harford County on

April 13 (Kirkwood), and 1 was noted at Chesapeake Beach on May 12 (Stasz). A **Wilson's Phalarope** in breeding plumage was at West Ocean City on May 11 (Bonham) and another was at Hart-Miller on May 19 (Jett). Pelagic birders notched 2 **Red-necked Phalaropes** on the April 25 trip out of Ocean City; a single female was discovered at Elliott Island on May 9 by Harry Armistead.

Jaegers, Gulls. The April 25 pelagic trip off Ocean City yielded 3 **Parasitic Jaegers**; the March 1 trip, 2 unidentified **skuas** and a **Little Gull** (Scarpulla+). Hoffman estimated 1000 **Laughing Gulls** at the Worcester County landfill on April 3, Scudder recorded 250 at Concord on April 4, Janni noted 10 in DC on May 10, and Ott spotted 5 adults at Rockburn Branch the same day. A first-winter and an adult winter **Common Black-headed Gull** rewarded hardy pelagic birders out of Ocean City on March 1 (Scarpulla+), 1 adult was seen in Denton on March 15-21 (Steve Sanford, Pete Webb+), 1 adult flew over Sandy Point on March 27 (Stasz), and a first-winter bird was at Assateague on April 5 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman). **Bonaparte's Gulls** included 150 at Ocean City on March 1 (Hoffman), 1500 at Back River on March 15th and 18th (Blom), 14 at Loch Raven on April 13 (Simon), 100 at Eastern Neck on April 14 (Grubers), 270 flying north at Sandy Point on April 20 (Czaplak), 1 immature flying over the Pocomoke River on May 16 (Ringer), 2 immatures at St. Clements and 1 at Cobb Island on May 16 (Stasz), 1 at North Beach on May 18 (Stasz), and 1 immature at Ocean City on May 22 (Czaplak). High estimates for **Ring-billed Gulls** were 2500 at Kennedyville and 5000 between Chestertown and Easton on March 5 (Reese), 10,000 at Fairlee on March 7 (Grubers), 3500 at Trappe on March 22 (Reese), 500 near Lilypons on March 27 and 1950 in DC on March 28 (Czaplak), and 10,000 at Chestertown on March 31 (Grubers). Czaplak noted 200 Ring-bills remaining in DC on May 30. Jim Paulus observed 4 inland **Herring Gulls** at Town Hill on April 10, Iliff noted 1 at Big Pool on April 14, and 1025 were tallied offshore on the April 25 pelagic trip (Scarpulla+). The only **Iceland Gull** reports received were a first-year bird observed on the March 1 pelagic trip (Scarpulla+) and a second-year at West Ocean City on May 7 (Hoffman). Reports of **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** remain numerous and included a first-winter and 2 adult-winter birds tallied on the March 1 pelagic trip (Scarpulla+), an adult at Triadelphia on March 1 (Farrell), a third-year and an adult at the Worcester County landfill on March 11 (Hoffman), 1 at Laytonsville on March 14 (David Spector), 1 seen at Eastern Neck on March 14 and March 21 (Grubers), an adult at Liberty on March 14 and April 4 (Ringer), 2 adults and 1 first-summer bird at Eastern Neck on March 24 (M. O'Brien), an adult in Ocean City on April 18 (Czaplak), 2 in DC on April 20 (Jim Ford), another pelagic sighting on April 25 (Scarpulla+), a first-summer at Seneca on April 29 (Czaplak), a third-summer at Laytonsville on May 9 (M. O'Brien), and a third-year at the central landfill in Worcester County off and on, last seen on May 9 (Hoffman). The only **Glaucous Gull** reported was a first-year bird at Hillsmere Beach on March 23-24 (Iliff, Helen & John Ford). Mark Hoffman and Mike O'Brien observed 100 **Great Black-backed Gulls** at the Worcester County landfill on March 11 and March 21, and Czaplak noted 24 in DC on May 30. Pelagic birders out of Ocean City were treated to 16 **Black-legged Kittiwakes** on March 1 (Scarpulla+).

Terns, Skimmers, Alcids. **Caspian Terns** were 4 in DC on April 5 (Czaplak), 1 at Loch Raven on April 7 (Stasz, Iliff), 1 at Rocky Gap on April 10 (Simons), 1 at Kent Narrows on April 18 (Reese), 13 at Blackwater on April 19 (Czaplak), 8 at Loch Raven on April 20 (Simon), 75 over Sandy Point the same day (Czaplak), 1 at Denton on April 20 (Hewitt), 2 at North Beach on May 27 (Stasz), 1 at Triadelphia on May 30 (Farrell, Solem), another in DC the same day (Czaplak), and 1 at Assateague on May 31 (Hoffman). The first **Royal Terns** of the season were 4 noted at Ocean City on April 4 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien) and 1 at Deal Island WMA on April 5 (Stasz). The high counts were 35 at Popes Creek on April 13 (M. O'Brien), 26 at Eastern Neck on April 14 (Grubers), 21 at Ocean

City on April 18 and 16 flying north at Sandy Point on April 20 (Czaplak). The 2 Royals at Jug Bay on April 20 (M. O'Brien) were somewhat unusual. The first **Common Terns** of the season were 1 flying up the Bay at North Beach on April 1 (Stasz) and 1 at Ocean City on April 12 (Hoffman). On May 30, Mike O'Brien and Ray Kiddy identified 2 **Arctic Terns**, an adult and a first-summer, at Rocky Gap. **March Forster's Terns** were 10 near Public Landing on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien) and 18 at Blackwater on March 29 (H. Armistead+). Another was at Eastern Neck on April 13 (Grubers) and inland reports were of single birds at Wilde Lake (Chestem, Bockstie) and Rocky Gap (Simons) on April 19, another at North Branch on May 16 (Simons), 3 at Cumberland on April 20 (Twig, Simons), 1 near Laytonsville on May 9 (Hilton, M. O'Brien), at Deep Creek Lake the same day (Skipper), and 1 at Violettes Lock on May 20 (Simonson). **Early Least Terns** were 1 at Tanyard on April 19 (Engle) and 2 at Ocean City on April 24 (Hoffman). As usual there were a few **Black Tern** reports with 2 tallied on the April 25 pelagic trip out of Ocean City (Scarpulla+), 2 at Blockhouse Point on May 6, 1 at Hains Point on May 9 and 1 at Seneca on May 21 (Czaplak, Marie Plante), and 3 near Frederick on May 27 (Miller). The season for **Black Skimmers** started with 30 at Ocean City on April 12 (Hoffman); 12 were at Choptank on April 16 (D. Ford), and 350 at Ocean City on April 25 (Reese). To the delight of the birders on the March 1 pelagic trip out of Ocean City, 139 **Dovekies** were totaled as well as an **Atlantic Puffin** and 11 **Razorbills**. Mark Hoffman and Mike O'Brien saw 4 **Razorbills** from a fishing boat out of Ocean City on April 4 for the latest State report.

Doves, Parrots, Cuckoos, Owls. George Jett had a **Ringed Turtle-Dove** at his feeder in Waldorf on April 10, and Jan Reese estimated 350 **Rock Doves** at the Bay Bridge on April 18. A **Monk Parakeet**, apparently a long-term survivor, was reported at a feeder in Edgewater on March 5 (Donna Doyle). Nuttle heard a **Black-billed Cuckoo** at Denton on May 1. The Grubers banded one at Eastern Neck on May 19, and another was near Snow Hill on May 22 (M. O'Brien). Czaplak reported a **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** at Pocomoke SF on April 24. Bob Ringler reported 2 large, gray young **Eastern Screech-Owls** and an adult red nearby on May 27 at Bloom. The last **Short-eared Owls** reported were 1 at North Branch on March 8 (Simons), 1 near George Island Landing on March 13 (Hoffman), 3 at Elliott Island on April 4 (Julie Kelly), and 2, very tardy, at Deal Island WMA on May 2 (Brodericks). The only reported **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were one that wintered near Cunningham Falls State Park, last seen on March 11 (Peter Bugler), and 1 at Hughes Hollow through March 15 (many observers). A **Barn Owl** turned up on April 16, on the Mall in DC (Maurice Lefrank).

Caprimulgids, Swifts. Extremely early **Common Nighthawks** were reported with 5 at Salisbury on March 7 (Carol Broderick) and 1 in downtown Cumberland on March 15 (Twig). Interesting reports for **Chuck-will's-widows** were 3 at Ocean City and Assateague on April 12 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 heard near Bowie on April 16 (Karen Loehman), 2 five miles southeast of Trappe on April 17 (Reese), 3 at Eastern Neck on April 21 (Grubers), 1 calling near Susquehanna SP on April 22 for the first known Harford County record (Kirkwood), and the bird Paul Nistico reported in Accokeek from May 9 until May 28 when it was found dead on the road. Teresa Simons reported the first **Whip-poor-will** at Rocky Gap on April 9 and a **Chimney Swift** at Cumberland on April 12. Jim Wilkinson found an even earlier swift at Lake Elkhorn on April 8, Hoffman spotted 2 at Stockton on April 12, and the Grubers estimated 100 at Chestertown on April 16.

Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers. Early **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were single birds at Federalsburg on April 16 (Glime) and near Bryans Road, Charles County on April 17 (Nistico). Howard Elitzak noted 5 **Red-headed Woodpeckers** at Black Hill Park on March 30 and Mike O'Brien tallied 15 in Charles County on April 13. Five **Yel-**

low-bellied Sapsuckers were counted on a field trip to Sycamore Landing on March 7 (Saunders, Mike Bowen). Bonnie Ott counted 16 **Northern Flickers** at Ellicott City on April 9 and Dave Czaplak tallied 13 migrating flickers at DC on April 11.

Flycatchers. There were only a few sightings of the much sought after **Olive-sided Flycatcher** with single birds in northwest Charles County on May 9 (Nistico), near Blockhouse Point on May 14-15 (Bonham+), at Hughes Hollow on May 16 (Gersten+), at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), and Riley's Lock on May 28 (Linda Freeland). Short found an early **Eastern Wood-Pewee** on April 17 at Greensboro. Single **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were at Hughes Hollow on May 16 (Paul DuMont) and May 21 (Homan), and at Swallow Falls SP on May 28 (Bonham). Czaplak heard an early **Alder Flycatcher** singing at Lilypons on May 11 and another was discovered at Schooley Mill on May 29-31 (Ott, Magnusson+). **Willow Flycatchers** identified included single birds in Cheverly on May 1 (Reese), at the Hanover Watershed on May 9 (Ringler), in southern Howard County the same day (Farrell, Solem), and at Waldorf on May 26 (Jett). **Least Flycatcher** reports included 1 at North Branch on April 26 (Simons), 1 at Hibley's Mill, Howard County on May 2 (Stasz), 2 in DC (Janni) and 1 at Whitehall Beach (Walbeck) the same day, and 1 singing at Morgan Run on May 3 (Ringler+). Warfield noted an early **Eastern Phoebe** at Germantown on March 1, Simons found 1 at Pinto on March 2, and Ken Bauer saw 1 in Garrett County near Cranesville on March 9. The first reports for the **Great Crested Flycatcher** were single birds at Pocomoke State Forest on April 19 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien) and Parsonsburg on April 23 (Pitney). Single **Eastern Kingbirds** were found at Boyds (Czaplak), near Pocomoke City (Hoffman) and in Ellicott City (Ott) on April 12, and at Denton (Short) and Phoenix (Walbeck, Burkhardt) on April 17. George Jett reported a **Western Kingbird** at Drum Point on May 20.

Swallows. The first **Purple Martins** of the season were 1 at Rocky Gap on March 12 (Twigg), and 3 at Tanyard on March 20 (Engle). Homan discovered a very early **Tree Swallow** at Hughes Hollow on February 28, and 10 were there on March 2 (Chuck Parker), 1 at Stockton on March 8 (Jett), 1 at Ball Road Pond, Frederick County on March 10 (Miller), 35 at Church Hill on March 11 (Grubers), 85 at Blackwater on March 14 (Czaplak), and 50 at Eastern Neck on March 18 (Grubers). Jim Wilkinson reported 3 **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** at Wilson on March 25, and very early **Bank Swallows** were noted with 2 at Lake Kittamaquidi on April 3 (Zeichner), and single birds at Joppatowne on April 8 (M. O'Brien) and Cumberland on April 9 (Twigg). Notable April accounts for **Cliff Swallows** were as follows: 1 at Cumberland on the 9th (Twigg), 3 at Sykesville on the 12th (Ringler), 1 at Bellevue on the 19th (Armisteads), 15 at Hains Point on the 26th (Czaplak), 2 at Deal Island WMA on the 26th (Krueger, Jett), and 30 near Frederick on the 27th (Miller). Sue Probst and Connie Bockstie noted a **Barn Swallow** at Centennial on March 23, and Dave Czaplak found 1 at Lilypons on March 27.

Crows, Ravens, Nuthatches. Early **Fish Crow** activity was evident with 2 seen and heard at Town Hill on March 9 (Paulus), 150 noted at the Worcester County landfill on April 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 1 breaking off twigs at West Friendship on April 18 (Ringler). Stauffer Miller spotted 3 **Common Ravens** at Salamander Rock, Frederick County on May 13. Dave Walbeck heard a **Red-breasted Nuthatch** at New Germany SP on May 9.

Wrens, Kinglets. A **House Wren** near Public Landing on March 13 (Hoffman) may have wintered there; an early arrival was near Marriottsville on April 11 (Solem, McClures). Mike O'Brien found a late departing **Winter Wren** at Rockville on May 5 and heard 1 singing at Swallow Falls SP on May 30. The only reported **Sedge Wrens** were single birds at Irish Grove on April 3-4 (Stasz), Assateague on April 16-17 and May 9 (Hoffman,

M. O'Brien), and heard singing in the Elliott Island area on May 9 (H. Armistead) and at Irish Grove on May 9 (Jett). Jim Stasz reported that a **Marsh Wren** overwintered at Cove Point, 5 were at Truitts Landing on March 9 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 1 at Eastern Neck on April 14 (Grubers). A Marsh Wren was near New Germany SP on May 9 (Walbeck+), and Marshall Iliff counted 25 Marsh Wrens at Deep Creek Airport on May 9. Czaplak reported a migrating Marsh Wren at Rock Creek Park on May 7, and 2 were present at the Plum Tree Branch pathway, Howard County on May 17 (Magnusson, Solem). The Grubers counted 60 **Golden-crowned Kinglets** at Eastern Neck on March 31; the last one banded there was on April 21. Paul Nistico noted his last Golden-crowned in Queen Anne's County on April 18, and a single bird was near Swansfield, Howard County on May 3 (Chestem). The Grubers tallied 80 **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** at Eastern Neck on April 20, and Saunders counted 23 at Maydale Nature Center in Colesville on April 19.

Thrushes. Krueger heard a **Veery** at Pennyfield on April 10 and another was at Sandy Point on April 19 (William Harvey). The Grubers banded 3 Veeries at Eastern Neck on May 23, the last ones banded there and the high for the season. Reese reported one at Adkins Arboretum, Caroline County on May 24, and Czaplak found a late Veery at Hains Point on May 31. **Gray-cheeked Thrush** reports were a Bicknell's identified by call in DC on May 2 and a *minimus* at Blockhouse Point on May 17 (Czaplak), 2 Bicknell's at Hart-Miller on May 17 (Dixon, Ricciardi, Stasz), the only Gray-cheeked banded for the season at Eastern Neck on May 18, a Bicknell's identified by call, song, and plumage at Sugarloaf Mountain, May 18-20 (Czaplak), and a Bicknell's at Blockhouse Point on May 26 (Krueger). An early **Swainson's Thrush** was at Pennyfield on April 23 (Krueger), and the high for Swainson's was 15 at Noland's Ferry on May 17 (Czaplak). Dave Czaplak counted 7 **Hermit Thrushes** at Milburn Landing on April 19 and Teresa Simons heard 1 singing at Green Ridge on May 20. Reports for early **Wood Thrushes** were rather low again with 1 at Smithville on April 17 (Short), at Blades Road, Worcester County on April 18 (Hoffman), and 2 at Rockburn Branch the same day (Ott).

Mimids, Pipits. Wintering or early migrant **Gray Catbirds** were 1 near Public Landing on March 13 (Hoffman), 1 seen at Wittman on March 25 (Reese), 1 at Schooley Mill on April 4 (Farrell, Solem), 3 at Assateague on April 5 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and 1 at Denton on April 16 (Nuttle). Harry Armistead found a **Northern Mockingbird** on May 24 at an interesting location, Barren Island. **Brown Thrashers** of note included single birds near Public Landing on March 9, at South Point on March 11, and at Griffin Road Ponds, Worcester County on March 15 (Hoffman); the first banded at Eastern Neck was on March 25. High counts of **American Pipits** were 80+ near Prince Frederick on March 7 (Stasz), 200 between Detour and Keysville in Carroll County on March 15 (Ringler), and 80 at Boyds on March 22 (Czaplak); late Pipits of note were 1 at North Beach on May 14 and 3 at Chesapeake Beach the same day (Stasz).

Waxwings, Shrikes, Vireos. The largest tallies for **Cedar Waxwings** were about 300 in DC on March 19 (Patricia Price) and 300 at Chestertown on April 15 (Grubers). A **Loggerhead Shrike** was seen at Boyds on March 22 (Czaplak). Early **White-eyed Vireos** were single birds at Hughes Hollow on April 7 (David Gersten), at Nassawango Creek on April 12 (Pitney), and Pocomoke State Forest the same day (Hoffman). An early **Solitary Vireo** was at Green Ridge on April 8 (Simons). Other Solitary reports of note: 1 on April 12 at Waldorf (Jett), 1 at Centennial the same day (Ott, Zeichner), 1 on April 13 at Salisbury (Brodericks), 4 on May 3 in DC (Czaplak), 4 on May 11 at Wilde Lake (Chestem), 1 on May 13 at Eastern Neck (Grubers), and 1 on May 14 near Public Landing (Hoffman). An early **Yellow-throated Vireo** was located at Pocomoke State Forest on April 12 by Mark Hoffman. **Warbling Vireos** were possible rare breeders on the central Eastern Shore, 1 singing at Wright's Mill, Talbot County, an unusual location on May 29 (Stasz);

and 1 at Denton on May 31 (Nuttle). Early **Red-eyed Vireos** were 3 on April 18 at Pocomoke State Forest (Hoffman), single birds on April 19 in DC (Janni), at Maydale Nature Center in Colesville (Saunders), at Easton (Reese), and in Denton on April 21 (Roberta Fletcher). Czaplak counted 30 Red-eyes at Pocomoke State Forest on April 24.

Vermivora Warblers, Parula. Dave Czaplak found an early **Blue-winged Warbler** in DC on April 16, and Bockstie notched another at Centennial on April 17. Simons checked off an early **Golden-winged Warbler** at Green Ridge on April 22, and other reports included a female at Centennial on April 27 (Chestem), an immature near Whaleysville on May 1 (Hoffman), 1 at Rock Creek Park on May 1-5 (Janni+), a male at Schooley Mill on May 5-6 (Magnusson, Solem+), a female near Potomac on May 2 (Wilkinson), 1 heard singing near Pocomoke City on May 3 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Blockhouse Point on May 4 (Krueger), 1 in Rockville on May 5 (M. O'Brien), 2 at Point of Rocks on May 5 (Krueger), 1 at Waldorf on May 9 (Jett), and 1 at Hall Creek, Anne Arundel County on May 11 (Stasz). Nancy Magnusson found the rare **Brewster's Warbler** hybrid at Schooley Mill on May 4, and Mary Twigg notched the rarer **Lawrence's Warbler** hybrid on the C&O Canal, Allegany County on April 23. Czaplak reported the high for **Tennessee Warblers** with 6 at Noland's Ferry on May 17. There were more reports than usual for the **Orange-crowned Warbler**, with 1 at Williams Wharf Road, Calvert County on March 7 (Stasz), 1 still wintering at Stockton through April 3, a different bird on March 13 near George Island Landing (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 at Nanticoke on April 5 (Stasz), 1 at Rockburn Branch on April 12 (Ott), and 1 at Myrtle Grove WMA, Charles County on May 9 (Nistico). Ringler reported 2 **Nashville Warblers** at Piney Run on April 25, another was at Rockburn Branch the same day (Wilkinson), 1 was noted at Pennyfield on April 23 (Krueger), and Stasz counted 6 at Deep Creek Airport on May 3. The first **Northern Parulas**, all on April 12, were at least 1 at Pocomoke State Forest (Hoffman), 1 bird at Knoxville along the C&O Canal (Miller), and 13 between Pennyfield and Violettes Lock (Krueger).

Dendroica Warblers. David Gersten reported an early **Yellow Warbler** at Hughes Hollow on April 7, Don Merrit checked one off in Cambridge on April 10, the Grubers found 1 in Chestertown on April 17, and 1 was at Blair's Valley, Washington County on April 18 (Jett). Single **Chestnut-sided Warblers** were at Town Hill on April 24 (Simons), in DC on April 25 (Janni), and at Stockton on April 26 (Krueger). Czaplak counted 4 **Magnolia Warblers** in DC on May 2 and Janni discovered a late Magnolia there on June 3. Nistico found his first **Cape May Warbler** of the season in Charles County on April 24, and Czaplak notched 2 at Noland's Ferry on May 1. Connie Skipper found an early **Black-throated Blue Warbler** near her house in Garrett County on April 22, and Nancy Magnusson located another at Schooley Mill on April 24. Others of note were 2 in DC on April 25 (Janni), 1 in DC on May 28 (Janni), and 1 female at Rockburn Branch the same day (Kubitsky). A tardy **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was noted at the Middle Patuxent River near Eden Brook Drive, Howard County on May 22 (Chestem). **Black-throated Green Warblers** included 3 between Pennyfield and Violettes Lock on April 12 (Krueger), 1 singing in Garrett County on April 22 (Skipper), 1 north of Route 50 in Worcester County on April 23 (Hoffman), 1 seen near Downsville on April 23 (Malonee), and 1 at Sugarloaf Mountain on May 27 (Janni). Green Ridge continues to be a good location for early migrants with a **Blackburnian Warbler** found there on April 22 (Simons). Magnusson reported another at Schooley Mill on April 23, Janni recorded another Blackburnian at Constitution Gardens on April 25, and Nistico found his first of the season in Charles County on April 29. Very early **Pine Warblers** were singing at Triadelphia, Montgomery County on March 1 (Farrell) and on March 2 at Bozman (Reese), another was at Waldorf the same day (Jett), and Mark Hoffman tallied 20 Pine Warblers in southern Worcester County on March 9. Hoffman also found a **Prairie Warbler** at West Ocean City on April

16, and saw an early **Palm Warbler** in south-central Worcester County on March 11. Fifteen Palms were counted in eastern Howard County on April 11 (Kubitsky), 17 including 2 westerns at Boyds on April 12 (Czaplak), 20 in western Howard County on April 13 (Wallace), Ringler found a western race Palm singing at Gaither on May 2, Kirkwood reported a Palm at Harford Glen Park on May 5, and Czaplak saw even later birds with 3, all western, at Noland's Ferry on May 11. Czaplak also noted 2 **Bay-breasted Warblers** in DC on May 2. Bockstie discovered a **Blackpoll Warbler** at Centennial on June 1. The first **Cerulean Warblers** were 3 on April 22 at Green Ridge (Simons); Eastern Shore reports were of 1 on April 24 near the Ocean City airport (Hoffman), 1 on April 26 near Public Landing (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 1 near Pocomoke City on May 3 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman), and 1 banded at Eastern Neck on May 5; Hilton found a migrant singing in Takoma Park on May 18.

Other Warblers. Paul Nistico recorded his first **Black-and-white Warbler** for the season in Prince George's County on April 11. The first **American Redstart** was at Hughes Hollow on April 17 (Czaplak), 15 were seen south of Public Landing Road and west of the Pocomoke River on April 18 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), and the high for the season was 19 in DC on May 16 (Czaplak). A late migrant redstart was noted in DC on June 3 (Janni). **Prothonotary Warblers** arrived a little early with at least 1 at Pocomoke State Forest on April 12 (Hoffman), the first of the season in Montgomery County on April 17 (Bonham), and 1 seen building a nest at Greensboro on April 23 (Hewitt). **Worm-eating Warblers** were also early with 5 seen south of Public Landing Road and west of the Pocomoke River on April 18 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), the only bird banded for the season at Eastern Neck on April 20, 1 at Green Ridge on April 22 (Simons), and 1 in DC on April 24 (Janni). The only reports for the hard-to-find **Swainson's Warbler** were single birds checked off on April 19 at Milburn Landing by Dave Czaplak and April 29 at Green Ridge by Teresa Simons who also found an **Ovenbird** at Rocky Gap on April 9. Several Ovenbirds were heard at Waldorf on April 11 (Jett), several were seen at Nassawango Creek on April 12 (Pitney), at least 1 was at Pocomoke State Forest on April 12 (Hoffman), and 3 were noted at Trappe on April 12 (Reese). Stauffer Miller's first Frederick County **Northern Waterthrush** for the season was on April 17, 1 was at Hughes Hollow on April 19 (Krueger), and Czaplak noted 1 in DC on April 21. The first report for the **Kentucky Warbler** was at North Pocomoke Swamp on April 23 (Hoffman). There were only a few sightings of **Mourning Warblers** this season with 1 male near Savage on May 9 (Peter Osenton, Gregg Zuberbier), 1 in Rockville on May 11 (Paul O'Brien), 1 heard on May 16 in Washington County (Nistico), 1 at Poplar Hill Creek, St. Mary's County on May 16 (Stasz), 2 near Blockhouse Point on May 21 (Krueger), and 1 singing at Seneca on May 31 (Fritz Davis). A **Common Yellowthroat** either enjoyed a mild winter or was an extraordinarily early migrant at Sycamore Landing on March 7 (Homan+). Others of note were 1 male in near breeding plumage on April 3 at the Wildfowl Trust near Grasonville (Nistico), at least 1 at Pocomoke State Forest on April 12 (Hoffman), and the first one banded at Eastern Neck on April 14. The earliest **Hooded Warbler** was at Pennyfield on April 16 (Krueger), 1 was noted at North Pocomoke Swamp on April 17 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien), 2 were at Rockburn Branch on April 18 (Ott), and 6 were checked off at Green Ridge on April 22 (Simons). Bockstie reported an early **Wilson's Warbler** at Rockburn Branch on April 28, Stasz found a Wilson's near Morgan Station, Carroll County on May 1, the last one banded at Eastern Neck was on May 28, and a solo Wilson's was at Schooley Mill the same day (Magnusson). Reliable Green Ridge rewarded Teresa Simons with a **Canada Warbler** on April 29 and a **Yellow-breasted Chat** on April 22. Another chat was at Rockburn Branch even earlier on April 18 (Ott).

Tanagers, Grosbeaks, Buntings. A male **Summer Tanager** singing at Seneca on May 24 (Ed Wiegel+) was unusual. Bonham recorded April 17 as the arrival date in Mont-

gomery County for the **Scarlet Tanager**, and other reports included 1 at Pocomoke State Forest on April 18 (Hoffman), 1 at Denton on April 19 (Roberta Fletcher), and 2 at Green Ridge on April 22 (Simons). The McClures had an early **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** at their feeder in Howard County on April 24, David Walton saw 1 at his feeder in Gaithersburg on April 26, and Ringler found an immature male singing at Rockburn Branch on May 24. The first **Blue Grosbeaks** were 2 at Sandy Point on April 18 (Bjerke, Gary Nelson), 1 at Deep Creek Airport on April 19 (Stasz), 1 at the Ocean City airport on April 24 (Hoffman), and 1 at Wye Island on April 25 (Harvey). Stasz reported an **Indigo Bunting** at Big Pool on April 14, and the Grubers noted 1 at Eastern Neck on April 20. Several Maryland birders enjoyed seeing the adult female **Painted Bunting** at Stockton through April 19 (Hoffman, Hilton), and the Grubers banded a female Painted Bunting at Eastern Neck on May 21.

Sparrows. Czaplak reported 2 late **American Tree Sparrows** at Boyds on April 4. **Chipping Sparrows** followed the trend of the season; wintering birds included 1 in Beltsville on March 2 (Mike Donovan), 1 was at Federalsburg on March 6 (Glime), another at Chestertown on March 7 (Grubers), and 20 were counted in northern Worcester County on March 10 (Hoffman). The **Clay-colored Sparrow** found earlier in the winter was seen by many birders through April 4 (Hoffman+), and the Grubers notched 1 at Eastern Neck on April 20. Dave Czaplak counted 52 **Field Sparrows** at Boyds on April 17. **Vesper Sparrows** were 3 at Pocomoke State Forest on March 9 (Hoffman), 1 at Pinto on March 21 (Simons), 6 at Boyds on April 4 (Czaplak), and 1 at Assateague on April 19 (Hoffman). Flocks of **Savannah Sparrows** at Boyds numbered 9 on March 22, 17 on April 4, 32 on April 12, and 44 on April 17 (Czaplak). There were 15 at UMCf on March 8 (Farrell, Solem), 15 in southern Worcester County on March 9 (Hoffman), 27 at Easton on April 19 (Reese), 5 in DC on May 10 (Czaplak), and 2 at Chesapeake Beach on May 27 (Stasz). Czaplak noted early **Grasshopper Sparrows** at Boyds with 1 on April 4 and 3 on April 12. **Henslow's Sparrow** sightings continue to be scarce; David Walbeck and party reported 1 in a field near Finzel Swamp on May 9. Hoffman found 2 **Sharp-tailed Sparrows** at Ocean City on March 14. Other reports included 1 at Chesapeake Beach on April 12—probably Acadian (Stasz, Blom), 7 at Deep Creek Airport on May 3 (Stasz), and 7 at Cove Point on May 9 (Stasz, Boyd). An early **Seaside Sparrow** was at Ocean City on March 14 (Hoffman); and others of note were a few seen at Fort Smallwood Park on May 2 (Ricciardi, Walbeck+), 25+ at Deep Creek Airport on May 3 (Stasz), 37 on the May count in Calvert County on May 9 (Stasz), and 1 at the Route 213 bridge over the Bohemia River, Cecil County on May 30 (Stasz). Several **Fox Sparrows** seemed delayed by the mild winter, with the last reports of 1 at Wilde Lake on April 26 (Bockstie) and 2 at Assateague on April 5 (M. O'Brien, Hoffman). The high counts for **Song Sparrows** were 140 at Boyds on April 14 (Czaplak), and 80 at Eastern Neck on April 1 (Grubers). The **Lincoln's Sparrow** discovered by Jim Stasz at Upper Marlboro on the very early date of March 20 probably overwintered. Janni found 3 Lincoln's at Rock Creek Park on May 5, 1 was banded at Eastern Neck on May 21, and a Lincoln's was at Schooley Mill on May 28 (Magnusson). There were 36 **Swamp Sparrows** counted at Boyds on April 17 (Czaplak), and single birds were still at Schooley Mill on May 21 (Magnusson) and at Lucy Point on May 23 (H. Armistead+). A white-headed **White-throated Sparrow** was observed at Myrtle Grove on March 25 (Ringler, Stasz) and a late White-throated was noted at Eastern Neck on May 28 (Grubers). Wilson spotted 4 **White-crowned Sparrows** at Ocean Pines on March 17, 29 were counted at Lilypons on March 29 (Czaplak), another was at Phoenix on May 10 (Walbeck, Burkhardt), and a late bird was at Sandy Point on May 17 (O'Donnell). Two **Dark-eyed Juncos** lingered at Wilde Lake on May 7 (Chestem). Mike O'Brien heard a **Lapland Longspur** singing near Lilypons on March 19.

Blackbirds and Orioles. Early **Bobolinks** were 3 at Piscataway on April 20 (Luther Goldman), 32 at Pinto on April 25 (Simons), a flock of about 20 in northwest Carroll County on April 26 (Ringler), 1 near Johnsville on April 26 (Miller), 4 near Lilypons the same day (Czaplak), and 10 near Triadelphia on April 27 (Wallace). A flock of 60+ was at Fulton on May 8 (Magnusson+), and 10 or so were spotted on May 28 at Piscataway (Nistico). There were about 100 **Rusty Blackbirds** on March 9 near Truitts Landing (Hoffman, M. O'Brien). Homan counted a flock of about 85 Rusties at Hughes Hollow on March 13, 18 were in Columbia on March 21 (Farrell, Solem), and 60 in DC on March 28 (Czaplak). At least 6 **Brewer's Blackbirds** were at Stockton on March 5-6 (Willem Maane) and a male and a female were there through April 12 (Krueger). William Maane found 2 Brewer's near Lilypons on April 24. The high count for **Boat-tailed Grackles** was 300 in Ocean City on March 22 (Hoffman, M. O'Brien); Stasz noted 1 male at Claiborne on May 29. Jan Reese estimated 2000 **Common Grackles** at Chesapeake City on March 5. Early **Orchard Orioles** were single birds at Bellevue (Armisteads) and Chestertown (Grubers) on April 18, 1 at Violettes Lock on April 20 (Walbeck), and another the same day at Centennial (Farrell). George Fink had a **Northern Oriole** at his feeder in Newcomb on March 18. Nuttle checked off a Northern Oriole at Denton on April 16, and Warfield found 1 at Point of Rocks on April 20.

Finches. Phil and Barbara Davis observed 6 to 8 **Purple Finches** at a time at their feeder in Davidsonville the week of April 5th, 17 visited a feeder in Bel Air, Allegany County on April 11 (Simons), and 18 were counted at Black Hill Park on April 27 (Czaplak). The only **Common Redpolls** were the 2 that wintered in Salisbury seen through March 28 (Dyke+). A **Pine Siskin** was observed at the Davidsonville feeder on April 8-9 (Davises), 2 were at Green Ridge on May 20 (Simons), 3 were noted at Skipper's feeder in Garrett County on May 21, and 2 were at Swallow Falls SP on May 24 (Stasz+); 5 were there on May 30 (M. O'Brien).

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