

Ground Dove in Massachusetts

On October 7, 1973 a Ground Dove (*Columbigallina passerina*) was discovered and photographed on the north end of Monomoy Island, south of Chatham, Massachusetts. The weather was fair and mild, affording optimum conditions for observation.

It was watched for a half hour by over forty competent birders while on a field trip conducted as part of the American Ornithologist's Union Convention held in Provincetown. I myself saw it as close as twenty-five feet with 7x50 binoculars where easily seen were the pink speckled nape and



Ground Dove, Monomoy I., Mass., Oct. 7, 1973. Photo/ Michel Kleinbaum.

chest, the scaling in the wings, and the white tail spots. There was no question of its identity when the rufous wing patches were revealed in flight.

The bird appeared to be in perfect health as it walked the dunes amid the Seaside Goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*) and beach-grass (*Amophila breviligulata*). No food was seen taken. There was no bill or feather wear from captivity; the species is almost never kept as a pet. The lack of major weather disturbances led us to conclude it was a genuine straggler.

This sighting constitutes a new state record for Massachusetts and is one of very few records north of North Carolina (see A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds, 1957). — Tom Howe, 137 Sarles Lane, Pleasantville, N. Y. 10570.

Meetings Scheduled

April 18-21. North American Hawk Migration Conference, Syracuse, New York. Full schedule of papers, seminars, organizing sessions for the coordination of all hawk watches east of the Great Plains. Field trip: Derby Hill hawk migration. Program Chairman, Pershing B. Hofslund, Dept. of Biology, Life Science Building, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth, Minn. 55812. Chairman, Host Committee, Dorothy Crumb, 3983 Gates Road N., Jamesville, N. Y. 13078.

May 9-12. Cooper Ornithological Society, 45th Annual Meeting, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Ariz. Program Chairman is David Ligon, Dept. of Biology, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque. Chairman of the Local Committee is Russell P. Balda, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff.

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New Brunswick (July 1-11): nesting seabirds and boreal species, early shorebirds. Machias Seal I., Deer I., Tantramar Marshes, Cape Tormentine, Miscou I., forests of the interior . . . **New Brunswick, Nova Scotia (Aug. 22-Sept. 3):** pelagics, shorebirds, passerines. Deer I.; Brier I. and Bay of Fundy boat trip; coastal s.w. Nova Scotia incl. Cape Sable I., Cape Sable; "Bluenose" ferry, connecting with following tour . . . Northeastern U.S.

(Sept. 5-19): Fall migration. Part 1 (Sept. 5-12): Acadia N.P., Machias Seal I., N.B., coastal s.w. Maine, Newburyport, Plum I., Plymouth Beach, Monomoy, Jamaica Bay. Part 2 (Sept. 13-19): Jamaica Bay, Brigantine-Tuckerton-Holgate, Cape May, Hawk Mountain . . . **Canadian Islands (Sept. 25-Oct. 4):** late pelagics and fall migrants. Deer I.; Grand Manan; Brier I. and Bay of Fundy boat trip; "Bluenose" ferry. Optional third week on Monhegan I., Me.

Leaders: Davis Finch (Northeastern Maritime Regional Editor, *American Birds*), Will Russell (Field Identification Editor, *Birding*).

Contact: NORTHEAST BIRDING c/o Jane Plunkett, 150 W 82 St., New York, N.Y. 10024 (212-362-6999, 6-11 p.m.).

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DRY TORTUGAS BOAT TRIP — May 31 to June 2, 1974. On last year's trips, in addition to the Sooty and both noddy terns, Cave Swallow and White-tailed Tropicbird were seen. Something unusual always turns up.

AUSTRALIA — August 18 to September 7, 1974. An abbreviation of our 1973 tour which recorded 494 species of birds, timed to coordinate with the International Ornithological Congress in Canberra. As long as you go that far, why not see as much as you can?

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June 6-9. Wilson Ornithological Society. 55th Annual Meeting. University of Michigan Biological Station, Pellston, Michigan. A feature will be symposium on Kirtland's Warbler, and probably a field trip to Kirtland's Warbler country.

June 16-21. American Institute of Biological Science, 25th annual meeting, at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.

Aug. 12-17. XVI International Ornithological Congress will be held at Canberra, Australia. This is the quadrennial giant of ornithological meetings; at the Hague in 1970 over 700 participants, from 47 countries, attended. This will be the first I.O.C. meeting south of the Equator, and promises to be the event of the year . . . the theme being "The Two Hemispheres." Secretary General is Dr. J. H. J. Frith, 16 Ornithological Congress, P. O. Box 84, Lyneham, A.C.T. Australia, 2602.

In connection with this congress, and the I.C.B.P. meeting to follow, we know of three group tours that are being planned. One, Woodmere Travel, with John Bull the leader, has a 28-day round trip with birding excursions in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, and 6 full days at the Congress. National Audubon Society with leader Roland Clement offers a 30-day workshop tour that includes Hawaii, Fiji, 8 days in New Guinea, birding in north and south Australia, with optional visits to the Congress and New Zealand. *American Birds*, through Intercontinental Travel Plans, Inc., offers a 28-day tour including birding in north Australia, 8 days in New Guinea, full time at the Congress, and Tahiti, with New Zealand optional. Leader is Robert Arbib. Burt and Rose Monroe, with Dr. Robert Burns, will lead a tour of Australia and the Great Barrier Reef July 14 - August 12, just prior to the Congress. Finally, Bird Bonanzas is scheduling an Australian birding tour to follow the Congress, from August 18 to September 7. Some of these tours offer various options including bare-bones round-trip group fares to Canberra and return. None is the official A.O.U. endorsed or sponsored tour.

Aug. 19-25. International Committee for Bird Preservation will hold its annual meeting in Canberra immediately following that of the I.O.C.

Oct. 14-18. The 92nd Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union will be held at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, at the invitation of the university, the Oklahoma Ornithological Society, and the Cleveland County Bird Club. Chairman of the Program Committee is Dr. Frank Gill, Department of Ornithology, Academy of Natural Sciences, 19th and The Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19403. Chairman of the Local Committee on Arrangements is Dr. Gary D. Schnell, Department of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73069.

The **American Birding Association** will not hold a national meeting during 1974.

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