



American Birds

A bimonthly journal devoted to the birds of the Americas

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INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

AMERICAN BIRDS welcomes the submission of articles and photographs for publication.

Our major areas of interest are the changing distribution, population, migration, and rare occurrence of the avifauna of North America, including Middle America and the West Indies. We solicit articles on problems in field identification, in our "Site Guide" series of birding locales, in our "Centers of Learning" series that profiles institutions concerned with ornithology.

ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS—AMERICAN BIRDS is now able to publish more pages of illustrative material, both in color and black-and-white. We welcome submission of photographic essays or series of topical interest, high quality single photographs of significance, transparencies of paintings in color, as well as line or wash drawings that can be used in an illustrative or even decorative manner. We would like to hear from (with a sample or two) artists who might be willing to illustrate articles for us. As usual, documentary photographs will be used, when space permits, in our Changing Seasons and Regional Report sections.

For a "Work in Progress" column, we welcome notices of research projects seeking field reports or other collaboration; we publish advance notices of important conventions, meetings, symposia, seminars, and conferences or other ornithological news.

All submissions will be carefully considered, but authors considering major submissions should correspond with the editors first. AMERICAN BIRDS publishes papers of a technical nature but only when written in a less-than-technical, easily readable style: i.e., no complicated equations, lengthy tables, or complex graphs. Major articles should be limited to 3000 words; exceptions may be agreed upon after consultation. All material submitted should be original, and previously unpublished. Manuscripts should follow accepted rules of format and style, be typewritten, double-spaced, on white paper, with generous margins. Photographs should be glossy black-and-white or transparencies, clearly marked with author's name and address. We require the original typescript and one carbon copy. All manuscripts will be acknowledged, but authors must recognize that a backlog exists which may entail delayed publication after acceptance.

For further information address the editors at the American Birds offices, 950 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

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The Table of Contents for this issue will be found on the inside back cover



The day before one of our tours concluded the tour leader reviewed the schedule and noted that we were not due at the airport until nearly 10:00 A.M. the following morning. Though it was not in the itinerary, he asked the participants if they would like to return to an area they had visited that had proven to be one of the hottest birding spots of the tour. Three members of the group indicated that they would prefer the extra sleep and time to relax, but the rest were ready to go, even if it meant a very early departure. On the spot, the tour leader arranged an excursion for the following day. It involved a two-hour drive, arriving at our destination just after daybreak. The birds didn't disappoint us. In the two hours after dawn a very large number were seen, and all of the participants who came along added 10 to 12 birds to their lifelists before proceeding directly to the airport.

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For information write —

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Volume 31, Number 3 381

Christmas Bird Count

The dates for the annual Christmas Bird Count for the coming year are Saturday, December 17, 1977 to Monday, January 2, 1978, inclusive. Counts taken on dates outside this official period cannot be accepted for publication. Packets of instructions and forms will be mailed, as usual, to compilers of record, on or about November 10. Counts with new compilers should notify the Editor prior to November 1, to insure against delay in the mailing of the forms. Groups wishing to inaugurate counts in new areas must sub-

mit to the Editor of American Birds, a map showing the exact center and circumference of the proposed count circle (15-mile diameter) and a brief account of the number and qualifications of the observers taking part. New counts accepted for publication will receive their forms with the regular mailing. Proposed counts that overlap the areas of previously established counts cannot be accepted, counts that cannot be accepted for this or other reasons will be so notified in advance

The July issue of *American Birds*, with the 1200 Christmas Bird Counts of 1976–77, will be mailed shortly after this May issue.

Market Place

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DEADLINE for ordering the uncut version of Davis Finch's Fall Migration report, August 1-November 30, 1976, Northeastern Maritime Region, is September 15. Send name, address and number requested. We will bill you. AMERICAN BIRDS, 950 Third Avenue, NYC 10022.

MAY 1977, VOLUME 31, NUMBER 3

CONTENTS

- 251 Autumnal bird migration over the western North Atlantic Ocean / Timothy C. Williams, Janet M Williams, Leonard C. Ireland and John M. Teal
- 268 Paintings of Hawaiian birds / H. Douglas Pratt
- 270 Some extraordinary observations of endangered forest species on the Island of Hawaii / H. Douglas Pratt, Delwyn C. Berrett and Phillip L. Bruner
- 273 The Monk Parakeet in the United States, 1970-75 / William J. Neidermyer and Joseph J. Hickey
- 279 Making Animal Sound Recordings / Richard Bradley
- 286 Reddish Egret and Herring Gull in Caribbean Colombia / Paul K. Donahue
- 287 The Site Guide, Stanley Park, Vancouver, B.C. / Brian M. Kautesk
- 292 The Changing Seasons / Kimberly Smith

The Winter Season: December 1, 1976-February 28, 1977

- 304 Northeastern Maritime Region / Peter D. Vickery
- 310 Québec Region / Normand David and Michel Gosselin
- 311 Hudson-Delaware Region / P. A. Buckley, Robert O. Paxton and David A. Cutler
- 316 Middle Atlantic Coast Region / F. R. Scott
- 319 Southern Atlantic Coast Region / Harry E. LeGrand, Jr.
- 322 Florida Region / Henry M. Stevenson
- 325 Ontario Region / Clive E. Goodwin
- 328 Niagara—Champlain Region / Douglas P. Kibbe
- 331 Appalachian Region / George A. Hall
- 333 Western Great Lakes Region / Robert B. Janssen
- 336 Middlewestern Prairie Region / Vernon M. Kleen
- 339 Central Southern Region / Robert B. Hamilton
- 343 Northern Great Plains Region / Esther M. Serr
- 346 Southern Great Plains Region / Frances Williams
- 349 South Texas Region / Fred S. Webster, Jr.
- 351 Northwestern Canada Region / Helmut Grünberg
- 352 Northern Rocky Mountain-Intermountain Region / Thomas H. Rogers
- 355 Mountain West Region / Hugh E. Kingery
- 357 Southwest Region / Janet Witzeman, John P. Hubbard and Kenn Kaufman
- 362 Alaska Region / Daniel D. Gibson
- 364 Northern Pacific Coast Region / John B. Crowell, Jr. and Harry B. Nehls
- 367 Middle Pacific Coast Region / Jon Winter and Dick Erickson
- 372 Southern Pacific Coast Region / Guy McCaskie
- 376 Hawaiian Islands Region / C. John Ralph and Robert L. Pyle
- 378 Arctic Loon, a new species for Alabama / Thomas A. Imhof
- 379 Centers of Learning, University of Washington / David A. Manuwal
- 382 Notes on some northern birds wintering on the Pacific Coast of Guatemala / Robert A. Behrstock
- 383 Obituaries: Margaret Brooks Hickey, Herbert Krause
- 384 The Blue List for 1978—Information Wanted
- 385 Communications

COVERS—To welcome the islands of Hawaii to Regional Report status, our front cover shows the native Laysan Albatross, in a photo by Karl W. Kenyon. The Varied Thrush, on the back cover, by Calvin Larsen, was a species that made an exceptionally wide invasion of eastern regions in winter, 1976–77 Both from Photo Researchers, Inc.

