

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

tion or identification problem. I certainly hope that such articles are not being sacrificed in order to make room for the other features now appearing in *American Birds*. I think the magazine is suffering from an embarrassment of riches.

—**Kimball L. Garrett**,
*Natural History Museum,
Section of Ornithology,
Los Angeles, CA*

The main reason that I have so enjoyed *American Birds* over the years was its unique subject matter and the contributions that amateur bird-

ers, ornithologists and biologists were able to make. The new format and expansion of content seems to jeopardize this uniqueness and compromise science. (Please deep-six the entertainment section at the back.) I am encouraged by the AB staff's constant attempts to upgrade this magazine, but my hope was for a trend towards a more scientific journal.

—**Thede Tobish**,
Anchorage, AK

Our office has been inundated with letters containing comments on the newly reformatted AMERICAN BIRDS, since its publication. We couldn't possibly publish all of the letters, even if we wanted to. However, we want to share with you this representative sample.—
S.R.D.

The spring edition of *American Birds* has just come to my desk and it is marvelous. The color reproduction equals that of the finest in any of the competing bird magazines and is a great showcase for Audubon members. While enlarging its scope you have retained the integrity of the magazine which is the only publication that monitors bird populations. The seasonal reports are better than ever—particularly because of the summaries by the regional editors. If we regard birds as “a litmus of the environment,” we've got to back it up with solid material of this sort.

—**Roger Tory Peterson**,
Old Lyme, CT

I am always happy to see scientific articles in *American Birds*. These often illuminate problems brought up in regional reports or offer a diagnosis of an interesting distributional ques-

COMING IN THE FALL ISSUE OF

American Birds

THE BRONX COUNTY BIRD CLUB

WHAT STARTED OUT AS an informal gathering of young Bronx bird enthusiasts in the 1920s turned into a group of America's finest ornithologists. Their ranks included Roger Tory Peterson of *Field Guides* fame, Allan Cruickshank, a renowned naturalist, and Joseph Hickey, professor of wildlife management.

WRITER JOHN FARRAND, JR. TELLS the fascinating tale of how these young men met entirely by chance in city parks across the Bronx. Soon, they formed the Bronx County Bird Club and became active in the American Museum of Natural History. Read about how they changed each other's lives—and the face of ornithology—forever.

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