

middle atlantic coast region

MARSHALL J. ILIFF

All locations are in Maryland, except that each Virginia location is noted the *first time* it is mentioned in the text.

Abbreviations: Bay (*Chesapeake Bay*); Black (*Blackwater N.W.R., Dorchester Co., MD*); C.B.B.T. (*Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, Northhampton Co., VA*); Chinc. (*Chincoteague N.W.R., Accomack Co., VA*); Conowingo (*Conowingo Dam, Harford Co., MD*); Craney (*Craney Island Disposal Area, Portsmouth, VA*); D.C. (*District of Columbia*); Deal (*Deal Island W.M.A., Somerset Co., MD*); E.S.V.N.W.R. (*Eastern Shore of Virginia N.W.R., Northhampton Co.*); Hart (*Hart-Miller Island S.P., Baltimore Co., MD*); p.a. (*pending acceptance by state records committee*); P.R.N.A.S. (*Patuxent R. Naval Air Station, St. Mary's Co., MD*); P.L.S.P. (*Pt. Lookout S.P., St. Mary's Co., MD*).

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

Over 1000 Red-throated Loons at Chinc. 20 Mar (MG) represented a surprising concentration and one inland at Seneca, *Montgomery*, 22 Mar (DC) was notable. East winds 22 May (MJI) pushed a good seabird flight close to shore at Ocean City, *Worcester*, with many loons and N. Gannets and one Sooty Shearwater counted within 1.5 hours. A single **Pacific Loon** was noted at Ft. Story, Virginia Beach, VA, 14 Mar (p.a., BP). A few Eared Grebes are typically seen in March-April and this year singles were at N. Beach, *Calvert*, 25 Mar (JLS) and Hoadley Rd., Aberdeen Proving Grounds, *Harford/Baltimore*, 31 Mar (BM, EB). Two late Horned Grebes strangely were inland on the Potomac R., *Frederick*, 8 May (DRS). Northern Gannets penetrated into the Bay in moderate numbers March-early April with the northernmost breaking the Bay Bridge at Chestertown, *Kent*, 24 Apr (JG, PG) and the latest ever for the Bay being two adults 2 May (CR) at Tilghman's I., *Talbot*. An Am. White Pelican wandered the Cape Charles pen., *Northampton*, VA, 6 Apr-20 May (ph. JC, v.o.), spending much of its time at Fisherman I. where they have attempted nesting. Another (or same?) passed high over Ft. Smallwood, *Anne Arundel*, 25 May (p.a.,

†SR, HLW, NS, FS) and into *Baltimore*, only Maryland's 23rd report and one of few documented. Brown Pelicans made their return to *Saint Mary's* 2 Apr (MHa); others were three at Tilghman's I. 7 May (CR) and one at Bay Hundred, *Talbot*, 8 May (JR). A small push of **Anhingas** has been the norm for the past several years in late April-early May. This year one was over the Occoquan R., *Fairfax*, VA, 12 Apr (PW), another was over Havre de Grace for a *Harford* first 18 Apr (p.a., †MHa, KF, JLS), two over New R., *Grayson*, VA, 25 Apr (†MS), and one over Hollywood for a *Saint Mary's* first 8 May (p.a., GMi, KR).

A good nocturnal migration 6 May (MO, PO, PP, OJ) produced one Least and three Am. bitterns over Lilypons, *Frederick*. A Little Blue Heron at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens 24-25 Apr (OJ et al.) was a D.C. rarity. Maryland's first well-documented **White-faced Ibis** was found at Truitt's Landing Rd., *Worcester*, 2 May (p.a., †MJI, ph. JLS, PP), but proved elusive thereafter only making sporadic appearances 6 (SHD), 8 (AD), 9 (†PD), & 14 (SHD) May. White Ibis made it through the winter at Fisherman I., with an observation from 3 Mar (JC) and 31 there 20 May (JC).

Mute Swans are consolidating their hold on the Upper Bay: previously they had remained scarce in *Baltimore* and n. *Anne Arundel*. *Calvert's* first *hutchinsii* Canada Goose crossed the county line from Sandgates (a.k.a. "home of Kelp Gull") 6 Mar (JLS et al.). Green-winged Teal numbers remained fairly high through early May with the latest, a male, being suspiciously so in good breeding habitat at *Deal*, *Somerset*, 26 May (AF, MJI). **Common Teal** have been found increasingly, certainly due to heightened observer effort. This year one remained at *Northampton* Landfill Pond, VA, 13 Mar (BCo), and others were at the College of William and Mary, *James City*, VA, Feb-26 Mar (NBr), at Black. 30 Mar-3 Apr (p.a., †ph. MJI, m.ob.), and a record-late individual at E. A. Vaughn, *Worcester*, 2 May (p.a., JLS). Male Eur. Wigeon were at The Wildfowl Trust, *Queen Anne's*, 3 Mar (MJI, JLS), *Deal* 7-26 Mar (SHD), and *Craney* 31 Mar (ES). At Ocean City Inlet, the three Com.



Eiders were last seen 3 Apr (DC, MAT) and the last Harlequin Duck 2 May (PP). A male Long-tailed Duck lingered at P.L.S.P. through 27 May (PC). The male **Barrow's Goldeneye**, found in 3 of 4 winters since 1995, remained at P.R.N.A.S. through 6 Mar (p.a., KR, m.ob.). Extremely suspicious were a Hooded Merganser pair on one pond, and a lone male on another, at Chino Farms, *Queen Anne's*, 25 May (HS); the Eastern Shore has only one breeding record, from *Kent*. Another female at Piney Run, *Carroll*, 22 May (RFR) was likewise suspicious. A late fem. Com. Merganser was at Prettyboy Res., *Baltimore*, 23 May (JLS).

HAWKS THROUGH CRANES

The spring Mississippi Kite flight continues to improve. The first this year was a record-early adult (rarest plumage) at Fallston 17 Apr (EB) for a *Harford* 2nd. Probably the same bird was at Riverside, *Harford*, the same day (BMe). One returned for the 2nd year to Huntley Meadows, *Fairfax*, 16 May (BL, CF), with up to two there through the summer. Two returned to S. Boston, *Halifax*, VA, 12 May (JB). Ft. Smallwood, *Anne Arundel*, where annual on the spring hawk watch, had one 23 May (SR) and a record three 25 May (SR et al.) for a new seasonal high. Others were one at Myrtle Pt., *Saint Mary's*, 8 May (JK, TB) and 27 May (JB), and one over the Potomac R. at Carderock, *Montgomery*, MD/*Loudoun*, VA, 26 May (DC). Finally, Cameron's full time coverage at the tip of the Delmarva Pen. revealed a kite show there similar to the one at Cape May, New Jersey. The first arrived 16 May and numbers built to four 30 May. One was an adult and the rest were the expected first-summer.

A N. Harrier nest with 3 eggs at Truitt's Landing Rd. 3 May (MH) was the first nest in Worcester. Five N. Goshawks included one at Ft. Smallwood 19 Apr (SR), where one usually shows up in late April. The first Broad-winged Hawk was early at Ft. Smallwood 30 Mar (SR). An all-time record there was the 1897 that passed 16 Apr (SR) in a total flight of 2630 raptors. Ft. Smallwood logged a record-shattering season, primarily due to consistent W winds in mid-April; details will follow this summer. Two Broad-wingeds along Nassawango Cr. at Colbourne Mill Rd., *Wicomicol Worcester*, may have been rare Lower Eastern Shore breeders 2–4 May (MJI, JLS). The rufous-morph Red-tailed Hawk at the Rte. 234/1–66 interchange, *Prince William, VA*, remained through 3 Apr (TMD). Single Merlins at N. Beach (JLS) and Ft. Smallwood 20 May, and Prettyboy Res. 23 May (JLS) comprised a notable late push. Interestingly a Cooper's Hawk nest with one egg in Winter Harbor, *Mathews*, 22 Apr (JBB et al.) provided a first for Virginia's W. Shore; other Coastal Plain nest records come from the Eastern Shore and Tidewater.

An excellent night for nocturnal migration at Oland Rd. in the early hours of 7 May (MO, PO, PP, OJ) produced *Frederick's* first Black Rail and only the 3rd away from Maryland's Coastal Plain. The bird was heard giving the typical "ki-ki-drrr" song while moving n. overhead. [Do rails call in flight?—ED.] A King Rail was heard at the same time along with great numbers of landbird migrants and the aforementioned bitterns. How much will be learned once we can position remote microphones across the Atlantic Flyway to constantly monitor the nocturnal movements? These setups are already available (*vide* AF), though some of the computer programming is still being perfected to quickly edit the recordings. Two King Rails were at Aberdeen Proving Ground, *Harford*, 8 May (DW). This semitidal, but mostly fresh, marsh at Truitt's Landing Rd. is truly a unique patch, supporting *Typha angustifolia*, *Scirpus americana*, and an extensive *Spartina patens* meadow. In addition to good numbers of breeding Black Rails, it has breeding King Rails (v.o. 2–30 May), and had up to four Soras 2–3 May (MJI, JLS, MO, MH) and one 10 May (MH, AH). Sora is otherwise hard to find in Worcester and four is a record count. It is surprising that this prime location has not previously received widespread attention from the Maryland birding community. Late Soras were at Bethel W.M.A., *Cecil*, 15 May (MHa) and Rte. 667, *Somerset*, 30 May

(NS, FS), the latter likely a breeder. A **Purple Gallinule** at Chinc. 22 May (VK, m.ob.) apparently fit in with part of a larger movement in the northeast and midwest. A Sandhill Crane at Jug Bay, *Anne Arundel*, 28 May (DB) was likely the same one that passed Ft. Smallwood the next day (SR) for a first there. Though late May seems a strange time, there is a precedent for their occurrence; e.g., in 1992 singles were in *Talbot* 24 May, *Frederick* 26 May, and *Kent* 28 May (*Maryland Birdlife* 46:405).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS

Single Black-bellied Plovers were unusual 8 May at Conowingo and Havre de Grace; two at Piney Run 22 May (RFR) were likewise out of place in the Piedmont. Rare spring reports of Am. Golden-Plovers were at Tanyard, *Caroline*, 11 Apr (JLS) and a late flyover among a Black-bellied Plover flock at Truitt's Landing Rd. 17 May (PO). A female Piping Plover in the Bay at Winter Harbor, VA, 17 Apr (JBB) continued a recent spurt of sightings in *Mathews*. *Caroline's* first two Black-necked Stilts were not unexpected in perfect habitat at Tanyard 17 Apr (JR), while a Charles 2nd was enjoyed by many at the M.O.S. convention 15–16 May (ph. GMJ, m.ob.). Elliot I., *Dorchester*, only occasionally hosted stilts until 2 pairs last summer. This year 5 pairs laid claim to various puddles in the marsh by 2 May (v.o.), foreshadowing the inevitable first confirmed nesting for *Dorchester* (see summer). A total of 10 Black-necked Stilts moved through E.S.V.N.W.R., *Northampton*, 3 Apr–27 May (JC), with a high of six 9 May (JC). Twelve Am. Avocets was a great total at E.S.V.N.W.R. 25 Mar (JC) and one was at Craney, Portsmouth, VA, 17–30 Mar (LL, v.o.). The earliest Lesser Yellowlegs were two at P.R.N.A.S. 16 Mar (KR). The first and last Solitary Sandpipers were reported from N. Beach, one 2 Apr (JLS) and a late one lingered 26–28 May (JLS). A Willet at Ocean City 31 Mar (MJI) was enigmatic; though one wintered in the area, this bird appeared to be of the e. subspecies, which would imply an early arrival since that subspecies is not known to winter this far north. One at Octararo Cr., *Cecil*, 8 May (LF, MWW) was a great find. A very early Upland Sandpiper was at Egypt Rd., *Dorchester*, 30 Mar (F. Atwood) and others were at University of Maryland Central Farm 10 Apr (BO, m.ob.), and in a weedy plowed field at Colby Rd., *Talbot*, there were three 11 Apr and two 30 Apr (JLS).

A large Whimbrel movement occurred across a broad front 26 May (MJI, AF), with

100 at Ocean City and 200 at Deal, in addition to large flocks in w. Maryland. Upper Bay Whimbrels were two at Hart 22 May (EJS et al.) and one at Havre de Grace 23 May (EB). The 115 Marbled Godwits at Willis Wharf, *Accomack*, furnished a good count 23 Mar (EH). A Red Knot at N. Beach was unusual 19 May (JLS, RL). Western Sandpipers are rarely seen as spring migrants, but the eight at Oyster Landfill 8 Mar (JC) were surely wintering birds. A White-rumped Sandpiper at E. A. Vaughn WM A 17 Apr (SHD) shattered the previous state arrival by 7 days. Unusual in the Piedmont were one–two at the Lakeside Ponds 11–14 May (EB) and two–three at Piney Run 21–25 May (RFR). Two early Pectoral Sandpipers were in *Saint Mary's* 6 Mar (NS, FS) and a late one was at Centennial Park, *Howard*, 18 May (JC). Three Purple Sandpipers were still at Ocean City 26 May (MJI, AF). Spring Stilt Sandpipers are annual in small numbers: this year one was at the Lakeside Ponds 8–11 May (EB) and two were at Black. 8 May (HTA, GLA, MJI). *Calvert's* 2nd Ruff was a female at N. Beach 27–28 May (DB, m.ob.). Two Long-billed Dowitchers at Elliot I. 2 May (MJI) and one at E.S.V.N.W.R. 5 May (JC) were adults in high breeding plumage and were confirmed by call; spring records in the Region are few. The last Com. Snipe was late at Lilypons, *Frederick*, 14 May (JBC). Three Wilson's and four Red-necked phalaropes were at Craney 18 May (AW, TG).

Eleven ad. Parasitic Jaegers were counted from the C.B.B.T. 24 Apr–1 May (JC), with a peak of five 25 Apr (JC). One Parasitic and one jaeger sp. were seen from Ocean City during 1.5 hours of seawatching on strong E winds 22 May (MJI). Perhaps more holdovers from the late fall invasion, single **Franklin's Gulls** were a first-year off Catholic Church Rd., *Frederick*, 8–9 May (p.a., ph., †DRS et al.) for Maryland's first Piedmont report and one of few away from the D C / Baltimore corridor. Another was at Haines Pt., D.C., 23 May (OJ, RH, L. Shannon). Good numbers of Little Gulls were found, including five at Hart 28 Mar and two–three there 3–24 Apr (EJS et al.). Elsewhere different loners were on Back R., *Baltimore*, 28 Mar (GM, BC) & 30 (MJI) and at N. Beach 10 Apr (JLS), and two were at Ft. Story 14 Mar (BP). A first-winter Black-headed Gull was new for Hart and late 2 May (EJS), and another passed Ft. Smallwood in mid-April (*vide* SR). Decent numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls lingered into early May. At least one **Black-tailed Gull** (p.a., ph., m.ob.) from the winter remained on the C.B.B.T. through 13

Mar (JC). **California Gulls** continued to be well represented. The 2nd-winter remained at Conowingo through 13 Mar (p.a., EJS), a surprising first-winter (the first Regional record for this plumage) was at the C.B.B.T. 10 Mar (p.a., ph. RM), and an injured adult was at Havre de Grace, *Harford*, 28 May (p.a., EB). The **Kelp Gull** at Sandgates, *Saint Mary's*, still present at this writing (!), took a brief leave of absence (or at least was not reported) after 30 Apr, save one appearance 9 May (p.a., JK, ph., m.ob.). Those who have been studying the birds in Louisiana are skeptical of the species' natural occurrence even there. Numbers of Kelp Gulls have been imported into the country (e.g., Sea World in Houston), which could account for birds on the Gulf Coast and the much-loved Maryland bird. This explanation is still being researched and I urge comments from anyone who has information about captive Kelp Gulls in the United States. A late Glaucous Gull was still at Hart 22–30 May (EJS et al.). In a season particularly poor for cold-water pelagic species, a first-winter Black-legged Kittiwake was seen on the C B B T. 7 Apr (ph. JC). A Caspian Tern at Hunting Cr., Alexandria, VA, was really pushing it to arrive 23 Mar (DBr).

Skummer I. in Ocean City hosted nice terns, with three Roseates 7 May (p.a., MO et al.), another 26 May (p.a., †MJI, AF), three Sandwich 22 May, and another 25 May (MJI) Surprising was the displacement of multiple **Arctic Terns** into the Bay and even the Potomac R. The first was at Violette's Lock, *Montgomery*, 17 May (p.a., ph. DC, †PO), followed by a flyby at Hart 22 May (p.a., †EJS, †JLS, et al.), and one (possibly the same) roosting on the flats at Havre de Grace about 15 mi n. the next day (p.a., EB). Maryland's only previous report away from the coast was of two at Rocky Gap S.P. in w. Maryland during bad weather 30 May 1992. Bad weather was not associated with this season's birds, but a dry Nor'Easter 13–18 May was responsible for pushing significant numbers of Sooty Shearwaters (and at least one Arctic Tern) into the Delaware Bay off Cape May, NJ. Perhaps the same happened in the Chesapeake Bay, though no other pelagic species were found (most would probably be reluctant to stray past the Bay Bridge, the area most thoroughly covered). Two Least Terns at Tanyard 10 Apr (EE) bested Maryland's previous arrival date by 2 days. Black Terns were barely detected this spring with reports only from Craney (v.o.) and inland Centennial L., *Howard*, 18 May (J.M. Snyder). Black Skimmers are doing well in the Middle Bay, with reports for Winter

Harbor, P.L.S.P. and N. Beach this May. An outlier was at Hart 22 May (EJS et al.).

OWLS THROUGH VIREOS

A few Short-eared Owls continued, the last 10 Apr (EJS) from Hart. Chuck-will's-widow nests are rarely found, so one with two eggs at Rigby's Folly, *Talbot*, 9 May (ph. GLA, ph. MJI, HTA) was notable and tied the earliest egg date for Maryland. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird 7 May was on an early nest (GM, BC).

The Maryland Piedmont accounted for three Olive-sided Flycatchers 12–23 May (v.o.) and five Yellow-bellied Flycatchers 11–21 May (v.o.). Singing Alder Flycatchers are always a treat in migration. Singles were at Brown's Bridge, *Howard*, 22 May (BO, JS), Finksburg, *Carroll*, (RFR), Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, D.C. (OJ), and Occoquan N.W.R., *Prince William*, VA, 23 May (MR), and Colbourne Mill Rd., *Worcester*, where especially rare in spring, 25 May (MJI). A Willow Flycatcher on The Mall in downtown D.C. was an interesting find 21 May (JF). A flyover W. Kingbird at Indian Creek W.M.A. 15 May (JLS) was a first for *Charles* and the earliest of only a handful of spring records. Two Loggerhead Shrikes were at Sky Meadows S.P. 20 Mar (S. Bruck) and one was there 17 Apr (*vide* JH). A singing and well-seen Philadelphia Vireo at Turkey Pt., *Cecil*, 27 Apr missed the state arrival date by a day (LF). A startling count of Blue-headed Vireos was 20 from Rock Cr. Park, D.C., 28 Apr (GM, BC).

Northern Rough-winged Swallows at 2 *Charles* locations 20 Mar (GMJ) were not far behind the record arrival of 16 Mar. A Cliff Swallow at Honga, *Dorchester*, 8 May (HTA, GLA, MJI) might have been a slightly unusual Eastern Shore migrant, but was associating with a colony of Barn Swallows nesting under a large bridge. There are no Eastern Shore nest records. In a poor Red-breasted Nuthatch year the last report was 2 May (EL) at a Salisbury, *Wicomico*, feeder. Three Brown-headed Nuthatches at Kent Pt., *Queen Anne's*, 7 Apr and 22 May (JR) were at a new location and at their northernmost outpost in the Region. Except for birds as far north as Cape Henlopen, Delaware, there are vagrant records in Maryland of birds in *Kent* and *Baltimore* and one vagrant record for New York. Two Brown Creepers in ideal breeding habitat at Huntley Meadows 2 May (GM, BC) could be breeders or late migrants. Interestingly a Sedge Wren banded 9 Nov at E.S.V.N.W.R. remained in the same area 21 Mar (JC, GLA). It likely breeds in the beautiful marsh at Truitt's Landing, with two

seemingly on territory 26 May (MJI, AF) and at least one 29 May (NS, FS). It has been confirmed breeding in the area but is generally a rare nester in the Region. A Golden-crowned Kinglet at Jennings Chapel Rd, *Howard*, 8 May was late (M. Wallace). Fort Smallwood can see good flights of landbirds as well as hawks, such as the 150 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers 21 Apr (SR). Good numbers of Hermit Thrushes were still present in early May (v.o.), with the latest being 10–12 May (M&G McClure) at Mt. Albert, *Howard* American Pipits made a rapid exit in mid- to late April, with only a couple spilling over into May (v.o.).

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

For the most part the migration was a trickle that began and ended slowly. The better migration days were 28 Apr, 5 May, 7 May, and 15 May. The first date brought a good set of warblers and other migrants to Rock Cr. Park (GM, BC), including 20 Black-throated Blues among 15 species of warblers. On 5 May few birders were out, but those that were witnessed a good flight, especially in n. Maryland. Nashville Warblers were especially prevalent, with four at Piney Run (MJI). The 3rd date was widely reported as excellent from the Piedmont (MO, PO, OJ, PP) to the Eastern Shore (HTA, GLA), but came a day too early. Many more birders were out the following day (which was poorer) on International Migratory Bird Day, though a count of 51 Black-throated Blues from Rockburn Branch Park, *Howard* (BO), was evidence that a lot of birds were around. Almost no other high counts of migrant warblers were mentionable. A canoe trip down a 15 mi stretch of the Pocomoke R., *Worcester*, 1 May (MJI, JLS) not surprisingly probably earned Maryland's record Prothonotary Warbler count, with a minimum of 190. Other good counts from that trip were 70 Am. Redstarts and 29 Yellow-throated Warblers. Two Orange-crowned Warblers were spotted at E.S.V.N.W.R. 17 Apr (JC) and another was unusual singing on The Mall 2 May (DC) An early Louisiana Waterthrush movement had birds at Tanyard (EE) and Nassawango Cr. (SHD) 23 Mar, and five at the latter site 24 Mar (SHD). An early Prairie Warbler was at Manassas Battlefield 7 Apr (TMD).

Non-nesting migrant Dickcissels were found 8 May at Annapolis, *Anne Arundel* (HLW, LMD), Aberdeen Proving Grounds (with 30 Bobolinks!; DW), and Jennings Chapel Rd., *Howard* (MW). Four returning breeders were back on Oland Rd. 16 May (R Wilson) Most surprising was the first

breeding record from Virginia's Eastern Shore, in a year when the species has not been numerous in the East. Cameron discovered five territorial males at Custis Tomb, *Northampton*, 26 May, which were later confirmed breeding (see summer). An ad. male Painted Bunting was reported at E.S.V.N.W.R. 12 May (*fide* JC). Though regular there in fall, a Lark Sparrow described from Assateague 8 May (†J. Cleary) furnished an extremely unusual spring record. Two Am. Tree Sparrows on Hart 3 Apr (EJS et al.) were notably late. Observers have so rarely made the effort in spring, that the Ipswich Sparrow at Chinc. 20 Mar (MG) was one of the later reports for the Region. When they typically arrive and depart is difficult to discern. Maryland's 7th **Le Conte's Sparrow** at E.A. Vaughn W.M.A. 2–4 May (p.a., JLS, †MJI) was also only the 2nd spring record (the other 4 Apr 1992 less than 2 mi away). The bird was using a pond strip with a narrow uncut edge of tall *Andropogon* and scattered clumps of other grasses and sedges, and was loosely associating with Savannah Sparrows.

A strange fallout of Seaside Sparrows occurred at P.L.S.P., with more than 50 (some out of appropriate habitat) 22 Apr (PC). Only two Saltmarsh Sharp-taileds were seen 22 Apr (PC) and one–two Nelson's were found 22–23 Apr (PC, SS) and 8 May (PC). We are still only beginning to build a body of Sharp-tailed Sparrow sightings from the Bay, and the proportions of the 2 species (and several subspecies), as well as the timing of arrival and specifics of habitat preference, are yet to be well understood. Early Lincoln's Sparrows were at Cornfield Harbor 8 Apr (PC) and P.R.N.A.S. 16 Apr (KR), both in *Saint Mary's*. Given the surprising number of summer reports, no White-throated Sparrows were reported after 15 May (v.ob.). The first well-documented **Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow** for Maryland was banded in imm. plumage at Chino Farms 5 Mar (p.a., ph. JG), but was

recaptured almost 2 months later 25 Apr (ph. JG), this time in adult plumage! Maryland has previous reports from *Frederick, Montgomery*, and *Worcester*, and though the last two were banded and the last one was reportedly photographed, the Chino bird is the only one for which there is tangible evidence. It is to be looked for by careful observers in the future.

An extremely early Orchard Oriole was spotted at E.S.V.N.W.R. 6 Apr (JC). Boat-tailed Grackles, declining in the Region for quite some time, were in better-than-average numbers in *Saint Mary's*. Two were at Scotland 6 May (PC), three were at St. Clemens I. and one near P.L.S.P. 8 May (BB, MC), and three were at St. George's I. 16 May (JLS, MHa). Two at Bay Hundred, *Talbot*, 8 May (JR) were rare, too. Aside from a few Purple Finches winter finches were absent as they were from this past winter (and will be this coming summer!).

CORRIGENDA

In vol. 53, no. 1 of *North American Birds*, please note that the White-winged Dove in D.C. was found by Nannette Herrick, whereas the King Eider on Poplar I. was found by Norman Haddaway. The list of observers failed to distinguish the two. Please also list the P.L.S.P. Wood Stork as (ph. PC, KR, +ph., m.ob.) at it was Patty Craig who initially refound it.

Observers (area compilers in boldface):

George L. Armistead, Henry T. Armistead, John B. Bazuin, Tyler Bell, Jeff Blalock, Eirik Blom, Bob Boxwell, David Bridge (DBr), Nolan Britt, Danny Bystrak, Jamie Cameron, **Wallace Coffey** (Valley Birds internet group), Barry Cooper, Ben Copeland (BCo), **Patty Craig** (*Saint Mary's*, P.O. Box 84, Lexington Park, MD 20653), Marty Cribb, Dave Czaplak, Lynn M. Davidson, Phil Davis, Todd M. Day, Allen Deward, Samuel H. Dyke, **Ethel Engle** (*Caroline*, MD, 20789 Dover Bridge Rd., Preston, MD 21655;

(ethelengle@yahoo.com), Andy Farnsworth, Kevin Fehshkins, Leslie Fisher, **Sam Freiberg** (*Montgomery*, 8733 Susanna Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815–4713), Chris French, Mark Garland, Jim Gruber, Patricia Gruber, Tom Gwynn, Matt Hafner (MHa), **Al Haury** (*Anne Arundel*, 852 Redwood Trail, Crownsville, MD 21032; cactuswren@erols.com), **Jane Hill** (Voice of the Naturalist), Rob Hilton, Amy Hoffman, Mark Hoffman, Eric Hynes, Ottavio Janni, George M. Jett, Val Kitchens, Jane Kostenko, Ellen Lawler, Bev Leeuwenberg, Larry Lynch, Gail Mackiernan, Barb Meserve (BMe), Greg Miller (GMi), Randy Moore, Brian Monk, Michael O'Brien, Paul O'Brien, Bonnie Ott, Paul Pisano, **Elizabeth Pitney** (*Wicomico*, 7218 Walston Switch Rd., Parsonsburg, MD 21849), Butch Pearce, Kyle Rambo, Jan Reese, **Sue Riccardi** (Ft. Smallwood hawkwatch), Robert F. Ringler, Charles Roe, Fran Saunders, **Norm Saunders** (MDOsprey internet group), Eugene Sankey, Eugene J. Scarpulla, Harry Sear, **Janet Shields** (*Frederick/Washington*, 13105 Fountain Head Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21742; JANETBILL@prodigy.net), Meg Short, David R. Smith, **Jo Solem** (*Howard*, 10617 Graeloch Rd., Laurel, MD 20723), Sherman Suter, Mary Ann Todd, Marcia Watson-Whitmyre, Dave Webb, Audrey Whitlock, Hal L. Wierenga, **Les Willis** (Virginia Birdline), Paul Woodward.

Marshall J. Iliff: report to **James L. Stasz**, P.O. Box 71, North Beach, MD 20714 (jlstasz@aol.com)



The ABA Volunteer Directory is published annually in cooperation with the US Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the support of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and other agencies and organizations offering short- and long-term opportunities for volunteers. No matter what level of birding skills you enjoy, you will be able to find a project that needs your help while offering you a splendid learning opportunity.

Available from ABA Sales for \$2.00; call 800/634-7736 to order.

ABA Directory of Volunteer Opportunities for Birders

Place names that are frequently mentioned, but very long, may be abbreviated in a form such as "C.B.B.T." or "W.P.B.O." Such local abbreviations will be explained in a key at the beginning of the particular regional report in which they are used. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *North American Birds* are keyed on page 251.