

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB - JANUARY, 1993

Come celebrate the new year with your birding friends on Monday, January 11 at 7:30 pm at the Club's regular monthly meeting. We will be taking a look at New England bird life through the eyes of Barry VanDusen, an independent professional artist from Princeton, Massachusetts. He will show us his process of translating his field studies to canvas. His illustrations can be found in Bird Finding in New England, Birding Cape Cod, and the soon to be published Birds of Massachusetts. Many of you saw his drawing of the Saw-whet Owl featured on the cover of last month's Bird Watcher's Digest --- just a sample of the work you will see if you join us on Monday.

On Saturday, the 9th Bob Bieda will take us on an all day trip to Cape Ann and Plum Island. Be sure to call him at 527-2623 if you wish to go.

On Saturday, the 23rd there will be an evening Saw-whet Owl search with Jeff Johnstone from 8:00 p.m. until midnight. Call him at (508) 249-9052.

On Saturday, the 30th Scott Surner will be coordinating the annual Roadside Raptor Count. Call him at 253-7486.

Change: The destination for Paul Champlin's 2/13/93 trip has been changed from Jamaica Bay, New York to the central and eastern portions of Narragansett Bay. More details later.

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB
February, 1993



Dear Friends,

How is your winter progressing? Keeping up with those New Year's Resolutions -- especially the one about healthy eating and more exercise? I have devised a method that is really working for me and am happy to share it with you. It involves seeing the problem through fresh eyes. Creative thinking is the secret to creative problem solving.

Problem -- we are advised to eat at least five fruits and vegetables a day. How do we do this?

Solution -- French Fried potatoes with catsup account for two fruit and vegetable units. Have this for lunch and for dinner (total of four). All you need is one more unit. You can do it!

Problem -- we are advised to incorporate more beta-carotene (that healthy stuff found in orange foods) in our diets. How?

Solution -- this is really quite simple. Pick out the orange jelly beans from the "gourmet jelly bean mix." This also increases your level of exercise. Plan a jelly bean party (it is very helpful to be in a support group when dieting).

Get the idea? Creative thinking is the answer! And there is always the chance that ice cream and chocolate will be listed as health foods under the new Clinton administration.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monday, February 8: Our old binoculars, scopes and field guides, donated to the MBO Birder's Exchange are now at work in the hands of Latin American biologists and teachers helping to protect Wood Thrushes, Blackburnians, Scarlet Tanagers, etc., preserve habitats and educate the public on conservation issues. Where are these people? What are they doing? What are they learning? Julie Sibbing, coordinator of the Birder's Exchange at Manomet Bird Observatory and Program Manager for the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network will be answering these questions when she speaks to us on bird conservation needs in the hemisphere and the work of the Birder's Exchange. The Exchange, of which our Club is a member is an innovative way for birders like ourselves to relate to our counterparts in Central and South America. Julie hopes to bring Austin Stokes with her to give us a personal account of what is happening. He is just back from the Peace Corps in Honduras where he helped establish the Honduras National Park. Using donated equipment he helped set up the local Christmas Count. It should be a very interesting and informative personal update on an important project we are involved in.

In addition to the continued need for optics and field guides, used camping equipment such as small tents, sleeping bags, back packs and knapsacks of any size are needed. If

you or your office or company has unwanted audio-visual equipment or computers this would be a wonderful place for them to go. The MBO is non-profit -- tax credit is available. Julie will be happy to take any contributions back with her. If you can not attend the meeting and have donations contact one of the officers - we will see that they get to Julie.

Save March 8 for Tom Arny on Brazil; April 12 for Mark Picard on the Great Blue Heron; May 10 for Julio de la Torre on warblers; and June 14 for Paul Roberts on hawks.

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, February 6: Al Richards will be searching for waterfowl from Falmouth to Plymouth. This is an annual all-day trip that has produced Redheads, Eurasian Wigeons, a variety of sea ducks, loons, grebes and if time allows a try for the Short-eared Owl. Call Al at 665-2761 to sign on.

Saturday, February 13 (Sunday the 14th as rain date): A NEW trip for the Club to Narragansett Bay will be led by Paul Champlin. Paul offers the following as enticement: "Having the largest coast to land area ratio of any state in the Union, it is no wonder that large numbers of water birds winter in Rhode Island every year. The main attraction for these floating masses are the many small harbors and inlets of Narragansett Bay which provide prime feeding and roosting habitat. In the uppermost reaches of the bay, rivers feed into the Narragansett providing great views of dabbling ducks and may provide a good look at canvasback. From here south, though, it's salt water all the way. Greater Scaup, grebes and both species of goldeneye cruise the shore line in a continuous parade of feathered delight. The rocky oceanside shoreline of Sachuest and Sakonnet Points produce alcids, hawks, both goldeneye and other goodies (Sachuest NWR has been home to wintering flock of up to 60 Harlequin Ducks for many years). If time allows, and I think it will, Northern Shovelers, Pintails, and Redhead will top off our lists at Trustom National Wildlife Refuge."

Landbirds are also expected (there is a Dickcissel wintering in Paul's parent's back yard in Tiverton which is on the itinerary). For more information and to register call Paul at 253-5047, or show up at the Hitchcock Center at 6 am to car-pool. Don't forget the warm clothes, lunch, snacks, etc.

I am sorry to report that the bus trip to the New York American Museum of Natural History has been cancelled.

HITCHCOCK NEWS

The Center has a wonderful offering of natural history programs this winter. Of particular interest to the Club: "Bird Seed" orders due on Friday, 2/5 (pick-up day is Saturday, 2/13); "Family Owl Prowl" with David Ziomek on Wednesday, 2/17; "Bird House Making Workshop and Field

Trip" with Nick Anzuoni and David Ziomek on Saturday, 3/6;
"Bring Back the Bluebirds" with Lillian Lund Files on
Saturday 3/13; "Birding Southern Vermont and a Visit to the
Vermont Raptor Center" with David Ziomek on Saturday 3/27.
And, looking ahead: Jan Ortiz will be teaching the Center's
"Spring Birding Class". Call the Hitchcock at 256-6006 for
information and to register for all programs.

MISCELLANEOUS

Enclosed is the 1992-1993 membership list. If you
should find any errors, I would appreciate kind and gentle
notification so I can discipline my word processor.

"Bird News of Western Massachusetts" subscribers can be
expecting the first issue (Volume 33, #1) to arrive in late
winter. It is the Winter 1993 issue and contains the
records for the Fall, 1992.

HBC BIRDERS -- A CALL TO WINGS!

I have just received the latest issue of The Meadow
Plover, the newsletter from the Nashoba Valley Bird Club.
Sallie Hoffman, Treasurer/Secretary of the Club and producer
of the letter included a section that I feel compelled to
pass on to our membership. She calls it "WOZZLES" which she
tells us are plays on the names and sometimes the natures of
real birds. Just a partial list of her offerings:

YARD SALE BIRDS: Great-colored Junk and Bittoon; **BIRDS
OF THE ROAD:** Meanderin' Duck, Wilson's Fillerup, Forced-to
Tern, and Painted Red -- stop!; **BIRDS WHO SHOULD STAY HOME:**
Cock-at-chew!; **MAMMALIAN BIRDS:** Northern Hairier,
Cat-purred, Dog-burred and Hownow Brown Cowbird); **RADIANT
BIRDS:** Black & Burning Warbler and Summer Teenager;
HELP-YOURSELF BIRDS: Pie-grabbed Bill; **BIRDS THAT MAKE YOU
NERVOUS:** Dread Knot, Great Gray Growl, and Yellow-headed
Blackbeard; **HARD-TO-DANCE-WITH BIRDS:** Lurchy Vulture,
Pixillated Woodpecker and Bobbin; and **BIRDS WITH
BETTER-KNOWN TWINS:** Chickadum.

On reading this (and more) our esteemed president Jan
pleaded a Sedge Wren Headache. Now, we don't want to
Crossbills with the Nashoba Valley Bird club and we are not
usually given to Histrionicus histrionicus, but have they
not thrown down the Gannet? Do we let this go for Nodding?
I think Knot!

HBC BIRDERS -- MEET THE CHALLENGE

Send your WOZZLES to Sally the HBC Secretary who will
pass them on as newsletter space permits. She will also be
happy to send you a complete list of the Woosles that Sallie
the NVBC secretary compiled.

Sally

HAPPY LAST HALF OF THE WINTER TO YOU ALL!

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB
March, 1993

Dear Friends,

I had intended to start this month's letter with some great "Woozles" sent to me by members David Spector and Ralph Cabana in response to the challenge issued in the February Newsletter. I regret to have to admit that both of their letters have been sucked into a black hole in my study. I can't believe they are gone forever and will pass them on to you when they reappear.

For those of us who are definitely unpleasant and ugly during prolonged periods of short days and long nights, there will be a program on Monday, March 8 7:30 pm at the Hitchcock Center that will brighten the dirty slush of late winter. HBC member Tom Army will be taking us south on a "Short trip to Brazil". Using slides and narrative he will share his experiences from a two week trip taken last summer to a rain forest area and the Pantanal in Brazil. Tom is an astronomer at UMass with a long-standing love of birds and natural history. If you have not had the opportunity to hear Tom at earlier Club meetings I can assure you that you have a treat in store.

The almost completed Field Trip list covering the period from April through August will be ready for next month's mailing. Two trips are planned for March.

On Saturday, March 20, Allan Richards will lead a trip in search of waterfowl in the Connecticut River Valley. Expect to find teal, pintail, dabblers and perhaps some divers. This is a half day plus trip so bring some food to keep the energy up and warm clothes to protect. Call Al at 665-2761 for further information and to sign up.

On Saturday, March 27 Paul Champlin will be taking a trip to the Narragansett Bay originally scheduled for last month but which had to be cancelled because of a snow storm. It was rescheduled for later in the month and a few people were able to join him. They had a wonderful time, some really interesting looks at bird behavior and 65 species of birds. Highlights were the Eurasian Wigeon, Barrow's Goldeneye, Canvasback, Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe, both scaups, King Eider, American Coot, Purple Sandpiper, Short-eared Owl and Red-bellied Woodpecker. The Dickcissel in Paul's parent's back yard is now in full breeding plumage! For more information and to sign up call Paul at 253-5047. Don't forget the warm clothes, lunch, snacks, etc. For a more complete description of Paul's trip please refer to the February Newsletter.

I have enclosed information and the itinerary for a new summer birding trip to Southeast Arizona to be led by Tom Gagnon. Please note that we need to hear from you by March 15 if you wish to go.

On Saturday, March 6, 1:30 - 3:00 pm the Hitchcock Center is offering a "Bird House Making Workshop and Field Trip" led by David Ziomek (Hitchcock Director and HBC member) and Nick Anzuoni (Amherst conservation Department).

On Saturday, March 13, 1:00 - 2:30 pm Lillian Lund Files, past President of the North American Bluebird Society will present a program "Bring Back the Bluebirds". This will be held at Arcadia.

Jan Ortiz, HBC president, experienced birder, field trip leader and teacher will again be teaching the Spring Birding Class for the Hitchcock Center. The course will run for eight weeks. The first classroom session will be on Saturday, March 31. The first field trip will be on Saturday, April 3. Jan offers this in way of description: "The class is geared to birders of all levels, but the pace will be leisurely. Ample time will be given to view and discuss the birds we see. On Wednesday nights using slides and bird mounts, we will discuss migration, behavior, identification, song and what species we expect to see on the following Saturday. We will also take some time each week to note the progression of spring and how it relates to bird migration."

For more information or to register for any Hitchcock offering call the Center at 256-6006.

If you should head in the direction of the Lawrence Swamp in Amherst, you will discover a brand new trail named in honor of HBC member, friend, long-time natural history observer, birder and hiker who has spent many years observing bird life and the natural history scene in the Lawrence Swamp area. I know this is going to embarrass him, but, hey, we think it's great and we want to let everyone know about it. We invite you all to take a walk on the

HARVEY ALLEN TRAIL.

It's entrance is located on the south side of Station Road. Park your car in the bicycle path parking lot across the street. CONGRATULATIONS HARVEY!

Until next month, same time, same word processor --

Sincerely,

Sally

Sally Venman, Secretary

WOOZLE ALERT WOOZLE ALERT WOOZLE ALERT WOOZLE ALERT

As I hoped, the Keeper of the Black Hole in my study referred to in my last letter did return the Woozles (whimsical plays on the names and/or the natures of real birds) sent to me by HBC members. Attached to them was a note allowing that if I tried to create any more Wozzles of my own I would find significantly more than 2 letters sucked into the infamous Black Hole. For the sake of the Club, at a sacrifice of great dimension, I signed an agreement to behave. I promised not to allow a feather of a personal Woozle to take flight. I hope that satisfies that Bucklehead of a Keeper. I can however pass on creative offerings from Club members, as follows:

From our Maine man Ralph Cabana who confesses the lure of the ever lovely Black Night-gown Heron we have two Woozles appropriate for the HBC Arizona trip. First is the elusive Scaled/Gambels Hybrid -- the Scrambled Quail. And second, in memory of evenings spent at the bar of the Stage Stop Inn in Patagonia -- the Rose Throated Bacardi.

And from that oft-quoted author, Anonymous:

Woody, would you peck her?

As a native of Bridgeport once said, there may be a sucker hatched every minute, but I'm no sap. So, the Nebbish Valley folks have picid a fight? They don't have a flicker of a chance one we buckle downy. Hear ye! Hair ye! Oh members of the HBC, don't let any undertones of humor in what you have read belie the seriousness of the situation, but pile at it. Whenever members of the Club, born and bred, head to battle we never (though we may appear as rabble) lack backedbone, but we gain courage by singing songs of Woody Guthrie to educate ourselves.

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

April, 1993

We offer a terrific April program for your enlightenment and entertainment. With a little luck the snow will be gone and the mud will be minimal by April 12 and we will see you at the Hitchcock Center enjoying Mark Picard's great studies of the Great Blue Heron, photos taken over several years of observations and photographing in two heron colonies in Central Massachusetts. His slide program is titled "Getting the Blues". Being mobile in the water and relatively invisible in the floating blind he designed and constructed, he has captured many interesting heron behaviors which would be impossible to acquire from the shores of the rookeries. His photographs have appeared in the publications of the National Audubon Society and the Sierra Club, and in "Ranger Rick", "Birder's World" and "Bird Watcher's Digest".

Save May 10 for the return of Julio de la Torre on warblers and June 14 for John Roberts on hawks of New England.

Enclosed with this letter is a list of field trips that are being offered for the rest of our Club year. The field trip committee plans for six months at a time. It will be meeting to make plans for next year sometime this summer and always welcome suggestions. Bob Bieda (527-2623) chairs the committee. Give him a call.

On Saturday, April 10 Harvey Allen will lead a daytime owl search for you folks who do not enjoy birding by moonlight. He will meet you at the Hitchcock Center at 7:00 am. This is a half-day trip. Call Harvey at 253-7963.

On Saturday, April 24 Morris Lainer will travel to Plum Island on the annual search for the Ruff. This is an all-day, bring lunch, etc.

trip where many migratory birds will be seen. Call Morris at 527-9412 if you want to be included.

This information was passed on to me in time to be included it in the Newsletter. The Miller's Falls Rod and Gun Club is a very good spot to see migrating waterfowl. It seems that owners of the club had problems recently with a caravan of birders (not an HBC trip) who were rude and uncooperative when asked to confine their cars to the black-top. The club welcomes birders but we need to be aware of what has happened and be sure to park on the black-top and walk to the river.

In appreciation for the positive relationship we have had over the years with the Hitchcock Center and for all the benefits we have enjoyed because of this association, the Executive Board of the HBC has voted to give the Center a stand for the slide projector and to help cover the cost of those wonderful new floodlights in the parking lot. Thank you Hitchcock Board of Overseers and Hitchcock staff for your continuing support!

The Center is offering a truly amazing packet of natural history programs this spring. If you have not received their Newsletter call them for one. There is still time to sign up for the Spring Birding Class that begins on Wednesday, March 31 with a classroom presentation. The first field trip is on the following Saturday, April 3. This is being taught by Jan Ortiz, HBC president, experienced birder, and field trip leader. She will also be leading "Twilight Dancer -- the American Woodcock" on Monday, April 5, 6:30 pm sharp (rain date Friday, 4/9). For more information or to register for any Hitchcock offering call the Center at 256-6006. There is a fee.

A Hitchcock request. The Center was given a birding scope not long ago. It does not have a tripod to go with it. If you should have an extra one hanging around gathering dust (or rust?) it would find a good home at the Center.

Ah -- APRIL: It's "National Pets are Wonderful Month" -- also -- "Prevent a Litter Month". On April 10 in 1866 the ASPCA was chartered. In honor of our pets and the furry and furless critters may I suggest celebrating the following?

4/10 -- The day of the Great Sacramento Camel Race in 1864.

4/13 -- The first Elephant arrives in the U.S. in 1796.

4/20 -- The Bulldog Beauty Contest in Des Moines, IA.

4/25 -- The World Cow Chip Throwing Contest in Beaver, OK

4/26 -- Official day of Prayer to obtain Deliverance of Grasshoppers -- Minnesota, 1877

4/28 -- The Rattlesnake Derby in Oklahoma

Our four-footed forecasters:

Internal rumblings in dogs signify rain.

Pig's tails straighten when rain is near.

When the cat lies on its brain, then it is going to rain.

Until next month, same time, same word processor --

Sincerely,

Sally

Sally Venman, Secretary

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

May, 1993

Dear Friends,

In order that the hands behind the word processor can be better employed as hands holding the binoculars, this letter will be short! (Oh sure -- "Promises, promises", mumbles the reader.)

PROGRAMS

The first order of business is to recycle a bit of last May's Newsletter: "Have we got a show for you!!! Julio de la Torre is a well-known naturalist, lecturer, free lance editor, translator, author, natural history consultant, former opera singer, announcer, narrator, and teacher to name a few of his credentials". Last May he gave the Club an unforgettable slide show on owls proving that he is, in fact a dynamic speaker, dramatic and theatrical -- a real "ham". This multi-talented speaker will be our guest once again on Monday, May 10 at 7:30 pm when he will present his program on Warblers. There is extra parking at the Common School behind the Hitchcock lot should you need it.

A short business meeting will precede the program. We are required by the By-laws to elect Board officers and members for the coming year at our May meeting. The nominating committee (Anne Cann, Shirley Hilborn and Morris Lainer, chair) will present the following slate for your approval: President -- Jan Ortiz; Vice President/Program Director -- Pat Lynch; Treasurer -- Allan Richards; Secretary -- Sally Venman; Members at Large -- Bob Bieda, Paul Champlin, Morris Lainer, Jim Marcum, and Scott Surner. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor, if seconded. Board meetings are open to the general membership. The next meeting is scheduled for May 17. Let Jan Ortiz know (549-1768) if you would be interested in attending.

Al Richards reminds you that he still has T-shirts with the famous HBC logo (thanks to Chris Page) on sale for the amazingly low price of \$10.00. The same famous logo can be found on decals for \$1.25.

Be sure to save June 14 when Paul Roberts will be presenting a program on Hawks. That will be the last regular meeting of the HBC year.

FIELD TRIP REMINDERS

Tom Gagnon asked me to let you know that there is an opening for one person on the Arizona trip. Call him at 584-6353 for more information.

On Saturday, May 1 Scott Surner will lead a half-day trip searching for Rails and Bitterns. He plans on leaving from the Hitchcock Center at 6:00 am. Call Scott at 253-7486 if you are interested.

Starting Tuesday, May 4 and continuing every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the month, the Club sponsors an early morning bird walk through Wildwood Cemetery in Amherst. No need

to register - just meet the leader at the gate at 6:30 am. The walk is designed to finish at about 8:00 am so you can catch some warblers before work.

On Saturday, May 22 Don Kroodsma will be leading a group interested in "Birding by Ear". Call Don at 253-5519 for more information.

On Saturday, May 29 travel to Plum Island for Shorebirds & Warblers with Bob Bieda (527-2623).

HITCHCOCK CENTER

The Spring Bash (and fund-raising auction) will be held on Friday, May 7, at the Amherst College Alumni House, Spring Street, Amherst from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. Come and enjoy the fun, feast on wonderful gourmet foods and wines and bid on donated goods and services of all sorts.

On Saturday, May 8 David Ziomek, Director of the Center and Bird Club member will be "Birding the New Bike Path" from 6:30 am - noon.

Call the Center at 256-6006 for more information.

OF GENERAL INTEREST

"Partners in Flight Expo", introduces visitors to neotropical, migratory birds -- how they breed and nest in the Northeast, and then travel thousands of miles to winter in tropical rainforests -- through a three-dimensional exhibit featuring a juried collection of 23 original paintings, wood carvings of the colorful songbirds by Ira Frost, and a continuously running video describing the environmental threats to these birds. The exhibit can be seen at the Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery; Rhodes Hall; 246 Main Street; Keene; New Hampshire June 1 - 30. Gallery hours are 11am - 3pm (Mon.-Thur.) and 11am - 8pm (Fri.). The Expo is sponsored by the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program at New Hampshire Fish and Game, and Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery, in cooperation with the Audubon Society of New Hampshire.

AND ---

A few reminders for your calendar compliments of your every-ready secretary. It seems that in May we are asked to celebrate "National Tofu Awareness Month" *and* "National Asparagus Month" which leads me to wonder if I had too much fun in a former life? May is the month that Babe Ruth hit his first (#1) and his last (#714) home run; the month that Amelia Bloomer, campaigner for women's rights invented the bloomers (5/27/1818); and the month when Club members who are lovers of the written word can celebrate the anniversary of the first Harlequin romance being published in 1949 and the first appearance of Dennis the Menace in 1951. Both of these milestones were accomplished on May 12th. On the political front we are reminded of the announcement (5/3/85) that White House scheduling relied on an astrologer .

HAPPY BIRD SEARCH

Sally

Sally Venman, Secretary

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

June, 1993

Dear Friends,

On June 14, 7:30 pm at the Hitchcock Center Paul Roberts will present a program entitled "Identifying Hawks in Flight." By way of introduction he tells us "Connecticut Valley birders are uniquely situated to see good numbers of hawks in spring and fall. However, those hawks may often seem very difficult to identify because when seen in flight, they don't look much like anything depicted in your field guides. This slide program will help you to identify hawks in flight, even if you don't see them very well." Paul is the founder of the Eastern Massachusetts Hawk Watch (1976), and currently serves as its Vice President as well as chair of the Northeast Hawk Watch (NEHW). He is a past chair of the Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA) and has been teaching courses on hawk identification for fifteen years. He has also served as President of the Brookline Bird Club and as Editor of *Bird Observer*.

A short business meeting will precede the program. As stated in the Bylaws the membership year runs from September through August. New members may join at any time. However, membership will be for the current membership year unless payment is made after the last meeting of the year. So as not to penalize people who become interested in birding during the spring migration and who wish to become members, the Board voted to recommend the following amendment to be voted upon at the June meeting. **MOVED:** That Section 4.3 of Article IV of the By-Laws of the Hampshire Bird Club, Inc. be amended as follows: delete the second sentence and replace it with the following sentence: First time members joining and paying dues to the Hampshire Bird Club after April 30 will be granted free membership for the remainder of the club's membership year as defined in Section 4.1 and have their dues credited to the succeeding membership year.

Field Trip Reminders

Sat., June 5: Birding Mt. Greylock. Led by Tom Collins (499-2799) & Bob Bieda (527-2623).

Leave Hitchcock at 6 am or meet at the Visitor Center off Rt. 7 at 8 am.

Sat., June 19: Whip-Poor-Will Evening with Al Richards (665-2761).

Sat., July 24: Start of Arizona trip led by Tom Gagnon (584-6353).

Mon., July 26: First Monday morning on the Longmeadow Sandbar with Bob Bieda (527-2623).
7 to 9 am.

Sat., Aug. 28: Monomoy Island, Cape Cod (Limit 2 groups of 6) led by Bob Bieda (527-2623) & Al Richards (665-2761).

Sat., Sept. 11: Warblers and Shorebirds on Plum Island led by Jim Marcum (549-1613)

Sat., Sept. 25: Search for the Connecticut Warbler with Tom Gagnon (584-6353).

Sat., Sept. 25: Start of Fall Monhegan Island Trip led by Scott Surner (253-7486)

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!!!!

Sally

Sally Venman, Secretary

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

ALL THE BIRD NEWS

FIT TO PUBLISH



August 1993

. . . and there I stood ironing the bed sheets, watching Huey, Louie and Dewey outwit Uncle Donald on the Saturday Morning Cartoon Festival. I knew in my heart that I had successfully achieved a new high in honing my procrastination skills. I also knew that the end of August was in sight and I could no longer put off the production of the Hampshire Bird Club Newsletter, August Edition, suggesting, requesting, demanding money. So with a little help from my friends -- chocolate, diet soda and word processor -- I offer the following:

For a limited time only it is again my privilege as representative of the HBC Bird Board to give you, the discriminating bird watcher, a chance to take advantage of an amazing offer. By acting NOW you can become a member of the Hampshire Bird Club for the unbelievably low price of \$9.00, \$15.00, \$30.00, \$50.00, or \$100.00 depending on choice of membership category. But, don't delay! This offer will be valid only up to and including the firm deadline of October 1, 1992, after which the cost of membership will be \$9.00, \$15.00, \$30.00, etc., etc., etc. Although technically this may sound the same, if you join before the deadline you buy freedom from personal guilt, remorse, and self-reproach -- emotions experienced when one procrastinates. You will also be spared the truly horrible dunning "reminder" letter I send to past members who do not renew! Many of you took advantage of this offer last year and sent letters testifying to the peace of mind resulting from responding promptly.

The Club is a good source of information for birdwatching newcomers as well as for the more experienced birder. All are welcome. As a member you will receive monthly mailings describing regular programs, field trips, news of happenings of interest to birders, and whatever else your inventive Bird Board can come up with. You will earn the privilege of getting frostbite by participating in local Christmas Bird Counts (not mandatory) and a place on the Rare Bird Alert telephone tree (if desired). Through the VOICE (an up-to-date recorded telephone service) you will learn what birds are being seen, what trips are being planned and any other bird news fit to broadcast. All this, and as a new member, you receive the treasured and truly amazing MEMBERSHIP PACKET filled with membership-only kinds of information. Our membership year runs from September through August. You may join at any time, but this is the only letter that goes out to everyone on the mailing list.

You will note on the membership form that there is a new member in the HBC paraphernalia "Family." The HBC logo (Chris Page's Pileated Woodpecker) is now available on a patch. "Patch" will join its two

siblings, "Decal" and "T-shirt," later this fall but can be ordered now for \$3.00. If you become a supporting member of this illustrious organization you will receive a subscription to "Bird News of Western Massachusetts" and "Decal." Join at a higher level and "Patch" will be yours. Support one level higher and you get the whole "Family." How's that for an incentive? WOW!!! Forms are enclosed.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are held at the Hitchcock Center in Amherst on the second Monday of the month (holiday exception on October 18), September through June, at 7:30 pm. All programs are free and open to the public. I've been asked to remind people that parking along the driveway is permitted on the North side only.

On Monday, September 13, Arthur Morris, nationally known nature photographer, will present a slide lecture entitled "Birds as Art -- Coast to Coast." The best of the 10,000 photographs he has taken on cross-continental trips will feature many of the top birding spots in North America. His photos have been published in virtually all major birding and natural history magazines. Seven of his images have appeared on Audubon calendars and he is the author of the color photo booklet, "Bird Photography Basics." Birders will be amazed and delighted with his work and explanations of the elements used in producing it. Anyone who enjoys peering through a camera's viewfinder will pick up lots of tips. Come join us for the first meeting of the year. It's a nice way to start the fall routine!

Mark your calendars: On Monday, October 18, Noble Proctor returns to present a program on Costa Rica. (Many of you will remember his terrific programs on Attu Island and Kenya). On Monday, November 8, John Hutchison will speak on a subject of local interest when he presents his program entitled "Changing Bird Demographics in Western Massachusetts." On Monday, December 13, we gather for the holiday party when members show their own natural history slides, plans are made for the annual Christmas Bird Counts, and we eat, eat, eat. Details will be in future membership mailings.

FIELD TRIPS

The HBC offers two different types of trips: regular and fee-based. Regular field trips will be to spots easily reached and explored in one day. These trips are open to the general public. No costs other than travel, meals and incidental fees are involved. It is our policy to ask that you call the trip leader to register so that s/he can plan for the size of the group and can notify people if a change is necessary. Fee-based trips are generally for a longer period, where costs are predetermined and participants pay in advance. Participants in these trips or on a waiting list for these trips must be HBC members.

It is also our policy to car pool whenever possible and to share in driving expenses. It is recommended that drivers be reimbursed at the rate of at least \$.20 per mile per car plus tolls and parking fees. All persons in the car will be expected to share costs equally.

We are always looking for new places to explore and new leaders to take us there. Bird identification skill is not the most important requirement for being a trip leader. Familiarity with a good birding location is. If you know of a good spot that would lend itself well to a birding group, or would be interested in leading a trip yourself we would like to know about it. The Field Trip Committee meets twice a year for planning -- once in the summer and again in mid-winter. If you have suggestions or would like to be a part of the Committee, please make note on the membership form or contact Field Trip Chair Bob Bieda directly (21 Pomeroy St., Easthampton, MA 01027; 413-527-2623).

The fall and winter field trip schedule should be completed in a couple more weeks and I'll be sending it to all members in the next newsletter. Meanwhile here are several trips you may wish to be part of (call leaders for more information):

On Saturday, September 11 Jim Marcum (549-1613) is off to Plum Island for warblers and shorebirds.

On Saturday, September 25 Tom Gagnon (584-6353) will search for the Connecticut Warbler.

And on Saturday, October 9 Harvey Allen (253-7963) will take us through the Amherst College Sanctuary. Meet at the Hitchcock Center at 7:30 am.

Sorry to say, the fall Monhegan Island trip has had to be cancelled this time around.

HITCHCOCK NEWS OF INTEREST TO BIRDERS

FALL BIRDING CLASS: Beginning on Wednesday, September 8 HBC President and well-known local birdwatcher Jan Ortiz returns to the Hitchcock to teach her popular birding class. This is a comprehensive survey of birds in the Valley during the extended fall migration. The class is relaxed and comfortable and is geared for both beginners and experienced birders. Jan is a seasoned, dedicated birder with a special gift for communicating her love and knowledge of birds. Wednesday evening meetings will cover a wide range of subjects of interest to birders and will preview the species hoped to be seen on Saturday morning field trips. Included are trips to Plum Island, Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge and the Berkshire Lakes. Registration required.

HAWKS and OWLS with Chris Davis, naturalist, falconer and HBC member and program presenter. Beginning on Friday, September 17 there will be two classroom presentations, two sessions in the field and an owl prowl. Included in this in-depth fascinating learning experience will be the biology of these animals, their habitat requirements, feeding habits and migration patterns. Recommended for adults and students grades 5 and up. Registration required.

BRING BACK the BLUEBIRDS with Lil Files, Bluebird Lover and past President of the North American Bluebird Society Saturday, September 18.

This program is co-sponsored with Arcadia Nature Center where it will be held. Call Arcadia for more information.

BIRD SEED SALE: Order due Friday, September 24 with pick-up on Saturday, October 2, 9:00 am -- 2:00 pm. Call the Center or order at our meeting on September 13.

AMHERST CONSERVATION LAND WALKS: on Friday, October 1, 9:30 am - noon Jan Ortiz will lead us on an exploration of the Atkins Reservoir area looking for fall migrants. Meet at Cider Mill Pond Conservation Area on High Point Drive. Free.

WINTER BIRDS AT YOUR FEEDER: on Thursday, October 14, 7:30 - 9:00 pm Jan Ortiz will give a slide show on the birds of winter that will be visiting feeders in the Amherst area and what foods will best attract them.

(Please call the Center at 256-6006 for fee information and to register.)

and now -

\$\$\$ THE PITCH \$\$\$

Congratulations! You have arrived at the end of this letter! Now the moment has come for you to avoid the aforementioned personal guilt, remorse, and self-reproach that comes with procrastination. Simply take pen in hand, fill in the blank spaces on the membership form, place it (if you want to be a member), the signed release form (if you want to go on field trips), the signed Rare Bird Alert form (if you want to be alerted), and a signed personal check, or equivalent made payable to the Hampshire Bird Club (if you want us to take you seriously) in a stamped envelope and return to me, Sally Venman, 43 Ridgecrest Road, Amherst, MA 01002. And PRESTO --- your YEAR OF THE BIRD, 1993 - 1994, will become a reality! If you wish to be on the Rare Bird Alert, note that I need to receive that form by October 1. If you prefer to join at the first meeting, please bring your completed forms with you - saves wear and tear on your easily confused secretary.

If by any chance you could possibly have any questions after plowing through the above illumination, other than "why does she write so much?" please feel free to call me at 549-1098, or our president Jan Ortiz at 549-1768.

Sincerely,

Sally -

Sally Venman, Secretary

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB
October, 1993



Dear Friends -

October -- Ah! -- Autumn, the fall of the year, harvest time, the "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" -- frosty mornings -- crisp sun-filled afternoons -- wood fires -- tart apples -- children dancing around carved pumpkins, singing merry pumpkin songs, and - - -

!!! Christmas Catalogs !!!

Isn't it comforting to receive a personal letter from a Bird Board which understands your needs and puts you first in ALL seasons! Let us make your month by offering the following:

The next meeting of the Club will be held on Monday, October 18, 7:30 pm, at the Hitchcock Center. Over the years we have been privileged to bring to the Club some outstanding speakers. One of the most interesting, knowledgeable and entertaining of these is Noble Proctor. We are delighted to welcome him back for the third consecutive year to present his program on the birds and the natural history of Costa Rica. Noble is a professor at Southern Connecticut State University where he teaches ornithology, botany and biogeography. He is a professional photographer and author (five books on birds), and a popular trip leader (sixty-two countries over twenty-two years). His in-depth knowledge of Costa Rica's bird life and his tremendous enthusiasm promise to make this program a memorable experience for birders and natural history buffs alike, especially if dream-plans include a trip to this rich area. Because parking at the Center is limited, car-pooling to the meeting would be helpful. (There is some extra parking at the Common School just behind Hitchcock.) I remind you that parking along the driveway is permitted on the North side only.

On Monday, November 8, John Hutchison will speak on a subject of local interest when he presents his program entitled "Changing Bird Demographics in Western Massachusetts." And on Monday, December 13, we gather for the holiday party when members show their own natural history slides, plans are made for the annual Christmas Bird Counts, and we eat ourselves silly. Details will be in future mailings.

FIELD TRIPS

Saturday, October 16: Birding the Connecticut Coastline with Byron Butler (203-453-1965). Call local "arranger" Bob Bieda at 527-2623 for more information and to sign up.

Saturday, October 30: Hot Line Trip -- Morris Lainer will pick a rare bird to chase. Call Morris at 527-9412 to save yourself a spot.

IF YOU HAVE TOLD SCOTT SUMNER AT SOME TIME, ANY TIME, THAT YOU PLAN ON JOINING THE GROUP AT MONHEGAN IN MAY, 1994, DON'T ASSUME THAT HE REMEMBERS. DON'T ASSUME THAT YOU ARE ON THE LIST. AS OF NOW, NO ONE IS!!!!

Scott has a clean sheet of paper and is taking, as of now, reservations for the annual Monhegan Island Memorial Day weekend in May. It is very important that all who want to go, even those who have gone every year before this, get in touch with him and get on the list. It seems early to be announcing this trip, but it is extremely popular and fills quickly. You don't want to be left out because you haven't called him.

We leave from Port Clyde, Maine, on Friday and spend all day Saturday and Sunday on the Island enjoying the migrating birds, the spring wild flowers, hiking, eating, laughing and having a wonderful "escape." We return to the mainland on Monday. The cost is approximately \$180.00 per person plus shared gas costs to Port Clyde, parking and baggage fees, tips, lunches and snacks, and an optional lobster dinner on the Island. Call Scott at 253-7486 to learn more and/or to be put on the list.

I'll be sending monthly reminders of field trips in future newsletters but you might want to take a moment to look over the enclosed list of trips through March and mark your calendar for those that especially interest you.

Be sure to call the HBC VOICE (WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS VOICE OF AUDUBON), the recorded telephone service, operated and updated weekly by Scott Sumner. You will learn what birds have been seen in the area and hear about events of interest to birders, special programs or field trips that may not have been covered in newsletters. To receive this information call 253-2218. Check it regularly. If you have bird sightings you wish to report call 256-1836. Scott asks that when reporting you leave your name and phone number, identify the bird(s), and say when and where spotted and how many.

HITCHCOCK PROGRAMS

(call the Center at 256-6006 for more information)

WINTER BIRDS AT YOUR FEEDER: Thursday, October 14, 7:30 - 9:00 pm. Jan Ortiz, President of the HBC will give a slide show on the birds of winter that will be visiting feeders in the Amherst area and what foods will best attract them. There is a fee.

EXPLORING HAWK & OWL PELLETS: Saturday, December 11, 10:00 - 11:30 am. Bill Hill, Naturalist, Guide & Photographer will search for local natural history facts and secrets by exploring pellets from local birds of prey. Recommended for children 7 years old and up, with an adult friend. Free.

MISCELLANEOUS

I thought it might be useful for you to know the names and phone numbers of the HBC Board members and other illustrious personages should you have suggestions, questions or concerns. Board meetings are open to all members. Volunteers are always welcome. Let one of us know what interests you.

Officers:

Jan Ortiz (Pres.) 549-1768; Pat Lynch (V.P. & Program Chair) 549-5823; Allan Richards (Treasurer) 665-2761; and Sally Venman (Sec'y & Membership) 549-1098 .

Members at Large:

Bob Bieda (Field Trip Chair) 527-2623; Paul Champlin 253-5047; Morris Lainer 527-9412; Jim Marcum 549-1613; and Scott Surner 253-7486.

Others:

Anne Cann 253-7753 and Shirley Hilborn 549-1362 share commissary duties, bringing us tasteful goodies each month; and Marilyn Gonter 549-6666 is the woman behind the gift store counter. All three would be very happy to have extra help!

Manomet Bird Observatory Birders' Exchange update:

Equipment donated by birders has been distributed to at least twenty-three environmental organizations in nine countries throughout Central and South America. Our old binoculars and field guides are now at work in the hands of Latin American biologists and teachers helping to protect birds, preserve habitats and educate the public on conservation issues. In addition to the continued need for binoculars, scopes, tripods and field guides, there is real need for field equipment -- backpacks, knapsacks, small tents, sleeping bags, compasses, etc. Two outdated computers were donated through our club last year and were tremendously appreciated. If you or your office or company

has used or outdated audio-visual equipment or computers no longer in use this would be a wonderful place to send them. The MBO is non-profit and you can get tax credit for such items. Jan Ortiz at 549-1786 is the local contact. Julie Sibbing is the contact at MBO and can be reached at (508)224-6521.

HELP -- Last year, someone in our Club gave Jan binoculars (Tasco - Zip 8X30 in a zippered case). Unfortunately she did not get the donor's name. Please let her know who you are as Manomet likes to have the names of people who make the donations.

The fifth annual statewide Massachusetts Birders' meeting, co-hosted by the Massachusetts Audubon Society and the Hoffman Bird Club will take place on Saturday, November 20, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm at Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield. This informative day of bird-related presentations and discussions (mysteries of bird migration with Kenneth Able, ravens in Massachusetts, birds in art, status of Massachusetts grassland birds, Bicknell's thrushes in New England, developing young birders, and others) is open to all birders. The \$20.00 fee includes a buffet lunch. Send a check made out to Massachusetts Audubon Society; c/o Conservation Department; South Great Road; Lincoln, MA 01773. For further information, call 617-259-9506, x7401 or x7407.

When there is extra room in the Newsletter it is your secretary's policy to pass on information that she feels would be of interest to our membership. Unfortunately, October is a slow month. I do, however, find one date I'll bet you have forgotten to circle. Two events are celebrated on this day. Come October 15 we shall sound the fanfare and beat the drum announcing *World Poetry Day* and *National Grouch Day*. The possibilities are endless. Imagine taking a grouch to a poetry-reading. Send your favorite grouch a word-rhyming dictionary. Give the family grouch the job of writing rhymed couplets to put in fortune cookies for the festive dinner celebration. Or just read poetry grouchily to your favorite person. It really puzzles me that Hallmark hasn't gotten hold of this one.

If you are still disappointed that this letter was not a Christmas Catalog, let me remind you of Decal (\$1.25), Patch (\$3.00), and T-shirt (\$10.00).

GO GET THOSE SPARROWS!!!!

Sally -

Sally, your secretary

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB — NOVEMBER, 1993

Since your secretary and her word processor are barely on speaking terms this month, a short and sweet postcard will give you timely reminders. The HBC will hold its regular MONTHLY MEETING on Mon., November 8, 7:30 pm at the Hitchcock Center. John Hutchison, Western Mass birder and field trip leader will present a slide program entitled "Changing Bird Demographics in Western Massachusetts." His program on the birds of our area will be liberally sprinkled with interesting trivia about how the birds were discovered, how they got their names and what changes have taken place over the years.

FIELD TRIPS: Sun., 11/14 -- the Berkshire Lakes and Berry Mountain with Tom Gagnon (584-6353). Sat., 11/20 -- Cape Cod with Paul Champlin (253-5047). Sat., 12/4 -- Cape Anne and Plum Island with Morris Lainer (527-9412). Call leaders for more information. Check the HBC VOICE (253-2218) to learn what birds are being seen.

FROM THE "FEEDER": The refreshment table is off to a great start thanks to Ged Dorman, Penny Beebe, Shirley Hilborn, and Anne Cann, providers of the goodies. If others would like to contribute and are not already on the list (from the membership form) call Sally Venman (549-1098). At each meeting there is a can on the goodie table asking for \$\$\$\$. If you are a refreshment enjoyer, please help cover the expenses by feeding the can. Suggestions about the food? Call Anne Cann (253-7753) or Shirley Hilborn (549-1362), the Culinary Captains.

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

December 1993

"THE GREAT DAY COMETH" echoes across winter-locked fields.

AHHHHH

At 3:00 am she stands motionless by a railroad crossing listening for the owl's call. Could it be a Long-eared? No, it's the wind gusting to 50 mph. At dawn they trudge numbly through open fields with expectant ears listening for a sparrow's "chip." Possibly a Clay-colored? No, another Savannah. At sunset he plods wearily and hungrily, eyes glazed with excitement. The climactic moment of the day has arrived as our searcher zeros in on and begins the count of starlings flying to roost in the trees along the Connecticut: 5,432, -33, -34, -35, -36, . . .

WOW

Yup -- it's that time again. The Annual CHRISTMAS COUNT down is upon us and will be plotted and planned at our next monthly meeting Monday, December 13, 7:30 pm. For the record, the count is a census of birdlife taken annually at the end of the year across the Continent. It was started in 1899 as an alternative to the traditional Christmas "side hunt," a time when hunters would go out after Christmas dinner, chose sides and compete to see which group could shoot the most birds. The count is sponsored by the National Audubon Society and is undertaken by volunteers who count not only the different species of birds but also the actual number of individuals. This major information gathering event has thousands of birdwatchers participating. Data fed into the computer gives densities of wintering bird populations and points out cyclical movements and evidence of change in populations. When studied over the years, it is helpful in detecting trends and pinpointing problems.

You don't have to be an expert and you don't have to count all day. In fact, you can participate by simply counting birds at your feeders in the warmth of your home. If you are a beginner, you can be put with a more experienced birder. Our local count on Sunday, December 19 covers an area on both sides of the river. There will be a potluck supper at Arcadia at 6:15 p.m. when the day's count of the whole area will be compiled. A fee of \$5.00 per person goes to *American Birds* to help cover costs of compiling and publishing the results.

If you are interested in participating but can't attend the meeting, please call Jan Ortiz (549-1768) for information and assignment. There will be similar counts for Springfield on December 18 (call Mort Bates at 783-6411), for Greenfield on December 26 (call Mark Fairbrother at 367-2695) and for Quabbin on January 1 (call Scott Sumner at 253-7486).

The meeting on Monday, December 13, at the Hitchcock Center at 7:30 p.m. is the annual holiday party when members

have the opportunity to tell their Big Bird Stories and show their own natural history slides -- any natural history subject is welcome but not more than ten slides, please. It is also a time when we get an early start on holiday eating. We are all asked to bring a snack or dessert to share. The Christmas Count planning will follow the meeting.

Mark your 1994 calendars now so as not to miss Tom Ricardi on Monday, January 10; Mark Lynch and Sheila Carroll on Monday, February 14; and Bill Burt on Monday, March 14.

Several field trips are planned to give you a jump start on your year list, or to help you fulfill your New Year's Resolution to bird more.

On Sunday, January 2 be ready for the famous BIRD BLITZ for TWELVE CHRONIC LISTERS with Scott Surner (253-7486). It's a great way to start the year and coming just after the Christmas Counts, Scott should know where to find the birds.

On Saturday, January 8 Bob Bieda (527-2623) will lead a trip to the North Shore.

On Saturday, January 22 Jeff Johnstone (508-249-9052) will conduct an evening Saw-whet Owl search (8:00 pm to Midnight).

On Saturday, January 29 Al Richards (665-2761) searches for waterfowl from Falmouth to Plymouth.

And -- on Saturday February 5 Scott Surner (253-7486) will be coordinating the annual Roadside Raptor Count. Viewing raptors from the warmth of a car makes winter birding especially appealing.

The Board is investigating the possibility of sponsoring a trip to Costa Rica in March or April of 1995. If this works out we will need to make a commitment to the tour company very soon. If interested, be thinking about this so you could make a decision once the final information is available.

We have good news concerning the HBC library which has been sitting idle, disorganized and unused for some time. Thanks to HBC member Shirley Hilborn who with help from the staff at Hitchcock has found a place for the library at the Center. In order to expand and update our collection, she has compiled a list of titles that the Club will purchase. Most of the Lane Guides and standard Field Guides will be available as will other current books of interest to birders. The books will be for our members' use only. This project will be up and running by the January meeting when a complete list of books will be available.

If any of you have bird books or magazines you would like to donate to the collection she would be delighted to receive them. Contact her (549-1362) up to the middle of January when Shirley and husband Bob will be going on sabbatical leave. She will resume library custodianship when she returns in the fall. Meanwhile, she is looking for someone who would enjoy helping out in the interim. Give her a call to get more information.

While we are on the subject of needing help, Shirley's leaving leaves Anne Cann alone, sequestered, and lonely behind the refreshment table (are you really sure you want to do this, Shirley?). It would be wonderful if Anne could have a temporary assistant to help her through June. I don't believe this is a particularly arduous job. Call Anne at 253-7753 to find out what is involved.

The Hitchcock Nature Stop gift shop has been transformed. There are many bird books and items of interest to natural history buffs of all ages. Remember that HBC members enjoy a 10% discount. If what you want isn't in stock it can usually be ordered. HBC member Marilyn Gonter will be at the December meeting at 7:00 pm to help you make your selections. The Center (and gift shop) is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 to 5:00 and on Saturday from 11:00 to 3:00. By shopping there you are not only buying quality at a discount but you are also helping the Center in its work.

Jan Ortiz has asked me to tell those of you on the Rare Bird Alert telephone tree that if you want extra copies to please call her. If you joined the HBC after the Rare Bird Alert telephone tree was set up and would like to be included on an extended list please get in touch with Jan (549-1768) by January 10.

And if you haven't already done so and wish to subscribe to *Bird News of Western Massachusetts* at \$4.00 a year send a check made out to Hampshire Bird Club to Al Richards, 7 South Main St., Sunderland, MA 01375 by December 31. Your first issue will arrive later this winter.

We still have not received the patch with the correct HBC logo on it. Jim Marcum has had quite an adventure, maybe nightmare is the better word, getting the right goods out of the patch company. It will be here soon we hope.

Enclosed with this letter is the list of updated Rare Bird Alert numbers to call across the country. Whether planning a trip or just fed up with winter life, it's fun to find out what is being seen in far-away places. To enhance your winter feeder viewing pleasure you'll find a Feeder Check List. This is just for fun - we aren't doing a survey. Get copies of the chart made at your local copy place so recording can continue past January.

And, finally, coming next month (if the computer gods remain friendly), new members will receive the NEW MEMBERS PACKET with all kinds of wonderful information available only through HBC! Oh -- be patient new members. All members can expect a copy of Scott Surner's favorite game -- The Eight Question Birding Game, or "How to Keep Your Friends While Showing Off Your Birding Knowledge" as told to and translated by Lynn Rubinstein. And I'll have a list of the membership with addresses and phone numbers as recorded by you on your membership form. Call me (549-1098) if there have been changes I do not have.

Wishing you a very happy holiday season
and a peaceful new year full of birds.
Sally