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NOTES

CORRECTION TO NBR 52:13 (FALL OCCURRENCE REPORT). Toward the end of the second line of text (Saunders) the word "unusual" should be "usual."

DIPPER. In late September or early October 1982 I saw a Dipper on wood stacked in my yard, near the business center of Stanton. The bird was about 6 to 8 feet from my window, and sat on the woodpile for about 10 minutes. I have seen these birds on mountain streams and could hardly believe my eyes. I didn't report it sooner because I didn't know where to send the report.

— *Bruce P. Jundt, 708 Jackpine, Stanton, Nebraska 68779*

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD. On 17 September 1983 I saw a Mockingbird in the shelter belt on our farm. It was in thick cover and I got within 10 feet of it. It had a clear breast, tanish color, patch on its wing and white sides to the tail. It definitely was not a Shrike.

— *Mike Erickson, R.R. 2, Wayne, Nebraska 68787*

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER. On 8 October 1983 I saw a female Black-throated Blue Warbler in our shelter belt. Mark and Ed Brogie and Layne Johnson were able to get out and see the bird after I found it. We saw the white "pocket handkerchief" spot on the wing, the dark cheek, eye stripe, and half-moon under the eye.

— *Mike Erickson, R.R. 2, Wayne, Nebraska 68787*

WORM-EATING WARBLER. On 26 April 1984 Layne Johnson, John Chase, Paul Pearson and I saw a Worm-eating Warbler in the shelter belt on our farm 8 miles north and 1 mile west of Wayne. We saw it many times in bushes, on the ground and in the trees (never going very high), for about an hour. We noted the black stripes on the head, the buffy-orangish belly, and olive back.

— Mike Erickson, R.R. 2, Wayne, Nebraska 68787

COMMON REDPOLLS. This (January 1984) is the year for Common Redpolls! The last I saw of them was in winter 1979-80. Unlike then, when they ground-fed below the kitchen window, this year I have two feeders hanging directly outside the window, and it has been a treat to observe these handsome arctic birds more closely. Wintering over this year, too, have been several Harris Sparrows.

— Doug G. Thomas, 1035 Mississippi Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska 69301

BURT CO. We have five feeders for seeds, and four suet feeders, and have lots of birds with all the cold weather. Among the unusual ones is a Tufted Titmouse. We've had only one here before, about 15 years ago. At the suet feeder we've had an immature Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. We'd never seen one of these before. Another first for us was Evening Grosbeaks. They came 31 December 1983 and were here for just a week. I never saw more than 2 males and 2 females, and never all 4 at once. Another unusual sighting was the pair of Cooper's Hawks which visited daily during that coldest 10 days or so around Christmas. We saw them catch the smaller birds which were feeding on the ground near our windows, and we hoped that they took House Sparrows, of which we have a surplus! One of the Hawks was in mature plumage, the other in immature.

— Kathleen True, Box 129, Decatur, Nebraska 68020

REPORT FROM MINDEN. On 23 October, 1983 my cousin Ropert Spicknall and I saw a Prairie Falcon, north of town. On 25 January, 1984 Robert saw a Northern Shrike at a carcass on the highway west of town. On 4 February we went up to the Platte and saw 2 Bald Eagles and on 25 February we saw 3 up there. On 15 February we saw Green-winged Teal on a roadside pond, Shovelers on the same pond 15 March, and 15 April and a White Egret there. It took off, flying away from us, shortly after we stopped, and the only mark that we noted was the buffy on it. Robert thought it was too big for a Cattle Egret, but no other seems to fit. Robert saw a Great Blue Heron 6 April, and we both saw one 15 April. On 15 March I saw a Peregrine Falcon, and on 30 April a Turkey Vulture. During the winter, with the ground completely snow covered, the roadsides became about the only place birds could find anything to eat. Hundreds of Crows, thousands of Lapland Longspurs, and a good sprinkling of Meadowlarks literally lines the shoulders of N 10.

— Harold Turner, Box 333, Minden, Nebraska 68959

HAND FEEDING. In winter of 1982 I decided that I would hand feed Black-capped Chickadees, but they refused to cooperate. They lined up on the flowering crab apple tree from which I'd hung a Schooner feeder. Several efforts (in below zero weather) ended in failure. The first Sunday of February 1982 I tried again, with the same line-up of Chickadees in the higher branches. At the same time Pine Siskins crowded another feeder, a hanging saucer, nearby. One landed and displaced another until one more than the accumulated Pine Siskins would tolerate arrived. A male, displaced by a female, lighted in my near frost-bitten hand and ate several minutes from the unroasted sunflower seeds in my palm. It was magic! From that day on I could attract Pine Sisking without effort, if I controlled my impatient nature. Winter of 1983 I continued the practice. Some of the magic was gone: Pine Siskins will come to anyone's hand, I decided, it was so easy. (A male Pine Siskin took umbrage at my thumb wiggling in front of him and not only put on the full aggression display but pecked at the "intruder"! I set a new goal: attract the more skitterish American Goldfinches that came in with the Pine Siskins. Magic again! Several tries, my patience stretched more than I thought possible, a male came in for just one brief moment, long enough to eat one seed and fly off with another.

— Doug G. Thomas, 1035 Mississippi Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska 69301