

12-1984

“Notes” from *Nebraska Bird Review* (December 1984) 52(4)

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebbirdrev>

 Part of the [Ornithology Commons](#), [Poultry or Avian Science Commons](#), and the [Zoology Commons](#)

---

“Notes” from *Nebraska Bird Review* (December 1984) 52(4) (1984). *Nebraska Bird Review*. 1210.  
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebbirdrev/1210>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Nebraska Bird Review by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

## NOTES

EARLY NESTING WOOD DUCKS. On 7 May 1983 I found a female Wood Duck with newly-hatched ducklings at Cedar Island, a property along the Platte River in Sarpy County owned by Metropolitan Utilities District. On 12 May 1984 I found another Wood Duck hen with ducklings (I believe she was taking them from nest to water for the first time). These are early nestings for Nebraska. I had assumed in the past that the reason for this early nesting was the availability of nesting boxes, but the personnel at Cedar Island informed me that the boxes had not been used either year, so the Wood Ducks are using natural cavities.

— *Ruth C. Green, 506 West 31st Avenue, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005*

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER NEST. On 20 June 1984 I saw Great Crested Flycatchers nesting in a bluebird box. This was at Beaver Lake, Cass Co.

— *Ruth C. Green, 506 West 31st Avenue, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005*

**LAZULI BUNTING.** I saw a male Lazuli Bunting by the railroad tracks at the foot of Child's Hollow in Fontenelle Forest, Sarpy Co., on 14 May 1984. I could see the cinnamon band on the chest and the white belly.

— Ray Korpi, 1002 Dogwood Court, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005

(Unfortunately, this record did not get into the 1984 Spring Occurrence Report, NBR 52:51.) It would have changed the Douglas-Sarpy total species to 227 species, but not change the overall total.)

**GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW IN BOX BUTTE COUNTY.** Around eight o'clock 25 November 1984 I was watching the monster flock of House Sparrows flying in and out of my backyard feeding areas when I noticed one moving about like a White-crowned Sparrow - broad hops, tail at an angle, in short, not moving with the flock.

Using my 7×35 binoculars I singled this individual out, and thought I caught a yellow crown. Needless to say, I was pretty excited! I was approximately 30 feet away, perhaps more, from the flock, and looking through a less than optically perfect kitchen window, so I went out to my garage (makes a wonderful "blind") to get a closer look. Within a few minutes, and after I chased a cat away, the flock came back in. This time the Golden-crowned Sparrow took the long route over - apple tree, patio, tomato patch, then to the salad vegetable patch where I've set up water, a cottonwood limb and dried sunflower plants for perching, etc. - but gave me a very good look about 10 ft. away. It came around off and on all day, showed up again 26 November during my lunch hour. I didn't see it today (27 November) but I didn't have much birding time.

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

(This is the fifth reported Golden-crowned Sparrow for Nebraska. Thomas Co., May 1950; Cherry Co., April 1962; Scotts Bluff Co., May 1966; and McPherson Co., October 1966; NBR 18:68, 30:50, 34:76, and 35:24. Johnsgard's *A Preliminary Checklist* listing of one of from the 1979 Christmas Count for Scotts Bluff Co. was based on a flash report which had a garble of Golden-crowned Kinglet. —Ed.)

*The golden crown is apparent in the color photograph.*



**TORPID PINE SISKIN.** On 22 February 1984 I unintentionally left a Potter trap (banding equipment) open for the night. The temperature that night was -22° F. The next morning, when I went to the patio to re-fill the feeders, I found a Pine Siskin in the trap. From all appearances it was dead; it was lying on its breast, with feathers slightly fluffed out. I was sure that it had frozen during the night. I did not remove it immediately, but decided to go back inside and finish a cup of coffee first. About 10 to 15 minutes later, as the sun peeked over the horizon, I looked back to the trap and was very surprised to see the Siskin bouncing around to get out. Just as hummingbirds and some members of the goatsucker family have been known to become torpid to survive under stressful conditions such as these, I believe this is exactly how the Siskin survived the night.

— Ruth C. Green, 506 West 31st Avenue, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005