

FIELD NOTES — 1965

Compiled by James K. Meritt

Winter finches were few during the early part of the year, as winter weather was late in arriving. Temperatures were below normal from February through April, but snowfall during the late winter was light. The spring migration was a good one, although a bit on the late side as the warm weather was late in arriving.

The summer season was pleasant, with few major temperature variations from normal. The drought continued, and this was one of the major news topics of the season. Temperatures continued about normal during the fall months. The area was again not touched by the season's crop of tropical storms.

A heavy invasion of some northern finches commenced in late October, then continued on a lesser scale for the remainder of the year. December was a pleasant month, and the mild weather then prevailing contributed to a number of record-breaking Christmas counts.

The year seemed to hold at least its share of western rarities, many of which are included in the tabulation below.

Among the more important local records for 1965 were the following:

CORY'S SHEARWATER, *Puffinus diomedea*. Barnegat Inlet, N.J., November 27 (4) (R. Rosche).

SOOTY SHEARWATER, *Puffinus griseus*. Holgate, N.J., June 5 (7) (C. Leck).

GANNET, *Morus bassana*. Barnegat Inlet, N.J., January 1 (2) (H. Goldstein, E. Greaves).

SCARLET IBIS, *Eudocimus ruber*. Belvidere, N.J., August 31 (1 seen along Delaware River by Dr. Robert L. Suter and others. There was no outward sign of the bird having been in captivity. This was very possibly the same individual observed about two weeks earlier in Saratoga County, N.Y.).

WHITE IBIS, *Eudocimus albus*. Brigantine Refuge, N.J., May 26 (1) (Mr. and Mrs. W. Cullman); Cape May, N.J., May 30 (1) (E. Litchfield); Little Creek, Del., August 27-29 (1) (B. Carrick, P. McLaughlin).

WHISTLING SWAN, *Cygnus columbianus*. Cape May Point, N.J., October 14 (80) (R. Brodey).

BARNACLE GOOSE, *Branta leucopsis*. Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., November 13 (1) (J. Alcock, R. Paul).

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, *Anser albifrons*. Newark, Del., January 1 (1) (F. Lesser); Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., January 16 (1) (A. Schmiern), March 15 (1) (C. Hardy), March 27 (1) (J. Carroll, J. Devlin, J. Miller), May 20 (1) (C. Hardy), November 20-30 (2, adult and imm.) (W. Faust, M. Spence); Bridgeton, N.J., December 27 (1) (S. Quickmire).

SNOW GOOSE, *Chen hyperborea*. Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., June 26 (2) (C. Atkinson, H. Saxon); Brigantine Refuge, N.J., August 29 (1) (Meritt).

FULVOUS TREE-DUCK, *Dendrocygna bicolor*. Trenton, N.J., April 16 — May 22 (3) (E. Bloor); Tuckahoe, N.J., April 25 (6) (fide D. Kunkle); Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., May 7-8 (2) (C. Hardy), June 12 (3) (C. Hardy), June 20 (14) (H. Goldstein), June 25 (19) (C. Hardy); Little Creek, Del., July 12 (8) (S. Speck); Cape May, N.J., May 30 — June 1 (3) (W. Bailey, A. Brady, E. Choate), November 2 (1) (E. Choate); Brigantine Refuge, N.J., August 15 (4) (Meritt), November 11 (1) (A. Keith, R. Sargent).

COMMON TEAL, *Anas crecca*. Tincum Wildlife Preserve, Pa., January 9 (2) (J. Carroll, P. D'Aoun, J. Miller), March 28 (2) (J. Carroll, J. Miller), April 6 (1) (J. Miller), October 21 (1) (C. Atkinson), December 7 (1) (J. Miller); Brigantine Refuge, N.J., April 11 (1) (W. Russell).

EUROPEAN WIDGEON, *Mareca penelope*. Collingswood, N.J., February 7 – March 12 (1) (J. Courtney, A. Sexauer); Brigantine Refuge, N.J., February 13 (1) (J. Miller), March 3 (3) (F. Poole), September 26 (1) (Meritt), October 30 (1) (Wonderly); Little Creek, Del., February 13 (1) (Carrick), February 28 (1) (J. Miller), March 27 (1) (J. Carroll, J. Devlin, J. Miller), April 4 (1) (S. Brooks, T. Talarowski); Cape May, N.J., October 3 (1) (W. Russell); Allentown, Pa., November 6 (1) (C. Leck).

CANVASBACK, *Aythya valisineria*. Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., June 1 (2) (C. Hardy).

COMMON EIDER, *Somateria mollissima*. Holgate, N.J., January 1 (1) (H. Goldstein, E. Greaves); Barnegat Inlet, N.J., November 27 (2) (R. Rosche).

GOSHAWK, *Accipiter gentilis*. Lake Ontelaunee, Pa., January 1 and 20 (1) (E. Poole); Roxborough, Philadelphia, Pa., January 30 (1) (F. Ulmer, Jr.); Churchville Reservoir, Pa., December 9 (1) (R. Frock).

BLACK RAIL, *Laterallus jamaicensis*. Port Norris, N.J., May 18 (1) (D. Kunkle); Cape May, N.J., June 1 (2) (A. Brady); Manahawkin, N.J., June 26 (1) (S. Harty, F. Moody, J. Quinn, G. Reynard).

COMMON GALLINULE, *Gallinula chloropus*. Tincum Wildlife Preserve, Pa., February 1-3 (1) (H. Goldstein).

GOLDEN PLOVER, *Pluvialis dominica*. Cape May, N.J., May 15 (1) (J. Cadbury); Brigantine Refuge, N.J., May 15 (1) (Moody), September 26 (1) (Meritt), November 22 (1) (C. Atkinson, H. Saxon, H. Todd); Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., May 7-9 (2) (C. Hardy, W. Russell), August 14 (2) (T. Hake); Thorofare, N.J., late September (5) (E. Manners); St. Georges, Del., October 11 (141), October 13 (158), October 16 (126), October 20 (21), October 23 (85) (H. Armistead); Tincum Wildlife Preserve, Pa., November 1 (3) (J. Miller).

UPLAND PLOVER, *Bartramia longicauda*. Sandtown, N.J., April 30 (3) (Reynard); Holland, Pa., August 15 (8) (A. Brady); Cranbury, N.J., August 18 (20) (P. Sigler); Cape May, N.J., August 25 (14) (E. McKnight); Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., August 30 (2) (C. Atkinson, H. Todd); Phila. Airport, Pa., September 7 (1) (C. Atkinson).

SPOTTED REDSHANK, *Tringa erythropus*. Brigantine Refuge, N.J., May 9 (1) (A. Brady, R. Grant, A. Kronschnabel, W. Reynolds, R. Sehl, L. Thomas) (see details in General Notes Section).

PURPLE SANDPIPER, *Erolia maritima*. Tuckerton, N.J., May 15 (3) (E. Bloor).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER, *Erolia bairdii*. Brigantine Refuge, May 9 (1) (Brady); Lake Ontelaunee, Pa., September 1-9 (1) (E. Poole); Thorofare, N.J., late September (4) (E. Manners); Penn Manor, Pa., October 5 (1) (W. Reynolds, R. Sehl, L. Sterner); St. Georges, Del., October 11 (2) (H. Armistead).

CURLEW SANDPIPER, *Erolia ferruginea*. Brigantine Refuge, N.J., May 15 (1) (E. Bloor, R. Grant); Tuckerton, N.J., May 22 (1), May 23 (2) (E. Bloor).

MARbled GODWIT, *Limosa fedoa*. Brigantine Refuge, N.J., August 21 (1) (C. Atkinson, R. Grant, H. Todd), September 25 (2) (W. Russell), September 30 (3) (J. Billings), October 16 (2) (D.V.O.C. field trip).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT, *Limosa haemastica*. Holgate, N.J., July 18 (1) (D.V.O.C. field trip); Brigantine Inlet, N.J., August 15 (2) (J. Akers); Delaware City, Del., September 27 (1) (H. Armistead, W. Russell); St. Georges, Del., October 9 (3), October 11 (2), October 13 (1), October 20 (1), October 23 (1), October 26 (1), October 29 (1) (H. Armistead).

RUFF, *Philomachus pugnax*. Tincum Wildlife Preserve, Pa., April 6 (1) (J. Miller); Brigantine Refuge, N.J., April 11 (1) (W. Parker, W. Russell), September 24 (1) (W. Russell); Lake Ontelaunee, Pa., October 1 (1) (E. Poole).

AMERICAN AVOCET, *Recurvirostra americana*. Brigantine Refuge, N.J., August 21 (6) (C. Atkinson, H. Todd), August 22 (3) (A. Brady), September 25 (11) (Russell), November 22 (1) (C. Atkinson, H. Saxon, H. Todd); Delaware City, Del., September 16 (1), September 27 (1) (H. Armistead); Tincum Wildlife Preserve, Pa., September 21 – October 5 (1) (C. Atkinson, J. Miller).

BLACK-NECKED STILT, *Himantopus mexicanus*. Little Creek, Del., July 3 (12) (C. Hardy, J. Linehan, P. Schwalbe).

RED PHALAROPE, *Phalaropus fulicarius*. Brigantine Refuge, N.J., May 8 (1) (Meritt); off Cape May, N.J., September 19 (1 with Northern) (D.V.O.C. boat trip).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE, *Steganopus tricolor*. Brigantine Refuge, May 22 (1) (E. Greaves, Meritt), May 30 (1) (C. Atkinson, H. Saxon), August 22 (1) (Brady), September 2 (1) (J. Akers); Bombay Hook Refuge, August 25 (1) (B. Carrick); Delaware City, Del., July 23 (1), August 14 (1), September 16 (1) (H. Armistead).

GLAUCOUS GULL, *Larus hyperboreus*. Tincum Wildlife Preserve, Pa., January 10 (1) (J. Carroll, J. Miller), February 16-17 (1), March 3 (1), March 28 (2) (J. Miller); Brigantine Island, N.J., January 31 (1) (Meritt); Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., February 13 (1) (Carrick).

ICELAND GULL, *Larus leucopterus*. Tincum Wildlife Preserve, Pa., January 9 (1) (J. Carroll, J. Miller); Penn Manor, Pa., February 14 (W. Reynolds); Atlantic City, N.J., March 7 (1) (J. Cadbury).

BLACK-HEADED GULL, *Larus ridibundus*. Atlantic City, N.J., early March (1) (V. Abraitys, J. Cadbury); Cape May Point, N.J., October 11-18 (1) (E. Choate); Indian River Inlet, Del., November 14 (1) (H. Armistead, W. Russell), November 27 (1) (Carrick), December 31 (1) (W. Russell).

BONAPARTE'S GULL, *Larus philadelphia*. Little Creek, Del., June 13 (1) (Hardy); Brigantine Refuge, N.J., August 21 (4) (C. Atkinson, H. Todd); Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., August 30 (6) (C. Atkinson, H. Todd).

LITTLE GULL, *Larus minutus*. Barnegat Inlet, N.J., November 27 (1) (R. Rosche); Indian River Inlet, Del., December 31 (2) (H. Armistead, D. Cutler).

KITTIWAKE, *Rissa tridactyla*. Island Beach, N.J., September 12 (1 imm.) (F. Wolfarth).

ROSEATE TERN, *Sterna dougallii*. Holgate, N.J., May 25 (2) (J. Miller).

DOVEKIE, *Plautus alle*. Bivalve, N.J., November 19 (1 found dead along road) (D. Kunkle); Beach Haven Park, N.J., November 11 (1) (F. Schmidt); Barnegat Light, N.J., November 12 (1) (F. Schmidt), December 29 (2) (J. Probst); Manasquan Inlet, N.J., November 27 (2) (E. Reimann).

BLACK GUILLEMOT, *Cepphus grylle*. Barnegat Light, N.J., February 13 (1) (H. Goldstein, E. Greaves).

SNOWY OWL, *Nyctea scandiaca*. Brigantine Island, N.J., January 2 (1) (fide A. Brady); Westville, N.J., January 12-13 (1) (E. Manners); Phila. Airport, Pa., March 14 (1) (J. Miller).

BLACK-BACKED THREE-TOED WOODPECKER, *Picoides arcticus*. Island Beach, N.J., September 28 (1 banded and photographed) (M. Warburton).

WESTERN KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus verticalis*. Cape May, N.J., September 18 (1) (Todd), September 25 (1) (C. Atkinson), September 26 (1) (J. Woodford).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax flaviventris*. Princeton, N.J., May 30 (1) (E. Bloor).

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE, *Pica pica*. Wildwood, N.J., May 19 (1 captured and photographed) (fide E. Choate).

BOREAL CHICKADEE, *Parus hudsonicus*. Lawrenceville, N.J., December (1 at feeder) (fide E. Bloor).

BEWICK'S WREN, *Thryomanes bewickii*. Newark, Del., May 7-9 (1) (W. Faust, K. Light).

VARIED THRUSH, *Ixoreus naevius*. Moorestown, N.J., November 27 — early February, 1966 (1 frequented property of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Blomquist; fourth State record, seen by many observers).

SWAINSON'S THRUSH, *Hylocichla ustulata*. Valley Forge, Pa., December 5 (1 banded) (E. Berger, Jr.).

NORTHERN SHRIKE, *Lanius excubitor*. Barnegat Light, N.J., November 27 (1) (R. Rosche).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER, *Vermivora celata*. Haverford, Pa., May 5-6 (1) (W. Russell); Cape May, N.J., September 25 (1) (C. Atkinson).

NASHVILLE WARBLER, *Vermivora ruficapilla*. Valley Forge, Pa., December 5 (1 banded) (E. Berger, Jr.).

WESTERN MEADOWLARK, *Sturnella neglecta*. Sandtown, N.J., June 22 — July 3 (1) (G. Reynard and others).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD, *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. Great Egg Harbor, N.J., July 28 (1) (Mr. and Mrs. W. Reid); Hawk Mountain, Pa., November 10 (2) (M. Broun).

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK, *Pheucticus melanocephalus*. Wenonah, N.J., February 10 — April 14 (1 at feeder of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Schwartz; seen by many observers).

PINE GROSBEAK, *Pinicola enucleator*. Ardmore, Pa., February 16 (14) (W. Russell); Strausstown, Pa., October 19 (8) (E. Poole); Hawk Mountain, Pa., November 9 (12) (Nagy); Rehoboth, Del., December 31 (1) (W. Russell).

LARK BUNTING, *Calamospiza melanocorys*. Holland Station, Bucks Co., Pa., late April — early May (1 at feeder of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Hicks) (see General Notes Section); Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., October 30 — November 30 (1, first State record) (C. Hardy and others).

LARK SPARROW, *Chondestes grammacus*. Cape May, N.J., October 3 (1) (B. Carrick).

HARRIS'S SPARROW, *Zonotrichia querula*. Wilmington, Del., October 24 (1) (C. Lewis, B. Carrick).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR, *Calcarius lapponicus*. Brigantine Refuge, N.J., April 11 (1) (Russell), November 25 (4) (Meritt).