

# Ontario Bird Records Committee Report for 1989

by  
Alan Wormington and Robert H. Curry

This is the eighth annual report of the Ontario Bird Records Committee (OBRC) of the Ontario Field Ornithologists. Published in this report are the records that were received and reviewed by the committee during 1989. A total of 226 records were assessed, of which 162 (about 72%) were found to be acceptable.

Three species new to Ontario — Magnificent Frigatebird, Broad-billed Hummingbird, and Cave Swallow — are presented, bringing the provincial total to 440 species. Added to the list of birds now known to occur in northern Ontario are Carolina Wren and Kirtland's Warbler; added to the southern Ontario list (in addition to the three new species for the entire province) is Great-tailed Grackle.

Members of the OBRC during 1989 were Ronald G. Tozer (Chairman), Robert H. Curry (non-voting Secretary), Glenn Coady, Ross D. James, Ian L. Jones, R. Douglas McRae, D. James Mountjoy, and Dennis F. Rupert.

## Changes in the review list

All records of Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) in Ontario will now be reviewed by the OBRC. Even when breeding birds are present in Ontario it is unlikely that the species exceeds the OBRC criterion of rarity, which is more than five occurrences (on average) per year. Laughing Gull has been reinstated as a species reviewed in southern Ontario. This species was removed from the review list (*Ontario Birds* 4:4) based on the major incursion which occurred in 1985. However, since that time occurrences of Laughing Gull in Ontario have actually become fewer than before the incursion, prompting its reinstatement on the review list.

## Historical records

During 1989 the OBRC assembled and processed historical records on a number of different species, the results of which are presented here. The committee has now reviewed all records (which were

documented and available) of Ivory Gull, Black Skimmer, Virginia's Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Hermit Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, and Painted Redstart in Ontario, and all records of Snowy Egret in northern Ontario.

## Species accounts

For each of the records presented in the following accounts, information on age, sex, and plumage is included if it was available and the determination was certain. Place names in italics refer to a county, regional municipality, or district in Ontario. All contributors who have provided a written description, photograph, or specimen have been credited. Contributors' names have also been underlined if they were a discoverer of the bird or birds. We encourage more observers to contribute descriptions of rarities even if they are not the first on the scene. All such contributions will be credited and always enhance the published record. Records presented in this report all pertain to sight records unless it is indicated that a photograph or specimen has been received.

In the following accounts we have made a concerted effort to determine the correct date, number, and location, etc., for each of the records presented. This information often differs from data which have been published elsewhere, and these differences

are detailed in the accounts. These differences are detailed primarily for the benefit of researchers who are often faced with a bewildering array of conflicting data, with no method of sorting out the differences unless it is clearly explained by someone more familiar with the records. Since the OBRC deals with original documents — and has a considerable amount of additional information available — we are uniquely able to present data which we deem to be correct.

In the species accounts we have provided two new features. One is the placing of the term "north only" or "south only" immediately after a species' name to indicate that records are reviewed only from that respective region of Ontario. The other addition to the accounts are the numbers (in brackets) which indicate, respectively, the number of accepted records in the current report, followed by the total number of records which have been accepted by the OBRC to date, including the current report. We realize the total-accepted number may be artificially low for some species, as numerous records (even those supported by specimen or photograph) have yet to be reviewed by the OBRC. However, these numbers will provide an easy reference to those readers wishing to know how many records have been published by the OBRC in *Ontario Birds*.

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# Accepted Records

## Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) South Only (1/10)

1988 — one first-winter immature, 19–28 May (but not observed 21–27 May inclusive), Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Kevin A. McLaughlin, Robert L. Waldhuber, Alan Wormington) — photos on file.

## Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii*) (1/2)

1980 — one first-winter immature, 19 May (not 14 May as in James 1982), Shirley's Bay, *Ottawa-Carleton* (Ian L. Jones, Robert A. Bracken).

## Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) (2/3)

1989 — one, 30 April, Hamilton Harbour, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (Robert H. Curry, Rob Z. Dobos, Wilf Yusek) — photo on file.  
— two (pair), 22 June–9 July (but not observed between these dates), Rainy River mouth (22 June) and Windy Point (9 July), *Rainy River* (Anne B. Lambert, Christopher J. Risley).

Since this species is known to nest in adjacent Minnesota at Four Mile Bay (Katherine Hirsch, pers. comm.), which is only a few kilometres from the mouth of the Rainy River, it is certainly possible that Western Grebes may eventually be found nesting in Ontario.

## Western/Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus* sp.) (1/2)

1985 — one, 31 October–2 November, Pinery Prov. Park, *Lambton* (Alfred H. Rider) — photos on file.

Figure 1: Two immature American White Pelicans at Wheatley Harbour, *Kent / Essex*, present 2–12 November 1989. Photo by Alan Wormington.

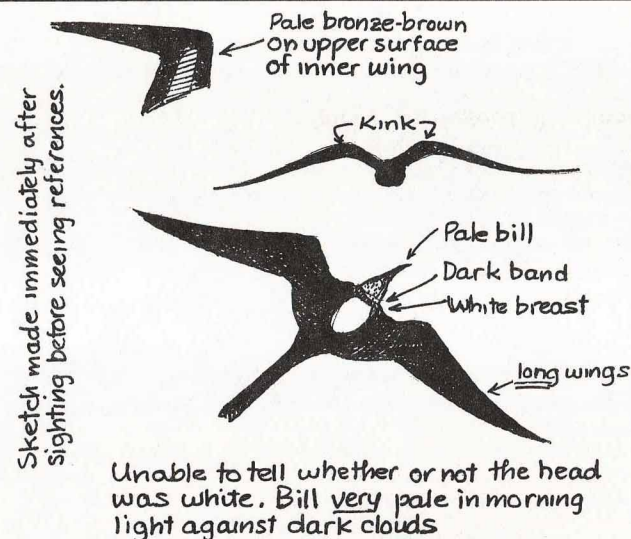


Figure 2: Ontario's first Magnificent Frigatebird (third-stage juvenile) at Point Edward, *Lambton*, on 28 September 1988. Drawings by Dennis F. Rupert.

## Northern Gannet (*Morus bassanus*) (1/7)

1987 — one juvenile, 25 October–30 November, Fifty Point (25 October, 8 and 14 November) and Van Wagner's Beach (25 October), *Hamilton-Wentworth*; Bronte, *Halton* (25 October); Clarkson, *Peel* (25 October); Toronto, *Metropolitan Toronto* (1–2 and 7–8 November); and Frenchman's Bay (8 and 30 November) and Thicksen Point, *Durham* (17–21 November) (Robert H. Curry).

A compilation of all sightings of Northern Gannet during the fall of 1987 (detailed by Glenn Coady) demonstrated that there were never any duplicate sightings (or sighting of more than one bird), indicating a single, very mobile individual covering the western extreme of Lake Ontario was involved. For example, on 8 November the bird was recorded at 0900h at Frenchman's Bay, noon at Toronto (Leslie Spit) and sometime in the afternoon at Fifty Point.

## American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) South Only (3/17)

1989 — one, 24 June, Sky Lake, *Bruce* (John B. Miles).  
— two immatures, 2–12 November, Walpole Island, *Lambton* (2 November), and Wheatley Harbour, *Kent / Essex* (2–12 November) (Alan Wormington, James N. Flynn) — photos on file.  
1988 — five, 31 May, Algonquin Prov. Park (Opeongo Lake), *Nipissing* (Leon M. Carl).

## Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) (1/1)

1988 — one third-stage juvenile, 28 September, Point Edward, *Lambton* (Alfred H. Rider, Dennis F. Rupert) — photos on file.

This Magnificent Frigatebird, the first to be recorded in Ontario, was one of many recorded at numerous sites between the Gulf of Mexico and the Great Lakes, a direct result of Hurricane Gilbert, reportedly the most powerful hurricane of the 20th century. The species was also recorded in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, West Virginia, and western Virginia following the storm (Lehman 1989).

**Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*) North Only (1/5)**

1989 — three (not one bird as in *American Birds* 43:471), 13–14 May, Windy Point, *Rainy River* (Alan Wormington).

**Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) North Only (3/3)**

1989 — one first-summer immature, 13 May, Sable Island, *Rainy River* (Alan Wormington) — photos on file.  
 1988 — one adult, 24–26 May, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay* (J.C. Berglund) — photos on file.  
 1971 — one adult, "May" (exact date not known), Attawapiskat River mouth, *Kenora* (Raphael Wheesk) — specimen (head and legs) in ROM: #110703.

The above records represent the only known occurrences of Snowy Egret in northern Ontario.

Figure 3: First-summer immature Snowy Egret at Sable Island, *Rainy River*, 13 May 1989. Photo by Alan Wormington.

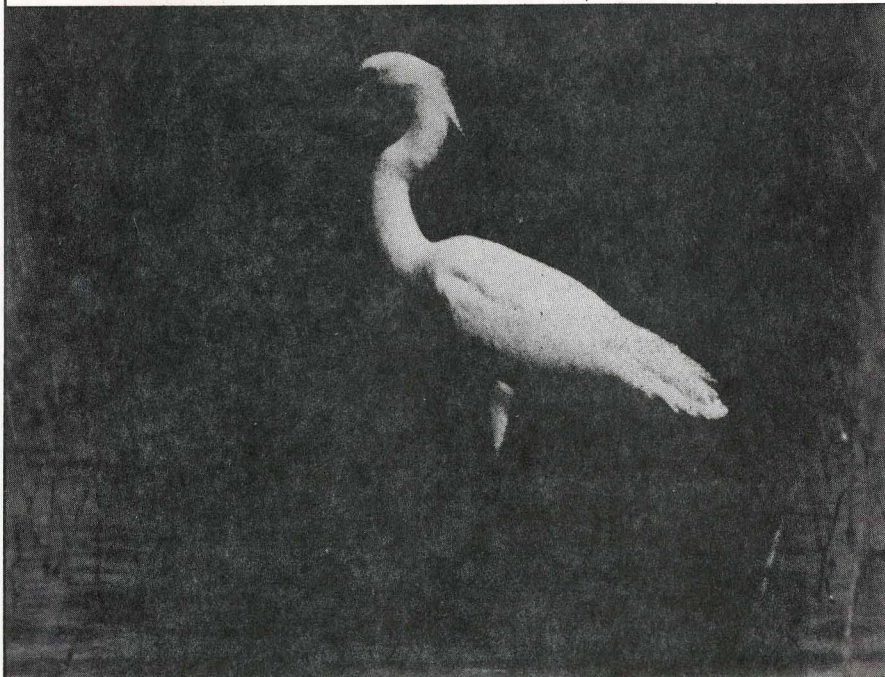


Figure 4: Adult Glossy Ibis at Leamington / Sturgeon Creek, *Essex*, present 27 April–1 May 1989. Photo by Alan Wormington.

**Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) (2/22)**

1989 — one adult, 23 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Alan Wormington).  
 1988 — one adult, 4–21 April, Rattray Marsh Cons. Area, *Peel* (4 April), and Cobourg, *Northumberland* (6–21 April) (William F. Smith) — photos on file.

**Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) (2/16)**

1989 — two first-summer immatures, 30 August–9 September, St. Clair Nat. Wildlife Area, *Kent* (Alan Wormington, P. Allen Woodliffe).  
 1988 — one, 19 May, Big Creek Nat. Wildlife Area, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Barry D. Jones).

**Green-backed Heron (*Butorides striatus*) North Only (1/4)**

1989 — one, 27 May, Jackfish, *Thunder Bay* (Edward B. Poropat).

Records of the Green-backed Heron in northern Ontario are very few, with most birds (such as the one above) representing apparent spring overshoots.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) (2/19)**

1988 — one first-summer immature (not adult as in *American Birds* 42:427), 31 March–12 April, Toronto, *Metropolitan Toronto* (Greg Sadauski, Tim Dyson).  
 1988 — one adult, 17–19 May, Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area (Mallard Pond), *Dufferin* (Liz Yerex).

**Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) (2/14)**

1989 — one alternate-plumaged adult, 27 April–1 May, Leamington / Sturgeon Creek (27 April–1 May) and Hillman Marsh (28 April), *Essex* (Alan Wormington, James N. Flynn) — photos on file.

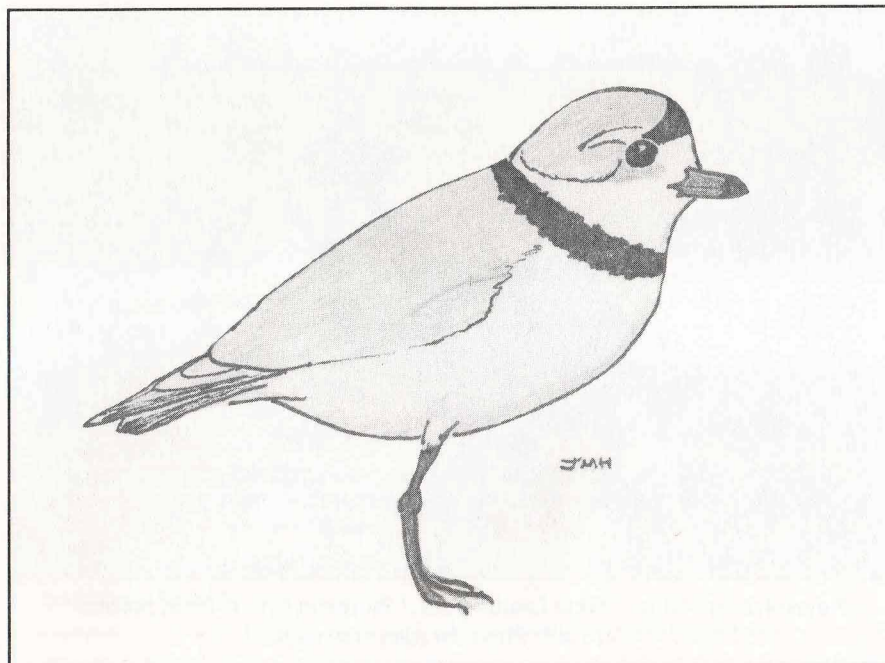


Figure 5: Piping Plover at the Long Point Flats, *Haldimand-Norfolk*, present here from 23 May–2 June 1989. Drawing (31 May) by James M. Holdsworth.

— one basic-plumaged adult, 4–16 October, Wheatley Harbour, *Essex* (Alan Wormington, Donald G. Cecile, James N. Flynn) — photos on file.

**dark ibis sp. (*Plegadis* sp.) (2/9)**

1989 — one, 29 September, Pickering, *Durham* (Margaret J. Bain).

1988 — one, 23 October, Holiday Beach Cons. Area, *Essex* (Allen T. Chartier).

**Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) South Only (2/20)**

1989 — 18 *frontalis* (14 adults + 4 immatures), 22 March–1 April (not beginning 23 March as in *Wood Duck* 42:156), St. Anns, *Niagara* (Robert H. Curry, Glenn Coady) — photos on file.

1988 — one adult, 8 October–30 November, Ottawa, *Ottawa-Carleton* (Larry E. Neily).

**Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) (9/37)**

1989 — one male, 9–14 April, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Alan Wormington).

— one male, 19 April–13 May (not beginning 29 April as in McCracken 1989), Port Dover, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Barry D. Jones).

— one male, 6 May, Townsend, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Rohan A. van Twest).

— one male, 22 May–3 June, Port Perry, *Durham* (Ronald J. Pittaway).

— one male, 4–7 June (not only 4 June as in *American Birds* 43:1311), Bright's Grove, *Lambton* (Dennis F. Rupert) — photo on file.

— one male, 7 October, Kingston, *Frontenac* (Gustave J. Yaki).

— one adult male, 8–19 October, Oshawa, *Durham* (Margaret J. Bain).

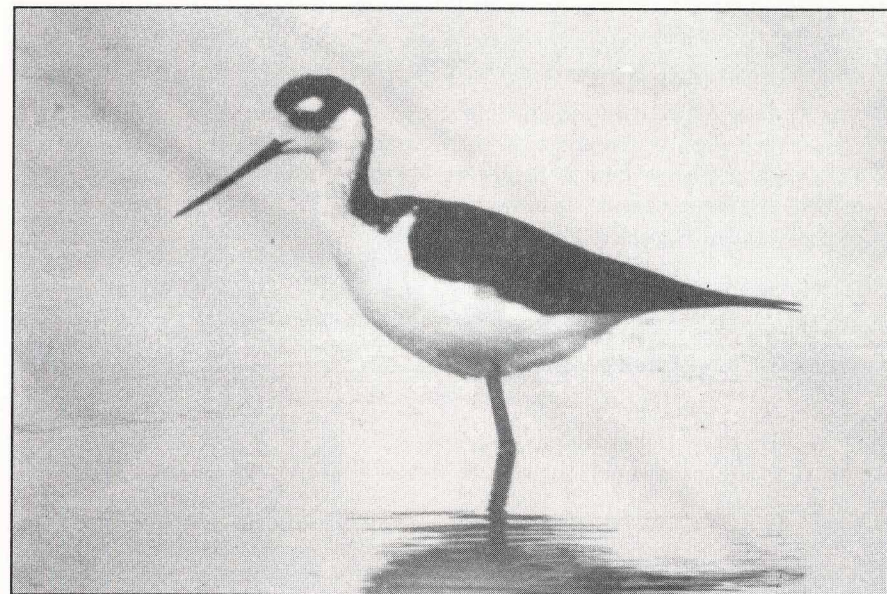


Figure 6: Black-necked Stilt at Stoney Point, *Essex*, present 28 May–16 June 1989. Photo by James M. Flynn.



Figure 7: Black-necked Stilt at Stoney Point, *Essex*, present 28 May–16 June 1989. Photo by Alan Wormington.

- 1988 — one male, 30 March, Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* (Margaret J. Bain).  
 — one adult male, 11 September–29 October, Britannia, *Ottawa-Carleton* (Tony F. M. Beck).

The Eurasian Wigeon at Britannia has returned to the same location for three consecutive years; in addition to being present on 11 September–29 October 1988 it was also present on 26 September–27 October 1987 (*Ontario Birds* 7:45) and 4 September–15 October 1989 (*American Birds* 44:82). Fall records of the Eurasian Wigeon in Ontario are very few.

**Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) North Only (1/7)**

- 1989 — one immature male, 29 March, Atikokan, *Rainy River* (David H. Elder).

**Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) (1/11)**

- 1989 — one adult, 18 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (James A. Smith).

**Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) (1/19)**

- 1989 — one light phase adult, 15 September, Holiday Beach Cons. Area, *Essex* (Michael A. Kielb).

**Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) South Only (1/16)**

- 1988 — two intermediate phase, 21 December, Tobermory, *Bruce* (John B. Miles).

**Purple Gallinule (*Porphyryla martinica*) (1/6)**

- 1989 — one adult male, 29 November, Meaford, *Grey* (Fred Moore, David W. Fidler) — photos on file; specimen (skin) in ROM: #156040.

**Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) South Only (5/15 — post 1980)**

- 1989 — two adults, 12 May, one since 7 May, Turkey Point, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Rohan A. van Twest).  
 — one adult, 10–14 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (James E. Hayden, Glenn Coady) — photos on file.  
 — one adult, 14–19 May, Presqu'île Prov. Park, *Northumberland* (Dennis Duckworth, Michele Mougeot, Gordon Bellerby, Joe Serensits, Kathryn Lawless).  
 — one territorial adult male, 23 May–15 June (but not observed 3–14 June inclusive), Long Point Flats (23 May–2 June) and Long Point Tip (15 June), *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Alan Wormington, James M. Holdsworth).  
 1982 — six adults, 20–24 April, two to 25 April, north of Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Allen T. Chartier).

**Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) (2/5)**

- 1989 — one male (not two birds as in *American Birds* 43:1311), 28 May–16 June (not to only early June as in *American Birds* *ibid.*), Stoney Point, *Essex* (Richard A. Girardin, Alan Wormington, James N. Flynn) — photos on file.  
 — one adult female, 12–23 June, North Bay, *Nipissing* (Ronald G. Tozer, Michael W. P. Runtz) — photo on file.

The above Black-necked Stilts represent the fourth and fifth of a total of five Ontario records to date. The previous records were single birds 1 September 1955 at Frederick House Lake, *Cochrane*, and 14 October 1979 at Smithville, *Niagara* (*Ontario Birds* 4:8); and two birds 7 June 1981 at Sable Island, *Rainy River* (*Ontario Birds* 1:10). During the spring/summer of 1989 there were numerous extralimital records of Black-necked Stilts to the north and east of



Figure 8: Male American Avocet at Holiday Beach Cons. Area, *Essex*, present 1–14 November 1989. Photo by Alan Wormington.

its usual range; birds were also recorded in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

**American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) (4/29)**

- 1989 — one female, 8 October, Hillman Marsh, *Essex* (William H. DeBacs).  
 — one male, 1–14 November, Holiday Beach Cons. Area, *Essex* (Allen T. Chartier, Alan Wormington) — photos on file.  
 1988 — one alternate-plumaged adult female, 21–22 July, Dundas Marsh, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (Robert H. Curry).  
 1987 — one, 26 September–3 October (not to 13 October as in *American Birds* 42:66), Dundas Marsh (26 September) and Hamilton Harbour (1–3 October), *Hamilton-Wentworth* (William F. Smith) — photo on file.

**Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*) North Only (1/7)**

- 1988 — one adult, 13–18 May, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay* (Nicholas G. Escott) — photo on file.

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*) (1/2)**

- 1988 — one alternate-plumaged adult, 20 August, Hillman Marsh, *Essex* (Lorraine H. Foott, William H. Foott, Tim Sabo, Alan Wormington) — photo on file.

This Sharp-tailed Sandpiper represents only the second record for Ontario, the first having occurred 19 November–5 December 1975 at Dundas Marsh, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (*Ontario Birds* 4:9; see Curry 1976).

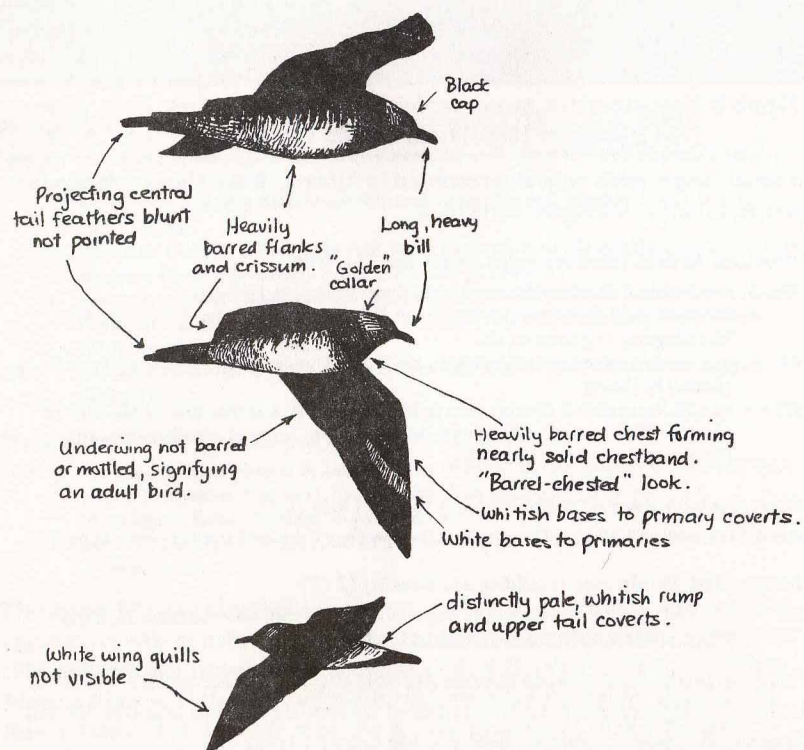
**Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) (1/8)**

1989 — one alternate-plumaged adult, 21–24 May, Stoney Point, *Essex* (B. Michael Chomysyn).

**Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) (6/14)**

- 1989 — one light phase adult, 16 September, Van Wagner's Beach, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (Rob Z. Dobos, Paul Rose, Kevin A. McLaughlin).  
 — one light phase adult, 19 October, Van Wagner's Beach, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (John L. Olmsted).  
 1988 — one juvenile, 24 September, Lake Ontario off Hamilton, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (Margaret J. Bain).  
 — one juvenile, 2 October, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Alan Wormington, Roy E. C. Baker, James P. Coey, David Milsom).  
 — one juvenile, 3 October, The Coves, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Ronald C. Ridout).  
 1987 — one light phase adult, 27 December, Point Edward, *Lambton* (Dennis F. Rupert) — photo on file.

Figure 9: Adult Pomarine Jaeger at Point Edward, *Lambton*, on 27 December 1987. Drawings by Dennis F. Rupert.

**Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) South Only (1/9)**

1987 — one light phase adult, 4 September, Big Clear Lake, *Frontenac* (Rob Swainson).

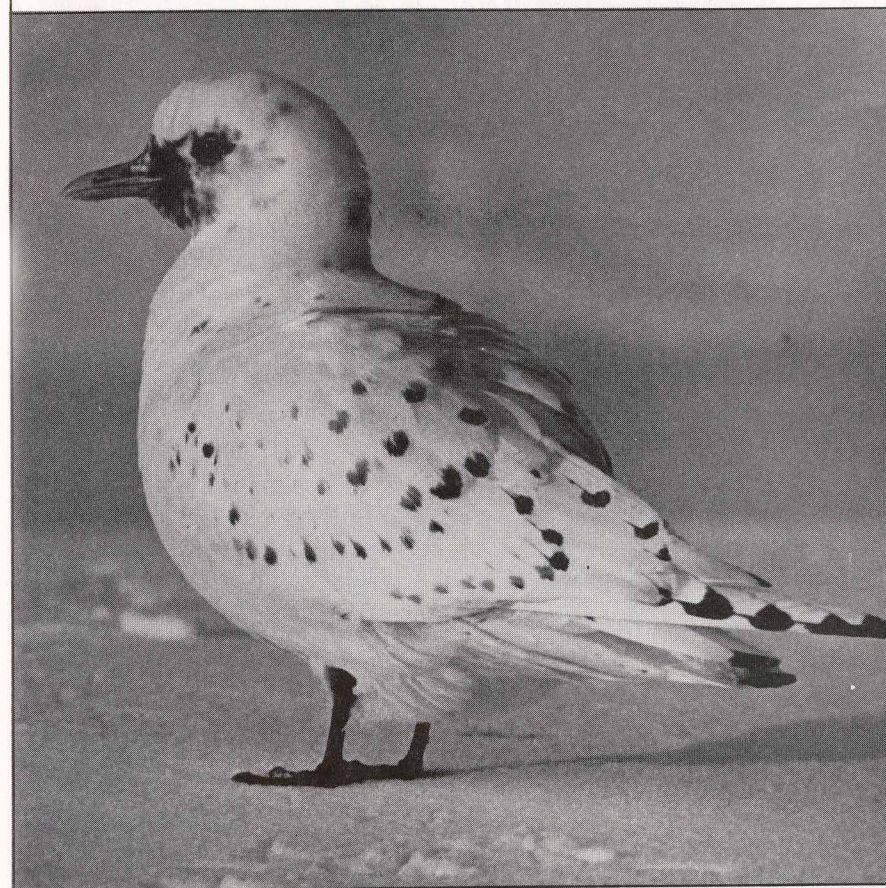
**California Gull (*Larus californicus*) (1/6)**

1988 — one first-winter immature, 18 December, Wildwood Cons. Area, *Perth / Oxford* (James M. Holdsworth).

**Ivory Gull (*Pagophila eburnea*) (16/18)**

- 1980/81 — one first-winter immature, 22 December–1 January (not only 22 December as in *American Birds* 35:296 and Speirs 1985:367), Niagara Falls, *Niagara* (Mary E. Gustafson, Robert F. Andrie, Harold H. Axtell) — photo on file.  
 1980 — one first-winter immature, 23–27 January (not only 26 January as in *American Birds* 34:269), Beaverton / Thorah Beach, *Durham* (Gordon Bellerby, Alan Wormington, William E. Zufelt) — photos on file.

Figure 10: Immature Ivory Gull at Beaverton / Thorah Beach, *Durham*, present 23–27 January 1980. Photo by Alan Wormington.



- 1977 — one first-winter immature, 9 December, Amherst Island, *Lennox & Addington* (Geoff Matthews, Margaret Matthews).
- 1975 — one first-winter immature male, "winter" (exact date not known), Winisk, *Kenora* (unknown collector) — specimen (skin and skeleton) in ROM: #126285.
- 1973/74 — one first-winter immature, 24 December–1 January (but not observed between these dates), Oshawa Harbour, *Durham* (David D. Calvert, George A. Scott, Ronald G. Tozer, Betty Pegg) — photo on file.
- 1973 — one first-winter immature, 19–27 December, London, *Middlesex* (William R. Jarman, Alan Wormington, Jo Ann MacKenzie, Marvin S. Smout, Dennis F. Rupert, Alan J. Ryff) — photos on file.
- one first-winter immature, 29–30 December (not 29–31 January as in Bull 1976:20; the bird was present 29–30 December in Ontario and then 31 December at Buckhorn Island State Park, New York), Niagara Falls, *Niagara* (William C. Vaughan, Alice E. Ulrich) — photos on file.
- 1971 — one first-winter immature, 3 January, Oshawa Harbour, *Durham* (George A. Scott).
- 1967 — one first-winter immature, 2 January, Presqu'ile Prov. Park, *Northumberland* (Douglas C. Sadler).
- 1966 — one first-winter immature, "December" (exact date not known), Fort Severn, *Kenora* (Lazarus Stoney) — specimen (spirit) in ROM: #99217.
- 1959 — one adult winter male, 15 January, Severn Lake, *Kenora* (John Brown) — specimen (skin) in ROM: #81285.
- 1956 — one first-winter immature female, found dead in "January" (exact date not known), Albany River mouth, *Cochrane* (W. B. Anderson) — specimen (skin) in ROM: #75016.
- 1948 — one first-winter immature, 28–31 December, Port Burwell, *Elgin* (Fred Bodsworth).
- 1937 — one first-winter immature female, 12 December, Cameron Lake, *Algoma* (D. E. MacMillan) — specimen (skin) in ROM: #28893.
- 1909 — one first-winter immature, "spring" (exact date not known), Fort Albany, *Cochrane* (unknown collector) — specimen (skin) in ROM: #39408.

Figure 11: Adult Sandwich Tern (with Common Tern on right) at Presqu'ile Prov. Park, *Northumberland*, present here 14–25 June 1988. Photo by Alan Wormington.



- circa 1887 — one first-winter immature, 25 December, Toronto, *Metropolitan Toronto* (William Loane) — specimen (skin) in ROM: #32.7.6.1.

A brief statement concerning the Ivory Gull at Toronto on 25 December (1887?) was published by Fleming (1906:442); the circumstances surrounding the bird at Cameron Lake on 12 December 1937 were published by Snyder (1938); and a detailed account of the bird at London on 19–27 December 1973 was published by Jarman (1974).

Previously published records of the Ivory Gull in Ontario by the OBRC are one on 13 November 1981 at Netitishi Point, Cochrane (*Ontario Birds* 1:11), and dessicated remains of one found 5 July 1985 at West Pen Island, *Kenora* (*Ontario Birds* 5:49). Other than these birds, the only other records of Ivory Gull in Ontario (which are generally considered valid but apparently are not documented) include birds at Niagara Falls, *Niagara* (1934); Hamilton Harbour, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (1952–53); Burlington, *Halton* (1953); Dundas Marsh, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (1962); Toronto, *Metropolitan Toronto* (1966); Turkey Point, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (1967); and Moosonee, *Cochrane* (1988), for a total of 25 provincial records.

#### Sandwich Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*) (2/2)

- 1988 — one alternate-plumaged adult, 24 April, Hamilton Harbour, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (Robert H. Curry).
- one alternate-plumaged adult, 17 May, Long Point Flats, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (James M. Holdsworth).
- one alternate-plumaged adult, 14–25 June, Presqu'ile Prov. Park, *Northumberland* (Ian Richards, James M. Richards, Bruno Kern, Alan Wormington) — photos on file.

Although the above records are listed separately, it is generally assumed that the observations at Hamilton Harbour and Presqu'ile Prov. Park refer to the same bird. However, it is not known how the observation at Long Point relates to these observations, as it does seem unusual for a bird like Sandwich Tern to move to a site on Lake Erie and then return again to Lake Ontario.

During the past several years there has been a peculiar pattern of Sandwich Tern records on the Great Lakes, which are the only known occurrences during this century. In chronological order these records are 1986 (11 June) at Duluth, Minnesota (Kienholz and Backstrom 1986); 1987 (31 July) at St. Joseph, Michigan (*American Birds* 41:1439); 1988 in Ontario (detailed above); and 1989 (26 April) at Waukegan, Illinois (*American Birds* 43:489). Theoretically all of these records could involve the same Sandwich Tern (probably two in 1988) which has returned to the Great Lakes each year, perhaps with other terns.

#### Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*) (1/4)

- 1977 — one basic-plumaged adult, 1 November, Whitby Harbour, *Durham* (Josephine Burns, Bonnie Burns) — photos on file.

This Black Skimmer represents Ontario's first record, the details of which were published by Bain (1978). Subsequently there have been three additional occurrences: 6 July 1978 at Hillman Marsh, *Essex* (*Ontario Birds* 3:9); 11–15 September 1981 at Erieau, *Kent* (*Ontario Birds* 1:11); and late August 1982 at Lake-of-the-Woods (Clearwater Bay), *Kenora* (*Ontario Birds* 2:58).

**Razorbill (*Alca torda*) (1/3)**

1989 — one immature, 1–4 December, Lake Dore, *Renfrew* (Michael W.P. Runtz, Steven M. LaForest).

**Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) (1/5)**

1988 — one, 9–13 October, Bright's Grove, *Lambton* (Beverly Collier, George E. Wallace, Alfred H. Rider, Alan Wormington, Robert G. Finlayson) — photos on file.

This Groove-billed Ani represents the fifth of five records now recorded in Ontario. Previous records were 18–20 October 1963 at Red Rock, *Thunder Bay*; 12 October 1969 at Stromness, *Haldimand-Norfolk*; 27 October 1978 at Sundridge, *Perry Sound*; and 1 November 1983 at Rosslyn, *Thunder Bay* (*Ontario Birds* 2:58 and 4:11).

**Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) (1/3)**

1989 — one, 27 May, Walpole Island, *Lambton* (Scott A. Connop) — photos on file.

**Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*) (1/1)**

1989 — one female, 16–27 October, Deer Bay, *Peterborough* (A. Geoffrey Carpentier, Douglas C. Sadler, Margaret J. Bain, Robert H. Curry, Alan Wormington, James N. Flynn) — photos on file.

Seen by literally hundreds of observers, this remarkable rarity came to the hummingbird feeder at the residence of Laurie and Rick Morgan of Deer Bay.

Not only is this the first record for Ontario, but also the first record for Canada and only the second for eastern North America. Occurring mainly in Mexico and barely entering the United States in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, this species of desert canyons and low-elevation woodlands has been recorded no closer to Ontario than Utah, Texas or South Carolina (AOU 1983:337; DeSante and Pyle 1986:205–210; and *American Birds* 40:99).

**Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) (2/6)**

1989 — one adult male, 24–26 July, Oxtongue Lake, *Haliburton* (R. Dan Strickland).  
1987 — one immature male, 16 September–19 December, Battersea, *Frontenac* (Ian L. Jones, Robert H. Curry, Kathy Nihei) — specimen (skin) in NMC: #89040.

The bird at Battersea was destined to become an astonishing wintering record in Ontario but, unfortunately, the bird was captured by supposed bird rehabilitators on 19 December and transferred to Ottawa: in captivity the bird died two days later on 21 December. Additional details of this Rufous Hummingbird have been published by Weir (1988).

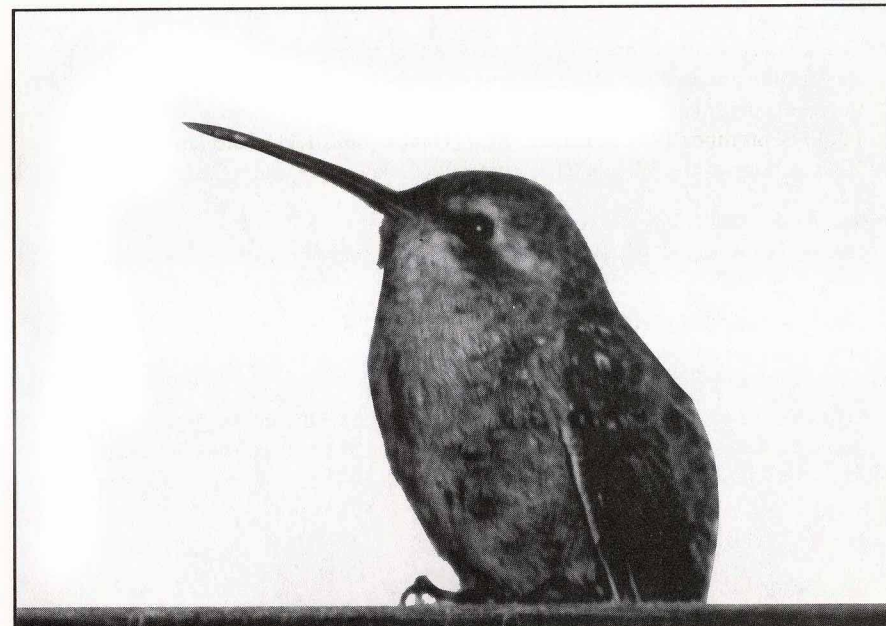


Figure 12: Ontario's first Broad-billed Hummingbird (female) at Deer Bay, *Peterborough*, 16–27 October 1989. Photo by James N. Flynn.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) North Only (1/4)**

1989 — one male, 15 June, Harris Hill, *Rainy River* (Y. Robert Tymstra).

This Red-bellied Woodpecker represents only the fourth record for northern Ontario, but is the first to appear during spring migration (or summer).

**Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) (3/35)**

1989 — one, 8 June, Rainy River, *Rainy River* (Alan Wormington, Roy B. H. Smith).  
1988 — one, 12 May, Ottawa, *Ottawa-Carleton* (Alan Hunt).  
— one, 31 August–1 September (not to only 31 August as in Wallace 1989 and *American Birds* 43:97–98), Port Rowan (not Long Point as in *American Birds* *ibid.*), *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Terrie J. Woodrow, George E. Pond) — photos on file.

The Western Kingbird at Ottawa on 12 May 1988 represents the earliest spring arrival ever recorded for this species in Ontario. The bird at Rainy River on 8 June 1989 was not associated with the nearby nesting pair of Western Kingbirds and was considered a spring migrant by the observers.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) (4/17)**

1989 — one, 26 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Joseph E. Faggan).  
— one, 19 June, Kakabeka Falls, *Thunder Bay* (Pat Sein, Rod Sein).  
1988 — one, 2–3 August, 9km north of Kiosk, *Nipissing* (Winston Chartrand).  
1987 — one, 8 July (not 8 June as in *American Birds* 41:1431), Algonquin Prov. Park (Sunday Creek and Lake of Two Rivers), *Nipissing* (Michael W. P. Runtz) — photos on file.

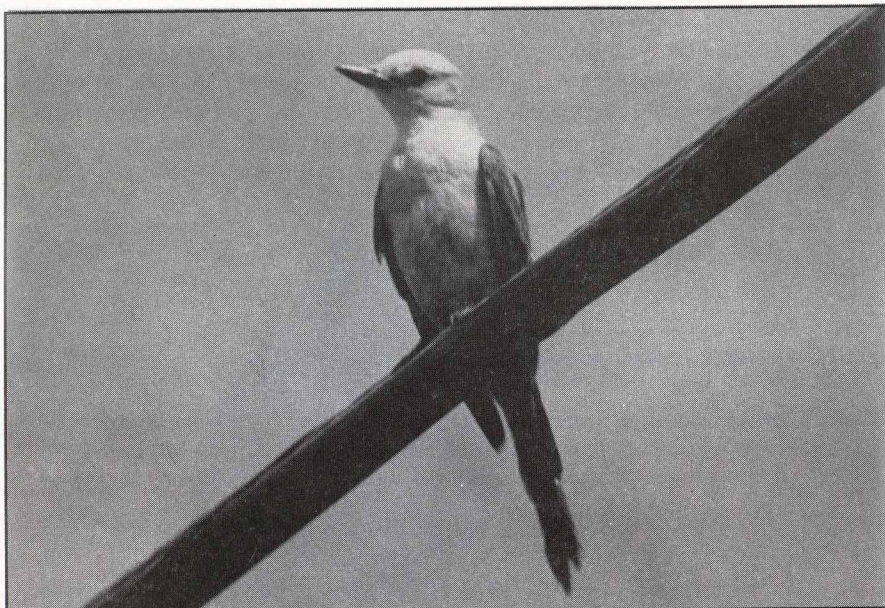


Figure 13: Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Algonquin Prov. Park (Sunday Creek and Lake of Two Rivers Airfield), *Nipissing*, 8 July 1987. Photo by *Michael W. P. Runtz*.

**Cave Swallow (*Hirundo fulva*) (1/1)**

1989 — one, 21 April, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (*Alan Wormington*).

This occurrence represents the first record of Cave Swallow in Ontario. Apparently there are no records of this species between Nova Scotia and Florida, and the Great Lakes and Texas / Louisiana; however, since the species is expanding its range it seems only a matter of time until in-between records materialize.

**Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) (1/1)**

1989 — one, 12 February–5 March, Etobicoke, *Metropolitan Toronto* (*Rob Z. Dobos*, Robert H. Curry, Alan Wormington, Glenn Coady) — photos on file.

This Rock Wren is the first wintering record for Ontario; the few previous records for the province (yet to be reviewed by the OBRC) all pertain to fall vagrants.

**Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) North Only (1/1)**

1988 — one, 8 October, Marathon, *Thunder Bay* (*Stanley V. Phippen*, John L. Olmsted, Alan Wormington) — photo on file.

This Carolina Wren adds the species to the list of birds recorded in northern Ontario; however, it should be noted that one recorded 6 August 1957 by Paul

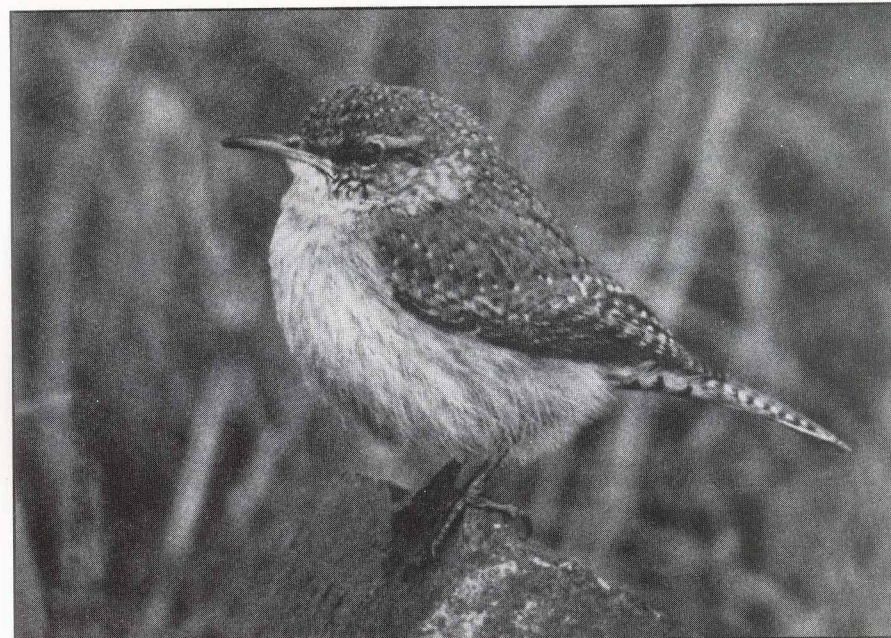


Figure 14: Rock Wren at Etobicoke, *Metropolitan Toronto*, 12 February–5 March 1989. Photo by *Alan Wormington*.

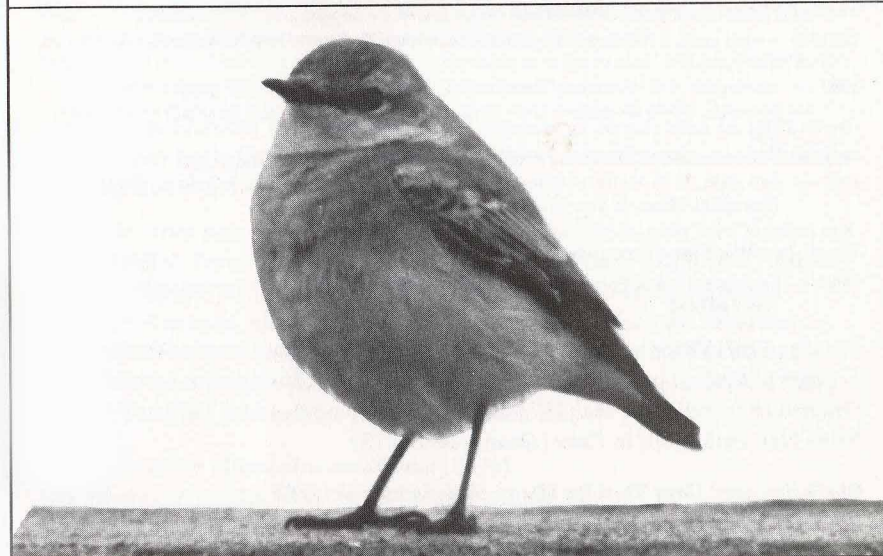


Figure 15: Immature Northern Wheatear at Abitibi Canyon, *Cochrane*, 23 September 1989. Photo by *Alan Wormington*.

Harrington 25km east of Longlac, *Thunder Bay* (Bennett *et al.* 1958), is generally considered a valid record, but apparently is not documented.

**Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*) (2/7)**

- 1989 — one, 14 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Ronald C. Ridout).  
— one, 17 May, Rondeau Prov. Park, *Kent* (David Ellingwood).

**Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) (1/13)**

- 1989 — one immature, 23 September, Abitibi Canyon, *Cochrane* (Alan Wormington) — photos on file.

**Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) (4/8)**

- 1989 — one female, 24 January–20 March (not beginning 31 January as in *American Birds* 43:310; not to only early March as in *American Birds* 43:473), Hungry Hollow, *Middlesex* (P. Allen Woodliffe, Tim Sabo) — photos on file.  
— one male, 15–17 April, Westover, *Hamilton-Wentworth* (Wilf Yusek, Robert H. Curry) — photos on file.  
— one male, 9 October, Annan, *Grey* (Peter D. Middleton, David W. Fidler).  
1988 — one female, 6–7 October, Rossport, *Thunder Bay* (Alan Wormington) — photos on file.

**Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) (2/13)**

- 1988/89 — one, 23 December–4 January (not beginning 28 December as in *American Birds* 43:310 and Escott 1989; not ending 3 January as in *American Birds* *ibid.*), *Thunder Bay*, *Thunder Bay* (Allan G. Harris, Nicholas G. Escott, Thomas H. Perrons) — photos on file.  
1984 — one, 12–17 February (not to only 15 February as in *American Birds* 38:313), Presqu'île Prov. Park, *Northumberland* (Dian Drew, Fred Drew).

**Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) (5/33)**

- 1989/90 — one male, 6 November–30 January, Matheson, *Cochrane* (Percy W. Richter) — photos on file.  
1989 — one female, 5–6 November, *Thunder Bay*, *Thunder Bay* (Nicholas G. Escott).  
— one male, 27–30 December, Little Redstone Lake, *Haliburton* (Kay Bounsall) — photo on file.  
1987/88 — one female, 27 December–6 March, Aldershot, *Halton* (David Stubbing).  
1987 — one male, 22 November–13 December, Algonquin Prov. Park (Clarke Lake), *Nipissing* (Ronald G. Tozer, R. Dan Strickland) — photos on file.

**Virginia's Warbler (*Vermivora virginiae*) (1/3)**

- 1958 — one male, 16 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (George M. Sturrett) — specimen (skin) in NMC: #41430.

Details of this Virginia's Warbler — the first of three now recorded in Ontario — were published by Dow (1962) and Baillie (1964). Subsequent records in Ontario occurred 9–11 May 1974 at Pelee Island and 3–4 May 1975 at Point Pelee Nat. Park, both in *Essex* (*Ontario Birds* 4:15).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*) (4/6)**

- 1980 — one adult male, 13–23 November (not only 13 November as in *American Birds* 35:178 and Speirs 1985:721), Niagara-on-the-Lake, *Niagara* (Harold H. Axtell, Robert F. Andrie, Arthur E. Schaffner, Paul S. Conklin) — photos on file.  
1979/80 — one, 28 December–6 January, *Middlesex* (Helen M. Inch, Spencer Inch, Alan Wormington, Marvin S. Smout) — photos on file.



Figure 16: Black-throated Gray Warbler at London, *Middlesex*, present 28 December 1979–6 January 1980. Photo by Marvin S. Smout.

- 1962 — one female, 5–11 May (not only 5 May as in James *et al.* 1976:44 and Speirs 1985:721), Rattray Marsh Cons. Area, *Peel* (Donald R. Gunn) — photo on file.  
1952 — one male, 7–15 December (not only 7 December as in James *et al.* 1976:44), North York, *Metropolitan Toronto* (Charles Molony) — photos on file.

Circumstances of the Black-throated Gray Warbler at North York in 1952 were briefly given by Baillie (1957), while those of the bird at London in 1979–80 were published in detail by Inch and Inch (1980).

The only other records of Black-throated Gray Warbler known for Ontario are 8 May 1983 at Toronto, *Metropolitan Toronto* (*Ontario Birds* 2:61); 16–17 June 1986 at Whitby, Durham (*Ontario Birds* 5:54); and two records generally considered as valid, although apparently not documented: one observed (Willard Schaefer and Horace Dahmer) on 11 September 1955 at Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Baillie *ibid.*) and the other (Donald E. Perks *et al.*) on 3 May 1969 at Toronto, *Metropolitan Toronto* (Goodwin 1969).

**Hermit Warbler (*Dendroica occidentalis*) (2/4)**

- 1989 — one male, 23 May, Burpee, *Manitoulin* (Ronald R. Tasker).  
1978 — one immature, 10 September, Bath, *Lennox & Addington* (Ron D. Weir) — specimen (skin) in NMC: #78708.

The above Hermit Warbler occurrences represent the first and fourth of four records now known for Ontario; the other two occurrences were 2–7 May

1981 at Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (*Ontario Birds* 1:13), and 30 April 1984 at Etobicoke, *Metropolitan Toronto* (*Ontario Birds* 3:12).

The Hermit Warbler at Bath on 10 September 1978 — the first record for Ontario — pre-dates the Point Pelee occurrence in 1981, a record which (at the time) was considered the first for the province: the Bath bird was killed by striking one of the chimneys at the Lennox Generating Station but went unrecognized until the specimen (along with thousands of other casualties) was prepared by museum staff several years later.

#### Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*) (17/52)

- 1989 — one *albilora* male, 18 April, Hillman Marsh, *Essex* (Alan Wormington) — photo on file.  
 — one, 26 April, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Norman F. Sherwood).  
 — one *albilora*, 15 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (John G. T. Hamilton, David Shute, Joseph E. Faggan).  
 — one, 15 May, Rondeau Prov. Park, *Kent* (Ernest Gribble, Jeanne Gribble).  
 — one, 18 May, Cherrywood, *Durham* (Derrick Marwen).  
 — one *albilora* male, 18–19 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex* (Michael J. Danek, James N. Flynn) — photos on file.  
 — one *albilora*, 31 October–17 November (not beginning 1 November as in *American Birds* 44:86), Chesley Lake, *Bruce* (Lucy Greason, David W. Fidler).  
 1988 — one male, 8 May, Long Point Prov. Park, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Robert H. Curry).  
 1987/88 — one *albilora*, 24 November–3 January, North Bay, *Nipissing* (Richard D. Tafel) — photo on file.

Figure 17: Yellow-throated Warbler at Long Point Tip, *Haldimand-Norfolk*, 5–6 May 1981. Photo by Juhanni Karhumaki.



- 1981 — one *albilora* female, 5–6 May (not only 6 May as in Lemieux 1981), Long Point Tip, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Christopher M. Lemieux, Juhanni Karhumaki) — photo on file.  
 1974 — one male, 29 April, Britannia, *Ottawa-Carleton* (G. Tom Hince).  
 1972 — one, 30–31 October, Port Britain, *Northumberland* (E.R. McDonald).  
 1971 — one *albilora*, 7–10 October, London, *Middlesex* (J. Paul Prevett).  
 1968 — one, 9 May, Kingston, *Frontenac* (John C. Nicholson).  
 1958 — one *albilora* male, 18 May, Rock Point Prov. Park, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Albert J. Wright II).  
 1957 — one *albilora*, 4 November, Manotick, *Ottawa-Carleton* (Lewis M. Terrill).  
 1943 — one *albilora*, 20 May, Niagara Falls, *Niagara* (Roy W. Sheppard).

Details and description of the bird at Niagara Falls in 1943 — the first record for Ontario — were published by Sheppard (1944); those of the bird at Manotick in 1957 were published by Terrill (1958).

#### Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*) (1/8)

- 1988 — one, 14 August, Minaki, *Kenora* (Ian R. Kirkham).

This record is not only the first Kirtland's Warbler to be recorded in northern Ontario, but is also the most northerly occurrence of the species in North America. It should be noted that a more northerly report of the species is known for 3 August 1921 at Lake Winnipegosis, Manitoba (Taverner 1921); however, the record was not included in a subsequent work (Taverner 1928), indicating it is probably erroneous.

Nothing about the bird at Minaki was obtained to indicate if it was a fall migrant or was engaged in breeding activity in the vicinity of observation.

#### Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) North Only (1/2)

- 1989 — one male, 3 October, Moosonee, *Cochrane* (Mark W. Jennings).

The Prothonotary Warbler has been recorded previously in northern Ontario only once, a spring migrant on 27 April–3 May 1976 at Quetico Prov. Park (French Lake), *Rainy River* (*Ontario Birds* 2:62). In North America only one other Prothonotary Warbler has been recorded farther north than Moosonee; this concerns a bird found by Bruce D. Mactavish at Goose Bay, Labrador, on 9 October 1987 (*American Birds* 42:227–231).

#### Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*) (1/1)

- 1971 — one, 4–15 November (not only 9 November as in *American Birds* 26:59, James *et al.* 1976:47, and Parker 1983:30; not only 15 November as in James 1976), Balsam, *Durham* (Mrs. Lindsay Death) — photos on file; specimen (skin) in private collection of Barry K. MacKay.

This remains as the only record of Painted Redstart in Ontario, details of which have been published by Speirs and Pegg (1972) and Richards (1972). Considering the relatively restricted breeding range of this species in the extreme southwestern U.S.A., it is amazingly prone to long-distance vagrancy with records for British Columbia, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, New York, Massachusetts, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, and Colorado (AOU 1983:635,

DeSante and Pyle 1986:317–323); Missouri (*American Birds* 41:98); Mississippi (*American Birds* 42:91); and Montana (*American Birds* 42:107).

#### Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) (1/7)

1989 — one male, 15 May, Fort Erie, *Niagara* (Lorne C. Featherston, Maria Featherston).

#### Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) North Only (6/9)

1989/90 — one female, 13 November–8 March, Virginiatown, *Timiskaming* (Percy W. Richter).

1988/89 — one male, 20 October–26 April, Wild Goose, *Thunder Bay* (Nicholas G. Escott) — photo on file.

— one female, 7 November–16 March, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay* (Nicholas G. Escott).

— one female, 1 December–25 April, Marathon, *Thunder Bay* (Stanley V. Phippen).

1988 — one female, 5 June, Lake Nipigon Prov. Park, *Thunder Bay* (E. R. "Ted" Armstrong).

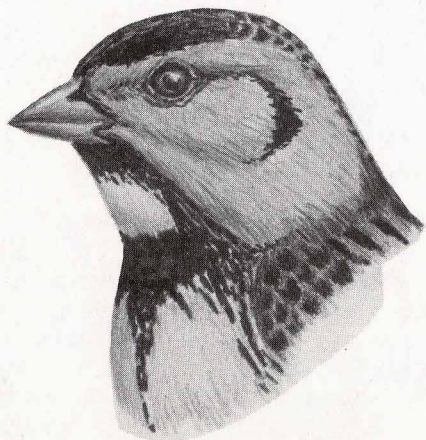
1987/88 — one male, 25 December–28 March, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay* (Nicholas G. Escott).

#### Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) North Only (1/4)

1989 — two territorial males, one 23 June–12 July, joined by a second 27 June–5 July, north of Stratton at Pinewood River, *Rainy River* (Dan Lee, Anne B. Lambert).

This is the first time that Dickcissels have been recorded during summer in northern Ontario; previous records in the north (which are numerous) have all concerned spring and fall vagrants. Curiously no territorial birds were found in Rainy River during 1988 (when breeding birds were widespread in southern Ontario), but it is known that almost no visits were made to the region that summer by any field observers.

Figure 18: Immature Harris' Sparrow which wintered at Turkey Point Marsh, *Haldimand-Norfolk*, 7 February–28 April 1989. Drawing (7 February) by Ronald C. Ridout.



#### Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) North Only (1/9)

1989 — one, 7 May, Batchawana Bay, *Algoma* (Alan Wormington).

#### Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) (4/25)

1989 — one, 11–12 May, Big Creek Nat. Wildlife Area, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (James M. Holdsworth).

— one adult, 10–11 August, Neys Prov. Park, *Thunder Bay* (Edward B. Poropat, Stephen J. O'Donnell).

1988 — one, 30–31 May, Green Park, *Wellington* (Philip D. Taylor, Rohan A. van Twest).

— one, 4 December, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay* (Nicholas G. Escott) — photos on file.

The bird on 4 December 1988 at Thunder Bay is the latest fall migrant ever recorded in Ontario by over a month; it is a particularly remarkable record for such a northern locality in the province.

#### Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) (1/8)

1989 — one adult male, 25 May, Algonquin Prov. Park (Lake Opeongo), *Nipissing* (Jeff Skevington).

#### Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) (1/5)

1989 — one adult, 16–22 October (not beginning 20 October as in *American Birds* 44:86), Scarborough, *Metropolitan Toronto* (Margaret J. Bain).

#### Harris' Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) South Only (3/12)

1989 — one immature, 7 February–28 April, Turkey Point Marsh, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Ronald C. Ridout).

— one immature, 26 October, Hillman Marsh, *Essex* (Alan Wormington).

1988 — one adult, 16 December, Arkona, *Lambton / Middlesex* (Scott A. Connop).

#### Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) (1/2)

1988/89 — one female, 19 November–6 January, Port Rowan / Port Royal, *Haldimand-Norfolk* (Ronald C. Ridout, Tim Sabo, George E. Wallace) — photos on file.

Only one prior record of the Great-tailed Grackle exists for Ontario: a fall vagrant which remained from 7–25 October 1987 at Atikokan, *Rainy River* (*Ontario Birds* 7:52; see Elder 1988).

## Deferred Records: Identification accepted, wild status deferred

Species in this category are those where the wild status is currently debatable, and a decision on the records has therefore been deferred until definitive information can be assembled — this includes (but is not limited to) the known status of the species in captivity, the prior pattern of extralimital occurrences in North America in both seasonal and geographic terms, as well as other factors (e.g., distances the species normally travels during migration, etc.). After compilation and analysis of this information, the species will then be placed in either the full acceptance category above or the "origin questionable" category below.



Figure 19: Greater Flamingo at the Thedford Flats, *Lambton*, 2-7 May 1979.  
Photo by Alfred H. Rider.

#### Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*)

1979 — one, 2-7 May, Thedford Flats, *Lambton* (David A. Martin, Terry J. Crabe, Alfred H. Rider) — photos on file.

It is not entirely convincing that all observations of Greater Flamingo in northeastern North America pertain to escapees; the species appears regularly and consistently — there are several Ontario occurrences yet to be reviewed by the OBRC — and rarely (if ever) are any of these birds traced to any zoo or similar establishment.

#### Eurasian Siskin (*Carduelis spinus*)

1988 — one male, 6 February–28 March, Etobicoke, *Metropolitan Toronto* (T. Ronald Scovell, Alan Wormington) — photos on file.

The status, identification, and distribution of Eurasian Siskin in North America has recently been published by McLaren *et al.* (1989); the authors demonstrate that only male birds are readily identifiable in the field, and since all males but one (the Ontario record) have occurred on either the northeast coast of North America or the Aleutians Islands, they propose that these may represent natural vagrants. However, this viewpoint is not entirely convincing in light of the known fact that substantial numbers are legally imported into the United States (and probably Canada) on a regular basis.

## Unaccepted Records: Identification accepted, origin questionable

Species in this category are those considered almost certainly to be escaped or released from captivity, even though wild occurrence is a remote possibility. Species (or individual records) placed here could be accepted later if future records clearly established a pattern of occurrence suggesting wild (rather than captive) origin.

#### Ross' Goose (*Chen rossii*)

1987/88 — one adult, 30 August–20 September and 23 September, Bass Lake, and 20 September, Matchedash Bay, *Simcoe*; 1 October–30 November, Whitby, and 1 December, Pickering, *Durham*; and 27 January–12 February, St. Catharines, *Niagara* (Robert L. Bowles, A. Geoffrey Carpentier, Christopher J. Escott, Margaret J. Bain, William C. D'Anna, Tim Sabo, Alan Wormington) — photos on file.

The first record of Ross' Goose is certainly overdue in southern Ontario, but the circumstances surrounding this particular bird were questionable: this included the relatively early occurrence date, its association with Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*), and initial appearance at a "waterfowl park" where a Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) was also present. Although this Ross' Goose could certainly have been wild, the factors detailed above made such a determination less than positive. A future appearance of a Ross' Goose in association with numbers of Snow Geese (*Chen caerulescens*) would almost certainly indicate a wild bird.

## Unaccepted Records: Identification uncertain

In the majority of the records listed below, the description presented in the reports was deemed insufficient to establish with certainty the identity of the species claimed; in few cases was the committee actually convinced that an incorrect identification was made.

- 1989 — Pacific Loon, 11 November, Hillman Marsh, *Essex*.
- Pacific Loon, 17–18 November, Fanshawe Lake, *Middlesex*.
- Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*), 30 October, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay*.
- Northern Canner, 23 May, Sturgeon Creek, *Essex*.
- American White Pelican, 11 June, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) (18), 14 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Great Egret, 29–30 April, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay*.
- Little Blue Heron, 8 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Little Blue Heron, 19 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Little Blue Heron, 26 September, Whitby, *Durham*.
- Tricolored Heron, 22 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Glossy Ibis, 15 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.

- Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*), 24 August, Newcastle, *Durham*.
- Swainson's Hawk, 16 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*), 7 May, Nanticoke, *Haldimand-Norfolk*.
- Ferruginous Hawk, 15 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Ferruginous Hawk, 16 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Gyrfalcon, 6 October, Coleraine, *Peel*.
- Piping Plover (two), 28 May, north of Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*), 1 June, Emo, *Rainy River*.
- Rufous-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*), 30 July, Windmill Point, *Niagara*.
- Curlew Sandpiper, 31 August–2 September, Presqu'île Prov. Park, *Northumberland*.
- Curlew Sandpiper (two), 13 October, Vellore, *York* — photos on file.
- Mew Gull (*Larus canus*), 7 October, Oshawa, *Durham*.
- Ivory Gull (two), 19 October, Komoka, *Middlesex*.
- Western Kingbird, 22 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Western Kingbird, 24 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Western Kingbird, 16 September, Blenheim, *Kent*.
- Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) (two), 24 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Mountain Bluebird, 19 April, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay*.
- Varied Thrush, 22 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*), 16 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Townsend's Warbler (*Dendroica townsendi*), 13 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Grace's Warbler (*Dendroica graciae*), 22 May, Burpee, *Manitowlin*.
- MacGillivray's Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*), 25–31 May, Port Weller, *Niagara*.
- Western Tanager, 16 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*), 9 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Lark Bunting, 13 May, north of Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Lark Bunting, 14 May, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- 1988 — Western Grebe, 11 November, Presqu'île Prov. Park, *Northumberland*.
- Swainson's Hawk, 21 April, Grimsby, *Niagara*.
- Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*), 19 May, Hillman Marsh, *Essex*.
- Sandwich Tern, 7 October, Niagara-on-the-Lake, *Niagara*.
- Lewis' Woodpecker (*Melanerpes lewis*), 25 September, Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 25 August, Guelph Lake, *Wellington*.
- Northern Wheatear, 7 June, Long Point Tip, *Haldimand-Norfolk*.
- Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), 31 October, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay*.
- MacGillivray's Warbler, 15 May, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay*.
- Northern Cardinal, 6 November, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay*.
- Lark Sparrow, 15 August, Ancaster, *Hamilton-Wentworth*.
- Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*), 25 August, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay*.
- 1987 — Tricolored Heron, 11 June, Rondeau Prov. Park, *Kent*.
- Townsend's Solitaire, 19 September, Pass Lake, *Thunder Bay*.
- 1986 — Lark Sparrow, 17 May, Brighton, *Northumberland*.
- 1986/85 — Mountain Bluebird, 1 May–25 June 1985 and late April–31 July 1986, Port Stanley, *Elgin* — photos on file.

Considerable controversy surrounded this male bird which was mated to a female Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*), but it was never clearly established if any eggs produced by the mating of these two birds ever hatched; in 1985, for example, excellent photographs of the three fledged young — which were from the defended nestbox and attended by the male bird — were clearly those of Eastern Bluebird. As for the bird's identification, considerable attention was focussed on the small reddish mark on the bird's upper chest (present both years), extent of blue (restricted) on the underparts, and

overall shape and structure. Opinions by at least one expert on bluebird identification (Jon L. Dunn, pers. comm.) indicated the bird had several characteristics atypical of Mountain Bluebird; subsequently, the record could not be accepted by the committee as definitely pertaining to this species. Additional details on this bird have been published by Risley (1987).

- 1985 — Pomarine Jaeger, 5 November, Van Wagner's Beach, *Hamilton-Wentworth*.
- MacGillivray's Warbler, 31 August, Long Point (Breakwater), *Haldimand-Norfolk* — photos on file.
- 1982 — Cave Swallow, 17 May, Rondeau Prov. Park, *Kent*.
- 1981 — Mountain Bluebird, mid-April–30 April, La Salette, *Haldimand-Norfolk* — photo on file.
- 1979 — Ivory Gull, 7 January, Rolphston, *Renfrew*.
- 1977 — Yellow-throated Warbler, 22 May, Great Duck Island, *Manitowlin*.
- 1974 — Ivory Gull, 2 March, Niagara Falls, *Niagara*.
- 1969 — Ferruginous Hawk, 23 March, Grimsby, *Niagara*.
- 1967 — Western Kingbird, 26 May (not 20 May as in Speirs 1985:514–515), Point Pelee Nat. Park, *Essex*.

## Corrections / Updates to Previous OBRC Reports

### 1988 Report (*Ontario Birds* 7:43–54):

- under Yellow-throated Warbler (1987/1988 at Trenton), add "R. Terry Sprague" as a contributor (additional documentation on the record has recently been obtained).

### 1987 Report (*Ontario Birds* 6:42–50):

- under Lark Sparrow (1987 at Presqu'île Prov. Park), change "6–7 April" to "13–16 April" (information recently received from Presqu'île Prov. Park gives correct dates for the bird's occurrence).

### 1986 Report (*Ontario Birds* 5:42–63):

- under Rufous Hummingbird (1986 at Algonquin Prov. Park), add "A. Geoffrey Carpentier" as a contributor (additional photographs on the record have been obtained).

### 1985 Report (*Ontario Birds* 4:3–18):

- under Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) (1978 at Hurkett), change the record to read "29 Oct.–2 Nov., Hurkett (29th to 1st) and Dorion (2nd)" (information on the observation at Dorion has recently been obtained and almost certainly pertains to the Hurkett bird).
- under Groove-billed Ani (1978 at Sundridge), change the number of the specimen from "13203" to "132031"; add "immature female" to the record.

### 1984 Report (*Ontario Birds* 3:2–17):

- under Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (1981 at Point Pelee Nat. Park), change "Jeffrey Bennett" to "Jeffery Bennett."
- under Blue Grosbeak (11–17 May 1979 at Point Pelee Nat. Park), change "Allen E. Valente" to "Allen E. Valentine."
- under Blue Grosbeak (1972 at Point Pelee Nat. Park), add "Alan J. Ryff" as a contributor (additional documentation on the record has recently been obtained).

### 1983 Report (*Ontario Birds* 2:53–65):

- under Groove-billed Ani (1983 at Rosslyn), add "adult female" to the record.
- under Northern Wheatear (1972), change "Fraserdale" to "Abitibi Canyon."
- under Yellow-throated Warbler (1982 at Niagara Falls), add "Wavel Barber, Maxine Barber" as contributors (additional documentation on the record has recently been obtained).

### 1982 Report (*Ontario Birds* 1:7–15):

- under Little Blue Heron (1982 at Rondeau Prov. Park), add "JBW" (= John B. Walty) as a contributor.
- under Cattle Egret (1982 at Dorion), change "23 Oct." to "23 Oct.–2 Nov." (information recently obtained gives more complete dates on this bird's occurrence).
- under American Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) (1982 at Buckhorn), add "AW" (= Alan Wormington) as a contributor of a photograph.
- under Mississippi Kite (1982 at Point Pelee Nat. Park), add "PDP" (= Paul D. Pratt) as a contributor (additional documentation on the record has recently been obtained).
- under Slender-billed Curlew (*Numenius tenuirostris*) (about 1925 at Crescent Beach), add "ILT" (= I. L. Terry, Sr.) as a contributor.
- under Curlew Sandpiper (1982 at Essex), add "AW" (= Alan Wormington) as a contributor of photographs.
- under Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*) (1982 at Point Pelee), add "AW" (= Alan Wormington) as a contributor.
- under Western Kingbird (1982 north of Toronto), add "MWJ" (= Mark W. Jennings) as a contributor of photographs.
- under Yellow-throated Warbler (1982 at Moosonee), add "KFA" (= Kenneth F. Abraham) as a contributor of photographs.

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