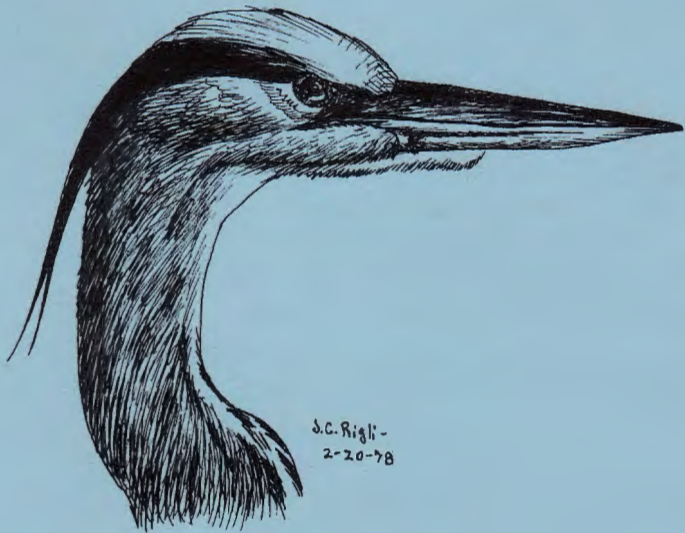


# *C.F.O. Journal*

The Colorado Field Ornithologists' Quarterly



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## C.F.O. JOURNAL

A quarterly publication of the Colorado Field Ornithologists, c/o Kate Kittleman, 2277 Spruce St., Boulder, CO 80302

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CFO JOURNAL is devoted to the field study of birds in Colorado. Articles and notes of scientific or general interest, and reports of unusual observations are solicited. Send manuscripts with photos and drawings to: Ann Hodgson and Steve Bissell, 6060 Broadway, Denver. Send rare bird reports to: CFO Official Records Committee, c/o Zoological Collections, Denver Museum of Natural History, City Park, Denver, Colorado 80205.

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Cover Art: The head study of a Great Blue Heron is by Joseph Rigli  
of Fort Morgan

EDITORS' MESSAGE

This issue should tie many loose ends. Hopefully, the seasonal reports are now up to date. A new format is also being developed for future compilers. If there are any volunteers to do seasonal reports, please let us know.

There were numerous complaints about the quality of the last issue, particularly the photos. We are currently utilizing a printer who gives us a very good price. In order to appreciably improve the quality, we would need to spend about \$1000 more per year! Is it worth it? You tell us at the spring convention.

Errata in the membership list continue to come in. We will publish all corrections in the summer issue.

The art work in this issue is by Joseph Carl Rigli. Joe lives on his family's ranch southwest of Fort Morgan. His art reflects his life style. "I was born and raised in the country and ever since I was a little guy, I've always been attracted to wildlife," Joe says. The January-February issue of Colorado Outdoors, published by the Colorado Division of Wildlife, featured Rigli's works.

- Ann Hodgson and Steve Bissell



A BRAMBLING IN COLORADO

Ed and Martha Curry  
P. O. Box 6009  
Colorado Springs, CO 80934

A Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*) was observed and photographed at 465 Gold Camp Road, Colorado Springs, Colorado, from October 30 through November 4, 1983. It was identified by Ed and Martha Curry as a first year male. The weather was sunny, warm, and dry throughout its stay. The bird was observed at close range 31 times in six days. It fed only on the ground when other small birds were present. It often tossed leaves when feeding. It never went to the feeders or birdbath, and consistently flew away when larger birds approached.

Thanks to the Denver Field Ornithologist's (DFO) Rare Bird Alert Hotline, 103 birders travelled to see the Brambling. They were from Boulder, Colorado Springs, Delta, Denver, Englewood, Evergreen, Fort Collins, Glenwood Springs, Golden, Lakewood, Littleton, Penrose, Pueblo, Westminster, and Wheatridge in Colorado. Two were from Bakersfield, California and two from Caspar, Wyoming. Sixty-six persons saw the bird.

The National Geographic Society Guide (1983, p. 443) approximates this particular bird's plumage. The head resembled a female, while the body exhibited traits of the first year fall male and the adult male.

The Brambling breeds in northern Europe and Asia, is an annual spring and fall migrant in the western Aleutian Islands, and occurs irregularly as far east as mainland Alaska. There are records from Oregon, British Columbia, Pennsylvania, Montana, Nevada, and Massachusetts. A 1979 sighting in North Dakota was the twelfth record for North America outside of Alaska, the tenth published record for the lower 48 states, and the first record for the central United States. (American Birds, 37:112-114).

## THE BOULDER BRAMBLING

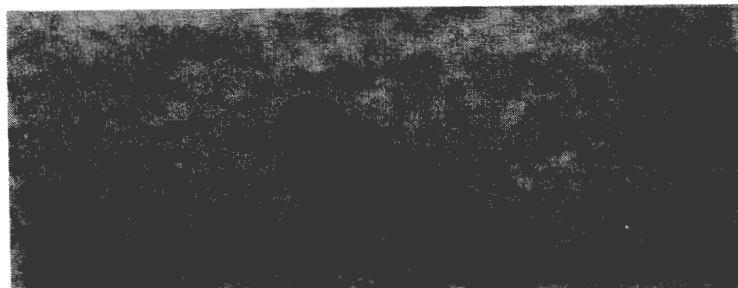
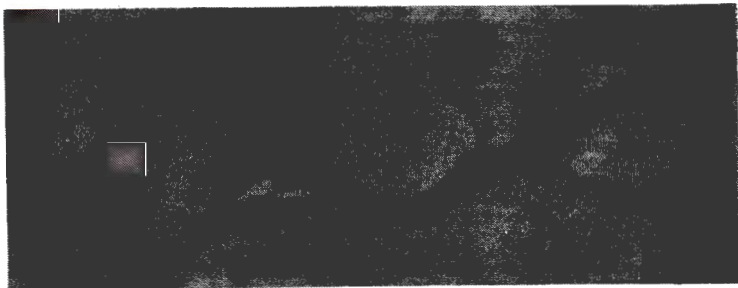
Bob Jickling  
310 Skylark Way  
Boulder, Colorado 80303

The field marks of an unidentified finch, described to me by Marje Foland at the conclusion of the Boulder Christmas Bird Count compilation on 18 December, 1983, sounded suspiciously like those of the Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*) many of us had driven to Colorado Springs to observe some six weeks earlier. Marjorie and Robert Foland had first seen the strange finch the previous day at their feeder at 6738 Lakeview Drive, Boulder, Colorado just 200 yards northeast of the Baseline Lake shoreline. Happily, I was able to confirm the identification of the Brambling on 19 December with only a few minutes delay. Then, with the Foland's kind permission,

we placed the sighting on the Rare Bird Alert of the Denver Field Ornithologists. The field marks of the Boulder bird resemble those of the female brambling illustrated on p. 443 of the National Geographic Society Field Guide to the Birds of North America (1983) with the addition of the small white wing patch of the fall male. Most observers who also saw the Colorado Springs Brambling are certain that they have seen two different individuals. Photographic comparison should be conclusive.

Initially, the Boulder Brambling was exceedingly cooperative by visiting the feeding station on a 20 to 30 minute schedule for a period of five minutes or more each time, giving everyone a great opportunity to enjoy this rare visitor from Eurasia. Strictly a ground feeder, the Brambling, usually in the company of House Finches, Juncos, and Tree Sparrows, would first land in a bare deciduous tree and then drop to the ground, feeding on bird seed scattered from a suspended feeder above. Freeman Hall obtained the first photographs for species verification during the afternoon of 19 December. The following weeks saw a total of more than 100 birders visit the Foland's living room to focus on one little finch, a life bird for most. Very few left disappointed. During the warmer weather of January and February, the Brambling visited the Foland's yard less often, it was last reported on 18 February. One might wonder how successful the Brambling invaders of the lower 48 this winter will be in returning to their breeding grounds come spring?

(Note: As of 15 March, the Brambling was still reported in the Boulder area. Eds.)



Photos by Stephen Vaughan

SEASONAL REPORT - FALL 1982  
(August 1-November 31)

Richard Bunn  
2727 Main  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80907

The quantity of information received and processed by a seasonal report compiler is not only large, but also quite diverse. Reflecting upon the topic of quality inherent in the reports used for this summary, I would like to advance a comment.

A few notable records, including possible new latilong records, are not considered in this report because of lack of detail and not because of inadequate species description. If a sight record is worth reporting, the exact location, date, and observer's name are essential. The latilong number should be included, particularly if the record is from an area near latilong boundaries.

Contributors expend considerable time and effort compiling local seasonal summaries and those efforts benefit all of us who are interested in Colorado birds. Hopefully, future contributors will include the "less exciting" details in their reports.

Knapp (1983 CFO JOURNAL 17:9) raised the question if the JOURNAL should continue publishing the seasonal reports Section II as recommended by Andrews (1980). Whether or not Section II is published, the compilation of this particular species list will probably continue, even if only for computer analysis. To that end, I recommend that the species that warrant inclusion in Section II be defined and listed for the benefit of the contributor, and the researcher using the records. If reports of these species continue to be solicited, the value of uniform statewide reporting is evident.

The records in this summary are arranged in accordance with the scheme suggested by Andrews (1980, CFO JOURNAL 15: 2-8).

### Part I

Summary of possibly new extreme arrival and departure dates for eastern and western Colorado (Lane and Holt, 1979, A Birder's Guide to Eastern Colorado; Halsey, 1981, CFO JOURNAL 15:72-74; Davis, 1969 Birds in Western Colorado).

| Species and Location | Date of Observation | Previous Extreme Date | Average Date |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|

#### Arrivals

|                                   |            |            |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Barrow's Goldeneye<br>(Grand Co.) | 29 October | 30 October | 9 November |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|

|  |              |                       |                     |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Broad-winged Hawk<br>(Jefferson Co.)                       | 6 August     | 3 September           | 16 September        |
| Black-bellied Plover<br>(Delta Co.)                        | 19 August    | 3rd Week of September | -                   |
| Short-eared Owl<br>(Jefferson Co.)                         | 20 August    | 4 October             | 25 October          |
| American Tree Sparrow<br>(Chatfield S.P.,<br>Boulder, Co.) | 18 September | 27 September          | 10 October          |
| Harris Sparrow<br>(La Plata Co.)                           | 15 September | -                     | 1st week<br>October |
| Rosy (gray crowned)<br>Finch                               | 16 October   | 25 October            | 6 November          |
| <u>Departures</u>  |              |                       |                     |
| American Avocet<br>(Delta Co.)                             | 17 November  | Mid September         | -                   |
| Greater Yellowlegs<br>(Mesa Co.)                           | 5 December   |                       |                     |
| Spotted Sandpiper<br>(Delta Co.)                           | 18 November  | 3rd week September    | -                   |
| Least Sandpiper<br>(Pueblo, Co.)                           | 27 November  | 8 November            | 30 October          |
| Baird's Sandpiper<br>(Crowley Co.)                         | 26 November  | 8 November            | 24 October          |
| Stilt Sandpiper<br>(Jefferson Co.)                         | 30 October   | 22 October            | 11 October          |
| Flammulated Owl<br>(Fremont Co.)                           | 10 November  | 17 September          | 13 September        |
| Say's Phoebe<br>(Pueblo Co.)                               | 27 November  | 27 October            | 4 October           |
| (Delta Co.)  | 2 November   | 2nd week Nov.         | 2nd week Aug.       |
| Ash-throated Flycatcher<br>(La Plate Co.)                  | 24 September | 2nd week Sept.        | 4th week Aug.       |



|  |              |              |                |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Blue-throated Hummingbird<br>(Jefferson Co.) | 22 September | 7 September  | 1 September    |
| Blue-winged Warbler<br>(El Paso Co.)         | 12 November  | -            | -              |
| Golden-winged Warbler<br>(El Paso Co.)       | 15 October   | 28 September | 25 September   |
| Black-and-White Warbler<br>(La Plate Co.)    | 24 November  | -            | -              |
| Prothonotary Warbler<br>(El Paso Co.)        | 6 November   | 18 October   | 12 October     |
| Hooded Warbler<br>(Jefferson Co.)            | 22 November  | 25 September | 20 September   |
| Green-tailed Towhee<br>(Mesa Co.)            | 10 December  | 25 October   | 2nd week Sept. |
| Clay-colored Sparrow                         | 29 November  | 26 November  | 13 October     |
| Lark Sparrow<br>(Larimer Co.)                | 17 November  | 13 October   | 26 September   |

## Part II

Species whose occurrence is well established and for which it is unnecessary to distinguish individual observations.

| Species                         | Total Birds | Dates         | Location                                 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--|
| Arctic Loon                     | 5           | 6-27 Nov      | Front Range, Pueblo                      |
| Western Grebe<br>'Clark's' Form | 26          | 22 Aug-27 Nov | FrR, Arkansas Valley<br>S. Park          |
| American Bittern                | 3           | 2-16 Oct      | E. Colo. Front Range                     |
| Great Egret                     | 66          | 9-30 Sept     | Front Range                              |
| Cattle Egret                    | 255         | 29 Aug-19 Nov | FrR, Ark & San Luis<br>Valleys, E. Colo. |
| Green-backed Heron              | 3           | 7 Aug-7 Nov   | Front Range                              |
| Tundra Swan                     | 26          | 6-30 Nov      | Front Range, S. Park<br>Fossil           |
| Greater W-F Goose               | 12          | 26 Nov        | Ark Valley                               |
| Wood Duck                       | 17          | 28 Aug-25 Nov | E. Colo., Eagle Co                       |
| Old Squaw                       | 8           | 24 Oct-26 Nov | NE Colo, FrR,<br>Ark Val, S. Park        |

|                              |        |                |                          |
|------------------------------|--------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Surf Scoter                  | 3      | 16 Oct-7 Nov   | FrR, Pueblo              |
| White-winged Scoter          | 1      | 25 Nov         | FrR                      |
| Barrow's Goldeneye           | 2      | 6-23 Nov       | FrR                      |
|                              | 150    | 29 Oct-26 Nov  | Summit Co.               |
| Hooded Merganser             | 37     | 26 Sept-27 Nov | E.Colo Summit & Mesa Co. |
| Red-breasted Merganser       | 12     | 31 Oct-6 Nov   | E. Colo                  |
| Osprey                       | 15     | 2 Sept-19 Oct  | FrR, Summit, & Eagle Co. |
| Bald Eagle                   | 48     | 9 Oct-28 Nov   | E. Colo, FrR, Summit Co. |
| Broad-winged Hawk            | 3      | 6 Aug-28 Sept  | FrR                      |
| Peregrine Falcon             | 3      | 14 Aug-5 Dec   | E. Colo, Mesa Co.        |
| Whooping Crane               | 17     | 3 Oct-22 Nov   | San Luis Valley          |
| Black bellied Plovers        | 13     | 14 Aug-16 Oct  | E. Colo, S. Park W. Colo |
| Semipalmated Plover          | 7      | 21 Aug-2 Oct   | E. Colo., S. Park        |
| Sabine's Gull                | 7      | 2-23 Oct       | E. Colo., Mesa Co.       |
| Common Tern                  | 4      | 19 Sept        | S. Park                  |
| Common Barn Owl              | 5      | 28 Sept-27 Nov | E. Colo.                 |
| Short-eared Owl              | 3      | 20 Aug-12 Sept | Front Range              |
| N. Saw-whet Owl              | 2      | 5 Sept-7 Nov   | E. Colo., Mesa Co.       |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker       | 1      | 3 Oct          | Bonny Res.               |
| Hammond's Flycatcher         | 3      | 14 Aug-4 Sept  | E. Colo.                 |
| Eastern Phoebe               | 5      | 4-18 Sept      | FrR, Pueblo              |
| Purple Martin                | 4      | 7 Aug          | Latilong 9               |
| Eastern Bluebird             | 25     | 9 Oct          | Black Forest             |
| Curve-billed Thrasher        | 1 nest | 4 Sept         | Baca, CO                 |
| Bell's Vireo                 | 1      | 2 Oct          | Bonny Res.               |
| Tennessee Warbler            | 1      | 21 Aug         | E. Colorado              |
| Nashville Warbler            | 4      | 23 Aug-25 Sept | W. Colo                  |
| Chestnut-sided Warbler       | 1      | 11 Oct.        | FrR                      |
| Magnolia Warbler             | 2      | 20-25 Oct      | E. Colo.                 |
| Black-throated Blue Warbler  | 1      | 25 Sept        | FrR                      |
| Townsend's Warbler           | 27     | 23 Aug.-9 Oct  | E&W Colo                 |
| Black-throated Green Warbler | 3      | 19 Sept-25 Oct | E.Colo., FrR             |
| Palm Warbler                 | 4      | 21 Oct-8 Nov   | FrR, Pueblo              |
| Blackpoll Warbler            | 2      | 4-19 Sept.     | E. Colo, FrR             |

|                        |    |                |                                 |
|------------------------|----|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Black & White Warbler  | 2  | 28 Aug-25 Sept | E. Colo., FrR                   |
| American Redstart      | 5  | 14 Aug-11 Sept | NE Colo, FrR                    |
| Hood Warbler           | 1  | 16-24 Nov.     | FrR                             |
| Summer Tanager         | 1  | 25 Sept        | FrR                             |
| Indigo Bunting         | 2  | 6 Aug          | W. Colo                         |
| Dickcissel             | 2  | 1-7 Aug        | Ark. Valley, SE Colo            |
| Field Sparrow          | 5  | 25 Sept-9 Oct  | E. Colo., FrR                   |
| Sage Sparrow           | 1  | 23 Oct         | W. Colo                         |
| Fox Sparrow            | 7  | 18-30 Sept     | Fr. Range, W. Colo              |
| Swamp Sparrow          | 1  | 22 Nov         | FrR                             |
| White-throated Sparrow | 11 | 9 Sept-30 Nov  | E&W Colo                        |
| Rusty Blackbird        | 14 | 11 Oct-27 Nov  | E. Colo.                        |
| Great-tailed Grackle   | 29 | 8 Aug-24 Oct   | FrR, San Luis Valley<br>W. Colo |

### Part III

#### Notable Observations

Red-necked Grebe - 1 at Chatfield Res., Denver, 17 October. (FJJ)

Olivaceous Cormorant - 1 at Terry Lake, Boulder Co., 11 Sept (RBr. KC)

Black Scoter - 1 in NE Colorado, 16 October (JR)  
 - 2 at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe Co.  
 - 7 November (DFO)  
 - 1 at Milton Reservoir, Weld Co., 13 November (JT)

Barrow's Goldeneye - 1a, 5j, 2 miles west of Walden, Jackson, CO, 10 August (JG)

Common Moorhen - 1 at Sawhill Lakes, Boulder CO, 3-12 October (MG. FH)

Caspian Tern - 1 at Union Reservoir, Weld Co., 21 Sept (BH)

Marbled Murrelet - 1 found on McLain Flats Road, Pitkin Co., 23 August, and taken to Hallam Lake Wildlife Sanctuary where it died the following day (TC, DD). No previous records in Colorado.

Groove-billed Ani - 1 at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma Co., (CC)

Eastern Screech Owl - 1 at Jackson Reservoir, Morgan Co., 4 August, (JG). No previous records in Latilong 5.

Spotted Owl - 1 at Gregory Canyon, Boulder Co., 6-7 Novembr (JB, WB)

Black Swift - 14a 2j, 3 nests in the Wild Basin area of Rocky Mountain National Park. 18 July-21 August (DA MF).

Blue-throated Hummingbird - 1 at Coal Creek Canyon. Jefferson Co., Late July -22 September (GE).

Sedge Wren - 1 at Chatfield Reservoir, Denver. 7 November (FJJ). No previous records from latilong 11.

Philadelphia Vireo - 1 at Lyons, Boulder Co., 8 Sept (PB) - 1 at Chatfield Res., Denver. 19 Sept (FJJ) - 1 at Windsor Lake, Denver, 19 September (DFO).

Blue-winger Warbler - 1 at Colorado Springs, El Paso Co., 8-12 November (RB, EW) No previous records from Latilong 19.

Black-throated Green Warbler - 1 at Glenwood Springs, Garfield Co., 25 October (MS). No previous records from Latilong 9.

Prothonotary Warbler - 1 at Lyons, Boulder Co., 17 September (MG), - 1 at Colorado Springs, 6 November (BM, JM)

Canada Warbler - 1 at Wheatridge Greenbelt, Jefferson Co., 2 October (DN)

Sharp-tailed Sparrow - 1 at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe Co., 31 October (PP, JR)

Chestnut-collared Longspur - 1 at Lake Henry, Crowley Co., 26 November (RB). No previous records latilong 20.

#### Initialized observers and organizations:

David Alles (DA)

Phyllis Baker (PB)

Ron Broda (RBr)

John Bregaiz (JB)

Winston William Brockner (WB)

Richard Bunn (RB)

Charles Chase (CC)

Kevin Cook (KC)

Tom Cardomone (TC)

David D. Dominick (DD)

Denver Field Ornithologists (DFO)

Gary Emerson (GE)

Mike Figs (MF)

Joseph Grzybowski (JG)

Mary Griest (MG)

Barbara Hydge (BH)

Freeman Hall (BH)

Frank & Jan Justice (FJJ)

Bill Maynard (BM)

John Maynard (JM)

Duane Nelson (DN)

Phil Pratt (PP)

Jack Reddall (JR)

Mary Steward (MS)

Jim Tate (JT)

Elinor Wills (EW)

## A SUMMARY OF 1982 COLORADO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

David Hutchinson  
7512 Cargen Circle  
Loveland, CO 80537

There were 29 Christmas Bird Counts held in Colorado during the 1982 count period December 18, 1982-January 2, 1983. The summary was compiled from the ledger sheets of the regional editor of American Birds (Mrs. Helen Downing, Sheridan, Wyoming) as of May 13, 1983. Two new counts, Douglas County and Summit County were added to the 1982 count. Notable absences included Bonny Reservoir, Boulder, Crook and Steamboat Springs.

There were 165 species plus 9 additional races, forms, etc. with approximately 247,630 individuals reported for the 29 Colorado Christmas Bird Counts. Three additional species were reported during the various count weeks: Curve-billed Thrasher, Sage Thrasher and McCown's Longspur.

| Count                       | Date  | Observers | Party Hours | Party Miles | Species | Individuals |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| Aspen                       | 12/19 | 19        | 37          | 119.5       | 33+3    | 1615        |
| Barr Lake                   | 12/31 | 6         | 20          | 144         | 54+2    | 8309        |
| Black Forest                | 12/19 | 15        | 25          | 236         | 41+3    | 1254        |
| Colorado Springs            | 12/18 | 77        | 114         | 305         | 85+4    | 11,163      |
| Curecanti NRA               | 12/18 | 7         | 23          | 141.3       | 31      | 1481        |
| Denver                      | 12/18 | 135       | 242.75      | 671.5       | 103+5   | 27,607      |
| Douglas Co.                 | 1/2   | 39        | 56.25       | 196.5       | 43+4    | 3252        |
| Durango                     | 1/1   | 13        | 32          | 132         | 47+1    | 2119        |
| Evergreen-<br>Idaho Springs | 12/19 | 54        | 89.5        | 374.5       | 41+6    | 2981        |
| Fort Collins                | 1/1   | 28        | 89          | 370         | 80+4    | 26,316      |
| Grand Junction              | 1/2   | 31        | 65          | 369         | 84+2    | 28,632      |
| Greeley                     | 1/2   | 20        | 50          | 437.5       | 47+2    | 16,681      |
| Gunnison                    | 12/19 | 12        | 37          | 280         | 37+4    | 2170        |
| Hotchkiss                   | 1/1   | 8         | 26          | 191         | 64+2    | 5032        |
| Indian Peaks                | 1/1   | 38        | 112         | 244         | 37+5    | 1433        |

|                 |       |    |       |        |      |        |
|-----------------|-------|----|-------|--------|------|--------|
| Lake Isabel     | 1/2   | 9  | 24    | 177    | 56+3 | 4103   |
| Longmont        | 12/18 | 36 | 110   | 645.5  | 86+3 | 20,083 |
| Monte Vista     |       |    |       |        |      |        |
| NWR             | 12/23 | 2  | 16    | 98     | 38+1 | 12,515 |
| North Park      | 12/28 | 6  | 14    | 165    | 23+2 | 473    |
| Nunn            | 12/21 | 14 | 36    | 320    | 31+1 | 5426   |
| Pike's Peak     | 12/31 | 5  | 14.75 |        | 23+3 | 339    |
| Pueblo          | 12/19 | 10 | 32    | 209    | 76+3 | 12,517 |
| Pueblo          |       |    |       |        |      |        |
| Reservoir       | 12/18 | 16 | 34    | 233.75 | 86+3 | 5952   |
| Roaring Fork    |       |    |       |        |      |        |
| River Valley    | 12/19 | 34 | 95    | 150    | 60+5 | 1782   |
| Rocky Mt NP     | 12/18 | 25 | 58    | 317    | 35+3 | 1150   |
| San Luis Valley | 1/2   | 7  | 17    | 125    | 32   | 2263   |
| Summit County   | 12/30 | 4  | 7     | 24     | 23+1 | 192    |
| Weldona -       |       |    |       |        |      |        |
| Ft. Morgan      | 12/19 | 4  | 19    | 241    | 59+3 | 39,205 |
| Westcliffe      | 12/28 | 6  | 15    | 208    | 31+4 | 1585   |

## Species with 1000 or more individuals

|                            |        |                     |      |
|----------------------------|--------|---------------------|------|
| Canada Goose               | 62,938 | Common Crow         | 4135 |
| Starling                   | 34,341 | Rock Dove           | 4107 |
| R-wing Blackbird           | 32,857 | House Finch         | 3344 |
| Mallard                    | 30,593 | Mountain Chickadee  | 2357 |
| House Sparrow              | 8611   | Pine Siskin         | 2113 |
| Dark-eyed Junco            | 8577   | Bl-cap Chickadee    | 1847 |
| (Oregon 4938, Pink-sid 46  |        | Common Raven        | 1417 |
| Gr-head 2078, Sl-col 1171, |        | American Robin      | 1311 |
| Wh-wing 344)               |        | Steller's Jay       | 1285 |
| Horned Lark                | 8371   | Song Sparrow        | 1280 |
| Black-billed Magpie        | 5177   | Common Flicker      | 1123 |
| Tree Sparrow               | 4647   | (R-sh 1000, Y-sh 6) |      |
|                            |        | Ring-billed Gull    | 1113 |
|                            |        | Pygmy Nuthatch      | 1007 |

LEGEND: A-Number of counts; B-High number, Count; C-Total  
Individuals.

| SPECIES             | A  | B              | C      |
|---------------------|----|----------------|--------|
| Common Loon         | 1  | 1 DEN          | 1      |
| Yellow-billed Loon  | 1  | 2 DEN          | 2      |
| Arctic Loon         | 1  | 1 DEN          | 1      |
| Red-throated Loon   | 1  | 1 DEN          | 1      |
| Horned Grebe        | 2  | 2 CUR, PR      | 4      |
| Eared Grebe         | 1  | 5 PR           | 5      |
| Western Grebe       | 3  | 7 DEN          | 13     |
| Pied-billed Grebe   | 7  | 18 DEN         | 49     |
| D-cr Cormorant      | 2  | 4 PR           | 7      |
| Great Blue Heron    | 17 | 25 DEN         | 107    |
| Bl-cr Night Heron   | 1  | 1 GJ           | 1      |
| Canada Goose        | 17 | 19,287 WFM     | 62,938 |
| Gr Wh-fr Goose      | 2  | 2 PUE          | 3      |
| Snow Goose          | 3  | 9 GRE          | 13     |
| Ross' Goose         | 1  | 6 DEN          | 6      |
| Mallard             | 24 | 9500 MV        | 30,593 |
| Gadwall             | 9  | 77 DEN         | 146    |
| Pintail             | 14 | 300 CUR        | 727    |
| Am Gr-wing Teal     | 15 | 120 CUR        | 435    |
| Cinnamon Teal       | 1  | 4 CUR          | 4      |
| American Wigeon     | 14 | 331 DEN        | 951    |
| Northern Shoveler   | 6  | 112 CS         | 211    |
| Wood Duck           | 5  | 37 CJ          | 47     |
| Redhead             | 8  | 15 GJ, PUE     | 61     |
| Ring-necked Duck    | 10 | 185 GJ         | 333    |
| Canvasback          | 4  | 10 DEN         | 20     |
| Lesser Scaup        | 5  | 126 CS         | 199    |
| Common Goldeneye    | 7  | 117 LON        | 491    |
| Barrow's Goldeneye  | 1  | 6 RFRV         | 6      |
| Bufflehead          | 8  | 34 CS          | 84     |
| Ruddy Duck          | 3  | 4 CUR          | 7      |
| Hooded Merganser    | 3  | 16 DEN         | 21     |
| Common Merganser    | 13 | 409 DEN        | 585    |
| R-br Merganser      | 2  | 9 DEN          | 10     |
| duck, sp.           | 3  | 18 CS          | 41     |
| Goshawk             | 13 | 4 CS, DEN      | 23     |
| Sh-sh Hawk          | 11 | 3 LON          | 17     |
| Cooper's Hawk       | 10 | 11 CJ          | 23     |
| accipiter, sp.      | 1  | 1 CS           | 1      |
| Red-tailed Hawk     | 25 | 43 CS          | 291    |
| R-t (Harlan's Hawk) | 4  | 2 DOU, FC, PUE | 7      |
| Rough-legged Hawk   | 20 | 37 MV          | 171    |
| Ferruginous Hawk    | 10 | 13 PUE         | 38     |
| buteo, sp.          | 6  | 6CS            | 12     |

|                     |    |              |      |
|---------------------|----|--------------|------|
| Golden Eagle        | 18 | 15 NUN       | 83   |
| Bald Eagle          | 13 | 28 CUR       | 85   |
| eagle, sp.          | 1  | 1 HOT        | 1    |
| Marsh Hawk          | 17 | 32 MV        | 218  |
| Prairie Falcon      | 16 | 7 GJ         | 42   |
| Peregrine Falcon    | 2  | 1 DUR, HOT   | 2    |
| Merlin              | 5  | 5 NUN        | 13   |
| American Kestrel    | 19 | 86 GJ        | 435  |
| falcon, sp.         | 1  | 3 CS         | 3    |
| hawk, sp.           | 2  | 2 CS, DEN    | 2    |
| Blue Grouse         | 2  | 2 IP         | 3    |
| Wh-t Ptarmigan      | 2  | 6 RMNP       | 8    |
| Sage Grouse         | 2  | 55 NP        | 57   |
| Bobwhite            | 1  | 3 FC         | 3    |
| Scaled Quail        | 3  | 49 LI        | 86   |
| Gambel's Quail      | 1  | 170 GJ       | 170  |
| Ring-neck Pheasant  | 13 | 73 BL        | 287  |
| Chukar              | 1  | 8 GJ         | 8    |
| Turkey              | 2  | 13 KU        | 15   |
| Sandhill Crane      | 1  | 21 MB        | 21   |
| Virginia Rail       | 3  | 5 DEN, WFM   | 11   |
| Sora                | 1  | 1 CS         | 1    |
| American Coot       | 8  | 229 DEN      | 381  |
| Killdeer            | 14 | 36 CS        | 163  |
| Common Snipe        | 17 | 29 LON       | 120  |
| Spotted Sandpiper   | 1  | 1 GJ         | 1    |
| Sandpiper, sp.      | 1  | 1 BL         | 1    |
| Herring Gull        | 3  | 74 DEN       | 87   |
| Thayer's Gull       | 1  | 1 DEN        | 1    |
| Ring-billed Gull    | 6  | 939 DEN      | 1115 |
| gull, sp.           | 1  | 114 DEN      | 114  |
| Rock Dove           | 24 | 858 GJ       | 4107 |
| Mourning Dove       | 12 | 470 GJ       | 547  |
| Roadrunner          | 1  | 1 PR         | 1    |
| E Screech Owl       | 2  | 2 DEN, FC    | 4    |
| W Screech Owl       | 2  | 4 GJ         | 7    |
| Great Horned Owl    | 20 | 31 PR        | 135  |
| Pygmy Owl           | 1  | 1 RMNP       | 1    |
| Long-eared Owl      | 6  | 7 SLV        | 14   |
| Short-eared Owl     | 1  | 1 PR         | 1    |
| Belted Kingfisher   | 20 | 36 DEN       | 148  |
| Common Flicker      | 5  | 73 WFM       | 107  |
| R-sh Flicker        | 21 | 208 DEN      | 1000 |
| Y-sh Flicker        | 4  | 3 GRE        | 6    |
| Lewis' Woodpecker   | 9  | 9 HOT        | 40   |
| Y-bel Sapsucker     | 4  | 2 PUE        | 5    |
| Hairy Woodpecker    | 23 | 28 DEN       | 146  |
| Downy Woodpecker    | 26 | 52 DEN       | 284  |
| Lad-back Woodpecker | 2  | 2 PR         | 3    |
| N Thr-t Woodpecker  | 3  | 1 IP, NP, PP | 3    |
| Say's Phoebe        | 2  | 2 GJ         | 3    |



|                       |    |            |         |        |
|-----------------------|----|------------|---------|--------|
| Horned Lark           | 20 | 4388       | NUN     | 8371   |
| Gray Jay              | 8  | 22         | IP      | 46     |
| Blue Jay              | 11 | 75         | FC      | 244    |
| Steller's Jay         | 20 | 501        | DEN     | 1285   |
| Scrub Jay             | 16 | 194        | DOU     | 670    |
| Bl-bill Magpie        | 29 | 1104       | DEN     | 5177   |
| Common Raven          | 25 | 307        | DOU     | 1417   |
| Wh-neck Raven         | 1  | 3          | CS      | 3      |
| Common Crow           | 20 | 1429       | CS      | 4135   |
| Pinyon Jay            | 4  | 53         | CS      | 103    |
| Clark's Nutcracker    | 4  | 18         | IP      | 37     |
| Bl-cap Chickadee      | 29 | 403        | DEN     | 1847   |
| Mtn Chickadee         | 27 | 597        | IP      | 2357   |
| Pl Titmouse           | 6  | 22         | GJ      | 33     |
| Bushtit               | 7  | 142        | GJ      | 372    |
| Wh-br Nuthatch        | 23 | 54         | CS      | 370    |
| R-br Nuthatch         | 13 | 22         | EIS     | 69     |
| Pygmy Nuthatch        | 6  | 304        | DEN     | 1007   |
| Brown Creeper         | 21 | 20         | CS      | 126    |
| Dipper                | 18 | 42         | LON     | 163    |
| House Wren            | 1  | 1          | FC      | 1      |
| Winter Wren           | 1  | 1          | WFM     | 1      |
| Bewick's Wren         | 4  | 11         | GJ      | 22     |
| Long-bill Marsh Wren  | 5  | 9          | HOT     | 18     |
| Canyon Wren           | 10 | 12         | DEN     | 46     |
| Rock Wren             | 5  | 2          | GJ, HOT | 7      |
| Brown Thrasher        | 2  | 2          | DOU     | 3      |
| Curve-bill Thrasher   |    | Count week | PUE     |        |
| Sage Thrasher         |    | Count week | PR      |        |
| Am Robin              | 17 | 466        | GJ      | 1311   |
| E Bluebird            | 1  | 1          | FC      | 1      |
| W Bluebird            | 1  | 17         | HOT1    | 19     |
| Mtn Bluebird          | 5  | 138        | PR      | 242    |
| Townsend's Solitaire  | 22 | 91         | DEN     | 331    |
| Bl-gr Gnatcatcher     | 2  | 1          | GJ, HOT | 2      |
| Gold-cr Kinglet       | 4  | 26         | CS      | 47     |
| Ruby-cr Kinglet       | 10 | 6          | GJ      | 18     |
| Water Pipit           | 4  | 2          | BL, PUE | 6      |
| Bohemian Waxwing      | 1  | 49         | WFM     | 40     |
| Cedar Waxwing         | 4  | 67         | ASP     | 186    |
| N Shrike              | 19 | 5          | WFM     | 38     |
| Loggerhead Shrike     | 4  | 4          | PR      | 9      |
| shrike, sp.           | 1  | 1          | WES     | 1      |
| Starling              | 26 | 6758       | GJ      | 34,341 |
| Yel-r (Myrtle)Warbler | 1  | 1          | FC      | 1      |
| Yel-r (Aud) Warbler   | 3  | 36         | GJ      | 44     |
| House Sparrow         | 26 | 1090       | GRE     | 8611   |
| W Meadowlark          | 16 | 277        | GJ      | 935    |
| Yel-head Blackbird    | 1  | 1          | FC      | 1      |
| R-wing Blackbird      | 21 | 14,625     | WFM     | 32,857 |
| N(Bullock's) Oriole   | 1  | 1          | DEN     | 1      |

|                       |       |              |      |
|-----------------------|-------|--------------|------|
| Rusty Blackbird       | 3     | 14 WFM       | 19   |
| Brewer's Blackbird    | 9     | 118 GJ       | 396  |
| Common Grackle        | 6     | 15 GRE       | 31   |
| Br-head Cowbird       | 2     | 1 BL, WFM    | 2    |
| Evening Grosbeak      | 8     | 97 DEN       | 370  |
| Purple Finch          | 1     | 1 LI         | 1    |
| Cassin's Finch        | 8     | 59 EIS       | 167  |
| House Finch           | 22    | 766 DEN      | 3344 |
| Pine Grosbeak         | 6     | 32 IP        | 50   |
| (Gr-cr) Rosy Finch    | 9     | 196 NP       | 387  |
| (Black) Rosy Finch    | 6     | 20 DEN       | 35   |
| (Br-cap) Rosy Finch   | 7     | 100 GUN      | 222  |
| rosy finch, sp.       | 2     | 100 IP, RMNP | 200  |
| Common Redpoll        | 1     | 12 WFM       | 12   |
| Am Goldfinch          | 15    | 200 GJ       | 820  |
| Lesser Goldfinch      | 4     | 23 CS        | 49   |
| Red Crossbill         | 3     | 10 IP        | 22   |
| Gr-tail Towhee        | 4     | 2 DUR        | 5    |
| R-sid Towhee          | 12    | 57 CS        | 141  |
| Brown Towhee          | 3     | 6 PUE, PR    | 14   |
| Vesper Sparrow        | 1     | 1 FC         | 1    |
| Sage Sparrow          | 1     | 1 GUN        | 1    |
| D-e(Wh-w) Junco       | 14    | 54 DEN       | 344  |
| D-e(Sl-col) Junco     | 23    | 288 DEN      | 1171 |
| D-e(Oregon) Junco     | 25    | 795 DEN      | 4892 |
| D-e(Ore Pink-s) Junco | 1     | 46 EIS       | 46   |
| D-e(Gr Head) Junco    | 22    | 473 DEN      | 2078 |
| Tree Sparrow          | 25    | 1015 DEN     | 4647 |
| Chipping Sparrow      | 2     | 4 CS, GJ     | 8    |
| Clay-col Sparrow      | 1     | 1 EIS        | 1    |
| Spizella, sp.         | 1     | 20 SLV       | 20   |
| Harris' Sparrow       | 11    | 34 WFM       | 53   |
| Wh-cr Sparrow         | 17    | 1605 PUE     | 3672 |
| Gold-cr Sparrow       | 2     | 1 IP, SUM    | 1    |
| Wh-thr Sparrow        | 5     | 7 WFM        | 15   |
| Fox Sparrow           | 3     | 4 WFM        | 6    |
| Lincoln's Sparrow     | 3     | 2 PUE        | 4    |
| Swamp Sparrow         | 4     | 3 DEN, WFM   | 10   |
| Song Sparrow          | 22    | 295 DEN      | 1280 |
| McCown's Longspur     | Count | Week PR      |      |
| Lapland Longspur      | 3     | 120 NUN      | 137  |
| Snow Bunting          | 1     | 2 NP         | 2    |

## 1983 SPRING, SUMMER, FALL SEASONAL REPORT

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In order to bring the CFO JOURNAL seasonal reports up to date, the year 1983 has been compressed into this one abbreviated report.

Winter and spring were quite wet resulting in very high water levels in almost all reservoirs. This high water level remained through the year. Phenomenal songbird fallouts occurred throughout the spring, while few waterbirds/shorebirds were seen. Precipitation was normal for the summer but low during the fall, with no major fronts moving through Colorado. Most birds passed over Colorado; migration was a continuous trickle instead of a series of waves.

## SPRING

The premier moment of the spring was the immature Ross' Gull at Jumbo Res., near Julesberg, 28 April-7 May, which was viewed by over 100 observers. Very large numbers of songbirds were found throughout the Great Plains, including thousands of Thrushes (1600 in one day at Fort Collins), and 35 species of Warblers (167 Blackpolls, a Cape May and a Louisiana Waterthrush.) The Swallow-tailed Kite on 24 May was observed by 16 birders on a trip to Chatfield Reservoir. Unfortunately, no photos were taken. Additional highlights of the spring included Red-necked Grebe at Boulder, several Least Bitterns, 3 reports of European Wigeon, 2-3 Common Gallinules, a Red-shouldered Hawk, and 3 male Painted Buntings including one banded at Fort Collins.

## SUMMER

This summer was especially productive for the Latilong study, with 47 changes found on three different trips. Many species are finally being documented as breeding in Colorado such as the Hepatic Tanager in Las Animas Co., Yellow-crowned Night Heron in the Denver City Park rookery; and the continuing spread of Scott's Oriole through the Grand Junction area. Clark's Grebe (light-faced) surprised researchers by breeding at numerous sites around the state. Western and Eastern Screech Owls are found nesting in adjacent trees in Baca and Las Animas Counties, while Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were notable for their almost complete absence from Colorado this summer.

Grass production resulted in such tall growth that there are almost a virtual absence of birds such as Chesnut-collared Longspurs. Birds nesting in mid-grass habitats such as Grasshopper Sparrows, Upland Sandpiper and Lark Bunting bred extremely well throughout the plains.

Antero Reservoir hosted the first summer record of Glaucous Gull. Also seen were Caspian Tern, Laughing Gull, Little Blue Heron, breeding Mountain and Snowy Plovers, and breeding Western Phalaropes. Black-throated Sparrows were found along the Purgatory in Las Animas County, Great-tailed Grackles were again found in Buena Vista, and a Piping Plover was viewed at close range at Red Lion.

#### FALL

This was the year when fall didn't. Most migrants seemed to completely bypass Colorado on the way South during one of the mildest falls recorded.

The high point of a rather slow fall was the invasion of Brambling from Asia. The first, an immature male at Colorado Springs, remained seven days, attracting birders from all over the country. Three or more others were located in Pueblo, Boulder, Logan, Utah and North Dakota.

Numerous small groups and individual shorebirds could be found though no massed shorebirds were located. Noteworthy were the Ruff reported in Weld Co., Knots, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone and a Red Phalarope. Several species of shorebird remained quite late, into early December. Three Parasitic and one Pomarine Jaeger were reported from the plains along with an early Glaucous Gull and a few Sabine's. Franklin's Gulls staged a phenomenal flight similar to 1981 when over 100,000 were censused throughout the state. While there were few songbirds seen compared to normal falls, a few of the noteworthy wanderers included a Groove-billed Ani and a Rosy Finch in the Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs. Several late warblers included Yellow-throated in Fort Collins, Black-throated Blue at Golden, Hooded at Boulder, and several Black-throated Greens. A very late Lark Bunting was sighted on 24 November. Many montane birds were found in foothill and front range communities, while several localities reported Rosy Finches on the plains, leading observers to suspect a harsh upcoming winter.

## FOURTH ANNUAL CFO/DMNH TAXONOMY CLINIC

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Part 2: Aimophila Sparrows

PHILLIPS: The genus Aimophila can generally be split up into two groups: a colorful group and a plain group. Of the colorful group, we have only two species in the U.S., Aimophila ruficauda, the rufous-tailed or stripe-headed sparrow and Aimophila quinquestriata, the five-striped sparrow. On the stripe-headed, you can see the black and white stripes on the head and also the rufous wing area; the whole lesser and middle wing coverts are rufous giving it quite a prominent pattern. This is a large sparrow with a dark gray chest band contrasting with a white throat. There are several other colorful Aimophilas that occur throughout Mexico but the only other in the U.S. is the five-striped sparrow which occurs in southern Arizona. It has a mostly black head with narrow white stripes; the five stripes are two on the side of the head, above and below the eye and one down the middle of the throat. The white stripes are very narrow and contrast with the blackish head and dark gray breast. Those are the two colorful Aimophila that occur in the U.S., both of which are extremely rare though the five-striped now occurs regularly in southern Arizona.

Now we will deal with the plain type Aimophila of which there are five species that occur in the U.S.: A. aestivalis, the Bachman's Sparrow of the southeastern US; A. carpalis, Rufous-winged Sparrow; A. ruficeps, Rufous-crowned Sparrow; A. cassinii, Cassin's Sparrow; and A. botterii, Botteri's Sparrow of the southwest.

CHASE: Cassin's and Rufous-crowned are the only two that occur in Colorado.

PHILLIPS: And are the only ones likely to ever occur. As you can see, the plain Aimophila's are brown and grayish or blackish above and plain breasted. There is commonly a sub-malar stripe or whisker which you can see quite well in this Rufous-crowned. The patterns are not very striking except sometimes in the side of the head and even then they are much less apparent than patterns in sparrows such as the Song Sparrow.

The Rufous-crowned has a rufous crown and a rufous line through the eye with a dark sub-malar stripe. The white throat contrasts with the dusky breast and sides. You have to be careful in using the back color as a diagnostic feature since as you can clearly see in these two birds there is a wide range of color from red to dull gray. Those found on the Great Plains are quite gray, while those of the Rockies are reddish. By the time you get to California, the birds are dark red. There is a large difference between these different areas as you can easily see.

The Rufous-winged Sparrow is a very handsome bird with the same head pattern as the Rufous-crowned except that it has a more pronounced whisker mark, both above and below the malar region. There is a fine black stripe and of course as the name carpalis implies, it has a rufous wing patch on the wing or carpal area (meaning the front of the wing where the lesser and middle coverts come up).

The Bachman's is the only Aimophila found in the eastern US. A common name for it is the Pine Woods Sparrow which nicely describes the habitat this bird is commonly found in; the grassy undergrowth of pine woods. The Bachman's Sparrow, typically of most eastern forms of bird is rather dark and is the eastern version of the Botteri's Sparrow. Except for the blackened crown and darker body of the Bachman's, these two birds are virtually identical. The stripe on the side of the head, the post ocular stripe, is reddish as is part of the crown in both. Both species vary widely across their ranges and some Botteri's from Mexico are also identical to the Bachman's. At one time, they were thought to be conspecific.

The Cassin's Sparrow looks a great deal like a grayer Botteri's. The key field character, besides of course the voice, is the back. The Botteri's is streaked on the back, that is the black on the back is in the form of streaks, whereas the black on the back of the Cassin's tends to form a crossbar on the feathers.

WEBB: I have been studying these two sparrows in Arizona and I often can't tell the two apart by plumage characters. If you are not a taxonomist, and I definitely fall into that category, you may have to use something other than plumage differences to differentiate these two species. Behavioral characters are fortunately quite distinct between these two.

During the breeding season Botteri's and Cassin's have markedly different songs and habitat preferences. During the breeding season, the Botteri's also has a behavior that the Cassin's does not: tail flicking upon landing. When a Botteri's lands on a bush of grass it goes through quite a series of tail-flick, crest-erecting, and wing fluttering; the Cassin's does not.

Q: Does this behavior only occur during the breeding season?

WEBB: I am not sure as I and very few people have seen this bird on its wintering grounds.

Q: Cassin's simply land on a branch without all the movements?

WEBB: Yes..when it lands it might adjust itself because it often lands on small branches and must catch its balance. If it lands on a thorn, there is quite a bit of fluttering. The Botteri's will typically flutter noticeably when landing and many flick its tail for up to 30 seconds.

Q: How long does it normally flick its tail?

WEBB: I would say 5 to 10 seconds of obvious flicking. The songs of these two birds are really the easiest way to differentiate them. The Botteri's start off with chipping then a descending bouncing ball section which is... bing, bing, bing, bing....speeding up at the end. A Cassin's is a three part song that has a descending whistle, a trill, and a double loop at the end. The only definite way that you can tell these two species apart during the breeding season is the song. Their chipping, unfortunately, is quite similar.

In Southeastern Arizona, where I have been working on these birds, the two use very different habitats. The Cassin's live in the upland grasslands interspersed with varying amounts of shrubs. They don't live in the extremely shrubby areas but it's also not pure grassland either. The Botteri's prefer the Sacaton bottomlands which are broad, grassy, flat, open washes with almost pure stands of Sacaton grass. The Sacaton may stand up to seven foot and is extremely difficult to see little brown sparrows in. There is some but actually very little overlap in habitat. The breeding range of the Botteri's extends into the southern US into two areas: southern Texas and southern Arizona. They are all over the place in Mexico. The Cassin's on the other hand are somewhat confusing.

PHILLIPS: The Cassin's has two different breeding areas in the US, generally speaking. On the Great Plains and out in eastern Colorado where the rainfall comes in the winter and spring and it is hot and dry in the summer, the birds breed in the spring. In Arizona and New Mexico, they breed in July when the summer rains begin. It seems to me that it is quite likely that the birds that breed in Colorado and the Plains in the spring move down and breed a second time in southern Arizona. They are rarely seen and certainly not heard in Arizona in May and early June.

WEBB: That may be because it is 150 degrees then -- I certainly wouldn't be singing then either.

CHASE: The censuses that I conducted for three years near John Martin Dam in Bent County suggest that if any birds are leaving Colorado and going to Arizona to breed in July, it is only birds that are non-breeders or birds that failed in their nesting attempt in Colorado.

PHILLIPS: Before we go on to the next group, let me comment on the backs of Botteri's and Cassins. While it may not be easy to see the characteristic streaking in Botteri's, you should be able to note that the black at the end of the feather does go forward noticeably to form a streak; whereas, in Cassin's, it is very limited in the lengthwise extent.

Part 3: Owls, large hummingbirds, flycatchers, and shrikes.

One matter of current interest in Colorado is the increasing number of Boreal Owls. Today, we will take a look at the difference between the Boreal and Saw-whet Owl. The size difference is fairly noticeable, though that may be difficult to ascertain in the spruce forest at fifty meters with nothing for size comparison. Notice the conspicuous white spotting on the upper head above the eyes of the Boreal. It is generally a gray bird while the Saw-whet is always a rusty brown bird. The Saw-whet back is unspotted and the crown is streaked-finely streaked, unlike the obvious spotting on the crown of the Boreal, which also has spotting on its back.

CHASE: The Boreal also has a strongly marked facial disk; clearly outlined in black with no rust or brown inside the facial discs which is variably present in the adult Saw-whet.

Q: What about the color of the bill?

CHASE: If you can discern the bill color then you should be able to see the plumage characters that we have described and these will be more diagnostic than bill color. The bill of the Boreal is pale/horn colored, while the Saw-whet's is dark with a pale tip. As you can see in these specimens, this may not always be easy to see.

PHILLIPS: You must also remember that the Saw-whet comes in two very different flavors - adult and juvenal. The juvenal plumage is solid dark brown above and a warm tawny on the belly instead of white with brownish streaks. I don't have the juvenal plumage of the Boreal here; do you know what it looks like?

CHASE: Overall, it is mottled, darker version of the adult. It is definitely not the solid warm colors of a Saw-whet.



PHILLIPS: Let's next take a look at the two large hummingbirds that occur in Colorado: Blue-throated and Rivoli's or Magnificent. While we do not have a Blue-throated in the collection, I think we can see the differences by looking at this series of Rivoli's. Note that Rivoli's females are rather dingy gray underneath while the males are dark greenish. The Blue-throated female is a uniform gray underneath, it is not mottled as the Rivoli's nor is it very dark. The blue throat of the male is usually obvious with a very sharp line of demarcation between the dark blue gorget against the gray chest. The green gorget of the Rivoli's male is not always clearly distinguished from the breast and belly. Rivoli's has a solid dark tail in the adult male or gray corners to the tail of the female; the gray is quite limited to the corners. The Blue-throated has pure white in the tail corners regardless of sex. The white is much more extensive, often extending half way up the outer tail feather. There is also a difference in the striping on the side of the head. The Blue-throated has a clearly marked white stripe below the dark eye stripe; the Rivoli's does not have this mark. It only has a small white streak above and behind the eye which the Blue-throated also has.

Q: Even the male Blue-throated has a white tail?

PHILLIPS: Oh, certainly. Now, I'd like to turn to my theme song: the flycatchers. We will start with Myiarchus and then cover Empidonax quickly since we've covered them several times already. There are four species of Myiarchus that normally occur in the U.S. while a fifth is accidental. The typical one in Colorado is the Ash-throated, though I suppose Great Crested may occur.

CHASE: Great Cresteds are rather regular on the plains along the rivers.

PHILLIPS: That stands to reason. The Ash-throated is the whitest on the belly of all the Myiarchus although there is a yellowish tinge to the belly in the fall. It is important to note that it doesn't have to be absolutely whitish. The tail of the Ash-throated has the most diagnostic character- a dusky tip to the end. No other Myiarchus has it. The Great Crested and the Wied's have solidly rufous tips to the tail and the Olivaceous has a solidly dusky tail. The Olivaceous is told as a Myiarchus only by the rufous on the sides of the primaries and secondaries. This is true only of the race that occurs in Arizona. The race that is casual in the Chiso's mountains of Texas has quite a lot of red in it and has only been recorded from one very worn specimen.

Wied's and Great Crested are rather similar, though you should have little trouble with them. The Great Crested is more greenish on the back which contrasts with the crown and sides of the neck. The gray breast is usually strongly contrasting with the bright yellow belly though this will be variable with age and wear. In the hand you can tell them by the outer tail feathers. The Wied's has a dusky stripe separating the rufous from the shaft while the Great Crested has the rufous all the way to the shaft. This is true for the adult; the juvenile has more rufous in the tail. This is true for all Myiarchus that I am familiar with, even the Olivaceous.

Of course, as in all flycatchers voice is extremely useful. Each species has a very different call. Olivaceous has a very sad whistle, Great Crested has a sharp loud whistle, and Wied's is reminiscent of a Cassin's Kingbird.

Q: What about the Ash-throated?

PHILLIPS: It gives a series of sharp notes somewhat like a Western Kingbird.

Let's now look at Empidonax. Today, I am going to go over several general characters and then go into more detail about the Willow and Alder Flycatchers. After you have looked at a few million of these things, as I have, you can recognize the species by a combination of size and the exact size, shape and color of the lower mandible in contrast to the adjacent throat. But until you have seen a few million, you will need to look at a variety of other characters. Most field characters you can forget about, they are too variable with the exception of the Gray Flycatcher. If the bird dips its tail, it is a Gray! Most Empidonax can be separated into green and gray/brown types, as well as eastern and western types. The eastern types, particularly the Acadian and Yellow-bellied have very dark wings with pale, very pale wingbars. There is a strong contrast. The western types such as the Dusky and Hammonds have pale wingbars but the wings themselves are also fairly pale so that there is very little contrast though you should be able to clearly discern them.

Q: I can't discern any kind of wingbar.

CHASE: Most long time field observers tend to have great imaginations that they pass off as discerning and educated eyes.

PHILLIPS: Well, certainly if you have been in the game long enough you can see many of these subtle characters fairly easily. These birds can be divided into different throat types. If it has any amount of yellow in the throat, then it is a Yellow-bellied or a Western. The Acadian, Willow, and Alder have white throats while the others have gray throats. An occasional Acadian may have some yellow

in the throat, but it will be fine clear yellow unlike the yellow in the other two with yellow throats. The Western will usually have some amount of yellow on the throat as well as some yellow on the belly. The Hammond's can be very yellow on the belly but it will always have a gray throat. The Dusky is overall less contrasty on the front than is the Hammond's which also has a tiny bill. The Gray is overall a gray bird but as I said look at the tail: if it dips down, it is a Gray. This bird seems almost like a miniature phoebe, perched in the open, dipping/wagging its tail down, though not as jerkily as phoebes do. The other flycatchers such as the Hammonds and Dusky flick their tail and wings though I don't think you can really separate the two by behavior very well. The outer web of the outer tail feather of the Gray is really white, if you should happen to see it.

Next, let's talk about the Traills' group, the despair of everybody. There are numerous slight differences besides the very distinctive calls. The Willow gives the "fitz-bew" type of call and the Alder the "fee-bee-o" type. If you don't hear them in the field, it is best to call them a Traill's. The Alder tends to be greener with clearer wing bars. The Willow, in the west is grayer with dirty looking wing bars. The Willow is supposed to have a less distinct eye ring which, as you can see here, is interrupted and dirty looking. All of these characters are very subtle with lots of variation due to age, molt, and season. I don't think you can tell anything in many of the fall birds.

Q: You mean the best way is to tell them in the hand?

PHILLIPS: I mean the only way. In the fall when they are not calling, you have to net them and look at the wing formula. The outer primary of the alder is about the same length as the sixth. In the Willow the tenth is as short as the fifth or slightly shorter. The only other flycatcher with a wing as pointed as the Alder is the Acadian.

Q: What are the habitat differences, if any?

PHILLIPS: Well, in Colorado during migration there are none. On the breeding grounds the Alder nests in Alder swamps and other cold swamps. The Willow nests along creeks and brushy areas where the ground is moist. It is less restricted in its habitat use.

Q: Where is the nearest place that Alders breed?

PHILLIPS: I would think up around central Alberta and British Columbia but I am not really sure. I am sure that they move through Colorado in the spring, and most likely in August and early September as well.

The next group, or actually species pair, is the shrikes. There are only two in North America: the smaller and more southern Loggerhead and the large, pale Northern. The Northern is paler in the lores and across the forehead. The Loggerhead has a white line over the eye but it doesn't really show until behind the lores. There is quite a resemblance though. The black eye band of the loggerhead is fairly consistent in width for its entire length while the band tends to be constricted in front of the eye of the Northern. This is made even more apparent by the pale lower mandible of the Northern. The Loggerhead has an all black bill. On character that is fairly well publicized is the scalloping pattern on the breast and belly of the Northern. It is brownish in young birds and gray in adults. I believe the barring/scalloping is more pronounced in the females, which are also larger than the males in both species. Care must be used with the pale lower mandible as young Loggerheads can show pale bills; if it is all black it is a Loggerhead but if pale it can be either. The young can usually be identified until the next spring by looking at the alular and outer greater covers which are pale. They are black in the adults.



## A SITE GUIDE FOR DELTA, COLORADO

Mark Janos  
860 Sharpe Circle  
Delta, CO 81416

The bird watcher who visits Western Colorado faces a real scarcity of information on where to visit, and in some cases does not even know what bird species to expect. While Delta may not be your primary destination, it is less than an hour from Grand Junction and the Colorado National Monument and is a convenient stopping point between Grand Junction and Montrose. Ouray and Durango are further south on Colorado Highway 50.

Delta is located in a semi-arid basin formed by the higher Uncompahgre Plateau on the west, the San Juan Mountains to the south, the West Elk Mountains on the east and Grand Mesa on the north. A number of interesting canyons, riparian woodlands and permanent reservoirs are found within a short distance of Delta. These offer a wide variety of birding that one would not expect when first viewing the dry countryside.

Drive about 31 miles south of Grand Junction on Highway 50 to reach the entrance to Escalante Canyon. Visit this area especially if you have not had a chance to bird the pinyon-juniper habitat west of Grand Junction. Enter at the roadside rest area by a historical marker and take the gravel road west from here. The road soon leads downhill and crosses the Gunnison River (2.7 miles) and then Escalante Creek (0.1 mile). For the next 14.2 miles you will travel upstream along Escalante Creek. The road through this wild rocky canyon is narrow and rough in places but easily passable by car.

For the first 7.5 miles, the main features are the riparian woodland, pastures and meadows along the creek. Watch the fence lines, rocky hillsides and scattered trees for Ash-throated Flycatcher, Say's Phoebe and Canyon and Rock Wren. Chukars are often seen in the meadows and irrigation ditches and among the broken rim rocks. At 3.5 miles from the Gunnison River, a road forks back to the left and crosses the creek bed. Do not cross here but stop in summer and listen for Western Kingbird and Western Wood Pewees in the trees. Blue Grosbeaks and both Indigo and Lazuli Buntings should be seen here and heard singing along the creek.

Continue an additional 6.0 miles and watch for a roadside rest table hidden off the road to the right. You have gradually gained altitude and will now find yourself in a fine pinyon-juniper and oakbrush woodland. This is a good place to look for the birds characteristic of this habitat. By listening carefully you should

hear roving groups of Black-capped and Mountain Chickadees, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, White-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick's Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Solitary Vireo. At least one Black-throated Gray Warbler should be wheezing his song from the tip of a juniper and occasional bands of Scrub and Pinyon Jays may fly in. White-throated Swifts twitter overhead along the cliffs and Black-throated Hummingbirds are easy to find on the dry slopes. Cooper's Hawks have nested in this vicinity and Gray Flycatchers might be found in the pinyons.

This is a good place to see Gray Vireo. The easiest way to find one is to learn the song and listen for it (a lazy slurred version of the Solitary Vireo's song). This vireo forages low in the junipers and pines and will usually feed for a minute in one tree before flying off to feed in another, sometimes a hundred yards distant. It will look like a very drab Solitary Vireo or perhaps like a large, slow-moving Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. The fine pale eye-ring and pale wingbar, good field marks at close range, are hard to see at a distance.

Continue up the canyon for another 4.7 miles where the road ends at Escalante Forks. Watch for Golden Eagle, Common Raven and perhaps Band-tailed Pigeons. Much the same birds occur here as elsewhere along the creek with the addition of Eastern Kingbird, House Wren, Yellow-breasted Chat and Chipping Sparrow.

Turn around here and return to Highway 50 and turn right (south) towards Delta. In another 5.5 miles, turn right on a gravel road inconspicuously marked by a sign for the Hamilton Division of the Escalante Wildlife Area. At 0.6 mile after the turn park in the gravel parking area on the right. You can walk in along the service road to visit this riparian woodland along the Gunnison River.

Walk in for about a hundred yards and inspect the willow and tamarisk marsh on the left side of the road near a small group of big cottonwoods. Willow Flycatchers are common and easily found as they sing their emphatic "fitz-bew" songs from the tips of this vegetation in spring and early summer. As you continue to walk, veer to the left until you reach the Gunnison River then walk downstream on the service road. You may see Great Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Virginia Rail, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern and Western Kingbirds, Ash-thoated Flycatcher, Marsh Wren (in winter), Indigo, and Lazuli Buntings and Song Sparrow.

As the willow gives way to cottonwoods you can see Great Horned Owl, Western Wood Pewee and Blue Grosbeak. In the spring, Bewick's Wrens sing everywhere in this area. In the fall, migrating landbirds may be seen in good numbers with Orange-crowned, Virginia's, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Gray, Townsend's, MacGillivray's and Wilson's Warbler all possible. Other warblers might be seen as well as Solitary and Warbling Vireos and Western Tanagers. This is the area where a singing Black-billed Cuckoo was seen in the summer of 1982.

You continue walking about one mile until you reach a small grove of dead cottonwoods near a slough where Great Blue Herons have a small heronry. This area is also good for Bewick's Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Green-tailed Towhee. At this point, it is best to turn back and return to the parking area the way you came.

Turn right out of the parking area and go 1.1 miles to two ponds on either side of the road that can be checked for waterfowl. Continue across the Gunnison River and up the hill another 1.3 miles and bear left at a fork in the road. Drive another 2.1 miles to Main Street in Delta where you turn right (south). At 1.2 miles from this turn, you enter a marked road on your left to Sweitzer Lake State Recreation Area.

Overnight camping is not allowed here and an entrance fee or annual permit is required. The lake is best in fall, winter, and spring. Most winters the lake does not freeze entirely, but if it does it usually opens again by mid-February. Follow the road around the south side of the lake (in dry weather only) and scope the open water for birds. The far east end of the lake is especially good. Common Loon, Horned, Eared, Western and Pied-billed Grebes and American White Pelican occur here along with 3 species of mergansers and 17 species of ducks. Barrow's Goldeneye and White-winged Scoter have been found here rarely. This lake must surely be one of the best spots in Colorado to find Ross' Goose with at least 6 occurrences in the last four years with up to 6 birds at one time. A few shorebirds may be seen along the sand bar at the extreme east end. Scan the scattered trees and power poles for hawks and eagles. In summer, the surrounding arid brush should have a few Gambel's Quails and Sage Thrashers. In fall, watch for Sage Sparrows which can be seen here regularly in migration.

To reach another excellent area return to Delta and go north on Main Street to the junction with Highway 92 on the north end of town. Turn right and go 3.7 miles to the junction with Highway 65 where you will turn left. Go 6.1 miles uphill to the town of Eckert and turn right opposite a stone church.

This road takes you to the northeast end of Hart's Basin. Watch the telephone poles and roadside cottonwoods for Lewis' Woodpeckers which are abundant here. Stop at the overlook before descending the road to the lake. From here you can scope the lake and shore for large birds including American White Pelican and Tundra Swan. Thousands of Sandhill Cranes stop here in both fall and spring and sometimes a Whooping Crane is mixed in with the flocks. Look here and in the meadows north of the lake.

Continue down the road to the lake. On the way, check the sagebrush and saltbush for sparrows of all kinds including House Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, and Savannah, Vesper, Lark, Sage and Brewer's Sparrows.

In migration the same ducks, mergansers, geese and grebes can be seen here as at Sweitzer Lake (including Ross' Goose) but in winter the lake usually freezes over. The big attraction here is the vast area of mudflats exposed by retreating water on the north and east end of the lake. This area is best in fall (August through October) when the shorebirds stop here, although spring can be very good if you check the flooded pastures on the north side of the road.

You may observe these mudflats to you right from the elevated portion of road through the lake, but you will do best to bring mud boots and walk out over the mudflats and scope the hundreds of wading birds that can be present. The great majority are usually Killdeer, but also common are Black-bellied Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Willet, Great and Lesser Yellowlegs, Baird's, and Least Sandpipers, Long-billed Dowitcher, Western Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, American Avocet and Wilson's Phalarope. Less common are Semipalmated Plover, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dunlin and Stilt Sandpiper. Rare are the American Golden Plover and Black-necked Stilt. Forster's and Black Terns are seen frequently in migration while Common Terns are rare. A Least Tern stopped here for a week in May, 1980.

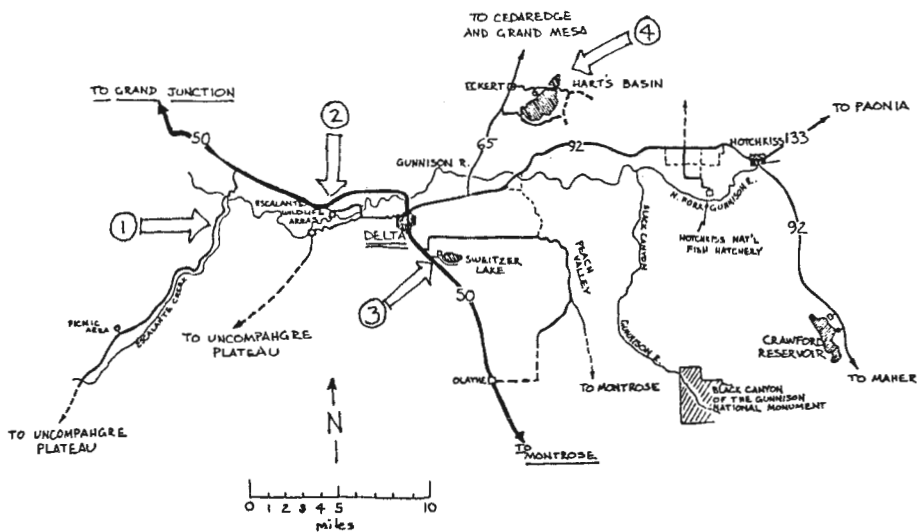
Raptors are common around the lake edges. Watch for Bald Eagles perched in the trees across the reservoir in winter. Ospreys are rare but regular visitors every spring; watch for them on the half-submerged trees halfway along this elevated portion of roadway.

The dam at the southwest end of the lake can be reached by returning to Eckert and Highway 65 and turning left (south) for 1.0 miles. Veer left at Antelope Hills Orchards, go 0.1 mile and turn left again. Go about 0.9 miles to find yourself on the small earth and stone dam that forms the reservoir. Cross over the dam and park on the other side of the left. Much of the lake not visible from the other end can be scanned from here. By walking across the dam and following it to the right, a large grove of cottonwoods can be checked for all varieties of landbirds.

If time permits you may return to Highway 65 and turn right (north) to reach the top of Grand Mesa. This huge flat-topped Plateau is topped by forest at nearly 11,000 feet and has hundreds of lakes.

There is a KOA Campground in Delta (1-303-874-3918) as well as campgrounds in the nearby Black Canyon National Monument, the Uncompagre Plateau and Grand Mesa National Forest.





- ① ESCALANTE CANYON
- ② ESCALANTE WILDLIFE AREA
- ③ SWEITZER LAKE
- ④ HART'S BASIN



Joseph C. Rigli - 11-26-78

## BOOK REVIEW

The Golden Guide to the Birds of North America  
Robbins, Brunn, and Zim  
Illustrations by Singer  
Golden Press \$10.95 Hardcover, \$7.95 Soft Cover

Field Guide to the Birds of North America  
The National Geographic Society  
\$13.95, Cloth Cover

Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding  
Parts 1-3. Alfred Knopf, Inc.  
\$13.95, Hardcover.

One revised and two new field guides have been published following publication of the long awaited sixth edition of the American Ornithologists Union Checklist of North American Birds. The checklist, which discusses all species seen from the Arctic through Panama, including the West Indies and Hawaii, is available from the A.O.U., P. O. Box 368, Lawrence, Kansas, 66044. A summary can be ordered from G. E. Woolfenden, Biology, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida 33620 for \$3.

The revised Golden Guide reflects the species and name (except for Green-backed Heron) changes in the AOU sixth edition. The maps are revised and include more rare and introduced species. However, the old species order and most of the original plates are retained. This is disappointing as the easiest way to learn the new AOU order is to have a field guide that uses it, and the opportunity to correct some errors in the original version has been lost. For example, the winter Elegant and Royal Terns are still reversed as to whether the black on the face includes the eye or not, and the poor drawing of the Sprague's Pipit is basically unaltered. The descriptions of additional species are also weak in places, exemplified by the description of Antillean Nighthawk as only "Breeds on Florida Keys told by pit-a-pit call" with no illustration. The range maps are a slight improvement in clarity over the old ones, but still do not show individual states, so it is often difficult to locate Colorado. Moreover, the maps for Cattle Egret, California Gull and Boreal Owl show no breeding in Colorado which is incorrect. It is interesting to note the range expansion of the House Finch between the two editions.

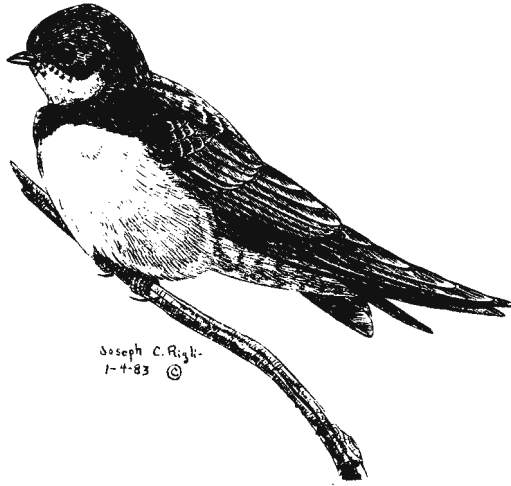
One of the new guides is the National Geographic Guide. This guide can be ordered from the Society at 1145 17th St., NW, Washington DC 20036 or contact the Denver Audubon Society (399-0219). The guide covers all birds that breed in the USA and Canada, plus those that have been seen three times in the last five years or five times this century. This covers a greater number of

species than the Golden Guide, and all are illustrated. It also uses the new AOU names and the new taxonomic order. This is an excellent field guide. The descriptions are clear and cover identifiable sub-species when they occur, and these are all illustrated. This is important when dealing with the thrushes for example, because the real difficulty of identification is revealed only by consideration of the various subspecies. The illustrations are very good and numerous; seven for Horned Lark, six for Lapland Longspur and five for many other species. This guide certainly has the drawing which is closest to the Bramblings recently seen in Colorado. The range maps are clear, mark states and provinces, and are often very detailed. They are also up to date and show Scott's Oriole breeding in northwest Colorado and Hepatic Tanager breeding on Mesa de Maya for example. In the whole book, the only errors I could find in the range maps affecting Colorado are for Spotted Owl (too extensive) and Ladder-backed Woodpecker (not extensive enough). However, I emphasize these could only be found because the maps are so detailed. This guide is a considerable improvement over the Golden Guide in my opinion.

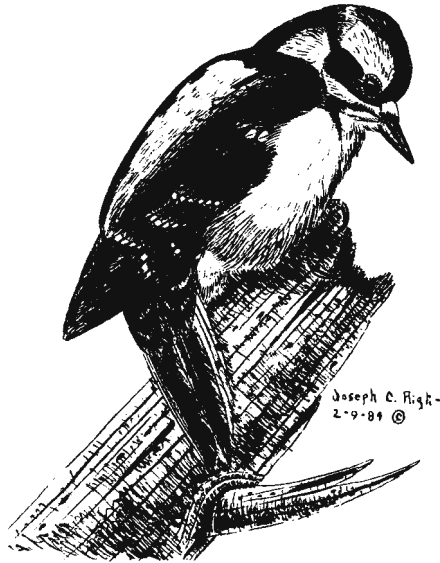
The other new books are the Audubon Society Guides. These guides cover all 835 species seen in the USA and Canada at the time of publication and uses the new AOU name and taxonomic order, although 116 species are classed as accidental and have much shorter descriptions. The other descriptions are often long and very detailed and signed by one of the sixty-one authors who are all professional or very good amateur field ornithologists. They include CFO's own Clait Braun who wrote the descriptions for White-tailed Ptarmigan, Sage Grouse, and Band-tailed Pigeon. The descriptions do not cover subspecies as uniformly as in the National Geographic guide. Most species are accompanied by color photographs, 1245 in all, and there are 615 drawings and painting as well. Most are very good, and the important field marks are arrowed on small silhouettes as in the Peterson fashion. Personally, I prefer illustrations, as I find relative size especially hard to gauge from photographs, but the ones used here are a vast improvement over those use in the other Audubon Society field guides. Most species have range maps although they are not as clear or detailed as those in the National Geographic guide. Again, the breeding of California Gulls in Colorado is missed. This guide is very good, thorough, and the most comprehensive of the three, although I have some reservations about it which I admit are personal preferences. Its sheer bulk and weight mean that it most likely will be used as a home reference or car guide rather than a true field guide.

In summary, I am little disappointed in the revised Golden guide but it remains the cheapest single guide for beginning birdwatchers in Colorado and is to be recommended to the unconverted. All CFO members, however, are surely beyond that stage and I very highly recommend the new National Geographic guide. It is a class above and beyond the Golden guide in content, drawings and range maps, and definitely the best value for the money in my opinion. The Audubon Society Master Guide is very good, but is quite bulky and expensive.

Peter Gent. - 55 South 35th St., Boulder, CO 80303



Joseph C. Right-  
1-4-83 ©



Joseph C. Right-  
2-9-84 ©

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The XIX International Ornithological Congress will take place in Ottawa, Canada, from 22 to 29 June 1986. Prof. Klaus Immelmann (West Germany) is President and Dr. Henri Ouellet (Canada) is Secretary General. The programme is being planned by an international Scientific Programme Committee chaired by Professor J. Bruce Falls (Canada). The programme will include plenary lectures, symposia, contributed papers (spoken and posters), and films. There will be a mid-congress free day. Pre and post-congress excursions and workshops are planned in various interesting ornithological regions of Canada.

Information and request for application forms should be addressed to:

Dr. Henri Ouellet  
Secretary General  
XIX Congressus Internationalis Ornithologicus  
National Museum of Natural Sciences  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0M8

## RAPTOR COLLISIONS WITH UTILITY LINES

A Call for Information

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Sacramento, in cooperation with the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, is assembling all available published and unpublished information concerning collisions of raptors with power lines and other utility lines. Actual case histories -- no matter how circumstantial or fragmentary -- are needed. Please acknowledge that you have such information by writing to Dr. Richard R. (Butch) Olendorff, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825 U.S.A. (Phone 916-484-4541). A form on which to record your information will then be sent by return mail.

## RARE BIRD HOTLINE

The Denver Field Ornithologists (DFO) Rare Bird Alert Hotline Number is 1-303-759-1060.

FIELD TRIPS

Third Annual

Bigger, Better Boulder Birding Bonanza

The search for warblers and other migrants

Date: Saturday, May 19, 1984

Where: Meet at 7:00 AM at CU Parking lot by Boulder Creek just west of Folsom Street in Boulder

For more information, contact Peter Gent at 494-1750 (home) or 497-1355 (work).

First Ever

Prairie Chicken Roundup

Date: Friday to Sunday, April 13, 14, 15, 1984

Where: Meet on the 13th at 8:00 PM at the County Commission Room in Wray. Francis Pusateri will outline the trip.

14th - 3:00 AM. Leave the 7-11 Parking lot at the junction of Hyways 34 and 385 to see Greater Prairie Chickens. After this, we will drive to Springfield by way of Bonny Dam and Two Buttes.

15th - 4:00 AM. Meet Jenny Slater at the roadside park near Hyways 287 and 160 in Springfield and visit Lesser Prairie Chicken booming grounds. After that we will bird up the Arkansas Valley to Denver.

Reservations Required limit of 24 people

Contact Vic Zerbi in Glenwood Springs at 945-5739 (work) or 945-6017 (home) to reserve space and get more information on motels and campgrounds. Vans and/or station wagons are needed to reduce cars in the caravan.



Joseph C. Rigi - 11-23-79

## 1984 ANNUAL CONVENTION

The twenty-second Colorado Field Ornithologist's annual convention will be held during Memorial Day weekend, 26-28 May 1984 in Grand Junction. The convention and accommodations will be on the campus of Mesa State College in Grand Junction. Camping space is available nearby. Registration is on Friday evening and all day Saturday, the 26th.

Early morning field trips on Saturday will try to find local birds such as Scott's Oriole, Gamble's Quail, Chukar, Barn Owl, Gray Flycatcher, and Black-throated Gray Warblers. The paper session will start at 1:00 PM and be followed by the banquet and business meeting that evening. There will be an art show throughout the day in the meeting area.

Several all day field trips will go out on Sunday into the Grand Junction area. We will be looking for specialties nesting in the area such as Gray Vireo and Flycatcher, Bushtit and Titmouse, Pinon Jay and Chukar, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and of course Scott's Oriole. There is also the possibility of Bald Eagles. Numerous migrants will also be encountered throughout the trips.

A two-day field trip will start in the Grand Junction area with the specialties described above and then move up near the California Park area to see booming grounds of Sharp-tailed Grouse and nesting Sandhill Cranes. Monday afternoon will be spent in North Park at Arapahoe National Wildlife Refuge. If the Boreal Owls are still calling on Cameron Pass, we will try for these as well. The trip will finish late Monday evening in the Denver area.

Registration will be \$5.00 per person and the banquet (which will include a choice of 3 entrees) will be \$9.00. Accommodations are \$8.00 a night at the college dormitory. Meals and sack lunches will be available. Further details and a registration form will be mailed to CFO members later.

## CALL FOR PAPERS AND ARTWORK

Anyone wishing to present a paper or participate in the CFO annual art show at the convention should send a title and short abstract, if a paper; or call, if artwork, to Charles A. Chase III, c/o Department of Zoology, Denver Museum of Natural History, City Park, Denver, CO 80205, (303) 370-6353. Art may be in the form of paintings, drawings, photographs or sculpture. Each paper presentation should be a maximum of 20 minutes on any subject relating to birds in Colorado; students and members papers are especially welcome. Subjects in the past have included identification papers, reports on research, and reports on observation from particular areas.

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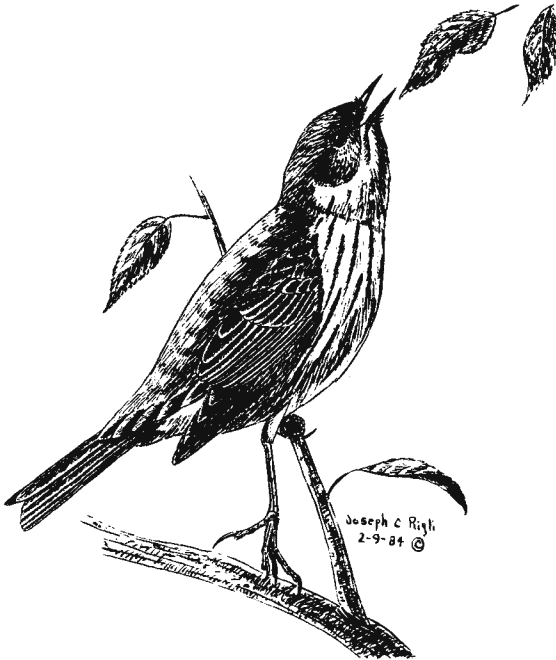
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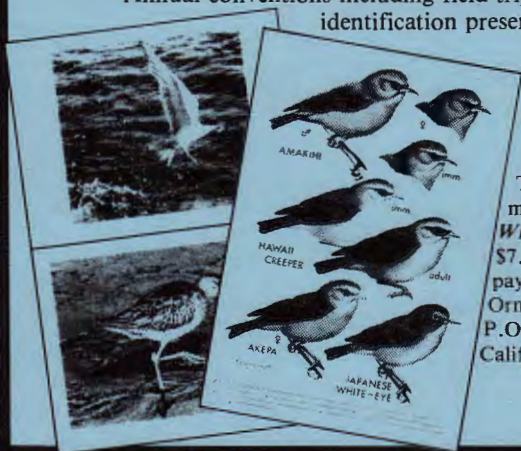
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