

The Raven

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY

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The Virginia Society of Ornithology, Inc. exists to encourage the systematic study of birds in Virginia, to stimulate interest in birds, and to assist the conservation of wildlife and other natural resources. All persons interested in those objectives are welcome as members. Present membership includes every level of interest, from professional scientific ornithologists to enthusiastic amateurs.

Activities undertaken by the Society include the following:

1. An annual meeting (usually in the spring), held in a different part of the state each year, featuring talks on ornithological subjects and field trips to nearby areas.
2. Other forays or field trips lasting a day or more and scheduled throughout the year so as to include all seasons and to cover the major physiographic regions of the state.
3. A journal, *The Raven*, published yearly, containing articles about Virginia ornithology, as well as news of the activities of the Society and its chapters.
4. A newsletter, published quarterly, containing current news items of interest to members and information about upcoming events and pertinent conservation issues.
5. Study projects (nesting studies, winter bird population surveys, etc.) aimed at making genuine contributions to ornithological knowledge.

In addition, local chapters of the Society, located in some of the larger cities and towns of Virginia, conduct their own programs of meetings, field trips, and other projects.

Those wishing to participate in any of the above activities, or to cooperate in advancing the objectives of the Society, are cordially invited to join. Annual dues are \$10.00 for active members, \$15.00 for sustaining members, \$25.00 or more for contributing members, \$250.00 for life members, and \$18.00 for family members (limited to husband, wife and their dependent children).

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THE FIRST BREEDING RECORD OF THE BROWN PELICAN IN VIRGINIA: A CHRONOLOGY

BILL WILLIAMS

Paper received and accepted October 1989

Murray (1952) lists scattered coastal reports of the Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) in Virginia dating back to 1881. Prior to 1980 the species was considered a "rare spring, summer, and fall visitor near the coast, apparently increasing" (Larner 1979). Since 1980 dramatic increases occurred as Brown Pelicans were reported along the coast and well into the Chesapeake Bay, even in winter. Peak counts have reached over 500 at Fisherman Island in Northampton County (Kain 1987). The following is a chronology of events from 1987 to the present on the first successful breeding of Brown Pelicans in the state.

Comprehensive surveys of nesting colonial waterbirds on the Virginia barrier islands from Assawoman Island, on the north, through Fisherman Island, on the south, have taken place annually, in June, since 1975 (Williams 1975, 1989). Surveys in 1985 and 1986 on Fisherman Island found concentrations of 200-300 Brown Pelicans roosting on high, solitary dunes at the northeast corner of the island adjacent to the intercoastal waterway. The area was also used as a colony site for several thousand Royal Terns (*Sterna maxima*) and scattered pairs of Sandwich Terns (*Sterna sandvicensis*). At a distance the pelican groups appeared to be incubating although 50-75 percent of the birds present were first-year plumaged. No evidence of actual nesting was found.

On 14 May 1987 Rudy Cashwell found a single Brown Pelican nest at the previously mentioned site on Fisherman Island. The nest had one egg, apparently freshly laid (*pers. comm.*). The next day the egg had been destroyed. Approximately one week later Eastern Shore National Wildlife Refuge personnel found four nests with eggs at the same location. All of these nests were subsequently destroyed (Sherman Stairs, *pers. comm.*) possibly by Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus*) which nest nearby.

During the colonial waterbird survey of this colony site on 14 June 1987, Bill Akers, Jerry Via and I found and photographed two Brown Pelican nests. One was empty; the other had two eggs. The pelican group present consisted of 225 birds, at least 60 percent in adult plumage. Subsequent checks at the site proved these nests were also unsuccessful from undetermined causes. In all cases the nests were well made structures of thin *Spartina* sp. wrack placed atop a low sand dune surrounded by higher or comparable sized dunes. The large, white eggs were similar in size to goose eggs.

The survey team visit to the southern tip of Metomkin Island in Accomack County on 17 June 1987 produced more Brown Pelican nest finds. Of the 270 pelicans present, 120 were adult-plumaged. Thirty-five to forty nests were located, none with eggs, amidst a small mixed heron colony. The nests were made of dead *Iva frutescens* limbs lined with *Spartina* sp. wrack. Additional species in the colony included 144 Herring Gulls, 2 Great Black-backed Gulls (*Larus marinus*), 170 Snowy Egrets (*Egretta thula*), 6 Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), 54 Great Egrets

(*Casmerodius albus*) and 2 Cattle Egrets (*Bubulcus ibis*). Also present was a single adult male American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) in breeding condition, evidenced by prominent horny growths on the upper mandible. An individual breeding-condition male had been found in this same location every summer since 1982.

It should be noted that dune encroachment on this colony site was very evident in 1987. The location, though no more than one-fourth acre in size with waist high shrubbery, had been a productive heron, ibis, egret and Herring Gull breeding area since at least the early 1970's.

The remaining series of dates and observations are courtesy of Bob Cross (*pers. comm.*) as he monitored the Metomkin Island area for Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) information.

TABLE 1. *Brown Pelican breeding activity on Metomkin Island in 1987.*

Date	Adults	Nests	Eggs	Young
23 June	250	3	2 in one nest 1 in one nest	...
27 June	80	25	11 eggs in 6 nests	...
7 July	40-50	16	31	...
14 July	225	18	37	...
27 July	...	17	29	8 (1-4 days old)
5 September	...	...	...	22 downy young*
26 September	...	...	...	22 near fledgling
10 October	40-50	...	...	15 (5 not flying, but hopping)

* Found by Bob Cross, Mitchell Byrd, Bruce Reid, and Karen Terwilliger.

The 10 October information was the last provided for 1987. Colonial waterbird surveys in 1988 found no evidence of nesting, or attempted nesting, by Brown Pelicans in Virginia, although comparable numbers of individuals were seen. The heronry site on Metomkin Island was completely covered by sand and occupied by scattered Herring Gull nests. An adult male American White Pelican was seen in a nearby bay within a mile of the colony. Roosting Brown Pelicans were found on the failed nesting area on Fisherman Island, again the site of a large Royal Tern colony.

On 18 June 1989, Brown Pelican nests were found on the northeast corner of Fisherman Island by Bill Akers, Ruth Beck, Jerry Via and me. Thirty-seven nests were counted, 29 with eggs, (13 one-egg nests, 16 two-egg nests). At least 50 percent of these nests were fashioned from sea rocket (*Cakile edentula*) stems. The rest were constructed from *Spartina* sp. wrack. All nests were on or between low dunes surrounded by higher dunes.

One week earlier Eastern Shore National Wildlife Refuge volunteers (*pers. comm.*) had found a single Brown Pelican nest on a high dune amidst a Herring Gull colony. Gulls were actually observed destroying the eggs.

The large percentage of immature-plumaged pelicans at each of the Virginia nesting sites indicate population recruitment from outside of the state, most likely North Carolina's Outer Banks. Those birds of adult plumage may be first-time breeders or experiencing their initial season as sexually mature. This may explain the lack of breeding success by this species in Virginia.

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BANDING NEOTROPICAL MIGRANTS THAT BREED IN THE DISMAL SWAMP BROOKE MEANLEY and ANNA G. MEANLEY

Paper received and accepted August 1989

At various times in the spring and summer of 1988 and 1989, my wife, Anna, and I banded breeding warblers, vireos, flycatchers, and gnatcatchers in the Great Dismal Swamp near Suffolk, Virginia. Most of the birds banded occurred in the shrub strata, but some slightly higher ranging species were occasionally captured as they pursued insects close to the ground.

Birds were captured in mist nets along a 600-foot transect in the hardwood forest along Jericho Ditch in the northwestern section of the swamp. Mist nets were in the same locations in both years. Ten nets were used most days, and six to

eight hours were spent netting, except on those days when netting had to be discontinued due to precipitation or high winds. The most productive period for banding was in the first half of May, when there was considerable action as established males chased interlopers from their territories. The least productive period was in July when most of the birds were molting, and when there may have been some dispersal from the immediate area. We discontinued banding by the end of July. Individuals of species found in the swamp the year-round were also captured, but were not banded.

Species banded included the Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) (37), Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) (18), White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) (15), Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*) (12), Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) (12), Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) (12), Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) (5), Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) (5), Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) (4), Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) (2), Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorus*) (2), and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) (2).

In 1989 there were nine returns of birds banded in 1988. Two Prothonotary Warblers and one Acadian Flycatcher were recaptured in the same nets as banded the previous year. A Prothonotary Warbler, Hooded Warbler, and an Ovenbird were recaptured in nets next to those in which they were banded the previous year.

During the netting operation there were many repeats. Of special interest were an adult male Louisiana Waterthrush banded 8 May 1989, and recaptured in the same net 25 July 1989; and an adult male Prothonotary Warbler banded 3 May 1988, was recaptured in the same net as banded 21 July 1988.

In the course of the banding operation, notes were made on the progress of molt in the population. The earliest example of molting was of an adult male Louisiana Waterthrush on 15 June 1988. It was molting inner primaries and secondary coverts. It had been banded on 3 May. A male Prothonotary Warbler of undetermined age (probably an adult), netted on 17 June 1988, was the first example of that species found to be molting. The adult male Prothonotary Warbler, banded 3 May 1988 and recaptured 21 July 1988, had virtually completed its molt, as had an adult female Louisiana Waterthrush that had also been recaptured on 21 July and banded on 17 June 1988.

Four Swainson's Warblers, three males and one female, captured between 28 and 30 June 1988, had not yet begun to molt; but one of the males, caught on 19 July, was in heavy molt and had a noticeable labored flight. Two adult females Acadian Flycatchers, one captured on 24 July, the other on 26 July 1989, had not begun to molt, and each still had an incubation or brood patch.

I wish to thank Gorman M. Bond, formerly of the Division of Birds of the Smithsonian Institution, for reviewing this paper.

P.O. Box 87, Fishersville, Virginia 22939

1989 REPORT OF THE VSO RECORDS COMMITTEE

JOHN H. DALMAS

This is the second report of the VSO Records Committee, including committee actions from 1 January through 30 September 1989. The 1989 committee members are as follows:

Non-voting secretary-compiler: Teta Kain

Voting Members:

Three-year term — Barry L. Kinzie, H. Fenton Day III, Roger B. Clapp

Two-year term — John H. Dalmás (chairman), Brian Taber, Claudia P. Wilds

One-year term — J. Brian Patterson, A. Clair Mellinger, Bill Williams

The committee has accepted reports of five species new to the Virginia state list, which now numbers 417 species. There were 3 unresolved records from the last report plus 18 new records submitted to the committee. Of these, 12 were accepted, three were not accepted, and six are unresolved, pending further rounds of voting.

ACCEPTED RECORDS:

RUFF (REEVE) (*Philomachus pugnax*). A single bird was found at a farm pond near New Hope, Augusta County on 9 May 1987 [Stephen Rottenborn]. There are numerous state records, but this is the first documented occurrence for the Mountains and Valleys.

UPLAND SANDPIPER (*Bartramia longicauda*). Two adult birds and two chicks were found near Lucketts, Loudoun County, on 10 June 1987 [Roger Anderson]. Although there have been numerous summer records, this is (chronologically) the first confirmed breeding of this species in the Piedmont.

ROSS' GOOSE (*Chen rossii*). A single bird was found in a flock of about 140 Snow Geese (*Chen caerulescens*) (mostly the blue form) at Curles Neck Farm, Henrico County on 21 February 1988 [Jesse J. Fulton III]. There have been numerous reports of this species, but this is only the second documented occurrence in Virginia. Recognizable photographs obtained by Tom Armour of Williamsburg move this species from "hypothetical" to "accidental" status.

GRAY KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus dominicensis*). A bird found at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge on 2 October 1984 [Patrick Brisse] is only the third state record. This review was done to provide official confirmation of a record already appearing in the 1987 *Virginia's Birdlife An Annotated Checklist*.

SOUTH POLAR SKUA (*Catharacta maccormicki*). Two birds were seen on a pelagic trip about 60 miles east of Virginia Beach on 30 May 1988 [Brian Taber]. This is the first confirmed sighting of this species in Virginia and becomes the 413th state bird. These birds posed for some good photographs, placing them directly on "accidental" status. There have been numerous records from offshore Maryland and North Carolina, so it was perhaps inevitable that it would be seen in Virginia waters.

FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Tyrannus savana*). A bird found at Tomahund Plantation, Charles City County, on 5 June 1988 [Brian Taber] is

another first Virginia record and the 414th state bird. It was photographed and seen by hundreds of observers during its two-month sabbatical from the tropics.

UPLAND SANDPIPER (*Bartramia longicauda*). Two adults and two juveniles were seen at a turf farm near Remington, Fauquier County, on 11 June 1988 [Anita Allen]. This record was accepted before the Loudoun County sighting, and is the first "official" breeding record for the Piedmont. Chronologically, however, it is the second breeding record for that region (see the Upland Sandpiper listing above).

WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL (*Pelagodroma marina*). A bird was found about 80 miles east of Metompkin Island on a pelagic trip out of Ocean City, Maryland on 21 September 1985 [Ron Naveen, Rick Blom]. This belatedly confirms this sighting to be Virginia's 415th state bird.

PACIFIC LOON (*Gavia pacifica*). A dying bird, picked up off the beach at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge on 30 April 1987 (Don Schwab, Douglas S. Davis), was later identified as this species by Dr. Robert W. Storer of the University of Michigan. The Pacific was formerly a subspecies (*Gavia arctica pacifica*) of the Arctic Loon, but was raised to species status in 1985 by the AOU Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. This species is thus confirmed to be "accidental" in Virginia, and the state's 416th bird.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE (*Elanus caeruleus*). A bird was found at Tomahund Plantation, Charles City County on 5 June 1988 [Brian Taber]. It was seen in the same area the Fork-tailed Flycatcher was discovered, but about an hour later. This sight record was confirmed by four other competent observers, and goes on the "hypothetical" list as Virginia's 417th bird.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE (*Zenaida asiatica*). This bird was found on the Wachapreague Christmas Bird Count on 19 December 1987 [Charles Vaughn]. It is only the second documented record of this species in Virginia.

MISSISSIPPI KITE (*Ictinia mississippiensis*). One bird flew past Harvey's Knob overlook at milepost 95 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, a favorite hawk migration lookout, on 26 September 1988 [Mike Donahue]. There are only two previously documented records for the Mountains and Valleys region, and this is the first from Botetourt or Bedford County.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS, identification questionable:

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE (*Myadestes townsendi*). This bird was found 11 January 1986 about two miles southeast of Leesburg, Loudoun County. The committee members agreed this was a close call, but most felt there were simply not enough descriptive details to justify acceptance as a first state record, especially with no corroboration by a second observer.

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL (*Oceanodroma castro*). This bird was seen about 60 miles offshore on a 16 August 1986 pelagic trip out of Virginia Beach. However, the characteristics which separate this species from the other white-rumped storm-petrels are very subjective, and not all of the observers on this trip concurred in this identification. This also would have been a first state record.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS, origin questionable:

RINGED TEAL (*Callonetta leucophrys*). This bird was found with a small flock of Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*) at Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge on 20 September 1988. The description mostly fits this species, but the committee agreed there was little chance this native of South America was a wild bird.

UNRESOLVED, further committee action required:

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Tyrannus forficatus*). Occurrence at Roanoke, 27 September 1987.

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus rufus*). Occurrence at Roanoke, 29 October 1987.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*). Occurrence at Marion, 13 March 1988.

ROCK WREN (*Salpinctes obsoletus*). Occurrence on Chesapeake Bay bridge-tunnel, 29 October 1988.

BLACK GUILLEMOT (*Cepphus grylle*). Occurrence at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, 23 February 1986.

SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*). Occurrence in Fauquier County, 17 December 1984.

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WHITE-FACED STORM PETREL IN VIRGINIA WATERS

RON NAVEEN and RICK BLOM

Editor's note: The following account is compiled from letters written by Mr. Naveen and Mr. Blom to the records committee in 1985. The record was accepted in 1989 and placed on the hypothetical list as the first state record of this species.

Ron Naveen's letter:

A White-faced Storm-Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*) was recorded in Virginia waters on a 21 September 1985 Ocean City pelagic trip. Our practice on these trips is to extend the Maryland-Virginia border on Assateague Island (38° 1.5'N) due eastward. Anything seen south of this line is considered in Virginia waters.

The trip started at 7:13 a.m. and reached its extremis offshore at approximately 63 miles (37°, 44'N; 73°, 58'W). I have no doubts about the White-faced Storm-Petrel. It was seen at 12:35 p.m. when we were 59.6 miles offshore at 37°, 45'N; 74°, 0'W. As we approached a group of Wilson's Storm-Petrels (*Oceanites oceanicus*) that were 50-100 yards ahead of us, Hal Wierenga (one of our co-leaders) directed everyone's attention to a "different," lighter-colored bird in the fluttering throng.

Everyone managed to see this different seabird, but it would not stop its persistent course away from the boat, and we never approached closer than approximately 35 yards. No photographs were possible at this range.

My field notes are as follows:

"Appears larger than a WISP (Wilson's Storm-Petrel), with a distinctly different flight; wings basically held outstretched, wingbeats very, very shallow; from a distance, and flying away from us, a strong resemblance to the stuttering flight of a Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*); long legs extending past the tail could be seen; color basically dark grayish-white above; couldn't get a close look at bill length which is helpful for racial identification."

Hal and I, as well as Maurice Barnhill and Wayne Klockner, the other co-leaders, and Rick Blom, who was helping us "spot" seabirds, saw this particular bird well, and believed it to be a White-faced Storm-Petrel. Hal and Wayne had White-faceds a few weeks previously on a trip out of Oregon Inlet, North Carolina.

Rick Blom's letter:

I was on the [pelagic] trip [with Ron Naveen] and saw the bird, though I did not take very extensive notes, mostly because we were distracted by a Bridled Tern (*Sterna anaethetus*), three possible Band-rumped Storm-Petrels (*Oceanodroma castro*), and a gaggle of jaegers . . .

I don't have a clear idea of where we were, except that it was generally in the vicinity of Poor Man's Canyon and we were assured we were in Virginia — an issue, since the boat was full of Maryland birders. At the time I jotted down the following quick notes:

"Flies like a Spotted Sandpiper, very distinctive. Stiff wings held flat with very short, flicky wingbeats, looks like movement confined to outer half of wing. White face and underwing very obvious and contrasty, really stands out from Wilson's [Storm-Petrel]. Inner wing (except secondaries) much paler than on Wilson's. Rump less contrasty — looked buff-white — not pure white like Wilson's. Feet obviously beyond tail. Flushed off water twice. Seen sitting and flying with Wilson's. 3-4 minutes, good light, 200-500 ft.(?) 10X binoculars. First seen by Hal."

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MISSISSIPPI KITE IN LOUDOUN COUNTY

EDWIN P. WEIGEL

Editor's note: Eight other records of this species have been accepted by the records committee; however, this is the first documentation to be accompanied by physical evidence (photograph). Virginia checklist policies require six or more records (with at least one documentation accompanied by physical evidence) be accepted by the records committee before a species can be upgraded to regular status. This is the ninth official state record and the species is moved directly from hypothetical to regular status on the checklist. The Loudoun County sighting represents the third Piedmont record.

A year-old Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) was sighted and photographed in Loudoun County seven miles south of Leesburg early in June 1987. It was seen by a total of four observers on three successive days—5, 6, and 7 June.

The bird was feeding on 17-year cicadas in a large clearing atop a hill in a heavily wooded area. In typical kite fashion, it was catching the cicadas on the wing—using its feet to grasp them in a pitch-up motion, then bowing its head to feed on them as it remained airborne. Interestingly enough, Red-shouldered (*Buteo lineatus*) and Broad-winged Hawks (*B. platypterus*) were feeding in a similar manner, on cicadas, over the same clearing.

In flight it displayed the characteristic kite shape and movement—long, slim, pointed wings and long tail; buoyant darts and swoops, like a giant nighthawk. It was identified as an emerging adult by its ashy gray head and coarsely streaked breast. The tail was dark, with three faint gray bands visible from the underside when the kite was perched and preening with tail fanned. The bands on the tail also identified it as immature. The fact that the tail was basically dark separated it from its western relative, the Black-shouldered Kite (*Elanus caeruleus*), which has a tail that is pale over all in both immature and adult plumages. Wings were brownish black, without the pale gray secondaries of an adult.

The kite was in the process of molting. It was missing one secondary in each wing. It plucked, played with, and dropped a tail feather as we observed it perching on 7 June. After the bird flew, a 15-minute search was conducted to recover the feather, to no avail, unfortunately.

In size, the kite appeared larger than a Merlin (*Falco columbarius*), but considerably smaller than a Peregrine Falcon (*F. peregrinus*). The wings were proportionately longer than a falcon's with the tips barely projecting beyond the tail at times when the bird perched.

It was surprisingly unafraid of humans. It allowed us to approach as close as we liked to the base of the various trees in which it perched. When it did take flight, it appeared to do so for reasons unconnected with our presence. Passerines approached it on several occasions—cowbirds and a jay—but did not scold. They merely sat, observing the kite quietly, from a distance of five or six feet. The kite ignored them.

Other individuals who observed the bird during its three-day stay were Janet Meisenhelder, Paul Engman, and Kenneth Howard. On 6 June Ms. Meisenhelder

and I went to look for the kite in the same area where I had found it the day before. We were astonished to see a Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*) circling directly over the clearing. As we watched, the kite flew into view and landed in a tall dead tree at the edge of the clearing. On the third day (7 June), accompanied by Paul Engman and Kenneth Howard, we saw the kite again fly into the clearing and several photographs were obtained of the bird perching and flying. That day the bird was observed for about 90 minutes from practically every angle, in good light, at rest, and in flight. None of us had any doubt of its identity.

Our final sighting of the kite was like a fictional farewell. We were standing in the road near the far end of the clearing, observing a Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) in agitated display when, once again, the kite darted across our field of view. It circled wide, then began to climb, mounting higher and higher with effortless grace, until it was no longer recognizable. All three of us had the feeling this was the way a kite would depart if it was ending one episode in its life and setting out to begin another.

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SOUTH POLAR SKUA RECORDED OFF VIRGINIA BEACH

BRIAN TABER

(Editor's note: The following documentation, accompanied by photographs of the birds, was accepted by the records committee in January 1989 and becomes the first record of this species for Virginia.)

On 30 May 1988 our [pelagic] party of six spotted a large gull-like or jaeger-like bird sitting alone on the water several hundred yards away. It was about 10:50 a.m. and we were more than 60 miles offshore from Rudee Inlet in the area of Norfolk Canyon at 37°05,39'N; 74°41,56'W. As we approached, the bird remained in the water and, at about 50 yards, I could see dark plumage overall and a golden-yellow wash on the nape and sides of the neck. There were no other birds present for direct size comparison. When the bird flew, I observed very broad wings, a short, broad wedge-shaped tail and a wide band of white at the base of all of the primaries, which was visible from above and below.

The bird's chest was quite deep, the neck was thick, and the back appeared hunched as the bird flew away with slow and powerful, but shallow, wingbeats. At close range the plumage appeared blackish-brown and the bird appeared lighter below. The light was strong, there were no clouds, and there was some thin, distant fog. The water was extremely calm and viewing for two to three minutes with 10X binoculars was under excellent conditions. I identified the bird as a South Polar Skua (*Catharacta maccormicki*) and after consulting Harrison's *Seabirds: An Identification Guide*, I concluded that it was an intermediate-phase bird. I ruled out

Great Skua (*C. skua*) because of the head and nape coloration and the overall body color, which was dark, rather than reddish. I ruled out Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) because of the broad wings, hunched back and overall coloration.

A second South Polar Skua flew directly over our boat two hours later a few miles southeast of the first location at 36°58,60'N; 74°35,10'W. This bird appeared to have somewhat less yellow about the head and nape, but otherwise appeared similar to the first bird. This bird landed in the water and also offered excellent views at less than 50 yards. Both skuas were photographed at close range. Other observers were Fenton Day, Ned Brinkley, David Abbott, Brian Patteson and Butch Pierce.

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NEWS AND NOTES

YULEE LARNER and TETA KAIN

COMMON LOONS IN BEDFORD COUNTY: Charles and Melva Hansrote sighted five Common Loons (*Gavia immer*) on Ivy Lake in Bedford County on the morning of 8 April 1989. Several other members of the Lynchburg Bird Club found up to nine loons on the lake later that afternoon. The previous high county for Bedford County was four Common Loons on Smith Mountain Lake on 15 April 1987.

RECORD NUMBER OF GREAT BLUE HERONS IN BATH COUNTY: While on a field trip in Bath County, members of the Augusta Bird Club observed 35 Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*) in a field adjacent to the ponds at Coursey Spring Fishery. Great Blue Herons are present at this location in all seasons, but this is the highest count on record and more than doubles the previous peak count of 17 for the Mountains and Valleys region of Virginia.

SPARROW "FALL-OUT": In a significant "fall-out" during the peak of the sparrow migration, Leonard Teuber counted 16 Lincoln's Sparrows (*Melospiza lincolni*), 2 Sharp-tailed Sparrows (*Ammodramus caudacutus*), and a number of Swamp (*Melospiza georgiana*) and White-throated (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) on 9 October 1989 at Hidden Valley in Bath County. The Lincoln Sparrow count is twice the previous peak count of eight for the Mountains and Valleys region of Virginia.

On October 14, Stephen Rottenborn counted 41 Swamp Sparrows along South River near Stuarts Draft in Augusta County. This surpasses the previous peak count of 25 for the Mountains and Valleys region.

FIRST RECORD OF CHUCK-WILL'S WIDOW NESTING IN VIRGINIA: A Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) nest, with adult sitting on two eggs, was found by Barry Kinzie near Fincastle in Botetourt County on 17 May 1986. The eggs were in the leaves and pine needles of the forest floor and no real nest

was discernable. The size and buffy throat, along with the call heard at dusk, were the field marks used to identify the species. The same nest with an adult incubating one egg and one small young was again photographed on 31 May 1986.

This record was accepted by the records committee in 1988 to provide official confirmation of the record appearing the 1987 edition of *Virginia's Bird Life An Annotated Checklist*. A photograph of the bird sitting on a ground nest is included with the documentation in the VSO archives.

1020 West Beverley Street, Staunton, Virginia 24401(Y.L.)
Route 5, Box 950, Gloucester, Virginia 23061(T.K.)

IN MEMORIAM: ALMON OWEN ENGLISH

Screeching brakes of two cars that stopped abruptly on the adjacent highway interrupted, only momentarily, a search for the nest of the King Rail (*Rallus elegans*). It was daybreak at Murray's Pond in Roanoke County in 1950. There, on his knees, was Almon English, who later recalled: "I often wonder what the drivers thought of seeing a person crawling around the edge of a pond at daybreak."

He found the nest, monitored it from 14 May until 23 June, and later wrote: "On July 2, I found a parent bird with a brood of 8 to 12 chicks. While examining one of the young... covered with a buffy down, the parent bird flew at me frantically until the young was released." (*The Birds of Roanoke County and Vicinity*, 1979).

His unbridled enthusiasm for field work on nesting birds was nothing new. At the same pond, on 23 September 1936, he recorded his first Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*), one of only five Mountains and Valleys records in *Virginia Birdlife an Annotated Checklist* (1987).

Here was a charter member and distinguished past president of the Virginia Society of Ornithology, and an organizer of the Roanoke Valley Bird Club. Almon Owen English died 24 July 1989 in a Roanoke hospital. He was 89.

In a letter to fellow members of the VSO encapsulated at its 50th anniversary meeting in Lynchburg, he wrote, in part:

"I have had a keen interest in birds since I was a little boy, and it has remained a big factor in my life ever since. I feel that the observation and study of our feathered friends is one of the finest and most satisfying hobbies a person could have. Unlike many hobbies, it is one which may be enjoyed at all seasons of the year, by all ages, under almost any conditions. Not only the birds themselves bring pleasure, but the fellowship with other people of like minds gives an added richness to life."

The fellowship he mentioned permeated his own lifestyle and was reflected in his vocation as a railroader and his avocation as a gardener, as well as in ornithology.

Upon his retirement in 1965 after 46 years with the Norfolk and Western Railway, the railroad magazine cited the high esteem in which he was held by customers for his "courteous and helpful work in planning and arranging for train

trips for both individuals and groups." He joined the N & W in his native Petersburg as a ticket seller in 1918; was transferred to Norfolk in 1922; and, after moving to Roanoke in 1934, became traveling passenger agent, an assignment dealing with special rail movements of passengers. He headed the N & W's special movement bureau handling troop movements during World War II. He was a past president of the American Association of Passenger Agents.

He was founder of the Men's Garden Club of Roanoke, for which he supervised restoration of gardens at historic places in the city. His specialty was the planting and cultivation of roses.

In recent years he was recognized as the "elder statesman" of Roanoke Valley birders, some of whom were privileged to venture into the field with him even as his vision began to deteriorate. These trips often led to habitats that he explored in the 1930s and 40s with the late M. G. Lewis of Lexington and Salem, who was charter chairman of the VSO Executive Committee. It was during this time, when it was a popular and valuable aspect or ornithology, that Mr. English amassed a large collection of eggs, which were carefully identified and stored in a specially designed cabinet. The cabinet was a handsome and treasured fixture in his living room until 1984, when he found a permanent home for it in the Charleston (South Carolina) Museum.

He was a licensed bander for some 12 years, beginning while in Norfolk. His favorite banding spots in Roanoke were at Murray's Pond and near his South Roanoke residence, where he netted numerous returns on record with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

He was careful keeper of bird observation and archival records and a collector of related literature. He left a complete set of *The Raven*, of which Volume 1, Number 1 was published in January 1930. His volume of the early issues is prefaced by the original of a letter dated 9 October 1929, in which Dr. Ruskin S. Freer of Lynchburg College solicited the interests of 25 "bird lovers of the state" in forming "some sort of organization." He owned a complete first edition set of Bent's *Life Histories of North American Birds*.

Almond English helped hold the VSO together in the World War II era; he was president longer than the normal tenure at that time when gasoline and tire rationing precluded annual meetings. At a Blacksburg meeting during his term, those attending set out for Mountain Lake for a banquet at which wild turkey was to be the entree. Fog and clouds halfway up the mountain forced a turnaround, but the banquet went on in style at a restaurant that agreed to cook the turkey.

He had a key role in the 1952 publication of Joseph James Murray's *A Check-List of the Birds of Virginia*. Dr. Murray's preface extended thanks to him "for carrying the main burden of the financing and publishing of the book."

Almond's wife, the former Dorothy Iehle, survives; she was a constant helpmate and enthusiastic companion in many of his ornithological activities. A funeral service was held 26 July 1989 at Roanoke's Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church, where he was an officer and active layman; interment was in Norfolk.

THE 1989 VSO ANNUAL MEETING

JOHN DILLARD

The 55th annual meeting of the Virginia Society of Ornithology was opened by President Bill Williams at the Mountain Lake Hotel at 7:30 p.m., 12 May 1989.

After welcoming the attendees, Mr Williams presented the slate of officers and directors prepared by the nominating committee:

President: John Bazuin, Annandale

Vice President: Clair Mellinger, Harrisonburg

Secretary: John Dillard, Richmond

Treasurer: Thelma Dalmas, Lynchburg

Raven Editor Emeritus: F. R. Scott, Richmond

Raven Editor: Teta Kain, Gloucester

Newsletter Editor: Bettye Fields, Newport News

Board of Directors (three-year terms ending July 1992)

Norwood C. Middleton, Salem

James Strawn, Chester

Claudia Wilds, Washington, DC

There being no nominations from the floor, a motion was made and passed unanimously to approve the slate of candidates.

The following VSO bylaw revisions were voted upon and approved individually after their presentation, comparison to existing bylaws, and discussion:

- A. The bylaw dealing with membership dues, Article I, Section IIa, will be altered as follows:
 1. The second sentence should end after the word "paid."
 2. Specification of dues amount should be deleted from items 1-5.
 3. A statement will be added below item 5 that reads "The Board of Directors will annually review and set the dues structure for all classifications and notify the membership accordingly."
- B. Article IV, Section III, which sets chapter dues, will in the future read in its entirety, "Local chapters shall pay annual dues as set by the Board of Directors to the corporation based upon their number of members as of 31 December."
- C. The word "concurrently" shall be added to the end of the last sentence in Article II, Section I.
- D. The sentence "For the first year, the immediate past president of the predecessor unincorporated associated of the same name shall be deemed to be the Immediate Past President for the purposes of this Section" shall be deleted from Article II, Section II.

The president explained the necessity for a dues increase at this time, stating that bringing *The Raven* up to date has depleted the treasury and the present dues

of \$5.00 per member barely cover basic mailing fees generated by the Society each year. In light of this situation, the board recommends the dues structure for 1990 be set as follows:

Active	\$ 10.00
Sustaining	15.00
Family	18.00
Contributing	25.00
Life	250.00

Dr. Jerry Via who, with the New River Valley Bird Club, hosted the meeting, discussed contingency rain plans relating to the Saturday papers session. After announcements regarding field trips by Clyde Kessler, Pat Polentz introduced Marcia and Woody McKenzie who entertained the group with their program, "Music from the Mountains."

Many successful field trips were enjoyed on Saturday morning. The afternoon papers session was chaired by Vice President John Bazuin who noted that it is the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the VSO.

Dr. Charles Ziegenfus, Professor of Mathematics at James Madison University, presented his paper on the study of Dark-eyed Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) in the Mountain Lake area. A male removal study was conducted to determine the extent to which female choice among investment patterns exhibited by males is responsible for maintaining a monogamous, shared, parental system. Results suggest that male mating patterns may be constrained by females' reluctance to mate with already mated or unhelping males. Other findings were as follows:

1. Unaided females raise the same number of nestlings as aided females, but brood less, feed more, and have greater or equal weight loss.
2. Unaided females raise fewer young to independence (14 days after fledging).
3. Unaided females are less likely to remain at the nest site to remate.
4. The major predator is the chipmunk.

Chris Pague of the Virginia Natural Heritage Program explained that the program was established by the Nature Conservancy as a methodology for inventorying natural resources so that priorities could be set for preserving them. An agreement was reached between the state and the Conservancy in 1986 to set up the program which is now in the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The program or conservation data centers are in all states except Alaska, three provinces in Canada, and in 9-12 South American countries. It has three aspects—identification, protection, and stewardship. It deals with plants, vertebrates, invertebrates, rare or exceptional natural communities, caves, and champion trees. The state legislature has mandated the formation of a Natural Area Preserve System for protection as one of its bases for choosing areas to preserve, since so many other forms are associated with them. Our assistance was solicited in providing data had has been given.

Dr. David Johnston of the National Research Council, formerly at George Mason University and the Mountain Lake Biological Station, told the group about 100 years of birding at Mountain Lake starting with the paper written about a field trip here by William Reeves in 1885. Other visitors in the first 50 years included Scott, Bailey, Hanley, and Hostetter.

President Bill Williams presided over the Awards and Recognition Program after the Saturday night banquet. He thanked several people who have helped both him and the VSO in the past year — Paul Saunier for handling publicity, Jim Nix for his enthusiastic membership and award activities, Taylor Seay for his work in behalf of conservation, Jo Wood who has publicized educational materials, Cricket Barlow for taking over as our attorney, Peggy Spiegel who willingly volunteered to coordinate field trips, Charles Ziegenfus who has done a great job in seeking out qualified nominees and judges for the Murray Award, John Dalmas for his work in setting up records committee bylaws and designing the format for maintaining the data systematically, Allen Hale for the fine job as *Newsletter* editor, including the bird quizzes to stimulate interest, Teta Kain for sacrifices in getting the *Raven* up to date so capably and for handling records committee correspondence, YuLee Larner for her assistance to Teta and for chairing the publications committee, John Dillard for serving as secretary and handling all mailings, and Thelma Dalmas for keeping us straight financially and for all the letter writing she does as treasurer.

Dick Peake and Ruth Beck put together the existing *Site Guide*. Dick has volunteered to prepare a Lane-type guide to Virginia. John Bazuin as vice president has prepared a synopsis of board meetings for the *Newsletter* and has also served as financial director of the Atlas project.

Upon recommendation of the award committee consisting of Drs. Charles Blem, David Johnston, and Clair Mellinger, Charles Ziegenfus presented the Murray Award to Carol Boone, a rising senior at Emory and Henry College, for work on vocalizations of the White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*).

Taylor Seay explained to the group that the conservation award has been renamed in the honor of Jackson M. Abbott because of his lifelong devotion to conservation and effective work in its behalf. This year's recipient is Norma Hoffman and the Citizens Alliance to Save Huntley Meadow to recognize significant contributions to the maintenance, preservation, and public awareness of critical habitat for birds and all wildlife. Ms. Hoffman thanked the group for the award and commented on the appropriateness of the award being named in honor of Jack Abbott.

Jim Nix noted that two people had reached their fiftieth anniversary with the VSO, having joined in 1939 — Sally M. Nelson of Roanoke and Evelyn Watkins of Harrisonburg. The James W. Eike Award for outstanding service to the VSO as presented to Dorothy Silsby and John Dillard. The presidential raven pin was presented to Bill Williams.

It was noted that this is the last official summer breeding season of the Atlas project and that help was needed to complete the project.

Jerry Via was introduced and, after distributing the tropical bird door prizes, presented the featured speaker, Dr. David Johnston. His talk about Belize, its rainforests, and the status of its birds was enthusiastically received.

A resolution of thanks to everyone who helped make the 55th annual meeting a success was unanimously adopted, after which the meeting was adjourned.

LOCAL CHAPTERS OF THE VSO

This list of local chapters, compiled by the VSO Membership Committee (Jim Nix, Chairman) has been revised to May 1989. The number in parentheses after the chapter name is the approximate total number of members in that chapter.

1. Augusta Bird Club (115), Staunton-Waynesboro
2. Bristol Bird Club (40), Bristol
3. Cape Henry Audubon Society (450), Norfolk
4. Charlottesville-Albemarle Bird Club (21), Charlottesville
5. Clinch Mountain Bird Club (12), Nickelsville
6. Clinch Valley Bird Club (20), Tazewell
7. Cumberland Nature Club (8), Wise
8. Eastern Shore Bird Club (38), Accomac
9. Fairfax Audubon Society (1800), Vienna
10. Foothills Bird Club (25) (Martinsville)
11. Hampton Roads Bird Club (150), Newport News-Hampton
12. Lynchburg Bird Club (200), Lynchburg
13. Marion Bird Club ((15), Marion
14. Monticello Bird Club (150), Charlottesville
15. Montpelier Naturalists (25), Gordonsville-Orange County
16. New River Valley Bird Club (30), Blacksburg
17. Northern Neck of Virginia Audubon Society (350)
Kilmarnock-White Stone
18. Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society (450)
Winchester-Strausburg-Front Royal
19. Northern Virginia Chapter (600), Arlington-Fairfax
20. Richmond Audubon Society (1000), Richmond
21. Roanoke Valley Bird Club (140), Roanoke-Salem
22. Rockbridge Bird Club (10), Lexington
23. Rockingham Bird Club (100), Harrisonburg
24. Virginia Beach Audubon Society (300), Virginia Beach
25. Margaret H. Watson Bird Club (12), Darlington Heights
26. Westmoreland Bird Club (65), Montross
27. Williamsburg Bird Club (120), Williamsburg

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE VSO, 1989-90

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Newsletter Editor: BETTYE J. FIELDS, 39 Culpeper Avenue, Newport News
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Immediate Past President: BILL WILLIAMS, 108 Deerwood Drive, Williamsburg
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Elected Members of the Board of Directors:

Class of 1990

Mitchell Byrd, 115 Copse Way, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

John Fulton, Post Office Box 3, Boynton, Virginia 23917

Karen Terwilliger, Route 1, Box 275, Parksley, Virginia 23454

Class of 1991

Peter Bergstrom, 410 Severn Avenue, Suite 113, Annapolis, Maryland 21403

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Joyce Livermore, 916 Glenfield Court, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454

Class of 1992

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Field Trips: Peggy Spiegel, 303 Market Street, Roanoke, Virginia 24011

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Site Guide: Richard H. Peake, Jr., Box 103, Clinch Valley College, Wise, Virginia,
24293

HAWKWATCH - 1988

DAVID HOLT

Editor's note: All hawkwatch data is compiled under the auspices of the Hawk Migration Association of North America (HMANA). The following article is from the fall 1988 "Raptorian Report," a publication of that organization.

COVERAGE

The hawkwatch coverage at Rockfish Gap and Harvey's Knob was dramatically improved in the fall of 1988. Rockfish Gap logged 600 hours in 96 days for a 6.25 hour per day average while Harvey's Knob logged 491 hours in 80 days for a little better than 6 hours per day. These figures represent new records for both lookouts and for Virginia. I defy any lookout to produce better coverage when no paid hawkwatchers are in attendance.

At Rockfish, every day without rainfall, plus a few with rainfall, was covered from mid-August through the first week in December. Regardless of a late start, Harvey's Knob received the same quality coverage was provided. Late season coverage at Harvey's produced the only migrating Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) seen in Virginia (28 November 1988, Sally Nelson) and both lookouts produced better than average Red-tailed Hawk (*B. jamaicensis*) counts resulting of the improved late season coverage.

At Kiptopeke (Virginia's answer to Cape May) the coverage also improved over that of 1987. However, this improvement was not as dramatic as at the other sites. Too, it must considered that the bulk of the reported watches at Kiptopeke lies in the hands of two people. Dot Silsby's 182.2 hours and Bill Williams's 148.75 hours represent 78 percent of the total reported watches at Kiptopeke. Surely such an important site deserves more attention and just as surely these two stalwarts deserve more assistance. To fully appreciate the efforts of Dot and Bill one must consider the exorbitant toll charges they encounter in addition to the normal tribulations of hawkwatching. Their contributions that should be applauded by all.

Participation at Short Hill continues to improve. A new record in both day and hour coverage was set this fall. This trend is most welcome as Short Hill is an excellent site for all species with the exception of the Broad-winged Hawk (*B. platypterus*).

The coverage at Mendota slipped somewhat from the highs (Broad-winged season only) of 1986 and 1987; yet, it was better than all the years preceding 1986. From the years when coverage at Mendota extended into early October, we have seen a great potential for *accipiter* counts and we would "bet the farm" that the Red-tailed count there would be amazing. It is definitely a good *buteo* site. It is unfortunate that Mendota lies in that part of the state that is still considered a "frontier" in birding as well as political circles. Suffice it to say it is an untapped, yet valuable, resource.

COUNT SUMMARY

Broad-winged Hawks appeared at Harvey's Knob at a slightly above average rate and at a substantially above average rate at Rockfish Gap. However, single day counts did not reach the peaks experienced in the past, and Mendota had one of the lowest Broad-winged counts in its history. Several informal reports received from locations out of range of the mountaintop sites indicate a broad front movement. With respect to trends, it can only be said that the Broad-winged counts of 1988 were neutral.

It was quite a different matter with the eagle species as their counts were decidedly on the rise. The 15 Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) at Harvey's Knob is a new site record and the 6 on 14 September is a single day record for the mountains. It was thought that the 29 Bald Eagles at Rockfish in 1987 would stand as a mountain site record for a few years, but Short Hill eclipsed that with 37 this fall. Let anyone think that the mountain sites are encroaching on the coastal counts of Bald Eagles, take a look at the 54 recorded at Kiptopeke. We believe that this is an all-time high count of migrating Bald Eagles in Virginia!

A new Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) record for Short Hill was established and two more Ospreys at Harvey's Knob would have tied the existing record. Though the Osprey count was down from 1987 at Rockfish Gap, it was still an above average count. The same can be said for the Kiptopeke Osprey count.

A new record for Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) was established at Harvey's Knob, with well above average harrier counts at Rockfish Gap and Short Hill. Kiptopeke's harrier count was slightly above average.

Rockfish had a record Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) count while Harvey's Knob and Short Hill had slightly better than average counts. Three Golden Eagles were seen at Kiptopeke, of all places!

The Red-tailed Hawk count produced the most positive trend of all. The three full-time sites produced an aggregate increase of 290 percent above average count for this species.

New site records for Sharp-shinned Hawks (*Accipiter striatus*) were established at Rockfish Gap and Short Hill. The count at Rockfish is a mountain site record. Harvey's sharpie count was below average and the count at Kiptopeke continued on a downward trend. There are no good theories on sharpie movements and the above numbers certainly tease our imagination. It seems that sharpie movements have increased inland while declining at the coast.

Along the same lines, the American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) count at Harvey's Knob set a new seasonal record for that site and was well above average at Rockfish Gap and Short Hill. Yet the Kestrel count at Kiptopeke continued on a downward trend.

Peregrine Falcons (*F. peregrinus*) and Merlins (*F. columbarius*) do not pass the mountain sites in sufficient numbers to detect trends. Only the Kiptopeke counts have any validity in this respect. At Kiptopeke the Peregrine flight was below

average this fall while the Merlin flight was above average. Merlin sightings set new site records at Harvey's, Rockfish Gap, and Short Hill.

With a few exceptions the above shows an upward trend in nearly all species counts. Much of this trend is directly related to the increased coverage, though this is not necessarily so during the Broad-winged season. Daily coverage at this time is traditionally good and only the hours per day is of any concern. While the hours per day was increased at both Harvey's Knob and Rockfish Gap, it only paid off in increased counts at Harvey's Knob. If the crew at Harvey's had quit each day at 4 p.m., many of the Broad-wings and eagles would have been missed. Yet both of these species behaved normally at Rockfish with the bulk passing before 3 p.m. Perhaps the Broadwings passed Mendota later in the day than usual.

As we have said many times, the Broadwings can mass in a very short period of time. Many extraordinary counts of this species occur in a two-hour period and it can occur at any time of the day. Broadwings migrate at their convenience, not the hawkwatchers'. Due to the fact that we still cannot predict these masses, full-day coverage is imperative during the Broadwing season. The fact remains, however, that late day coverage only paid off at one lookout during the fall of 1988.

The improved post Broadwing season coverage at Rockfish and Harvey's definitely paid off in increased counts. But again, we are faced with the contradiction of a decrease in sharpie counts at Harvey's compared to the record Sharpie count at Rockfish with the coverage during the Sharpie season nearly equal at these two sites. More hours on watch will produce higher counts, but the degree of improvement is difficult to establish.

As an example, examine the improvement of the Red-tail count at Rockfish Gap. October and November were fully covered and the Redtail count at Rockfish increased by 178 percent! But since Rockfish has only been covered during the Redtail season for four out of the last five years, the average Redtail count there is probably unrealistically low; therefore, the huge increase with respect to average numbers, is probably an unrealistically high figure.

Regretfully, the foregoing demonstrates the need to invoke that most common, yet dreaded, phrase in animal behavior studies: "More work is needed." Both coverage and species counts in the fall 1988 season were the best in the history of the Virginia Hawkwatch. Our work is cut out for us in that we must maintain future coverage at the 1988 level. The hawks may not be there but we can be there to say definitely whether they were or not.

3094 Forest Acre Trail, Salem, Virginia 24153

TABLE 2. *Virginia hawk lookout totals—fall, 1988*

	Black Vulture	Turkey Vulture	Osprey	Mississippi Kite	Bald Eagle	Northern Harrier	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Cooper's Hawk	Northern Goshawk	Red-shouldered Hawk
1. Rockfish Gap	177	375	165	...	12	114	2137	103	3	40
2. Harvey's Knob	69	92	148	1	15	73	637	81	2	51
3. Kiptopeke Beach	123	847	1191	...	54	404	5840	274	1	11
4. Short Hill Mt.	...	...	85	...	37	112	1127	160	4	51
5. Mendota	23	...	45	...	2	7	166	83	...	4
6. Ivy	...	...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
7. Elkton	2	...	1	...	...	1	4	3	...	...
8. Bear Den Mt.	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	1
9. Roanoke	...	...	3	...	...	1	6	...	...	...
10. Reddish Knob	...	...	4	...	...	2	...	3	...	1
11. Vicker	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
12. Rockfish Depot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Calf Mt.	...	...	1	...	...	1	3	...	...	...
Totals	394	1314	1651	1	121	717	9928	708	10	159

1988 VIRGINIA HAWK LOOKOUT SITES

1. *Rockfish Gap*: Crest of the Blue Ridge on Afton Mountain adjacent to Interstate Highway 64.
2. *Harvey's Knob*: Crest of the Blue Ridge at milepost 95 on the Blue Ridge Parkway.
3. *Kiptopeke Beach*: At the southern tip of the Eastern Shore peninsula.
4. *Short Hill Mountain*: Across the Potomac River from Harper's Ferry in Loudoun County.
5. *Mendota Fire Tower*: Crest of Clinch Mountain near rt. 802 in Washington County.
6. *Ivy*: Four miles southwest of Ivy, east of the Blue Ridge in Albemarle County.

Broad-winged Hawk	Red-tailed Hawk	Rough-legged Hawk	Golden Eagle	American Kestrel	Merlin	Peregrine Falcon	Unidentified	Total - All Stations	Total Hours Station Manned	Total Days Station Manned
14186	1643	...	8	151	9	3	120	19246	600	96
6371	720	1	6	88	8	7	146	8514	491	80
775	196	...	3	2441	469	143	106	12878	426	53
345	1673	...	8	53	4	1	58	3718	348	63
7315	12	...	1	68	7	7	56	7796	125	18
2257	...	...	...	1	...	...	7	2273	9	2
119	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	132	8	2
2453	1	...	...	3	...	1	...	2465	7	1
129	2	...	...	3	...	...	2	146	10	4
30	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	3	1
997	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1003	2	1
697	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	697	1	1
69	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	78	5	1
35743	4249	1	26	2810	497	162	498	58987	2035	323

1988 VIRGINIA HAWK LOOKOUT SITES (con't)

7. *Elkton*: residence in town, Rockingham County.
8. *Bear Den Mountain*: Five miles north of Rockfish Gap, adjacent to Calf Mountain.
9. *Roanoke*: Downtown Roanoke.
10. *Reddish Knob*: Northwest corner of Augusta County.
11. *Vicker*: Montgomery County.
12. *Rockfish Depot*: East of the Blue Ridge, Nelson County. Approximately 15 miles southeast of Rockfish Gap.
13. *Calf Mountain*: Shenandoah National park five miles north of Rockfish Gap.

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