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In Focus ... Inside Back Cover

Cover: This remarkable image of a Peregrine Falcon taking a Leach's Storm-Petrel mid-air above the Delaware River at Marcus Hook, *Delaware* was just one of the countless amazing avian events associated with Hurricane Sandy's passage through Pennsylvania 30 October 2012. See the feature article on page 204 for a comprehensive storm summary. (Doug Gochfeld)

What a season!

The fall of 2012 was almost unbelievable in the number of major avian events that occurred, and I use the term “unbelievable” in the strictest sense of the word. Think about it. If someone told you that in the span of four months, the state would see a major late season hurricane that included 140 Pomarine Jaegers and 190 Red Phalaropes, 30 Leach’s Storm-Petrels, and a Northern Gannet, and Black Skimmers as far-flung as Pittsburgh... and a season total of five species of hummingbirds including a major invasion of nearly 90 *Selasphorus* hummers, and the presence of *five* grebe species on one lake at the same time for at least a week, and a major winter finch invasion featuring probably thousands of both species of crossbills and Evening Grosbeaks, and a Pacific Loon sitting on a small 3-acre pond for a week, and a Pacific-slope Flycatcher on top of all that, all in one four month period, well, you might have thought, that’s just not believable.

But believe it, because all of that and more happened in what was certainly the wildest fall season in my memory, and probably everyone else’s memory too. It was truly one for the record books, and one that probably won’t be topped any time soon.

Introducing Amy Davis, Photo Editor for *Pennsylvania Birds*

I am very happy to announce that we now have a dedicated photo editor for *Pennsylvania Birds*: Amy Davis. Most readers will recognize Amy’s name not only from meeting her on her many adventures around the state chasing rare birds, but also from her role as the “Sightings” department editor for the American Birding Association’s flagship publications, *Birding* and *Winging It*. As photo editor for *Pennsylvania Birds*, Amy will be responsible for soliciting and gathering all photos that will appear in

the journal, and for processing them to our publication standards. It’s a big job and PSO and all *Pennsylvania Birds* readers owe their thanks to Amy for taking on this work. Thank you, Amy!

Readers who are interested in contributing photos to the journal should now send them to Amy instead of yours truly. Amy’s email address is argdavis@gmail.com. Judging by her performance in her first season acting as photo editor (the upcoming winter 2012-13 issue), she is very punctual and thorough, so please help her out by being just as punctual with your submissions. If you maintain a website or a Flickr account of your own, please consider sending links to Amy on a periodic basis. There is a lot of material for one person to sort through. (I know from experience...)

Changes to the PSO data tables

In the early 1990s, then-editors Frank and Barb Haas introduced the data tables to *Pennsylvania Birds*—the tables that show first and last dates (and in certain past iterations also high counts) of all species for all reporting counties each season. These tables filled a valuable gap in our knowledge of bird distribution, providing data on even the most common birds that were not necessarily mentioned in the reports submitted by compilers. The data tables and county reports together were really a unique thing among *Pennsylvania Birds*’ peer journals, since they provided an absolutely complete picture of each season’s data for every county in the state. No other state or regional journal came close to even attempting this, let alone pulling it off the way *Pennsylvania Birds* has for nearly two decades now.

And yet we now have come to another time of change. With the advent of eBird, we on the Editorial Board decided at our December 2012 meeting that we will discontinue the data tables following this season’s installment. These days, eBird fills the gaps the data tables were meant to

cover, and maintaining the tables at this point is redundant work. The data tables from the early 1990s to 2012 will always be a valuable resource for future research that is not replicated anywhere else, but from this point forward, we turn their function over to eBird. Along with our comprehensive county reports which are as robust as ever, Pennsylvania still boasts a more complete summary of seasonal sightings than just about any other state out there. It’s something PSO is very proud to offer.

Compiler News

Jeff McDonald, whose name you will recognize from his many marvelous photos that have appeared on these pages the past few years, had agreed to compile for *Butler*. Thankfully this county, which has a long and well documented history especially since it is so close to Pittsburgh, will not have an extended gap in reporting. Thanks very much Jeff!

For nearby *Lawrence*, Cory DeStein has handed the controls over to **Chris Kubiak**. Many thanks to both Cory and Chris for keeping up with this county as well; it’s another that is well-birded by the many observers based in Pittsburgh and nearby.

Counties with no compiler include *Cameron*, *Montour*, *Northumberland*, *Elk*, *Columbia*, *Union*, and *Warren*. If you are interested in compiling for any of these counties, please contact me.

Geoff Malosh
Editor-in-Chief

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Western Hummingbirds in Pennsylvania – the Invasion of 2012

Scott Weidensaul

After a slow but steady increase in the number of western hummingbirds reported in Pennsylvania over the past 10 years, the autumn of 2012 saw a veritable explosion in these birds—some 90 western hummingbirds in 24 counties, of which 49 were banded. That compares with 14 hummingbirds banded in 2011-12, and just six in 2010-11.

Not surprisingly, 44 of the birds conclusively identified were Rufous Hummingbirds, which remain by far the most common western species to be found in the commonwealth. But the tally also included Pennsylvania's first Black-chinned Hummingbird (confirmed by photo after it had departed), as well as its second and third Calliope Hummingbirds, and its third and fourth Allen's Hummingbirds, all of which were banded. There were also several late-lingering Ruby-throated Hummingbirds observed or banded in November.

Also unsurprisingly, given the state's population centers, the greatest number (84%) came from the southeastern and southcentral regions, with Montgomery County (13 reports) and Lancaster County (12 reports) leading the pack. A scattering of 11 reports came from western Pennsylvania, and the relative handful from northcentral Pennsylvania included a first county record for Rufous Hummingbird in McKean County, and five late hummers (three of them Rufous

Hummingbirds that were caught and banded) in Lycoming County. Five birds in the northeast—two in Monroe, two in Luzerne and a new county record in Susquehanna County—rounded out the season's list.

Forty-nine of the reported hummingbirds were caught, conclusively identified and banded by the state's six federally licensed hummingbird banders: Nick Pulcinella, Chester County; Sandy Lockerman, Dauphin County; Scott Weidensaul, Schuylkill County; Ember Jandebaur, Lackawanna County; Wayne Laubscher, Clinton County; and Robert Mulvihill, Allegheny County. In all, the banders logged more than 5,000 miles this season chasing hummingbirds, some of which required multiple visits to catch.

For the second year in a row, a hummingbird originally banded in Louisiana by famed hummingbird researcher Nancy Newfield was recaptured in Pennsylvania. This time it was an after-hatching-year (AHY) female Rufous, which Bob Mulvihill captured on 11 December (his birthday, appropriately enough) at a home in Lawrence County. The hummingbird had been banded 12 January 2012 in Ascension Parish, Louisiana.

An AHY female rufous hummingbird originally banded 25 November 2011 near Walnutport, Northampton County returned to that yard in September, and

remained at the site through at least 25 January 2013. Although the bird evaded repeated attempts to capture it, the band and partial band number were easily visible, as was a distinctive, healed injury to the tip of the maxilla that was originally noted in 2011.

Though the majority of reported hummingbirds departed in November and December, at least seven remained past the end of January and at least four were still present at the end of March.

Why such an explosion of reports this year? It may reflect an actual increase in the number of hummingbirds, or an increase in public awareness (including a growing tendency to leave feeders up later in the fall, and a better reporting network), or both. However, the fact that twelve sites reported more than one hummingbird this season, compared with only one multiple-bird site in 2011, suggests that the 2012 hummingbird tsunami was real. The question, of course, is whether this was a singular anomaly, or a new normal as the Eastern/Southeastern wintering population of western hummingbirds continues its rapid expansion. No one knows, but the answer may be clear in a year or two.

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Table 1. Western Hummingbirds identified to species in Pennsylvania, August 2012 to March 2013

Species	Age/Sex	Evidence	County	Town	Host	Bander	FO	Band	LO
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Allegheny	Leetsdale	Becky Smith	RM	10/27	10/28	1/24
Rufous	HY-M	banded	Allegheny	Mt. Washington	Kim Marasco	RM	?	11/26	1/24
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Allegheny	Wexford	John Parran	RM	?	11/6	?
Rufous	HY-M	banded	Berks	Fleetwood	Sharon Moyer	CSW	11/7	11/16	12/3
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Berks	Kutztown	Todd Underwood	CSW	10/?	11/16	11/21
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Bucks	Kintnersville	Janet Mott	SJL	10/?	12/31	1/10
Black-chinned	HY-M	photo	Bucks	Morrisville	Rick Dulay	--	11/10	--	11/10
Allen's	HY-M	banded	Bucks	Pipersville	Babe Webster	CSW	11/12	11/21	1/7
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Chester	Chadd's Ford	Gale Brewer	NP	10/?	1/2	3/5
Rufous	AHY-M	banded	Chester	Chester Springs	Liz Nelson	NP	?	11/28	11/29
Calliope	HY-M	banded	Chester	Devon	Joe Flood	NP	10/22	11/1	11/10
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Chester	Pottstown	Jennifer Farishon	SJL	?	12/16	2/15
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Clarion	Sligo	Carole Winslow	RM	?	10/16	10/21
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Crawford	Saegertown	Denise Adams	RM	?	11/24	?
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Cumberland	Mechanicsburg	Susan Miller	SJL	?	11/16	11/21
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Dauphin	Middletown	Ann Toth	SJL	?	10/19	10/27
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Franklin	Roxbury	Kathy Lauver	RM	10/14	10/21	12/2
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Juniata	East Waterford	Tina Swarner	WL	9/30	11/9	11/22
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Juniata	Port Royal	Betty Klase	WL	10/1	11/17	1/14
Rufous	AHY-M	sighting	Lancaster	Ephrata	Eric Witmer	--	9/29	--	9/29
Rufous	HY-M	banded	Lancaster	Ephrata	Eric Witmer	SJL	10/20	11/1	1/2
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Lancaster	Honey Brook	Dennis Moore	SJL	?	12/8	1/25
Calliope	HY-M	banded	Lancaster	Lancaster	Bob Weiss	SJL	11/18	12/1	12/10
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Lancaster	Lancaster	Gladys Horst	CSW	?	12/8	12/26
Rufous	AHY-M	banded	Lancaster	Stevens	Jim Tshudy	CSW	10/14	10/20	1/8
Rufous	AHY-F	recapture ¹	Lawrence	New Wilmington	Jack Poole	RM	10/10	12/11	12/13
Rufous	ASY-F	banded	Lehigh	Allentown	Debbie Kear	SJL	10/?	1/12	1/21

Table 1 continued.

Species	Age/Sex	Evidence	County	Town	Host	Bander	FO	Band	LO
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Lehigh	Upper Macungie	A. Younger	CSW	8/?	10/20	11/22
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Lehigh	Upper Macungie	A. Younger	SJL	?	11/24	?
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Luzerne	Mountaintop	B. Ziniewicz	ESJ	10/7	10/10	10/17
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Luzerne	Shavertown	Denise Gretton	ESJ	?	10/20	?
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Lycoming	Cogan Station	Bernard Dincher	WL	12/20	12/21	12/28
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Lycoming	Muncy	R. and T. Tule	WL	10/9	10/14	10/15
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Lycoming	Pennsdale	Karen Hall	WL	9/15	12/29	1/19
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	McKean	Bradford	Jeff Blaisedell	WL	11/23	1/2	1/4
Rufous	HY-F	banded	Montgomery	Elkins Park	Paul Driver	CSW	10/9	10/21	3/29*
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Montgomery	Douglass Twp.	Mary Ache	WL	11/6	11/5	11/23
Rufous	HY-M	banded	Montgomery	Gilbertsville	Abby Mason	SJL	?	11/24	3/29*
Allen's	HY-M	banded	Montgomery	Lansdale	Cathie Lavoie	CSW	10/7	11/30	12/3
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Montgomery	Meadowbrook	Bert Filemyr	CSW	10/15	12/21	3/28*
Rufous	HY-M	banded	Montgomery	Pennsburg	Gary Freed	WL	10/30	11/10	11/13
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Montgomery	Harleysville	name withheld	CSW	10/?	3/1	3/31*
Rufous	AHY-M	sighting	Northampton	Nazareth	Terry & Don Strockoz	--	?	--	11/10
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Northampton	Riegelsville	Dee Brothers	CSW	?	11/28	11/29
Rufous	AHY-F	recapture2	Northampton	Walnutport	Dave Wagner	--	9/13	--	1/25
Rufous	AHY-M	banded	Perry	Marysville	Dan Bogar	SJL	10/8	11/16	?
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	Somerset	Berlin	Gibby Vogel	RM	?	12/19	?
Rufous	HY-F	banded	York	Hanover	Candy Messinger	SJL	11/4	11/10	?
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	York	York	Dan Heathcote	SJL	?	11/17	12/16
Rufous	AHY-F	banded	York	York	Karen Gunnet	SJL	?	1/8	1/8
Rufous	SY-F	banded	York	Felton	Ronald Flinchbaugh	SJL	10/?	1/13	?

Table 1 notes

- FO = Date First Observed; LO = Last Known Observation Date. LO dates with an (*) indicate the bird was still present on that date but the true LO is unknown.
- recapture1: bird originally banded 1/27/2012 at Ascension Parish, Louisiana by Nancy Newfield.
- recapture2: bird originally banded 11/25/2011 at the same Northampton County location where it reappeared in 2012.
- Banders: Scott Weidensaul (CSW), Sandy Lockerman (SJL), Nick Pulcinella (NP), Ember Jandebour (ESJ), Wayne Laubscher (WL), Robert Mulvihill (RM).

Table 2. *Selasphorus* hummingbirds observed but not identified to species in Pennsylvania, August 2012 to March 2013

Age/Sex	Evidence	County	Town	Observer	FO	LO	Note
HY-M	photo	Adams	Biglerville	Ann Wright	10/9	12/14	Not reported until 1/21
HY-M	photo	Berks	Oley	Rick Schultz	10/14	10/21	Considered probable HY-M
F	photo	Berks	Reading	Dorian Stewart	10/?	?	
AHY-M	sighting	Berks	Reading	unknown	10/6	10/6	<i>fide</i> Rob Protz
HY-M	photo	Bucks	Milford Square	Butch Lishman	9/26	11/22	
F	photo	Chester	West Grove	M. Daly	10/2	10/3	
?	sighting	Cumberland	Lemoyno	unknown	?	?	Homeowner disallowed banding
?	sighting	Dauphin	Harrisburg	Ed Bernot	9/19	9/19	
F	photo	Dauphin	Hummelstown	Jan Getgood	10/16	10/18	Probably Rufous by photos
?	photo	Juniata	Thompstontown	Suzan Sidney	10/7	11/9	WL missed banding by one hour
F	photo	Lancaster	Conestoga	Sandi Lowmsbery	10/10	10/10	
?	sighting	Lancaster	East Earl	Denise Shaffer	10/26	11/6	Hosted a <i>selasphorus</i> in the past
F	photo	Lancaster	Lancaster	Sandi Bonenberger	10/10	?	
F	photo	Lancaster	Lititz	Dave Kubinsky	10/7	10/21	
F	photo	Lehigh	Allentown	Mark Strohl	9/24	10/?	
HY-M	photo	Lehigh	Emmaus	Karen Hoger	10/?	11/10	
?	photo	Lehigh	Upper Macungie	Ilona Ziega	?	?	One mi. from a 2012 banded RUHU
?	sighting	Lehigh	Upper Macungie	Ilona Ziega	?	?	
?	sighting	Lehigh	Zionsville	Chris Stamper	10/19	10/27	Hosted a <i>selasphorus</i> in the past
?	sighting	Monroe	Shawnee	Jim Wykoff	9/?	9/22	
?	sighting	Monroe	Tannersville	Denise Roseti	10/24	?	
HY-M	sighting	Montgomery	Ardmore	Suzanne Kimball	10/18	1/18	
F	photo	Montgomery	Hatfield	Ed Bonsell	10/?	11/21	
F	photo	Montgomery	Horsham	Don Loose	11/7	?	
F	photo	Montgomery	Pottstown	Kathy Moss	10/15	10/25	
F	photo	Montgomery	Unknown	unknown	11/8	?	
?	sighting	Montgomery	Gilbertsville	Dan McClure	1/?	1/17	0.2 mi from A. Mason's banded bird
F	photo	Northampton	Lower Saucon Twp.	Brett Shick	10/16	?	
F	sighting	Northampton	Nazareth	Terry & Don Strockoz	?	11/10	<i>fide</i> Rick Wiltraut
?	sighting	Northampton	Walnutport	Brad Silfie	10/16	?	<i>fide</i> Rick Wiltraut
F	sighting	Northampton	Unknown	unknown	10/12	?	<i>fide</i> Rick Wiltraut
HY-M	sighting	Perry	Marysville	Don Bogar	9/11	9/11	
?	photo	Somerset	Somerset	Mike Lanzone	11/17	11/17	
F	photo	Susquehanna	Lymansville	Debra Flower	10/31	?	

Table 2 note: about 10 reports of possible *selasphorus* hummingbirds are not listed in this table due to the scant details of those sightings. All sightings from the above two tables are mapped in Figure 1 (next page).

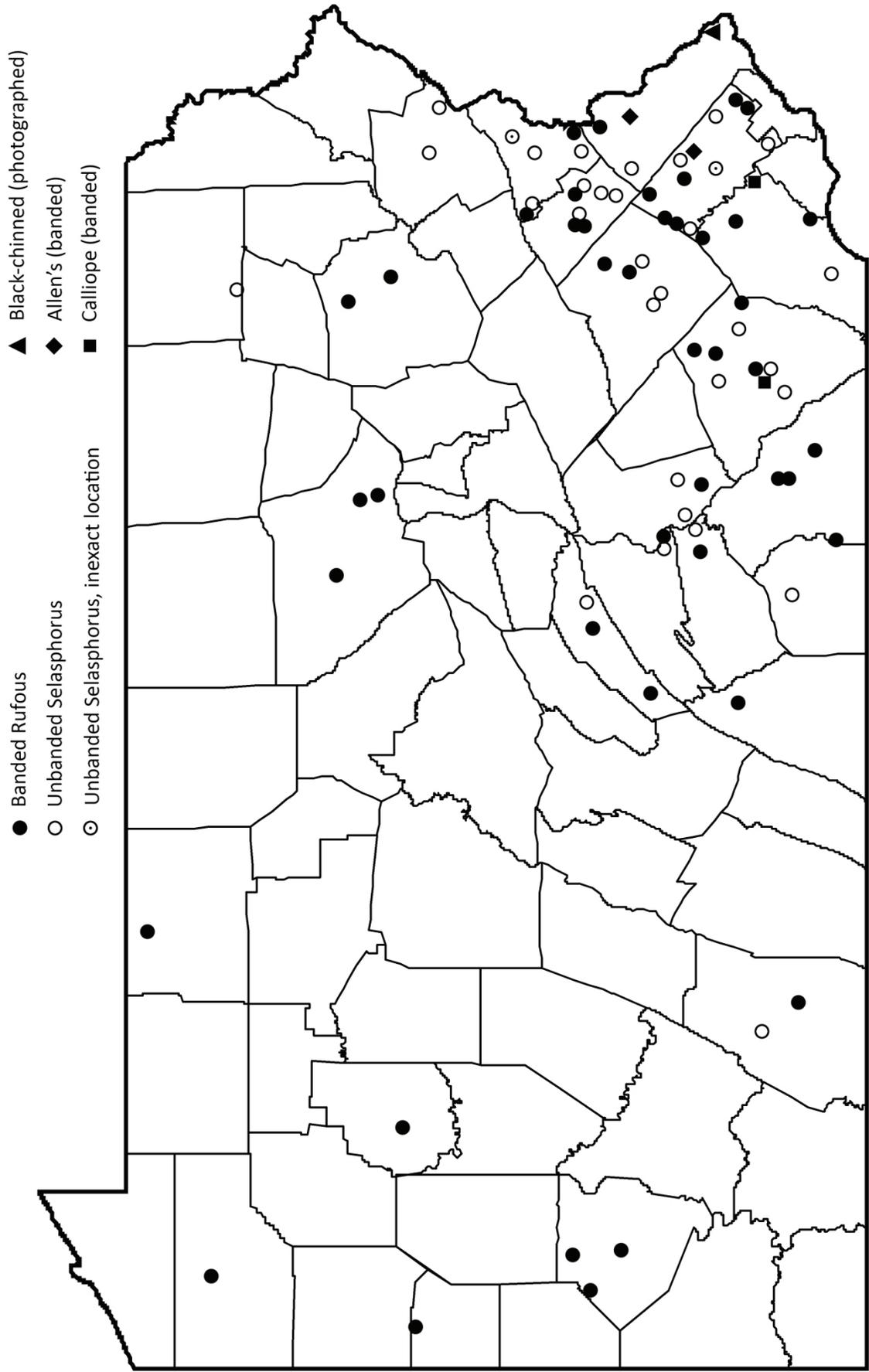


Figure 1: Western Hummingbirds in Pennsylvania, August 2012 to March 2013

Pennsylvania Bird Lists Report – 2012

Compiled by Peter Robinson

Two new features have been added to the Pennsylvania Bird Lists report this year, ideas borrowed from the Maryland report, to add a little more flavor to this report. The first new feature is the voting for “bird of the year”. Those who sent list reports were asked to vote for the three species most meaningful to them this year (for any reason). First place votes got three points, second scored two points, third one point. The second addition is comprised of listers’ comments about birding in Pennsylvania in 2012.

There are now 79 birders whose Pennsylvania Life Lists are 300 or more, an increase of two from 2011, and 23 now have 350 or more, an increase of one from last year. Six are at 375 or more, also in increase of one. Nine have 300 or more in the Life List-Unassisted category.

This was a very good year for adding to lists. There were some unusual species that continued from 2011 into 2012, five species of hummingbirds were identified, Hurricane Sandy carried a number of rare species into the state, an unusual number and variety of winter finches arrived in the fall, and there were some other vagrants. Chuck Chalfant established a new all-time high Annual List of 315 species, even having missed a few that he could have seen, yet still seeing a number of species he would never have expected. Chuck was not the only one with a 2012 list above 300: Shannon Thompson tallied 307, after her 305 in 2011, and Geoff Malosh saw 303 species. These accomplishments involve a lot of diligence, time, and travel expense. We should also give some credit to today’s instant communication about sightings.

There were several County Life List lead changes in 2012. David Hawk established a new high of 268 for *Carbon*. Nick Pulcinella added four to his *Chester* list for a new high of 276. Al Guarante’s 291 for *Delaware* finally topped the 289 established by John Miller way back in 1985, but Al has some work to do to find another 30 species in *Philadelphia* to match John Miller’s 290, also from 1985. Geoff Malosh’s 233 for *Washington* is another new high county life list. There now are 19 County Life Lists of 300 or more, two more than last year, and all from four counties: *Berks*, *Bucks*, *Erie*, and *Lancaster*. New high County Annual Lists for 2012 included: Tim Becker’s 237 for *Lebanon*, Nathan Fronk’s 190 for *Lycoming*, and Neil Troyer’s 222 for *Mercer*. Other reports of high County Annual Lists were Michael Schall’s 166 in 2011 for *Pike*, and Tom Clauser’s 228 for 2011 in *Schuylkill*.

The following people submitted list information for 2012: Tim Becker, Chuck Berthoud, Gerry Boltz, Dick Byers, Bruce Carl, Chuck Chalfant, Tom Clauser, Dick Cleary, Skip Conant, Amy Davis, Dave DeReamus, Gordon Dimmig, Mike Epler, Bill Etter, Devich Farbotnik, Mike Fialkovich, Nathan Fronk, Anthony Ford-Hutchinson, Ian Gardner, Carl Garner, Tom Garner, Deborah Grove, Greg Grove, Al Guarente, Barbara Haas, David Hawk, Janathan Heller, Carol Hildebrand, Chad Kauffman, Jon Kauffman, Bill Keim, Arlene Koch, Dave Kyler, Trudy Kyler, Wayne Laubscher, Ronald Leberman, Harold Lebo, Ken Lebo, Geoff Malosh, Paul Mauss, Mark McConaughy, Jerry McWilliams, Randy Miller, Martin Page, Nick Pulcinella, Thomas Reeves, Dan Richards, Jim Ridolfi, Dave Rieger, Peter Robinson, Michael Schall, Mathew Spence, Russ States, Grant Stevenson, Shannon Thompson, Neil Troyer, Mark Vass, Joseph Verica, Eric Witmer, Matt Wlasniewski, David Yeany II.

BIRD OF THE YEAR

The winner for Pennsylvania’s Bird of the Year is **Leach’s Storm-Petrel** courtesy of Hurricane Sandy, with 13 points. Tied for second with 8 points were Pomarine Jaeger, Rufous Hummingbird, and Saltmarsh Sparrow. Wilson’s Storm-Petrel came in third with 7 points. There were two first place votes for “western hummingbirds”. Rufous Hummingbird would have made first place if those six points had gone to that species as representative of the hummingbird group, which a few voters did do.

Other point totals were: Allen’s Hummingbird (5), Black Skimmer (4), Calliope Hummingbird (4), Dickcissel (4), Pink-footed Goose (3), Herald Petrel (3), Cory’s Shearwater (3), Whimbrel (3), Black-chinned Hummingbird (3), Red Phalarope (2), Sabine’s Gull (2), Prairie Falcon (2), Cave Swallow (2), Bullock’s Oriole (2), Northern Gannet (1), American Oystercatcher (1), Long-billed Dowitcher (1), Kirtland’s Warbler (1), Kentucky Warbler (1), and White-winged Crossbill (1).

Pennsylvania Life Lists

1	386	Deuane Hoffman	2009	29	342	Mike Fialkovich	2012	60	312	John Salvetti	2011
2	382	Barbara Haas	2012	30	340	Richard Timm	2011	61	311	Dana Shaffer	1999
3	380	Devich Farbotnik	2012	31	338	Jan Witmer	1997	61	311	Don Henise	2000
4	379	Franklin Haas	2010	31	338	Richard Colyer	2000	61	311	Mark Vass	2012
5	378	Dave DeReamus	2011	31	338	Shannon Thompson	2012	64	310	Greg Grove	2012
5	378	Peter Robinson	2012	34	337	John Miller	1997	64	310	Trudy Kyler	2012
7	372	Eric Witmer	2012	34	337	Jerry McWilliams	2012	66	309	Chad Kauffman	2012
8	371	Jason Horn	2002	36	336	William Stocku	1997	67	308	Robyn Henise	2000
9	370	Rick Wiltraut	2006	37	335	Matt Wlasniewski	2012	67	308	Mike Weible	2007
10	369	Tom Garner	2012	38	332	William Murphy	2000	67	308	Roger Higbee	2008
11	368	Ken Lebo	2012	39	330	Billy Weber	2011	70	307	Ernest Schiefer	2000
12	367	Al Guarente	2012	40	329	Paul Schwalbe	1998	71	306	Ronald Leberman	2003
13	364	Arlene Koch	2012	41	327	Glenna Schwalbe	1998	72	305	Gene Wilhelm	1992
13	364	Randy C. Miller	2012	41	327	Steve Santner	1999	72	305	Carl Garner	2012
15	362	Jonathan Heller	2012	43	325	Margaret Higbee	2008	74	304	Trmothy Becker	2012
16	361	Robert Schutsky	2011	43	325	Bill Etter	2012	75	302	Sam Stull	1985
16	361	Harold Lebo	2012	45	324	Harry Franzen	1996	75	302	Edward Pederson	1998
18	360	Bernard Morris	2011	46	323	David Kyler	2012	75	302	Rick Koval	2004
18	360	Geoff Malosh	2012	47	322	Tom Clauser	2012	78	300	Larry Lewis	1988
20	359	Nick Pulcinella	2012	48	319	John Ginaven	1998	78	300	Dave Rieger	2012
21	358	Steve Farbotnik	2006	48	319	Aden Troyer	2010	80	299	Keith Richards	1982
22	354	John Fedak	2006	50	318	Phillips Street	1999	81	298	George Malosh	2003
23	353	Chuck Chalfant	2012	50	318	Ronald Leberman	2009	81	298	Mark McConaughy	2011
24	346	Jerry Book	2000	50	318	Chuck Berthoud	2012	81	298	Deborah Grove	2012
24	346	Joyce Hoffmann	2004	53	317	Wayne Laubscher	2012	84	297	Allan Keith	1998
24	346	Fritz Brock	2010	54	315	Evelyn Kopf	1995	85	296	Ed Kwater	1996
27	345	Michael Schall	2011	54	315	Drew Weber	2011	85	296	Russ States	2004
28	343	Bruce Carl	2011	54	315	Dick Cleary	2012	85	296	Allen Schweinsberg	2008
				57	314	Walter Shaffer	1999	88	295	Frank Windfelder	1998
				57	314	Skip Conant	2012	88	295	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
				59	313	Harold Morrin	1996	90	294	James Baxter	1986

90	294	Terence Schiefer	1999
90	294	William Reid	2001
93	293	John Peplinski	1994
93	293	Bill Keim	2012
95	291	Dan Richards	2012
96	290	David Abbott	1998
96	290	Chuck Tague	1999
96	290	Thomas Reeves	2011
99	289	Kevin Crilley	1998
99	289	Ronald Leberman	2011
101	288	Ross Gallardy	2006
102	287	Dustin Welch	2011
103	286	Ian Gardner	2012
104	285	Armas Hill	1996
104	285	Neal Thorpe	1997
104	285	Jim Dunn	2011
104	285	David Hawk	2011
108	284	James Gray	1983
109	283	Kerry Grim	1998
109	283	Mike Epler	2012
111	282	John Billings	1998
111	282	Dick Byers	2002
113	278	James Baird	1981
113	278	Merrill Wood	1991
115	277	Bonnie Baird	1981
116	276	Randi Gerrish	2009
117	275	Joseph Verica	2012
118	274	Gloria Lamar	1992
118	274	Sarah Gerrish	2009
120	273	Katrina Knight	1999
121	272	Scott Kinzey	1999
121	272	Bob Machesney	2005
121	272	Pamela Fisher	2009
121	272	Nathan Fronk	2012
125	271	James Flynn	1997
125	271	Neil Troyer	2012
127	270	Gary Edwards	2003
127	270	Barry Reed	2010
129	268	Sam Sinderson	2005
130	267	Harry Henderson	1991
130	267	Scott Bills	2003
132	266	Joe Meloney	1994
132	266	Lewis Grove	2010
134	265	Marjorie Howard	2008
135	264	Gerry Boltz	2012
136	263	David Yeany II	2012
137	262	Theodore Drozdowski	2005
137	262	Jeff Payne	2008
139	260	Dennis Miller	1999
139	260	Retta Payne	2008
141	259	Linda McWilliams	1992
141	259	Eugene Zielinski	2000
143	258	Steve Graff	2000
143	258	Jeffrey Wentz	2002
143	258	Brian Byrnes	2011
146	257	Russell Ryan	1993
146	257	Martin Page	2012
148	256	Ted Grisez	1996
149	255	Nick Kerlin	2010
149	255	Carol Hildebrand	2012
151	253	Scott Bastian	1999
151	253	Thomas Ford-Hutch.	2006
151	253	Kevin Fryberger	2010
154	250	Stanley Glowacki	2002
155	245	Bill Reddinger	1999
155	245	Robert Frantz	2000
157	244	Harvey Troyer	1999
158	243	Grant Stevenson	2012
159	242	Walter Fye	1997
159	242	Jerry Troyer	1999
159	242	Marvin Byler	2005
159	242	Gordon Dimmig	2012
163	241	Alex Lamoreaux	2010
163	241	Anthony Ford-Hutch.	2012
165	240	Dale Gearhart	2000
166	239	Adam Miller	2000
167	238	Roy Ickes	1999
168	237	Jerry Skinner	2007
169	235	Glenn Czulada	2005
170	234	Christopher Payne	2008
171	232	Joe Strasser	1994
171	232	Voni Strasser	1994
173	231	Larry Brown	1998
173	231	Jim Mountjoy	2000
173	231	Paul Mauss	2012
176	227	Mike Ward	2010
177	226	Eli Troyer	1999

177	226	Stan Kotala	2001
177	226	Leonard Hess	2003
180	224	Arlene Brown	1998
181	223	Pamela Woodman	1993
181	223	Jim McVoy	2007
183	222	Linda Hess	2003
183	222	Joseph Greco	2008
185	220	Jon Dunn	2004
186	219	Ann Pettigrew	1996
186	219	Daniel Snell	2000
188	218	Helena Kotala	2007
189	213	Richard Murphy	1999
190	210	Gregg Gorton	2001
190	210	Ryan Tomazin	2009
190	210	Bryan Henderson	2011
193	206	Benjamin Israel	2000
193	206	Dennis Weaver	2000
195	205	Jeff Michaels	2005
196	200	Fred Crowley	1995
197	199	Candy Krenzer	1999
198	197	Patrick O'Donnell	2008
199	180	Thomas Mason	1999
200	168	Elmer Brenneman	2010
201	163	Jim Ridolfi	2012
202	153	Douglas Anderson	2003
203	106	Rachael Shapiro	2011

PA Life Lists – Unassisted

("Chase" birds not included)

1	326	Deuane Hoffman	2009
2	322	John Fedak	2006
3	321	Jason Horn	2002
4	319	Robert Schutsky	2009
5	315	Jerry McWilliams	2009
6	314	Devich Farbotnik	2012
7	312	Skip Conant	2010
7	312	Eric Witmer	2012
9	301	Jonathan Heller	2012
10	297	Chuck Chalfant	2012
10	297	Geoff Malosh	2012
12	296	Al Guarente	2012
13	292	Peter Robinson	2004
14	289	Franklin Haas	2000
15	286	Ken Lebo	2012
16	282	Nick Pulcinella	2005
17	281	Mark Vass	2012
18	279	David Hawk	2011
19	275	Ronald Leberman	2011
20	273	Don Henise	2000
20	273	Michael Schall	2008
22	273	Bill Etter	2012
23	268	Barry Reed	2010
24	263	Steve Farbotnik	2000
24	263	Greg Grove	2012
26	260	Dave DeReamus	2009
27	259	Mike Epler	2012
28	254	Jeff Payne	2004
29	253	Neil Troyer	2004
29	253	Dustin Welch	2011
31	250	Retta Payne	2004
32	249	Pamela Fisher	2009
32	249	Mark McConaughy	2012
34	239	Ian Gardner	2012
35	236	Bill Keim	2009
36	233	Ross Gallardy	2003
37	226	Stan Kotala	2001
37	226	Leonard Hess	2003
39	222	Linda Hess	2003
40	221	Jim McVoy	2007
41	217	Martin Page	2010
42	216	Thomas Ford-Hutch.	2005
43	212	Jim Mountjoy	2000
43	212	Anthony Ford-Hutch.	2005
43	212	Grant Stevenson	2005
46	207	Gregg Gorton	2001
47	206	Benjamin Israel	2000
48	205	Dennis Weaver	2000
49	197	Brian Henderson	2011
50	195	Paul Mauss	2012
51	186	John Salvetti	2003
51	186	Patrick O'Donnell	2008
53	171	Helena Kotala	2007
54	165	Elmer Brenneman	2010
55	153	Douglas Anderson	2003
56	106	Rachael Shapiro	2011

PA Annual Lists 2012

315	Chuck Chalfant
307	Shannon Thompson
303	Geoff Malosh
286	Timothy Becker
280	Devich Farbotnik
271	Ian Gardner
265	Al Guarente
264	Mike Epler
250	Jerry McWilliams
247	Joseph Verica
244	Nathan Fronk
240	Michael Schall
237	Greg Grove
235	Gordon Dimmig
235	Ronald Leberman
234	Neil Troyer
229	Chad Kauffman
228	Bill Keim
220	Matt Wlasniewski
190	Dave Rieger
188	Carl Garner
171	David Yeany II
165	Skip Conant
154	Paul Mauss
153	Martin Page
147	Dave DeReamus

PA Annual List > Personal Best

315	Chuck Chalfant	2012
313	Deuane Hoffman	1998
307	Shannon Thompson	2012
306	Robert Schutsky	1992
303	Geoff Malosh	2012
297	Jason Horn	2000
296	Devich Farbotnik	2002
294	John Fedak	1998
292	Mike Weible	2007
290	Joyce Hoffmann	2002
288	Barbara Haas	1986
288	Franklin Haas	1986
286	Timothy Becker	2012
284	Peter Robinson	2002
279	Tom Johnson	2005
279	Michael Schall	2010
278	Sam Stull	1979
278	Gene Wilhelm	1983
272	Randy C. Miller	1992
271	Ian Gardner	2012
268	Terence Schiefer	1985
267	Jonathan Heller	1992
265	Al Guarente	2012
264	Mike Epler	2012
263	Jerry McWilliams	1983
263	Drew Weber	2011
262	Ken Lebo	1995
262	Walt Shaffer	1999
260	Dana Shaffer	1999
260	Mark Vass	2004
259	Mike Fialkovich	1998
258	Steve Santner	1992
257	Mike Weible	2006
257	Dan Richards	2009
248	Dave Rieger	2001
247	Joseph Verica	2012
245	Holly Merker	2010
244	Nathan Fronk	2012
239	Bill Etter	2001
239	Rick Koval	2002
238	Ross Gallardy	2005
237	Chad Kauffman	2010
237	Greg Grove	2012
235	Matt Wlasniewski	2011
235	Gordon Dimmig	2012
234	Tom Clauser	2010
234	Neil Troyer	2012
233	Russ States	2002
231	Dave DeReamus	1990
230	Gary Edwards	2000
229	Mark McConaughy	1998
228	Bill Keim	2012
227	Pamela Fisher	2009
226	Theodore Drozdowski	2005
225	David Hawk	2009
223	John Salvetti	1996

220	Aden Troyer	2010
218	Jim Dunn	2003
210	Carl Garner	1997
209	Brian Henderson	2011
208	Sam Sinderson	1974
208	Gery Boltz	2003
204	Marvin Byler	2004
200	Scott Bills	1996
199	Pamela Fisher	2008
198	Barry Reed	2010
192	Marjorie Howard	2004
186	John Salvetti	1999
177	Jeff Michaels	2005
174	Carol Hildebrand	2005
174	Patrick O'Donnell	2008
171	David Yeany II	2012
170	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
163	Paul Mauss	2008
161	Martin Page	2004
147	Elmer Brenneman	2008
142	Jim McVoy	2007
136	Marjorie Howard	2008
82	Rachael Shapiro	2011

Total Ticks

(Total of All County Life Lists)

13,731	Deuane Hoffman	2009
10,122	John Fedak	2006
5,352	Deborah Grove	2012
5,148	Greg Grove	2012
4,876	Randy Miller	2012
4,861	Al Guarente	2012
4,525	Drew Weber	2011
3,632	Devich Farbotnik	2012
3,522	Jim Dunn	2011
3,479	Nick Pulcinella	2012
3,421	Geoff Malosh	2009
3,269	Chad Kauffman	2012
2,745	Michael Schall	2012
2,367	Russ States	2004
2,260	Ian Gardner	2012
2,076	Brian Byrnes	2011
2,005	Nathan Fronk	2012
1,819	Tim Becker	2012
1,732	Sam Sinderson	2005
1,400	Bill Keim	2011
1,030	Pamela Fisher	2009
1,029	Joseph Verica	2012
912	Brian Henderson	2011
904	David Yeany II	2012
889	Thomas Reeves	2012
106	Rachael Shapiro	2011

County Life Lists (100 Or More)

ADAMS

213	Arthur Kennel	1995
213	Deuane Hoffman	2007
207	Carl Garner	2006
193	Nonie Kennell	1995
182	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
168	Paul Mauss	2012
150	Steve Santner	1995
144	Russell Ryan	1993
124	Jeffrey Wentz	2002
108	John Fedak	1998
104	Don Henise	2000

ALLEGHENY

276	Geoff Malosh	2012
269	Mike Fialkovich	2012
267	Mark Vass	2012
255	Joyce Hoffmann	2004
235	Shannon Thompson	2012
224	Bob Machesney	2006
208	Ed Kwater	1996
203	Sam Sinderson	2005
200	Ross Gallardy	2006
200	Deuane Hoffman	2007
189	Randi Gerrish	2009
188	Scott Kinzey	1999
180	Sarah Gerrish	2009
177	Dave Rieger	2012
173	Margaret Higbee	2008
168	George Malosh	1989
141	Greg Malosh	1991

139	John Fedak	2001
138	Roger Higbee	1993
122	Dick Byers	1999
102	Steve Santner	1995

ARMSTRONG

239	John Fedak	2000
232	Margaret Higbee	2008
221	Roger Higbee	2008
188	Scott Bastian	1997
185	Steve Graff	2000
181	Deuane Hoffman	2000
175	Bill Reddinger	1999
149	Mark McConaughy	2012
100	Steve Santner	1995

BEAVER

257	Geoff Malosh	2012
249	Mark Vass	2012
199	Bill Hintze	2000
171	Deuane Hoffman	1999
168	Nick Kerlin	1996
152	George Malosh	1998
138	Scott Kinzey	1998
124	John Cruzan	1994
113	John Fedak	1998
112	Greg Malosh	1991
108	John Snarey	1997
102	Steve Santner	1995

BEDFORD

230	Deuane Hoffman	2007
219	Ross Gallardy	2006
154	Chad Kauffman	2012
152	John Fedak	2000
148	Alex Lamoreaux	2010
133	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
131	Margaret Higbee	2008
129	Deb Grove	2011
127	Greg Grove	2011
122	Steve Santner	1995
122	Drew Weber	2011
121	Richard Murphy	1999
111	Dick Byers	2003
102	Randi Gerrish	1999
102	Sarah Gerrish	1999

BERKS

314	Ken Lebo	2012
310	Matthew Spence	2012
309	Harold Lebo	2012
300	Matt Wlasniewski	2012
287	Jason Horn	2002
276	Deuane Hoffman	2006
275	Kerry Grim	1998
268	Tom Clauser	2012
253	Ernest Schiefer	1999
227	Bernard Morris	2011
219	Drew Weber	2011
208	Terence Schiefer	2006
207	Barbara Haas	1999
206	Chuck Chalfant	2012
197	Nick Pulcinella	2012
192	Larry Lewis	1988
190	Al Guarente	2012
183	Devich Farbotnik	2012
174	Steve Santner	1995
173	Michael Schall	2012
171	Randy C. Miller	2012
164	Patrick O'Donnell	2008
164	Jonathan Heller	2011
157	Bruce Carl	2011
149	Kevin Crilley	1998
145	Steve Farbotnik	2001
139	Scott Bills	1992
135	John Fedak	1999
131	Brian Byrnes	2011
111	Deb Grove	2011
107	Chad Kauffman	2012
104	Greg Grove	2010

BLAIR

221	Stan Kotala	2001
180	David Kyler	1996
160	Deuane Hoffman	2000
134	Greg Grove	2011
127	Jim Dunn	2011

127	Deb Grove	2012
123	Helena Kotala	2002
104	John Fedak	1998
103	Steve Santner	1995

BRADFORD

230	William Reid	2001
194	Ronald Young	1993
168	Frances Biles	1985
153	Randy C. Miller	2007
150	Deuane Hoffman	2003
133	J. Kenneth Gabler	2003
129	Rick Koval	2004
111	John Fedak	2002
105	Barbara Haas	1993
102	Steve Santner	1995

BUCKS

333	Devich Farbotnik	2012
316	Steve Farbotnik	2006
301	Bill Etter	2012
290	Jason Horn	2002
265	Billy Weber	2011
260	Bill Keim	2012
259	Deuane Hoffman	2007
251	William Murphy	2000
239	Thomas Ford-Hutch.	2006
230	Anthony Ford-Hutch.	2012
228	Stanley Glowacki	2002
215	Harry Franzen	1996
202	Stan Glowacki	1991
193	Michael Schall	2012
185	Al Guarente	2012
180	Bernard Morris	2007
175	Nick Pulcinella	2012
157	Kevin Crilley	1998
151	John Fedak	2005
129	Barbara Haas	2000
121	Steve Santner	1995
114	Jonathan Heller	2006
111	Thomas Mason	1999
110	Brian Byrnes	2011
103	Rick Koval	2004

BUTLER

267	Gene Wilhelm	1992
205	Margaret Higbee	2008
202	Deuane Hoffman	2000
199	Dick Byers	2005
191	Bob Machesney	2005
169	John Fedak	2000
166	Ed Kwater	1996
166	Russ States	2004
165	George Malosh	1989
155	Randi Gerrish	2003
154	Geoff Malosh	2008
146	Sarah Gerrish	2003
144	Sam Sinderson	2002
119	Greg Malosh	1991
119	Roger Higbee	1993
100	Steve Santner	1995

CAMBRIA

231	John Salvetti	2009
180	Margaret Higbee	2008
177	Deuane Hoffman	2003
161	Gloria Lamer	1992
161	Ross Gallardy	2006
131	John Fedak	1998
103	Steve Santner	1995

CAMERON

151	Deuane Hoffman	2000
128	John Fedak	2005
105	Steve Santner	1995

CARBON

268	David Hawk	2012
267	Barry Reed	2010
245	Rick Wiltraut	1998
227	Jason Horn	2002
223	Dustin Welch	2011
216	Michael Schall	2012
208	Bernard Morris	2007
205	Deuane Hoffman	1999
202	Robert Frantz	2000
158	Nick Kerlin	2003

128 John Fedak 2005
 115 Steve Santner 1995
 110 Randy C. Miller 2007
 108 Al Guarente 2012
 105 Devich Farbotnik 2009
 104 Rick Koval 2004

CENTRE

272 Merrill Wood 1991
 263 Harry Henderson 1991
 261 Jim Dunn 2011
 259 Greg Grove 2012
 255 Joseph Verica 2012
 249 Deuane Hoffman 2009
 245 Rick Wiltraut 1998
 244 Terence Schiefer 1998
 242 Drew Weber 2011
 237 Nathan Fronk 2012
 232 Eugene Zielinski 2000
 225 Deb Grove 2012
 218 Scott Bills 1992
 203 Jeff Michaels 2005
 196 Chad Kauffman 2012
 184 Paul Schwalbe 1998
 184 John Fedak 2005
 180 Alex Lamoreaux 2010
 176 Ian Gardner 2011
 162 Russ Ruffing 1991
 150 Nick Kerlin 2004
 145 Steve Santner 1995
 145 Kevin Crilley 1998
 127 Barbara Haas 1999
 125 Jonathan Heller 2003
 123 Randy C. Miller 2006

CHESTER

276 Nick Pulcinella 2012
 275 Chuck Chalfant 2011
 268 Larry Lewis 1988
 257 Al Guarente 2012
 252 Barbara Haas 1996
 252 Phillips Street 1996
 246 John Ginaven 1998
 246 Kevin Fryberger 2010
 245 Deuane Hoffman 2007
 235 Theodore Drozdowski 2005
 231 Joe Meloney 1994
 213 Martin Page 2012
 209 Jason Horn 2002
 202 Devich Farbotnik 2012
 193 Neal Thorpe 1995
 190 Brian Byrnes 2011
 188 Pamela Fisher 2009
 174 Brian Henderson 2011
 169 Thomas Reeves 2012
 167 Steve Santner 1995
 150 Bruce Carl 2011
 150 Bill Keim 2012
 137 Drew Weber 2011
 126 Jonathan Heller 2002
 122 Randy C. Miller 2012
 115 John Fedak 2004
 111 Terence Schiefer 1998

CLARION

255 John Fedak 2001
 229 Walter Fye 1997
 210 Deuane Hoffman 2004
 200 Margaret Buckwalter 1996
 183 Russ States 2004
 181 Gene Wilhelm 1992
 163 Bill Reddinger 1999
 152 Mark McConaughy 2003
 150 Fred Crowley 1995
 104 Steve Santner 1995

CLEARFIELD

234 Dan Richards 2012
 202 Deuane Hoffman 2009
 186 John Fedak 2005
 154 Eugene Zielinski 2000
 122 Nathan Fronk 2012
 114 Paul Schwalbe 1998
 108 Jim Dunn 2010
 105 Deb Grove 2012
 100 Steve Santner 1995

CLINTON

248 Paul Schwalbe 2004
 225 Wayne Laubscher 2012
 217 Carol Hildebrand 2012
 200 Deuane Hoffman 2007
 161 Greg Grove 2012
 149 Deborah Grove 2012
 146 Jim Dunn 2011
 146 Nathan Fronk 2012
 130 John Fedak 2000
 120 Steve Santner 1995
 111 Chad Kauffman 2012
 101 Barbara Haas 1994

COLUMBIA

180 Deuane Hoffman 2006
 133 John Fedak 2005
 115 Richard Koval 1999
 104 Rick Koval 2004
 100 Steve Santner 1995

CRAWFORD

287 Ronald Leberman 2008
 249 Deuane Hoffman 2007
 227 Margaret Higbee 2008
 219 Marvin Byler 2005
 218 John Fedak 2005
 215 Geoff Malosh 2012
 211 Sam Sinderson 2002
 211 Roger Higbee 2008
 201 Gene Wilhelm 1992
 193 Russ States 2002
 164 Ed Kwater 1996
 150 Greg Malosh 1991
 148 Marjorie Howard 2007
 146 Randi Garrish 2003
 146 Sarah Garrish 2003
 125 Michael Schall 2010
 124 George Malosh 1989
 123 James Flynn 1997
 117 Randy C. Miller 1998
 116 Dick Byers 2003
 112 Steve Santner 1995
 107 Jonathan Heller 1998
 103 Don Henise 2000
 102 Terence Schiefer 1998
 100 Bill Reddinger 1999

CUMBERLAND

278 Deuane Hoffman 2009
 261 Don Henise 2000
 259 Robyn Henise 2000
 247 Richard Colyer 1999
 223 Carl Garner 2012
 197 Steve Santner 1995
 187 Chad Kauffman 2012
 176 George Wertz, Jr. 1986
 170 Mark McConaughy 2002
 167 Timothy Becker 2012
 165 J. Kenneth Gabler 2002
 154 John Fedak 1998
 150 Devich Farbotnik 2012
 144 Jonathan Heller 2010
 139 Drew Weber 2011
 131 Randy C. Miller 2012
 117 Deb Grove 2012
 115 Al Guarente 2012
 113 Greg Grove 2012
 106 Jim Dunn 2011

DAUPHIN

289 Deuane Hoffman 2009
 243 Scott Bills 2003
 238 Mark McConaughy 1998
 235 Grace Randolph 1996
 234 George Wertz, Jr. 1986
 219 Steve Santner 1995
 214 Chuck Berthoud 2010
 211 Richard Colyer 1999
 194 Drew Weber 2011
 190 Timothy Becker 2012
 175 Don Henise 2000
 162 Chad Kauffman 2012
 156 John Fedak 2002
 150 Randy C. Miller 2012
 148 Ian Gardner 2011
 140 Jonathan Heller 2003

130 Mike Epler 2102
 128 William Reid 2001
 127 Merrill Wood 1991
 124 J. Kenneth Gabler 2002
 117 Greg Grove 2012
 112 Deb Grove 2011
 110 Jim Dunn 2011
 109 Nick Pulcinella 2012

DELAWARE

291 Al Guarente 2012
 289 John Miller 1985
 277 Nick Pulcinella 2012
 262 Skip Conant 2010
 256 Barbara Haas 2000
 253 Thomas Reeves 2012
 226 Paul Schwalbe 1998
 224 John Ginaven 1999
 219 Deuane Hoffman 2009
 163 Brian Byrnes 2011
 151 Jason Horn 1995
 151 Martin Page 2012
 130 Steve Santner 1995
 119 John Fedak 2001

ELK

198 John Fedak 2006
 183 Linda Christenson 1997
 165 Deuane Hoffman 2005
 105 Steve Santner 1995

ERIE

327 Jerry McWilliams 2012
 305 Donald Snyder 2002
 291 Sam Stull 1985
 291 Joyce Hoffmann 2002
 290 Deuane Hoffman 2007
 285 Geoff Malosh 2012
 277 John Fedak 2005
 274 Ed Kwater 1996
 268 James Flynn 1997
 268 Mike Fialkovich 2008
 263 Ronald Leberman 2001
 257 Jason Horn 2002
 257 Russ States 2002
 253 Linda McWilliams 1992
 253 Margaret Higbee 2004
 249 Barbara Haas 1996
 240 Shannon Thompson 2012
 237 Roger Higbee 1999
 236 George Malosh 1989
 235 Sam Sinderson 2005
 234 Dave Rieger 2012
 233 Gene Wilhelm 1992
 224 Randy C. Miller 2002
 223 Bob Machesney 2003
 221 Richard Colyer 2000
 217 Greg Malosh 1991
 208 Steve Santner 1995
 204 Jonathan Heller 2002
 197 Terence Schiefer 1998
 180 Don Henise 2000
 180 Randi Gerrish 2003
 179 Sarah Gerrish 2003
 178 Bernard Morris 1998
 178 Marjorie Howard 2008
 169 Devich Farbotnik 2011
 164 Greg Grove 2010
 146 J. Kenneth Gabler 1999
 144 Steve Graff 2000
 142 Michael Schall 2010
 139 Rick Koval 2004
 135 Deb Grove 2010
 114 Chad Kauffman 2012
 110 Bill Reddinger 1999
 100 Ross Gallardy 2004

FAYETTE

170 Mark McConaughy 2004
 153 Deuane Hoffman 2000
 126 John Fedak 2005
 125 Randi Gerrish 2003
 120 Sarah Gerrish 2003
 119 Steve Santner 1995
 111 Ed Kwater 1996

FOREST			JUNIATA			218		
188	John Fedak	2005	258	Aden Troyer	2010	216	Bruce Carl	2012
183	Deuane Hoffman	2006	237	Deuane Hoffman	2007	215	Gerry Boltz	2012
141	Ted Grisez	1996	216	Chad Kauffman	2012	208	Chuck Berthoud	2012
108	Steve Santner	1995	143	John Fedak	2006	202	Stephen Mallanson	1996
104	Russ States	2004	128	Greg Grove	2012	202	Bruce Weaver	2000
FRANKLIN			125	Jim Dunn	2011	201	John Fedak	2006
272	Carl Garner	2012	125	Deb Grove	2012	181	Jason Horn	1995
269	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002	118	Jonathan Heller	2002	174	Mike Epler	2102
216	Deuane Hoffman	2009	108	Steve Santner	1995	155	Drew Weber	2011
215	Dale Gearhart	2000	LACKAWANNA			152	George Wertz, Jr.	1986
213	Jeffrey Walck	1989	200	Glenn Czulada	2007	143	Michael Schall	2012
146	Alex Lamoreaux	2010	172	Deuane Hoffman	2003	142	Al Guarente	2012
141	Don Henise	1997	169	Rick Koval	2004	130	Don Henise	1997
130	Steve Santner	1995	158	William Reid	2001	130	Pamela Fisher	2009
114	John Fedak	1998	136	John Fedak	2002	129	Nick Pulcinella	2012
106	Rachael Shapiro	2011	103	Steve Santner	1995	122	Barbara Haas	1996
103	Deb Grove	2012	LANCASTER			119	Chad Kauffman	2012
FULTON			331	Tom Garner	2012	100	Deb Grove	2012
205	J. Kenneth Gabler	2000	331	Eric Witmer	2012	LEHIGH		
200	Daniel Snell	2000	327	Randy C. Miller	2012	272	Fritz Brock	2010
195	Deuane Hoffman	2007	324	Deuane Hoffman	2009	271	Jason Horn	2002
152	Jeffrey Walck	1989	324	Robert Schutsky	2011	270	Bernard Morris	2011
144	Carl Garner	2010	320	Bruce Carl	2012	260	Rick Wiltraut	1998
119	Steve Santner	1995	318	Jonathan Heller	2012	243	Billy Weber	2011
118	Robert Walker	1989	313	Chuck Chalfant	2012	223	Michael Schall	2011
115	Dale Gearhart	2000	306	Jerry Book	2000	210	Dustin Welch	2011
108	John Fedak	2001	300	Barbara Haas	2009	208	Deuane Hoffman	2009
102	Deb Grove	2012	292	Jan Witmer	1997	204	Bill Etter	2012
102	Greg Grove	2012	291	Harold Morrin	1996	173	Devich Farbotnik	2012
GREENE			288	Jason Horn	2002	136	Robert Frantz	2000
195	Marjorie Howard	2009	274	Steve Santner	1995	132	John Fedak	2005
194	Ralph Bell	1993	265	Drew Weber	2011	115	Bill Keim	2012
162	Deuane Hoffman	2001	264	Mike Epler	2012	114	Al Guarente	2012
134	Roy Ickes	1996	256	Al Guarente	2012	105	Nick Pulcinella	2012
109	Steve Santner	1995	249	Nick Pulcinella	2012	103	Steve Santner	1995
109	John Fedak	2001	243	Pamela Fisher	2009	102	Matt Wasniewski	2011
103	Sam Sinderson	2000	240	Larry Lewis	1988	LUZERNE		
101	Mark McConaughy	2003	224	Richard Colyer	2000	280	William Reid	2001
HUNTINGDON			213	Geoff Malosh	2009	265	Rick Koval	2004
271	David Kyler	2012	212	Jim Mountjoy	2000	216	Mark Blauer	1985
258	Greg Grove	2012	210	Timothy Becker	2012	212	John Fedak	2005
256	Trudy Kyler	2012	209	Ernest Schiefer	2000	194	Deuane Hoffman	1999
244	Deb Grove	2012	201	George Wertz, Jr.	1986	149	Kevin Crilley	1998
235	Jon Kauffman	2012	198	Pamela Woodman	1993	140	Jim Ridolfi	2012
217	Jim Dunn	2011	196	Dennis Weaver	2000	131	Jim Ridolfi	2009
216	Ian Gardner	2011	187	Terence Schiefer	2009	121	Glenn Czulada	2003
196	Deuane Hoffman	2006	184	Don Henise	1997	115	Bernard Morris	1998
181	Merrill Wood	1991	181	Chad Kauffman	2012	LYCOMING		
178	John Salvetti	2003	172	John Fedak	2006	230	Paul Schwalbe	1998
171	Lewis Grove	2000	165	Matt Wasniewski	2012	223	Deuane Hoffman	2009
168	Joseph Verica	2012	162	Michael Schall	2012	211	Nathan Fronk	2012
155	Eugene Zielinski	1998	160	Kevin Crilley	1998	124	Steve Santner	1995
141	Chad Kauffman	2012	155	Bernard Morris	2008	124	Carol Hildebrand	2008
127	Drew Weber	2011	154	Devich Farbotnik	2012	119	John Fedak	1999
122	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002	150	Theodore Drozdowski	2005	107	Jim Dunn	2011
117	Nathan Fronk	2012	148	Jeffrey Wentz	2002	106	Greg Grove	2012
106	John Fedak	1998	147	Douglas Anderson	2003	105	Randy Miller	2012
104	Steve Santner	1995	146	Steve Farbotnik	2001	104	Deb Grove	2011
INDIANA			134	Martin Page	2012	103	Don Henise	2000
281	Margaret Higbee	2008	132	J. Kenneth Gabler	2001	McKEAN		
262	Roger Higbee	2008	129	Mark McConaughy	2001	265	John Fedak	2005
233	Gloria Lamer	1992	121	Brian Byrnes	2011	155	Deuane Hoffman	2005
232	Steve Graff	2000	118	Margaret Higbee	1993	117	Steve Graff	2000
212	Deuane Hoffman	2007	110	Nathan Fronk	2012	103	Steve Santner	1995
195	Anne Hedgpath	1986	109	Marjorie Howard	2008	103	Ted Grisez	1996
193	Leonard Hess	2003	108	Roger Higbee	1993	MERCER		
185	Linda Hess	2003	107	Deb Grove	2007	251	Neil Troyer	2012
184	John Fedak	2001	106	Greg Grove	2009	232	Harvey Troyer	1999
177	Mark McConaughy	2004	LAWRENCE			231	Jerry Troyer	1999
173	Randi Gerrish	2003	216	Geoff Malosh	2012	216	Eli Troyer	1999
173	Sarah Gerrish	2003	210	Gene Wilhelm	1992	213	Deuane Hoffman	1998
137	Ross Gallardy	2003	194	Margaret Higbee	2008	211	Gene Wilhelm	1992
118	Steve Santner	1995	160	Deuane Hoffman	2006	205	Margaret Higbee	2006
104	Bill Reddinger	1999	158	John Fedak	2000	192	Geoff Malosh	2012
JEFFERSON			102	Steve Santner	1995	191	John Fedak	2000
225	John Fedak	2000	LEBANON			190	Neal Troyer	1998
181	Margaret Higbee	2008	296	Randy C. Miller	2012	178	Russ States	2004
172	Deuane Hoffman	1998	260	Timothy Becker	2012	166	Marvin Byler	2002
105	Bill Reddinger	1999	259	Deuane Hoffman	2009	124	Steve Santner	1995
104	Steve Santner	1995	254	Jonathan Heller	2012	102	Randi Garrish	1999
			238	Chuck Chalfant	2012			
			236	Steve Santner	1995			

MIFFLIN

208	Greg Grove	2011
204	Deuane Hoffman	2005
162	Jim Dunn	2011
150	Deb Grove	2012
127	John Fedak	2006
119	Chad Kauffman	2012
108	Steve Santner	1995

MONROE

222	Phillips Street	1996
180	Michael Schall	2012
176	Jason Horn	1995
162	Deuane Hoffman	2003
138	Bernard Morris	2008
111	John Fedak	2001
111	Devich Farbotnik	2009
110	Steve Santner	1995
101	Rick Koval	2004

MONTGOMERY

275	Jason Horn	2002
260	William Murphy	1999
255	Kevin Crilley	1998
241	Harry Franzen	1996
238	Deuane Hoffman	2009
232	Bernard Morris	2010
223	Neal Thorpe	1997
214	Devich Farbotnik	2012
203	Joseph Greco	2008
199	Michael Schall	2012
184	Steve Farbotnik	2001
182	Al Guarente	2012
182	Nick Pulcinella	2012
172	Brian Henderson	2011
170	John Fedak	2005
154	Brian Byrnes	2010
147	Bill Keim	2012
141	Gregg Gorton	2001
137	Steve Santner	1995
133	Patrick O'Donnell	2008
129	Thomas Mason	1999
125	Thomas Reeves	2010
112	Martin Page	2009
107	Robert Walker	1989
105	Rick Koval	2004
100	Barbara Haas	1996

MONTOUR

236	Deuane Hoffman	2006
222	Allen Schweinsberg	2008
212	Barbara Haas	1996
140	John Fedak	1999
119	Steve Santner	1995
104	Kevin Crilley	1998

NORTHAMPTON

295	Arlene Koch	2012
288	Dave DeReamus	2012
281	Michael Schall	2012
269	Rick Wiltraut	1998
264	Billy Weber	2011
251	Dustin Welch	2011
248	Justin Horn	2002
239	Bernard Morris	2009
232	Deuane Hoffman	2006
229	Steve Boyce	1990
220	Brad Silfies	1990
220	Dennis Miller	1998
219	Adam Miller	2000
181	Devich Farbotnik	2011
130	John Fedak	2005
125	Thomas Reeves	2011
118	Al Guarente	2011
117	Steve Farbotnik	2003
106	Steve Santner	1995
106	Matt Wlasniewski	2012
102	Randy C. Miller	2002

NORTHUMBERLAND

241	Deuane Hoffman	2004
228	Allen Schweinsberg	2008
166	Barbara Haas	1993
138	John Fedak	1999
112	Steve Santner	1995
106	Drew Weber	2011

PERRY

242	Deuane Hoffman	2009
235	Richard Colyer	2000
159	Don Henise	2000
157	Steve Santner	1995
141	Walter Shelly, Jr.	1992
140	Chad Kauffman	2012
139	Dallas Dowhower	1992
135	Randy C. Miller	2012
126	John Fedak	1998
119	Mark McConaughy	2001
117	Jonathan Heller	2001
111	Deb Grove	2011
107	Drew Weber	2011
101	Greg Grove	2011

PHILADELPHIA

290	John Miller	1985
260	Al Guarente	2012
245	Frank Windfelder	1992
245	Nick Pulcinella	2012
243	Harry Franzen	1996
241	Barbara Haas	1996
236	Skip Conant	2011
221	Thomas Reeves	2012
219	John Ginaven	1998
214	Deuane Hoffman	2009
184	Jim McKinney	1992
179	Brian Byrnes	2011
169	Bill Keim	2012
167	Jason Horn	1995
167	Gregg Gorton	2001
163	Stephen Lawrence	1990
155	Steve Farbotnik	2001
154	Steve Santner	1995
139	Brian Henderson	2011
129	Thomas Mason	1999
126	Devich Farbotnik	2012
120	Terence Schiefer	1998
113	John Fedak	1998
113	Martin Page	2012
107	Kevin Crilley	1998

PIKE

201	Joe Strasser	1994
201	Voni Strasser	1994
178	Michael Schall	2012
174	Deuane Hoffman	2003
144	Phillips Street	1996
138	John Fedak	2001
101	Steve Santner	1995
101	Barbara Haas	2001

POTTER

218	David Hauber	1999
190	Chuck Chalfant	2012
173	Deuane Hoffman	2004
171	John Fedak	2003
106	Drew Weber	2011
104	Steve Santner	1995
104	Paul Schwalbe	1998

SCHUYLKILL

267	Tom Clauser	2012
223	Deuane Hoffman	2007
218	Mike Ward	2010
177	Jason Horn	1995
168	Matt Wlasniewski	2011
165	Bruce Carl	2011
155	Drew Weber	2011
152	Bernard Morris	2007
177	Dave Rieger	2012
133	Steve Santner	1995
127	Barbara Haas	2000
113	John Fedak	1998
112	Randy C. Miller	2009
109	Nick Pulcinella	2012
104	Al Guarente	2002

SNYDER

215	Deuane Hoffman	2004
202	Allen Schweinsberg	2008
150	Chad Kauffman	2012
132	Steve Santner	1995
127	John Fedak	2006
119	Deb Grove	2011
113	Greg Grove	2012

SOMERSET

254	Jeff Payne	2008
251	Retta Payne	2008
238	Scott Bastian	1999
231	Christopher Payne	2008
185	Deuane Hoffman	2004
177	Richard Murphy	1998
170	Ross Gallardy	2003
168	Elmer Brenneman	2010
149	John Fedak	2000
126	Steve Santner	1995
109	Mark McConaughy	2004
108	Randi Gerrish	1999
107	Sarah Gerrish	1999
105	Deb Grove	2012
103	Greg Grove	2012

SULLIVAN

172	Nick Kerlin	2000
170	Skip Conant	2010
161	Deuane Hoffman	2004
129	John Fedak	2005
123	Al Guarente	2012
121	Thomas Reeves	2010
115	Randy Miller	2002
104	Steve Santner	1995
102	Rick Koval	2004

SUSQUEHANNA

212	Jerry Skinner	2007
183	William Reid	2001
182	Jerry Skinner	1999
150	Deuane Hoffman	2000
133	John Fedak	2005
105	Steve Santner	1995
103	Rick Koval	2004

TIOGA

223	Larry Brown	1998
215	Arlene Brown	1998
205	Benjamin Israel	2000
198	Deuane Hoffman	2006
179	Bruce Carl	2007
168	Drew Weber	2011
166	Chuck Chalfant	2012
153	John Fedak	2002
120	Steve Santner	1995
141	Nathan Fronk	2012
101	Matt Wlasniewski	2011

UNION

232	Allen Schweinsberg	2008
204	Deuane Hoffman	2007
132	Barbara Haas	1996
117	Steve Santner	1995
110	John Fedak	2001

VENANGO

252	Russ States	2002
249	Gary Edwards	2003
220	John Fedak	2005
209	Deuane Hoffman	2006
175	Gene Wilhelm	1992
153	Nick Kerlin	1997
103	Steve Santner	1995

WARREN

256	John Fedak	2006
227	Harris Johnson	1986
227	Ted Grisez	1996
153	Deuane Hoffman	2001
114	Steve Santner	1995

WASHINGTON

233	Geoff Malosh	2012
231	Ross Gallardy	2009
210	Margaret Higbee	1993
209	Roger Higbee	1993
197	Roy Ickes	1996
161	Russ Ruffing	1991
158	Deuane Hoffman	2006
141	George Malosh	1989
115	Sam Sinderson	2002
106	John Fedak	1998
100	Steve Santner	1995

WAYNE		
221	Joe Strasser	1994
221	Voni Strasser	1994
162	Deuane Hoffman	1998
129	John Fedak	1998
126	William Reid	1999
102	Steve Santner	1995

WESTMORELAND		
249	Dick Byers	2012
232	Mark McConaughy	2008
208	Linda Christenson	1996
201	Margaret Higbee	2008
200	Randi Gerrish	2003
193	Sarah Flynn	2003
193	Deuane Hoffman	2006
188	Linda Hess	2003
186	Roger Higbee	2008
185	Leonard Hess	2003
161	John Fedak	2006
137	Steve Santner	1995
129	Richard Murphy	1999
123	Sam Sinderson	2005
120	James Flynn	1997
116	Drew Weber	2011
114	Deb Grove	2008
112	Greg Grove	2008

WYOMING		
251	William Reid	2001
191	Rick Koval	2004
152	Deuane Hoffman	2000
144	Skip Conant	2011
118	John Fedak	2000
111	Steve Santner	1995
102	Thomas Reeves	2010

YORK		
274	Deuane Hoffman	2009
242	Jeffrey Wentz	2002
235	Dick Cleary	2012
229	Russell Ryan	1993
194	Steve Santner	1995
185	Ann Pettigrew	1996
172	George Wertz, Jr.	1986
169	Carl Garner	2007
166	Jeff Pheasant	1995
166	Paul Mauss	2012
160	Jason Horn	1995
160	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
158	Jonathan Heller	2003
154	Don Henise	2000
153	Candy Krenzer	1999
153	Randy C. Miller	2008
140	Drew Weber	2011
138	Don Henise	1997
121	John Fedak	2004
121	Nick Pulcinella	2012
113	Pamela Fisher	2009
113	Deb Grove	2011
111	Barbara Haas	1996
109	Greg Grove	2011
106	Al Guarente	2012

County Life Lists Top 50

1	333	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2012
2	331	Lancaster	Tom Garner	2012
2	331	Lancaster	Eric Witmer	2012
4	327	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	2012
4	327	Lancaster	Randy Miller	2012
6	324	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2009
6	324	Lancaster	Robert Schutsky	2011
8	320	Lancaster	Bruce Carl	2012
9	318	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	2012
10	316	Bucks	Steve Farbotnik	2006
11	314	Berks	Ken Lebo	2012
12	313	Lancaster	Chuck Chalfant	2012
13	310	Berks	Mathew Spence	2012
14	309	Berks	Harold Lebo	2012
15	306	Lancaster	Jerry Book	2000
16	305	Erie	Donald Snyder	2002
17	301	Bucks	Bill Etter	2012
18	300	Lancaster	Barbara Haas	2009
18	300	Berks	Matt Wlasniewski	2012
20	296	Lebanon	Randy Miller	2012
21	295	Northampton	Arlene Koch	2012

22	292	Lancaster	Jan Witmer	1997
23	291	Erie	Sam Stull	1985
23	291	Lancaster	Harold Morrin	1996
23	291	Erie	Joyce Hoffmann	2002
23	291	Delaware	Al Guarente	2012
27	290	Philadelphia	John Miller	1985
27	290	Bucks	Jason Horn	2002
27	290	Erie	Deuane Hoffman	2007
30	289	Delaware	John Miller	1985
30	289	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	2009
32	288	Lancaster	Jason Horn	2002
32	288	Northampton	Dave DeReamus	2012
34	287	Berks	Jason Horn	2002
34	287	Crawford	Ronald Leberman	2008
36	285	Erie	Geoff Malosh	2012
37	281	Indiana	Margaret Higbee	2008
37	281	Northampton	Michael Schall	2012
39	280	Luzerne	William Reid	2001
40	278	Cumberland	Deuane Hoffman	2009
41	277	Erie	John Fedak	2005
41	277	Delaware	Nick Pulcinella	2012
43	276	Berks	Deuane Hoffman	2006
43	276	Allegheny	Geoff Malosh	2012
45	275	Berks	Kerry Grim	1998
45	275	Montgomery	Jason Horn	2002
47	274	Lancaster	Steve Santner	1995
47	274	Erie	Ed Kwater	1996
47	274	York	Deuane Hoffman	2009
50	272	Centre	Merrill Wood	1991
50	272	Lehigh	Fritz Brock	2010
50	272	Chester	Chuck Chalfant	2011
50	272	Chester	Nick Pulcinella	2011
50	272	Franklin	Carl Garner	2012

County Annual Lists
(Top 10 of 100 Or More)

ADAMS		
201	Arthur Kennel	1992
144	Deuane Hoffman	2001
140	Carl Garner	1991
137	Carl Garner	1998
126	Carl Garner	1999
114	Carl Garner	2006
109	Carl Garner	2005
105	Deuane Hoffman	1998
105	J. Kenneth Gabler	2000
101	J. Kenneth Gabler	2001

ALLEGHENY		
233	Geoff Malosh	2005
227	Geoff Malosh	2004
224	Geoff Malosh	2009
221	Mark Vass	2005
210	Mark Vass	2004
205	Geoff Malosh	2007
190	Geoff Malosh	2003
190	Mark Vass	2006
190	Geoff Malosh	2012
180	Geoff Malosh	2006

ARMSTRONG		
201	John Fedak	1997
177	Scott Bastian	1996
152	Margaret Higbee	1993
149	Margaret Higbee	2008
141	Steve Graff	2000
139	Roger Higbee	2008
133	Bill Reddinger	1998
116	Bill Reddinger	1999
113	Mark McConaughy	1998
113	Mark McConaughy	2004

BEAVER		
225	Geoff Malosh	2006
202	Mark Vass	2005
202	Mark Vass	2006
192	Geoff Malosh	2007
186	Bill Hintze	1999
168	Geoff Malosh	2005
161	Bill Hintze	2000
124	John Cruzan	1994
117	Deuane Hoffman	1999
110	George Malosh	1974

BEDFORD		
223	Sally Dick	1997

221	Tom Dick	1997
155	Deuane Hoffman	1998
143	Chad Kauffman	2011

BERKS		
252	Ken Lebo	1995
240	Ken Lebo	1999
236	Ken Lebo	1997
235	Ken Lebo	2011
231	Matt Wlasniewski	2011
229	Ken Lebo	1996
219	Ken Lebo	1998
218	Matt Wlasniewski	2012
217	Matt Wlasniewski	2003
217	Matt Wlasniewski	2010

BLAIR		
143	Beryl Sternagle	1995
141	Beryl Sternagle	2000
126	Beryl Sternagle	1990
121	Beryl Sternagle	1989

BRADFORD		
147	Ronald Young	1993
146	Ronald Young	1992
141	William Reid	1999
128	William Reid	2001
102	Deuane Hoffman	1996

BUCKS		
277	Devich Farbotnik	2002
267	Devich Farbotnik	2011
259	Devich Farbotnik	2012
258	Devich Farbotnik	2007
253	Devich Farbotnik	2001
253	Devich Farbotnik	2008
248	Devich Farbotnik	2004
247	Devich Farbotnik	2000
247	Devich Farbotnik	2009
246	Devich Farbotnik	2006
245	Devich Farbotnik	2003

BUTLER		
245	Gene Wilhelm	1983
229	Gene Wilhelm	1985
225	Gene Wilhelm	1982
122	Deuane Hoffman	1998

CAMBRIA		
177	John Salvetti	1992
175	John Salvetti	1997
174	John Salvetti	1995
171	John Salvetti	1999
165	John Salvetti	1998
161	John Salvetti	2002

CAMERON		
119	Deuane Hoffman	1998

CARBON		
222	David Hawk	2009
218	David Hawk	2007
217	David Hawk	2010
215	David Hawk	2008
208	David Hawk	2011
206	David Hawk	2012
204	David Hawk	2002
201	David Hawk	2003
198	Barry Reed	2010
194	Barry Reed	2009

CENTRE		
241	Joseph Verica	2011
239	Drew Weber	2011
234	Joseph Verica	2012
224	Terence Schiefer	1985
221	Molly Heath	2003
221	Nathan Fronk	2011
214	Terence Schiefer	1986
212	Drew Weber	2010
211	Terence Schiefer	1984
210	Nathan Fronk	2012

CHESTER		
232	Kevin Fryberger	2009
227	Holly Merker	2010
225	Larry Lewis	1988

225	Kevin Fryberger	2010	200	Al Guarente	2010	121	Deuane Hoffman	1998
221	Larry Lewis	1983	197	Al Guarente	2011	JUNIATA		
219	Larry Lewis	1986	ELK			188	Aden Troyer	1996
217	Chuck Chalfant	2006	116	John Fedak	1997	176	Aden Troyer	1997
200	Theodore Drozdowski	2005	113	Deuane Hoffman	1996	174	Chad Kauffman	2008
197	Nick Pulcinella	2004	ERIE			172	Deuane Hoffman	2000
197	Nick Pulcinella	2008	264	Sam Stull	1979	170	Deuane Hoffman	1996
CLARION			256	Jerry McWilliams	1992	167	Deuane Hoffman	1998
231	John Fedak	1998	252	Jerry McWilliams	1991	167	Aden Troyer	2000
223	John Fedak	2000	251	Jerry McWilliams	1983	166	Aden Troyer	1995
219	John Fedak	1996	251	Jerry McWilliams	1988	166	Aden Troyer	1999
213	John Fedak	1997	251	Jerry McWilliams	2004	164	Chad Kauffman	2007
208	John Fedak	1999	248	Jerry McWilliams	1989	LACKAWANNA		
188	John Fedak	2001	246	Jerry McWilliams	1993	169	Glenn Czulada	1996
152	Deuane Hoffman	1998	245	Jerry McWilliams	1996	161	Glenn Czulada	1995
119	Mark McConaughy	1999	244	Jerry McWilliams	1985	117	Richard Koval	1995
115	Bill Reddinger	1999	FAYETTE			103	Deuane Hoffman	1998
CLEARFIELD			145	Mark McConaughy	2000	103	William Reid	2001
203	Dan Richards	2011	112	Mark McConaughy	1998	LANCASTER		
155	John Fedak	1997	103	Deuane Hoffman	1998	277	Deuane Hoffman	2009
102	Deuane Hoffman	1997	FOREST			270	Chuck Chalfant	2009
CLINTON			144	April Walters	1993	268	Deuane Hoffman	2000
159	Carol Hildebrand	2008	143	Richard Walters	1993	268	Deuane Hoffman	2006
157	Carol Hildebrand	2005	138	Deuane Hoffman	2005	258	Deuane Hoffman	2005
155	Carol Hildebrand	2011	132	John Fedak	1997	257	Mike Epler	2012
153	Carol Hildebrand	2007	FRANKLIN			255	Robert Schutsky	1992
143	Carol Hildebrand	2004	215	Dale Gearhart	1999	249	Jonathan Heller	1992
142	Carol Hildebrand	2006	185	Carl Garner	1997	249	Chuck Chalfant	2012
133	Deuane Hoffman	2005	182	Carl Garner	2004	242	Deuane Hoffman	2001
125	Greg Grove	2005	180	Carl Garner	1993	LAWRENCE		
119	Nathan Fronk	2012	180	Carl Garner	1994	210	Gene Wilhelm	1992
117	Deuane Hoffman	2000	180	Carl Garner	2007	131	Shannon Thompson	2012
115	Deuane Hoffman	1999	178	Carl Garner	1999	118	John Fedak	1997
COLUMBIA			176	Carl Garner	2008	110	Deuane Hoffman	1996
117	Deuane Hoffman	1997	174	Carl Garner	1998	LEBANON		
112	John Fedak	1997	174	Carl Garner	2009	237	Timothy Becker	2012
111	Deuane Hoffman	1998	FULTON			222	Randy C. Miller	1999
CRAWFORD			173	Daniel Snell	1997	222	Randy C. Miller	2012
230	Ronald Leberman	2009	128	Deuane Hoffman	1996	220	Timothy Becker	2011
223	Ronald Leberman	2011	120	Deuane Hoffman	2001	215	Randy C. Miller	1993
222	Ronald Leberman	2007	115	Kenneth Gabler	1988	213	Randy C. Miller	2002
222	Ronald Leberman	2008	112	Deuane Hoffman	1998	211	Randy C. Miller	2000
208	Ronald Leberman	1994	108	Kenneth Gabler	2000	210	Randy C. Miller	2003
202	Ronald Leberman	1989	GREENE			210	Randy C. Miller	2008
201	Gene Wilhelm	1992	137	Ralph Bell	1985	207	Randy C. Miller	2011
196	Ronald Leberman	2000	134	Ralph Bell	1986	LEHIGH		
188	Ronald Leberman	2003	130	Ralph Bell	1990	227	Billy Weber	2011
180	Marvin Byler	2000	122	Deuane Hoffman	2000	200	Bernard Morris	1984
CUMBERLAND			115	Marjorie Howard	2007	192	Michael Schall	2009
263	Andy Markel	2011	109	Marjorie Howard	2005	189	Michael Schall	2006
244	Andy Markel	2008	107	Deuane Hoffman	1998	132	Deuane Hoffman	1998
227	Deuane Hoffman	1989	HUNTINGDON			128	Michael Schall	2003
227	Andy Markel	2007	218	David Kyler	2011	119	Deuane Hoffman	1997
226	Deuane Hoffman	1998	214	Jon Kauffman	2011	110	Michael Schall	2001
225	Deuane Hoffman	1992	214	Greg Grove	2012	LUZERNE		
221	Deuane Hoffman	2000	213	Ian Gardner	2011	224	Rick Koval	2001
219	Deuane Hoffman	1999	211	Jon Kauffman	2012	220	Rick Koval	1996
217	Deuane Hoffman	2001	205	David Kyler	1996	220	Rick Koval	2002
210	Deuane Hoffman	2005	201	Greg Grove	2003	219	Rick Koval	1995
DAUPHIN			195	Greg Grove	2008	219	Rick Koval	1997
251	Deuane Hoffman	2005	194	Greg Grove	2008	206	Rick Koval	1994
246	Deuane Hoffman	2003	191	Greg Grove	1994	153	William Reid	1999
242	Deuane Hoffman	2006	191	Greg Grove	1992	132	William Reid	2001
234	Deuane Hoffman	1997	INDIANA			121	Deuane Hoffman	1998
231	Deuane Hoffman	1998	206	Margaret Higbee	1993	LYCOMING		
230	Deuane Hoffman	2000	203	Margaret Higbee	1991	190	Nathan Fronk	2012
229	Deuane Hoffman	1996	203	Margaret Higbee	2008	178	Nathan Fronk	2011
226	Deuane Hoffman	2001	195	Steve Graff	1998	158	Deuane Hoffman	2005
224	Deuane Hoffman	1999	186	Steve Graff	2000	126	Deuane Hoffman	2000
210	Grace Randolph	1998	173	Roger Higbee	2008	120	Deuane Hoffman	1999
DELAWARE			131	Deuane Hoffman	1998	112	Deuane Hoffman	1997
241	John Miller	1969	115	Mark McConaughy	2003	103	Deuane Hoffman	1998
211	Al Guarente	1996	114	Mark McConaughy	1998	100	Don Henise	2000
209	Al Guarente	1998	107	Mark McConaughy	2001	McKEAN		
206	Al Guarente	1997	JEFFERSON			222	John Fedak	2003
205	Al Guarente	1995	198	John Fedak	1997	221	John Fedak	2005
203	Al Guarente	2005	143	Deuane Hoffman	1996	219	John Fedak	2002
202	Al Guarente	2012				217	John Fedak	2004
200	Sheryl Johnson	1997						

151	John Fedak	2001
119	Deuane Hoffman	1996
MERCER		
222	Neil Troyer	2012
213	Harvey Troyer	1999
212	Jerry Troyer	1999
211	Gene Wilhelm	1992
210	Neil Troyer	1999
208	Neil Troyer	2011
192	Neil Troyer	1997
192	Eli Troyer	1999
190	Neil Troyer	2001
190	Neil Troyer	2002
MIFFLIN		
164	Greg Grove	2005
160	Deuane Hoffman	1998
155	Deuane Hoffman	2000
139	Greg Grove	2011
128	Greg Grove	2003
127	Jim Dunn	2007
126	Deuane Hoffman	1997
113	Deuane Hoffman	1996
108	Greg Grove	2012
100	Jim Dunn	2005
MONROE		
181	Billy Weber	2008
160	Michael Schall	2003
145	Corey Husic	2009
103	Deuane Hoffman	1999
101	Deuane Hoffman	1998
MONTGOMERY		
194	Steve Kacir	2008
167	Joseph Greco	2002
153	Michael Schall	2004
151	Deuane Hoffman	1999
150	Joseph Greco	2007
140	Deuane Hoffman	1998
132	Deuane Hoffman	1997
126	John Fedak	1997
113	Michael Schall	2002
MONTOUR		
143	Deuane Hoffman	2000
133	Deuane Hoffman	2005
126	John Fedak	1997
115	Deuane Hoffman	1997
112	Deuane Hoffman	1998
NORTHAMPTON		
236	Michael Schall	2003
231	Michael Schall	2004
226	Michael Schall	2008
220	Billy Weber	2004
215	Michael Schall	2012
212	Michael Schall	2007
210	Adam Miller	2000
209	Michael Schall	2006
209	Michael Schall	2010
206	Michael Schall	2002
NORTHUMBERLAND		
227	Deuane Hoffman	2005
224	Deuane Hoffman	2003
157	Deuane Hoffman	1999
147	Deuane Hoffman	1998
144	Deuane Hoffman	1997
128	John Fedak	1997
PERRY		
202	Richard Colyer	1997
199	Deuane Hoffman	1995
193	Deuane Hoffman	1996
188	Deuane Hoffman	1998
185	Deuane Hoffman	2005
184	Deuane Hoffman	2000
179	Deuane Hoffman	1999
171	Deuane Hoffman	2001
PHILADELPHIA		
225	John Miller	1965
208	Edward Fingerhood	1996
162	Al Guarente	1992
135	Skip Conant	1999

133	Skip Conant	1998
132	Skip Conant	2000
127	Deuane Hoffman	1998
127	Skip Conant	2007
127	Bill Keim	2012
123	Skip Conant	2008
PIKE		
166	Michael Schall	2011
123	Michael Schall	2002
112	Deuane Hoffman	1999
109	Deuane Hoffman	2000
POTTER		
169	Chuck Chalfant	2004
160	David Hauber	1992
160	David Hauber	1995
160	David Hauber	1999
157	David Hauber	1993
SCHUYLKILL		
228	Tom Clauser	2011
225	Tom Clauser	2005
220	Tom Clauser	2012
217	Tom Clauser	2007
215	Tom Clauser	2004
212	Tom Clauser	1999
210	Tom Clauser	2001
210	Tom Clauser	2002
209	Tom Clauser	1996
208	Tom Clauser	1997
SNYDER		
177	Deuane Hoffman	1998
175	Deuane Hoffman	1996
172	Deuane Hoffman	1997
158	Deuane Hoffman	2000
SOMERSET		
222	Scott Bastian	1999
219	Jeff Payne	2002
218	Jeff Payne	2003
216	Jeff Payne	1996
216	Retta Payne	1996
208	Scott Bastian	1994
206	Jeff Payne	1999
204	Christopher Payne	2008
202	Jeff Payne	2004
199	Christopher Payne	2006
SULLIVAN		
140	Nick Kerlin	1999
130	Nick Kerlin	1995
125	Skip Conant	1995
124	Nick Kerlin	1997
123	Skip Conant	1999
121	Skip Conant	2000
118	Skip Conant	1998
114	Skip Conant	2001
114	Skip Conant	2002
114	Skip Conant	2008
SUSQUEHANNA		
173	Jerry Skinner	2007
170	Jerry Skinner	2003
157	Jerry Skinner	2004
153	Jerry Skinner	2005
145	Jerry Skinner	1999
109	Deuane Hoffman	1997
109	William Reid	2001
107	William Reid	1999
105	Deuane Hoffman	1996
103	John Fedak	1997
103	Deuane Hoffman	1998
TIOGA		
197	Benjamin Israel	2000
174	Larry Brown	1998
167	Larry Brown	1992
163	Benjamin Israel	1999
160	Arlene Brown	1992
142	Arlene Brown	1998
135	Nathan Fronk	2012
122	Deuane Hoffman	1998
110	Drew Weber	2010
108	Nathan Fronk	2011

UNION			
171	Deuane Hoffman		2004
121	Deuane Hoffman		1999
102	Deuane Hoffman		1998
VENANGO			
221	Gary Edwards		2000
207	Gary Edwards		1995
207	Russ States		2000
203	Russ States		2002
194	Gary Edwards		1991
192	Russ States		1991
113	Deuane Hoffman		1998
WARREN			
204	John Fedak		2003
201	John Fedak		2002
165	Ted Grisez		1992
152	Ted Grisez		1985
141	John Fedak		2001
117	John Fedak		1997
WASHINGTON			
192	Ross Gallardy		2006
135	Shannon Thompson		2012
134	Russ Ruffing		1985
132	Roy Ickes		1984
100	George Malosh		1975
100	Geoff Malosh		1999
WAYNE			
127	Deuane Hoffman		1997
121	John Fedak		1997
112	Deuane Hoffman		1998
WESTMORELAND			
190	Mark McConaughy		1999
179	Mark McConaughy		2000
175	Mark McConaughy		2002
167	Mark McConaughy		2003
163	Mark McConaughy		1998
163	Mark McConaughy		2001
138	Mark McConaughy		2004
WYOMING			
196	William Reid		1999
193	William Reid		1993
188	William Reid		2001
181	William Reid		1994
134	Richard Koval		1994
122	Richard Koval		1999
105	Skip Conant		2000
102	Skip Conant		1998
101	Skip Conant		2001
YORK			
219	Bruce Fortman		1999
214	Deuane Hoffman		1999
202	Deuane Hoffman		2001
196	Russell Ryan		1992
191	Randy Phillips		1999
190	Deuane Hoffman		2005
189	Deuane Hoffman		2000
182	Deuane Hoffman		1998
178	Russell Ryan		1991
153	Candy Krenzer		1999

County Annual Lists Top 50

1	277 Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2002
1	277 Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2009
3	270 Lancaster	Chuck Chalfant	2009
4	268 Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2000
4	268 Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2006
6	267 Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2011
7	264 Erie	Sam Stull	1979
8	263 Cumberland	Andy Markel	2011
9	259 Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2012
10	258 Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2005
10	258 Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2007
12	257 Lancaster	Mike Epler	2012
13	256 Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1992
14	255 Lancaster	Robert Schutsky	1992
15	253 Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2001
15	253 Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2008
17	252 Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1991
17	252 Berks	Ken Lebo	1995

19	251	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1983
19	251	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1988
19	251	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	2004
19	251	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	2005
23	249	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	1992
23	249	Lancaster	Chuck Chalfant	2012
25	248	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1989
25	248	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2004
27	247	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2000
27	247	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2009
29	246	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1993
29	246	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	2003
29	246	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2006
32	245	Butler	Gene Wilhelm	1983
32	245	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1996
32	245	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2003
35	244	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1985
35	244	Cumberland	Andy Markel	2008
37	243	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1979
37	243	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1981
39	242	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1984
39	242	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2001
39	242	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	2006
42	241	Delaware	John Miller	1969
42	241	Centre	Joseph Verica	2011
44	240	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1997
44	240	Berks	Ken Lebo	1999
44	240	Lancaster	Chuck Chalfant	2005
47	239	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	1993
47	239	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	1994
47	239	Erie	Jerry McWilliams	2001
47	239	Centre	Drew Weber	2011

Birders' Comments

This year, birders were invited to submit comments on birding in Pennsylvania in 2012, along with their votes for Bird of the Year (BOTY). Each birder who submitted comments is shown below, with their current PA Life List total, the species they added to their PA Life List in 2012 in parentheses (if less than 10), their #1 vote for BOTY, and any comments submitted. Birders are listed in no particular order.

Jonathan Heller, 362. (Leach's Storm Petrel) I should have been at West Fairview during Sandy not in Lancaster County!

Tom Garner, 369. (Leach's Storm-Petrel, Saltmarsh Sparrow) My BOTY is Rufous Hummingbird, not because of the rarity, but because of the remarkable year in the state for western hummers that so many people shared in and were able to enjoy, with Rufous being the most "common" representative. Hurricane Sandy was a major birding event, but unfortunately caused devastation for many people and the death of many of the displaced birds. If I had to pick a bird of the year from that storm it would be Leach's Storm-Petrel because it is not only a great bird for the state, but probably the most widespread rarity from Sandy.

Dave Rieger, 300. (Western Grebe, Prairie Falcon)

Ian Gardner, 286. (40 new PA Life Species) BOTY: Wilson's Storm-Petrel at Seven Points Marina, Lake Raystown, Huntingdon County.

Dick Cleary, 315. (Snowy Owl, Summer Tanager, Black Skimmer, Calliope Hummingbird, Pacific-slope Flycatcher)

Arlene Koch, 364. (Prairie Falcon) BOTY: Black-chinned Hummingbird (long overdue).

Greg Grove, 310. (Townsend's Warbler, Nelson's Sparrow)

Jerry McWilliams, 337. (Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Western Kingbird, Kirtland's Warbler) BOTY: Herald Petrel.

Ken Lebo, 368. (Gyr Falcon, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Leach's Storm-Petrel, Parasitic Jaeger, Pomarine Jaeger, Saltmarsh Sparrow, Pacific-slope Flycatcher) BOTY: Wilson's Storm-Petrel. Added the following for Berks County in 2012: Gyr Falcon, Northern Wheatear, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Leach's Storm-Petrel, Parasitic Jaeger, Pomarine Jaeger.

Al Guarente, 367. (Prairie Falcon, Leach's Storm-Petrel, Parasitic Jaeger, American Oystercatcher) BOTY: Leach's Storm-Petrel. I finally moved ahead of John Miller for Delco thanks to Hurricane Sandy adding five new county birds.

Michael Schall, 345. (None) BOTY: Allen's Hummingbird.

Eric Witmer, 372. (Leach's Storm-Petrel, Saltmarsh Sparrow) BOTY: Leach's Storm-Petrel. Birds of the year for me would be "Sandy storm birds". Unfortunately, I was not at West Fairview to see a couple of the mega rarities there. I will go with: 1) Leach's Storm-Petrel: 5-9 seen during Sandy along the Susquehanna, 2) Saltmarsh Sparrow at Pine Run Reservoir, 3) Red Phalarope: finally seen in Lancaster County for me during Sandy with multiple observations.

Wayne Laubscher, 317. (Say's Phoebe, White-eyed Vireo, Summer Tanager, Pomarine Jaeger, Calliope Hummingbird, Pacific-slope Flycatcher)

Mike Fialkovich, 342. (Yellow Rail, Black Skimmer, Allen's Hummingbird and Calliope Hummingbird) BOTY: Pomarine Jaeger.

Amy Davis. BOTY: Dickcissel.

Barbara Haas, 382. (Trumpeter Swan, Calliope Hummingbird) BOTY: All those western hummingbirds!

Nick Pulcinella, 359. (Trumpeter Swan, Calliope Hummingbird, Saltmarsh Sparrow)

Devich Farbotnik, 380. (Leach's Storm-Petrel, Pomarine Jaeger, Wilson's Storm-Petrel) BOTY: Cory's Shearwater.

Geoff Malosh, 360. (Yellow Rail, American Oystercatcher, Leach's Storm-Petrel, Calliope Hummingbird, Saltmarsh Sparrow, Black Skimmer, Pacific-slope Flycatcher) BOTY: Pomarine Jaeger. It seems impossible to believe that the two unthinkable Black Skimmers that appeared on a broken down dock on the Ohio River within sight of downtown Pittsburgh would not be the most memorable bird for me in 2012. Instead, that honor goes to a different Hurricane Sandy bird: the Pomarine Jaeger that winged past Dashields Dam in Allegheny County early in the morning on 10/30. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would see either of these species in my urbanized home county over here in western Pennsylvania. But the Jaeger was just a little more special than the skimmer, as it appeared at a spot on the rivers that I've watched patiently for nearly 10 years now. Ten long, almost entirely boring years—but every once in a while the payoff is something really amazing!

Bill Etter, 325. BOTY: 1) Rufous Hummingbird.

2012 was the Year of the Dragon according to the Chinese calendar, but it was definitely the Year of the Hummingbird in PA, with Rufous as the star of the show. 2) Calliope Hummingbird. There were two more records in 2012, and I didn't get to see either of them...still need it. 3) Leach's Storm-Petrel. Hurricane Sandy drove Leach's Storm-Petrel into the state in amazing numbers. Leach's was my 300th Bucks County bird, and my 250th bird for Nockamixon State Park, so it definitely deserves a place in my top three for the year. This particular bird spent the day at rest on Lake Nockamixon. I can only hope it was able to gather the strength to find its way back out to the ocean.

Mike Epler, 283. (19 new PA Life Species) Black-necked Stilt was one of my PA Life Birds in 2012 and it was particularly gratifying as an "unassisted" record and, as far as I know, the only stilt found in PA in 2012. Between the irruptive species and the hurricane this was a crazy year of birding in Pennsylvania. It was also the year I decided to do what I initially described as a "medium sized Lancaster County year". My goals were to bird more often and to expand my birding destinations around Lancaster County. I was successful in meeting those goals but my year ended up being more of a "big year" than I had intended. I ended up seeing 257 of the 276 species reported to eBird in the county, or 93%.

Shannon Thompson, 338. (19 new PA Life Species) BOTY: Mike Lanzone's Whimbrel at Somerset Lake. Such a great opportunity to observe it, such a cool bird! The entire year was amazing! I would love to do it all over again!

Chuck Chalfant, 353. (14 new PA Life Species) My votes for BOTY are three species I saw personally, although it is hard not to vote for Cory's Shearwater and Northern Gannet, which I was not fortunate enough to observe: 1) Pink-footed Goose, 2) Black Skimmer, 3) Leach's Storm-Petrel. Near the end of 2011, I thought about doing a PA Big Year list for 2012, as there were lots of rarities from 2011 that remained at year's end. My goal was 300 species, but even with all the chasing and driving I was doing, that didn't look very probable by October. That all changed with Super Storm Sandy followed by western hummingbirds, northern finches, Crossbills, Pacific Loon, Pink-footed Goose, Allen's Hummingbird, Le Conte's Sparrow, Pacific-slope Flycatcher... you get the picture. Thanks to everyone who helped out, I wound up with 315 birds for 2012. If you are thinking of doing a Big Year I would highly recommend having a car that gets about 40 mpg, is big enough to sleep in, and while you're at it, get a partner to share the driving and gas. It's a big state! I also suggest a new category for "hearing impaired senior citizens". Thanks to all!

Peter Robinson, 378. (Northern Gannet, Parasitic Jaeger, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Saltmarsh Sparrow, Calliope Hummingbird) Five new PA species in five days, four of them courtesy of Hurricane Sandy! That was completely unexpected. The Calliope Hummingbird was much appreciated, since I'd been a day late in going to look for the 26-27 November 2002 bird in Montgomery County. Also, 2012 was certainly "the year of the Hummingbird" for PA: Ruby-throated, lots of Rufous, Allen's, Calliope, and a Black-chinned. Thanks to the hummingbird banders in our state for identifying these.

HOW TO BE A BETTER BIRDER by Derek Lovitch with 53 color figures, 10 maps, acknowledgments, references and additional reading, index, 6 x 9 in., 208 pp., Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 2012, paper, \$19.95.

In the Introduction of *How to be a Better Birder*, Derek Lovitch states: "I have decided not to explicitly attempt to offer a definition of the title because it means something a little different for everyone... I don't like labels, whether it's beginner, intermediate, or advanced. No matter what level of birder you are... there is always more to learn. My goal with this book is to give some helpful hints, spur additional study, and simply provide some information that we can apply in pursuit of becoming better birders" (pp. 2-3).

Chapter 1: Advanced Field Identification: The "Whole Bird and More" Approach emphasizes an important start to birding at any level: How to bird? Practice, practice, and then practice some more. Of course, good old-fashioned studying sprinkled in with your own backyard feeder birds is ideal (p.5). Lovitch uses the example of how little he knew about the common American Black Duck of New England when he couldn't answer basic questions posed by Norwegian birders visiting Norway. He learned that it is important to study closely our most common birds first. In my own case, observing the common Dark-eyed Junco at home feeders gradually allowed me to discover that three different subspecies visit western Pennsylvania (Slate-colored, Oregon, and Pink-sided). But how many Pennsylvanian birders really *watch* juncos? The "whole bird and more" approach, advocated by Lovitch takes everything into consideration. To become a better birder, one must look at the bird—not your bird book—study it for as long as possible, time and time again. Be patient. Making sketches and taking photographs and notes are exercises that will force one to look more attentively, reinforce memory, and greatly the rate of learning. Using systematic keys over 45 years of birding courses and workshops helped my students tremendously, including birding by eye (size, shape, color), by ear (songs, calls, other sounds), by habitat and range, by behavior, by field marks, and by ecology (the "whole bird and more").

The key to avian identification, in particular, and to biodiversity, in general, is geography. For example, habitat (Chapter 2) is a biogeographical term that deals with space, place, and type of

site where a plant or animal naturally or normally exists. It would have been helpful to the reader, especially if a beginning birder, to know this definition. It might have been more systematically accurate to start with Chapter 3: Birding with Geography, because Chapter 2: Birding by Habitat, Chapter 4: Birding and Weather, Chapter 5: Birding at Night are scientific segments of physical geography that have been academic subjects for centuries.

Nevertheless, Lovitch is correct in stressing the interrelationships between birds and habitats and micro-habitats. Such interrelationships are strongest in breeding and wintering seasons and weakest during spring and autumn migrations. The author does a good job of explaining interrelationships between specific geographic features, such as mountain ranges, coastal zones, rivers, peninsulas, islands, and "sky-islands". He did miss, nevertheless, indicating that some of the strongest interrelationships between birds and geography are found in high mountain life zones.

Birding and Weather (Chapter 4) and Birding at Night (Chapter 5) complement each other and stress current tools found in the birder's toolbox: smart phone, eBird, iPad, etc. However, the single most important tool of all is also one of the most ancient: the map. Lovitch, although using highway maps, and images from local weather forecasts, never mentions the evolution of computer-based Geographic Information Systems as one important factor that has given opened up geography a newly increased understanding. GIS coupled with GPS, and ever more miniaturized computers, now come together with a camera in smart phones. Detailed maps presently pervade birding routines and were imperative in publishing the ten-year-long field ornithology research project *Second Breeding Bird Atlas of Pennsylvania*, and other state atlases. Through online databases, scientists world-wide can share and parse data about the traits and habits of millions of plant and animal species. Even better, the online database Map of Life aspires to be the most precise range map for every species in the world. It takes distribution data from a wide array of sources, including the Global Biodiversity Information Facility. One can map dozens of species simultaneously and ask: "What are all the species found nearby?" The map is viewable at <mappinglife.org>. As it develops, it will integrate new geographical information about temperature, precipitation, and other geographical factors to generate

ecological impact studies for dozens of species at once, at any location.

Chapter 6: Birding with a Purpose covers many reasons why we become birders: pleasure, appreciation for birds, scientific knowledge, conservation, and jobs, to list a few. Lovitch then asks why is there such a disconnection between so many birders (millions) and the welfare of the birds? I suggest two reasons. First, there are three different kinds of folk: bird-watchers (who are by far the most numerous), birders, and ornithology scientists. Second, all are at different stages in the raising of awareness of what birds truly are. These many stages may be described as curiosity, awareness, sensitivity, education, understanding, appreciation, responsibility, commitment, the development of a personal eco-ethic (credo and actions), and fulfillment.

These stages are a continuum and each person can get stuck on any stage. To become aware of and sensitive to birds demands frequent, long-lasting, and intimate contact with birds through your senses, close to your home in what Lovitch calls a "patch" and what I call a special spot. Each of us, by practicing daily respect, reverence, responsibility, and reciprocity with birds gradually attains harmony and balance—an equilibrium—with Earth. The values and attitudes of our culture determine one's stage. Each of us can change by starting as a volunteer for a nearby Christmas Bird Count, bird banding station, avian rehabilitation center, Breeding Bird Survey, nature center, local Audubon chapter, or your own avian research project, to help avian conservation. Such actions follow the recommendations expressed in *What the Robin Knows*, reviewed in *Pennsylvania Birds*, Volume 26, No. 2, pp. 82-83, 2012.

This book should appeal to all birders, not just advanced folk, because technological tools are already in the hands of millions of people. Furthermore, the work is an up-to-date reference for such topics as identification sites worth visiting (p. 30), plants (pp. 33-34), avian migration (p. 79), weather radar (pp. 110-112), moon-watching (p. 118), bird strikes (p. 118), jobs (p. 125), Breeding Bird Atlas (p. 125), avian conservation (p. 153), and vagrancy (pp. 141-142). The general references and additional readings (pp. 181-185) at the end of the book are relatively few but are current. Finally, Lovitch deserves accolades for awakening all birders and the public at large to the fact that geography, in all its parts, is the keystone to contemporary and future ornithology and biodiversity.

Autumn Raptor Migration Summary 2012

Laurie Goodrich

Pennsylvania – the Eagle-watching State

Pennsylvania may be the best location in eastern North America for seeing migrating eagles, and autumn is definitely the best time. Autumn 2012 brought record Bald and Golden Eagle counts across Pennsylvania, with a state-wide total of 3988 eagles (2649 Bald and 1339 Golden) across sixteen watch sites. The state is also a leader in numbers of hawk and eagle watchers and days afield, with an impressive 8006 hours and 1164 days spent watching in autumn 2012 (Table 1). Perhaps a new state motto is in order, Pennsylvania: the eagle-watching state!

Total numbers of raptor were average to above-average for most of the watchsites, and a season full of memorable birding days. Across the state, 171,976 raptors were tallied, up 5% compared with 2011's above-average total of 163,984, and representing a respectable rate of 21 hawks per hour observed.

Notable increases from 2011 were recorded for Bald Eagle (up 17%), Northern Goshawk (up 157%), Red-shouldered Hawk (up 64%), Red-tailed Hawk (up 41%), and American Kestrel (up 24%). Particularly noteworthy days occurred across the state in mid-September when skies filled with Broad-winged Hawks, and southeastern watchsites saw record concentrations. By September's close, most sites had seen above-average totals of Broad-winged

Hawk. October showed a steady movement of accipiters and falcons statewide, with no huge flights reported but numbers that kept counters busy daily. In early November a torrent of Red-tailed Hawks, Northern Goshawks, and Golden Eagles collected along the Appalachian ridges following the passage of Hurricane Sandy. Many sites enjoyed an amazing three-day push of Golden Eagles with some daily totals at times exceeding some annual totals from years past. Rarities observed in 2012 included three Swainson's Hawks sighted at Militia Hill (light morph, 9 September), Hawk Mountain (light morph, 4 November), and Bake Oven Knob (light morph, 12 November), and a white Gyrfalcon spotted at Second Mountain 11 December. No kites were counted for the first time in several autumns, although Waggoner's Gap observed one that was chased back up ridge by a Broad-winged Hawk 12 August, rendering it uncountable.

Allegheny Front (Somerset/Bedford) – Allegheny Front recorded 22% fewer raptors than average during 832 hours and 114 days of counting (Table 1). Despite lower total counts, Bald Eagle numbers were 12% above average with 86, and Golden Eagle numbers 31% above average with 233. Peregrine Falcon, Northern Goshawk and Sharpshinned Hawk were slightly above average as well. 13 September brought the highest one-day count for the season

with 869 Broad-winged Hawks among 898 raptors (Table 2). This traditional site for Golden Eagle site did not disappoint, with counters tallying more than 20 on several days and a peak one-day count of 38 on 6 November. Peak counts of Red-tailed Hawk were early, when east winds brought 132 and 145 Redtails 17 and 18 October, among 239 and 258 total raptors observed.

Bake Oven Knob (Lehigh) – Bake Oven Knob tallied 17,186 total raptors during 769 hours of counting in 2012, a 14% increase over the ten-year average of 15,068 (Table 1). New season records of 300 Bald Eagles and 167 Golden Eagles were set. Other species migrating in above-average numbers were Sharpshinned Hawk (3832), Northern Goshawk (71), Broad-winged Hawk (7123), Red-tailed Hawk (2961), Red-shouldered Hawk (220), Merlin (106), and Peregrine Falcon (64). Both Turkey and Black vultures, Osprey, Northern Harrier, and Cooper's Hawk were observed in lower than average numbers (Table 1). Northern Goshawk and Red-shouldered Hawk counts were the highest in over a decade. A peak one-day flight of Broad-winged Hawks occurred 20 September, when 1538 Broadwings sailed south with seven Bald Eagles and the first Golden Eagle of the season. Bake Oven recorded the third highest one-day count of Golden Eagles 3 November (42), along with 515 Red-tailed Hawks, 10 Bald Eagles, and 27 Red-shouldered Hawks. The 42 Golden Eagles set a new one-day record for the site as well. One of the last highlights for the season was the light-morph Swainson's Hawk soaring south 12 November at 13:35, one of four recorded in the state this season.

Blue Mountain-Route 183 (Berks/Schuylkill) – Blue Mountain counters recorded 4388 total raptors in 133 hours and 24 days, an above-average count despite a slight dip in coverage (Table 1). Six migrants showed above-average counts including Bald Eagle (81), Red-shouldered (43), Broad-winged (1311), and Red-tailed Hawk (833), Golden Eagle (55), and American Kestrel (98). Peak Broad-winged Hawk count (698) was recorded 14 September (Table 2). The best eagle days occurred 5 September when 19 Bald Eagles flew past, and 4 November, post-Hurricane Sandy, when 23 Golden Eagles were tallied. On 16

Table 2. Peak count dates for selected species at all Pennsylvania watch sites.

Site	Br.-winged Hawk		Bald Eagle		Golden Eagle	
	Count	Date	Count	Date	Count	Date
Allegheny Front	869	9/13	11	9/20	38	11/6
Bake Oven Knob	1538	9/20	30	9/5	42	11/3
Blue Mtn./Rte. 183	698	9/14	19	9/5	23	11/4
Bucktoe Preserve	468	9/23	11	10/6	-	-
Pipersville (BW)	518	9/19	1	9/17	-	-
Council Cup	147	9/19	10	9/15	1	11/13
Hawk Mountain	1597	9/14	36	9/5	48	11/3
Jack's Mountain	1116	9/13	8	9/16,23	14	11/3
Little Gap	1985	9/17	47	9/5	21	11/3
Militia Hill	6420	9/16	19	9/16	1	several
Rocky Ridge Park*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rose Tree Park	3642	9/16	18	9/30	1	several
Second Mountain	2621	9/14	16	9/10	16	11/3
Stone Mountain	207	9/17	17	9/5	19	11/9
Tuscarora Summit	1095	9/14	6	several	3	11/7
Tussey Mountain	1114	9/19	13	9/5	5	11/3
Waggoner's Gap	3377	9/14	29	9/19	50	11/5

Bold counts indicate top three totals by species

**daily count unreported*

October, Blue Mountain counters enjoyed a memorable 14-species day including all three accipiters, all three falcons, and both vultures moving through. The total one-day count of 468 was predominantly Sharp-shinned Hawks (314) and Red-tailed Hawks (92).

Broadwing SEPT, Pipersville (Bucks) – This Broad-winged Hawk watchsite tallied 791 migrating raptors in two days and 11 hours of coverage in September (Table 1). The 753 Broadwings composed 95% of the migrants. Other birds included 14 Black Vultures, 4 Osprey, 2 Bald Eagles, one Northern Harrier, 13 Sharp-shinned Hawk, one Cooper's Hawk, 2 Red-tailed Hawk, and one American Kestrel.

Bucktoe Preserve (Chester) – Bucktoe observers tallied 755 raptors in five days of counts during September and October (Table 1). A flight of 481 hawks passed high overhead 23 September, including 468 Broad-winged Hawks, the site's highest one-day count (Table 2). Other highlights for the season included 11 Bald Eagles, 10 Osprey, and 3 Peregrine Falcons among 74 total migrants 6 October.

Council Cup (Luzerne) – This Susquehanna corridor site recorded 1166 raptors in 97 hours and 16 days. Broad-winged Hawk (435), Red-tailed Hawk (377), and Peregrine Falcon (3), were above average, whereas most other species posted below average counts. The peak one-day count of 170 occurred 19 September when northwest wind gusts hurried 147 Broadwings, 4 Bald Eagles, 4 Osprey, 12 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 2 American Kestrels, and a lone Peregrine Falcon close past the lookout.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (Berks/Schuylkill) – Hawk Mountain counters recorded an above average total of 20,079 hawks during 1124 hours and 131 days and set a new season record for Golden Eagle at 173 (Table 1). Counts for Bald Eagle (365), Sharp-shinned Hawk (5222), Northern Goshawk (72), Broad-winged Hawk (8394), and American Kestrel (515) were above average, whereas below average counts were recorded for Turkey Vulture, Northern Harrier, and Cooper's Hawk (Table 1). A immature light-morph Swainson's Hawk flew past the lookout 4 November amid the post-Sandy torrent of migrants. The highest one-day count was recorded 14 September when 1597 Broad-winged Hawks were counted among a total of

1653 raptors. Hawk Mountain enjoyed the second-highest one-day count of Bald Eagles (36) on 5 September, the second-highest ever total recorded at Hawk Mountain and second-highest in the state for 2012. Counters also set a new one-day record for Golden Eagles with 48 on 3 November, also the second-highest one-day count for the state (Table 2). Both eagle flights followed storm events, the latter Hurricane Sandy. On 5 September, the first Bald Eagle glided by at 13:03 and the last at 17:15, and coincidentally, 36 Osprey accompanied the 36 Bald Eagles in the parade. 3 November was a busier day with 580 Red-tailed Hawks, 31 Red-shouldered Hawks, 23 Northern Goshawk, 12 Bald Eagles, and 46 Sharp-shinned Hawks among the total of 762 raptors. The goshawk season totals were the highest in more than a decade. December watches added eagles nearly daily including a notable late pulse of 15 Bald Eagles 19 December (Table 1).

Jack's Mountain (Mifflin) – Jack's Mountain counters increased their coverage in 2012 to 358 hours in 70 days and were rewarded with above average raptor counts and a season total of 5884 raptors, compared with the average of 5162. Increased numbers of Black Vulture (38), Bald Eagle (73), Broad-winged Hawk (4236), and a new record of 69 Golden Eagles were highlights (Table 1). The Broad-winged Hawk count was the second highest on record, surpassed only by 2002's count of 6844. The highest one-day count for the season occurred 13 September when 1116 Broadwings and 5 Bald Eagles sailed south among a total of 1148 hawks. Five September days exceeded 500 birds, providing a memorable early season at this mid-state watch.

Little Gap (Northampton) – Little Gap also increased coverage in 2012 to 714 hours over 111 days (Table 1). Total raptors were above average at 17,148, compared with a 10-year average of 14,332. Largest increases were seen for Black Vulture and Turkey Vulture, with 129 and 577, respectively, Bald Eagle (316), Sharp-shinned Hawk (4049), Broad-winged Hawk (7851), Golden Eagle (106), and Merlin (144). Little Gap recorded its peak Broad-winged Hawk flight of 1985 on 17 September. A new one-day record of 47 Bald Eagles was tallied 5 September, the highest one-day count across the state. Sharp-shinned Hawks were steady through October with many days exceeding 200 birds. Little Gap recorded 21 Golden Eagles 3

November, and 20 the prior day, for its top Golden Eagle days.

Militia Hill (Montgomery) – Militia Hill had a red-letter season, and set a new record for total hawks at 24,085, surpassing their prior high of 22,072 in 2010. Counters logged 61 days and 439 hours in September and October. New records were set for Broad-winged Hawk (20,550), Bald Eagle (175), Cooper's Hawk (200), and Peregrine Falcon (42). The all-time record for Golden Eagle was tied at 7 birds, and numbers of American Kestrel were above average at 306, compared with the average of 245, as were Merlin with 36 compared to the average of 20. For sites watching more than 400 hours, Militia Hill reported the highest rate of migration with 54 birds per hour. Counters recorded the highest one-day count for Broad-winged Hawks anywhere in the state with 6420 on 16 September. The same day brought the highest Bald Eagle count of 19 as well.

Rocky Ridge Park (York) – Rocky Ridge counters tallied 4200 hawks in 63 hours in September and October. The early-season focus for this site led to most their migrants coming in the form of Broad-winged Hawks, with 3945 representing 63% of their observations. Other raptors observed included 35 Osprey, 10 Bald Eagles, 8 Northern Harrier, 163 Sharp-shinned Hawks, and 26 American Kestrels. This southern Pennsylvania site benefits from easterly winds bring banner Broadwing flights some years, although in 2012 such winds appeared less frequent.

Rose Tree Park (Delaware) – Rose Tree watchers doubled their 10-year average of 7038, with 14,111 in 2012. Most of the increase can be attributed to a banner Broad-winged Hawk flight in the southeastern region. They recorded 10,536 Broadwings, including a new single-day record of 3642 on 16 September (Table 2). This one-day count was the second-highest for the state. Other species showing above average totals included Turkey Vulture (499), Bald Eagle (179), Osprey (266), Red-shouldered Hawk (255), and Red-tailed Hawk (498). Counters enjoyed a phenomenal Red-shouldered Hawk flight 4 November, when 63 birds sailed overhead along with 152 Red-tailed Hawks and a Golden Eagle among a total of 290 migrants. Northwest winds 30 September ushered in a one-day peak count of 18 Bald Eagles, along with a push of early Sharp-shinned Hawks and late

moving Broad-winged Hawks, with 73 and 128 respectively. All three falcons and all three accipiters showed below average totals, perhaps suggesting these October migrants were ridge-faithful this season (Table 1).

Second Mountain (Lebanon) – Second Mountain counters recorded 15,407 total hawks in 2012, a new season record and 56% above the 10-year average. Broad-winged Hawks were a key part of this total with a record-breaking 8493 passing over the site. Other species observed in above average numbers included Black Vulture (560), Turkey Vulture (997), Bald Eagle (215), Sharp-shinned Hawk (2827), Golden Eagle (106), and American Kestrel (154). The site enjoyed one of the best one-day counts for Broad-winged Hawks among the ridge sites, with 2621 on 14 September, including 1500 between 13:30 and 14:30 (Table 2). The post-Sandy flight brought 16 Golden Eagles past the lookout 3 November, accompanied by six Bald Eagles among 189 total raptors. 11 December brought the rarest raptor of the season barreling by the lookout, a white morph Gyrfalcon. At 14:30, the observer related that the bird flew fast out of the north toward the decoy owl then veered to the west, ten feet from the decoy before disappearing.

Stone Mountain (Huntingdon) – Stone Mountain counters tallied 4233 hawks in 64 days and 339 hours (Table 1). The 4648 total raptors were slightly below the 10-year average. The most numerous migrant was Broad-winged Hawk at 1520, with a peak count of 207, on 17 September. The site enjoyed the highest one-day Bald Eagle count of the season 5 September with 17 birds (Table 2) After Sandy cleared 3 November, Stone watchers recorded 13 Golden Eagles, a respectable one-day count but which was quickly surpassed 9 November by a flight of 19 Golden Eagles, predominantly adults. 2 and 7 December brought a push of late Golden Eagles, with 13 and 7 adult birds, respectively. Eagles ruled the skies in December with few other migrants joining their late season parade (Table 1).

Tuscarora Summit (Fulton) – Tuscarora Summit observers counted 5027 raptors in 301 hours over 56 days of hawkwatching, a 20% increase above the 10-year average of 4192 (Table 1). Similar to other sites, Broad-winged Hawks were a key contributor to the upswing, with observers recording 2746, compared to the average of 1801. A peak one-day count occurred 14 September

with 1095 Broadwings tallied (Table 2). Above-average or average total counts were recorded for most species in 2012. Few species showed below average numbers, including Osprey (74), Northern Harrier (45), Red-shouldered Hawk (20), and Red-tailed Hawk (305). In contrast to many sites, the Golden Eagle totals were slightly below average with just 34, compared to the 10-year average of 37.

Tussey Mountain (Centre) – Tussey Mountain saw 98 hours of counts on 25 days, recording 1402 raptors. These totals represent an increase in autumn coverage and raptors, compared with the 10-year averages of 26 hours and 433 hawks. This well-known spring Golden Eagle site contributed 19 if this species to the statewide total this autumn, including a peak one-day count of five eagles 3 November. The most numerous migrant was Red-tailed Hawk, with a one-day peak count of 181 also on 3 November. The 9.6 birds per hour suggested that greater coverage could yield interesting results for this north-central site.

Waggoner's Gap (Cumberland) – Waggoner's Gap led the sixteen reporting sites with a season total of 28,251 raptors in 140 days and 1116 hours (Table 1). The count total was the third highest in Waggoner's history. The counters also set a new season record for Bald Eagle at 534. A one-day record of 50 Golden Eagles was set 3 November, which also represented the highest one-day count in the state (Table 2). Broad-winged Hawks led species totals at the site with 11,708, including a peak day of 3377, the highest one-day count for a ridge site. Of note, the count of 438 American Kestrels was 28% above the 10-year average of 341, Perhaps an encouraging sign for this species. Most raptors showed above average counts, except for Osprey (457), Northern Harrier (205), Cooper's Hawk (690), Red-tailed Hawk (3158), and Merlin (95), which were all below average.

Acknowledgements

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Key to Table 1 headers	
BLVU	Black Vulture
TUVU	Turkey Vulture
OSPR	Osprey
BAEA	Bald Eagle
NOHA	Northern Harrier
SSHA	Sharp-shinned Hawk
COHA	Cooper's Hawk
NOGO	Northern Goshawk
RSHA	Red-shouldered Hawk
BWHA	Broad-winged Hawk
RTHA	Red-tailed Hawk
RLHA	Rough-legged Hawk
GOEA	Golden Eagle
AMKE	American Kestrel
MERL	Merlin
PEFA	Peregrine Falcon
SWHA	Swainson's Hawk
Unid	unidentified

Table 2. Autumn 2012 count results for Pennsylvania watchsites.

ALLEGHENY FRONT (Bedford/Somerset) - Bob Stewart, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	16	121	6	26	14	19	7	37	15	0	0	295	62	0	0	5	2	0	0	23	511
September	28	207	8	21	48	42	20	147	40	3	2	3323	128	0	0	18	2	8	0	47	3857
October	26	201	2	165	13	15	15	977	98	5	24	2	871	0	15	16	24	25	0	30	2297
November	28	210	0	30	0	8	6	14	13	4	13	0	287	3	188	0	4	1	0	12	583
December	16	94	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	22	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	57
Total	114	832	16	243	75	86	48	1176	166	12	39	3620	1370	3	233	39	32	35	0	112	7305
Total per hr			0.02	0.29	0.09	0.10	0.06	1.41	0.20	0.01	0.05	4.35	1.65	0.00	0.28	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.13	8.78
% of flight			0.2	3.3	1.0	1.2	0.7	16.1	2.3	0.2	0.5	49.6	18.8	0.0	3.2	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.0	1.5	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	111.4	804.8	24.4	494.0	110.6	77.0	66.0	1170.0	241.7	10.0	87.0	4702.0	1896.0	4.0	178.0	71.6	32.0	33.4	0.1	221.0	9419.0

BAKE OVEN KNOB (Lehigh) - Dan Kunkle, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	18	130	45	134	32	38	7	32	11	0	2	170	53	0	0	23	7	3	0	37	594
September	28	228	67	201	254	134	21	1050	103	1	5	6934	115	0	4	94	45	8	0	92	9128
October	29	213	65	315	146	80	55	2607	211	14	78	19	1030	0	17	63	53	50	0	86	4889
November	25	198	61	152	4	48	20	143	12	56	135	0	1763	1	146	1	1	3	1	28	2575
Total	100	769	238	802	436	300	103	3832	337	71	220	7123	2961	1	167	181	106	64	1	243	17186
Total per hr			0.31	1.04	0.57	0.39	0.13	4.98	0.44	0.09	0.29	9.26	3.85	0.00	0.22	0.24	0.14	0.08	0.00	0.32	22.35
% of flight			1.4	4.7	2.5	1.7	0.6	22.3	2.0	0.4	1.3	41.4	17.2	0.0	1.0	1.1	0.6	0.4	0.0	1.4	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	101.1	787.8	262.5	899.3	565.8	187.6	166.2	3218.0	350.0	33.1	141.6	6204.5	2349.0	2.0	100.1	183.8	90.0	54.5	0.2	276.5	15068.4

BLUE MOUNTAIN Rt. 183 (Schuylkill and Berks) - Scott Fisher, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	2	9	8	7	2	3	0	2	2	0	0	14	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	45
September	11	59	37	48	41	56	6	344	47	0	1	1296	40	0	0	68	2	2	0	9	1997
October	6	38	23	35	14	4	6	1139	83	4	13	1	263	0	9	27	5	5	0	10	1641
November	5	27	3	8	0	18	4	44	16	5	29	0	528	1	46	0	1	0	0	2	705
Total	24	133	71	98	57	81	16	1529	148	9	43	1311	833	1	55	98	8	7	0	23	4388
Total per hr			0.53	0.74	0.43	0.61	0.12	11.47	1.11	0.07	0.32	9.84	6.25	0.01	0.41	0.74	0.06	0.05	0.00	0.17	32.93
% of flight			1.6	2.2	1.3	1.8	0.4	34.8	3.4	0.2	1.0	29.9	19.0	0.0	1.3	2.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.5	100.0
Average last 5 yrs	35.0	189.4	83.0	137.3	75.0	57.5	22.5	1679.0	145.0	8.3	32.5	1237.5	636.5	0.5	34.8	84.8	16.0	8.5	0.0	31.5	4269.5

BUCKTOE PRESERVE (Chester) - Larry Lewis, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
September	3	18	0	0	7	5	1	56	26	0	7	530	17	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	669
October	2	10	0	0	13	11	4	36	6	0	0	0	3	0	0	10	0	3	0	0	86
Total	5	28	0	0	20	16	5	92	32	0	7	530	20	0	0	30	0	3	0	0	755
Total per hr			0.00	0.00	0.71	0.57	0.18	3.29	1.14	0.00	0.25	18.93	0.71	0.00	0.00	1.07	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	26.96
% of flight			0.0	0.0	2.6	2.1	0.7	12.2	4.2	0.0	0.9	70.2	2.6	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0

BW SEPT - Pipersville (Bucks) - Kirk Moulton, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
September	2	11	14	0	4	2	1	13	1	0	0	753	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	791
Total	2	11	14	0	4	2	1	13	1	0	0	753	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	791
Total per hr			1.27	0.00	0.36	0.18	0.09	1.18	0.09	0.00	0.00	68.45	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.91
% of flight			1.8	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.1	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	95.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0

COUNCIL CUP (Luzerne) - Donald Kapral, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
September	7	47	0	0	10	20	3	44	0	0	0	0	435	0	0	14	0	2	0	1	529
October	5	28	0	113	1	6	0	64	2	0	0	0	22	0	0	11	0	1	0	2	222
November	4	22	0	23	0	9	4	13	2	0	1	0	355	0	1	1	0	0	0	6	415
Total	16	97	0	136	11	35	7	121	4	0	1	435	377	0	1	26	0	3	0	9	1,166
Total per hr			0.00	1.40	0.11	0.36	0.07	1.25	0.04	0.00	0.01	4.48	3.89	0.00	0.01	0.27	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.09	12.02
% of flight			0.0	11.7	0.9	3.0	0.6	10.4	0.3	0.0	0.1	37.3	32.3	0.0	0.1	2.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.8	100.0
Average for 5 yrs	25.3	113.8	1.2	162.4	25.4	49.4	5.6	122.6	10.6	0.0	0.8	297.0	234.0	0.0	0.2	26.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	34.6	973.4

HAWK MOUNTAIN (Berks and Schuylkill) - Laurie Goodrich, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
July	2	10	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	13
August	21	176	4	8	57	24	14	30	20	0	5	282	26	0	0	56	16	1	0	15	558
September	28	301	20	46	355	177	53	1361	194	1	3	8086	92	0	3	309	59	10	0	65	10834
October	31	249	52	256	160	68	63	3633	338	12	87	24	937	0	19	148	83	43	0	93	6016
November	28	254	37	100	2	54	18	197	29	56	118	0	1766	0	137	1	7	0	1	14	2537
December/January	21	133	6	2	0	37	2	1	4	3	2	0	50	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	121
Total	131	1124	119	412	574	365	150	5222	585	72	215	8394	2876	0	173	515	165	54	1	187	20079
Total per hr			0.11	0.37	0.51	0.32	0.13	4.65	0.52	0.06	0.19	7.47	2.56	0.00	0.15	0.46	0.15	0.05	0.00	0.17	17.86
% of flight			0.6	2.1	2.9	1.8	0.7	26.0	2.9	0.4	1.1	41.8	14.3	0.0	0.9	2.6	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.9	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	124.0	1085.2	117.1	459.8	562.2	262.8	197.2	4550.0	706.2	40.4	206.1	7657.0	2845.0	3.6	126.8	435.6	165.3	56.1	0.4	167.2	18848.3

JACKS MOUNTAIN (Mifflin) - Ron Singer, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	1	6	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
September	30	158	0	0	36	44	11	194	24	0	0	4233	73	0	0	36	6	0	0	7	4664
October	25	121	38	55	8	17	16	389	29	0	5	1	266	0	13	12	5	9	0	6	869
November	14	74	0	20	0	8	5	25	6	1	0	0	216	0	56	0	2	1	0	1	341
Total	70	358	38	75	44	73	32	608	60	1	5	4236	558	0	69	48	13	10	0	14	5884
Total per hr			0.11	0.21	0.12	0.20	0.09	1.70	0.17	0.00	0.01	11.83	1.56	0.00	0.19	0.13	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.04	16.44
% of flight			0.6	1.3	0.7	1.2	0.5	10.3	1.0	0.0	0.1	72.0	9.5	0.0	1.2	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	52.1	324.3	23.8	174.6	115.8	46.0	55.0	837.4	105.0	9.1	18.0	2946.7	659.6	0.5	25.2	87.2	17.2	10.7	0.1	30.8	5162.7

LITTLE GAP (Northampton) - Michael Schall, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	18	73	1	0	30	19	7	20	3	0	1	75	6	0	0	23	4	2	0	1	192
September	30	243	18	34	311	155	50	1563	115	0	3	7772	76	0	3	206	81	10	0	70	10467
October	31	203	73	492	213	70	55	2337	276	9	46	4	973	0	14	48	54	31	0	43	4738
November	24	151	20	47	1	48	16	129	32	35	84	0	1170	0	87	0	4	2	0	16	1691
December	8	44	8	4	0	24	1	0	1	0	1	0	17	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	60
Total	111	714	120	577	555	316	129	4049	427	44	135	7851	2242	0	106	278	144	45	0	130	17148
Total per hr			0.17	0.81	0.78	0.44	0.18	5.67	0.60	0.06	0.19	11.00	3.14	0.00	0.15	0.39	0.20	0.06	0.00	0.18	24.02
% of flight			0.7	3.4	3.2	1.8	0.8	23.6	2.5	0.3	0.8	45.8	13.1	0.0	0.6	1.6	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.8	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	92.6	580.4	63.9	419.9	427.4	137.2	135.0	3163.0	433.1	32.1	114.6	6611.1	2260.0	2.2	64.4	229.7	69.0	36.9	0.3	131.3	14331.5

MILITIA HILL (Montgomery) - Andy Fayer, Jamie Stewart, Rich Conroy, co-compilers

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
September	30	229	0	0	208	112	47	421	37	0	12	20399	6	0	1	200	11	10	1	16	21481
October	31	210	15	832	83	63	57	809	163	3	67	151	140	0	6	106	24	32	0	53	2604
Total	61	439	15	832	291	175	104	1230	200	3	79	20550	146	0	7	306	35	42	1	71	24085
Total per hr			0.03	1.90	0.66	0.40	0.24	2.80	0.46	0.01	0.18	46.81	0.33	0.00	0.02	0.70	0.08	0.10	0.00	0.16	54.86
% of flight			0.1	3.5	1.2	0.7	0.4	5.1	0.8	0.0	0.3	85.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	59.8	450.3	37.5	380.7	265.1	64.7	69.9	1010.9	143.9	1.7	45.6	7841.4	189.3	0.1	2.4	244.6	20.4	18.7	0.1	71.3	10408.5

ROCKY RIDGE (York) - Randy Phillips, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
September	8	56	0	0	32	10	6	159	0	0	0	3945	3	0	0	24	0	0	0	1	4180
October	1	7	0	0	3	0	2	4	0	0	1	0	6	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	20
Total	9	63	0	0	35	10	8	163	0	1	3945	9	9	0	0	26	1	1	0	1	4200
Total per hr			0.00	0.00	0.56	0.16	0.13	2.59	0.00	0.02	0.62	62.62	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.41	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02	66.67
% of flight			0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.2	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	93.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0

ROSE TREE PARK (Delaware) - Holly Merker, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
September	29	210	0	0	163	111	27	441	33	0	3	10344	17	0	0	105	6	2	0	29	11281
October	31	167	19	299	100	56	30	723	118	0	75	192	109	0	0	53	10	6	0	24	1814
November	30	148	22	200	3	12	11	135	32	0	177	0	372	0	5	3	8	1	0	35	1016
Total	90	524	41	499	266	179	68	1299	183	0	255	10536	498	0	5	161	24	9	0	88	14111
Total per hr			0.08	0.95	0.51	0.34	0.13	2.48	0.35	0.00	0.49	20.11	0.95	0.00	0.01	0.31	0.05	0.02	0.00	0.17	26.93
% of flight			0.3	3.5	1.9	1.3	0.5	9.2	1.3	0.0	1.8	74.7	3.5	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.6	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	95.6	642.0	104.8	446.4	259.2	158.9	88.9	1504.8	240.5	5.8	180.1	3183.9	477.4	0.2	4.6	251.5	46.1	18.9	0.7	67.9	7038.6

SECOND MOUNTAIN (Lebanon) - David Schwenk, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	17	96	2	25	8	13	1	18	7	0	4	149	27	0	0	9	0	2	0	0	265
September	29	242	138	35	119	97	39	759	99	8	14	8335	120	0	5	97	13	8	0	31	9917
October	31	230	232	630	50	51	44	1972	144	8	62	9	541	0	12	47	27	16	0	43	3888
November	30	233	138	285	0	33	12	78	14	10	64	0	460	0	76	1	2	0	0	12	1185
December	18	84	50	22	0	21	0	0	0	0	1	0	42	2	13	0	0	0	0	0	152
Total	125	884	560	997	177	215	96	2827	264	26	145	8493	1190	2	106	154	42	26	0	86	15407
Total per hr			0.63	1.12	0.20	0.24	0.11	3.16	0.30	0.03	0.16	9.50	1.33	0.00	0.12	0.17	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.10	17.23
% of flight			3.6	6.5	1.1	1.4	0.6	18.3	1.7	0.2	0.9	55.1	7.7	0.0	0.7	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.6	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	139.6	1022.8	339.0	606.8	212.7	105.6	145.5	2200.4	287.7	56.2	142.8	3611.5	1417.9	3.1	81.5	129.917	46.5	28.5	0.7	74.3333	9491

¹Includes one white morph gyrfalcon in December.

STONE MOUNTAIN (Huntingdon) - Greg Grove, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	3	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	7
September	23	133	0	0	49	64	15	280	37	1	4	1516	65	0	1	86	15	6	0	13	2152
October	19	95	0	107	11	14	21	615	79	1	19	2	235	0	7	15	21	6	0	12	1165
November	17	95	1	44	1	28	7	93	16	0	19	0	577	0	84	1	3	4	0	3	881
December	2	13	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	28
Total	64	339	1	151	62	113	43	988	133	2	42	1520	878	0	112	105	39	16	0	28	4233
Total per hr.			0.00	0.45	0.18	0.33	0.13	2.91	0.39	0.01	0.12	4.48	2.59	0.00	0.33	0.31	0.12	0.05	0.00	0.08	12.49
% of flight			0.0	3.6	1.5	2.7	1.0	23.3	3.1	0.0	1.0	35.9	20.7	0.0	2.6	2.5	0.9	0.4	0.0	0.7	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	62.8	358.2	18.5	87.0	95.4	54.1	77.6	866.2	213.4	13.9	63.7	1580.6	1246.2	2.2	111.0	96.2	33.7	24.7	0.2	32	4648.1

TUSCARORA SUMMIT (Fulton) - Dale Gearhart, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
September	25	147	11	0	62	41	16	374	36	0	0	2743	35	0	8	30	11	6	0	25	3398
October	25	133	10	428	12	22	26	652	66	0	15	3	248	0	21	15	10	13	0	28	1569
November	6	21	8	13	0	1	3	2	0	0	5	0	22	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	60
Total	56	301	29	441	74	64	45	1028	102	0	20	2746	305	0	34	45	21	19	0	54	5027
Total per hr.			0.10	1.47	0.25	0.21	0.15	3.42	0.34	0.00	0.07	9.12	1.01	0.00	0.11	0.15	0.07	0.06	0.00	0.18	16.70
% of flight			0.6	8.8	1.5	1.3	0.9	20.4	2.0	0.0	0.4	54.6	6.1	0.0	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.0	1.1	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	66.5	368.4	30.1	352.1	99.9	39.3	70.3	890.4	88.7	3.3	28.6	1800.9	615.6	0.6	36.5	37.7	8.9	19.4	0	73.9	4192.3

TUSSEY MOUNTAIN (Centre) - Dan Ombalski, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	6	19	2	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	42	7	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	60
September	8	32	1	0	6	34	6	37	9	0	0	283	38	0	0	27	3	1	0	4	449
October	5	25	3	4	4	9	3	105	11	0	3	5	200	0	2	21	4	3	0	3	380
November	4	15	5	23	0	8	5	21	5	0	2	0	403	0	12	0	0	1	0	1	486
December	2	7	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	27
Total	25	98	25	27	13	61	15	163	25	0	5	330	648	0	19	50	8	5	0	8	1402
Total per hr.			0.26	0.28	0.13	0.62	0.15	1.66	0.26	0.00	0.05	3.37	6.61	0.00	0.19	0.51	0.08	0.05	0.00	0.08	14.31
% of flight			1.8	1.9	0.9	4.4	1.1	11.6	1.8	0.0	0.4	23.5	46.2	0.0	1.4	3.6	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.6	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	26.6	26.6	2.9	24.2	3.4	8.7	2.5	47.1	7.4	0.3	1.7	73.0	229.8	0.1	9.9	10.4	0.4	6.4	0.0	9.5	432.6

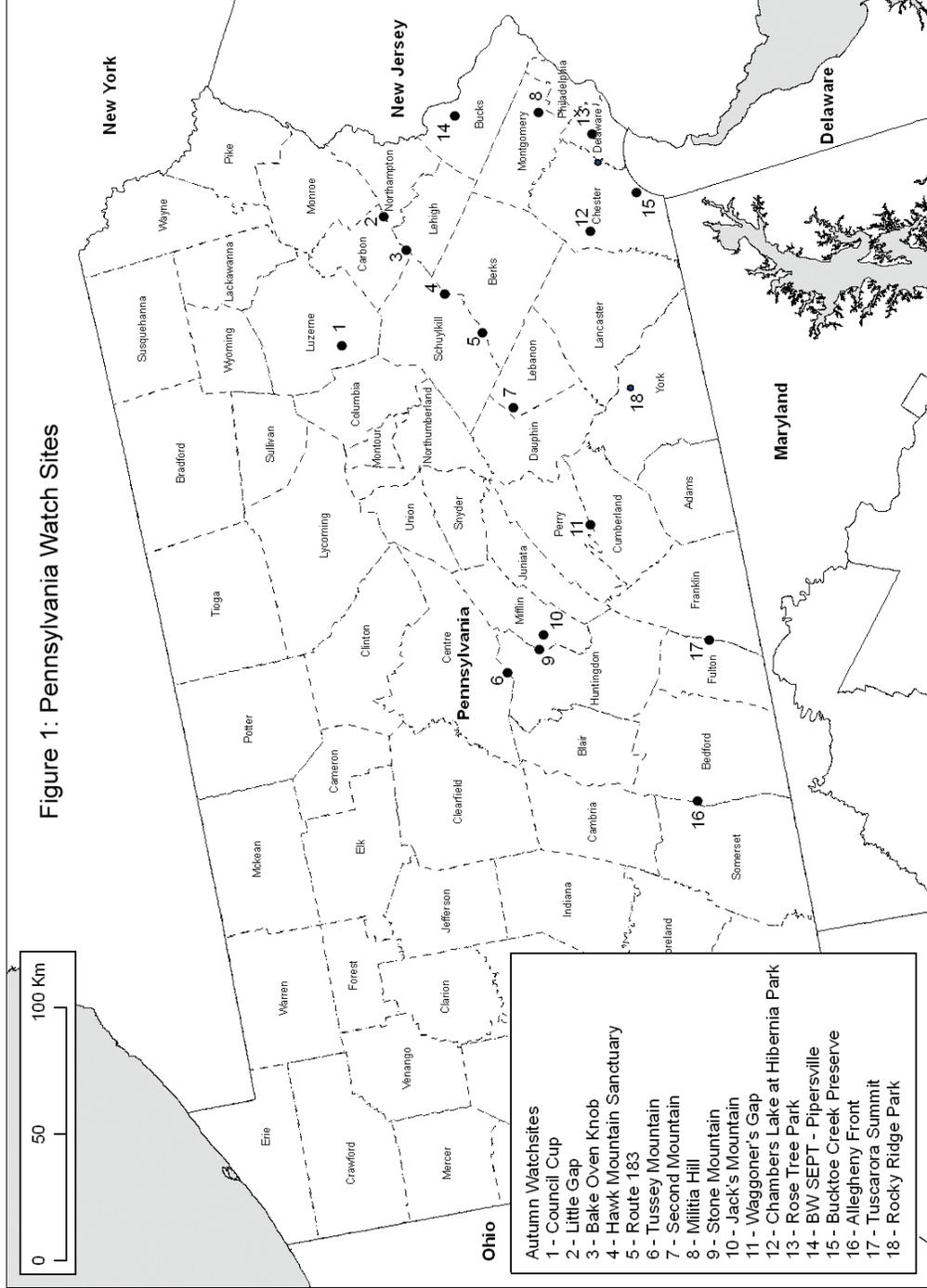
WAGGONER'S GAP (Cumberland) - David Grove, compiler

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total
August	31	204	0	0	37	76	9	46	26	0	3	363	58	0	0	41	3	0	0	5	667
September	28	262	0	0	283	274	65	2935	230	0	14	11278	116	0	1	277	55	16	0	53	15597
October	28	236	48	1548	134	86	84	4853	400	8	130	67	1334	0	22	118	32	52	0	58	8974
November	30	258	31	301	3	63	37	360	31	75	103	0	1592	1	197	2	5	1	0	18	2820
December	23	157	19	25	0	35	10	4	3	4	2	0	58	0	32	0	0	0	0	1	193
Total	140	1116	98	1874	457	534	205	8198	690	87	252	11708	3158	1	252	438	95	69	0	135	28251
Total per hr.			0.09	1.68	0.41	0.48	0.18	7.35	0.62	0.08	0.23	10.49	2.83	0.00	0.23	0.39	0.09	0.06	0.00	0.12	25.31
% of flight			0.3	6.6	1.6	1.9	0.7	29.0	2.4	0.3	0.9	41.4	11.2	0.0	0.9	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.5	100.0
Average last 10 yrs	142	1134	105	1366	500	287	302	6896	878	79	290	6227	4088	7	226	341	104	59	0	184	21937

2012 TOTALS FOR ALL WATCHSITES

Month	Days	Hours	BLVU	TUVU	OSPR	BAEA	NOHA	SSHA	COHA	NOGO	RSHA	BWHA	RTHA	RLHA	GOEA	AMKE	MERL	PEFA	SWHA	Unid	Total ¹
August	156	1,024	72	208	241	227	60	215	106	0	20	1,678	275	0	0	222	49	9	0	98	3,480
September	347	2,581	314	385	1,988	1,378	387	10,178	1,031	14	68	92,205	943	0	26	1,612	309	89	1	463	111,391
October	326	2,165	580	5,279	965	572	481	20,915	2,024	64	625	480	7,178	0	157	712	353	296	0	491	41,172
November	245	1,705	326	1,246	14	338	148	1,254	208	242	750	0	9,511	6	1,040	10	37	14	2	149	15,295
December	90	532	97	54	0	134	13	6	8	7	6	0	190	2	116	1	1	1	0	1	638
Total	1164	8006	1389	7172	3208	2649	1089	32568	3377	327	1469	94363	18097	8	1339	2557	749	409	3	1202	171976
Total per hr.			0.17	0.90	0.40	0.33	0.14	4.07	0.42	0.04	0.18	11.79	2.26	0.00	0.17	0.32	0.09	0.05	0.00	0.15	21.48
% of flight			0.8	4.2	1.9	1.5	0.6	18.9	2.0	0.2	0.9	54.9	10.5	0.0	0.8	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.7	100.0
2011 totals	1198	7562	1258	9830	3120	2263	1006	34241	3302	127	897	89774	12790	12	1170	2056	688	406	3	1018	163984
% change from 2011	-2.8%	5.9%	10.4%	-27.0%	2.8%	17.1%	8.3%	-4.9%	2.3%	157.5%	63.8%	5.1%	41.5%	-33.3%	14.4%	24.4%	8.9%	0.7%	0.0%	18.1%	4.9%

¹Includes one white morph gyrfalcon.



Hurricane Sandy in Pennsylvania: 29-31 October 2012

Geoff Malosh

Hurricane Sandy will long be remembered as one of the most distinctive—and destructive—tropical cyclones ever to hit the United States. Making a devastating landfall on the New Jersey coast late in the day Monday, 29 October 2012, the storm was directly blamed for 72 deaths in the U.S., including two in Pennsylvania, and 147 total deaths in seven countries. Storm damage in the U.S. was estimated at \$75 billion, second in total dollars only to the \$108 billion in damage left in the wake of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Adjusted for inflation, Sandy ranks as the sixth costliest hurricane in U.S. history. New York and New Jersey by far took the worst of what Sandy wrought, but the effects of the storm were felt in 22 states and 5 Canadian provinces, as well as in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Bahamas. The storm caused widespread power outages in Pennsylvania with as many as 1.2 million customers affected for some period of time (Blake, et al., 2013). Devastating wind damage was widespread especially in the eastern third of the state. Although Sandy did dump large amounts of rain on Pennsylvania and localized flooding was reported from many locations, the wrath of Sandy in the commonwealth was mainly felt through her winds.

In Pennsylvania and elsewhere, the fallout of “storm birds” from Sandy was impressive, to say the least. The sheer numbers of three species in particular, Leach’s Storm-Petrel, Red Phalarope, and Pomarine Jaeger, probably best represented the ornithological nature of the storm in Pennsylvania, and surely the amazing image on the cover of this issue of *Pennsylvania Birds*—a Peregrine Falcon taking a Leach’s Storm-Petrel mid-air over the Delaware River—will become an iconic symbol of this storm in the years to come. But Sandy brought many more rare birds than these to Pennsylvania, and will certainly be remembered by Pennsylvania birders as one of the biggest birding events in the state’s history, right up alongside legendary storms like Isabel (2003) and Fran (1996).

An Unprecedented Circumstance

The storm was in many ways unprecedented both from a meteorological and an ornithological standpoint. Due to a very unusual confluence of factors (see *Sandy History* below), the storm, which had been moving north through the Atlantic Ocean off the eastern United States coast, took a sharp and rapid turn to the northwest after it passed north of the Carolinas. It made landfall in southern New Jersey, becoming only the fourth hurricane to make landfall in that state since 1851, although by the strictly defined National Hurricane Center (NHC) classification system, Sandy was not considered a tropical cyclone at the moment it hit New Jersey, and thus was not officially logged as a tropical cyclone to make landfall in that state. Regardless, after landfall, the massive and destructive storm pushed west-northwest through southern Pennsylvania in the pre-dawn and daylight hours of 30 October. Once inland, the storm interacted with a deep and powerful cold-air trough over the central and eastern U.S., which served as an additional source of energy for Sandy and touched off heavy precipitation on the western side of the storm. This manifested as snow and blizzard conditions at higher elevations in the Appalachians, especially in West Virginia where some areas recorded up to three feet of snow.

The unique combination of features exhibited by Sandy—its late-season development and unusual track, its nor’easter-like behavior, an extraordinarily large wind field, the Appalachian blizzards, the massive storm surge on the Atlantic coast augmented by a full moon and high tides, and the generally wild weather that seemed to offer a bit of everything—caused many to dub the thing “Frankenstorm”. The term

“Superstorm” was and continues to be commonly associated with Sandy, though this not an official meteorological classification despite its often breathless and authoritative-sounding proclamation in the local and national media.

The yearly peak of Atlantic hurricane activity is generally in August and September, and the vast majority of hurricanes to affect Pennsylvania over the years have hit in these months. Before Sandy, Pennsylvania had seen only one other late October hurricane in its recorded history—Hurricane Hazel, which moved very rapidly due north through central Pennsylvania 15 October 1954 following a landfall in the Carolinas. That storm brought with it only three “storm birds”, two White-tailed Tropicbirds (both found dead) and one Black Skimmer (Pulcinella and Lockyer, 2004). In fact, Hazel was also the only tropical cyclone to make a major landfall in the mid-Atlantic in the second half October *and also* have a known ornithological history associated with it, scant as it was.

As Sandy approached the New Jersey coast, nobody really knew what birds might be brought ashore and inland by the storm. Certain species often associated with August and September hurricanes have mostly departed western Atlantic waters by late October (e.g., Band-rumped Storm Petrel and Sooty Tern) while others are more common at our latitudes in October than they are in August or September (e.g., Leach’s Storm-Petrel).

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology published an article on its eBird web portal in the days leading up to Hurricane Sandy in which they speculated on the birds that may be found as Sandy barreled through (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 2012). Among the rarities mentioned as possible at inland locations were Black-capped Petrel, Herald Petrel, Leach’s Storm-Petrel, White-tailed Tropicbird, Magnificent Frigatebird, Royal Tern, Laughing Gull, Pomarine and Parasitic Jaeger, and Red Phalarope. With few exceptions (and a few species not mentioned which did show up), these prognostications proved to be quite accurate here in Pennsylvania.

Sandy History

Note: all storm facts in this section and the one that follows are summarized from Blake, et al. (2013) except as noted. All times are noted in 24-hour format and are expressed in Eastern Daylight Time (UTC-0400). Wind speeds are expressed in knots (kt); 1 kt = 1.15078 mph. Barometric pressures are expressed in millibars (mbar). The NHC “best track” for Sandy is shown in Figure 1.

The tropical wave that would become Hurricane Sandy moved westward from the western Africa coast 11 October 2012, but very little convection developed over the next several days, likely due in part to the influence from Hurricane Rafael, which was mid-ocean several hundred miles to Sandy’s northwest and moving off to the northeast. By the time the wave reached the Caribbean Sea 18 October, conditions for the formation of a cyclone had improved, and by early 20 October, deep convection was underway. On 21 October a center of convection could be distinguished, and at 08:00 on 22 October the storm was officially classified as a tropical depression centered about 300 miles south of Jamaica. It intensified into a tropical storm just six hours later (by the Saffir-Simpson hurricane scale, tropical storms have sustained winds between 34 and 64 kt).

From there the storm tracked north under the influence of an upper-level trough over the northwestern Caribbean and gradually increased in intensity, achieving Category-1 hurricane status (winds between 65 and 83 kt) by 08:00 on 24 October. It passed quickly over Jamaica and intensified further

before making landfall as a Category-3 storm with 100 kt winds at Santiago de Cuba on the island of Cuba in the early morning hours 25 October.

The quick passage over Cuba and an encounter with southwesterly shear weakened Sandy as the storm began to turn to the northwest. It passed over the Bahama Islands 25 and 26 October, and though it had weakened to tropical storm status, the size of the storm had notably increased compared to its extent at landfall in Cuba. By 08:00 on 27 October, the storm had re-intensified to a Cat-1 hurricane, yet the radius of maximum winds had reached 100 nautical miles—a very large area for a storm at hurricane strength, and the storm was still growing. It was estimated that the extent (diameter) of tropical storm force winds reached a maximum of 870 nautical miles prior to landfall.

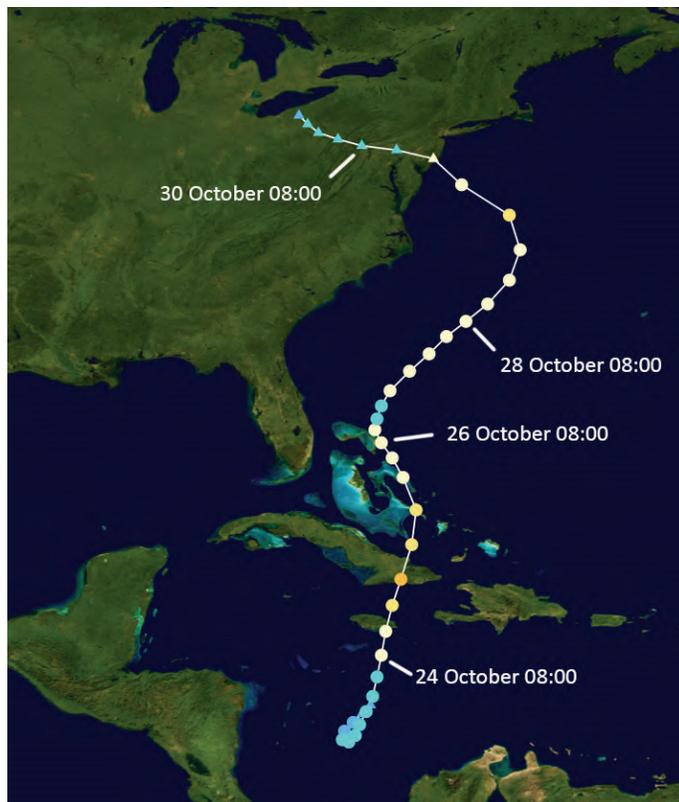


Figure 1. NHC best track of Hurricane Sandy, 22 to 31 October 2012.

After it exited the Bahamas area, it took another turn to the northeast and began to increase its forward speed, now influenced by a strong mid- to upper level trough over the central United States. This trough would ultimately be one of two primary drivers of the storm's track through Pennsylvania. The other was an anomalous blocking high pressure ridge over southern Greenland, Newfoundland, and the Maritime Provinces, which was much stronger than normal, perhaps in the 95th percentile in terms of strength (Masters, 2012). This blocking high, positioned to the northeast of the hurricane, prevented the storm from accelerating to the northeast as cyclones north of the tropics normally do. Meanwhile, by early in the day on 29 October, the trough in the central U.S. deepened into the southeastern states and reached a position southwest of the hurricane.

Along the way, the effect of the trough on Sandy's western side provided a boost of baroclinic energy to the storm ("baroclinic" refers to the large-scale interaction of cold and warm air masses along frontal boundaries), at a time when the storm's center of convection was once again over the warm waters in the Gulf Stream and away from any land masses.

Both of these factors led to a re-intensification of Sandy to a Cat-2 storm at 85 kt by 08:00 on 29 October, a so-called "secondary peak intensity" following the previous peak at 100 kt near Cuba. At this time the combinative effects of the blocking high over Greenland and the deep trough over the central U.S. were fully realized, and the storm took a quick turn toward the northwest into the trough and toward the New Jersey coast, which now lay about 200 miles from the storm center.

However, as the storm hurried northwest, it moved over much colder waters near the shore, and came more and more under the influence of the strongly cold air mass over the eastern United States. As a result the storm quickly lost its tropical characteristics. The NHC determined that the hurricane became an extratropical system by 17:00 on 29 October, when the storm was still some 50 miles southeast of Atlantic City, New Jersey. "Extratropical" refers to a former tropical system that has converted its primary source of energy to baroclinic activity—in this case the interaction with the mid-level trough encountered by Sandy—as opposed to a tropical system which is driven primarily by deep convective energy and a warm and closed surface wind core. In other words, at this point Sandy became a cyclonic frontal system and now functioned more like a nor'easter than a tropical cyclone, albeit one with extremely strong winds and which started as an actual hurricane. When it officially made landfall near Brigantine, New Jersey at 19:30 on 29 October, it had been officially downgraded to a post-tropical storm (a closed low-pressure system with a remnant "center" but which no longer qualifies as a tropical cyclone).

After landfall, the storm took a turn further to the west, and now moved through southern New Jersey, northern Delaware, and southern Pennsylvania on a west-northwest path throughout the day on 30 October. By 08:00 on 30 October the former center of the storm was over south central Pennsylvania, in the general area of Franklin County, and by 20:00 it was into far western Pennsylvania over Butler County and moving ever more northwestward into Ohio (Figure 2). Throughout the day on 31 October, the remnants of Sandy crossed Lake Erie and merged with a low pressure system over central Ontario, and finally exited to the northeast.

Effects in Pennsylvania

Even well before landfall, the effects of Sandy were being felt in Pennsylvania. Rain and high winds had commenced in eastern Pennsylvania before nightfall 29 October. Reported gusts of over 50 kt were widespread across eastern Pennsylvania, and many locations in the east also reported sustained winds in excess of 35 kt (tropical storm force) primarily in the overnight hours 29-30 October. The heaviest rainfall was generally south and west of the storm track, especially in eastern Maryland, eastern Virginia, the entire state of Delaware, and southern New Jersey, but much of Pennsylvania received multiple inches of rain nonetheless. Notably, the Philadelphia International Airport recorded sustained winds of 44 kt and gusts up to 59 kt late on 29 October. Around that same time, measured barometric pressure at the airport bottomed out at 952.2 mbar, an all-time low for that location. Two other locations in Pennsylvania also recorded all-time minimum barometric pressure measurements: Harrisburg International Airport at 963.8 mbar, and Scranton at 971.6 mbar. Together with Philadelphia, these sites were three of six total locations in the mid-Atlantic states that recorded all-time low pressure readings during Sandy.

The highest recorded winds were generally around Lehigh, Northampton, and Bucks counties, where maximum gusts of 66 kt and 61 kt were reported at Bensalem (Bucks) and Allentown (Lehigh), respectively. Indeed, that section of Pennsylvania appeared to see the worst of the wind damage as well, and power outages in that area were widespread and long-lasting.

High winds were reported across the state, with maximum gusts as far west as Pittsburgh exceeding 40 kt on 30 October.

Many areas, particularly along the southern border of the state from Fulton to Delaware counties, reported rain totals anywhere from 5 to 9 inches over the duration of the storm. The Delaware River swelled well beyond flood stage; storm surge at Marcus Hook, Delaware County reached 6.26 feet, and at Philadelphia, 5.83 feet. Yet aside from this, flooding in Pennsylvania was for the most part a secondary concern to high winds and power outages.

As mentioned, the storm triggered snowfall and blizzard conditions 30 October on its western side in the Appalachian Mountains, with snow accumulation recorded from North Carolina to southwestern Pennsylvania. West Virginia was hardest hit with the white stuff, including a maximum storm accumulation of 36 inches near the town of Richwood. Snow fell all around southwestern Pennsylvania but only the higher elevations saw appreciable accumulation. Particularly heavy snow fell in Somerset County for most of the day 30 October, so much that hopeful observers at Lake Somerset faced white-out conditions nearly all day and were left with little chance to check the lake for birds. (Fortunately for them, nearby Shawnee State Park in Bedford County not only had very little snow and good visibility, but also plenty of storm birds.)

Sandy Storm Birding

Storm birds were seen across the state, but several areas were real hotbeds of activity. Without a doubt the epicenter of bird activity 30 October was on the Susquehanna River in Dauphin County, observed primarily from West Fairview (which lies on the Cumberland County side of the river, yet all of the water along the Dauphin/Cumberland border is in Dauphin, and thus so were all the birds). The highlights on Dauphin's stretch of the Susquehanna included Cory's

Shearwater, Leach's Storm-Petrel, Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers, Black Skimmer, Black-legged Kittiwake, and Northern Gannet. Several outstanding rarities were also recorded on the lower Delaware River in Philadelphia and Delaware counties, including more Leach's Storm-Petrels and jaegers, Sabine's Gull, Royal Tern, and Sooty Tern. American Oystercatchers were seen on both rivers. Many lakes and reservoirs also saw excellent fallout; chief among these were Shawnee State Park in Bedford, Lake Nockamixon in Bucks, Lake Raystown in Huntingdon, Bald Eagle State Park in Centre, Beltzville State Park in Carbon, and Lake Ontelaunee in Berks.

Many of these locations lay quite close to the center of the storm's track (Figure 2), and the timing of sightings at these sites through the day on 30 October was for the most part reflective of the storm's movement west. Sandy came ashore in New Jersey at dusk 29 October and crossed the Delaware River in the pre-dawn hours. Storm birds were being spotted on the Delaware and elsewhere in the far eastern Pennsylvania counties within the first hour of light. The storm center crossed the Susquehanna River around shortly before dawn 30 October, and as a result the Susquehanna probably offered many wayward storm birds their first visible opportunity to land and rest after a day or more of riding along in the storm. Indeed, the parade of birds seen from West Fairview never let up, as birds throughout the day used the river to feed and rest, or at least as a corridor to move back to the southeast after the storm was well past. Farther west, the storm center passed close to Shawnee S.P. in Bedford County in the late morning, and observers there reported that the show of rarities began quite suddenly right at that time.

Hurricane Sandy brought record-shattering statewide fallouts of several species, most notably Red Phalarope and Pomarine Jaeger. Normally totals of these birds are measured in the single digits even during the most notable hurricanes of the past, but during Sandy, statewide storm totals for each

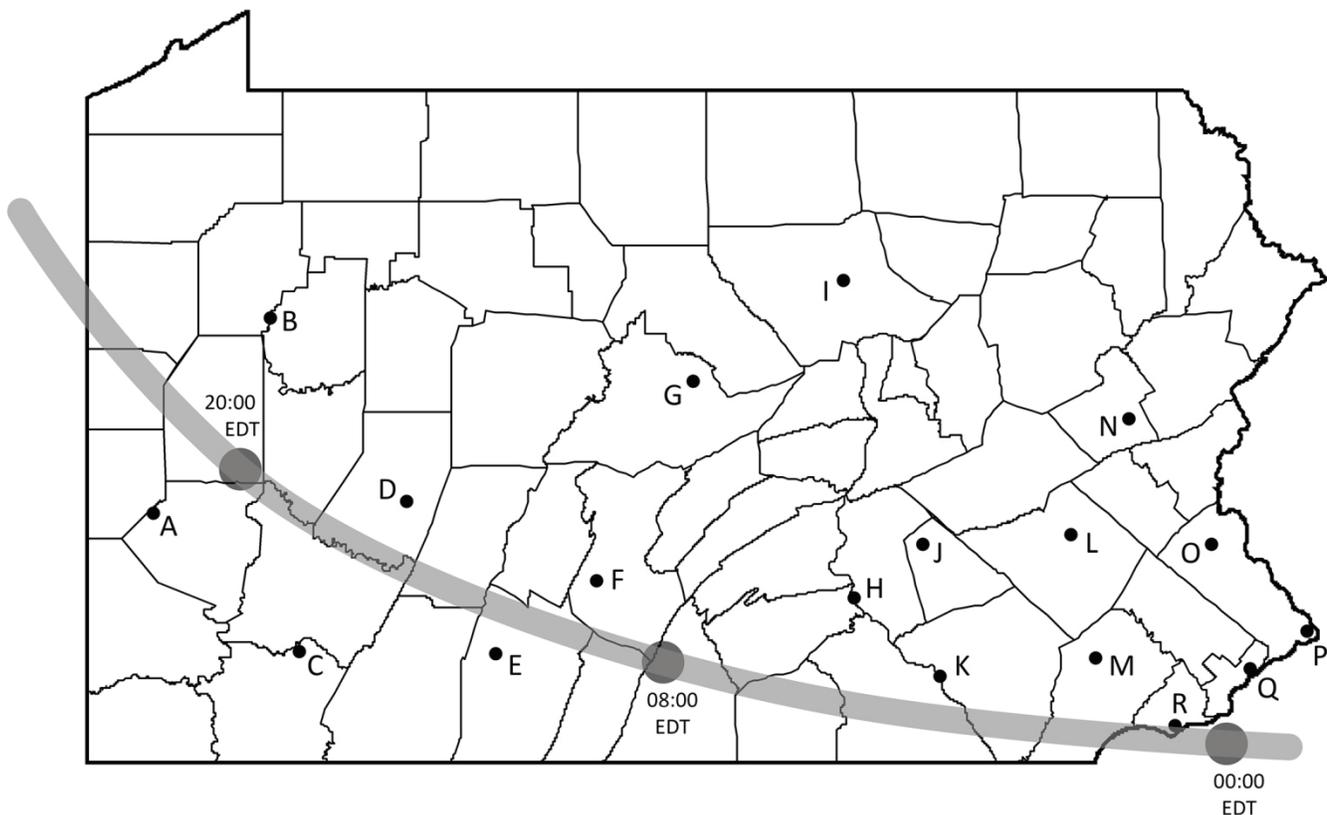


Figure 2. Track of post-tropical storm Sandy through Pennsylvania 30 October 2012, with selected positive-sighting observation sites on 10/30. See Table 1 for site names.

species reached three digits! The storm total for Brant was also certainly record-breaking, and for Dunlin very probably record-breaking. A number of species also set record late or near-record late dates for the state during their appearances in Sandy's wake, particularly among shorebirds; very late individuals of Piping Plover, Willet, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, and Wilson's Phalarope all appeared during the storm. Other records or near-records were set for Black and Caspian Tern, and Cliff Swallow.

As noted by Pulcinella and Lockyer (2004), typically the most productive areas for storm birds during a tropical cyclone tend to be in the quadrant northeast of the storm track. Sandy's passage more or less straight track west-northwest across the southeastern corner of the state guaranteed that large areas of Pennsylvania were affected by the northeastern side of the storm. Many birds obviously driven to Pennsylvania from the ocean were recorded across the state, and when taken alongside a massive downing of migrants that happened to be in the area, 30 October was truly a memorable day.

As was the case also when Hurricane Isabel passed through in September 2003, persistent birders continued to turn up wayward storm birds in the days after Sandy had passed, especially 31 October. Birders at Lake Raystown found Wilson's Storm-Petrel and Sabine's Gull 31 October, while Cave Swallows and Red Phalaropes continued to be noted in multiple locations elsewhere in the state. Long-staying Black Skimmers (up to two in Allegheny County until 9 November and one in Lancaster County until 4 November) provided many birders who couldn't get out on 30 October a chance to "chase" a storm bird anyway.

Table 1. Selected 10/30 positive-sighting locations plotted on Figure 2.

Site	Location	County
A	Dashiels Dam	Allegheny
B	Kahle Lake	Clarion/Venango
C	Greenlick Run Reservoir	Fayette
D	Yellow Creek State Park	Indiana
E	Shawnee State Park	Bedford
F	Raystown Lake	Huntingdon
G	Bald Eagle State Park	Centre
H	Susquehanna R. at West Fairview	Dauphin
I	Rose Valley Lake	Lycoming
J	Memorial Lake State Park	Lebanon
K	Conejohela Flats	Lancaster
L	Lake Ontelaunee	Berks
M	Marsh Creek State Park	Chester
N	Beltzville State Park	Carbon
O	Nockamixon State Park	Bucks
P	Penn-Warner Tract	Bucks
Q	Pennypack on the Delaware	Philadelphia
R	Marcus Hook	Delaware

Comments on Information Technology

In their tour-de-force review of Hurricane Isabel, Pulcinella and Lockyer (2003) commented on the new inter-connectedness of birders in the 21st century and the near-instantaneous sharing of information about significant sightings, including the then-recent (late 1990s) development of the Internet and email listservs as a widely-available source of real-time and near-time information about bird sightings. Just prior to the passage of Isabel, a state-wide "phone chain" was redeveloped as a way for birders to quickly disseminate information about rare birds. (This consisted of a few well-connected birders at the top of the chain, who would be informed of a rare bird sighting and would begin to call "down the chain" to other interested birders. Those birders they reached would then call to the next person down the chain, and so on.) It was not the first phone chain to be implemented in Pennsylvania, but it was the first to exist in the age of mobile phones. Now instead of listening to voicemails on home phones hours or even days after the fact, as was the case with older variations of the phone chain, birders equipped with

mobile phones could call in a rarity to the top of the chain right from the field, and get the information rolling immediately. Everyone associated with the phone chain had the opportunity to be informed of rare birds in near real time, if they carried a mobile phone. The implementation of the phone chain during Hurricane Isabel was a resounding success.

Of course, by 2012, birders had moved on to the next new thing: text messaging. Beginning in 2010, RBA texting services had been set up both at the statewide level and at smaller local levels. Now instead of waiting for a phone tree to execute—which, though usually reliable was anything but flawless—anyone signed up for the RBA texting service could immediately (and cheaply) send a single message to all subscribers, much like an email listserv, who would all then be simultaneously and instantaneously notified on their mobile devices. When coupled with a smartphone (complete with a map program, full internet access, and GPS services, of course), birders were now dialed in like never before. Indeed, the text messaging system was heavily utilized during the passage of Sandy, and a great many storm-chasing birders benefitted by receiving real-time information from other birders in the field, and adjusting their driving routes accordingly. In all over 100 alerts were sent through the statewide service on 30 October.

Species Accounts

This section summarizes notable birds and trends immediately before, during, and in the days after the passage of Hurricane Sandy 30 October 2012. Sightings discussed herein generally span from 29 October to 4 November, with notes beyond 4 November as appropriate. Obviously, the bulk of the sightings took place on 30 October. The list of counties (or a total count of counties) in which the species was recorded is given in parentheses next to the species name, and all county names are italicized. The acronym "PORC" refers to the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee. Note that most records of PORC review species contained in this report were still under review at the time of this writing.

In the species accounts, observer names are not shown with each record. Readers may refer to the Birds of Note in this issue which contains complete details of each sighting for all notable birds, including the observers. Species summarized in the Birds of Note are shown with an asterisk (*) following list of counties; the Birds of Note also shows whether a specific record was submitted to PORC. For species not listed in the Birds of Note, please refer to the county reports for full details. A single list of all contributing observers follows the species accounts.

Most information regarding historical status is taken from McWilliams and Brauning (2000), subsequent updates in this journal, and the PORC database. Other sources are cited as necessary.

Brant (30 counties)

The timing of Sandy's passage coincided almost exactly with the peak of Brant migration through Pennsylvania, and as a result, Brant became one of the symbolic species the storm. They were seen in every corner of the state, and often in very impressive numbers. Most flocks were flyovers, but some stopped on lakes and reservoirs for part or all of the day during the storm. Notable counts 10/30 included 145 at Shawnee S.P. (*Bedford*), 350 in *Bucks*, 200 at Beltzville S.P. (*Carbon*), 426 at Bald Eagle S.P. (*Centre*), 91 total across two locations in *Chester*, 500 at West Fairview (*Dauphin*), 159 on the Delaware R. in *Delaware* and 345 a bit upriver in *Philadelphia*, an amazing 1650 flying past Gull Point in *Erie*, 77 at Greenlick Run Res. (*Fayette*, beginning 10/29), at least 600 on the Susquehanna R. (*Dauphin*), and 65 at Lake Somerset (*Somerset*). Some big flocks also passed through 10/31, including 25 at Dashiels Dam in *Allegheny*, 75 at Yellow Creek S.P. (*Indiana*), and 150 over Saylorsburg (*Monroe*), with smaller numbers in at least 10 other

counties. Storm stragglers remained in some locations into the second week of November, when they became indistinguishable from migrants arriving after Sandy was well past. The total number of Brant observed during Hurricane Sandy easily exceeded the total from any previous storm event in Pennsylvania's history.



Image 1. Flock of Brant at Beltzville State Park, *Carbon* 30 October 2012. (Dustin Welch)

Cackling Goose (*Philadelphia*)*

The only Cackling Goose spotted during the storm was a single bird at Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia* 10/30. The sighting of this bird on the day of the storm may well have been entirely coincidental, as this species was not expected as a storm bird, and 10/30 is on the early end of this species' normal migration window in the state (but certainly not unprecedentedly early).



Image 2. Black Scoters at Lock Haven, *Clinton*, 30 October 2012. (Wayne Laubscher)

Scoters (25 counties)

There were fallouts of all three species of scoters statewide 10/30. The numbers of reporting counties on that date were 15 for Surf Scoter, 20 for White-winged Scoter, and 19 for Black Scoter. Interestingly, the maximum count for any one species at one location was a surprisingly low 38 (for Surf Scoter in both *Chester* and *Lancaster*), making this fallout very widespread but not very dense. Some notable counts by location 10/30 were: L. Ontelaunee, *Berks* (14 Surf, 32 White-winged, 27 Black), Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre* (20 Surf, 3 White-winged, 23 Black), Chambers L., *Chester* (38 Surf, 5 Black), West Fairview, *Dauphin* (23 Surf, 29 White-winged, 25 Black), and the

Susquehanna R., *Lancaster* (38 Surf, 6 White-winged, 30 Black). Good post-storm totals included 12 White-winged at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana* 10/31, 21 Black at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks* 10/31, and 14 at Green Lane Res., *Montgomery* 10/31. Small numbers of scoters remained at storm fallout locations into early November, but almost exclusively in single-digit totals.

Long-tailed Duck (*Chester, Dauphin, Lackawanna, Monroe, Philadelphia*)

Sandy passed through Pennsylvania a bit too early to expect many Long-tailed Ducks, but they were found in small numbers in five counties nonetheless. Marsh Creek S.P., *Chester* (up to 3) and Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia* (up to 9) were the top sites.

Ruddy Duck (37 counties)

The huge numbers of Ruddy Ducks found on Pennsylvania lakes 10/30-31 deserve special mention in this report. The 37 counties reporting this species represented a near complete sweep of all counties in which Sandy-specific birding took place. Triple-digit counts were had on all sides of the state. Some of the more notable totals (10/30 unless otherwise indicated) included 3000 at Prince Gallitzin S.P., *Cambria* (10/29), *Chester*, at least 4000 at Greenlick Run Res., *Fayette*, 1200 at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana*, 300 at Rose Valley L., *Lycoming*, 264 at Lake Somerset and 270 at Quemahoning Res. in *Somerset*, and 400 at Codorus S.P. and 401 at Long Arm Res. in *York*. At least nine other counties had totals between 100 and 200. Many other species of waterfowl also had impressive showings during the storm, though none on the level of Ruddy Duck.

Red-throated Loon (16 counties)

The largest numbers of fall migrant Red-throated Loons in Pennsylvania usually appear with mid- to late-November weather systems, at which time they sometimes appear in dozens of counties after heavy storms. Hurricane Sandy brought a widespread fallout of this species a few weeks early. The species was seen in 16 counties, ten in the western half of the state and six in the east. The highest total was 9 at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford* 10/30. At least half of the reports were of single birds, and all sightings were fairly evenly distributed over the period 10/30-11/1.

Pacific Loon (*Washington*)*

One bird was discovered at a pond on private property in *Washington* 11/3 and remained to 11/10. Given the date of discovery and the fact that the location does not receive daily coverage, the bird may have appeared on the heels of the storm. There are only three accepted records for the state, with review of this individual pending.

Common Loon (18 counties)

Large numbers of Common Loons put down on several lakes in western half of Pennsylvania during the passage of Sandy. Top counts included 118 at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford* 10/30, up to 50 at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre* 10/30, 102 at Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon* 10/30 with up to 65 continuing to 11/1, 30 at Greenlick Run Res., *Fayette* 10/30 with 25 still present 10/31, and 112 at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana* 10/30. In the east, Common Loons were widespread, recorded in at least 8 counties but almost exclusively in the single digits, except for 115 on the Delaware R. in *Philadelphia* 10/30. Flocks of post-storm migrants were seen at hawkwatches very shortly after the storm, including 75 at Second Mountain, *Lebanon* and 127 at Waggoner's Gap, *Perry*, both 11/2. The large imbalance of numbers in the west indicated a grounding of migrant loons rather than birds originating from the ocean.

Western Grebe (*Lebanon*)*

One bird was present at Memorial Lake S.P. in *Lebanon* 11/4-16

(coincidentally along with all four of the other grebe species on the official Pennsylvania state list for about a week of its stay). Memorial Lake was covered by birders both during and after the storm, so this bird probably did not arrive before 11/4, but like the Pacific Loon above, it may have been driven into the area by Sandy, and wandered the region before finally settling on Memorial Lake for the first half of November.

Herald Petrel (*Blair*)*

This potential first for Pennsylvania came in the form of a moribund bird found by a non-birder 11/3 as it rested below a mailbox in residential Holidaysburg, *Blair*. The bird was taken to a rehabilitator, photographs were made of the bird in hand, and measurements were taken by Mike Lanzone. The bird died shortly thereafter. At the time of this writing, the record was under PORC review.

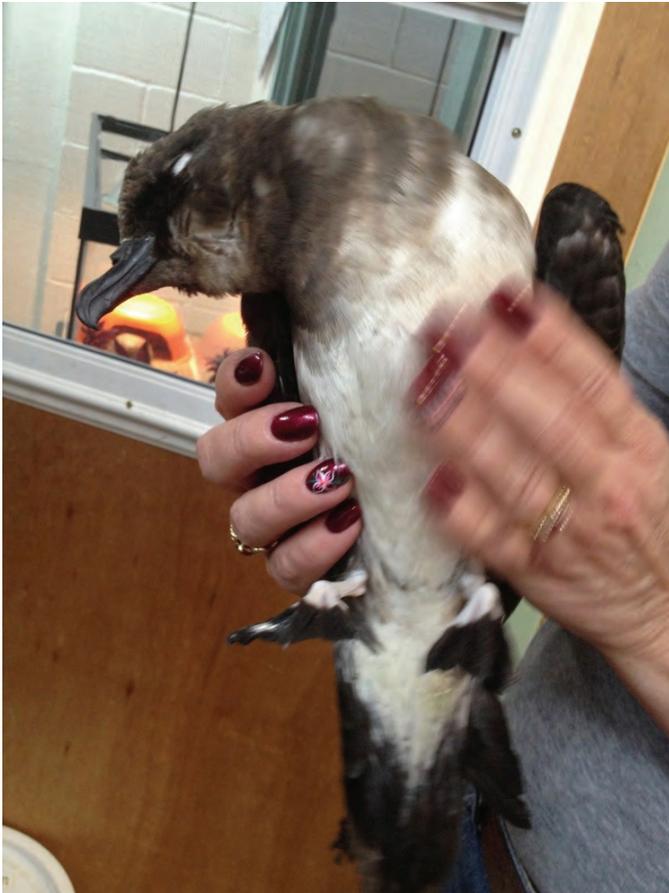


Image 3. Herald Petrel, found near Holidaysburg, *Blair* 3 November 2012. (Mike Lanzone)

Cory's Shearwater (*Dauphin*)*

One bird was seen in flight over West Fairview, *Dauphin* early in the day 10/30. This was the only shearwater found during the passage of Sandy. This would represent the fourth Pennsylvania record, but unfortunately documentation was not submitted to PORC.

Wilson's Storm-Petrel (*Berks, Huntingdon, Lancaster*)*

Though certainly a possibility, this species was not expected to be found following the passage of Sandy. Not only does Wilson's not have a strong track record for appearing far inland after even the worst storms, but the late date of Sandy's passage fell well after most Wilson's Storm-Petrels have departed for the southern hemisphere. Nevertheless, there were three reports of this species associated with the storm: one on the Susquehanna R., *Lancaster* 10/30, one at Lake Ontelaunee, *Berks* 10/30, and

one at the Seven Points Marina at Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon* 10/31. Documentation was submitted for both the *Berks* and *Huntingdon* birds, but no photos or video of any of the birds is known to exist. There are no accepted records for this species for Pennsylvania, so acceptance of either of the two submitted records would add Wilson's Storm-Petrel to the state's Provisional List (in the absence of photos or other physical evidence). Another storm-petrel at Shawnee State Park, *Bedford* 10/30 presented an identification challenge and was originally thought to be a Wilson's, but close examination of photos and video of that bird after the fact showed it to be a Leach's.



Image 4. Leach's Storm-Petrel at Marcus Hook, *Delaware* 30 October 2012. (Tom Johnson)

Leach's Storm-Petrel (*Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Dauphin, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lycoming, Philadelphia*)*

In the collective consciousness of the birding community, it is likely no other bird will be as closely associated with Hurricane Sandy in the years to come as the Leach's Storm-Petrel. There were just two accepted records for Pennsylvania prior to Sandy: a specimen collected in *Berks* following a severe storm in August 1933 (which reportedly dumped Leach's Storm-Petrels all over eastern Pennsylvania), and one seen in *Indiana* in September 2003 during Hurricane Isabel. There are also a few other anecdotal reports prior to 1945. During Hurricane Sandy 10/30, Leach's Storm-Petrels were found at 13 locations in nine Pennsylvania counties. The Delaware River saw the most birds, with 17 at Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia*, and 9 or more in *Delaware* at the Commodore Barry Bridge and Marcus Hook. Peregrine Falcons were seen making at least two kills of the storm-petrels in *Delaware*. As American Birding Association President Jeff Gordon advised via the statewide texting service from his position at the Commodore Barry Bridge: "Grim but effective method for spotting Leach's Storm-Petrels: look for what Peregrines and gulls are diving on." *Bucks* had Leach's Storm-Petrels reported from three sites—Lake Nockamixon, Bristol, and the Penn-Warner Tract. Up to 6 were seen at Lake Ontelaunee in *Berks*, and at least 3 were found among many other rare birds at West Fairview, *Dauphin*. Far-flung Leach's were noted in *Lycoming* at Rose Valley Lake and in *Bedford* at Shawnee S.P. Lastly, one was seen at Memorial Lake, *Lebanon*. Unsurprisingly, all of these birds departed overnight and no others were found anywhere else 10/31 or later. With the exception of the *Lycoming* bird, all of these sightings were made quite close to the center of the storm's track, and all were to the north of it except Shawnee S.P which was just a few miles to the south. This fits nicely with known pattern of occurrence of tubenoses in the northeastern quadrant of a hurricane. Documentation was submitted to PORC for at least nine of these sightings and many good photos were made.

Storm-Petrel sp. (*Bucks, Lebanon*)*

Two more storm-petrels not identified to species were observed 10/30: one at Nockamixon State Park, *Bucks* and one at Memorial Lake S.P., *Lebanon*.

Northern Gannet (*Dauphin*)*

One of the truly unexpected birds to be found during Sandy's passage that almost nobody predicted ahead of time was the adult Northern Gannet that spent the afternoon 10/30 floating and flying along the Susquehanna R. at West Fairview, *Dauphin*. Another iconic image from this storm was captured by Alex Lamoreaux, who photographed the gannet flying past a sign for Front Street across the river in Harrisburg. See the In Focus feature in this issue.

Snowy Egret (*Bucks, Dauphin*)*

Most Snowy Egrets summering in Pennsylvania are gone by the end of September, with stragglers rarely remaining to late October. Nevertheless, Sandy dropped off two birds in Pennsylvania 10/30: one at Bristol, *Bucks* and one at West Fairview, *Dauphin*.

Cattle Egret (*Chester, Dauphin*)*

Like Cackling Goose, this is another species that is hard to definitively classify as a true Sandy-driven storm bird. Nevertheless, three Cattle Egrets were found during the storm's passage. Two of these were in *Chester*, at a farm in Exton 10/30 and at Chambers L. 10/31. One was also seen in *Dauphin* on the Susquehanna R. at West Fairview 10/30. Two more were seen in early November about a week after the storm was gone, one each in *Bucks* (11/5) and *Philadelphia* (11/6).

Osprey

A handful of late season Osprey appeared with the hurricane. Birds away from the southeastern corner of the state, where they might be reasonably expected to linger in late October even absent a storm like Sandy, included one at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre* 10/30-31, one at Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon* 10/30, one at Kahle L., *Venango* 11/1, and one at Donegal L., *Westmoreland* 10/31.

Black-bellied Plover (*Blair, Bedford, Centre, Clarion, Clinton, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Venango*)

Black-bellied Plover is a species that has been known to linger into December and is still common in the mid-Atlantic in late October, so their appearance was not unexpected during Hurricane Sandy. Notable records among sightings in nine counties included 4 at Canoe Creek S.P., *Blair* 10/29, 7 at Kahle Lake, *Clarion/Venango* 10/31, 20 on Mud Level Road, *Cumberland* 10/30, and up to 2 in *Lebanon* to 11/2.

American Golden-Plover (*Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, Lehigh, Venango*)

American Golden-Plovers are among the latest-staying shorebirds in Pennsylvania, and so were also reasonably expected to be seen during the storm. Sightings included one at Marysville, *Dauphin* 10/31, 2 at Mount Pleasant Rd., *Lebanon* 11/1, one on the Susquehanna R. in *Lancaster* 10/30, one in Upper Macungie, *Lehigh* 10/31, and one at Kahle L. on the *Venango* side 11/1-5.

Piping Plover (*Franklin*)*

One was reported in a flooded field near Chambersburg, *Franklin* along with several other notable birds during the storm's passage 10/30. This record was under PORC review at the time of this writing.

American Oystercatcher (*Bedford, Bucks, Dauphin, Delaware*)*

Following just five previous accepted state records, Sandy's

passage resulted in five more records, all 10/30, three of which were sent to PORC for evaluation. Two were at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford* for several hours around midday, and were seen and photographed by many. In *Bucks*, oystercatchers were noted at Nockamixon S.P. and the Penn-Warner Tract. Birders at West Fairview, *Dauphin* also chipped in with 3 oystercatchers, and 2 were seen at Marcus Hook, *Delaware*. All of these sightings were closely tied to the center of the storm's track, and none were seen the next day or thereafter.



Image 5. American Oystercatchers at Shawnee State Park, *Bedford* 30 October 2012. (*Geoff Malosh*)

American Avocet (*Chester*)*

One very late bird was deposited at Marsh Creek S.P., *Chester* 10/31. A large showing of this species was not expected due to the late October passage of the storm.

Greater Yellowlegs (*Berks, Carbon, Centre, Dauphin, Fayette, Franklin, Indiana, Lancaster, Lehigh, Mercer, Montour, Venango, Westmoreland, York*)

Greater Yellowlegs are normally still present in Pennsylvania in the second half of October, but Sandy brought some very nice counts to a number of counties for such a late date in the season, including up to 74 at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre* 10/30, 34 at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana* 10/30, 75 at the Conejohela Flats, *Lancaster* 10/30, and 15 at Donegal L., *Westmoreland* 10/29. Single-digit counts were made in ten other counties. The large flocks were obviously hurricane-driven, but the sightings of singles or small groups may have been of birds already in place before Sandy struck.

Willet (*Bedford*)*

One bird was present and calling loudly for a few hours around midday 10/30 at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford*. Like American Avocet, this species was not expected in numbers, if at all, given the late date, and in fact the Sandy bird is among the latest fall records for Willet in Pennsylvania's history. Considering the unprecedented nature of the storm, the Willet at Shawnee was carefully observed and the possibility of Eastern Willet was eliminated.

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Centre, Chester, Dauphin, Franklin, Indiana, Lancaster, Lebanon, Northampton, Venango*)

Being much less common in late October than Greater Yellowlegs, it was not surprising that Lesser Yellowlegs was generally scarcer than their larger counterparts during Hurricane Sandy as well. They were reported in nine counties but not in appreciable numbers. The only double-digit counts were 10 each in *Lancaster* 10/30 and *Lebanon* 10/31. Like Greater Yellowlegs, some of the sightings of single birds (which were the majority of all sightings in this case) may have been of

birds already in place before 10/30.

Hudsonian Godwit (*Dauphin, Franklin*)*

Of all large shorebirds, this species may have been the one most expected to appear in numbers. Hudsonian Godwits have a protracted fall migration through Pennsylvania, and although 10/30 is near the end of their window, there are records of the species well into November. Regardless, there were just two records from Sandy: 2 at West Fairview 10/30, and one in a flooded field east of Chambersburg, *Franklin* 10/30.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Carbon*)*

Very unexpected was an extraordinarily late Ruddy Turnstone at Beltzville S.P., *Carbon* 10/30. Unsurprisingly, this was the only turnstone reported during the storm. Normally gone by the end of September, the *Carbon* is among Pennsylvania's latest, though one bird seen during a CBC in *Delaware* 12/26/1970 holds the distinction of being *the* latest by a long way.

Red Knot (*Dauphin*)*

Several flocks of Red Knots totaling 195 birds were tallied at West Fairview, *Dauphin* 10/30. Like several other shorebirds, these birds appeared at the very tail end of their migration window here in Pennsylvania, and are among the latest records for their species in the state's history.

Sanderling (*Carbon, Chester, Dauphin, Lancaster, Philadelphia*)

Sandy brought several late-season Sanderlings during its passage, quite likely all birds driven in from the Atlantic coast, and all in the southeastern counties 10/30 except for one bird at Beltzville S.P., *Carbon* 10/30. No site reported more than 2 birds. One bird rested at Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia* for several hours during the storm and was, as *Philadelphia* compiler Doris McGovern reported, appropriately nicknamed "Sandy" by the birders standing vigil nearby.



Image 6. Flock of Dunlin over Bald Eagle State Park, *Centre* 30 October 2012. (*Alex Lamoreaux*)

Dunlin (*27 counties*)

As was the case with Brant, the passage of Sandy closely aligned with the peak of Dunlin migration in Pennsylvania, and like Brant, Dunlin rained out of the skies above Pennsylvania lakes and rivers all day 10/30. Some extremely impressive single-location counts were made at the height of the storm 10/30, led by a staggering 2167 at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre*, 1260 at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford*, and 1000 at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana* followed by smaller flocks there totaling 773 late in the day. Triple-digit counts were widespread 10/30 including 125 on the Allegheny R. in *Allegheny*, nearly 500 across several sites in *Bucks*, 400 at Beltzville S.P. in *Carbon*, 103 at Marsh Creek S.P. in *Chester*, 140 at Kahle L. in *Clarion/Venango*, at least 700

and perhaps as many as 1000 on the Susquehanna R. in *Dauphin*, 125 at Greenlick Run Res. in *Fayette*, 250 at Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon*, 400 on the Susquehanna R. in *Lancaster*, 150 at Rose Valley Lake in *Lycoming*, 160 at Lake Minsi in *Northampton*, 118 at Pennypack on the Delaware in *Philadelphia*, and 170 across two locations in *Somerset*. These totals alone come out to some 8500 birds, and when the rest of the reporting counties are considered, a statewide estimate of 10,000 Dunlin 10/30 is not unreasonable. Notably, these hordes of Dunlin vanished as suddenly as they had appeared. Very few locations reported even double digits 10/31, and most birds lingering past 10/31 were singles.

Wilson's Phalarope (*Crawford, Franklin*)*

Two extremely late birds were associated with Sandy: one at Woodcock L., *Crawford* 11/1, and one near Upper Strasburg, *Franklin* 10/30. This was another species that may have set record late dates for the state during this storm.

Red-necked Phalarope (*Berks, Carbon, Huntingdon*)*

The similar Red Phalarope appeared all across Pennsylvania in unprecedented numbers during the passage of Sandy, but birders were able to pick out a handful of Red-necked Phalaropes as well. These birds were comparatively late for their species, but Red-necked Phalaropes have been known to stay in Pennsylvania into late November. One was at Lake Ontelaunee, *Berks* 10/30, one was at Beltzville S.P., *Carbon* 10/30, and 3 were at Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon* 10/31.



Image 7. Red Phalaropes at Marsh Creek State Park, *Chester* 30 October 2012. (*Holly Merker*)

Red Phalarope (*Allegheny, Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Clarion/Venango, Dauphin, Delaware, Franklin, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lancaster, Luzerne, Lycoming, Northampton, Philadelphia*)*

Red Phalarope was fully expected to appear in the wake of Sandy, but the staggering numbers and the statewide distribution of sightings surprised even the most optimistic prognosticators. Some 190 total birds were reported from 18 counties. Of course some of these may have been double counted especially along the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers, but regardless, Sandy gave Pennsylvania its largest ever fallout of Red Phalarope by a very large margin. Sightings ranged from 10/29-11/1, with the bulk 10/30; however Red Phalarope was one of a few storm birds that were very well reported on 10/31 as well. Readers are referred to the Birds of Note section of this journal for the full details on all locations and counties, but highlights can be summarized as follows: up to 6 in *Berks* 10/30-31, a flock of 30 at Struble L., *Chester* 10/30, 8 at Marsh Creek S.P., *Chester* 10/30 with one still there 10/31, 4 at Kahle L. on both sides of the *Clarion/Venango* line 10/30, up to 25 at West

Fairview, *Dauphin* 10/30, 40 at the Philadelphia International Airport and 6 at Marcus Hook, *Delaware* 10/30, 11 at Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon* 10/29 preceding the storm, and several seen from Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia* 10/30. Birds lingering to 11/1 included a single at Chambers L., *Chester* and 4 at Crystal L., *Luzerne*. Very likely, Pennsylvania's haul of phalaropes included both birds driven inland off the Atlantic Ocean and straggling late-season migrants that came from the other direction and got caught in the storm just the same. It is worth noting that despite this fallout, no Red Phalaropes were reported at any other time this entire season outside of the 10/29-11/1 window. Hurricane Sandy's triple-digit phalaropes notwithstanding, this remains a rare bird in Pennsylvania.

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Bedford, Clarion/Venango, Dauphin*)*

Black-legged Kittiwake was a species not given much attention as a possible storm bird prior to the passage of Sandy, but in retrospect it probably should have been included in the discussion. Most of the dozen or so fall reports of this species in Pennsylvania's history are from November, albeit all but one from *Erie*. On 10/30, singles were seen at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford*, at Kahle L. on both sides of the *Clarion/Venango* line, and from Marysville on the Susquehanna R., *Dauphin*. Unfortunately documentation has not been submitted for any of these three records as of this writing.

Sabine's Gull (*Huntingdon, Philadelphia*)*

The final tally of just two Sabine's Gulls statewide was perhaps a bit disappointing, but the 10/30 passage of the storm was a few weeks past the normal peak of migration for this species so it wasn't altogether unexpected. One was found at Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon* 10/31 and one was seen on the Delaware River in *Philadelphia* 10/30. Interestingly, a Sabine's Gull was seen at an inland lake (Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre*) on 9/20/2003, the day immediately after Hurricane Isabel's passage 9/19/2003. These one-day-after-the-fact sightings after Isabel and Sandy indicate that Sabine's Gulls may tend to remain displaced at inland sites longer than other pelagic species following the passage of tropical storms.

Bonaparte's Gull (22 counties)

Bonaparte's Gull migration through Pennsylvania normally begins in earnest in late October, precisely at the time Sandy made its appearance, and although sightings were quite widespread during the storm, numbers were low. The best count was 45 at West Fairview, *Dauphin* 10/30, and smaller double-digit counts were also registered 10/30 in *Allegheny, Crawford, Fayette, Indiana, Philadelphia, and Westmoreland*.

Little Gull (*Butler, Centre, Wyoming*)*

Little Gulls are rare but annual fall migrants on the Lake Erie shore, with peak passage generally in November, but they are nearly accidental elsewhere in the state in the fall. Three birds were seen during the storm: one at Moraine S.P., *Butler* 10/31, one at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre* 10/30, and 2 at Lake Carey, *Wyoming* 10/31. The fact that two were seen on the day after the storm raises an open-ended question as to which side of the storm these birds came from: the Atlantic or the Great Lakes.

Laughing Gull (*Bedford, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Huntingdon, Lancaster, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lackawanna, Northampton, Philadelphia*)

Laughing Gull was a species expected to be found far inland following the storm. They may still be present in late October on the lower Delaware River some years, but the maximum counts of 91 on the river in *Delaware* and 350 in *Philadelphia* 10/30 were far above normal. Sandy dumped Laughing Gulls at many other places across the state as well. Sightings included one at

Shawnee S.P. 10/30 and 2 at Dunnings Creek Wetlands 10/31 in *Bedford*, 2 at Gotwals Pond, *Berks*, up to 9 at Nockamixon S.P., *Bucks* 10/30-11/1, 5 at Beltzville S.P., *Carbon* 10/30, 19 at Marsh Creek S.P., *Chester* 10/30, up to 50 on the Susquehanna R. in *Dauphin* 10/30, one at Raystown Lake, *Huntingdon* 10/31, one at Schantz Rd., *Lehigh* 11/2, one at Harveys Lake, *Luzerne* 11/1, one at Dunmore Reservoir, *Lackawanna* 11/3, up to 12 at the Conejohela Flats, *Lancaster* 10/30, and one at Mount Pleasant Rd., *Northampton* 10/31.

Iceland/Thayer's Gull (*Fayette*)*

Sandy arrived too early for white-winged gulls to be a real possibility, yet one was found anyway at Greenlick Run Res., *Fayette* 10/30. High winds and driving rain made critical examination of this bird impossible, and it was not identified to species.

Sooty Tern (*Philadelphia*)*

Given their frequent appearance inland after landfall of tropical systems in August and September, Sooty Terns are often thought of as the quintessential "storm bird". Despite Sandy's late season passage, Sooty Tern was not to be left out of this storm either: one juvenile was seen and photographed at Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia* 10/30. Not much is known about the late-October status of Sooty Tern in the northwestern Atlantic (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 2012), so the occurrence of this bird provides an interesting data point in the attempt to answer this question.



Image 8. Sooty Tern at Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia* 30 October 2012. (Tom Johnson)

Black Tern (*Bedford*)*

Normally long gone by late October, Black Tern is another species that set a new latest fall date in Pennsylvania as a result of Sandy, on the strength of 8 birds at Dunnings Creek Wetlands, *Bedford* 10/30. The previous late date was one bird in the Lehigh Valley area 23 October 1976.

Caspian Tern (*Centre, Dauphin, Indiana, Somerset*)

Caspian Terns have normally departed Pennsylvania no later than mid-October, so the handful of birds driven into Pennsylvania by Hurricane Sandy likely represent the latest fall records for the state. Sightings were one at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre* 10/31, one at West Fairview, *Dauphin* 10/30, 2 at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana* 10/30, and up to 3 at Lake Somerset, *Somerset* 10/30-31.

Common Tern (*Allegheny, Bedford, Butler, Bucks, Centre, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lancaster, Philadelphia, Westmoreland*)

Although stragglers sometimes remain into December, most

Common Terns have normally departed Pennsylvania by the end of September. The impressive 13-county showing by this species was therefore remarkable, as nearly all of these birds were probably blown inland from the coast. Some impressive totals were made 10/30, including more than 50 at West Fairview, *Dauphin*, 11 at Peach Bottom, *Lancaster*, and 35 on the Delaware R. in *Philadelphia*. This species continued to turn up for a few days after the storm passed, among these were one at Blawnox, *Allegheny* to 11/1, one at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre* 11/2, and 3 at Beaver Run Reservoir, *Westmoreland* 11/1.

Forster's Tern (*Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Indiana, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lycoming, Northampton, Philadelphia, Somerset*)

Forster's Terns normally linger a bit longer in Pennsylvania than do Common Terns, yet the large numbers recorded in the state during the passage of Sandy indicated a primarily coastal origin for these birds. Top counts 10/30 included 25 across 5 sites in *Bucks*, 28 at West Fairview, *Dauphin*, 23 at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana*, 250 at Peach Bottom, *Lancaster*, and more than 100 on the Delaware R. in *Philadelphia*. Like Common Tern, singles and pairs of Forster's Terns lingered at sites across the state to 11/2.

Royal Tern (*Bucks, Philadelphia*)*

Royal Terns are still present on the mid-Atlantic coast even in late October, so this species was among those expected to appear in Pennsylvania. Though nothing like the six-county onslaught of Royals brought by Hurricane Irene 20 August 2011 (Malosh, 2012), the 6 birds recorded during Hurricane Sandy were impressive nonetheless: one at Nockamixon S.P., *Bucks* 10/31, and 5 at Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia* 10/30.



Image 9. Royal Tern at Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia*, 30 October 2012. (Tom Johnson)

Black Skimmer (*Allegheny, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster*)*

Despite the fact that just 5 Black Skimmers were found as a result of Sandy, this species was likely the storm bird seen by the most observers overall. Two immature skimmers were found at McKees Rocks, *Allegheny* within sight of downtown Pittsburgh 11/4, with both remaining to 11/6 and one to 11/9, and one bird was found at the Conejohela Flats 10/30 and remained to 11/4. These long-staying birds allowed dozens of birders in both counties to chase them at their leisure, a rare luxury with storm birds. Single skimmers were also found at West Fairview, *Dauphin* 10/30, and at a flooded field near Chambersburg, *Franklin* 10/30. The utter incongruity of two Black Skimmers skimming in the Ohio River just a stone's throw from downtown Pittsburgh provided a very appropriate encapsulation of the wild storm that was Hurricane Sandy.



Image 10. Black Skimmers at McKees Rocks, *Allegheny* 4 November 2012. (Jeff McDonald)

Pomarine Jaeger (*Allegheny, Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Centre, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lancaster, Luzerne, Lycoming, Northampton, Philadelphia, Somerset*)*

Very much like Red Phalarope, Pomarine Jaeger was an expected and highly anticipated species as Sandy approached Pennsylvania, but nobody was prepared for the massive statewide fallout that ensued 10/30. By day's end, at least 140 birds had been reported in 16 counties, quite easily exceeding (and perhaps even tripling) the combined total of all Pomarine Jaegers recorded in Pennsylvania's history prior to Sandy. More than half of this total came in the form of two flocks of Pomarine Jaegers: 58 at West Fairview, *Dauphin* in the morning 10/30, and 29 at tiny Greenlick Run Res., *Fayette* in the afternoon 10/30. As *Dauphin* county compiler Richard Williams commented in his report on this event, "the words 'jaeger' and 'flock' are usually not heard in the same sentence." Such was the nature of Hurricane Sandy, when anything seemed possible. Other notable totals 10/30 were 6 at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford*, 5 at L. Ontelaunee, *Berks*, a total of 19 at the Commodore Barry Bridge, *Delaware*, and 8 at Peach Bottom, *Lancaster*. Readers are again referred to the Birds of Note in this issue for full details on all sightings. None of the birds found 10/30 remained the next day; in fact just 2 birds were recorded any time after 10/30: one at Two Lick Res., *Indiana* 10/31 and one at Lake Somerset, *Somerset* 11/2. Pomarine Jaeger was not seen in *Somerset* 10/30, so the 11/2 bird brought the total to 17 counties reporting this species. More than half of these counties enjoyed their first record of the species. Obviously most if not all of these jaegers were blown inland from the Atlantic, but an interesting case was the bird observed in *Allegheny*: this bird rushed past Dashields Dam on a northwest tailwind early in the morning 10/30. This bird was already on the far western side of the storm and headed southeast when the storm center was still near the Susquehanna R., raising the possibility that it had actually originated from the Great Lakes. The same possibility existed for the bird found at Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana* early on 10/30.

Parasitic Jaeger (*Bedford, Berks, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Huntingdon, Lancaster, Luzerne, Philadelphia*)*

The showing of at least 13 Parasitic Jaegers in nine counties 10/30 would have been a major highlight on any other day in Pennsylvania's history, but on this day they were relegated to a mere footnote, thoroughly outdone by their Pomarine cousins. They were seen at most of the usual locations 10/30: Shawnee S.P., *Bedford*, L. Ontelaunee, *Berks*, West Fairview, *Dauphin*, Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon*, and the Delaware R. in *Delaware* and *Philadelphia*. Elsewhere, at least one was at Greenlick Run Res., *Fayette* in the morning before the massive flock of

Pomarine Jaegers appeared in the afternoon 10/30, one “probable” bird was at Middlecreek W.M.A., *Lancaster* 10/31, and one was at Harvey’s Lake, *Luzerne* 10/30. The *Lancaster* bird was the only one recorded after 10/30.



Image 11. Pomarine Jaeger at Beltzville State Park, *Carbon* 30 October 2012. (Dustin Welch)

Jaeger sp. (*Allegheny, Bucks, Carbon, Erie, Monroe*)*

Jaegers not identified to species were reported in five counties, and only one of these on 10/30: one over Fox Chapel, *Allegheny* 10/31, one at Nockamixon S.P., *Bucks* 10/29, one at Beltzville S.P. 10/30, one in Millcreek Twp., *Erie* 10/29, and one on the Delaware R. near Shawnee, *Monroe* 10/31. The *Erie* bird was found sitting in a Best Buy parking lot with Herring Gulls, on 10/29 when the storm was still yet to make landfall in New Jersey. It’s anybody’s guess where this bird came from or whether it was affected by the storm at all.

Cave Swallow (*Bucks, Carbon, Dauphin, Delaware, Huntingdon, Lancaster, Northampton, Philadelphia, Westmoreland*)*

As is now well known and documented, over the past decade, Cave Swallows have become regular late-fall visitors to the northeastern U.S., including Pennsylvania. The passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30 coincided nicely with the usual timing of Cave Swallow arrivals in the northeast, and indeed, they were found in nine counties from 10/28-11/1. Unlike most storm birds, sightings were not concentrated on any one date in that span and many were seen after 10/30. Sightings included 2 each at the Penn-Warner Tract 10/30 and Nockamixon S.P. 10/31 in *Bucks*, one at Beltzville S.P., *Carbon* 10/30, up to 3 at West Fairview, *Dauphin* 10/30-31, one at John Heinz N.W.R., *Delaware* 10/31, 2 at Lake Raystown, *Huntingdon* 10/31, one at Wrightsville, *Lancaster* 11/1, one at Lake Minsi, *Northampton* 10/30, and one at Beaver Run Reservoir, *Westmoreland* 11/1. At the Northeast Water Treatment Plant in *Philadelphia*, the site that has hosted an overwintering flock of Northern Rough-winged Swallows for several years running, one Cave Swallow was found 10/28 while Sandy was still quite far offshore. This suggested that Cave Swallows were probably already in the region before Sandy struck and that the storm merely served to concentrate the swallows around bodies of water to ride out the violent weather, at precisely the same time that dozens of birders were closely scrutinizing every body of water they could find. That said, some of the birds seen 11/1 may well have ridden into Pennsylvania from the west on the back side of the storm. One Cave Swallow was also seen at the water treatment plant in *Philadelphia* 10/30.

Notes on other Swallows

Aside from the recently established colony of wintering

Northern Rough-winged Swallows in *Philadelphia*, most swallows of all species have departed well before the end of October, although Northern Rough-winged, Barn, and especially Tree have been known to stay into November and even early December. Regardless, Hurricane Sandy brought all three of those species and Cliff Swallow back to the state during its passage. **Tree Swallows** in particular appeared in record-breaking numbers for late October, including many hundreds in *Bucks* primarily at Nockamixon S.P. and Peace Valley Park 10/30-11/3, up to 80 at L. Ontelaunee, *Berks* 10/30, triple-digit counts at Marsh Creek S.P. and Chambers L., *Chester* 10/30, estimates of 4000 at West Fairview, *Dauphin*, and up to 400 at Pennypack on the Delaware, *Philadelphia* 10/30. Some of the Tree Swallows that lingered well into the middle of November in the southeast were no doubt leftovers from Sandy. Small numbers of storm-driven **Barn Swallows** in *Bucks* 10/30, *Chester* 10/31, *Dauphin* 10/30, *Lancaster* 11/1-3, *Lebanon* 11/1, and *Philadelphia* 10/30-11/2 were all extraordinarily late, but **Cliff Swallows** at Wrightsville, *Lancaster* 11/1 and at West Fairview, *Dauphin* 11/2 (perhaps the same bird?) set a new record late date for Pennsylvania. A handful of **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** (away from the water treatment plant) were seen in the southeastern counties of *Bucks*, *Chester*, *Dauphin*, *Lancaster*, and *Philadelphia* 10/30-11/3.

Saltmarsh Sparrow (*Bucks*)*

Outside of the swallows, Saltmarsh Sparrow was the only other passerine that was obviously driven into Pennsylvania directly under Sandy’s influence and which would not have appeared here otherwise. One bird was found at Pine Run Dam, *Bucks* 11/1 and remained until 11/4. It was seen by many observers and good photographs were made. As was noted by Cameron Rutt (one of the two finders of the bird, along with August Mirabella), this sparrow was very likely displaced from the coastal saltmarshes they normally occupy by the massive storm surge on the New Jersey coast, and it subsequently rode the northeasterly winds into Pennsylvania, probably overnight 10/29. There are just three previous records for Pennsylvania, with review of this record pending.



Image 12. Saltmarsh Sparrow at Pine Run Dam, *Bucks* 1 November 2012. (Cameron Rutt)

Pine Siskin

Though obviously not “storm birds”, large flocks of Pine Siskins were variously noted around the state during the storm 10/30. This phenomenon was not widely discussed in *Pennsylvania Birds* county reports, but an examination of eBird data revealed some interesting totals at sites birded heavily during the storm, for example: 38 at Shawnee S.P., *Bedford*, 40 at Nockamixon S.P., *Bucks*, 150 at Bald Eagle S.P., *Centre*, and 200 at Rose Valley Lake, *Lycoming*. There were also at least a half-dozen

triple-digit feeder/yard counts from 10/30. The storm struck in the midst of a large ongoing mid-fall invasion of siskins in Pennsylvania, so their strong presence across the state during the severe weather of Sandy was not surprising. They were reported to eBird from 32 counties from 10/30-31 alone.

Evening Grosbeak

Though Evening Grosbeak is also not a storm bird in the classic sense, there was a noticeable spike in the numbers of this species reported around the time of Sandy's passage. The fall of 2012 saw a very good flight of Evening Grosbeaks in Pennsylvania, starting around the beginning of October and continuing into December, but really accelerating in late October. Sightings from 10/29-11/4 were made in at least 15 counties, and although large flocks of Evening Grosbeaks were increasingly reported statewide as November wore on, the first double-digit flocks of the season appeared around the time of Sandy. This was probably entirely coincidental, but another possibility is that Sandy had the effect of concentrating any grosbeaks already in the area around feeders where they were more easily observed, at the same time that many birders were out in the field during the storm. Regardless, the presence of winter finches like Evening Grosbeak and Pine Siskin on many Sandy-related checklists was simply one more unique feature of the unforgettable and totally unprecedented Frankenstorm of 2012.

Observers

Dan Altif, Tom Amico, Katie Andersen, George Armistead, Kathy Becker, Tim Becker, Alan Berger, Ed Bernot, Scott Bills, Justin Bosler, Dan Brauning, Denis Brennan, Lee Carnahan, Blaine Carnes, Lou Carpenter, Chuck Chalfant, Ed Chubb, Dick Colyer, Michael David, Ben Davies, Amy Davis, Jeff Davis, Vince DeAntoniis, Joe DeMarco, Jarrod Derr, Cory DeStein, Chris Dewaghe, Gerry Dewaghe, Tom Dick, Gordon Dimmig, Gary Edwards, Carl Engstrom, Mike Epler, Bill Etter, Devich Farbotnik, Anna Fasoli, John Fedak, Todd Fellenbaum, Dave Ferry, Mike Fialkovich, Ryan Fick, David Fisher, Nikki Flood, Norwood Frederick, Nate Fronk, Ian Gardner, Doug Gochfeld, Jeff Gordon, Greg Grove, Al Guarente, Barbara Haas, Frank Haas, Bert Harris, Amy Henrici, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Carol Hildebrand, Charles Hildebrand, Deuane Hoffmann, Joyce Hoffmann, Jason Horn, Jim Hoyson, Marshall Illif, Mark Johnson, Tom Johnson, Jon Kauffman, Bill Keim, Rudy Keller, Steve Kloiber, Ramsay Koury, Rick Koval, David Kyler, Trudy Kyler, Alex Lamoreaux, Chris Langman, Mike Lanzone, Josh Lefever, Kevin Lutz, Geoff Malosh, Andy Markel, Rand McIlvane, Dave McNaughton, Pat McShea, Jerry McWilliams, Holly Merker, Brandon Miller, August Mirabella, Jeff Payne, Steve Pinkerton, Aiden Place, Nick Pulcinella, Marian Quinn, Rich Rehrig, Joan Renninger, Ken Rieker, Kevin Ripka, Melissa Roach, Peter Robinson, Rick Robinson, Cameron Rutt, Matt Sabatine, Bob Schutsky, Dan Schwartz, Sandy Schwartz, Ben Schweinhardt, Brian Shema, Jerry Skinner, Mike Slater, Jerry Stanley, Russ States, George Tallman, Shannon Thompson, Neil Troyer, Gary Tyson, Jim Valimont, Mark Vass, Brian Weaver, Billy Weber, Dustin Welch, Patricia Williams, Richard Williams, Martin Wilson, Dave Wilton, Rick Wiltraut, Frank Windfelder, Eric Witmer, Dan Yagusic, David Yeany II.

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were used and provided insight into the storm happenings in areas not covered by county compilers. Earlier drafts of this manuscript were reviewed by Paul Hess, Frank Haas, Mike Fialkovich, and Greg Grove. Kristin Malosh provided valuable assistance with data summarization. Figure 1 was based on a public domain image taken from Wikipedia. Figure 2 was created by the author.

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Summary of the Season

Geoff Malosh

The fall of 2012 was truly one for the ages, and one the likes of which have never been seen before in Pennsylvania. It was a season that had a little bit of everything: great shorebirding and passerine migration, an invasion of western hummingbirds, a hurricane unlike any other ever seen, the beginnings of a winter finch invasion, and rarities galore. In very much the same way that Hurricane Sandy was a unique and unprecedented storm, so too was the entire fall 2012 season a unique combination of events unlikely to be repeated any time soon.

The highlights reported statewide during the passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30-31 can be briefly summarized as the follows: thousands of **Brant**, one **Herald Petrel**, one **Cory's Shearwater**, three **Wilson's Storm-Petrels**, at least 30 **Leach's Storm-Petrels**, one **Northern Gannet**, two **Snowy Egrets**, one **American Avocet**, nine **American Oystercatchers**, one **Willet**, three **Hudsonian Godwits**, one **Ruddy Turnstone**, 195 **Red Knots**, 10,000 **Dunlin**, two **Wilson's Phalarope**, five **Red-necked Phalaropes**, 190 **Red Phalaropes**, three **Black-legged Kittiwakes**, two **Sabine's Gulls**, three **Little Gulls**, 100 **Laughing Gulls** away from the Delaware River, one **Iceland/Thayer's Gull**, six **Caspian Terns**, more than 100 **Common Terns**, nearly 500 **Forster's Terns**, six **Royal Terns**, five **Black Skimmers**, 140 **Pomarine Jaegers**, 13 **Parasitic Jaegers**, 13 **Cave Swallows**, and one **Saltmarsh Sparrow**. Aside from the staggering numbers of some of these species, the late October date of Sandy's passage led to several species setting record or near-record late dates for Pennsylvania, including **Snowy Egret**, **Willet**, **Red Knot**, **Wilson's Phalarope**, **Black and Caspian Tern**, and **Cliff Swallow**. A comprehensive account of the unprecedented fallout from the passage of Hurricane Sandy appears on p. 204 of this issue (to which readers are directed), so with a few exceptions, the storm is not discussed further in this summary.

At Peace Valley Park in **Bucks**, a **Pink-footed Goose** appeared 11/17; this was quite possibly the same bird that was present there in 2011. Also at Peace Valley, an injured **Snow Goose** was still present this season, and had now survived there for at least a year and a half. Just two **Ross's Geese** were found, both in the west: a very early bird photographed in **Clarion** 9/16, and 2 in **Somerset** in November. A **Barnacle Goose** was found in **Bucks** during the passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30-31.

Away from the southeast, **Cackling Geese** were found only in **Allegheny**, where 6 were present from 11/21 to the end of the season. Two **Trumpeter Swans** were found at Green Lane Res., **Montgomery** 11/19, and very likely the same birds were found again on the Schuylkill River in **Chester** 11/26, where they remained deep into the season. There were two other reports, of a single in **Chester** 11/17 (perhaps again one of the same two?), and one in **Erie**.

The largest fallouts of waterfowl this season were of course associated with Hurricane Sandy. Especially good numbers of ducks were reported at lakes in the western half of the state during the storm (for example at Yellow Creek State Park, **Indiana** and Greenlick Run Res., **Fayette**) especially the dabblers **Gadwall**, **Northern Pintail**, and **American Wigeon**, but impressive flocks were seen statewide. **Ring-necked Duck** had a decent showing as well. Yet aside from Sandy there were no truly notable fallouts from storm events, unlike in many years when late November storms sometimes ground many hundreds of waterbirds.

The only rare duck was a **Eurasian Wigeon** in **Somerset** in November. A flock of 60 **Gadwall** in **Berks** 8/28 was quite early, as was an **American Black Duck** in **Allegheny** 8/4. A great total of up to 150 **Blue-winged Teal** was present in **Philadelphia** through 10/14, and the species had a nice showing statewide as well. An early **Northern Shoveler** appeared in **Chester** 8/15, and a late one lingered in **Somerset** to 12/17. The first **Ring-necked Duck** of the season appeared in **Northampton** 8/14, but one that not only summered in **Washington** but which was present on the same small suburban pond since January stayed to at least 9/24. A **Lesser Scaup** in **Erie** 8/5 was thought to have summered. Besides the exceptional fallout from Hurricane Sandy, scoters were not well-reported at all, again probably owing to the lack of major November storms. Non-Sandy **Surf Scoters** were found in just seven counties (curiously the majority before Sandy), **Black Scoter** in eight counties, and **White-winged Scoter** in eight as well, but all in very small numbers. An interesting but very minor spike in numbers of scoters was reported to eBird from eastern counties in the week before Sandy. **Long-tailed Duck** was reported even more thinly than the scoters, and was also not numerous during the hurricane. Big counts of **Bufflehead** included close to 400 in both **Bucks** and **Montgomery** 11/24. Aside from huge

numbers during and for the week after Sandy, large flocks of **Ruddy Ducks** were not easy to find.

One of the most unexpected birds of a most unexpected season was a first-year **Pacific Loon** at a pond on private property in **Washington** 11/3-10, possibly driven into the area by Hurricane Sandy. Unfortunately, the location is not visible from any road, and permission for the public to enter the property was not obtainable. Nevertheless, a few local birders were able to see and document the bird, certainly one of the most unusual in **Washington's** history. Few **Red-throated Loons** appeared in November after Sandy, again probably owing to a lack of major cold fronts in November. One storm that dumped a few inches of snow in eastern Pennsylvania 11/27 did result in the species being seen in three counties that day.

Augmenting county reports with eBird data revealed records of **Ruffed Grouse** in 39 counties, a very good season by recent standards. Not all of the records were confirmed, however, including one in **Berks** that would represent the first for that county since the 1990s. Another possible grouse found road-killed in **Bucks** was possible evidence of their continued presence in that county as well. Two female **Wild Turkeys** were seen with 12 young in **Clarion** on the late date of 9/3.

Another unprecedented event this season was the simultaneous presence of all five grebe species currently on the official Pennsylvania state list at Memorial Lake State Park in **Lebanon**, highlighted of course by the state's second confirmed **Western Grebe** 11/4-16. For at least a week of the Western's stay, **Horned**, **Pied-billed**, **Red-necked**, and **Eared Grebe** were all also present on the lake. The Eared Grebe in particular was quite cooperative with observers patient enough to wait for it to swim past close to shore, and the Red-necked hung out close to the Western for periods of time, offering a nice chance for comparison. A **Red-necked Grebe** passing Sunset Point, **Erie** 9/29 was record early for that location, but aside from these, Red-necked was not particularly well-reported over the rest of the season.

A Great Cormorant away from the Delaware River was seen at Peach Bottom, **Lancaster** 11/4, possibly a refugee from Sandy's passage. **American Bittern** was reported in 11 counties, including a late bird that attempted to hide out (in the wide open) in a **Westmoreland** yard 11/10. **Least Bittern** was recorded in just four counties; latest

was one recorded on nocturnal migration in *Montgomery* 10/7. A late **Green Heron** was in *Bucks* 11/11. **Little Blue Heron** had a great season, reported in 10 counties including in *Crawford*, *Erie*, *Lawrence*, and *Snyder* away from the southeast. One lingered in *Chester* to 10/5, late for this species. **Cattle Egrets** were seen only in five southeastern counties and none lingered long. An out-of-place **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** remained from the summer season to 8/27 on the Clarion River in the heart of Cook Forest, *Forest/Jefferson*. There were three reports of **White Ibis**—a species becoming quite regular in recent years—in *Lancaster*, *Lebanon*, and *York*. **Glossy Ibis** were found in five counties, about average for the fall season; one in *Dauphin* was present to 10/6.

It was a good season for hawk-watching on the ridges. Perhaps the most notable event was a huge push of **Golden Eagles** 11/3, just a few days after Sandy and probably influenced by the storm. Hawk Mountain in *Berks* reported 48, Bake Oven Knob in *Lehigh* 42, and Little Gap in *Northampton* 21. The flight continued to 11/5, including a season high of 50 at Waggoner's Gap, *Perry* 11/5. They were even seen off ridge in that period, including singles in *Bucks* 11/3 and 11/4. The big day at Hawk Mountain 11/3 also included 23 **Northern Goshawks**. Off-ridge, goshawks were found in 12 counties, a very good total with most of the reporting counties in the east. Otherwise, the raptor season away from hawkwatches was mostly pedestrian. **Rough-legged Hawks** in particular were very few this season.

Another red-letter highlight for *Washington* following the Pacific Loon was its first **Yellow Rail** at Greencove Wetlands 10/5-6. There are only six accepted records for the state. **Virginia Rail** was reported in just six counties, but **Sora** in a very impressive 18 counties. Quite notable for them were reports from three locations in urbanized *Allegheny*, including the continuance from the summer of an adult with young at Bald Knob. **Common Gallinule** was reported only at breeding areas in *Crawford* and *Lawrence*. **Sandhill Cranes** continued to be seen in many areas of the state (except the southeast).

Shorebirding was a mixed bag, with some compilers reporting that it was actually too dry in August and September. Yet the dry conditions, particularly in western Pennsylvania, led to the development of outstanding habitat at larger bodies of water, most notably at Shenango River Res., *Mercer* where 23 species were observed, and at Lake Somerset in *Somerset* which hosted 21 species. Water levels at Shenango began dropping mid-summer, and by August

and September many acres of mudflats had developed. The reservoir has long been known for shorebirds in dry years, but 2012 was probably its best since the late 1990s. Additionally, a leaking dam at Tamarack Lake, *Crawford*, and a drawn-down impoundment at Tinicum, *Philadelphia* also created good habitat for shorebirds. Even the level of Lake Erie noticeably dropped this year, causing widespread mudflats to develop all around the vicinity of Presque Isle State Park.

Again as a reminder, the discussion of shorebirds, gulls and terns that follows in this report generally excludes the effects of Hurricane Sandy, and readers are directed to the article on p. 204 for a comprehensive summary of the storm.

A juvenile **Piping Plover** banded earlier in the summer at Sleeping Bear Dunes, Michigan was present at Gull Point 8/12-17. Non-Sandy **Black-bellied Plovers** were seen in six counties across the state. The flight of **American Golden-Plovers** was average at best, with reports from 14 counties but no single total larger than 20 (*Cumberland* and *Lebanon*) was reported.

American Avocets were found in *Chester* (10/31, the day after Sandy), *Erie*, *Lancaster*, and lastly in *Somerset* where three were found 9/5 at Lake Somerset and one very cooperative bird remained to 9/9. **Willet** was seen in six counties (including one bird seen during the passage of Sandy), a very healthy fall-season total for them. **Whimbrels** were seen in *Cumberland*, *Erie*, *Mercer*, and *Somerset*. Like the avocet, the *Somerset* Whimbrel became briefly famous as it foraged for grasshoppers in the open on the dam at Lake Somerset, to the delight of many observers. It was present for an extended stay 9/5-14. Outside of Sandy birds, **Hudsonian Godwits** were limited to one at the Conejohela Flats 9/12 and a flock of 15 present briefly there 9/26. **Ruddy Turnstones** were found in three counties in a tight window 9/1-3. **Sanderlings** had a fair showing in eight counties away from *Erie*, as usual in very small numbers with no more than 3 at any one site.

After their outstanding 21-county showing in 2011, **White-rumped Sandpipers** returned to more normal numbers, reported in sporadically in nine counties, including one late bird that flew past Sunset Point, *Erie* 11/1. **Baird's Sandpiper** had a better season, reported in 14 counties with a max of 7 at Shenango Res., *Mercer* 9/3. Though reports of this species in 14 counties is far above historical averages, the sort of season seen in 2012 is probably the new normal for Baird's, in this age of more thorough coverage of shorebird season by increasingly knowledgeable birders. The

12-county showing by **Western Sandpiper**, on the other hand, was quite far above average. All sightings were no later than 9/27, except one on the Susquehanna R. in *Lancaster* ahead of Hurricane Sandy 10/28. Up to 3000 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** took advantage of the drawn-down impoundment at Tinicum, *Philadelphia* in August. Five **Purple Sandpipers** at Gull Point, *Erie* 11/24 was a record-setting total for the county. Two were still present the next day, but these were the only ones reported for the season. Extraordinary numbers of **Pectoral Sandpipers** present at Shenango Res., *Mercer* in late July peaked at 111 on 8/3. **Dunlin** showed like never before during Hurricane Sandy, but otherwise they were quite scarce, reported in just eight counties outside of the Sandy window, and some of these were in early November and may have been leftovers from the storm. **Stilt Sandpipers** were found in 11 counties including notably late birds in *Bucks* and *Lebanon*, both 10/20, but the highlight for this species were the daily totals of up to 31 at Tinicum, *Philadelphia* through 9/3. **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** were in six counties, highlighted by 3 very accessible and cooperative birds at Shenango Res., *Mercer* in early September. It was a terrible season for **Long-billed Dowitcher**, with just one each at Woodcock Lake, *Crawford* and Lake Somerset, *Somerset*. **Wilson's Phalaropes** were seen at Tamarack Lake, *Crawford* and Shenango Res., *Mercer* in mid-Aug, and **Red-necked Phalarope** (aside from Sandy) was seen in *Bucks*, *Crawford*, *Lancaster*, *Mercer*, and *Washington*. Staggering numbers of **Red Phalaropes** were driven into the state by Sandy, but not a single one was seen this season outside of the storm window.

It was a good season for **Little Gull** on Lake Erie observed from Sunset Point, with at least 7 observed in late October. One at Lake Somerset 11/16 was a surprise. **Bonaparte's Gull** had a poor showing outside of Sandy sightings, and even during the hurricane they were not seen in great numbers. A flock of 5 **Franklin's Gulls** at Shenango Res., *Mercer* 9/22 was a rare treat. The only other report was one in *Lancaster* the next day. Except for birds seen out of range during Sandy, **Laughing Gull** was not reported away from the Delaware River and nearby. **Iceland Gulls** had been found in *Bucks*, *Lackawanna*, and *Lebanon* by season's end. A total of 158 **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** in *Bucks* 9/18 was quite early for those numbers. The *Philadelphia* Lesser Black-backed nicknamed "Shrimpy" returned for the eighth consecutive winter to Pleasant Hill Park.

Aside from Sandy, reports of terns were unremarkable. A **Least Tern** at Blue Marsh Lake, *Berks* 9/22 was the only non-Sandy rarity among terns. **Common Terns** were found in 15 counties but only in six not as a direct result of the storm, about an average showing. Reports of **Forster's Terns** in just seven counties outside of the storm was a slightly below average flight, and they did not aggregate in large numbers in August on the Susquehanna R. as they had in the previous two seasons. The appearance of **Black Tern** in nine counties, primarily in August and early September, is probably better than average these days. This species has returned to the Birds of Note section for the fall season.

Hurricane Sandy brought more than 100 **Pomarine** and **Parasitic Jaegers** to the state, but aside from those, they were reported (as usual) only from the Lake Erie shore at Sunset Point, where one **Pomarine Jaeger** was seen 11/21 and up to seven **Parasitic Jaegers** flew past 11/24-26. A **jaeger sp.** found sitting with Herring Gulls in a Best Buy parking lot at a shopping center in Millcreek Twp., *Erie* 10/29 was unexplainably out of place. This was the day before Sandy crossed the state, but the storm was still at sea by a hundred miles or so at the time of this sighting. A remarkable sighting of a juv. **Long-tailed Jaeger** was made at the Bald Knob pond in *Allegheny* 8/31, unsurprisingly a first for that county. In clear weather, the bird dropped in on the pond, preened and bathed for a few minutes, and flew off to the south.

Eurasian Collared-Doves continued from the summer season at four locations, in *Berks*, *Centre*, *Franklin*, and *Lebanon*. Two were found in *Dauphin*. A **Mourning Dove** was still at a nest with chicks in *Allegheny* 9/14. In recent years reports of **Black-billed Cuckoos** in August and September have seemed down, and this year was no exception. Late birds were in *Greene* 11/9 and *Philadelphia* 10/12. **Northern Saw-whet Owl** staged another superb flight this year. Some results from the state's banding stations were truly extraordinary, including 1866 birds captured across four sites in *Berks*, 264 in *Centre*, 279 in *Dauphin*, 289 in *Lehigh*, and 330 in *Schuylkill*. There were well over 50 recaptures of birds previously banded in at least nine different states and Canadian provinces. One bird banded in 2007 at Whitefish Point, Michigan was found road-killed in *Berks*. Even away from the nets, birders enjoyed a great season for this species with many found across the state between mid-October and mid-November. **Common Night-hawks** were very well reported, a pleasant change of pace for this species.

They appeared in at least 30 counties. A long-time dedicated "night-hawk watch" in *Delaware* totaled 2372 for the season, including 982 on 8/27 alone. A very late and unexpected **Eastern Whip-poor-will** was heard calling at dawn by a reliable observer who was hunting in *Washington* 11/28, the latest record for Pennsylvania by a long way. The bird was also clearly heard by a non-birder on the same expedition who corroborated the report.

In just about any other year, the invasion of western hummingbirds into Pennsylvania during the fall of 2012 would have been a clear choice for the most significant birding event of the year, but it so happened that the hummingbirds appeared right alongside historic Hurricane Sandy. Both events were unprecedented; in the case of the hummingbirds, at least 90 *Selasphorus* hummers were reported in 22 counties! Of these, 46 were conclusively identified as **Rufous Hummingbird**, 2 were **Allen's Hummingbird** (third and fourth state record) and 2 were **Calliope Hummingbird** (second and third state record). To top it off, the state's potential first **Black-chinned Hummingbird** was photographed in *Bucks* 11/10. Instead of rehashing all the details here, readers are again referred to a separate feature article in this issue on p. 182. **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** lingering to November included one in *Adams* to 11/9 and one banded in *Perry* 11/12.

Red-headed Woodpeckers were found in a respectable 16 counties, but numbers were reported to be low at strongholds in *Adams*. **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** had a strong flight, reported to eBird in 45 counties.

The flycatcher family was not to be left out of the cornucopia of rarities this fall. Following just one verified record in the state's history, a **Pacific-slope Flycatcher** appeared at SGL 230 in *Cumberland* 11/18-25 where it was seen and photographed by many. Audio recordings were also obtained. A **Western Kingbird** at Presque Isle 9/29 was just the second record for *Erie*. **Olive-sided Flycatcher** and **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** showed well, recorded in 27 and 22 counties, respectively. **Eastern Phoebe** stayed into November in *Beaver*, *Greene*, *Huntingdon*, *Schuylkill*, *Washington*, and *York*. **Northern Shrike** had appeared in above-average numbers by the end of November, seen in 12 counties including one at Tinicum, *Philadelphia* for the second consecutive year that may have been a returning bird. There were few highlights among vireos. A total of 219 **Blue-headed Vireos** were recorded at Hawk Mountain 10/12 following a cold front. A late **Red-eyed Vireo** was found

in *Montgomery* 10/10, but this bird was far outdone by a **Warbling Vireo** in *Dauphin* 10/31, probably affected in some way by Hurricane Sandy. **Philadelphia Vireos** were found in 29 counties.

A large flight of **Blue Jays** 9/21-22 along the Blue Mountain ridge was noted by observers at Little Gap, *Northampton* (3252 on 9/21) and Memorial Lake State Park, *Lebanon* (3471 on 9/22). **Common Ravens** continue their rampant expansion into most corners of the state. They were even reported in a new area in *Erie* this season. Hurricane Sandy brought **Cave Swallow** to nine counties 10/29-11/1, but a number of them stayed at the Northeast Water Treatment Plant in *Philadelphia* through November and into the winter season, including a high count of 9 there 11/18. Sandy also dumped many hundreds of **Tree Swallows** in eastern Pennsylvania, some of which stayed deep into November. The storm also brought very late **Barn Swallows** to six counties, and Pennsylvania's latest-ever **Cliff Swallow** to the Susquehanna R. in *Lancaster* and *Dauphin*.

Southeastern counties reported a small movement of **Black-capped Chickadees** in mid-October but this did not pan out into a larger statewide irruption. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, though, staged one of its largest irruptions in memory, with several counties reporting unprecedented numbers. (What else would one expect in 2012?) Sightings away from breeding areas began as early as the first half of August in *Bucks*, *Delaware*, and *Montgomery*. Including eBird data, the species was recorded all 67 of the state's counties. **Marsh Wren** had an average 12-county showing, but **Sedge Wren** was seen in just three: *Allegheny* (third county record), *Montgomery* (a breeding pair), and *Westmoreland* (captured at Powdermill Nature Reserve).

Another rarity that would have been a headliner most years but which was mostly lost in the shuffle this year was a **Northern Wheatear** quite serendipitously found in a vacant parking lot in Reading, *Berks* 10/4 by an observer who had been forced from his office by a fire alarm. Good nocturnal flights of thrushes were noted in *Allegheny*, *Centre*, *Clarion*, and *Berks*. **Gray-cheeked** and **Hermit Thrushes** in particular had good flights in *Allegheny*. A **Wood Thrush** in *Greene* 11/10 was quite late, as was a **Veery** in *Lebanon* 10/23. Late **Gray Catbirds** were in *Bucks* 11/25 and *Cumberland* 11/22. November **Brown Thrashers** were found in four counties.

It was a very good flight for **American Pipit**, with at least a dozen counties reporting notably large flocks primarily in October. Most of the action was in the southeastern counties. A good winter for **Snow Bunting** was under-

way by the end of November, with 20 counties reporting the species and several of those in very good numbers. Early reports were 10/21 in *Crawford* and 10/27 in *Bucks*. **Lapland Longspurs** were far fewer though, seen only in the western counties of *Allegheny*, *Erie*, *Lawrence*, and *Mercer*; however, the *Lawrence* sighting involved an outstanding flock of up to 70 in late November.

The warbler migration in general was very good. Big days were reported in several counties including *Beaver*, *Bucks*, *Cumberland*, *Forest*, *Lycoming*, *Philadelphia*, and *York*. *Bucks* also enjoyed at 13-species day on the late date of 10/13. The ever more elusive **Golden-winged Warbler** had a great showing in 13 counties, almost exclusively in August but with a few lingering into September. The southwestern counties continued their track record for producing “winged warbler” hybrids in fall; this season **Brewster’s Warbler** was in *Allegheny* 8/28 and **Lawrence’s Warbler** was in *Beaver* 9/8, part of a 21-species day at Raccoon Creek State Park. Two other very notable warblers were reported: a **Kirtland’s Warbler** in a Schelocta, *Indiana* yard 9/3, and a **Townsend’s Warbler** at Little Gap, *Northampton* 9/16. A “fat” and late **Ovenbird** appeared at the Hawk Mountain feeders in *Berks* 11/13-21. **Orange-crowned Warbler** was reported in 20 counties, but as is often the case this species might be a bit over reported due to mis-identifications. **Tennessee Warbler** had a very nice season, especially in *Somerset* and in *Berks* at Hawk Mountain, where the season total of 144 was an abnormally good number. A late **Blackburnian Warbler** was spotted in *Lehigh* 10/25. In keeping with the spirit of the fall of 2012, **Connecticut Warblers** had one of their best seasons in memory; including eBird data they were found in 21 counties, with several of those counties reporting them at multiple sites. **Mourning Warbler** did almost as well, found in 17 counties. More late warblers included a **Common Yellow-throat** in *Huntingdon* 11/23, a **Northern Parula** in *Bucks* 11/1, a **Blackpoll Warbler** in *Bucks* 11/15 (and in three other counties around the time of Hurricane Sandy), **Magnolia Warbler** sticking until 11/3 in *Montgomery* and to 12/8 in *Philadelphia*, **Prairie Warbler** in *Bradford* 10/3, and **Black-throated Green Warbler** in *Philadelphia* 11/17. November **Pine Warblers** were noted in *Berks* 11/28 and *Bucks* 11/18. **Wilson’s Warbler** had a good showing in 15 counties, including one still in *Philadelphia* 11/23.

Several rare sparrows were noted this season. **Clay-colored Sparrow** was found in six counties through 11/23. A **Le**

Conte’s Sparrow appeared at a private reserve deep in suburban *Chester* 11/21 and remained well into the winter. **Nelson’s Sparrow** was found in eight counties, including *Bedford*, *Crawford*, *Huntingdon*, *Lawrence*, *Somerset*, and *Westmoreland* in the west. Another major rarity for 2012 and one associated with Hurricane Sandy was a **Saltmarsh Sparrow** in *Bucks* 11/1-4. A **Gambel’s White-crowned Sparrow** in *Bucks* 11/7 was the only one reported this season. Otherwise sparrows as a family were reported neither exceptionally nor poorly. **Chipping Sparrows** staying late into November in southeastern counties is becoming a normal event, for example in *Montgomery*. One hanging on in *Beaver* to 11/17 was still quite late for that county, however.

A juv. male and a female **Summer Tanager** together in a birdbath in *Berks* 8/26 were quite a surprise, and yet another in an increasing trend of sightings of this species in Pennsylvania in recent years. **Scarlet Tanager** also had a good showing in *Berks*, with a season total of 768 at Hawk Mountain. A late **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was noted in *Bradford* 11/12; there is normally one or two reports of this species in November somewhere in Pennsylvania most years. **Blue Grosbeaks** were found in eight counties. Sightings in the east were often hard to distinguish from breeding birds but individuals in *Jefferson* and *Somerset* were certainly migrants. Following their impressive showing in the summer season, **Dickcissels** continued into the fall and were tallied in nine counties. September and October sightings were made in *Bucks*, *Chester*, *Montgomery*, *Philadelphia*, and *Somerset*, and all probably referred to migrants.

A second-hand report of **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was made in *Washington* 10/3. The bird was never recovered, but it was a search for this blackbird that led to the discovery of *Washington’s* Yellow Rail at the same location a few days later. Yellow-headed Blackbirds were also reported in *Bucks* and *Perry*, the latter at Waggoner’s Gap 9/2. A very late-staying **Bobolink** in *Montgomery* to 11/13 appeared to be healthy. **Rusty Blackbirds** were reported in at least 20 counties, with a few of those (*Berks*, *Centre*, *Dauphin*, *Indiana*) reporting them in good numbers. An **Eastern Meadowlark** was seen far out of normal habitat near the Ohio River in *Beaver* 10/25, offering an unusual glimpse into the timing and habits of this species on fall migration. November **Baltimore Orioles** were noted in *Bucks*, *Centre*, and *Northampton*.

It was a season during which it seemed just about anything and every-

thing would happen, so the onset of another major winter finch invasion in October was hardly a surprise. **Purple Finches** began to appear in earnest in late September and were found in no less than 63 counties by the end of November. Several counties had single-day reports exceeding 50 birds. **White-winged Crossbills** were found in 43 counties, with their massive flight beginning suddenly in early November. They settled in at many locations statewide and were quite reliable in some places all winter, but a great many of the birds seen in November did not appear to stay past about mid-December, and so they did not match their historic winter of 2008-09 in the state. Equally impressive (though in thinner numbers overall) was the flight of **Red Crossbills**, with reports in 30 counties including eBird data. Like White-winged Crossbill, their flight began rather suddenly in early November, but scattered reports were being made as early as late August. Several birders attempted to record the flight calls of the Red Crossbills; about 10 of these were mentioned in county reports with about half identified as Type-3 and the others Type-1, Type-2, and Type-10. The Reds also petered out after mid-December but a few were reliable especially in forested areas. **Common Redpolls** also appeared in mass in November after scattered reports beginning in early October, ultimately reported in 28 counties. **Pine Siskin** followed the same pattern general pattern as the others but just a bit earlier; their mass invasion began in early October and dropped off sharply after November, with smaller numbers staying in widespread locations through the winter. Triple-digit flocks of siskins were reported in October and November from *Berks*, *Bucks*, *Centre*, *Cumberland*, *Lycoming*, *Montgomery*, *Perry*, *Somerset*, *Susquehanna*, and *Wayne*, with some of those massive numbers seen during the passage of Hurricane Sandy. A total of 326 were captured this season at Powdermill in *Westmoreland*. Last but most certainly not least, **Evening Grosbeaks** again made a large movement into Pennsylvania, with migrant birds seen frequently and in 33 total counties beginning suddenly in the last week of October. Again they were mostly gone by mid-December but unlike similar flights in recent years, they stuck around for the winter in several locations, most notably at a feeder in Marienville, *Forest* beginning 11/6, where up to 150 were enjoyed by observers from across the state throughout the winter.

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Birds of Note – August through November 2012

This report summarizes unexpected species reported in Pennsylvania for this period. As a general rule birds must have been recorded in five or fewer counties to qualify for inclusion here, but rare species recorded more frequently, or irregular species exhibiting an unusual seasonal occurrence, are also included. “Listserv” indicates records deemed credible which were gleaned from the PABIRDS listserv for counties with no reporting compiler. “eBird” indicates valid records deemed credible which were entered into the eBird database for counties with no reporting compiler.

An * denotes species on the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee (PORC) Review List. Details or descriptions that are submitted for species on the PORC Review List will be reviewed by the committee. The terms “no doc” and “doc submitted” indicate whether documentation has been submitted on reports of Review List species listed herein; “no doc” indicates that no documentation was known to have been submitted as of the time of writing. The PORC Review List can be found at the PSO web site <<http://www.pabirds.org>>.

Birds in *Italic* typeface are uncommon or rare, but occur during this time period in most years.

Birds in Underlined typeface occur at least 4 to 7 out of 10 years during this time period.

Birds in *Italic and Underlined* typeface occur fewer than 4 to 7 out of 10 years during this time period.

Birds in Normal typeface are noteworthy for rarity, but are recorded annually, usually in more than one county.

*Pink-footed Goose** – *Bucks*: one at Peace Valley Park 11/17-19 (ph. August Mirabella, *doc submitted*) was likely the same bird seen there in 2011.

Greater White-fronted Goose – *Berks*: one at Christman Lake 11/22 through the season (Seth Benz, Tom Leckey); *Chester*: one at Chambers L. 11/8 (Brain Quindlen, Kelley Nunn) was probably the same bird that was later seen in Parkesburg 11/9 and at Coatesville Res. 11/9-11; *Crawford*: one at Woodcock Lake 11/23 (Shawn Collins); *Lancaster*: beginning 11/11 at Wood’s Edge Park (Stan Stahl, Mike Epler, Meredith Lombard); *Lehigh*: one at Dorney Pond 11/18 (Shannon Thompson) through the season; *Northampton*: one at Seiple’s Pond 11/13 (Michael Schall).

Ross’s Goose – *Clarion*: one on the Allegheny River near Foxburg 9/16-18 (Mark Moore); *Somerset*: 2 at Lake Somerset 11/28 (Mike Lanzzone, eBird).

*Barnacle Goose** – *Bucks*: one at Lower Makefield Twp. 10/30-31 (Devich Farbotnik, *no doc*).

Cackling Goose – *Allegheny*: 6 at Moody Road in Findlay Twp. and nearby 11/21 through the period (Mark Vass); *Berks*: one over the Kittatinny Ridge 11/4 (Kerry Grim, Laurie Goodrich); *Bucks*: first sighted at Peace Valley Park 10/17 (August Mirabella), high count for the season was 11 at Peace Valley 11/20 (Cameron Rutt, August Mirabella); *Carbon*: one at Beltzville State Park 11/5 (Dan Altif, eBird); *Chester*: several reports including 6 at Coatesville Res. 11/25 (W. Brian Henderson, Al Guarente, David Eberly, Holly Merker); *Delaware*: 2 at Rose Tree Park 11/4 (Al Guarente); *Erie*: up to 3 at the Fairview Business Park 11/13-21 (Mark Vass, Shawn Collins); *Lebanon*: 3 at Memorial Lake State Park 11/24 (Andy Keister) and one there 11/30 (Jarrod Derr); *Lehigh*: up to 3 at Fogelsville Quarry and Dorney Pond beginning 10/23 (Frank Dickman, m.ob.); *Mercer*: 12 at Lake Wilhelm 11/28 (Neil Troyer, Steve Sanford); *Monroe*: one on Saylor’s Lake 11/24 (Steve Kloiber); *Montgomery*: at Green Lane Reservoir beginning 10/20 (m.ob.); *Northampton*: one at Little Gap 11/5 (Michael Schall); *Philadelphia*: one at Pennypack on the Delaware 10/30 (George Armistead, Todd Fellenbaum); *York*: one at Long Arm Reservoir 11/17 (Andy McGann).

Trumpeter Swan – *Chester*: one at Chambers Lake 11/17-20 (Rick Robinson, et al.) and 2 on the Schuylkill River in the northeastern section of the county 11/26 through the period (Lisa Miller, Rob Blye); *Erie*: one untagged bird in the last week of Nov at Erie Water Works (Craig Kern, *vide Don Snyder*); *Montgomery*: 2 at Green Lane Reservoir 11/19 (August Mirabella, Judy Mirabella).

Eurasian Wigeon – *Somerset*: one immature male, and possibly a female, at Lake Somerset 10/28 (Mike Lanzzone).

*Pacific Loon** – *Washington*: one on private property near Bentleyville 11/3-10 (ph. Andy Berchin, *doc submitted*).

*Eared Grebe** – *Lebanon*: one at Memorial Lake State Park 10/28 to at least 11/30 (Jarrod Derr, et al., *doc submitted*).

*Western Grebe** – *Lebanon*: one at Memorial Lake State Park 11/4-16 (Lou Carpenter, *doc submitted*).

*Herald Petrel** – *Blair*: one emaciated bird found 11/3 under a mailbox in Holidaysburg following Hurricane Sandy (ph. Mike Lanzzone, et al., *doc submitted*) would represent the first record for Pennsylvania if accepted.

*Cory’s Shearwater** – *Dauphin*: one at West Fairview 10/30 (Jason Horn, Andy Markel, *no doc*).

*Wilson’s Storm-Petrel** – *Berks*: one reported near the dam at Lake Ontelaunee 10/30 (Kevin Lutz, et al., *doc submitted*); *Huntingdon*: one at the Seven Points Marina at Lake Raystown 10/31 (Ian Gardner, et al., *doc submitted*); *Lancaster*: one on the Susquehanna River 10/30 (Justin Bosler, *no doc*).

*Leach’s Storm-Petrel** – *Bedford*: one at Shawnee State Park 10/30 (ph. Mike Lanzzone, Jeff Payne, Tom Dick, ph. Geoff Malosh, *doc submitted*); *Berks*: up to 6 reported at Lake Ontelaunee 10/30, with 2 well-described (Ryan Fick, Rudy Keller, Kevin Lutz, Mike Slater, *doc submitted*); *Bucks*: one at Nockamixon State Park 10/30 (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber, *doc submitted*), one at Bristol 10/30 (Gerry Dewaghe, Chris Dewaghe, *doc submitted*), a second bird at Bristol 10/30 (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber, *no doc*), and 2 at the Penn-Warner Tract 10/30 (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber, *no doc*); *Dauphin*: 3 or more at West Fairview 10/30 (Jason Horn, Andy Markel, Ramsay Koury, Alex Lamoreaux, et al., *doc submitted*); *Delaware*: 9 at the Commodore Barry Bridge 10/30 (Jeff Gordon, *no doc*) including 2 killed by Peregrine Falcons, one at the Philadelphia International Airport 10/30 (Al Guarente, *no doc*), and at least one at Marcus Hook 10/30 (Tom Johnson, Cameron Rutt, Doug Gochfeld, *doc submitted*) including one photographed being killed by a Peregrine Falcon; *Lancaster*: 2 on the Susquehanna River (Gordon Dimmig, Mike Epler, Bob Schutzky, Tom Amico, *no doc*); *Lebanon*: one at Memorial Lake State Park 10/30 (Kathy Becker, Tim Becker, Brian Weaver, Michael David, Jarrod Derr, *doc submitted*); *Lycoming*: one at Rose Valley Lake 10/30 (Norwood Frederick, Dave Ferry, Nate Fronk, Dan Brauning, *doc submitted*); *Philadelphia*: at least 17 seen from Pennypack on the Delaware 10/30 (David Allen, George Armistead, Martin Dellwo, Todd Fellenbaum, Doug Gochfeld, Tom Johnson, Cameron Rutt, Frank Windfelder, *doc submitted*).

*Storm-Petrel sp.** – *Bucks*: one at Nockamixon State Park 10/30 (Bill Etter, *no doc*); *Lebanon*: one at Memorial Lake State Park 10/30 (Kathy Becker, Tim Becker).

*Northern Gannet** – *Dauphin*: one at West Fairview 10/30 (Melissa Roach, ph. Alex Lamoreaux, et al., *doc submitted*),

- with probably the same bird sighted at Fort Hunter (Ed Chubb).
- Great Cormorant** – *Bucks*: first reported at Bristol 10/13 (Devich Farbotnik); *Delaware*: one at the Commodore Barry Bridge 10/31 (Al Guarente, Nick Pulcinella); *Lancaster*: one at Peach Bottom 11/4 (Bob Schutzky); *Montgomery*: one imm. at Green Lane Reservoir 11/19-20 (August Mirabella, et al.); *Philadelphia*: on the Delaware River beginning 10/11 (m.ob.).
- Snowy Egret** – *Bucks*: up to 5 continued from summer at Rohm & Haas, Bristol to 9/2 (Devich Farbotnik), one there again 10/30 (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber), one at Buckingham Springs 8/7-14 (Bill Keim), 2 at Core Creek Park 8/26 (Devich Farbotnik), and one at Peace Valley Park 9/21 (Chuck Crunkleton); *Dauphin*: one at Liverpool 8/30 (Deuane Hoffman) and one at Marysville 10/30 (Tom Johnson, Doug Gochfeld, Cameron Rutt); *Lancaster*: one on the Susquehanna River at Washington Borough 11/1 (Chuck Chalfant); *Philadelphia*: 4 at John Heinz N.W.R. 9/30 (Debbie Beer).
- Little Blue Heron** – *Bucks*: reported from four sites (m.ob.) with a high of 8 at Rohm and Haas, Bristol 8/4 including 2 adults (Devich Farbotnik); *Chester*: one imm. at Exton Park 8/2-6 (George Tallman), one adult at Octoraro Res. 8/9 (Nick Pulcinella), and one imm. at Chambers Lake 9/22-10/5 (Chuck Chalfant); *Crawford*: one at the Pymatuning Spillway 8/11-12 (Mark Vass); *Dauphin*: one at Halifax 9/26 (Sally and Rich Zaino); *Erie*: one imm. at the head of Presque Isle Bay 8/5 (ph. Brian Berchtold); *Lancaster*: several beginning 8/2 (m.ob.); *Lawrence*: one near New Beaver from the summer was last seen 8/26 (Geoff Malosh, m.ob.); *Montgomery*: single imms. at Green Lane Reservoir 8/4 and 8/24 (George Franchois); *Philadelphia*: four sightings at John Heinz N.W.R. 8/5-9/24 (Dave Eberly, Adrian Binns, Frank Windfelder, Todd Fellenbaum, Gary Stolz); *Snyder*: one imm. at Faylor Lake 8/20-26 (Jason Weller); *York*: one to 8/5 at Codorus State Park (Dick Cleary).
- Cattle Egret*** – *Berks*: one at the Arrowhead Business and Industrial Park 11/24 (Bruce Williams, *no doc*); *Bucks*: 3 at Core Creek Park 8/25 (Devich Farbotnik, *no doc*) and one at Newtown Twp. 11/5 (Phillip Stollsteimer, ph. Bill Keim, *doc submitted*); *Chester*: 3 at a farm in Exton 10/30 (George Tallman, *no doc*), and one at Chambers Lake 10/31 (Marian Quinn, Rand McIlvane, *no doc*); *Dauphin*: one at West Fairview 10/30 (Alex Lamoreaux, et al., *doc submitted*); *Philadelphia*: one at John Heinz N.W.R. 11/6 (Denis Brennan, *no doc*).
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** – *Berks*: one juv. at Blue Marsh Lake 8/7-9 (Joan Silagy) was the first for the county since 2005; *Crawford*: one adult at the Pymatuning Causeway 8/26 (Ronald F. Leberman); *Dauphin*: continuing at a nest site in Harrisburg to 8/25 (Paul Banks, Chris Markiewicz, Mark Markiewicz); *Forest/Jefferson*: one continued on the Clarion River at Cook Forest from the summer season to 8/27 (Thomas Glover, ph. Geoff Malosh, m.ob.); *Lancaster*: one at the Alcoa Marsh 8/1 (Gordon Dimmig).
- White Ibis*** – *Lancaster*: one below the Lock Haven Dam 8/19 (Dick Cleary, *no doc*); *Lebanon*: 3 possible birds at Second Mountain 9/16 (Fred Wilcox, et al., *no doc*); *York*: one on the Susquehanna River at Saginaw 8/9-12 (Jason Miller, *doc submitted*).
- Glossy Ibis** – *Berks*: one juv. at Nehf's Ponds, Albany Twp. 8/8-10 (Lee Simpson, Frank Dickman); *Bucks*: one at Mud Island 8/10 (Devich Farbotnik); *Chester*: one at Marsh Creek State Park 8/1-4 (John McNamara); *Dauphin*: one at Wildwood Lake 10/1-6 (Sandy Lockerman, Chris Rebert, et al.); *Philadelphia*: up to 2 at John Heinz N.W.R. through 8/23 (Jeff Davis, et al.).
- Plegadis sp.** – *Berks*: 2 over Hawk Mountain Sanctuary 10/6 (Laurie Goodrich).
- Swallow-tailed Kite*** – *Adams*: one at the intersection of Rte. 234 and Possum Hollow Road 8/23 (Brian Leese, *doc submitted*).
- Mississippi Kite*** – *Berks*: one over Henningsville 10/6 (Peter Saenger, *doc submitted*); *Bucks*: one seen well at New Hope 9/1 (Bill Hoehne, *no doc*).
- Swainson's Hawk*** – *Berks*: one imm. over Hawk Mountain Sanctuary 11/4 (Laurie Goodrich, et al., *no doc*); *Montgomery*: one imm. light phase with Broad-winged Hawks over Militia Hill Hawk Watch 9/11 (Chris Dooley, Rich Conroy, *doc submitted*).
- Yellow Rail*** – *Somerset*: one at Lake Somerset 10/6 (Mike Lanzzone, *no doc*); *Washington*: one at Greencove Wetlands 10/5-6 (Dave Wilton, Shannon Thompson, et al., *doc submitted*).
- Black Rail*** – *Bucks*: one at Delaware Valley College 10/11 (Ray Hendrick, *no doc*).
- Snowy Plover*** – *Crawford*: one at the Pymatuning Causeway 9/20 (Ike Field, *no doc*).
- Piping Plover*** – *Erie*: one juvenile at Gull Point 8/12 (ph. Daniel Parsons, *doc submitted*) and 8/17 (ph. Jerry McWilliams) had been banded at Sleeping Bear Dunes, Michigan; *Franklin*: one in a flooded field east of Chambersburg 10/30 (Bill Oyler, Chris Blazo, *doc submitted*).
- American Oystercatcher*** – *Bedford*: 2 at Shawnee State Park 10/30 (Mike Lanzzone, Jeff Payne, Tom Dick, *doc submitted*); *Bucks*: one at Nockamixon State Park 10/30 (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber, ph. Bill Etter, *doc submitted*) and one at the Penn-Warner Tract 10/30 (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber, *no doc*); *Dauphin*: 3 at West Fairview 10/30 (Jarrod Derr, Ramsay Koury, David McNaughton, *no doc*); *Delaware*: 2 on the Delaware R. at Marcus Hook 10/30 (Chris Langman, Tom Johnson, Al Guarente, et al., *doc submitted*).
- American Avocet** – *Chester*: one at Marsh Creek State Park 10/31 (m.ob.); *Erie*: one at Gull Point 8/4 (Tim Johnson) and one off Beach 11 on 10/7 (Shannon Thompson, Dave Wilton); *Lancaster*: one on the Susquehanna River 8/6 (Andy McGann) and 6 at the Conejohela Flats 9/25 (Chuck Chalfant, Dan Heathcoat, Andy McGann); *Somerset*: 3 at Lake Somerset 9/5 with one remaining to 9/9 (Mike Lanzzone).
- Willet** – *Bedford*: one at Shawnee State Park 10/30 (Mike Lanzzone, Jeff Payne, Tom Dick); *Bucks*: 2 at Mud Island 8/10 (Devich Farbotnik); *Crawford*: one at Pymatuning State Park 10/7 (Shawn Collins); *Erie*: singles at Gull Point 8/5 (Jerry McWilliams) and 8/10 (Ben Coulter); *Philadelphia*: 2 on the Delaware River at Mud Island 8/10 (Frank Windfelder).
- Upland Sandpiper** – *Bedford*: one at Dunnings Creek Wetlands 8/19 (Tom Dick); *Cumberland*: one at Mud Level Road 9/5-6 (Tim Becker, Jarrod Derr, Mike Dreibelbis); *Lancaster*: up to 4 at the Lancaster Airport 8/2-7 (Jarrod Derr, et al., eBird).
- Whimbrel** – *Cumberland*: one at Mud Level Road 9/5 (Bill Oyler, Vern Gauthier, Pail Banks); *Erie*: 2 at Gull Point 8/10 (Ben Coulter); *Mercer*: one at Shenango River Reservoir 8/3 (Geoff Malosh); *Somerset*: one at Lake Somerset 9/5-14 (Mike Lanzzone).
- Hudsonian Godwit** – *Dauphin*: 2 at West Fairview 10/30 (Jason Horn, Andy Markel, Ramsay Koury, et al.); *Franklin*: one in a flooded field east of Chambersburg 10/30 (Bill Oyler); *Lancaster*: 15 at the Conejohela Flats 8/26 (Mike Epler, Gordon Dimmig) and one there 9/12 (Mike Epler, Chuck Chalfant).
- Ruddy Turnstone** – *Carbon*: one at Beltzville State Park 10/30 (Rick Wiltraut); *Crawford*: one at the Pymatuning

Causeway 9/3 (Ronald F. Leberman); *Franklin*: a few at Greencastle Res. 9/1 (Dale Gearhart; *Lancaster*: one at the Conejohela Flats 9/2 (Mike Epler, eBird).

Red Knot – *Dauphin*: 195 in several flocks at West Fairview 10/30 (Ramsay Koury).

Western Sandpiper – *Bedford*: 4 at Dunnings Creek Wetlands 9/2 (Tom Dick); *Berks*: one at the Arrowhead Business and Industrial Park 9/17 (Rudy Keller); *Bucks*: one at Rohm & Haas, Bristol 9/2 (Devich Farbotnik) and one at Peace Valley Park 9/19 (George Franchois); *Chester*: one at Chambers Lake 9/9 (Nick Pulcinella); *Crawford*: one at the Pymatuning Causeway 8/2 (Ronald F. Leberman), 2 at the Pymatuning Causeway 9/20 (Jim Barker, Ike Field), and one at Tamarack Lake 9/27 (Ike Field, Rob Hodgson, Shawn Collins, Steven Rotkovich); *Franklin*: one at Greencastle Res. 9/26 (Bill Oyler, Dale Gearhart); *Lancaster*: one on the Susquehanna River 10/28 (Eric Witmer); *Mercer*: one at Shenango River Reservoir 8/17 (Geoff Malosh); *Philadelphia*: up to 3 at John Heinz N.W.R. through Aug (m.ob.); *Somerset*: 5 at Lake Somerset 8/28 (Mike Lanzone); *York*: 2 at Lake Redman 9/12 (Dick Cleary, Randy Phillips).

Purple Sandpiper – *Erie*: a record flock of 5 at Gull Point 11/24 (Neil Troyer) and 2 there 11/25 (Geoff Malosh).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper – *Bucks*: one at Buckingham Twp. 9/8-9 (Devich Farbotnik); *Crawford*: up to 2 at Tamarack Lake 8/26-9/1 (Shawn Collins, Rob Hodgson, Ronald F. Leberman); *Cumberland*: 2-3 at Mud Level Road 9/5-7 (Tim Becker, Jarrod Derr, Mike Dreibelbis); *Lehigh*: up to 5 at the Ocean Spray plant construction site 9/4-8 (Todd Watkins); *Mercer*: up to 3 at Shenango River Reservoir 8/28-9/26 (m.ob.); *Somerset*: one at Lake Somerset 9/5 (Mike Lanzone).

Long-billed Dowitcher – *Crawford*: one at Woodcock Lake 9/30 (Shawn Collins); *Somerset*: one at Lake Somerset 9/24-26 (Mike Lanzone).

Wilson's Phalarope – *Crawford*: one at Tamarack Lake 8/21 and one at Woodcock Lake 11/1 (Steven Rotkovich, Ike Fields); *Franklin*: one near Upper Strasburg 10/30 (Bill Oyler); *Mercer*: one at Shenango River Reservoir 8/17 (ph. Geoff Malosh) and another 8/19 (Bob VanNewkirk, Sheree Daugherty).

Red-necked Phalarope – *Berks*: one at Lake Ontelaunee 10/30 (Mike Slater); *Bucks*: one at Peace Valley Park 9/21-22 (ph. Karen Isett); *Carbon*: 2 at Beltzville State Park 10/30 (Dustin Welch); *Crawford*: one at Tamarack Lake 8/21-23 (Shawn Collins, et al.); *Huntingdon*: 3 at Lake Raystown 10/30 (Jon Kauffman); *Lancaster*: one at the Conejohela Flats 9/20 (Mike Epler, eBird); *Mercer*: one at Shenango River Reservoir 8/21 (ph. Geoff Malosh); *Washington*: one near Bentleyville 8/17 (Andy Berchin).

Red Phalarope* – *Allegheny*: one at the Highland Park Dam on the Allegheny River 10/30 (Joyce Hoffmann, *no doc*); *Bedford*: one at Shawnee State Park 10/30 (Mike Lanzone, *no doc*); *Berks*: at least 6 reported 10/30-31 during the passage of Hurricane Sandy but just one was well described (Rudy Keller, et al., *doc submitted*); *Bucks*: one at Peace Valley Park 10/30 (Ken Rieker, Bill Keim, *doc submitted*), 2 at Nockamixon State Park 10/30 (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber, *no doc*), and one at Churchville Park 10/31 (Vince DeAntoniis *vide* Nick Zahn, *doc submitted*); *Carbon*: one at Beltzville State Park 10/30 (Dustin Welch, *no doc*); *Chester*: 30 at Struble Lake 10/30 (Frank Haas, Barb Haas, *no doc*), 8 at Marsh Creek State Park 10/30 with 3 remaining 10/31 (m.ob., *doc submitted*), and one at Chambers Lake 11/1 (Rick Robinson, Marian Quinn, *doc submitted*); *Clarion/Venango*: 4 at Kahle Lake 10/31 (Jerry Stanley, Russ States, *no doc*); *Dauphin*: up to 25 at West Fairview 10/30 (Jason Horn, Andy Markel, Ramsay Koury, et al., *doc submitted*), one at Marysville 10/30 (Tom Johnson, Doug

Gochfeld, Cameron Rutt, et al., *doc submitted*), and 3 at Fort Hunter 10/31 (Martin Wilson, *no doc*); *Delaware*: 40 at the Philadelphia International Airport 10/30 (Al Guarente, *no doc*), 6 at Marcus Hook 10/30 (Al Guarente, *no doc*), and at the Commodore Barry Bridge 10/30 (Jeff Gordon, *no doc*); *Franklin*: one on Keefer Road northwest of Chambersburg 10/30 (Bill Oyler, Dave Cooney, Dale Gearhart, *no doc*); *Huntingdon*: 11 at Lake Raystown (David Kyler, *no doc*); *Indiana*: 2 at Yellow Creek State Park 10/29 (Lee Carnahan, Margaret Higbee, Donna Meyer, *no doc*), and one there 10/30-31 (Tim Schreckengost, *doc*); *Lancaster*: 23 at Peach Bottom 10/30 (Tom Amico, Bob Schutzky, *no doc*); *Luzerne*: 2 at Beech Mountain Lake 10/31 (Jonathan Debalko, *no doc*) and 4 at Crystal Lake 11/1 (Rick Koval, *no doc*); *Lycoming*: one at Rose Valley Lake 10/30 (Steve Pinkerton, *no doc*); *Northampton*: 2 at Lake Minsi 10/30 (Matthew Sabatine, eBird, *doc submitted*); *Philadelphia*: several seen from Pennypack on the Delaware 10/30 (David Allen, George Armistead, Martin Dellwo, Todd Fellenbaum, Doug Gochfeld, Tom Johnson, Cameron Rutt, Frank Windfelder, *no doc*) and 2 at John Heinz N.W.R. 10/30-31 (Adrian Binns, Debbie Beer, *doc submitted*).

Black-legged Kittiwake* – *Bedford*: one at Shawnee State Park 10/30 (Mike Lanzone, Jeff Payne, Tom Dick, *no doc*); *Clarion/Venango*: one at Kahle Lake 10/30 (Jerry Stanley, Russ States, Gary Edwards *no doc*); *Dauphin*: one at Marysville 10/30 (Doug Gochfeld, Tom Johnson, Cameron Rutt, et al., *doc submitted*).

Sabine's Gull* – *Huntingdon*: one at the Seven Points Marina at Lake Raystown 10/31 (Andrew Markel, Jason Horn, Dave Wilton, Devich Farbotnik, Michael David, *doc submitted*); *Philadelphia*: one on the Delaware River 10/30 (Marshall Illif, et al., *doc submitted*).

Little Gull – *Butler*: one at Moraine State Park 10/31 (Dan Yagusie); *Centre*: one at Bald Eagle State Park 10/30 (Alan Berger *vide* Alex Lamoreaux); *Erie*: a total of 7 adults at Sunset Point or Presque Isle Bay 10/19-29 (Jerry McWilliams, Geoff Malosh, Mike Weible); *Somerset*: one at Lake Somerset 11/16 (Mike Lanzone); *Wyoming*: 2 at Lake Carey 10/31 (Joe DeMarco).

Franklin's Gull – *Lancaster*: one at the Conejohela Flats 9/23 (Chuch Chalfant, Dan Heathcote, Mike Epler); *Mercer*: 5 at Shenango Res. 9/22 (Steve Sanford, ph. Geoff Malosh).

Iceland Gull – *Bucks*: at Peace Valley Park beginning 11/18 (Steve Kacir); *Lackawanna*: 2 at Dunmore Reservoir 11/22 (Kevin Ripka); *Lebanon*: one at Memorial Lake State Park 11/14 (Randy C. Miller, Mary Coomer, Dirk Robinson, Mark Markiewicz).

Iceland/Thayer's Gull – *Fayette*: one bird not identified to species at Greenlick Run Lake 10/31 (Mike Fialkovich, David Yeany II).

Sooty Tern* – *Philadelphia*: one at Pennypack on the Delaware 10/30 (Marshall Illif, Tom Johnson, *doc submitted*).

Least Tern – *Berks*: one nonbreeding adult at Blue Marsh Lake 9/22 (Joan Silagy).

Black Tern – *Bedford*: 8 at Dunnings Creek Wetlands 10/30 (Tom Dick); *Bucks*: one at Rohm and Haas, Bristol 8/21 (Devich Farbotnik) and 2 at Peace Valley Park 9/5 (Henry D'Allesandro); *Berks*: one at French Creek State Park 8/18 (Todd Frantz); *Cambria*: at Prince Gallitzin State Park 9/4 (Dave Gobert, Shannon Thompson) and 9/16 (Dave Gobert); *Centre*: up to 9 at Bald Eagle State Park 8/11-12 (Bob Snyder); *Indiana*: one at Yellow Creek State Park 8/14 and 9/18 (Lee Carnahan, Margaret Higbee, et al.); *Lancaster*: as many as 15 on the Susquehanna River at and near the Conejohela Flats 8/3-24 (m.ob., eBird); *Philadelphia*: up to 9 at John Heinz N.W.R. 8/11-9/24 (m.ob.); *York*: one at Lake Redman 8/10 (Dick Cleary).

Royal Tern* – *Bucks*: one at Nockamixon State Park 10/31 (Bill Etter, Ben Davies, *doc submitted*); *Philadelphia*: 5 at Pennypack on the Delaware 10/30 (ph. Tom Johnson, et al., *doc submitted*).

Black Skimmer* – *Allegheny*: 2 immature birds at McKees Rocks 11/4-6, and one remaining to 11/9 (Mark Vass, ph. m.ob., *doc submitted*); *Dauphin*: one at West Fairview 10/30 (Andy Markel, Jason Horn, Ramsay Koury, Peter Robinson, Joan Renninger, et al., *no doc*); *Franklin*: one in a flooded field east of Chambersburg 10/30 (Bill Oyler, Chris Blazo, *doc submitted*); *Lancaster*: one 10/30-11/4 on the Susquehanna River (Eric Witmer, et al., *doc submitted*).

Pomarine Jaeger* – *Allegheny*: one adult passed Dashiels Dam 10/30 (Geoff Malosh, *doc submitted*); *Bedford*: 6 at Shawnee State Park 10/30 (Mike Lanzzone, *no doc*); *Berks*: 5 adults at Lake Ontelaunee 10/30 (Ken Lebo, Ryan Fick, *doc submitted*); *Bucks*: 2 at the Penn Warner Tract 10/30 (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber, *no doc*) was the first for *Bucks* since 1898; *Carbon*: 3 at Beltzville State Park 10/30 (Dan Altif, *no doc*); *Centre*: 2 at Bald Eagle State Park 10/30 (Carl Engstrom, et al., *doc submitted*); *Dauphin*: up to 58 at West Fairview 10/30 (Jason Horn, Andy Markel, Ramsay Koury, Peter Robinson, Joan Renninger, *no doc*) and one at Harrisburg 10/31 (Ed Bernot, *no doc*); *Delaware*: 19 at the Commodore Barry Bridge 10/30 (Bert Harris, Ben Schweinhart, Amy Davis, Jeff Davis, *doc submitted*); *Erie*: one imm. at Sunset Point 11/21 (Jerry McWilliams, Jim Flynn, *doc submitted*); *Fayette*: 2 at Greenlick Run Lake 10/30 (Cory DeStein, Aiden Place, *no doc*), and later a flock of 29 jaegers at the lake were nearly all Pomarine Jaegers (Mike Flalkovich, *doc submitted*); *Huntingdon*: one at Lake Raystown 10/30 (David Kyler, *no doc*); *Indiana*: one at Yellow Creek State Park 10/30 (Lee Carnahan, Eleanor Kwik, Gloria Lamar, Tim Schreckengost, Zac Schreckengost, Ken Truitt, *doc submitted*), and one at Two Lick Reservoir 10/31 (Lee Carnahan, *no doc*); *Lancaster*: 8 at Peach Bottom 10/30 (Tom Amico, Bob Schutzky, *no doc*); *Luzerne*: one at Harveys Lake 10/30 (David Fisher, Jim Hoyson, Kevin Ripka, Rick Koval, *no doc*); *Lycoming*: one at Rose Valley Lake 10/30 (Steve Pinkerton, *doc submitted*); *Northampton*: one at Lake Minsi 10/30 (Matthew Sabatine, eBird, *doc submitted*); *Philadelphia*: one at Pennypack on the Delaware 10/30 (ph. Tom Johnson, et al., *no doc*) and one later in the day at Pennypack on the Delaware (Tom Bailey, *no doc*); *Somerset*: one at Lake Somerset 11/2 (Mike Lanzzone, *no doc*).

Parasitic Jaeger* – *Bedford*: 2 at Shawnee State Park 10/30 (Mike Lanzzone, *no doc*); *Berks*: 2 sub-adults at Lake Ontelaunee 10/30 (Ken Lebo, Ryan Fick, *doc submitted*); *Dauphin*: 2 at West Fairview 10/30 (Alex Lamoreaux, Jason Horn, Andy Markel, Ramsay Koury, *doc submitted*); *Delaware*: one at the Philadelphia International Airport 10/30 (Al Guarente, *no doc*); *Erie*: 7 imm. passed Sunset Point 11/24-26 (Jerry McWilliams, et al., *doc submitted*); *Fayette*: one at Greenlick Run Reservoir 10/30 (Blaine Carnes, *no doc*), and later on 10/30 a few Parasitic Jaegers were likely among a flock of 29 jaegers at the lake (Mike Fialkovich); *Huntingdon*: 2 at Lake Raystown 10/30 (Jon Kauffman, *no doc*); *Lancaster*: one probable bird at Middlecreek W.M.A. 10/31 (Dan Schwartz, Sandy Schwartz, *no doc*); *Luzerne*: one at Harveys Lake 10/30 (David Fisher, Jim Hoyson, Kevin Ripka, Rick Koval, *no doc*); *Philadelphia*: one at Pennypack on the Delaware 10/30 (David Allen, George Armistead, Martin Dellwo, Todd Fellenbaum, Doug Gochfeld, Tom Johnson, Cameron Rutt, Frank Windfelder, *doc submitted*).

Long-tailed Jaeger* – *Allegheny*: one juvenile landed briefly at Bald Knob 8/31 (Mark Vass, *no doc*).

Jaeger sp. – *Allegheny*: one Parasitic/Pomarine over Fox Chapel 10/31 (Brian Shema); *Bucks*: one at Nockamixon

State Park 10/29 (Matt Sabatine); *Carbon*: one at Beltzville State Park 10/30 (Dan Altif, Rich Rehrig); *Erie*: one Parasitic/Pomarine with Herring Gulls at a Best Buy parking lot in Millcreek Twp. 10/29 (Katie Anderson); *Monroe*: one along the Delaware River near Shawnee 10/31 (*vide* Steve Kloiber).

Eurasian Collared-Dove – *Berks*: 6 continued at a colony in Shartlesville in Aug (Matt Wlasniewski); *Centre*: one at South Nixon Road 8/2 (Mike Dreibelbis) and one at Whitehall Road 8/15 (Alex Lamoreaux); *Dauphin*: one on Linglestown Rd. 8/25 (Mary and Randy Brenner); *Franklin*: one at Shady Grove 11/10 (Geoff Malosh, eBird); *Lebanon*: near Fontana 8/4 (Tom Johnson) and 10/28 (Jonathan Heller).

White-winged Dove* – *Dauphin*: one at Susquehanna Twp. 10/31 (Ed Bernot, *no doc*).

Long-eared Owl – *Berks*: one in Bern Twp. yard 11/9-13 (Joan Silagy) and one banded at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary 11/2 (Scott Weidensaul); *Bucks*: at Peace Valley Park beginning 11/2 (m.ob.); *Chester*: one at the Rushton Farm Banding Station 11/13-16 (Doris McGovern), and one at Black Rock Sanctuary 11/18 (Rick Keyser).

Black-chinned Hummingbird* – *Bucks*: one well photographed in Morrisville 11/10 (ph. Rich Dulay, *doc submitted*) would represent the first record for Pennsylvania if accepted.

Rufous Hummingbird – 46 birds conclusively identified in 20 counties. See separate article on p. 182.

Allen's Hummingbird* – *Bucks*: one hatch year male at Plumstead Twp. 11/12 through the season (Anna "Babe" Webster, *doc submitted*); *Montgomery*: one hatch year male present from 10/7 to the end of the period, banded 11/30 in Lansdale (Cathy Lavoie, Alvin Lavoie, Scott Weidensaul), *doc submitted*.

Calliope Hummingbird* – *Chester*: one at Devon 10/16-11/11 (Joe Flood) was banded 11/1 (Nick Pulcinella, Wayne Laubscher, *doc submitted*).

Selasphorus sp. – 34 birds reported in 14 counties. See separate article on p. 182.

Prairie Falcon* – *Cumberland*: one returned for the seventh consecutive winter to Mud Level Road beginning 11/11 (Shannon Thompson, *doc previously accepted*).

Pacific-slope Flycatcher* – *Cumberland*: one at SGL 230 from 11/18-25 (Ramsay Koury, *doc submitted*).

Western Kingbird* – *Erie*: one at Presque Isle State Park 9/29 (Randy Stringer, *doc submitted*).

Northern Shrike – *Allegheny*: one at Imperial 11/10-19 (Bob Mulvihill, Jim Hausmann); *Cambria*: one at Prince Gallitzin State Park 11/9 (John Salvetti); *Centre*: one at Bald Eagle State Park 11/3-4 and one at Mid-State Airport (both, Ian Gardner); *Clarion*: one at Mount Zion/Piney Tract 11/11 (Mike Weible); *Crawford*: one at Meadville 11/23 (Shawn Collins); *Delaware*: one at John Heinz N.W.R. 10/31 (Al Guarente) was seen on both sides of the county line; *Erie*: one in Waterford 10/19 (Jamie Hill III), one at the Fairview Business Park 11/11 through the season (Shawn Collins), and one at the North Pier 11/28 (Jerry McWilliams); *Forest*: one at Marienville 11/22 (Shannon Thompson); *Montgomery*: one at Green Lane Reservoir 11/15-25 (Len Hillegass); *Philadelphia*: one at John Heinz N.W.R. 10/31 through the season (Todd Fellenbaum); *Wayne*: one near the intersection of S. Preston and Poyntelle Rds. 11/17 (Trudy Gerlach).

Cave Swallow* – *Bucks*: 2 at the Penn-Warner Tract 10/30, one of which was suspected to be of the Caribbean subspecies (Devich Farbotnik, Billy Weber, *no doc*), and 2 at Nockamixon State Park 10/31 (Bill Etter, Ben Davies, August Mirabella, Cameron Rutt, *doc submitted*), one of which was also suspected of being of the Caribbean subspecies; *Carbon*: one at Beltzville State Park 10/30 (Rick

Wiltraut, *no doc*); *Dauphin*: up to 3 at West Fairview 10/30-31 (Anna Fasoli, Ramsay Koury, Alex Lamoreaux, Josh Lefever, et al., *doc submitted*); *Delaware*: one at John Heinz N.W.R. 10/31 (Al Guarente, Michael Rosengarten, Frank Windfelder, *doc submitted*); *Huntingdon*: one at the Seven Points Marina at Lake Raystown 10/31 (Andrew Markel, Jason Horn, Dave Wilton, Devich Farbotnik, Michael David, *no doc*) and one at the Aitch Access at Lake Raystown 10/31 (David Kyler, Trudy Kyler, *doc submitted*); *Lancaster*: one at Wrightsville 11/1 (Mike Epler, *no doc*); *Northampton*: one at Lake Minsi 10/30 (Matthew Sabatine, eBird, *doc submitted*); *Philadelphia*: at the Northeast Water Treatment Plant, one 10/28 (Doug Gochfeld, Tom Johnson), one 10/30 (Adrian Binns, Debbie Beer), and 9 on 11/18 (Matt Sharp) (*doc submitted*), and one at John Heinz N.W.R. 10/30 (Adrian Binns, Debbie Beer, *doc submitted*); *Westmoreland*: one at Beaver Run Reservoir 11/1 (Dave Wilton, Geoff Malosh, *doc submitted*).

Sedge Wren – *Allegheny*: one at Harrison Hills Park 9/16-17 (Paul Hess); *Montgomery*: a late breeding pair at the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust 8/13-10/14 raised at least 3 young (Paul Driver); *Westmoreland*: one captured at Powdermill Nature Reserve 10/4 (Blane Carnes, eBird).

Northern Wheatear* – *Berks*: one female foraging in vacant parking lots in Reading 10/4 (Mike Slater, ph. m.ob., *doc submitted*).

Townsend's Solitaire* – *Bedford*: one at the Allegheny Front Hawk Watch 10/13 (ph. Alex Lamoreaux, *doc submitted*).

Varied Thrush* – *Cumberland*: one at South Middleton Twp. 11/4 (Vern Gauthier, Kathy Kuchwara, Annette Matthes, Susan Strassner, *doc submitted*).

Golden-winged Warbler – *Allegheny*: one at Beechwood Farms 9/10 (Brian Shema); *Beaver*: one in Economy Borough 8/18 (Karyn Delaney); *Bedford*: 2 at Dunnings Creek Wetlands 8/10 (Tom Dick); *Bucks*: reported at Maple Knoll Farms 8/25 (Richard Smith) and at Peace Valley Park 8/30-9/5 (Elaine Crunkleton, Jean Burch, Tena Kellogg, Devich Farbotnik, August Mirabella); *Centre*: one 8/20 at Lederer Park (Carl Engstrom), one 8/21 at Scotia Range Road (Alex Lamoreaux, Anna Fasoli), and 8/23-9/2 at Scotia Barrens (Ian Gardner, Joe Verica, Mike Dreibelbis); *Cumberland*: one at Michaux State Forest 8/25 (Kathy Kuchwara, Ramsay Koury, Annette Matthes, Bill Oylar); *Fulton*: one at a private residence 9/9 (Amy Evans); *Lancaster*: one in Denver 9/11 (Loretta Gehman); *Lehigh*: one at Trexler Nature Preserve 9/14 (Frank Dickman); *Montgomery*: one at East Norriton 8/16 (Brian Henderson); *Somerset*: present at Somerset and near Lake Somerset 9/5-7 (Mike Lanzzone, eBird); *Westmoreland*: one at Powdermill Nature Reserve 8/30 (Blane Carnes, eBird); *York*: one at Rocky Ridge County Park 8/19 (Andy McGann).

Brewster's Warbler – *Allegheny*: one at Beechwood Farms 8/28 (Brian Shema).

Lawrence's Warbler – *Beaver*: one at Raccoon Creek State Park 9/8 (Geoff Malosh).

Kirtland's Warbler* – *Indiana*: one in a yard near Schelocta 9/3 (Margaret Higbee, *no doc*).

Townsend's Warbler* – *Northampton*: one on private property near Little Gap 9/16 was seen for about 15 minutes (Corinne Campbell Schall, Michael Schall, *no doc*).

Clay-colored Sparrow – *Allegheny*: one at Beechwood Farms 10/22 (Brian Shema) and one at Marshall Township 11/23 (Janet Heintz); *Bucks*: one at Peace Valley Park 9/29 (ph. Howard Eskin) and one in Solebury Twp. 10/16-19 (Margie Rutbell); *Clarion*: noted at breeding grounds at Curllsville until 8/14 (Mark Moore), and one migrant was at SGL 62 on 9/2 (Lewis Crowell); *Lehigh*: one at SGL 205 on 11/11 (Frank Dickman); *Somerset*: one at Lake Somerset 10/25 (Mike Lanzzone); *York*: one at Hawk Lake Golf Course 10/9 (Dan Heathcote).

Le Conte's Sparrow* – *Chester*: one adult at Waterloo Mills Preserve 11/21 through the season (Kevin Fryberger, *doc submitted*).

Nelson's Sparrow – *Bedford*: one at Dunnings Creek Wetlands 11/1 (Tom Dick); *Bucks*: present at Pine Run Dam 10/2-29 (m.ob.); *Crawford*: one at Erie National Wildlife Refuge 10/7 (Shawn Collins); *Cumberland*: one at Mountain Road Marsh, SGL 169 on 10/2 (Andrew Markel); *Huntingdon*: one at Old Crow Wetland 10/14 (Greg Grove, David Kyler, Trudy Kyler, Joe Verica); *Lancaster*: up to 4 present at Bainbridge 9/26-10/15 (Eric Witmer); *Lawrence*: one at Black Swamp 9/23 and a few days thereafter (Shannon Thompson), and probably a different bird there 10/14 (Shannon Thompson); *Somerset*: one at Lake Somerset 10/9 (Mike Lanzzone) and one at the Somerset County Conservancy 10/24 (Mike Lanzzone); *Westmoreland*: one captured at Powdermill Nature Reserve 9/29 (Blane Carnes).

Saltmarsh Sparrow* – *Bucks*: one at Pine Run Dam 11/1-4 (ph. Cameron Rutt, August Mirabella, *doc submitted*) was almost certainly pushed to the area by Hurricane Sandy.

Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow* – *Bucks*: one imm. at Booming Glen 11/7 (ph. Cameron Rutt, *doc submitted*).

Summer Tanager* – *Berks*: one juv, male and one female at a birdbath in Bern Twp. 8/26 (Karen Wagner, Ron Wagner, Joan Silagy, *no doc*).

Dickcissel – *Bucks*: reported at Maple Knoll Farms 9/7, 9/20-21 (Richard Smith); *Chester*: one at Bucktoe Creek Preserve 9/30 (Hank Davis, et al.), and one over the hawkwatch site there 10/6 (Larry Lewis); *Clarion*: one continuing from summer at the Curllsville strips 8/9 was carrying food (Mark Moore); *Crawford*: one each at Conneaut Lake 8/6, Brooks Road 8/11, and Conneaut Marsh 8/14 (all Ronald F. Leberman); *Clearfield*: one at Sandy Ridge Road 8/10 (Tom Glover, eBird); *Montgomery*: continued from summer at a breeding site near Palm to at least 8/7 (George Franchois), one nocturnal migrant over the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust 9/20 and one was seen there 9/24 (Paul Driver), one was at the Militia Hill Hawk Watch 9/16 (Sam Perloff), and one was seen over the hawkwatch in Oct (Andrew Fayer); *Philadelphia*: one at Pennypack on the Delaware 9/30-10/3 (Frank Windfelder, Bill Keim) and one there again 10/13-16 (Frank Windfelder); *Somerset*: 2 in the Berlin area 9/13 (Mike Lanzzone, Jeff Payne).

Yellow-headed Blackbird* – *Bucks*: one male at Wrightstown Twp. 11/28 (ph. Pat Fenstermacher, *doc submitted*); *Perry*: one at Waggoner's Gap 9/2 (Dave Grove, *no doc*); *Washington*: one first year male at Greencove Wetlands 10/3 (Michael Dietrich *vide* John Boback, *no doc*).

Pine Grosbeak* – *Clinton*: 8-10 at a feeder in Woolrich (Carol and Charles Hildebrand, *no doc*).

Red Crossbill – reported in 30 counties.

White-winged Crossbill – reported in 43 counties.

Evening Grosbeak – reported in 33 counties.

CORRIGENDUM: In the Birds of Note in Volume 26, No 2 (Spring 2012), the **Bicknell's Thrush** listed 5/21 at Chalfont, *Bucks*, should be credited to Chuck Crunkleton and Elaine Crunkleton.

ADDENDUM: The **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks** reported 7/26 in *Lancaster* (Volume 26, No. 3) were later found to be escaped birds. An adult **Franklin's Gull** was photographed at Gull Point, *Erie* 6/1/2012 (Geoff Malosh) but was not included in the Birds of Note for Volume 26, No. 3 because the bird was initially misidentified as a Laughing Gull.

Photographic Highlights



Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*). This bird at Peace Valley Park, Bucks 17-19 November 2012 (here 17) was likely the same bird that appeared at Peace Valley and at Pine Run Dam in late November 2011. (August Mirabella)



Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*). The first Trumpeters for Montgomery were these two birds at Green Lane Res. 19 November 2012. They stayed only that day, but what were very likely the same two birds were found again on the Schuylkill R. near Pottstown a week later, where they wintered. (August Mirabella)



Brant (*Branta bernicla*). Hurricane Sandy brought historic numbers of this species to Pennsylvania during its passage 30 October 2012. This cooperative bird was photographed at Pennypack on the Delaware, Philadelphia, where the tally of Brant that day reached an impressive 345. (Tom Johnson)



Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*). Pennsylvania's second Western Grebe came in the form of this cooperative bird at Memorial Lake State Park, Lebanon 4-16 November 2012 (here 10 November). Amazingly, for about a week of its stay, all four of the other grebe species on the official Pennsylvania state list were also present at the lake. (Geoff Malosh)



Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*). This excellent comparison between Cackling and Canada Goose was captured at Peace Valley Park, Bucks 20 November 2012. (Cameron Rutt)



Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*). This bird was present with the Western Grebe above and three other grebe species at Memorial Lake State Park, Lebanon in early November, shown here 10 November 2012. (Geoff Malosh)



Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*). This female returned to a small pond at Washington Cemetery, *Washington* for an astounding tenth consecutive winter, first seen in November 2003 and shown here 17 November 2012. In years when the pond stays open, the bird remains deep into the winter; this year it moved on after about mid-January. (Geoff Malosh)



Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*). This Cattle Egret at Newtown, *Bucks* followed a pony around for the day 5 November 2012. In this charmingly comical photo, one can't help imagining the pony wondering if the bird knows its name is Cattle Egret and not Pony Egret. (Bill Keim)



American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*). This bittern attempted (not very successfully) to hide out in ivy vines for a day in a Scottsdale, *Westmoreland* yard 10 November 2012. There was no evidence of injury and the bird was gone the next day. (David Hiebart)



Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*). This bird continued from the summer season into August at the unlikelyst of locations: the Clarion River on the very heart of Cook Forest on the *Jefferson/Forest* border, shown here 25 August 2012. It remained until at least 27 August.



Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*). This standoff between a Snowy Egret and a snapping turtle was nicely photographed at Buckingham Springs, *Bucks* 9 August 2012. (Bill Keim)



White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*). Representing one of two or three records in the state this season, this White Ibis was near Saginaw, *York* 9 (here) to 12 August 2012. (Jason Miller)



American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*). It was not a great season for Golden-Plovers, but a number of cooperative birds were found nonetheless, including this bird at Shenango River Res., Mercer 1 September 2012. (Jeff McDonald)



Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*). Another early September highlight at Lake Somerset in Somerset was this Whimbrel present at the dam 5 to 14 September 2012 (here 5 September). Its cooperative nature made it a minor celebrity among western Pennsylvania birders, many of whom made the trip to Somerset to see it. (Jeff McDonald)



Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*). This juvenile at Gull Point, Erie 17 August 2012 had been banded at Sleeping Bear Dunes, Michigan a few months earlier. It was one of two migrant Piping Plovers found on Presque Isle State Park this summer. (Jerry McWilliams)



Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*). These four were part of a flock of 15 present briefly at the Conejohela Flats, Lancaster 26 August 2012. They represented one of just three records for the state this season. (Gordon Dimmig, gwd-photography.com)



American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*). This remarkably cooperative bird was present at Lake Somerset, Somerset 5 to 9 September 2012 (here 7 September), where it was enjoyed by many observers. (Geoff Malosh)



Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*). Another confiding bird at Shenango River Res., Mercer was this Buff-breasted Sandpiper, one of three there 28 August to 26 September 2012, here 1 September. (Jeff McDonald)



Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*). Quite rare anywhere in Pennsylvania is the occurrence of multiple Franklin's Gulls. These 5 juveniles appeared for a few hours at Shenango River Res., Mercer 22 September 2012, giving Mercer its second record of the species. (Geoff Malosh)



Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*). Black Terns seem to be ever more unusual in Pennsylvania in fall. This juvenile was nicely photographed at the Conejohela Flats, Lancaster 8 August 2012. (Alex Lamoreaux)



Calliope Hummingbird (*Selasphorus calliope*). The tiniest of United States hummingbirds is shown here fitting nicely on a single fingertip shortly after it was banded at Devon, Chester 1 November 2012. It was present 16 October to 11 November, and represented just the second record for the state. (Nick Pulcinella)



Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*). Saw-whets staged a historic flight into Pennsylvania this fall. Literally thousands of these little owls were captured at banding stations this fall, including this one in the Allegheny National Forest, McKean 8 October 2012, shown here shortly after its release. (John Fedak)



Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*). It was a great season for Olive-sided Flycatchers in Pennsylvania, with records from 27 counties. This bird was photographed at Shenango River Res., Mercer 28 August 2012. (Jeff McDonald)



Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*). Following an impressive statewide showing during Hurricane Sandy, a handful of Cave Swallows congregated with the wintering flock of Northern Rough-winged Swallows at the Northeast Water Treatment Plant in Philadelphia in November and into the winter. This bird was photographed at the plant 17 November 2012. (Cameron Rutt)



Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*). It was a very good November (and winter) for Snow Buntings, and few were as cooperative and reliable as a flock of about 50 at an industrial park in Findlay Twp., Allegheny, where this bird was photographed 18 November 2012. (Cory DeStein)



Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*). Another species that made a huge push into Pennsylvania this season was Red-breasted Nuthatch, which by season's end was reported in all 67 Pennsylvania counties. This bird was at Downingtown, Chester 22 October 2012. (Holly Merker)



Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*). Yet another species that put in a great season in Pennsylvania was Connecticut Warbler, found in 21 counties including this bird at Little Gap (Carbon) 12 September 2012. (Dustin Welch)



Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*). This wheatear was present for just one day in a vacant parking lot in Reading, Berks 4 October 2012. It was found only because its discoverer, Mike Slater, had been forced from his office building by an accidental fire alarm. (Chuck Chalfant)



Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*). This individual at Waterloo Mills Preserve, Chester beginning 21 November 2012 and staying through the end of the season (here 24 November) was remarkably cooperative for an *Ammodramus*. (Geoff Malosh)



Nelson's Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*). Birders continue to find the elusive Nelson's Sparrow with increasing frequency. This season they were found in six western counties and eight overall; this bird was at Black Swamp, *Lawrence* 23 September 2012. (*Geoff Malosh*)



Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*). Redpolls appeared in great numbers this season as well, and at times in November when the invasion was underway they were seen in odd locations, like this bird at the Grove City Outlet Mall in southern *Mercer* 22 November 2012. (*Geoff Malosh*)



Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*). This bird at Peace Valley Park, *Bucks* 29 September 2012 represented a new early fall date for *Bucks*. (*Howard Eskin*)



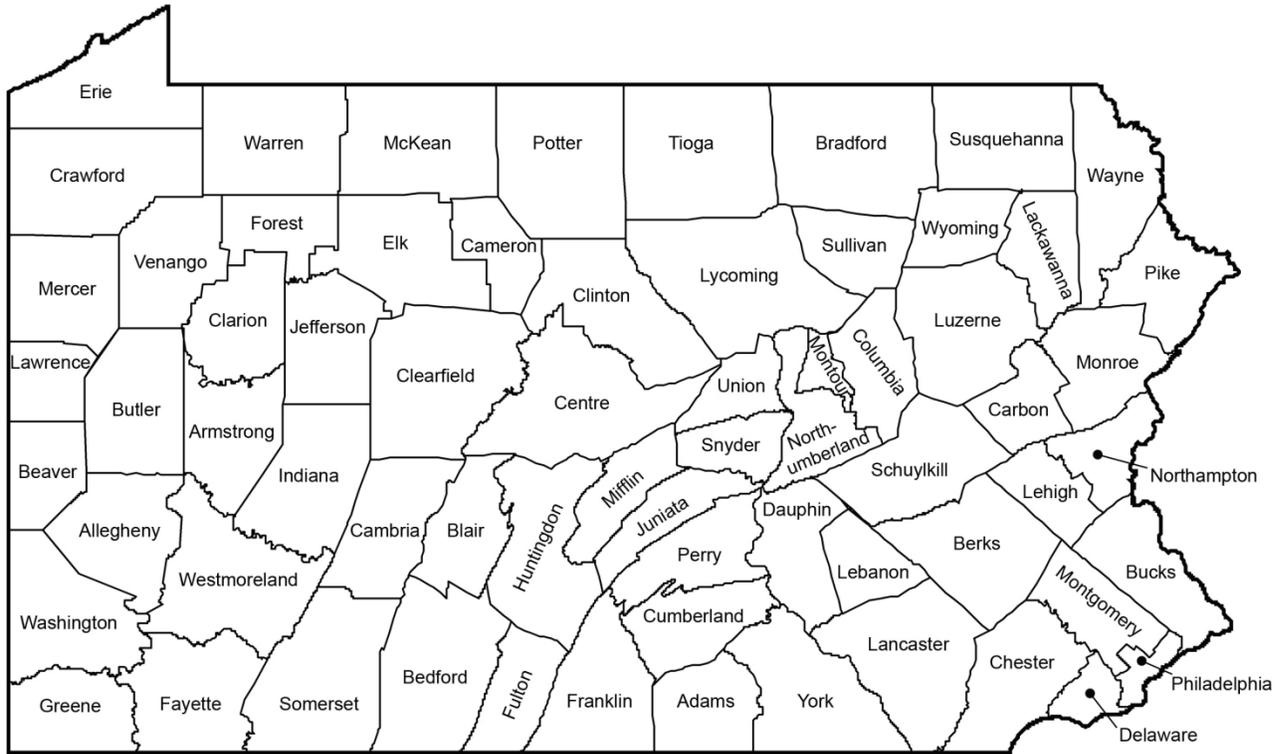
Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*). Feeders jammed full of Evening Grosbeaks are but a distant memory even for Pennsylvania's most seasoned birders, but following the third strong October flight of the species in the past six years, a few flocks finally settled down to winter in the state. Most notable were up to 150 that remained in Marienville, *Forest* throughout the winter beginning in early November, shown here 18 November 2012. (*Geoff Malosh*)



White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*). White-winged Crossbills staged another enormous flight into Pennsylvania in November, reminiscent of their historic winter of 2008-09, but they did not stay in huge numbers through the winter. Nevertheless, birders were afforded many opportunities to enjoy these northern visitors once again. This bird was at State College, *Center* 4 November 2012. (*Alex Lamoreaux*)



Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*). A portrait of a gorgeous male Evening Grosbeak, perhaps the most charismatic of all winter finches, at Marienville 18 November 2012. (*Geoff Malosh*)



ABBREVIATIONS

B.B.S.	Breeding Bird Survey	max	maximum	R.B.A.	Rare Bird Alert
C.A.	Conservation Area	min	minimum	Res.	Reservoir
C.B.C.	Christmas Bird Count	m. ob.	many observers	Rte.	Route
C.P.	County Park	Mt. (Mts.)	Mount/Mountain/Mountains	S.F.	State Forest
Cr.	Creek	N.A.	Nature Area or Natural Area	SGL	State Game Land
et al.	and others	N.F.	National Forest	S.P.	State Park
Ft.	Fort	N.M.	National Monument	S.T.P.	Sewage Treatment Plant
G.C.	Golf Course	N.P.	National Park	subad(s).	subadult(s)
G.P.	Game Preserve	N.W.R.	National Wildlife Refuge	Twp.	Township
Hwy.	Highway	PAMC	Pennsylvania Migration Count	vr.	voice recording
imm(s).	immature(s)	ph.	Photographed	vt.	videotape
Jct.	Junction	Pt.	Point	W.A.	Wildlife Area
juv(s).	juvenal [plumage]; juvenile(s)	R.	River	W.M.A.	Wildlife Management Area
L.	Lake	R.A.	Recreational Area	WRS	Winter Raptor Survey

eBird Usage: Data for these reports and throughout this journal include observations collected from the eBird database <<http://www.ebird.org>>. Citation: eBird. 2012. eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. eBird, Ithaca, New York. Available: <http://www.ebird.org>. (Accessed: 15 March 2013)

Adams County

Buttonwood Road Farm Pond (BTWD), East Berlin (EB), Gettysburg (GBG), Gettysburg College Quarry (GCQ), Gettysburg National Military Park (GNMP), Huntington Township (HUNT), Long Pine Run Reservoir (LPRR), Mountain Rd (MTN), State Game Lands #249 (SGL)

It was a fair reporting period with 132 species observed and highlighted by an *Adams* first, a **Swallow-tailed Kite**.

There was no coverage of county lake and reservoirs during the passage of Hurricane Sandy. Waterfowl were limited to 14 species. Notable reports included: 2 **Snow Goose** at GCG 10/8 (AW), a single **Tundra Swan** at Lake Heritage 11/24 (MS), 13 **Blue-winged Teal** at BTWD 9/10 (PK), **Northern Shoveler** 10/23-11/8 (AW) with a high count of 5 on the initial date, 10 **Lesser Scaup** at GCG 11/2 (AW), and a **Common Loon** at LPRR 8/21 (CB). No exceptional waders or shorebirds were found; **Wilson's Snipe** were reported from GCQ with 2 birds 11/6 (AW) and a single continuing through 11/10.

Osprey, **Bald Eagle**, and **Northern Harrier** sightings numbered four, seven, and six, respectively. The **Swallow-tailed Kite** (doc. submitted) was observed 8/23 (BL) at the intersection of Rte. 234 and Possum Hollow Rd in the most portion of the county. The bird was first seen in the company of two **Turkey Vultures**. Heavy traffic prevented safe observation, but the bird was observed three additional times while making driving loops of the area. A probable light morph **Rough-legged Hawk** was observed 11/20 (CM) along Camp Gettysburg Rd. Encouragingly, reports of **American Kestrel** were up, and a high count of 5 came from Fickes School Road 9/2 (PK).

Yellow-billed Cuckoos were at SGL 9/13 (DJG) and LPRR 8/25 (CB). Black-billed Cuckoo went unreported. There were two reports of **Common Nighthawk**; 6 birds at Granite Hill Campground 8/18 (RGTS), and 8 along Schriver Road 9/9 (RDS). Hundreds of **Chimney Swifts** were seen over Biglerville High School 9/27 (RDS). The last reports of **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was 9/26 at MTN (RDS) fell in the normal range for that species' departure, but one 11/3-9 at EB was late (PK). Identification was made based photos of the bird by PJR. A banding attempt was made 11/10 but it turned out to be a day too late. *Adams* is a noted Pennsylvania

stronghold for **Red-headed Woodpecker** and this was substantiated with six reports this season, one of them of 19 birds along Wheatfield Rd 11/30 (BI) including several juveniles. The observer noted that it is not unusual to see 8-12 birds along a 3-mile stretch of this road. There was good reporting of **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, **Hairy Woodpecker**, and **Pileated Woodpecker**, with observations numbering 7, 5, and 6, respectively.

A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** at SGL 8/18 (DJG) was a nice find. The county can rarely claim a clean sweep of the expected vireos but it happened this period. **White-eyed** and **Yellow-throated Vireo** were at SGL 9/2 (PK); **Blue-headed Vireo** (3) were at LPRR 8/25 (CB), at SGL 10/14 (PK), and at HUNT 10/27 (VG); **Warbling Vireo** (2) were at SGL 9/2 (PK) and Marsh Creek 9/1 (MS); **Philadelphia Vireo** was at LPRR 8/25 (CB) and GNMP 9/23 (JB), and there were four reports of **Red-eyed Vireo**. **Common Ravens** continue to be found away from Michaux State Forest; this season there were four reports and a high count of 3 at CGQ 8/24 (AW). **Purple Martin** was not reported after 8/18. Four **Bank Swallows** were at LPRR 8/21 (CB). The **Red-breasted Nuthatch** irruption was very evident in *Adams* with widespread reports starting 9/3. Two reports were made of **Black-capped Chickadee**, another irruptive species, 6 at LPRR 8/25 (CB) and 2 at EB 11/23 (PK). Singles of **Brown Creeper** and **Winter Wren** were at HUNT 11/1 (VG). **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were found at five locations with a high of 7 at HUNT 11/1 (VG). There were seven reports of **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** with a high count of 6 from SGL 10/14 (PK). A bit of a harbinger of a good winter season for **American Pipit** were 20 birds at HUNT 10/27 (VG).

There were a few highlights among the 16 warbler species reported. There were 3 **Tennessee Warblers**, 3 **Pine Warblers**, and 2 **Cerulean Warblers** at LPRR 8/25 (CB). A **Nashville Warbler** was at MTN 10/4 (RDS) and there were three reports of **Bay-breasted Warbler** 8/25-9/23 (CB, RDS, JB). Reports of sparrows were reasonable. A very early **American Tree Sparrow** was at SGL 10/14 (PK). Latest **Chipping Sparrow** report was 11/24 at HUNT (DJG). The sole **Savannah Sparrow** report came from GNP 9/23 (JB). There were five reports of **Fox Sparrow** in a fairly confined period 10/30-11/11, coinciding well with the peak fall migration of this species in Pennsylvania. There were two reports of **Lincoln's Sparrow**, 10/14 (PK) at SGL and 11/9 (PM) at GNMP. There were three reports of **Swamp Sparrow** with a high count of 5 at Camp Gettysburg Rd 11/20 (CM). A **White-crowned Sparrow** was at HUNT 11/20-24 (DJG) and 4 were found in HUNT 10/27 (VG).

Four reports of **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** 8/14-9/24 (RDS, DJG, NL, JB) was more than normal; observations 8/14 and 8/18 included juvenile birds. As would be expected, high counts of the four reports of **Eastern Meadowlark** came from GNMP with 16 on 8/22 (DS) and 20 on 9/23 (JB). **Brown-headed Cowbird** was noted until 11/24 at HUNT (DJG).

Purple Finches were widespread (10 reports) beginning 9/20, with a high count of 4 at HUNT (DJG). A single **Red Crossbill** was confirmed via sight and call at Fairfield 11/3 (MOB). GNMP Soldier's Cemetery held **White-winged Crossbill** 11/20-26 (AW, JW, DSm, JBr, JH) with 11/26 producing the high count of 22 (AW). **Pine Siskin** were noted in eight locations 10/8-11/29, with a high count of up to 8 birds 10/14 in Liberty Township (PM).

Observers: **Phil Keener**, 198 Jacobs Street, East Berlin, PA 17316, (717) 259-9984, pittche74@yahoo.com, Mike Bartram, Jason Berry (JB), Chris Blazo, Jim Brighton (JBr), Sarel Cousins, Vern Gauthier, Ron Georse/Tracy Snyder (RGTS), Don & Jennifer Gilbert (DJG), John Hubbell, Britt Isenberg, Kathy King, Ben Leese, Nancy Locher, Jenny McClintock, Christine McCluskey, Peter Morgan, Mike O'Brien (MOB), Edward Pullen, Peter Robinson (PJR), Dennis Shepler (DS), Ralph & Deb Siefken (RDS), Dan Small (DSm), Mike Stinson, Jason Verdier, Kathy Whittier, Jim Wilkinson, Andy Wilson.

Allegheny County

Locations: Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve in Fox Chapel (BF), Imperial (IMP), Pine Twp. (PT), Sewickley Heights Park (SEWHP).

The week of 10/30 was exceptional for rarities across Pennsylvania with the passage of Hurricane Sandy. Here in the western part of the state, seabirds and other coastal rarities were not widespread as the storm turned to the north just east of here, but there were a few county firsts and notable birds during the storm's passage. A good northern finch invasion also began across the state and reports of these visitors began here in November.

A **Snow Goose** was spotted flying with a flock of Canada Geese over Brackenridge 11/30 (RP). A flock was heard flying over PT 11/5 (PL, SL) but could not be seen. Six **Cackling Geese** were at the ponds on Moody Road in Findlay Twp. 11/21-22 (MV); the second county record. This species was

also at this location Dec-Jan 2008-9. They were on a small pond at nearby Janoski's Farm 11/24 (MV) and remained through the end of the season. A **Brant** was at Duck Hollow 10/29 (PK) and a flock of 25 were observed in flight over Sewickley 10/31 (GM); both sightings were the result of Hurricane Sandy. These sightings account for the third and fourth county records. The first **Tundra Swans** of the fall were seen 11/3 flying over Hazelwood (KSJ); there were 9 birds in the flock. Tundra Swan movement was evident 11/13-14 with 111 flying over the Penn Dot Wetlands in Upper St. Clair (ST) and an unknown number flying over Greenfield 11/13 (KSJ); 60 were in flight over Shaler Twp. (JH) and 50 over Moon Twp. (GM) 11/14. A flock of 50 were flying over Homewood Cemetery (MF), 33 were seen over Blawnox (DY), and 50 were over Etna (DY), all 11/24.

An early **American Black Duck** was at IMP 8/4 (MV). A **Blue-winged Teal** was there 8/18 (MV) followed by three 9/8 (MV). Two **Red-breasted Mergansers** were at North Park 10/30 (PL). Three **Gadwall** were in Findlay Twp. 10/22 (MV), one was at North Park 10/31 (BM) and four were at IMP 11/10 (BMu, JHau). A female **Northern Pintail** and a female **Redhead** were at Janoski's Farm in Findlay Twp. 11/24 (MV). A flock of 7 dark-winged **scoter sp.** were high over the Point in Pittsburgh 11/4 (DY). October brought in various species of waterfowl in small numbers including **American Wigeon**, **Green-winged Teal**, **Ring-necked Duck**, **Bufflehead**, **Hooded Merganser**, **Common Merganser** and **Ruddy Duck**.

A pair of **Ring-necked Pheasants** was found at IMP 11/10 (SC), the first in a few years. Two **Common Loons** were on the Allegheny R. at the Highland Park Dam 10/31 (DY). A **Pied-billed Grebe** was on the pond at Bald Knob, IMP 8/10 (MV). Two were there 8/18-9/22 (MV, et al.). Six were at Duck Hollow 9/28 (TM, NM). This species was reported widely the remainder of the season. Eight **Horned Grebes** were at Duck Hollow 10/28 (KSJ), two were at Riverfront Park on the Southside 10/30 (SK) and two were on the Allegheny R. at the Highland Park Dam 10/31 (DY).

Last season an adult **Sora** and two chicks were a pleasant surprise at IMP. The two chicks were seen moving around the cattails and swimming 8/11 (MF). Reports of Soras were numerous for *Allegheny*. A juvenile was at Wingfield Pines 8/25 (DW, ST), a juvenile was at BF 9/10-12 (BC) and another juvenile was at IMP 9/23 (BC). These three juveniles were most likely migrants rather than representatives of local breeders.

Two **Green Herons** were at IMP 8/4 (MV) and one was there 9/1 (MV). A **Great Blue Heron** was flushed out of a marsh at Harrison Hills Park 9/19 carrying a small bird in its bill, perhaps a Song Sparrow (MF).

Two **Osprey** were at Leetsdale 8/11 (PB). Single birds were reported at Homestead 9/8 (TM, NM), Carnegie 9/14 (SK), Duck Hollow 9/18 (JS, SS) and 9/22 (JS, SS, MVV), Sharpsburg 9/26 (TB), and North Park 10/29 (BM, BSh). A **Bald Eagle** was perched near the McKees Rocks Bridge 8/11 (SC) and one was at Duck Hollow 11/17 (PHi). There were two reports 11/23: one flying over Penn Hills (MS) and one flying near the Hulton Bridge along the Allegheny River in Harmar Twp. (PB). Two **Northern Harriers** were observed flying over Homewood Cemetery in the East End of Pittsburgh 9/22, an unusual location (JS, MVV). A male was seen in an unusual location 11/9; it was flying at tree top level in Schenley Park (TBI).

Reports of shorebirds were sparse this fall. Two **American Golden-Plovers** were at IMP 9/18 (MV). Two **Semipalmated Plovers** were there 8/30-31 (MV) and one remained 9/1 (GG). **Killdeer** remained into November at several locations with a high of 30 in Findlay Twp. 11/24 (MV). Three **Lesser Yellowlegs** were at IMP 9/21 (MV), the only report. Nine **Solitary Sandpipers** were there 8/5 (MV), one was at Wingfield Pines 8/25 (ST) and one was at the Penn Dot Wetlands near Wingfield Pines in Upper St. Clair 10/20 (ST). The last **Spotted Sandpiper** report was from Duck Hollow 9/22 (JS, SS, MVV). There were only three reports of **Least Sandpiper**, all from IMP—two 8/18 and one 8/20 and 8/30 (MV). A **Baird's Sandpiper** was a nice find at IMP 8/18 (MV). The only **Pectoral Sandpiper** was a single bird at IMP 8/11 (MF). A flock of 125 **Dunlin** were spotted during the passage of Sandy along the Allegheny River at Oakmont 10/30 (DYe), probably the highest count ever recorded here. **Wilson's Snipe** included one at IMP 9/10 (MV) and two there 10/5 (MV), three at the Penn Dot Wetlands 10/20 (ST), one at IMP 10/22 (MV), one at North Park 10/28 (POB) and one at the Penn Dot Wetlands 11/13 (ST). Two **American Woodcock** were found at BF 10/22 (BSh). A **Red Phalarope** was on the Allegheny River at the Highland Park Dam 10/30 (JH) during the hurricane.

A light morph juvenile **Long-tailed Jaeger** landed at the Bald Knob pond briefly 8/31 (MV), a first county record. Unfortunately it soon lifted off and was not seen again. This was an odd occurrence because there were no storm fronts associated with the bird's presence. The county's first **Pomarine Jaeger** was spotted 10/30 flying up the Ohio River at Dashields Dam (GM). A **jaeger species** (parasitic or pomarine) was seen flying over Fox Chapel 10/31 (BSh), but the bird could not be identified to species.

A flock of 18 **Bonaparte's Gulls** passed Dashields Dam 10/30 and one was there 10/31 (GM); yet more hurricane influenced birds. Uncommon in the county, a **Common Tern** was found at Duck Hollow 9/28-29 (TM),

NM, et al.) and one was in Blawnox 10/31-11/1 (AH, PM, JV). Hurricane Sandy continued to produce rare birds in the area when two immature **Black Skimmers** were found at McKees Rocks 11/4 (MV); a first county record. The birds were resting on a boat dock, but eventually began to fly around and feed. It was interesting to see skimmers feeding along the Ohio River within sight of downtown Pittsburgh. Fortunately many people were able to see and photograph the birds. Both remained to 11/6, then a single bird remained 11/7-9 (m.ob.).

A **Mourning Dove** nest still contained chicks 9/14 in Carnegie (SK). A **Barred Owl** was heard calling in Schenley Park 10/8 (KSJ). This is presumably the same individual that has been seen the past two winters in the park. Three **Short-eared Owls** were at IMP 11/18 (CD). A **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was calling at BF 10/13 (BSh). The **Common Nighthawk** migration seemed to be lackluster with small numbers of birds reported. The highest count was in Moon Twp. where 102 were tallied 8/22 (GM).

A *Selasphorus* hummingbird visited a feeder in Leetsdale 10/27 (BS). It was banded 10/28 and found to be an ad. female **Rufous Hummingbird** (BMu). It remained through the end of this reporting period. A hatch year male **Rufous Hummingbird** was banded at a home on Mount Washington 11/26 (BMu, KMa). This bird was first seen 10/28 (KMa, fide RP).

There were two reports of **Red-headed Woodpeckers**; both made in Aug of birds continuing from the summer season. The bird visiting a yard in Upper St. Clair continued to visit in August and it was photographed 8/2 (DW, ST). Very surprisingly, a pair was found at North Park 7/30, but not reported until 8/8 (KM). The observer walks the area regularly and did not notice the birds prior to 7/30. The birds were in a valley with several dead trees and showed interest in a cavity in one of the trees. Breeding was not confirmed; they were last seen 9/10 (KM). A pair was observed at a cavity in the park in 1982 (JH, pers. comm.) and an imm. wintered there in 1999.

There were several reports of **Olive-sided Flycatcher** (all single birds): 9/8 at BF (BSh), 9/14 at Frick Park (SS), 9/15 at Homewood Cemetery (MVV) and 9/17 at SEWHP (DN). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** reports include one at Wingfield Pines 9/1 (DW, ST), one at SEWHP 9/7-17 (BVN, et al.), one at BF 9/7-14 (BSh, et al.), one at Boyce-Mayview Park 9/12 (JM) and two there 9/15 (ST) and one at Duck Hollow 9/19 (TM, NM). **Acadian Flycatchers** were calling in migration in September allowing for confident identification. One was at Wingfield Pines 9/1 (DW, ST) and one was calling at Fox Chapel 9/14 (AL, CD). A **Willow Flycatcher** was calling at BF 9/7 (BSh), the only report this season. Rarely reported in the county, there were two reports of **Alder Flycatchers**. One was at BF 9/7 (BSh) and one was at SEWHP 9/28 (GM). Fortunately both sang, clinching the identification. A **Great Crested Flycatcher** was in Shaler Twp. 9/2 (JH), one was at BF 9/14 (AL, CD) and two were at SEWHP 9/23 (RT).

A **Northern Shrike** was at IMP 11/10 (BMu, JHau) and again 11/19 (GG). An adult **Red-eyed Vireo** was observed feeding a juvenile at SEWHP 9/7 (BVN). A **Common Raven** was seen flying over Ross Twp. 8/28 (STI) and two were in the same area 9/13 (BVN). Other reports include one flying over Bridgeville 9/17 (MVV), one at IMP 9/22 (GG), two 10/4 (JV) and one 10/8 (POB) at North Park, one at Duck Hollow 10/8 (TM, NM), two at IMP 10/10 (SC), two in Shaler Twp. 11/18 (DY), and one at IMP 11/23 (RT). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were widespread this fall and were reported from 9/1 through the season. There was a good movement south of this species across Pennsylvania this fall. Two rare wrens were found this fall, on the same day at the same location. A **Sedge Wren** was singing at Harrison Hills Park 9/16 (PH) providing the third county record. While other observers were searching for it that day, a **Marsh Wren** was found (BC). The Sedge Wren was present at least to 9/17 and the Marsh Wren continued to 9/22. A **Marsh Wren** was found at Imperial 9/22 (BC, CD) and at Wingfield Pines 9/23 (DW). Two were at Boyce-Mayview Park 9/23 (DW).

Eastern Bluebirds were feeding young in a nest box at Boyce-Mayview Park 9/15 (ST). I received a late report of two pairs that attempted (but failed) to nest at Schenley Park this past summer. This is significant because the big news of the previous breeding season was the successful nesting of two other pairs in the city limits. A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was at Boyce-Mayview Park 9/15 (ST). Six were heard calling at dawn in Harrison Hills Park 9/17 (GM), one was in Moon Twp. 9/22 (GM), one at SGL 203 in Marshall Twp. 9/26 (GM), two at SEWHP 9/28 (GM) and one at Harrison Hills Park 9/29 (MF, TRBC). All **Hermit Thrush** reports were single birds at Harrison Hills Park 10/5 (SG), Knob Hill Park 10/14 (KD), Frick Park 10/21 (DWe), SEWHP 10/22 (GM) and Frick Park 11/14 (JS, SS). The **American Robin** roost in Ross Twp. was active again this fall with birds reported there beginning in August (MK). **Brown Thrasher** reports include one at BF 9/10 (BSh), two at Homewood Cemetery near Frick Park 9/16 (MVV), two at Frick Park 9/17 (DWe) and one at Harrison Hills Park 9/19 (MF).

A **Lapland Longspur** was among a flock of 50 **Snow Buntings** at IMP 11/10 (SC); a single **Snow Bunting** was there 11/18 (CD).

Thirty-two species of warblers were reported this fall, plus one hybrid. A **Northern Waterthrush** was at SEWHP 9/28 (ST). A **Brewster's Warbler**

was at BF 8/28 (BSh) and a **Golden-winged Warbler** was there 9/10 (BSh). **Orange-crowned Warbler** reports included single birds at BF 9/7 (BSh), Harrison Hills Park 9/19 (MF), Oakland 9/24 (FI), SGL203 in Marshall Twp. 9/26 (GM), SEWHP 9/28 (GM, BC), BF 9/28 (BSh, DN) and Etna 11/13 (DY). The bird in Oakland was perched on a windowsill allowing close views and the bird in Etna was bathing in a garden pond. Reports of **Connecticut Warblers** were exceptional with single birds at SEWHP 9/8 (POB), a first fall bird at BF 9/10 (BSh), one in Harmar Twp. 9/18 (JK, LK), and adult male at BF 9/27 (BSh) and one at SEWHP 9/28 (GM). **Mourning Warbler** reports were quite numerous. Single birds were at SEWHP 8/30 (GM) and 9/7 (BVN), and three different birds were at BF including a juvenile 9/11, an adult female 9/17 and a first fall male 9/27 (BSh). Two **Kentucky Warblers** were at BF 9/7 (BSh). Rarely reported in fall, a **Cerulean Warbler** was at BF 9/7 (BSh). **Cape May Warbler** reports were quite numerous with repeated sightings at BF 8/30-9/28 (DN, BSh, AL, CD) and Natrona Heights 9/12-10/19 (PH). The high count in Natrona Heights was five 9/17. One was at Pine Haven Park in PT 9/2 (PL, SL), one at Harrison Hills Park 9/10 (PH, JS, SS), one at SEWHP 9/13 (GM), one at Frick Park 9/14 (SS) and six at SEWHP 9/28 (GM). A **Northern Parula** was at SEWHP 9/16 (DW, ST) and 9/17 (DN). There were two reports of **Pine Warblers**, both from PT where single birds were found 9/2 and 9/28 (PL, SL). A possible **Audubon's Yellow-rumped Warbler** was at North Park 10/6 (POB). Fall reports of **Yellow-throated Warblers** are usually sparse, but this fall there were several, interestingly all from backyards. One was in a yard in Pleasant Hills 9/3 (BMu, PM), one took refuge during a rainy day on a porch in Lawrenceville 9/8 (AB, CB) and one was in that same yard, this time in a shrub, 9/24 (AB, CB). Single **Canada Warblers** were found at HHP 8/12 (SG), PT 8/23 (PL, SL), SEWHP 9/8 (POB) and BF 9/9 (BSh). **Wilson's Warbler** reports include one at BF 8/28 (BSh), one at North Park 9/7 (POB), one at Harrison Hills Park 9/8 (MF), one there 9/10 (PH, JS, SS), one at North Park 9/10 (POB), one in PT 9/23 (PL, SL) and one at SEWHP 9/28 (ST).

A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was discovered at BF during the mowing of the field habitat at the site 10/22 (BSh) and one was in Marshall Twp. 11/23 (JHz). A **Vesper Sparrow** was at IMP 10/22 (MV) along with 3 **Savannah Sparrows**. **Savannah Sparrows** were also reported from two other locations. One was at BF 9/8 (BSh, MH, JHau) and 3 were at North Park 10/6 (POB). **Fox Sparrow** reports include one at Knob Hill Park 10/14 (KD), one in Moon Twp. 11/7 (GM), 3 at the Penn Dot Wetlands near Boyce-Mayview Park 11/9 and five there 11/13 (ST) and 3 at IMP 11/10 (BMu, JHau). **Lincoln's Sparrows** were reported from seven locations between 9/10 and 10/22. A few **Swamp Sparrows** lingered into November including one 11/2 in PT (PL, SL), 5 at the Penn Dot Wetlands 11/5 (ST), one at IMP 11/10 (BMu, JHau) and two at Frick Park 11/17 (MF). This species probably winters in small numbers in the county.

Two **Bobolinks** flew over at IMP 8/11 (MF). A few late **Red-winged Blackbirds** included one in PT 11/1-3 (PL, SL) several at Homewood Cemetery 11/11 (RD, fide JS), one at IMP 11/21 (SS) and one in PT 11/30 (PL, SL). **Eastern Meadowlarks** remained at IMP into Nov. Three were seen there 11/10 (BMu, JHau) and at least 8 were there 11/21 (MF, MH). They may winter at the grasslands. Other late blackbirds included a **Common Grackle** in PT 11/1 (PL, SL), one in Oakland 11/9 (FI) and five in Shaler Twp. 11/18 (DY) and 26 **Brown-headed Cowbirds** at IMP 11/21 (MV). An **Orchard Oriole** was at BF 9/7 (BSh).

Up to two **Purple Finches** were in PT the entire season (PL, SL). One was at BF 9/7 (BSh), one at Frick Park 10/11 (SS), two in Shaler Twp. 10/21 (JH) one in Squirrel Hill 10/29 (MH) and one in Harmar Twp. 11/3 (JV). *Allegheny* was part of the exciting northern finch invasion in November. Four **Red Crossbills** were in Moon Twp. 11/11 (GM). The first report of **White-winged Crossbills** were at IMP 11/10 (BMu, JHau) where two birds were seen. Reports increased with small numbers seen throughout the county. The highest counts included 18 in Marshall Twp. 11/16 (JHz), 17 at Imperial 11/18 (CD), 18 in Shaler Twp. 11/24 (DY) and 22 at Deer Lakes Park 11/24 (DYe). Small numbers of **Pine Siskins** were widespread in the county in Oct and Nov. An early bird was reported at a feeder in Swissvale 9/4 (MB, eBird). It was described well. The high count was 15 at the Penn Dot wetlands in Upper St. Clair 10/20 (ST). Two **Evening Grosbeaks** stopped briefly in Natrona Heights 10/26 (PH), the only report for the season.

EXOTICS: a **Nutmeg Mannikin** visited a feeder briefly in Natrona Heights 11/23 (PH).

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Johnson, Peter Keyel, Margie Kern, Dave Kerr, Scott Kinzey, Alex Lamoreaux, Jerry Kruth, Linda Kruth, Pat Lynch, Sherron Lynch, Ryan McKermott, Jeff McDonald, Pat McShea, Bob Machesney, Geoff Malosh, Kim Marasco (KMa), Kathy Miller, Nancy Moeller, Tom Moeller, Bob Mulvihill (BMu), Pam Mulvihill, Dick Nugent, Philio O'Brien (POB), Rob Protz, Kate St. John (KSJ), Steve Sanford (SSa), Brian Shema (BSH), Sam Sinderon (SSN), Becky Smith, Jack Solomon, Sue Solomon, Mary Sterrett, Steve Thomas (STh), Shannon Thompson, Three Rivers Birding Club Members (TRBC), Steve Tirone (STi), Ryan Tomazin, Mark VanderVen (MVV), Jim Valimont, Bob VanNewkirk (BVN), Mark Vass, Dan Weeks (DWe), Dave Wilton, Dan Yagusic, David Yeany (DYe).

Armstrong County

Locations: Crooked Creek Park (CC), KR (Keystone Reservoir)

Canada Goose maxima included 65 at KR 9/2 (LC) and 60 near Margaret 11/30 (MH). A **Mute Swan** appeared on Redbank Creek near New Bethlehem 11/23 (AK). The high **Wood Duck** count of 20 (LC) was made 9/2 at KR, and 5 still lingered at CC 9/19 (DY). First 49 **Gadwalls** were reported 10/29 (MH, RH) at KR; 9 were still present 11/4 (MH, RH). Nine **American Wigeons** were found at KR 10/29 (MH, RH). The maximum **Mallard** tally of 50 was achieved 11/23 (AK) on Redbank Creek near New Bethlehem. First **Blue-winged Teal** arrived 9/1 (NB, KB) at KR. KR also hosted the first 4 **Green-winged Teal** 9/2 (LC); 16 was the high 11/4 (MH, RH). Thirty-eight **Ring-necked Ducks** were listed at CC 10/31 (MVT). Hurricane Sandy dropped 4 **White-winged Scoters** on KR 10/29 (MH, RH), the same day a flock of 22 **Buffleheads** was counted there; 4 were noted at CC 10/31 (MVT) and 3 were present at KR 11/4 (MH, RH). A single **Hooded Merganser** appeared at KR 9/2 (LC); 2 were at KR 10/29 (MH, RH) and 3 visited CC 11/25 (TR). KR harbored 2 **Common Mergansers** 9/2 (NB, KB) and 42 on 9/28 (LC). First 15 **Ruddy Ducks** arrived 9/28 (LC) at KR where one remained 11/4 (MH, RH); 8 stopped at CC 11/3 (TR).

Eighteen **Wild Turkeys** were tallied at KR 9/2 (LC) while 27 were counted near CC two days later (MVT).

Five **Common Loons** appeared at KR 10/29 (MH, RH), and one was at CC 10/31 (MVT). The first **Pied-billed Grebe** arrived at KR 9/1 (NB, KB); 7 was the count on both 9/2 (LC) and 10/29 (MH, RH); numbers spiked to 22 on 11/4 (MH, RH). A **Double-crested Cormorant** rested at KR 9/2 (NB, KB) and 10/29 (MH, RH). Two **Great Egrets** were spotted south of CC 8/9 (MVT). Six **Green Herons** were counted at KR 9/2 (LC); last individual was found at CC 9/18 (DY). Last **Turkey Vulture** flew over CC 10/19 (MVT). Reports of **Bald Eagle** included 3 at KR 9/2 (NB, KB) and a juvenile at the same location 9/28 (LC). Last **Broad-winged Hawks** were 2 listed 9/2 (NB, KB) at KR. The first **American Coot** was spotted 9/28 (LC) at KR; top count was 40 at CC 10/31 (MVT).

The season's only **Semipalmated Plover** appeared 9/2 (LC) at KR. Fourteen **Killdeer** were tallied 9/2 (NB, KB) at KR. Last **Spotted Sandpipers** were 3 on 9/2 (LC) at KR and one 9/10 (MVT) at CC. Three **Solitary Sandpipers** and 4 **Least Sandpipers** visited KR 9/2 (LC). A **Pectoral Sandpiper** at KR 11/4 (MH, RH) was the only one noted. KR hosted 3 **Bonaparte's Gulls** 11/4 (MH, RH) and a single **Ring-billed Gull** 9/1 (NB, KB). Two **Herring Gulls** were listed at CC 11/17 (MVT).

A yard near SGL 247 produced an **Eastern Screech-Owl** 10/1 (TR) and a **Great Horned Owl** 10/21 (TR). Three **Common Nighthawks** were sighted from the Kittanning Bridge 9/1 (MH, RH). Last **Chimney Swifts** were 15 at CC 9/26 (MVT). Last **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was one sw. of New Bethlehem 9/3 (MM).

CC yielded the last **Eastern Wood-Pewee** 9/26 (MVT). Two **Eastern Phoebes** still remained at KR 10/1 (MH, RH); 2 **Eastern Kingbirds** at KR 9/2 (LC) were last. Last vireo dates included 9/16 (TR) for **Yellow-throated Vireo** at Polka Hollow, 9/26 (MVT) for **Blue-headed Vireo** at CC, 9/16 (TR) for **Warbling Vireo** near CC, and 10/1 (MVT) for **Red-eyed Vireo** at CC. First **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was noted at CC 9/6 (MVT). A **Winter Wren** was sighted 10/8 (MVT) at CC. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** lingered at CC through 10/24 (MVT). The last reported **Wood Thrush** was at CC 9/19 (MVT). CC produced the last **Gray Catbird** 10/8 (MVT) and the last **Brown Thrasher** 10/24 (MVT).

A rather late **Louisiana Waterthrush** was found at Polka Hollow 8/3 (MVT). The last date for **Black-and-white Warbler** was 9/21 (MVT) at CC. A **Tennessee Warbler** and a **Nashville Warbler** lingered 10/1 (MVT) at CC which also had the last **Common Yellowthroat** 10/4 (RN). **American Redstart** sightings included 2 at KR 9/2 (LC) and one near CC 9/16 (TR). Last warbler dates included 9/26 (MVT) for 2 **Cape May Warblers** at CC; 10/2 (MVT) for **Northern Parula** at CC; 9/3 (MM) for **Chestnut-sided Warbler** near New Bethlehem; 10/8 (MVT) for **Blackpoll Warbler** at CC; 9/16 (TR) for **Black-throated Blue Warbler** near CC; 9/21 (MVT) for **Palm**

Warbler at CC; 9/26 (MVT) for **Pine Warbler** at CC; 8/13 (MVT) for **Prairie Warbler** at CC; and 9/26 (MVT) for the last **Black-throated Green Warbler** at CC. The last **Eastern Towhee** was listed at CC 10/24 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT). Last **Chipping Sparrows** were 2 at CC 10/24 (MVT). The last **Vesper Sparrow** was 10/29 was at CC (TR), which also yielded the last **Scarlet Tanager** and the last **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** 9/26 (MVT). **Indigo Bunting** lingered at CC 9/13 (MVT). An **Orchard Oriole** remained at CC through 8/13 (MVT). Three **Pine Siskins** visited CC 11/16 (MVT).

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Beaver County

Locations: Ambridge Reservoir (AR), Big Beaver Wetlands (BBW), Economy Borough (ECON), Independence Marsh (IND), New Brighton (NB), Raccoon Creek State Park (RCSP), Rochester (RCH).

A juvenile **Tundra Swan** was at AR 11/15 (BS, GM), and one was seen at BBW 11/24 (TJ). **Gadwall** passed through in a narrow window, with birds reported 10/28 at RCH (MV), one at IND 11/1 (BS) and 7 there 11/2 (MV), and a nice count of 17 at BBW 11/3 (TJ, KG). **American Black Duck** was sparse again, with 2 at RCH 10/28 (MV) and 2 at IND 11/16 (MV) the only reported. **Mallard** numbers at IND peaked at 100 on 11/2 (MV). The only report of **Blue-winged Teal** was of 8 at the gravel ponds near BBW 10/12 (MV). **Green-winged Teal** were widely reported, with peaks of 14 on 10/12 near BBW (MV) and 11/16-23 at IND (MV). Very unusual for IND was a female **Redhead** present 11/18-21 (MV). High count among few reports of **Ring-necked Duck** was 14 near BBW 11/11 (MV). The only report of **Lesser Scaup** was 15 at AR 11/15 (GM, BS), however AR received little coverage this season so this species and others were probably overlooked. Very nice were two **Surf Scoters** at RCH 10/28 (MV), providing an unusual fall report. Also surprising was a single **White-winged Scoter** at the gravel pond north of BBW 11/11 (BS, SM, KD, DF, RS). Interestingly, another **White-winged Scoter** was at the Three Rivers Gravel Pond in *Lawrence* the same day, which is just a few thousand feet (and over the county line) from the BBW area. **Buffleheads** were common in Nov, including at IND both 11/1-2 and 11/16-18 (m.ob.). Up to 10 **Ruddy Ducks** were at IND 11/1-2 (BS, MV), and 3 were there 11/16-21 (MV). Two were at AR 11/15 (GM).

A **Common Loon** was at RCH 10/28-30 (MV, SK), and three were at AR 11/1 (BS). **Pied-billed Grebes** were reported frequently in Nov throughout the county. Up to 12 **Double-crested Cormorants** spent late summer on the Beaver R. (m.ob.), and 45 were at RCH 10/28 (MV). A **Great Egret** was present at IND 8/8-9/7 (TJ, MV, GM), and one was at NB 8/12-15 (TJ, KG). **Turkey Vultures** took to roosting on a high-tension tower in East Rochester; peak count was 92 on 9/15 (MV). Away from nesting areas, **Ospreys** were seen on the Beaver R. in NB 8/12-9/10 (MV, TJ), and one was seen at RCSP 9/8 (GG). **Bald Eagles** were reported from four different locations: IND 9/3 (TJ) and 11/1 (BS), RCSP 9/8 (MV), 10/20 at Beaver Falls (TJ), and 11/11 over a shopping center in Chippewa (MV).

The dry conditions this fall in western Pennsylvania were actually too dry for shorebirds at IND; by mid-Aug the flats were nearly gone, and as a result, reports of shorebirds were well off this season. Nonetheless, all reports of shorebirds that follow are from IND unless otherwise noted. One or 2 **Semipalmated Plovers** were present 8/26-9/3 (MV, GM, TJ). **Killdeers** topped out at a paltry 63 on 9/3 (TJ). One or 2 **Lesser Yellowlegs** were reported a few times 8/26-9/18 (MV, GM, TJ). Numbers of **Solitary Sandpipers** were also well off, with a peak of just 15 on 8/20 (GM). A late **Solitary Sandpiper** was north of BBW 10/12 (MV). Up to 9 **Least Sandpipers** were reported 8/19-9/22. A **Pectoral Sandpiper** was found at the gravel ponds north of BBW 10/19-22 (MV). A **Bonaparte's Gull** was found at RCH 10/30 during the passage of Hurricane Sandy (SK), the only storm-related bird reported in Beaver.

Flocks of **Common Nighthawks** were reported in ECON 8/23 (58 birds, KD) and over Hopewell Twp. 9/2 (27 birds, MV). Max count of **Chimney Swifts** at IND was 200 on 9/18 (GM). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** was reported at RCSP 9/8 (MV) and from the Wildflower Reserve there 11/16-22 (DR, MV, et al.). An early **Merlin** appeared in NB 8/25-9/10 (TJ), and one (possibly the same) was at Beaver Falls 11/10 (TJ, KG).

A rainy morning 9/8 was superb for passerine migration at RCSP (GM). Flycatchers were well represented, headlined by an **Olive-sided Flycatcher**, very unusual for the park, along Lakeside Lodge Road (GM). A singing **Acadian Flycatcher**, 4 **Least Flycatchers**, and a single **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** were all also noted that day (GM). A late **Eastern Phoebe** was noted at IND 11/16 (MV). Five of the six vireo species were

noted at RCSP 9/8 (GM), all except Blue-headed. **Philadelphia Vireo** was also found at ECON 9/8 and 9/16 (KD), and again at RCSP 9/17 (SC). **Blue-headed Vireo** was reported at ECON 9/8 (KD) and RCSP 9/17 (SC). Two **Common Ravens** were spotted at Monaca 8/19 (MV). As was the case in many areas across the state, **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were frequent in *Beaver* this season beginning with one at RCSP 9/8 (GM). AR and the Wildflower Reserve at RCSP were both especially good for this species after mid-Oct. **Golden-crowned Kinglets** also appeared in good numbers this season, beginning 10/7 in ECON (KD). Last **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** was 2 at IND 10/19 (MV). Migrant spot-breasted thrushes were nearly absent from birders' lists this fall, with single **Swainson's Thrushes** in ECON 9/8 and 10/5 (KD) comprising the entire list.

A total of 27 species of warbler were reported for the season, primarily on the strength of a 21-species day at RCSP 9/8 (GM). Notable species and counts from that morning included: one **Lawrence's Warbler** (possibly a first fall record for *Beaver*), one **Blue-winged**, 15 **Tennessee**, 4 **Nashville**, one **Connecticut**, 3 **Cape May**, one **Northern Parula**, 20 **Magnolia**, 6 **Bay-breasted**, 12 **Blackburnian**, 4 **Chestnut-sided**, 5 **Blackpoll**, one **Pine**, 2 **Yellow-rumped**, one **Yellow-throated**, 20 **Black-throated Green**, 2 **Canada**, and one **Wilson's Warbler** (all GM). Waves of warblers were seen that day on Lakeside Lodge Road and along Lake Trail in heavy rain and an estimated 75 warbler sp. were left unidentified. Aside from this marvelous morning, highlights among warblers were as follows. One **Golden-winged Warbler** was seen in ECON 8/18 (KD). Two somewhat late **Tennessee Warblers** were at IND 10/5 (MV). Single **Cape May Warblers** were at ECON 9/8 (KD) and RCSP 9/22 (GM). Two **Bay-breasted Warblers** were at ECON 9/16 (KD) and one was at RCSP 9/22 (GM). **Blackpoll Warblers** were frequently reported at ECON (KD) and RCSP, including 10 on 9/22 (GM). **Palm Warblers** were at IND 9/28-10/5 (MV). Another **Pine Warbler** was at ECON 9/16 (KD). A somewhat late **Yellow-throated Warbler** was at RCSP 9/17 (SC). A **Canada Warbler** was at RCSP 9/22 (GM).

A late **Chipping Sparrow** was found at IND 11/17 (DR). The only **Fox Sparrow** of the season was at IND 11/10 (DR). **Lincoln's Sparrow** was frequently found at IND 9/19 (GM) to 10/19 (MV). Up to four **Swamp Sparrows** were at IND over the same general period (m.ob.). A nice count of 13 **White-crowned Sparrows** appeared at IND 10/14 (MV). Last **Indigo Bunting** was 2 at IND 10/5 (MV). **Eastern Meadowlark** is sometimes found out of place during migration; such was the case for one found at an industrial park in Monaca 10/25 (MV).

A good winter finch invasion was underway in Pennsylvania by season's end, and *Beaver* had its share of reports. Three **Purple Finches** were at ECON 10/13 (KD). Two **Red Crossbills** were photographed at the Wildflower Reserve at RCSP 11/16 (DR), and a small number of them were still there 11/19 (GM). I am aware of only one other county record, from the Beaver CBC in 1999. Hopeful crossbill searchers at the Wildflower Reserve 11/21 failed to find the Reds but came up with 11 **White-winged Crossbills** as a consolation prize (SS, JS, FI, AB). They were present to at least 11/23. Two **Pine Siskins** were at IND 10/14 (MV) and again 11/1 (BS). A flock of 21 was seen in ECON 11/4 (KD).

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Bedford County

Locations: Allegheny Front Hawk Watch (AFHW), Allegheny Front (AF), Dunnings Creek Wetlands (DCW), Shaffer Mountain (SM), Shawnee State Park (SSP), Bedford-at-large (BL).

Shawnee State Park was a hotbed of activity during the passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30. The storm's center passed very close by and dropped off several pelagic and coastal species, including: **Brant**, **Red-Necked Grebe**, **American Oystercatcher**, **Pomarine Jaeger**, **Parasitic Jaeger**, **Leach's Storm Petrel**, **Laughing Gull**, **Black-legged Kittiwake**, and a **Nelson's Sparrow**. Another bird of interest this season was a **Townsend's Solitaire**, potentially the eleventh record for Pennsylvania.

Unattributed sightings in this report are those of the author.

A total of 145 **Brant** were observed at SSP 10/30 (TD, ML, JP) during the passage of Sandy. Normally this species is limited to a few birds every 3-4 years in *Bedford*. The high for **Canada Geese** was 400 on 10/6 at DCW. At least 1600 **Tundra Swans** in multiple groups flew over the AF near the AFHW 11/12. The following high counts of waterfowl at DCW were

as follows: 35 **Wood Ducks** 10/30, 26 **Gadwall** 10/30, 52 **American Wigeons** 10/30, 180 **Black Ducks** 11/12, 270 **Mallards** 11/4, 6 **Blue-winged Teal** 9/2, 32 **Northern Shoveler** 10/30, 45 **Northern Pintail** 11/5, and 89 **Green-winged Teal** 10/30. The following divers were mostly seen at SSP with those listed for 10/30 resulting from Sandy: 20 **Redheads** 10/30, 50 **Ring-necked Ducks** 10/30, 5 **Greater Scaup** 10/30, one **White-winged Scoter** 10/30, 3 **Long-tailed Ducks** at DCW 11/12, 10 **Bufflehead** 11/17 at DCW, 200 **Hooded Merganser** 10/30, 7 **Red-breasted Merganser** 11/12, and 10 **Ruddy Ducks** at DCW 9/5.

Ruffed Grouse were abundant along the Allegheny Front. **Wild Turkey** flocks ranged from 30 to 80 and **Northern Bobwhite** again bred at DCW with one pair producing 8 chicks. Many of the stocked **Ring-necked Pheasants** have been over-wintering well, suggesting that the game commission should be introducing hens.

The following loons and grebes were all counted at SSP 10/30: 82 **Common Loon**, 10 **Pied-billed Grebes**, 4 **Horned Grebes**, and 2 **Red-necked Grebes**. Forty-five **Double-crested Cormorants** were seen 10/30. The following herons were mostly seen at DCW: 2 **American Bittern** 8/12, one **Least Bittern** 8/19, 10 **Great Blue Heron** 10/13, one **Great Egret** at SSP 10/31, 8 **Green Herons** 8/10, and one **Black-crowned Night-Heron** at DCW 8/4.

The early results of the Allegheny Front Hawk Watch through November were as follows: **Black Vulture** 16, **Turkey Vulture** 242, **Osprey** 75, **Bald Eagle** 84, **Northern Harrier** 48, **Sharp-shinned Hawk** 1175, **Cooper's Hawk** 166, **Northern Goshawk** 12, **Red-shouldered Hawk** 39, **Broad-winged Hawk** 3620, **Red-tailed Hawk** 1348, **Golden Eagle** 206, **American Kestrel** 39, **Merlin** 32, **Peregrine** 34, and unidentified 112. At DCW, one **Virginia Rail** was seen 10/1 and 3 **Sora** were found 9/20. Fifteen **American Coots** visited DCW on 10/4 along with 2 **Sandhill Cranes**, which lingered for nearly a week.

The high for **Killdeer** at DCW was 30 on 10/15. Two **American Oystercatchers** were seen at SSP 10/30 (ML, JP, TD) during the passage of Sandy. Also during the storm 10/30, a total 150 **Greater Yellowlegs** were in a tight flock circling the Bittern Pool at DCW looking for mudflats while 200 **Dunlins** were circling SSP, and one **Willet** was spotted over SSP (ML, JP, TD). The following sandpipers were mostly found at DCW: 10 **Lesser Yellowlegs** 9/2, 2 **Solitary Sandpipers** 8/25, 5 **Spotted Sandpipers** 8/19, one **Upland Sandpiper** 8/19 on Rte. 30 near Buffalo Farm, 3 **Sanderlings** 9/2, 4 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** 9/2, 4 **Western Sandpipers** 9/2, one **Least Sandpiper** 9/7, 2 **White-rumped Sandpipers** 9/5, 2 **Baird's Sandpipers** 8/19, 3 **Pectoral Sandpipers** 9/2, 2 **Wilson's Snipe** 9/11, and 4 **American Woodcock** 9/5.

Six **Pomarine Jaegers** and 2 **Parasitic Jaegers** were seen at SSP 10/30 (ML). An immature **Laughing Gull** flew into SSP near dusk 10/30 (ML, GM, ST, BC), and 2 **Laughing Gulls** were seen 10/31 at DCW. There were 17 **Bonaparte's Gulls** at DCW 10/30 (TD). One **Leach's Storm Petrel** was spotted 10/30 at SSP (ML, JP, TD). The storm-petrel, initially thought to be a possible Wilson's, was close to shore and carefully studied and photographed, but after close study of the photos later that week, the bird was determined to be a Leach's. A **Black-legged Kittiwake** was also seen 10/30 at SSP (ML, TD, JP). The following terns were observed at DCW: 2 **Caspian** 8/17, 7 **Forster's** and 8 **Black Terns** (TD).

Two **Black-billed Cuckoo** were seen 8/8 and one **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** 8/9, both at DCW. Four **Barn Owls** were seen scouring fields at WTW and DCW on the evening of 8/28. **Eastern Screech Owls** were heard 9/2 at AF, one **Great Horned Owl** 9/23, and one **Barred Owl** 10/13 at AFHW (AL). Two **Short-eared Owls** made their appearance at DCW 11/2 (CH), and the best night for banding **Northern Saw-whet Owls** at AFHW was 27 on 10/13 (DD). A total of 70 **Common Nighthawks** migrated along the AF 8/15. **Eastern Whip-poor-wills** were heard 8/16 at AF where they nest. Two **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were seen 9/15 along Dunnings Creek Rd. near the covered bridge. A **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** was seen 10/1 along Rte. 96 at New Paris.

Olive-sided Flycatchers were found 8/29 (RM), 9/5 (BS), and 9/12 (RM) all along the slope of the AF near the AFHW. Three **Eastern Wood-Peepees** were seen and heard at DCW 8/30. Two **Alder Flycatchers** were seen 9/7, 4 **Willow Flycatchers** 8/30, and 2 **Least Flycatcher** 9/2 all at DCW. One **Great Crested Flycatcher** was seen 9/2 and an **Eastern Kingbird** 9/2 at DCW. A late **Warbling Vireo** was seen 10/1 at DCW. One **Philadelphia Vireo** was seen on 9/23 at the AFHW (BS). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were fairly abundant this year with many seen and heard at the AFHW. **Brown Creepers** were seen 9/1 and two **Winter Wrens** 8/10 at the AFHW (TD). Two **Marsh Wrens** were seen 9/2 at DCW. Two **Golden-crowned Kinglets** and 6 **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were seen at AFHW (10/5). Alex Lamoreaux conducted a big sit at the AFHW 10/13. Highlights were **Veery**, **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, **Swainson's Thrush**, and most importantly, a **Townsend's Solitaire** (documented and photographed). On 10/7 at the AFHW a **Wood Thrush** was recorded (TA). A late **Brown**

Thrasher was found at a feeder on Lambert Mt. Road feeding on ground residues of soot 11/24. A flock of **American Pipits** were seen as flyovers at the AFHW 11/11 (BS et.al). Six **Snow Buntings** were seen at the AFHW 11/4 (BS). There were many other reports of Snow Buntings.

The following warblers were seen this fall: one **Blue-winged Warbler** at DCW 8/10, 2 **Golden-winged Warbler** at DCW 8/10, 3 **Tennessee Warblers** at AF, 4 **Nashville Warblers** at SSP, 6 **Chestnut-sided Warblers** at AFHW 9/4 (JR), 12 **Cape May Warbler** 9/4 at AF, 6 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** at DCW 10/13, 4 **Black-throated Green Warblers** at AFHW 9/23 (BS), 2 **Blackburnian Warblers** 9/11 at AFHW, 5 **Pine Warblers** at SSP 9/15, 10 **Palm Warblers** 10/7 at SSP, 2 **Cerulean Warblers** 8/15 at AF, one **Black and White Warbler** 10/1 at DCW, 10 **American Restart** 10/7 at DCW, one **Worm-Eating Warbler** 9/11 (LMR), one **Mourning Warbler** 10/1 at DCW, 3 **Wilson's Warbler** 9/10 at SSP, 7 **Canada Warbler** 9/10 at SSP, and 2 **Yellow-breasted Chats** 8/15 at DCW.

Among the more interesting sparrows were the following, all at DCW: 2 **Vesper Sparrow** 10/8, **Savannah Sparrow** 10/8, 2 **Grasshopper Sparrow** 9/5, and one **Nelson's Sparrow** 11/1. The Nelson's Sparrow was pished out of a relatively dry marsh and sat on a naked dogwood not more than seven feet away. This was the first record of this species at DCW. Additional sparrows seen at DCW were as follows: 4 **Fox Sparrows** 10/15, 3 **Lincoln's Sparrows** 9/18, 12 **Swamp Sparrows** 10/15, 9 **White-throated Sparrows** 10/15, and 6 **White-crowned Sparrows** 10/5.

Two **Bobolinks** were seen near the Buffalo farm and 3 on Lambert Mt. Rd. 8/21. Thirty-Two **Rusty Blackbirds** were seen at DCW 10/15. The first big arrival of **Purple Finches** was 35 on 10/15 at a Shaffer Mt. feeder. The first **Red Crossbills** were 20 flying over the AFHW 10/22 (ML) and the first **White-winged Crossbills** were 8 flying over the AFHW on (TD). Seven **Common Redpolls** at the AFHW 11/18 was the beginning of many more flights in Nov and Dec. **Pine Siskin** was also common with the highest number 28 on 11/18 at the AFHW (ML). **Evening Grosbeaks** appeared on strong numbers with 22 on 9/20 on Shaffer Mt. Rd with many sightings from feeders and in flight throughout the season.

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Berks County

Locations: Arrowhead Business & Industrial Park, Long Lane, Topton (ABIP), Blue Marsh L. (BML), Breneman's Quarry, Spring Twp. (BQ), French Creek SP (FCSP), Hawk Mt. Sanctuary (HMS), L. Ontelaunee (LO), State Game Lands 106 & 110 (SGL).

Rainfall was at low average levels in August and September, but Hurricane Sandy helped more than double the average for October. November was dry and mild. The official counting season at HMS, often cited in this report, is daily (weather permitting) from 8/15-12/15. Date ranges for many non-resident bird species that were not included in this report can be seen in the seasonal occurrence tables at <www.pabirds.org>.

A **Greater White-fronted Goose**, first seen around 11/22 (SB, TL) among **Canada Geese** at Christman L. north of Virgenville, stayed into winter. Following the pattern of recent years, a few hundred **Snow Geese** appeared late in the period, but their migration mostly occurred in Dec. All three **Brant** reported were grounded by Hurricane Sandy: one in the Oley Valley and two at LO 10/30-31 (m.ob.). No Brant were counted at HMS, usually the most reliable source of fall reports. The only reported **Cackling Goose** was flying with Canadas over the Kittatinny Ridge 11/4 (KG, LG). The fall high count of 28 (4 imm.) **Mute Swans** was made at LO 11/18 (RK). The only reported **Tundra Swans** were two at LO 11/24 (RK).

Exceptionally early was a flock of about 60 **Gadwall** after rain at BML 8/28 (JS); Oct is the more normal arrival time. The shallow water retention ponds at ABIP hosted 8-13 **Blue-winged Teal** 9/19-10/16 (RF, RK). Hurricane Sandy brought the seasonal high counts of several duck species, all recorded at LO 10/30 (m.ob.): 80 **Gadwall**, 50 **American Wigeon**, 150 **Green-winged Teal**, 30 **Ring-necked Ducks**, 180 **Lesser Scaup**, 14 **Surf Scoters**, 32 **White-winged Scoters**, and 27 **Black Scoters**. **Northern Shovelers** have favored BQ in fall and winter in recent years, and seven were there by 11/26 (PW). **Greater Scaup** continues to be very uncommon, with just one reported this season in southern Berks 10/19 (GS). A solo **Long-tailed Duck** seen at LO 11/14 (DR) was the only one reported. The largest **Bufflehead** count this fall was of 226 at LO 11/24 (RK). An early

Common Goldeneye, usually not reported until winter, was at Hopewell L., FCSP with **Buffleheads** 11/10-13 (LM). Single **Red-breasted Mergansers**, always uncommon, were reported three times at LO and BML 10/28 (RK) until 11/1 (KL). Rain dropped **Ruddy Ducks** across the county 10/28, including 47 at BML, 101 at BQ and 547 at LO (RK).

Ring-necked Pheasants reported around BML in Oct and Nov were put-and-take birds released by gun clubs. A **Ruffed Grouse** reported on eBird at FCSP 10/19 would be the first there since the 1990s if it was correctly identified. Nov, being almost rainless, produced no **Common Loon** fallouts, but 185 were counted at HMS that month (LG). The seasonal high count of **Pied-billed Grebes** was 22 at LO 11/18 (RK). The only **Horned Grebe** reported this season was one at LO 10/30 (MSI).

Hurricane Sandy brought the first **Leach's Storm-Petrels** to Berks since a severe northeast storm blew more than 100 into the county 8/23-24/1933. Of six or more birds reported at LO 10/30, two were well seen and convincingly described (RF, RK, KL, MSI), one near the dam and one near West Shore Bridge. A single **Wilson's Storm-Petrel** was seen near the LO dam 10/30 (KL, et al.), the observer noting the flying bird's unforked tail with legs trailing behind. Several birders reported a flock of 12 **Wilson's Storm-Petrels** at BML 9/4/2006 in the wake of an offshore hurricane. Earl Poole was reasonably certain that he saw two **Wilson's Storm-Petrels** at LO during the 1933 storm, but chose to leave his observation hypothetical (Uhrich, *A Century of Bird Life in Berks County, Pennsylvania*).

A raft of 201 **Double-crested Cormorants** was on LO 10/7 (RK), and HMS tallied 562 for the season, most from 10/12-11/8 (LG). A **Cattle Egret** at ABIP 11/24 (BW) was gone a few hours later (KL). The 20 **Black-crowned Night-Herons** at BML 8/3 (SW) had dispersed from the Wyomissing Hills rookery. A juv. **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**, a rarity last reported here in 2005, was at BML 8/7-9 (JS) and did not associate with the Black-crowns. A juv. **Glossy Ibis** was at Nehf's ponds, Albany Twp. 8/8-10 (LS, FD). Two **plegadis ibises** flew over HMS 10/6 (LG).

An adult **Mississippi Kite** was clearly seen hurrying south over Henningsville 10/6 (PS). A **Northern Harrier** was regularly seen hunting over a CREP field in Longswamp Twp. 9/23-11/2 (PS). A cold front on the heels of Hurricane Sandy pushed 23 **Northern Goshawks** past HMS 11/3, the fifth highest one-day count on record (LG). A juv. goshawk was on the ground eyeballing fenced chickens near Morgantown 11/12 (HH). The new single day record of 48 **Golden Eagles** went into the books at HMS 11/3 on the same cold front that brought the goshawks. By the end of the season, 107 **Golden Eagles** had been counted at HMS, also a record (LG). An imm. **Swainson's Hawk** was seen by three experienced hawk counters at HMS 11/4 (LG). As many as three **Merlins** had settled in for the winter at BML by 11/15 (JS). A male **Peregrine Falcon** hatched this spring in Reading died in a collision with a plane at Philadelphia International Airport 8/28 (AM). A big sister to this unfortunate bird flew north after fledging and was caught 9/13 at Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Center, Ontario on the north shore of L. Erie, where she weighed in at 996 grams, the heaviest Peregrine ever caught there (CC *vide* AM). A **Sora** caught and released by a hunter in a warm season grass field at BML 9/23 (JC *vide* JS) was thought to have been in poor condition because it had so easily been caught by hand.

As usual, good shorebird habitat was scarce, but birders reported 18 species, mostly from the partly dry retention pond at ABIP. Seen there among more common species were three **Semipalmated Plovers** 9/18 (RK), a **Western Sandpiper** 9/17 (RK), a **Baird's Sandpiper** 8/22 (RK), a **Stilt Sandpiper** with an injured leg 9/21-22 (RK), and a **Short-billed Dowitcher** 9/4-8 (RK, RF, PM). Hurricane Sandy blew in four species of shorebirds. At least 60 **Dunlin** were at LO 10/30 (m.ob.). A **Red-necked Phalarope** was described from West Shore Drive, LO 10/30 (MSI). Though at least six Red Phalaropes were reported at LO 10/30-31, only one of these was described in detail (RK). The most recent previous record of Red Phalarope is from 1991. A **Greater Yellowlegs** at Gotwals pond, Oley 10/31 is also attributable to Sandy.

The usual small numbers of **Bonaparte's Gulls** (high of 12 at BML 11/15 - JS) drifted through in Nov. Two **Laughing Gulls** at Gotwals pond, Oley 10/30 came with Sandy. An unusually high count of 17 **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** was made at BML 11/24 (RK). An adult **Least Tern** in nonbreeding plumage was at BML 9/22 (JS). Least Terns were recorded in only three years of the 20th century (8/24/1933; 8/13-14/1955; 6/11/1970), but there have been three records since 2005, all in late Sep. The only reported **Black Tern** was at Hopewell L., FCSP 8/18 (TF). Three **Forster's Terns** at LO 10/30 (m.ob.) came in with Hurricane Sandy. Besides the storm-petrels noted above, the rarest birds blown in by Hurricane Sandy were two jaeger species. Five light adult **Pomarine Jaegers**, a new species for Berks, were resting together on the lake late in the afternoon of 10/30 (KL, RF). Two intermediate sub-adult **Parasitic Jaegers** were seen at LO earlier on 10/30 (KL, RF). There is a previous hypothetical record of Parasitic Jaeger, a bird seen flying past HMS 10/29/1963.

The **Eurasian Collared-Dove** colony discovered this spring in

Shartlesville contained at least six doves 8/19 (MW). One bird was thought to be sitting on a nest in a conifer while another dove was perched nearby (MW), but no dependent fledged young have yet been seen. A **Long-eared Owl** roosted in conifers in a yard in Bern Twp. 11/9-13 (JS). Another **Long-eared Owl** was netted and banded at HMS 11/2 during an expanded version of Scott Weidensaul's long running Northern Saw-whet Owl banding project. Four new banding stations were run in *Berks* at two Kittatinny Ridge sites (HMS, SGL 110) and two valley sites (LO, BML). Between 10/5 and 11/14, an astonishing 1866 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were banded at these four sites alone. This total included 55 recaptured owls that had been banded in Ontario, Quebec, Michigan, New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maryland, and other Pennsylvania sites. One of these recaptures, a six-year-old bird originally banded at Whitefish Point, Michigan, was unfortunately found dead along Rt. 183 during the project (SW). Of the few **Common Nighthawks** reported, the high count was six at HMS 9/1 (LG). HMS recorded 1164 **Chimney Swifts** this fall, with 729 in Aug, 387 in Sep and 48 in Oct (LG). It was another year of broken records for **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** at HMS, where the single day counts of 149 on 8/31 and 113 on 9/1 were higher than previous daily counts, and where the seasonal total of 624 was an all-time high (LG). Two **Rufous Hummingbirds** were banded this fall, an imm. male near Fleetwood 11/17 which left 12/3, and an imm. female in Kutztown 11/17 which left 11/21 (SW). A well photographed bird present in Exeter Twp. for a few weeks in Oct was also probably a **Rufous**; it left the day the bander was en route to band it (SW). Five other probable **selasphorus sp.** reported in Oct and Nov left before they could be identified.

The seasonal count of seven **Red-headed Woodpeckers** at HMS was at the lower end of the normal range (LG). A fairly regular phenomenon at HMS is a distinct movement of **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** southwest along the Kittatinny Ridge in fall. This year most birds went by 9/24-10/13, with high counts of 29 on 9/25 and 24 on 9/30 (LG).

Eleven **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were reported in ones and twos at several places 8/7-9/14 (m.ob.). **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** migration period was 8/22-9/6, during which seven were seen at HMS (LG) and two off-ridge (KLu, PM). **Blue-headed Vireo** has a long fall migration period of about three months from Aug to Nov, but there is sometimes a large surge of birds toward the later end of that time in Oct, often following a cold front. Such surges have often been detected at HMS, as this year, when 219 of these vireos were counted 10/12 with passage of a cold front (LG). It was hard to keep track of these birds as they briefly popped up into hemlocks and oaks around North Lookout in flocks of 10 and 20 before flying on over the crest of the ridge (RK). The migration window through which **Philadelphia Vireos** move is narrower. This year's seasonal total at HMS was a robust 60 birds, with five in Aug, 53 in Sep, and two in Oct (LG).

A small pulse of migrating **Black-capped Chickadees** was detected at HMS in mid-Oct (LG), and a few were reported from feeders around the county (RK, DK, JS). After a few years of scarcity, **Red-breasted Nuthatches** staged an irruption that started in July and seemed to peak in Sep, when 250 of the seasonal total of 395 moved through HMS (LG). Many of these birds settled in for long stays at feeders and in conifer plantations. Counters at HMS had to be visually nimble to count 228 **Golden-crowned Kinglets** and 221 **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** 10/23 (LG). Another 200 **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** moved with the Blue-headed Vireos at HMS 10/12 (LG).

The county's first **Northern Wheatear**, a much photographed female, was found foraging along barren parking lots and railroad tracks in Reading 10/4 (MSI). This bird might never have been discovered if the finder hadn't been forced out of his classroom building at Reading Area Community College around noon by a fire alarm. It was seen by several birders through the afternoon and presumably left that night. Again this fall, many more forest thrushes were detected by their nocturnal flight calls than by sight. **Veery** calls peaked at 203 in District Twp. 8/30 (RK). A call probably of **Bicknell's Thrush** was clearly heard at HMS 9/22 (RK). Small numbers of Gray-cheeked Thrush calls were heard at several places 9/10-10/9, with a high of six at HMS 9/12 (RK). Hundreds of calls of **Swainson's Thrush** were heard on many nights from mid-Sep to early Oct (RK, KL). **Hermit Thrushes** closed the season on this group as usual, with 43 calls heard at HMS 10/9 and 23 on 10/17 (RK). About 30 **Hermit Thrushes** were seen and heard along the trails at HMS on the morning of the big songbird flight 10/12 (FN). The only reported **American Pipits** were three flyovers at HMS 10/24 and another 11/3 (LG). Most of the 5141 **Cedar Waxwings** tallied at HMS this fall flew by in Aug and Sep (LG). **Snow Buntings** sometimes land in puzzling places (as before warblers on current checklists). Two were seen feeding along a gravel road on the forested Kittatinny Ridge 11/14 (MSI).

Birders reported 32 warbler species, giving a remarkably detailed picture of their fall migration. Seasonal totals of the most common warblers counted at HMS follow: 723 **Black-throated Green** (most in Aug and Sep); 286 **Blackburnian** (214 in Aug); 256 **Black-and-white** (225 in Aug); 209 **Black-throated Blue**; 144 **Tennessee**; 125 **Cape May** (71 in Aug, 50 in

Sep); 107 **Yellow-rumped**; and 101 **Magnolia** (LG). Most of these species are often (or always) on this list; Tennessee Warbler is not. Most of the individuals seen during its peak flight period (82 from 8/16-9/1) were brightly colored imm. birds (RK). A late and notably plump **Ovenbird** was at the HMS visitor center feeders 11/13-21 (RF, m.ob.). Two uncommonly reported **Orange-crowned Warblers** were at SGL 110 on 10/7 (KG). The only reported **Connecticut Warbler** was at SGL 106 on 9/26 (FN). The Kendall farm near Leesport was again **Mourning Warbler** Central, with single imm. or female birds seen there on five days 8/19-9/1 (DK). Single **Cerulean Warblers**, always uncommon in fall, were in Bern Twp. 8/25 (JS) and at HMS 9/10 (LG). Top single day counts for **Bay-breasted Warbler** at HMS were 11 on 9/11 and 16 on 9/17, with 43 for the season (LG). A late **Pine Warbler** was at BML (where birds have overwintered twice) 11/28 (JS).

S.A.

Completely unexpected and surprising were two **Summer Tanagers**—a juv. male and a presumed adult female—that appeared at a bird bath in Bern Twp. 8/26, where they were studied from inside the house. All three observers (JS, KW, RW) were familiar with the species and identified the birds by their bulky builds, large and long bills, and overall yellow rather than greenish color with non-contrastive wings. The juv. male, identified as such by very faint red streaking on the breast, called constantly and exhibited wing fluttering food begging behavior toward the female and toward an American Robin when both were in the bird bath. The tanagers flitted around the bird bath and feeders for about 15 minutes, then flew off into the woods. Several Summer Tanagers were recorded in *Berks* in the 20th century until 1981, but very few since. Most were spring overshoot males, but there are also at least five Sep records from HMS, mostly from the 1930s and 1940s. The most interesting thing about this year's sighting was the evidence of recent breeding, especially in light of the confirmed breeding record in neighboring *Lebanon* this summer. Earl Poole believed that two June specimens taken in *Berks* in the 1880s indicated that Summer Tanagers may have bred in the county in the 19th century (Uhrich, *A Century of Bird Life in Berks County, Pennsylvania*).

The seasonal total of 768 **Scarlet Tanagers** at HMS was the largest in three years, with peak flight days of 131 birds 8/29 and 108 on 9/1 (LG). **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** are prominent among the passerine migrants at HMS, often perching for minutes on the tips of lookout hemlocks, allowing long studies of their plumage. This year, 48 passed in Aug and 168 in Sep, with a peak count of 62 on 9/17 (LG). A migrating **Blue Grosbeak** was near Leesport 9/11 and 9/15 (DK). **Bobolinks**, mostly heard flying overhead, were reported until 10/6 (PM), with a high count of 97 at HMS 8/29 (LG). A very good find was a flock of 100 **Rusty Blackbirds** at Green Hills Preserve 10/27 (KL, MSI).

Due to widespread cone crop failures in the boreal forest and the Pacific Northwest, all the traditional winter finches except Pine Grosbeak came to *Berks* this fall. **Purple Finches** first appeared in Aug and were most common in Sep (304 at HMS) and Oct (300 at HMS), but had mostly moved on by the end of Nov, though birds continued to visit some feeders in small numbers into winter. Most **Red Crossbills** were seen on the Kittatinny Ridge, which was also true during previous recent irruptions. Starting with eight at HMS 9/1 (LG), flocks were seen along the ridge on many days through the period, with a high count of 40 at HMS 10/23 (LG). A flock of five was seen eating tuliptree seeds (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), an unusual food, at SGL 110 on 11/10 (KG). **White-winged Crossbills** did not appear until Nov (18 HMS 11/2 - LG) and were more widespread in the county than Red Crossbills. Though the higher counts came from HMS (such as 31 on 11/28 - LG), smaller flocks were seen at other places, such as 15 in District Twp. 11/2 (RK) and 18 in Bern Twp. 11/27 (EB). Both crossbills were typically nomadic and did not settle in for long anywhere. At HMS, both species were seen at times briefly feeding on hemlock seeds (LG). **Common Redpolls** came late, and all reports were from HMS, from the first (one 11/5) to the last (27 on 11/29 - LG). A wave of **Pine Siskins** in Oct swamped many feeders (75 in Brecknock Twp. 10/8 - MSI; 100 in Hamburg 10/11 - KG), but numbers sharply tapered off in Nov. At HMS, 559 passed in Oct and 101 in Nov (LG). By the end of the period, birds were widely scattered at feeders and in the field. Early reports of **Evening Grosbeaks** left many birders nostalgic for the 1960s and 1970s, when large flocks were expected at feeders almost every winter. As it turned out, two birds at a feeder in Bethel Twp. 10/21 and "several" there 10/22 (CCra) were the only Evening Grosbeaks seen anywhere but HMS, where a few birds flew by North Lookout on several days 10/27-12/6, with a high count of four 11/6 (LG).

EXOTICS: A **Chukar** seen in Bern Twp. 10/17 (JS) may have been part of a gamebird release for the hunting season.

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Blair County

Locations: Canoe Creek State Park (CCSP).

Information for this report was obtained primarily from eBird and from the State College Bird Club listserv, with background and status information from *Birds of Central Pennsylvania* by Nick Bolgiano and Greg Grove, 2010 (B&G, 2010).

Waterfowl fallouts occurred in the foul weather that preceded the arrival of Hurricane Sandy. Observers at CCSP 10/28-29 spotted 14 waterfowl species, including 80 **Canada Geese**, 50-200 **Gadwall**, 6-20 **American Wigeons**, 2 **American Black Ducks**, 5-15 **Mallards**, 3 **Northern Shovelers**, 12-30 **Ring-necked Ducks**, 30 **Lesser Scaup**, 3 **White-winged Scoters**, 20-100 **Bufflehead**, 550-600 **Ruddy Ducks**, up to 40 **Pied-billed Grebes**, one **Double-crested Cormorant**, and 30-150 **American Coot** (DB, NB, MD). In addition to these, 10 **Surf Scoters** were identified 10/29 at Lake Altoona (MD). Surf Scoters are casual migrants through the region. Two **Ring-necked Pheasants** were observed beside the entrance road CCSP 2/28 (DB, NB), and a **Ruffed Grouse** was spotted 9/7 near Rt. 453 west of Tyrone (MD).

S.A.

A query about the identification of a severely emaciated and dehydrated bird by an area wildlife rehabilitator (RG) on the State College Bird Club listserv prompted considerable excitement when it was identified as a *Pterodroma petrel*, probably a **Herald Petrel** (IG, AL), a seabird of the southern hemisphere that sometimes disperses to the area off the Carolina coast. Field marks were consistent with those of Herald Petrel. The bird almost certainly arrived as a result of Hurricane Sandy's passage through the region 10/30. The bird was found 11/3 at Hollidaysburg; unfortunately, it died shortly after arriving at Centre Wildlife Care. A report was submitted to PORC; if accepted, it will represent Pennsylvania's first record of this species. Additional information and photographs of the bird are on the Nemesis Bird blog at <<http://www.nemesisbird.com/2012/11/pterodroma-petrel-possibly-herald-petrel/>>.

Several uncommon vultures and raptors were observed. A **Black Vulture** was spotted 9/13 off Rte. 453 west of Tyrone (MD), and an **Osprey** was seen at the same location the next day (MD). Two Ospreys were noted 8/29 off Rte. 36 west of Altoona and one was observed at the same location 9/19 (all MD). One was spotted 10/28 CCSP (NB, DB). Two **Golden Eagles** were reported, one each 11/6 and 11/13 west of Tyrone, and single **Northern Harriers** were seen 10/23 and 11/1 west of Altoona (all MD). **Bald Eagles** were noted occasionally throughout the fall, including 3 on 10/28-29 CCSP (MD, NB, DB). Two of the three were adults that appeared to be a mated pair. The third was a first year bird that "was chased off by one of the adults after some aerial 'combat'" (NB, DB). Up to 3 **Red-shouldered Hawks** were observed 8/7-8 west of Altoona (MD).

A rare **Black-bellied Plover** was seen 10/29 CCSP (MD). This species is considered a casual migrant in this area. Three uncommon sandpipers were also spotted CCSP in the two rainy days prior to Hurricane Sandy's arrival. A **Greater Yellowlegs** was noted 10/29 (MD), and a single **Lesser Yellowlegs** was observed on a muddy flat 10/28 (NB, DB). One **Least Sandpiper** was also present 10/29 (MD).

Single **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** and **Least Flycatchers** were noted 9/27 off Rte. 36 west of Altoona (MD). **Common Ravens** were reported fairly regularly throughout the season, with up to 4 being reported at one time (MD). Three **Red-breasted Nuthatch** were observed during migration, one each 9/20 and 10/23 at a private location off Rte. 36 west of Altoona (MD), and one 10/30 Altoona (WK). A single **Swainson's Thrush** was found off Rte. 453 west of Tyrone 9/5 (MD).

Area birders reported 15 warbler species; common migrants included **Nashville Warbler**, **Common Yellowthroat**, **American Redstart**, **Magnolia Warbler**, **Chestnut-sided Warbler**, **Blackpoll Warbler**, **Black-throated Blue Warbler**, and **Black-throated Green Warbler**. The remaining 7 species are considered uncommon during migration. Most reports were from two locations. At a private location off Rte. 453 west of Tyrone, a **Blue-winged Warbler** was spotted 9/10, and one to 2 **Black-and-white Warblers** were present 9/3-9. Up to 2 **Bay-breasted Warblers** were seen there 9/3-5 and as many as 2 **Blackburnian Warblers** were noted 9/3-4. A single **Tennessee Warbler** was seen 9/9 at that same location; up to 3 were observed 9/25-27 and 10/15 at another private location off Rte. 36 west of Altoona. Single **Palm Warblers** were spotted at both these private spots—9/3 off Rte. 453 west of Tyrone and 9/27 off Rte. 36 west of Altoona (all MD). One **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was noted 9/28 off Rte. 36 west of Altoona (MD), and 8 were spotted perched in a tree near the beach at CCSP 10/28 (DB, NB).

Several uncommon sparrow species were reported, all from a private location west of Altoona. Single **Vesper Sparrows** were noted 8/29 and 9/25, while a single **Grasshopper Sparrow** was spotted 9/27. Up to 2 **Lincoln's Sparrows** and 3 **Swamp Sparrows** were observed 10/26-28, and as many as 4 **White-crowned Sparrows** were seen 10/24-28 (all MD). Two uncommon Icterids were observed 9/28 at a private location off Rte. 36 west of Altoona. These included 4 **Eastern Meadowlarks** and one **Rusty Blackbird** (MD). A **Purple Finch** was noted 8/19 Roaring Spring (JH).

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Bradford County

Locations: Echo Beach Road (on the Susquehanna River south of Wysox) (EBR), Mt. Pisgah State Park (MPSP), Peck Hill (PEH), Susquehanna River (SUR), Trudy Gerlach farm near New Era (TNE), Tozer's Landing, Athens Twp (TOL), Miller residence, Woods Rd. (WDR).

Warm weather persisted much longer this fall than normal, thus a number of avian events occurred later than usual; for instance, immense goose flights south took place in late December.

On 11/27 a small flock of **Tundra Swans** was seen flying south near New Era (TG). A **Surf Scoter** was observed 11/18 at MPSP (LH). An unusual sighting was of 3 **Red-breasted Mergansers** 9/29 at TOL (IW). Although **Ring-necked Pheasants** are released and seen occasionally, for the first time in years there was evidence of breeding, as a female with half grown chicks was seen at TNE beginning early August. Later sightings were 9/2 (adult female with 4 chicks), 9/7 (3 chicks), and 9/9 (6 chicks) (TG). Two grebe species were seen: 5 **Pied-billed Grebes** and a **Horned Grebe**, both 10/31 at Stephen Foster Lake MPSP (RY). **Great Egrets** were in evidence this fall: 4 on 8/11 at TOL (IW); 5 from 8/18-20 at EBR (TD, DN); and one 8/28 at the Wysox SUR bridge (TG).

Black Vulture is a species infrequently seen in the county, but expanding its range northward. Two were observed 11/19 in Troy (LH). The **Bald Eagle** population in the county appeared to be doing well with frequent sightings: an immature at Wysox 9/18 (TG), an adult 10/31 at Stephen Foster Lake MPSP (RY), on Rt 14 south of Gillett 11/15 (LH); and an adult eating road kill by the Wyalusing New Albany Rd. east of Evergreen 11/12 (SC). Three **Northern Harriers** were present in northeast Windham 10/14, a male, female and juvenile (AV, GV). Rather late to be seen in this county, a **Red-shouldered Hawk** was found 11/6 and 12/3 at WDR (CM).

Sandhill Cranes were less frequently seen this breeding season and fall: these two sightings are probably the same family group: three 8/19 (SL) and 4 on 11/26 (RW) both in the Hollenback vicinity. An **Eastern Screech-Owl** was calling and seen 10/22 at Graham Rd., Canton Twp (LF). Another unusual county sighting was a small flock of **Common Nighthawks** 8/19 at Athens (IW). As was true of much of Pennsylvania, **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were seen more often than usual: three were calling and interacting closely 9/11 on Lone Mary Rd. near the intersection with Iron Bridge Rd (near New Era) (TG), one was seen 9/23 at Graham Rd., Canton Twp (LF), one 9/25 and 10/22 at PEH (AV, GV), one 10/10 in Towanda (SR), and one 10/21 at WDR (CM).

A **Magnolia Warbler** was around at PEH much of the fall, 8/7-10/3 (AV, GV). Four **Palm Warblers** were at TOL on 9/29 (IW). A **Prairie Warbler** was often at PEH from 8/8-10/3 (AV, GV). A **Canada Warbler** was at PEH 9/17 (AV, GV). Another nice sighting was a **Lincoln's Sparrow** 10/2 at TOL (IW). A late **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was at a feeder in Athens 11/12 (JP, MP). The first **Common Redpolls** of what was to become a

major onslaught in December were seen 11/19 with 48 at PEH (AV, GV). **Pine Siskins** were present in nice numbers: at WDR there were up to 40 from 10/2-27 (CM, GM), one was seen 10/19 and 7 on 10/24 in Towanda (SR), and up to 59 were at PEH from 10/30-11/30 (AV, GV). Most delightful among finches and very rarely observed in the county in recent years, was the female **Evening Grosbeak** seen in a birch tree 11/10 at WDR (CM).

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Bucks County

Locations: Churchville Park (CVP), Core Creek Park (CCP), Maple Knoll Farms in Buckingham Twp. (MKF), Nockamixon State Park (NSP), Peace Valley Park (PVP), Pine Run Dam (PRN), Penn-Warner Tract (PWT), Rohm & Haas, Bristol (RHS), State Game Land #56 (SGL#56), State Game Land #157 (SGL157).

Temperatures were above normal by 1°F for August and September, and 2.3°F for October. November was below normal by 3.1° F. Rainfall was about average for August and October but September and November were 1.8 and 3.1 inches below normal respectively. One to three inches of snow accumulated 11/27. This was the season of Hurricane Sandy 10/29-30, but also a period of multiple unusual bird migration events, which all made it a very good fall migration for birders. The fallout from the storm brought extremely accidental species to the county, the general movement of winter irruptive species brought nearly all possible expected species, the large influx of western hummingbirds added to the extreme accidental list, and Neotropical migrants provided a satisfying steady flow of diversity and good numbers. Waterfowl numbers and diversity were overall unremarkable, but Sandy brought some unusual numbers. Shorebird habitat apparently was not that good to attract large numbers or daily diversity, but a good variety overall was reported, again helped by Sandy. Mid-October brought a heavy influx of late season migrants, as did the immediate post-Sandy period. The species count for the four month period was an unusually high 254 plus one identified only to genus. There were seven new fall early arrival dates and eight new fall late departure dates, five of which were warblers.

As usual, historical references are from *Birds of Bucks County* by Ken Kitson 1998, and subsequent updates recorded in this journal. Weather statistics are from nearby Trenton, New Jersey, with climate normal values based on the recent three decades per the NOAA website.

A **Pink-footed Goose** was found at PVP 11/17 (AM ph. doc) and continued until early 11/19 (m.ob.) providing our seventh known report. It is likely the same bird that stopped at PVP and PRN last year 11/28-12/1. This is the third time in the county that a presumed individual returned in consecutive years. One was present 1/1998, 12/1998 and 12/1999, and another was present 1-2/2002 and again 11/2002. One of the two injured **Snow Geese** continued through the period at PVP, now surviving there for over one and a half years (m.ob.). Likely one of the two long-term companions it has had on and off during its long stay joined it 10/26 and remained (AM). Two adult dark morph birds were noted there 11/9 (AM), with one still there 11/24 (KS ph.). The first possible long distance migrants were 8 at Holland 10/21 (JC), and the only significant report of migrants was a flock of 60 passing over MKF 11/27 (RS). In addition, one to 3 birds were noted at four sites on six dates 10/4-11/22 (RS, BK, CR, MG, AM), but some or all of these were likely the wandering local residents. Two **Brant** at NSP 10/26 (DFa) were followed there by flyover flocks of 29 on 10/27 (DFa) and 10 on 10/28 (PC). On 10/29 approximately 50 were at Lower Makefield Twp. (DFa). Sandy added an unusual number through the area. High counts on 10/30 were 350 at New Hope (BHo), 54 at Bristol (DFa, BW), and 18 at PVP (BK, Dfa, BW). On 10/31, 214 passed NSP (BE). One remained at PVP until at least 11/10 (MK, AM). Rarely reported in recent years, a **Barnacle Goose** was at Lower Makefield Twp. 10/30-31 (DFa, no. doc). One **Cackling Goose** at PVP 10/17 (AM) provided the first report for the fall. A thorough search through the goose flock at PVP 11/20 provided the high single site report of 11 (CR, AM). A flock of 15 **Tundra Swans** over Tinicum Twp. 10/31 (DA) furnished the only report and a new fall early date of this sometimes missed species.

Sixteen **Wood Ducks** 11/30 at Upper Makefield firehouse (MG) was a good late season count but probably normal there. Rare here in summer, 3 **American Black Ducks** were at Lake Towhee Park 8/1 (PT), and one was at CVP 8/11 and 8/25 (MC, VD). A steady flow of migrants began 9/15 (AM),

and the single site high report was 50 at Lake Towhee Park 11/26 (PT). After last year's unusually good counts of **Blue-winged Teal**, reports came from only five sites 8/21-10/10 (m.ob.), with the highest single site count of 7 at RHS 8/26 (DFa). A **Green-winged Teal** at the former US Steel site, Falls Twp. 8/4 provides another of a handful of Jul to early Aug reports in recent years (DFa). Whether these are summer residents or early migrants is unclear. Twelve at RHS 8/21 were presumed migrants (DFa). Scoters were above average, in part due to Sandy. There were 8-11 **Surf Scoters** at three sites on six dates (m.ob.). All reports were of one or 2 birds. The lower end estimate assumes 3 remained more than one day. **White-winged Scoters** stopped at three sites on five dates, with an estimated 10 to 13 individuals (m.ob.). The high site counts were 4 each at PVP 10/30 (DFa, BW) and NSP 10/31 (BE). A total of approximately 114 **Black Scoters** were noted from four sites on 10 dates (m.ob.). The high counts were 19 at CCP 10/25 (DMo), 41 at NSP 10/26 (DFa), about 10 at PWT 10/30 (DFa, BW), and 21 at PVP 10/31 (HD). A **Long-tailed Duck** at NSP 11/24 (DFa) provided the only report. A large fallout of **Bufflehead** occurred 11/24, with 129 at PVP (AM) and 261 at NSP (DFa). A **Red-breasted Merganser** at PVP 11/17-24 (AM, CR) provided the only report. The high single site report for **Ruddy Duck** was 287 on 10/21 at the quarry adjacent to Falls Twp. Park (DFa). Second best was 105 at PVP 10/28 (CR).

A road-killed bird in Tinicum Twp. reported as a **Ruffed Grouse** by a non-birder could not be confirmed (*vide* DA). It gives a glimmer of hope that they are not completely gone. The local Game Commission officer reported no reports this year (JP). The first of season and very unusual high count of 7 **Red-throated Loons** occurred 11/7 at NSP (DFa). One visited PVP 11/9-10 (AM, MK), and another stopped at CVP 11/26 (JHe). A summering non-breeding plumaged **Common Loon** was last reported at CVP 8/7 (NZ). One at NSP 9/18 (DFa) was likely the first migrant. The high report was 9 at NSP 10/30 (BE). An adult **Pied-billed Grebe** was still at our only known breeding site at US Steel 8/4 (DFa). A steady flow of migrants began to appear 8/18 at NSP (BK) and PVP (AM). Both sites had good counts on multiple dates, with the highs being 10 at NSP 10/31 (CR, AM), and 8 at PVP 11/1-2 (DSe, KI, VM). Two **Horned Grebes** were grounded by Sandy 10/29 (BE) for the first of fall report. Total reports were low, with less than 10 individuals (m.ob.). Probable Sandy related, a rarely reported **Red-necked Grebe** was found at PVP 11/1-7 (HD, m.ob.). New to the county, **Leach's Storm-Petrel** was deposited by Sandy 10/30, with one at NSP (DFa, BW, et al.), one at Bristol (GD, CD doc., ph.), probably another down river at Bristol (DFa, BW), and 2 at PWT (DFa, BW). A second storm-petrel not identified to species was at NSP 10/30 but was too far to identify (BE).

Double-crested Cormorants were tallied in the 50s and 60s at CCP (BK, MK), PVP (AM, KP), and Riegelsville (EB) on multiple dates, with 66 at PVP 9/12 (AM) being the highest and slightly above past recent fall reports there. **Great Cormorant** was back at Bristol 10/13 (DFa), with a high report of 8 there 11/25 (MG). An **American Bittern** was at SGL#56 10/25 (EB), for the only report. **Great Egret** was reported from at least 18 sites, with eight of those reporting multiple birds on at least one date (m.ob.). The highest single site counts were 22 at RHS 8/4 and 10 at CCP 9/27 (MG). All other site high counts were 5 or less. **Snowy Egret** continued from Jul at RHS, with the high count being 5 8/25-9/2 (DFa). Sandy provided one there 10/30 (DFa, BW) that established a new fall late date. One stayed at Buckingham Springs 8/7-14 (BK, m.ob.), CCP had a high count of 2 on 8/26 (DFa), and one was at PVP 9/21 (CCr). **Little Blue Heron** was also at four sites (PC, Dfa, MG, MH, BK), with the high report being 8 at RHS 8/4, including an unusual 2 adults (DFa). Four were still there 9/1-2, including one adult (DFa). The high count at CCP was 2 in Aug on multiple dates (MG, BK). Three **Cattle Egrets** were a nice find at CCP 8/25 (DFa, no doc.), and one was on the late side at Newtown Twp. 11/5 (PS, BK ph., doc.). A **Green Heron** at CCP 11/11 (MG ph.) was more than a month later than other fall reports this year. A conservative estimate of 16 **Black-crowned Night-Herons** based on the high count per site was reported from seven sites between 8/1 and 10/13 (m.ob.). Five each at Silver Lake Park 8/3 (MG) and PVP 8/18 (AM) were the highest single site reports. A single **Glossy Ibis** was at Mud Island 8/10 (DFa).

The good high single site report of 50-60 **Black Vultures** came from Plumstead Twp. 11/2 (AW). An early **Northern Harrier** at MKF (RS) matched our previous county early arrival date of 8/7. An adult **Mississippi Kite** 9/1 was seen well attacking a fake owl on a dock at New Hope (BHo, no doc.). **Red-shouldered Hawk** continues to show signs of increasing numbers locally, with 14 sites reported, including several known or suspected breeding sites (m.ob.). The Tinicum Twp. breeding site reported last season as inactive this year probably was active based on adults and juvs. confirmed 9/6 and continuing into late Nov (DA). A suspected family group at PVP was very vocal 8/18-9/2 (AM, m.ob.), indicating probable breeding nearby. The highest **Broad-winged Hawk** counts reported were on 9/19, with 518 at Pipersville (DA) and 467 at NSP (BF). The NSP hawk watch effort was 78 hours 9/12-23, with a total raptor count of 1747,

including a total of 1577 Broad-winged Hawks (BF). The large post Sandy surge of **Golden Eagles** resulted in one each at PVP 11/3 (MH) and Southampton 11/4 (CM). A rail believed to be a **Black Rail** walked out in the open for a few seconds 10/11 at Delaware Valley College to be tallied for our third ever county report (RHe, no doc.). A **Virginia Rail** was heard at Quakertown Swamp 9/30 and 10/13 (DFa). **Sora** was also there 9/30 (DFa), with 3 detected there 10/13 (DFa, BW). A **Sora** was at PRN 10/12 (AM) and 11/3 (AL et al.).

A good total of 24 shorebird species was reported. Sandy helped to increase the total. The only **Black-bellied Plover** was one at Mud Island 9/2 (DFa). An **American Golden-Plover** 9/8-9 and 2 on 9/18 were at Lower Makefield Twp., with 2 more at Mud Island 9/18 (DFa). Our third and fourth reports of **American Oystercatcher** were courtesy of Sandy 10/30 at NSP (DFa, BW, BE ph. et al.) and PWT (DFa, BW). Two **Willetts** at Mud Island 8/10 provided only our third known report (DFa). Rare here, 6 **Sanderlings** stopped at Mud Island 9/2 (DFa). Also rarely reported, a **Western Sandpiper** stopped at RHS 9/2 (DFa) and one was at PVP 9/19 (GF). A **White-rumped Sandpiper** was at RHS 8/25, followed by 2 9/2 (DFa), for a low total this fall. A **Baird's Sandpiper** at Buckingham Twp. 9/8 provided the only report (DFa). Apparently there were no **Dunlin** seen until Sandy brought very unusual numbers on 10/30, with 54 at NSP (BE), 16 at PVP (BK), about 100 at New Hope (BHo), 102 at Bristol (GD, CD), 10 at RHS (DFa, BW), and about 200 at PWT (DFa, BW). The next day 10/31 the only reports were one each at Markey Park and NSP (CR, AM). One **Stilt Sandpiper** stopped at RHS 10/20 (DFa) for the only report. Also reported only once, a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** stopped at Buckingham Twp. 9/8-9 (DFa). **American Woodcock** is rarely detected after spring, but this fall was the exceptional with reports from five sites on seven dates ranging from 8/7 to 11/24 (m.ob.). Although our most regularly reported phalarope mainly after early season hurricanes, **Red-necked Phalarope** is still relatively rare here. One at PVP 9/21 provided only the second at that site (KI, ph.) and was briefly seen 9/22 (MH). Previously reported only nine times, Sandy brought one **Red Phalarope** to PVP 10/30 (KR, BK doc, ph.), 2 at NSP 10/30 (DFa, BW), and one at CVP 10/31 (VD *vide* NZ). Another reported as **Phalarope species** was probably a Red at New Hope 10/30 (BHo).

Seven gull species were reported. Three sites reported **Bonaparte's Gull** during the period 10/30-11/29, with the high count only 3 at both PVP and NSP (m.ob.). **Laughing Gulls** were deposited by Sandy at NSP 10/30-11/1 (m.ob.), with the high report being 9 10/30 (BE, DFa). The species continued at their normal lower *Bucks* sites through the period to at least 11/25 (MG). Site fidelity was demonstrated again for the third year in a row at Bristol, where an abnormally plumaged **Ring-billed Gull** returned. It has some white plumage in areas normally gray or black (DFa). The first report of **Iceland Gull** came from PVP 11/18 (SKa) and was seen there again 11/22 (KS) and 11/24 (AM). An unusually early high count of 158 **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** came from Lower Makefield Twp. 9/18 (DFa). The high report at PVP was 103 on 10/21 (AM, JMi). The late date of Sandy resulted in far fewer terns compared to Irene last year. **Caspian Tern** was reported on six dates from three sites between 8/25 and 9/18 (CCr, DFa, BK, PK, AM), with a total of 15 individuals. One **Black Tern** was at RHS 8/21 (DFa), and 2 were at PVP 9/5 (HD) for the only reports. **Common Tern** was reported on three dates between 8/21 and 9/8 at Mud Island, with a total of 8 individuals (DFa). Sandy brought 5 more to PWT 10/30 (DFa, BW). The fall's first **Forster's Tern** was at Bristol Marsh 8/12 (MG). Another approximately 28 individuals were reported on six dates between 8/18 and 9/30 from three sites, with the high single site count of 11 at PWT 9/30 (all DFa), making it a good year even before Sandy arrived. Sandy brought approximately another 25 on 10/30 at five sites (m.ob.), with the high count being about 12 at PWT (DFa, BW). This was also a new fall late date. Sandy dragged only one **Royal Tern** to NSP 10/31 (BE, BD) for the fourth county occurrence since 2004. However, one of those occurrences involved multiple sites and birds delivered by Irene in 2011. Two **Pomarine Jaegers** were at PWT 10/30 (DFa, BW no doc.). The only other report in the county was from 1898! A jaeger not identified to species was at NSP 10/29 and suspected of being that species as well (MS).

Yellow-billed Cuckoos continued their low numbers from earlier in the year. One was at Giving Pond 8/8 (DA), and one or two were sporadically reported at PVP between 9/6 and 9/19 (AM). A **Black-billed Cuckoo** at PVP 8/18 (AM) and individuals at MKF 8/8 and 9/19 (RS) provided the only reports. **Barn Owl** went unreported. **Barred Owl** was at Quakertown Swamp as usual (DFa). A **Long-eared Owl** at PVP 11/2 (CCh, PR) was the first reported this fall. The high count there was 5 on several dates (m.ob.). The reported large movement of **Northern Saw-whet Owl** this fall was detected here. Two at Haycock Twp. 10/13 were assumed to be arriving migrants (DFa). One each was in Doylestown Twp. 11/10 (BG), Revere 11/10 (DFa), PVP 11/19 (CBe), and PVP 11/24 (CBo). **Common Nighthawk** was reported in the low single digits at only nine sites (m.ob.), continuing the poor showing here. The high reports were 5 each at Lake

Towhee 8/28 (PT) and Bowman's Hill 9/28 (MG). Our ninth reported **Selasphorus hummingbird sp.** since 1994 was at a feeder in Milford Twp. starting 9/26 and continued through 11/23 (BL, *vide* DFa). It left just before a planned visit by a bander and thus went unidentified. Our tenth reported bird was found at Plumstead Twp. 11/12, exactly 10 years to the day that a **Rufous Hummingbird** appeared at the same yard in 2002 (AW). This year's bird turned out to be the county's first **Allen's Hummingbird** and only the third documented for the state as of that date. Both birds were identified when banded (SW, AW). A first state record of **Black-chinned Hummingbird** was provided by a well photographed bird at Morrisville 11/10 (RD ph. doc). The photos were felt to be acceptable proof of the state record bird by the head of eBird, Marshall Iliff.

SGL 157 may still be a breeding site for **Red-headed Woodpecker** after no breeding reports there for a couple of years. An adult and an immature were seen there in Aug (DFa, PT). The Tinicum Twp. resident bird or birds were still there until late Aug or early Sep (KF). **Pileated Woodpecker** was reported in eBird at 24 sites, sustaining the healthy expansion south in the county (m.ob.). The many downed trees due to Sandy may be helpful to this species for years to come.

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was at SGL 157 on 8/18-19 (DFa) and one stopped at SGL 56 on 9/18 (PC). **Eastern Wood Pewee** has been noted in recent years as a late breeder at PVP. This year, 3 recent fledglings huddled side by side and were fed by adults 8/29 (AM, JMi). These are presumably from a second brood. Eight **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were reported 8/17-9/15 from five sites (PC, CCr, DFa, AM, RS). **Least Flycatcher** was more widely reported than last year, with 14 birds at five sites on 11 dates 8/17-9/23 (m.ob.). With the option of **Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's)** available in eBird, many entries were made starting in late Jul (m.ob.), with the last 9/23 at SGL 157 (GJ). This period coincides with the migration period for both species, but the lack of singing prevents positive identification. During the same period many of these cryptic flycatchers were entered as just **empidonax sp.** There were 11 **Philadelphia Vireos** reported from five sites between 8/22 to 9/19 (m.ob.), with the high site count being an unusual 3 at PVP 9/9 (DFa).

Reports of **Common Raven** came from 10 sites on 16 dates throughout the period (m.ob.). All reports were of one or 2 birds, with the exception of 7 at MKF 9/10 (ph. RS). Three **Horned Larks** were at Lower Makefield Twp. 9/8 (DFa) and were possibly more likely local residents rather than early migrants. Two were seen at PRN 11/3 (RSt) and 11/20 (TJ), and 2 were at MKF 11/11 (RS) for the only other reports. A female **Purple Martin** well seen at PVP 10/6 (AM) was two months later than any other reports this year and a week later than our previous fall late date. With only low single digit counts of **Tree Swallow** remaining after mid-Oct, many hundreds were delivered by Sandy 10/30 and continued in the area through 11/3 (m.ob.). They departed rapidly after that, with the last report 11/11 at PVP (JF). After **Rough-winged Swallow** was absent for over two weeks and **Barn Swallow** for over four weeks, they too were returned by Sandy 10/30, although in very low numbers. The last reports were one each on 11/2 at PWT (DFa). Following only two previous county reports, Sandy delivered **Cave Swallow** to at least two sites. Two were at PWT 10/30 (DFa, BW), one of which was suspected of being of Caribbean origin. One was reported at NSP in the morning of 10/31 (BE, BD) and also suggested as probably being of Caribbean origin. Two were seen together in the afternoon (AM, CR doc.). CR referred me to <www.sibleyguides.com/bird-info/cave-swallow/> which suggests that subspecies identification is difficult even for tropical storm birds.

Black-capped Chickadee irrupted into the area in large numbers. The first report was of 6 at SGL 56 on 9/22, but the observer feels that residents still exist there (PC). The steady flow of observations started 10/13 (DFa) and continued throughout the period (m.ob.). The counts were mostly in the one to 5 range, but many were in the upper single digits. There were many entered as **Carolina/Black-capped Chickadee** in eBird. Two **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were at CVP 8/11 (HD), where breeding occurred again this year. They irrupted into the area with a steady flow of reports in the low single digits starting 8/21 at PVP (AM). The exception was at CVP where many reports were higher, with the high count being 20 on 10/13 (CS). **Brown Creeper** seemed more common this fall, with the first report 10/4 at MKF (RS) followed by steady reports throughout the period (m.ob.). The high report was 8 at PVP 11/23 (ZM). **Marsh Wrens** were reported at PRN as usual from 9/15 (DFa) to 10/13 (KR *vide* DFa). One was at Warminster Community Park 9/29-30 (GJ). Both **Golden-crowned Kinglet** and **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** were very common in mid-Oct (m.ob.). **Catharus** thrushes made their usual stealthy passage. **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was noteworthy for being reported in eBird only once, 9/16 at SGL 56 (PC). Steady reports of **Gray Catbird** in eBird abruptly ended 10/31, with one at PVP (KA). Only one other was reported later on 11/25 at Bradford Dam (RF). Similarly, there were no reports of **Brown Thrasher** after one 10/21 at Warminster Community Park (GJ). As usual, **American Pipit** was

present at MKF, with approximate high counts of 120 on 10/25 and 260 on 11/11 (RS). All other reports were of relatively small numbers from six other sites starting 9/25 through the period (m.ob.). **Snow Bunting** was reported more frequently this fall. NSP reports were of one each 10/27 (AM) and 11/21 (ML, MH), with the high report of 7 11/22 (PC). One was at PVP 11/11 (JF) and 11/24 (AM). Reports of **Cedar Waxwing** in eBird dropped quickly after early Nov, with the last entry 11/25 at PVP (ZM). Numbers in general were not impressive with most in the single digits or low double digits. The only reports over 50 came from PVP, with the high of 180 on 10/27 (AM).

Warblers provided many days of good birding this fall. A total of 33 species was reported, with the rarer species mentioned below. A count of 17 species at PWT 9/30, with 3 additional species there 9/29 (DFa) provided a very good late season report, as was a big day count of 13 species 10/13 (DFa, BW). **Golden-winged Warbler** was reported at MKF 8/25 (RS) and PVP 8/30-9/5 (EC, JB, TK, DFa, AM). A **Prothonotary Warbler** at PVP 8/16-18 (BWo ph., JB) was possibly a migrant rather than one from the local family that hadn't been reported since mid-Jul. An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was at Warminster Community Park 10/3 and 10/9 (GJ). Two were at NSP 10/10 (DFa), and one was at PVP 10/13 (AM). **Connecticut Warbler** was well reported this year, with as many as 19 individuals reported at four sites on 14 dates between 9/2 and 10/6 (m.ob.). As usual, the high single site count was 4 at PWT 9/30 (DFa). Again barely reported and possibly getting harder to find here in fall, **Mourning Warbler** was at MKF 9/3 (RS), PVP 9/5 (AM), and PWT 9/29 (DFa). A **Kentucky Warbler** was a rare fall find at PVP 9/8 (AM, JMi), and was seen again 9/9 (GD). **Hooded Warbler** continued until at least 9/1 at their breeding site at SGL 157 (DFa). Compared to no other reports last year, one was at MKF 8/24 (RS), and one each was reported at PVP 9/3 (KI), 9/11 (AM, JMi), and 9/13 (BHi). A **Northern Parula** at Tincicum Twp. 11/1 (PC) was late by three weeks compared to others of its kind this fall and only one day shy of the record late date set last year. A **Magnolia Warbler** at Revere 10/20 (DFa) furnished a new fall late date by two days. A **Blackpoll Warbler** 11/11 at Warminster Community Park (GJ) and one at NSP 11/15 (BK), both were later than our previous fall late date of 11/9/2011. A **Palm Warbler** was at Lake Towhee 8/29 (PT) providing a new early date by a couple of days. The flow of **Pine Warbler** migrants stopped 10/15, but a straggler was detected 11/18 at MKF (RS), two weeks later than our previous fall late date. Several winter reports also exist for this species. A **Black-throated Green Warbler** at SGL 157 8/7 (KR) was two weeks earlier than the next report this fall and also provided a new fall early date. The only **Yellow-breasted Chat** reports were at MKF 8/31 (RS) and Silver Lake Park 10/4 (MG).

Compared to the unusual 16 **Eastern Towhees** in Nov last year, there were only 5 birds this year (BHS, DH, JHe, GJ, ZM). **American Tree Sparrow** was better represented this fall, with reports from seven sites but less than 20 individuals total (m.ob.). A **Clay-colored Sparrow**, rarely reported here, was at PVP 9/29 (HE, ph.) providing a new fall early date. Another stopped at Solebury Twp. 10/16-19 (MRu). The only **Vesper Sparrow** reports were single birds 10/13 at NSP (DFa), and 10/16 and 10/24 at MKF (RS). A rarely reported fall **Grasshopper Sparrow** was at Lake Towhee Park 10/27 (PT). **Nelson's Sparrow** was reported as usual at PRN between 10/2 (TB, CCh, JD ph.) and 10/29 (TJ, DG), with the last date one day beyond our previous fall late date. A post-Sandy **Saltmarsh Sparrow** was found at PRN 11/1 (ph. CR, AM, doc.) and was last reported 11/4 (EW). It provided the second county record and only the fifth for the state going back to 1892. An adult **White-crowned Sparrow** at PVP 10/15-17 (SL ph.) was not our normal eastern subspecies due to a lack of the black eye line extending to the bill. It was reviewed by PL, AM, MO, CR, JR, and DSi who all agreed it was likely an intermediate bird between *leucophrys* and *gambelii*. Even more difficult to identify, an immature bird at Blooming Glen 11/7 was documented to PORC for review as a **Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow** (ph. CR). A photo of a bull frog swallowing a **Northern Cardinal** (JW ph.) provides another example of their capacity to take birds. A **Blue Grosbeak** was a surprise at Warminster Community Park 9/28 (GJ). The last report at their usual southern *Bucks* stronghold was one at PWT 9/30 (DFa). **Dickcissel** was reported 9/7, 9/20, and 9/21 at MKF (RS) for the only reports and provided a new fall early date. Annual breeding attempts since 2008 have also occurred, and there was one mid-Aug report last year. The single site high count was 48 for **Bobolink** at MKF 8/29 (RS). Not reported at all last fall, **Eastern Meadowlark** was reported at six sites in the low to mid-single digits (m.ob.). A male **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was photographed in Wrightstown Twp. 11/28 for only the seventh known county report and first since 1991 (ph. PF, doc). **Rusty Blackbird** was reported from eight sites 10/14-11/25, with most counts in the low single digits. The exceptions were 12 each at Silver Lake Park (MG) and Quakertown Swamp (SSM), both 10/23, and 10 at Haycock Twp. 10/30 (PT). Surprising was the abrupt stop in the steady flow of **Baltimore Oriole** entries in eBird on the early date of 9/11 (BK). The next report was one of the annual late fall/winter reports at Plumstead Twp. 11/17-24 (LD ph.).

The first report of **Purple Finch** was from SGL 157 8/25 (KR). The next was not noted until 9/16 at CVP (BK), and then there was a steady stream of reports. The consistently highest reports were from PVP (AM, m.ob.) where double digit counts started 9/30 and continued to 10/26 (AM). After that all reports were in the low single digits (m.ob.). The high report was approximately 60 there 10/8 (HE). Crossbills seemed to be under reported here considering the large irruption reported elsewhere. A **Red Crossbill** was heard flying by at Nockamixon Twp. 10/25 (DFa) and again at another site there 11/17 (DFa). One each was detected at NSP 11/3, 11/11, and 11/15 (DFa). One was also there 11/22 (PC). One was recorded and identified as a type 2 Red Crossbill at Plumstead Twp. 11/22 (TS, JHu). The last report was of 3 at CVP 11/24 (VD). A male **White-winged Crossbill** was at a feeder in Doylestown 10/25-26 (RHi ph.). One to five were reported at NSP 11/3, 11/4, 11/11, and 11/15 (DFa), with two there 11/18 (CR). One was noted at Revere 11/16 (DFa) and 2 were at Tincicum Twp. 11/15 (AM, JMi). Three were at PVP 11/17 (PH, AM, AR et al.). **Common Redpoll** was reported from only three sites, with the first at PVP 10/27 (CCr). A fly-by was at PVP 11/23 (ZM), one was at Southampton 11/8 (CM), and one was at NSP 11/10 (PT). Four at NSP 11/18-20 (CR, DFa, ML, MH) provided the only report of more than one bird. The first **Pine Siskins** were 10 at Durham Twp. 10/1 (BF), providing a new fall early arrival date. After that, reports were widespread, with many sites reporting low to mid double digit counts at feeders (m.ob.). The highest single site tallies of between 120 and 200 on multiples dates were from a Buckingham Springs feeding station between 10/9 and 10/31 (BK). Numbers crashed to mainly low single digits in very early Nov, with only a couple of exceptions. Very rare here, a total of 14 **Evening Grosbeaks** were reported from 10 sites 10/20-11/13 (m.ob.) Only two sites reported more than one bird, with three each at feeders at Upper Makefield 10/27 (JMa) and Riegelsville in late Oct (*vide* DFa). The only multi-day report was of one at PRN 11/7-13 (KK).

EXOTICS: The **Egyptian Goose** group of 3 found in Jul at Tullytown was still there 8/3 (MG).

CORRIGENDA: Vol. 26, No.2 Mar-May 2012: Eileen Chalmers (ECh) and Elaine Crunkleton (ECr) were not differentiated in the credits. The **Bicknell's Thrush** should have been credited to ECr, and the **Egyptian Goose** in the *Exotics* paragraph should have been credited to ECh. Similarly the Birds of Note mention of the **Bicknell's Thrush** should be credited to Elaine Crunkleton.

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Butler County

Locations: Moraine State Park (MSP), Lake Oneida (LO), Squaw Valley Woodlands (SVW).

Hurricane Sandy brought 7 **Brant** to MSP 10/30 (GG). Reports of **Tundra Swan** began 11/7 at MSP with a count of 6 (MV, JF). Additional reports of 8 birds were made at MSP 11/18 (RN, ST) and 11/23 (MV). Last

Wood Ducks were 10/28 at MSP (RN, ST, RV, MF, JV). High count for the season was 33 at MSP 9/26 (MV). Three **Northern Shovelers** were at MSP 9/1 (MV) and 9/2 (ST). Reports of **Green-winged Teal** were frequent, with a high count of 20 at MSP 11/8 (JF). **Blue-winged Teal** were reported far less frequently, with a high count of 3 birds 9/2 (ST). Two **Redheads** were observed at MSP 10/30 (GG). High count of 70 **Ring-necked Ducks** was made at MSP 10/28 (ST, RV, MF, JV). **Bufflehead** were numerous at MSP with a high count of 20 on 10/28 (RN, ST, RV, MF, JV). A single **Long-tailed Duck** was reported at MSP 11/5 (TJ).

A good count of 71 **Common Loons** was made at MSP 10/28 (ST, RV, MF, JV). **Horned Grebes** were scarce at MSP, with a high count of just 4 on 10/28 (RV, MF, JV) and 11/5 (TR). A **Great Egret** was observed at MSP until 9/1 (MV). A late **Green Heron** was at MSP 10/13 (JM). A flyover flock of 20 **Sandhill Cranes** was spotted over MSP 11/27 (JFI). A **Sora** was observed at MSP 9/2 (STh).

Despite limited suitable habitat in the county, 11 species of shorebirds were recorded. Two **Semipalmated Plovers** were at LO 9/3 (STh). A group of 7 **Greater Yellowlegs** were seen overhead at MSP 10/28 (m.ob.). Two **Lesser Yellowlegs** were at MSP 8/26 (MV) and 9/29 (MD). Two reports of **Pectoral Sandpiper** were made at LO, a single bird 8/18 (RN) and 3 birds 9/2 (STh). High count of 4 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** was made at MSP 8/26 (MV) and 9/1 (MV). High count of 12 **Least Sandpiper** was made at LO 9/2 (STh). Two **Dunlin** were at MSP 11/2 (DK, RN). A **Forster's Tern** was observed at MSP 9/26 (JM). Both a **Little Gull** and a **Common Tern** were brought to MSP by Hurricane Sandy 10/31 (DY). A **Merlin** was reported at MSP 10/10 (JM).

A total of 21 species of warbler were reported in the county during the fall migration. A single **Lincoln's Sparrow** was reported at Squaw Valley Woodlands 9/29 (DW). High count of **White-crowned Sparrow** was made 10/20 at MSP (JM). The three reports of **Fox Sparrow** at MSP were 10/20 (JM), 11/05 (TR), and 11/17 (DI). A flock of 15 **Pine Siskins** at MSP 10/30 provided the high one-day count for the season (GG).

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Cambria County

Locations: Colver Reservoir (CV), Duman Dam (DD), Patton area (PA), Prince Gallitzin State Park (PG).

Waterfowl at PG peaked 10/29, the day before Hurricane Sandy passed through the state, when an estimated 10,000 birds were present, at least 3000 of which were **Ruddy Ducks**. Other waterfowl present included **Canada Geese, Gadwall, American Wigeon, American Black Duck, Mallard, Green-winged Teal, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Black Scoter, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Red-throated Loon, Common Loon, and Pied-billed and Horned Grebe** (DG, JS). With normal water levels at PG, few shorebirds were present. **Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper and Least Sandpiper** were at CV (DG, JS). A **Short-billed Dowitcher** and a **Wilson's Snipe** were at DD 10/21 (DG). Three **Caspian Terns** were seen at PG 8/25 (DG). **Black Terns** were at PG 9/4 and 9/16 (DG).

Single **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were near PG 9/4-5 (DG, JS). A single **Northern Shrike** was at PG 11/9 (JS). The last **Purple Martin** left PG 8/5 (DG). Last date for **Tree Swallows** was 10/19 at DD (DG). The whole month of Sep was very productive for warblers with small flights seen daily. Unusual was a flock of 13 female **Indigo Buntings** with a large flock of mixed finches and sparrows near PA 9/20 (DG). Two flocks of 25-50 Rusty Blackbirds were seen at DD and PG.

Observers: **Dave Gobert, 287 Beech Road, Patton, PA 16668, (814) 674-8359, djgobert@verizon.net**, John Salvetti.

Cameron County

No Compiler.

Carbon County

The following species were seen at Beltzville State Park during the passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30, which included three firsts for Carbon:

200+ **Brant** (m.ob.), 7 **Surf Scoter** (DA, RR), 5 **White-winged Scoter** (DA, RR), 14 **Black Scoter** (DA, RR), one **Sanderling** (DW), 400+ **Dunlin** (m.ob.), one **Ruddy Turnstone** (RW), 2 **Red-necked Phalarope** (DW), one **Red Phalarope** (DW, first county record), 3 **Pomarine Jaeger** (DA, first county record), one **jaeger sp.** (DA, RR), 5 **Laughing Gull** (BE), 5 **Forster's Tern** (m.ob.), and one **Cave Swallow** (RW, first county record).

Observers: **Dustin Welch, 7122 Arrowhead Road, Bath, PA 18014, (484) 538-7486, DWelch5951@aol.com**, Dan Altif, Bill Etter, Rich Rehrig, Rick Wiltraut.

Centre County

Locations: PSU Arboretum (ARBOR), Bald Eagle S.P. (BESP), Barrens to Bald Eagle Wildlife Corridor (B2BE), Black Moshannon S.P. (BMSP), Colyer L. (COL), Governor Tom Ridge Wetland Preserve (GTRWP), Jo Hayes Vista (JHV), PennDOT remediation ponds on Rte. 220 west of Julian (JUL), Millbrook Marsh Nature Center (MMNC), Scotia Barrens and Pond (SCO), Toftrees pond and gamelands (TOF).

There were two significant storm fallouts in Centre; the first 9/6-7 produced heavy fog and cloud cover and prompted a report of hundreds of warblers at SCO (JV *fide* AL). This was dwarfed by the 10/28-31 fallout caused by a combination of a cold front and Hurricane Sandy, which produced some eye-popping individual numbers for a few species and one real rarity. November brought the beginning of a nice winter finch irruption. Information for this report were obtained primarily from the State College Bird Club listserv <scbirdcl@lists.psu.edu> and eBird, with background and status information from *Birds of Central Pennsylvania* by Nick Bolgiano and Greg Grove, 2010 (B&G, 2010).

Brant, a rare migrant, briefly outnumbered **Canada Geese** at BESP 10/30, when 426 in six flocks were seen. The first Brant arrived 10/28 with bad weather prior to Sandy's passage, and a few lingered at BESP and nearby Howard through 11/11 (AL, et al.). The storm also brought 38 Brant to COL 10/30 (IG), and one was ph. 10/31-11/1 at TOF (JV, JoL, AL, DE).

Thirteen uncommon or rare duck were observed, with **Gadwall** the most frequently reported (AL, et al.). Two to 4 **Blue-winged Teal** were noted 8/19-9/2 at Old Gatesburg Rd. (AL, AnF, TS, CE); 3 were seen 9/3 at SCO (CE, IG), and one at the same location 10/3 (JV, AL). One to 2 were noted 11/28-29 at Duck Pond (AL, JoL, JaM). The PSU Bathgate Retention Pond hosted a **Northern Shoveler** 10/9-18 (AL, JoL, BA, JaM), and up to 5 were seen 10/31-11/3 at BESP (MD, IG, KW). Up to 7 were noted at Duck Pond 11/11-29 (BA, et al.). Up to 13 **Northern Pintails** were found 10/28-30 at COL (CE, JV, BA), and as many as 75 were identified at BESP 10/30-31 (NF, AL, AnF, JoL, MD). Single birds were seen 11/1 at Old Gatesburg Rd. (AL, JoL) and 11/29 at Duck Pond (JaM). One **Redhead** was present 8/10-29 at Duck Pond (AL, AnF, CE, JoL, TS). Although both scaup are uncommon migrants, **Greater Scaup** is encountered less frequently. Sandy and the cold front brought up to 14 to COL 10/28-31 (CE, JV, JD, BA, MD), and 3-8 at BESP 10/28-30 (CE, et al.). They were also noted 11/3 at BMSP (JD). **Lesser Scaup** observations occurred 10/13-11/14 at four locations, with most coming from BESP during the storms associated with Sandy.

All three scoters were reported. **Surf Scoters** are casual migrants, so the one ph. 10/13 BESP (JV) was noteworthy. Storm-related sightings included one 10/29 BMSP (JH), up to 16 on 10/30 COL (IG, BA), and "as many as 30" at BESP and nearby Howard 10/28-11/3 (DE, et al.). **White-winged Scoters** are more regular migrants. Ten were observed 10/28 BMSP (NiB), and up to 15 at 10/28-31 BESP (AL, et al.). They were also reported 10/28-11/1 COL (CE, et al.), with a high of 33 noted 10/29 (JH). **Black Scoters** were also among the storm birds. Up to 23 of this casual species was spotted 10/28-11/3 BESP (AL, et al.). Up to 5 **Long-tailed Ducks** were seen 11/2-4 BESP (JV, et al.). There were two reports of **Red-breasted Mergansers**, both at BESP. One was observed 11/4 (JH), and 3 were seen 11/27 (IG). Although considered a common migrant, large numbers of **Ruddy Ducks** fell out on area lakes 10/28. A total of 137 were counted at BESP (NiB), and approximately 500 were seen BESP, including one described as "blonde" (BS).

A **Northern Bobwhite**, probably an escape or released bird, was reported 8/13 Lemont (AC). This species is considered to be extirpated in Centre (B&G, 2010). Scattered reports of **Ring-necked Pheasants**, an introduced but uncommon species, were reported (AL, et al.), with many of the observations coming from TOF (MB, et al.).

Two rare **Red-throated Loons** blew in with Sandy 10/30 BESP (CE, et al.), and one lingered to 11/27 (IG). Although a common migrant, an unusual number of **Common Loons** passed JHV 11/3, when 237 were counted (JD, CG, SG, CW), including "one 'asylum' of 200+ ..." (CW). A **Horned Grebe** was spotted at 10/27 TOF (JD), and up to 12 were observed

10/27-11/8 BESP (KW, et al.). An **American Bittern** dallied 9/22-10/9 at MMNC (JV, et al.), and up to 4 rare **Great Egrets** lingered at JUL 8/8-9/3 (MD, et al.). **Green Herons** were reported widely.

A plethora of **Black Vulture** sightings were reported. Many were seen at JHV (AL, et al.); however, a number of sightings were made in the area between Rock Springs and Boalsburg, where 20 were noted 11/15 at Mt. Nittany Middle School (JV). This is near the area where large numbers roosted last winter. Several uncommon raptors were widely observed, including **Osprey**, **Northern Harrier**, **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, **Cooper's Hawk**, **Bald Eagle**, and **Red-shouldered Hawk**. All migrating **Golden Eagles** were reported JHV 10/16-11/5 (CW, et al.), except one observed 11/6 at SGL 60 (MiD). A rare **Northern Goshawk** was noted 8/24 at State College (JV). The season's first **Rough-legged Hawk**, a light morph, was seen hunting near Buffalo Run 11/7 (DO).

The only rail species reported was **Sora**; one was seen 8/24 at the PSU Bathgate Retention Pond (MB). Up to 4 were also reported there 9/11-16 (AL, JoL, CE, CrM, JM). A number of shorebirds were observed, although individual numbers were significantly less than last year. A rare **Black-bellied Plover**, which are casual in this area, was identified 10/30 at BESP (AL, AnF), and another casually occurring rarity, **American Golden-plover**, was ph. at SCO 9/16-17 (AnF, et al.). Only one **Semipalmated Plover** was found 8/19-27 at SCO (AL, et al.); however, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Solitary Sandpiper**, **Greater Yellowlegs**, and **Lesser Yellowlegs** were widely reported. High numbers of 58-74 **Greater Yellowlegs** at BESP 10/30 (AC, JV, MD, DE) were the result of bad weather associated with Sandy. Other shorebirds included a rare **Sanderling** 9/2-3 at Old Gatesburg Rd. (CE, JV, NB). **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were spotted at three locations: 8/5-8 at JUL (MD), 8/7-12 at SCO (AnF, MD), and 9/2-6 at Old Gatesburg Rd. (CE, AL, AnF). Up to 5 **Least Sandpipers** were observed at five locations 8/4-9/18 (AL, et al.). Two reports of **Pectoral Sandpipers** came 9/18 from COL (JV), where one was found, and up to 9 at S. Nixon Rd. the same day (SL, et al.). An astounding 2187 **Dunlin** were photographed riding Sandy's winds 10/30 at BESP (AL, et al.). Two remained the next day (MD), and 2 were seen 11/1 at Nixon Rd. (JV). **Wilson's Snipe** began moving in for the winter, with single birds noted 8/29 at Old Gatesburg Rd. (AnF), 9/3 at Blue Course Retention Pond (IG), 10/17 at MMNC (AL), and 10/21 at Curtin Wetland (MD, JD).

Sandy also brought several uncommon gull and tern species to BESP. Up to 6 **Bonaparte's Gulls** and one or 2 **Herring Gulls** were ph. 10/28-11/4 (AL, et al.); an accidental **Little Gull** was spotted 10/30 at BESP (AB fide AL). A **Caspian Tern** was reported 10/31 and a **Common Tern** was seen 11/2 (both JV). Up to 4 **Forster's Terns** were present 10/30-31 (NF, et al.), and one lingered nearby in Howard 11/3 (IG, KW). Earlier in the season, up to 9 rare **Black Terns** graced the skies over BESP 8/11-12 (BS, et al.).

Intrepid birders braving the elements at BESP as Sandy passed through 10/30 were treated to not one but 2 **Pomarine Jaegers** (CE, et al.). One was initially identified as a Parasitic Jaeger but was later determined to be a second Pomarine Jaeger. These were the second and third reports of this accidental species reported in *Centre*; the only other confirmed report was in 1969 at COL. There have also been two "probables" noted, one in 2000 and the other in 2006, both at BESP (B&G, 2010). Photographs of these and other BESP Sandy stormbirds are on the Nemesis Bird blog at <<http://www.nemesisbird.com/2012/11/hurricane-sandy-storm-birding-at-bald-eagle-sp-pa/>>.

After the first *Centre* report last year, **Eurasian Collared-Doves** have been sighted occasionally in State College, where one was spotted 8/2 at S. Nixon Rd. (MD) and another 8/15 at Whitehall Rd. (AL). **Black-billed Cuckoos** were noted at a half dozen locations through Sept. (JD, et al.). **Barred Owls** were heard at several county locations 8/12-11/28, with most observations coming from SCO (AL, et al.). Single **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were present 10/14-21 at BESP (DiB, NB), 11/11-26 at SCO (JD, DiB), 11/13 at Kepler Rd. (IG), and 11/22 at Tussey Mtn. south of Boalsburg (BA). **Common Nighthawks** were widely reported, with a high of 20-25 noted 8/16 Howard (BS). There were a few fall observations of **Eastern Whip-poor-will** 8/23-9/17 at SCO with a high of 12 noted 9/1 (AL, et al.). **Belted Kingfishers**, which are uncommon migrants, were widely noted.

Single **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were observed in five locations in Aug. A sixth report 8/20 at Seven Mountains (ShH) was of 4 birds. **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** were widely reported. Single **Merlins** were spotted regularly but infrequently, with most sightings from JHV (AL, et al.) and BESP (IG, MM, JoL, AL, BA). **Peregrine Falcon** reports were more scattered geographically. Most were of single birds; however, 2 were observed 8/25 at Bear Meadows (AC), and 3 winged their way past JHV 10/6 (AL, et al.).

Single rare **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were reported SCO 8/21, 9/3, and 9/28 (AL, AnF, CE, IG), and another was noted 8/28 Unionville (DO). There were scattered reports of **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** in Aug-Sep (CE, et al.), and one **Acadian Flycatcher** was present 9/9 at BESP (BS).

Reports of single **Alder Flycatchers** came 8/23 at Scotia Range Rd. (AL, JoL) and 9/12 at BMSP (SE). **Willow Flycatchers** were observed more often, with reports of one or 2 birds coming from nine locations. A **Trail's Flycatcher** was noted at SCO 8/28 (AL, AnF, JoL) and 9/15 (IG). **Least Flycatchers** were regularly reported 8/19-9/27 at eight locations, with most coming from ARBOR (MB, et al.). Three were banded there in Sept. (NK). As many as 3 **Great Crested Flycatchers** were noted at SCO 8/7-9/16 (AL, et al.), and single birds were present 8/16 at BESP (CE), 8/27-9/2 at TOF (AL, JoL, MD) and at ARBOR 8/29-9/8 (AL, MD, JM, DE).

Like clockwork, *Centre's* first **Northern Shrike** of the season was reported 11/3-4 at BESP (IG, et al.); this was one day earlier than last year's first report. A second bird was located 11/15 at Mid-State Airport (IG). A rare **White-eyed Vireo** was noted 9/11 near Stormstown (MD). Single **Yellow-throated Vireos** were reported intermittently 8/25-9/28 at SCO (JV, IG, ChB). Two passed through Unionville 9/2 (DO), and one was seen 9/2 at State College (CE). **Warbling Vireo** is also a rare migrant and was reported four times; single birds were noted 8/11 at Yeager Hollow Pond (AL), 8/19-9/9 at SCO (AL, et al.), and 9/11 at State College (CE). Two were seen 8/14 at BESP (AL, AnF). **Philadelphia Vireo** is an uncommon fall migrant and was reported at ten sites 8/27-9/30.

Once again Penn State's University Park campus and downtown State College have been marked by the presence of humongous flocks of wintering **American Crows** and **Fish Crows**. Penn State's Office of the Physical Plant began their annual effort to haze the birds to places where their presence would be less offensive (*Centre Daily Times*, 11/30/2012). **Fish Crows** were tightly clustered around State College, with only two reports outside that area, both from BESP: up to 10 on 8/6 (CE), and a single bird 10/14 (JD). Although an uncommon species, **Common Ravens** were widely and regularly reported.

Northern Rough-winged Swallows were reported at several locations, with most spotted 8/11-9/8 at BESP, where up to 8 were reported at one time (AL, et al.). **Purple Martins**, probably from the Howard colonies, were reported 8/11-14 at BESP (AL, NT, IG, MD, AnF). A **Bank Swallow** was noted 8/20 at BMSP (AL, AnF), and 2 were seen 8/22 at BESP (AL, AnF, CE, RC, JM). Most reports of **Cliff Swallows** were of 6 or fewer birds, except for a high of 55 on 8/12 at BESP (RC).

Although a few are observed each year, **Red-breasted Nuthatch** is irruptive and may be common in some years. This was one of them, with the species widely reported. Uncommon **Brown Creepers** and **Winter Wren** were also observed in limited numbers. Area birders encountered three rare **Marsh Wrens**, one each at Yeager Hollow Pond 10/9 (AL, NF, JoL), at Bullit Run Rd. 10/15 (NF), and at Curtin Wetland 10/21 (JV).

A few **Veery** were identified at five locations, with 9 found 9/20 at State College (JV). **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, a rarity, and **Swainson's Thrush** were reported in limited numbers at scattered locations. However, recordings of migrating flocks included 57 Gray-cheeked Thrush and 253 Swainson's Thrush 9/16 at SCO, and 200 of the former and at least 2500 of the latter 9/27-28 at State College (all JV). **American Pipits** were reported from five locations 9/16-11/25, including a high of at least 40 at Rock Springs 11/3 (JD). In spite of being eagerly anticipated as a local rarity, only 6 **Snow Buntings** were found at BESP 11/14 (AL, JM, CrM).

Thirty-two species of warbler were reported, 10 of which were common to abundant. Several uncommon migrants were also reported widely in limited numbers, including **Ovenbird**, **Black-and-white Warbler**, **Hooded Warbler**, **Cape May Warbler**, **Bay-breasted Warbler**, **Blackburnian Warbler**, **Palm Warbler**, **Pine Warbler**, **Canada Warbler**, and **Wilson's Warbler**. Others were noted less frequently. Single **Worm-eating Warblers** were reported 8/17 BESP (AL, AnF), 8/19-9/13 SCO (AL, et al.), 8/20 Unionville (DO), and 8/24 MMNC (AC). There were several reports of one or 2 uncommon **Blue-winged Warblers** 8/17-9/11 (AL, et al.). Single **Golden-winged Warblers** were noted 8/20 at Lederer Park (CE), 8/21 at Scotia Range Rd. (AL, AnF), and 8/23-9/2 at SCO (IG, JV, MD). Small numbers of **Tennessee Warblers** were observed 8/21-9/6 Scotia Range Rd. (AL, et al.), with a high count of 14 recorded 9/6 (AL, AnF). **Northern Parula** was reported from 5 locations, with up to 3 observed 8/28-9/25 at SCO (AL, et al.). Only 2 **Prairie Warblers** were seen, which is typical for fall migration. One was spotted 9/1 at SCO (JD) and the other 9/9 at Unionville (DO). A **Northern Waterthrush** was observed 8/5 at BMSP (JD), and one **Orange-crowned Warbler** was spotted 9/15 at SCO (JV, IG). SCO also hosted *Centre's* only **Connecticut Warbler** 9/10 (NF, JV). A rare **Yellow-throated Warbler** was seen 9/21 at SCO by two lucky birders (AL, JoL). An unfortunate **Mourning Warbler** had a fatal encounter with a window 9/5 PSU central campus (MB); however, more fortunate representatives of the species were noted 9/9 at ARBOR (MB) and 9/23 at GTRWP (JV). A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was noted 8/4 at BESP (Bald Eagle SP eTT Data); this may have been the same bird that was reported through the summer.

Six uncommon sparrows were widely reported during their normal migration times: **Vesper Sparrow**, **Savannah Sparrow**, **Fox Sparrow**,

Lincoln's Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, and White-crowned Sparrows.

Although few **Bobolinks** are reported in the fall, 2 flew past JHV 8/17 (AL, AnF). A high of 25 were counted 8/29 at Lederer Park (CE), and 7 were spotted 9/21 at Yeager Hollow Pond (AL, JoL). The last observation was of 6 at PSU Bathgate Retention Pond 9/26 (AL, JoL). **Eastern Meadowlarks** were found at 5 locations with a high of 89 at Yeager Hollow Ponds 9/3 (JV). **Rusty Blackbirds** were noted at seven locations (JoH, et al.), with 140 spotted SCO 10/17 (JV). Other large flocks included 80 seen 10/16 COL (AL, AnF), and 91 BESP 10/21 (JV). The region's first November **Baltimore Oriole** was photographed at a feeder in Penn's Valley 11/14-20 (MaH). This common Icterid is normally gone by the end of Sep.

This was a "Finch Fall" with several irruptive species reported. Uncommon **Purple Finches** were widely observed, and banders were reminded why **American Goldfinches** are considered abundant; "eighty-six birds of 13 species were handled [and]... fifty-five were Am. Goldfinch!" 9/23 at ARBOR (NK). Five irruptive finches were reported, including three casual visitors. Rare **Red Crossbills** were found at five locations, with up to 12 reported 11/15-29 at BMSP (IG, et al.). Two flocks located there 11/18 were identified as Type 10 (JV). Other observations included 5 at State College 11/5 (CE), one each at Bear Meadows 11/11 (NiB) and 11/11 at David's Vista (JV), and 3 at Pine Grove Mills 11/15 (JK). A single male **White-winged Crossbill** was photographed 11/3-4 at State College while it fed on hemlock cones (JoT, JV, AL, AnF). Three **Common Redpolls** dined at a Boalsburg feeder 11/6 (TP, JV). Another was photographed 11/7 at TOF (DE, NaB), and one was seen 11/30 at State College (BA). High numbers of **Pine Siskins** included 75 at BESP 11/28 (AL, et al.), 150 at BESP 10/30 (AC), and over 50 at Sinking Creek 10/31 (MR). A female **Evening Grosbeak** was ph. 10/10-22 at Howard (BS, et al.). Two females and a male showed up 10/28 at Boalsburg (KO), and 6-8 visited feeders at two State College homes 11/3-5 (DK, NK). The last report was of 3 females at a feeder 11/7 at Howard (BS).

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Chester County

Locations: Bucktoe Creek Preserve (BCP), Coatesville Reservoir (CORES), Chambers Lake (CL), Marsh Creek State Park (MCSP), Rushton Farm Banding Station (RFBS), Struble Lake (SL), Waterloo Mills Preserve (WMP).

Certainly one of the most memorable events of the fall of 2012 was the passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30. This late-season "super storm" was extremely unusual for the time of year, and drove many displaced birds into *Chester* and surrounding counties. Steadfast birders stood watch at three of the county's biggest lakes, and were rewarded for their efforts with a wide diversity of birds, which included waterfowl, gulls, terns, and shorebirds. Despite hopes from local birders for county firsts, none were found. There was, however, a different county first that was the star of the season: a **Calliope Hummingbird**. Only the second for Pennsylvania, this hummingbird found a backyard in Devon a welcoming place to spend a few weeks. Devon was undoubtedly the epicenter this season for rarities. A **Le Conte's Sparrow** took up residence at a private preserve in Devon, and

was noticed around Thanksgiving by the preserve manager. The season also saw a large movement of **Northern Saw-whet Owls**, both **crossbills**, **Common Redpolls**, and the long awaited return of **Evening Grosbeaks**.

Numbers and diversity of waterfowl were elevated this fall by Sandy, but outside of the hurricane window, it was still a good season for geese and ducks. A good find, especially due to the infrequency of reports in recent years, was an imm. **Greater White-fronted Goose** detected in dwindling sunlight at CL 11/8 (BQ, KN). What appeared to be the same individual was seen at CORES, 11/9-11 (m.ob.), and this one, or another, was seen in at a Parkesburg retention pond 11/9 (CC, HM). **Brant** are always a treat to see *Chester*. This fall, appearances of this sea goose were a direct result of the hurricane, and were reported in good numbers 10/30, with up to 50 seen together flying over CL (RR), and another flock of 41 winging east over MCSP (HM). **Cackling Geese (Richardson's)** are annually recorded in autumn as goose numbers begin to build, and sometimes multiples are observed from a single location. A highlight was 6 counted at CORES 11/25 (WBH, AG, DE, HM). Making their second and third appearance in 2012 were **Trumpeter Swans**. This species was once an accidental visitor, but has been reported with increasing frequency throughout the state in recent years. A solo Trumpeter Swan was found at CL 11/17, and continued there through 11/20 (RR, m.ob.). Remarkably, a pair of Trumpeter Swans was discovered along the Schuylkill R. in ne. *Chester* 11/26 (LM, RB), and continued at this location through the end of the period. This pair occasionally crossed county boundaries into *Montgomery* waters, pleasing county listers. A report of 3 **Tundra Swans** coincided with the hurricane 10/30 in Thorndale (GT). The only other report of this species was from BCP 11/23, where another 3 were seen in flight (JS).

There was a nice variety of the expected ducks, with appearances by some of the more sought after sea ducks such as the scoters during the hurricane. Among the highlights were **Blue-winged Teal** reported from scattered locations around the county. The largest collection of this species was found at CL in Sept (m.ob.). **Northern Shoveler** was first detected earlier than typical 8/15 at CL (RR), and staged a high count of 46 was made 11/8 at Fellowship Road WTP (HM, WBH). Early **Northern Pintail** were found at CL 9/9 (NP) and were only reported a few times during the season; this included up to 30 reported from MCSP during Hurricane Sandy 10/30 (MD, m.ob.), and "many" were noted that day on SL (FH, BH). **Green-winged Teal** was first reported 8/30 (RR), with numbers building into late Oct (m.ob.). **Greater Scaup** was first seen during the hurricane 10/30, and found mostly on the bigger bodies of water when encountered (m.ob.). **Lesser Scaup** was first found at CL 10/27 (NP), and multiple reports continued through the reporting period (m.ob.). An exciting species to log during the annual Big Sit at CL 10/14 were 3 **Surf Scoters** (LL, KP, JW, m.ob.). A few weeks later, a single dapper drake was found at CORES 10/26 (HM, m.ob.). The hurricane's bounty of waterfowl included a high count of 38 Surfs resting on the water at CL 10/30 (RR, m.ob.). Other reports of this species during the hurricane came from MCSP 10/30, where 9 were counted (HM, BB, AD). **White-winged Scoters** took respite on county lakes during the hurricane, with 5 counted at SL in the morning (BH, FH), and 5 landing on the lake at MCSP later in the same day (m.ob.). These may indeed have been the same individuals lake-hopping as they winged their way back to the coast. Another report of 2 White-winged Scoters was from a WTP near Ludwigs Corner 11/2-3 (RW, NF). A handsome collection of 8 **Black Scoters** was found on CL 10/26, and continued through 10/27 (RR, m.ob.). All other reports came with the hurricane, and were recorded in small groups at both CL and MCSP (m.ob.). Another sea duck that delights piedmont birders is the **Long-tailed Duck**. This striking species first made appearances during the hurricane at MCSP, with up to 3 recorded (m.ob.). Another 3 were reported 11/24-26 from the same location (BQ, BR). A high count of 85 **Bufflehead** came from MCSP 11/24 (BQ, BR). **Red-breasted Merganser**, paid a visit as a result of HS, and was seen 10/30 at CL (RR, JL), another was seen 10/31 at MCSP (GT, BQ). Other reports of this deep diver came from MCSP 11/12-13 (HM, KN, WBH), and 2 were seen there 11/20 (NP). **Ruddy Ducks** are plentiful at MCSP in Nov, and 116 was the high count 11/13 (WBH).

An irregular visitor in fall, **Red-throated Loon** was only found once at MCSP 11/8 (HM, WBH). An early **Pied-billed Grebe** was seen at MCSP in early Aug (JM, HM). Multiple reports of **Horned Grebe** began 10/25 and continued through 11/29, all were seen at MCSP (m.ob.). A single **Red-necked Grebe**, irregular in fall, was a nice find on the lake at MCSP 11/17 (CC). Two early **Double-crested Cormorants** were found in *Chester* waters of Octoraro Res. 8/9 (NP). Strings of these birds passed over Unionville, with 45 counted 9/24, and 61 counted 10/3 (KN). Birders staked out in Devon 11/3 counted 45 in formation heading towards their wintering destination (AL, m.ob.).

A great surprise was an **American Bittern** seen in flight as JS sat watch in his yard 9/16. This was the only report of this secretive species during the fall migration period. Post-breeding dispersal provided sightings

of **Little Blue Heron** at three sites this fall. The first bird, an imm., was discovered 8/2 at Exton Park, and continued through 8/6 (GT, m.ob.). Adult Little Blue Herons are less commonly encountered on the piedmont, but one was found in *Chester* waters of the Octoraro Reservoir 8/9 (NP). Another imm. was found at CL 9/22 and continued through 10/5 (CC, m.ob.). A wading bird historically seen in good numbers during migration, but nearly absent in recent years, is the **Cattle Egret**. This species is one of many that appeared during the hurricane. Three Cattle Egrets were found at a private farm in Exton 10/30 (GT), and a single bird was spotted at CL 10/31 (MQ, RM). **Black-crowned Night Heron** is an uncommon fall migrant, and was reported only twice during the period, one at CL 8/6 (RR) and another 9/9 along the Pickering Creek (VS). A single imm. **Glossy Ibis** was found in a wetlands area of MCSP 8/1, and continued through at least 8/4 (JM).

Atypical for most fall seasons, reports of **Osprey** continued through the reporting period, and included one individual seen consistently at MCSP through the end of Nov (m.ob.). An excellent find was an imm. **Northern Goshawk** in the Parkesburg area 11/11 (NP, SP). A high count of approximately 4000 **Broad-winged Hawks** came from the Stroud Preserve 9/11 (RuR). Also, reported from the Stroud Preserve was a juv. **Golden Eagle** 9/16 (RuR), and another spotted sparring with an adult **Bald Eagle** 10/11 (RR). Other reports of Golden Eagle came in Nov, with up to 3 from BCP 11/3 (JS, LL), one from Hibernia Park 11/7 (RR), and another in Devon 11/11 (WS). A solo **Virginia Rail** vocalized from a wetland at CP 9/29 (WBH, KN), and marked the only report of a rail this season.

Shorebirds were certainly highlights through the fall. During an evening watch targeting nighthawks at BCP 8/30, 3 **Black-bellied Plovers** were reported over the watch site (HD, et al.). Excellent shorebird habitat was created at two major lakes by man-made drawdowns. The first was done at CL in response to summer drought conditions. This benefited many species, including **Semipalmated Plovers**, which made regular appearances there 9/5-28 (RR, m.ob.). The lake at MCSP was also drawn down in Oct. This provided great habitat for shorebirds during the stress of the hurricane, and beyond that date. **American Avocet**, a rarely encountered migrant, was present there 10/31 after the passage of the hurricane (m.ob.). **Greater Yellowlegs**, regular fall migrants, were found in small numbers from numerous locations with favorable habitat throughout the fall period, including both CL and MCSP (m.ob.). A late bird with an injured leg was seen repeatedly at MCSP through 11/13 (m.ob.). **Lesser Yellowlegs** were also reported from multiple sites during the fall period. A high count of 15 was recorded in Kennett Square 9/10 (HD). Two reports of **Sanderling** in the county for the fall period were quite unusual. The first two were found at CL 9/15 and continued through 9/19 (HM, m.ob.). Two more were displaced as a result of the hurricane and seen at MCSP 10/30 (AD, JD, HM, BB, WBH, LL). **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were detected in small numbers throughout Sept mostly at CL (m.ob.). Exceptions were reports from a pond edge in Exton 8/5-6 (HM). A single **Western Sandpiper** was picked out of a collection of peeps 9/9 at CL (NP). A surprisingly late bird was a **White-rumped Sandpiper** at MCSP 11/10 (HM). This bird, reportedly accompanied by a second individual 11/12 (BQ, KN), was seen there through 11/13 (BR, WBH). **Pectoral Sandpipers** were found at CL, with many reports there through Sep (m.ob.). Surprising due to the late date, a pair of Pectorals were seen probing in shallow water at MCSP 10/21 (m.ob.). The appearance of **Dunlin** at MCSP 10/30 was again thanks to the hurricane. Up to 103 were counted on that day, and possibly many more moved through in the groups of hundreds of shorebirds that passed over the lake during that storm (m.ob.). At least one lingering Dunlin continued there until 10/31 (m.ob.). Unexpected was a single Dunlin found among Killdeer working the shoreline 11/25 at MCSP (HM, AG, DE, WBH). A group of 5 **Short-billed Dowitcher**, a rare migrant, was spotted at CL 9/8 (NP, RM). Reports of **Wilson's Snipe** were low this fall, and mostly came from CL 9/20 (CC), 9/23-27, and 10/24 (RR). The star shorebird of the hurricane, and the season, was **Red Phalarope**, seen at all the larger lakes. An outstanding number of 30 were seen flying around SL during the height of the storm (FH, BH). Meanwhile, at MCSP a group of 8 was found, with at least three lingering into 10/31 (m.ob.). A single bird was reported at CL 11/1 (RR, MQ).

Gulls and terns were also displaced by the force of the hurricane. With this storm, several species made their 2012 debut in *Chester*, including the **Bonaparte's Gull**. This species was first noted during the storm, where 2 were found on the lake at MCSP 10/30, and continued through 10/31 (m.ob.). Five were seen at SL 10/30 (BH, FH). Other encounters with this gull at MCSP were 2 on 11/13 (GT), and 4 there 11/17 (CC). A gull rarely encountered inland without the force of an easterly storm is the **Laughing Gull**. This species was found at both MCSP, with up to 19 counted there coming in to roost (m.ob.), and at SL, where 8 were seen 10/30, and another 4 were seen there 10/31 (BH, FH). A **Great Black-backed Gull** in flight was a nice find in a group of gulls above BCP 11/25 (JS). **Caspian Terns** made their first appearance of the year in fall, and were seen at BCP 8/25 (HM, TR), 4 at CL 8/28 (KF), one at CL 8/30 (RR), and another 4 at SL

9/3 (BQ, MD). The **Common Tern** is a species which is typically only associated with strong coastal storms, and two made appearances at MCSP during and right after the passage of the hurricane 10/30-31 (m.ob.). Two **Forster's Terns** were seen at MCSP 8/14 (HM). One was a nice surprise in Glenville 8/25 (MG). Another was at SL 8/28 (KF). All other observations were made during the hurricane, with up to 6 reported at MCSP 10/30, lingering into 10/31 (m.ob.), and 3 at SL 10/30 (BH, FH).

Though there were several reports of **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** throughout the county in fall, there was only a single report of **Black-billed Cuckoo**, at WMP 8/23 (KF). This follows the trends of only one summer report, and very few spring reports of this declining cuckoo species. A thrilling capture in the mist nets at RFBS was a **Long-eared Owl** that came in to investigate the station 11/13 (DM, et al.). This owl remained "barking from the woods" at RFBS through 11/16 (DM). A surprise find was a single Long-eared at Black Rock Sanctuary 11/18. A gang of crows gave away this elusive owl's presence, as they mobbed it until it flushed (RK). Banding stations throughout Pennsylvania were able to prove a significant northern exodus of **Northern Saw-whet Owls** through their seasonal yield of birds banded. RFBS boasted their highest count ever of this tiny northern owl. The season closed with 264 Saw-whets freshly banded, which well-surpasses their previous high of 92. Additionally, 30 owls wearing Rushton bands were recaptured in their nets during the season, the highlight of which was one they banded there in 2010. RFBS had 8 "foreign recaptures", which included birds banded in Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, and other sites in Pennsylvania. One owl was found to have been banded in 2007, and Master Bander DM pointed out the age is at the "higher end of most recaps". Eight RFBS banded owls were caught at sites in Ontario, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Effort from the RFBS banding crew was equally impressive, with 37 nights of open nets, averaging around 7 hours per night of monitoring (DM). Outside of RFBS, a lone report of a single Saw-whet came from the Laurels Reserve 11/6 (KF). Birders enjoy late summer evenings a little more when **Common Nighthawks** appear. Again this fall, BCP hosted a Nighthawk Watch every evening in late Aug-early Sept. A high count from that site was 106 seen in the skies 8/30 (HD, m.ob.).

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds continued their recent trend of lingering past the first of Oct. This year, the late date for the species reported in the county was 10/16 (HM). The bird of the season was undoubtedly an imm. male **Calliope Hummingbird** discovered in an avian inviting yard in Devon 10/18 (JF). This hummingbird was captured and banded 11/1 by NP, assisted by WL. If accepted by PORC, it will become the second record of this hummingbird in Pennsylvania. Nearly a hundred happy birders were grateful for the opportunity to see the tiniest North American bird visiting us here in Pennsylvania. The celebrity hummingbird was last seen 11/11. One of the most exiting recent trends in fall is the increase in reports of **Selasphorus hummingbirds** seen in gardens and visiting feeders. A **Rufous Hummingbird** was positively identified by photo in West Goshen Twp, and lingered around the garden 11/1-2 (NP). Three additional *selasphorus sp.* were reported during fall, including one in West Grove 10/1-3 (MDa), another near Kennett Square 10/11 (CS), and one in Willistown Twp 10/18 (LK *vide* DM). A good single-day count for a piedmont hawkwatch was 3 **Peregrine Falcons** over BCP 10/14 (LL, et al.). **Merlins** have chosen CORES as a wintering destination in recent years; this fall up to 2 were reported consistently in the area by mid-Sep (m.ob.).

An uncommon fall migrant, **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was found in two locations: BCP 8/25 (LL et al), 9/2-3 (HM, MG, WBH, m.ob.), and Welkinweir Preserve 9/15 (RK). The **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** is another low-density migrant in fall. One was seen during a bird walk at BCP 8/29 (HD, m.ob.), and another was caught in a mist net and banded at RFBS also 8/29. The only report of **Least Flycatcher** was from Hibernia Park 9/16 (HM). This fall saw a notable number of reports of **Philadelphia Vireo**, which is our least encountered eastern vireo species. This was a trend seen region-wide. Reports this season came from: WMP 9/1 (KF), Binky Lee Preserve 9/2 (HM), BCP 9/9 (HD, m.ob.), White Clay Creek Preserve 9/10 (WBH, KN), Hibernia Park 9/16 (DF, HM), RFBS 9/26 (BR, BQ, et al), Binky Lee Preserve (WBH, HM) and White Clay Creek Preserve 9/29 (AB).

It has only been a year since the first report in modern history of the **Common Raven** in *Chester*. Since then, multiple reports have come from locations around the county, including the following this season: Welkinweir 9/15 (RK, m.ob.), Great Marsh IBA 10/1 (RC), WMP 10/17 (KF, BE), Phoenixville 11/15 (LT, MH), and Exton 11/25 (HM, AG, DE). **Tree Swallows** lingered late this fall and were reported in very good numbers during and immediately after the hurricane. The latest report came 11/13 from MCSP (WBH). One **Cliff Swallow** seen flying over SL 8/15 was the only report of this species for fall (KF). The hurricane presumably assisted a late report of a **Barn Swallow** seen at MCSP 10/31 (KF). Previous to this observation, the last report was 9/20 (KF), a more typical last of fall date.

This proved to be a mild irruptive year for **Black-capped Chickadees** into se. Pennsylvania. This species was reported from many locations

throughout the county throughout the reporting period, but most were of just one or 2 individuals at a time (m.ob.). An unprecedented irruption of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** began in Aug in the Middle Atlantic region. Reports of this species in *Chester* were widespread, and the species was numerous where habitat was favorable to this conifer-loving nuthatch (m.ob.). Encounters with **Marsh Wren**, an elusive species in fall migration, occurred at Rustin High School 9/9 (NP), WMP 9/13-26 (KF, BR), and White Clay Creek Preserve 10/13 (WBH). There were multiple sightings of **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, including two banded at RFBS 9/20 and 10/25 (DM). There were many fall reports of **Swainson's Thrush**, the last at Nottingham CP 10/18 (NF).

Warbler watching was good this fall, with 33 species reported county-wide. An **Ovenbird** lingered in a yard 10/8-18 in Glenmoore, providing the latest observation this season (DH). Encounters with **Worm-eating Warbler** were few: 2 at Black Rock Sanctuary 8/17 (RK, WS) and one at WMP 8/31 (KF). Two early **Northern Waterthrushes** were observed at Cheslen Preserve 8/1 (KN). Spotting a **Prothonotary Warbler** at BCP 8/13 was a surprise, since this is a species not regularly encountered in fall migration or on that property (HD, MG, et al). Not always the case in fall, good numbers of **Tennessee Warblers** were found around the county (m.ob.). An irregularly reported warbler in fall is the **Orange-crowned Warbler**. This year, three observations were made, including: one at CL 10/4 (HM, RM, RR), one but possibly 2 at Harmony Hill Nature Area 10/8 (HM), and another at Exton Park 10/24 (LW). The elusive **Connecticut Warbler** is always a thrilling find for lucky birders, and 3 different individuals banded at RFBS was a highlight of the songbird-banding season. These birds were found in the nets 9/6, 9/12, and 9/17 (DM, et al). Additional reports came from WMP: 9/9, 9/13 (KF), and CL 9/21 (RR). Another highlight at RFBS was a **Mourning Warbler** banded 9/7 (DM). A male **Kentucky Warbler**, banded in mid-Jun at RFBS as part of the MAPS banding project, was recaptured 9/7, providing interesting data about the fall migration of this uncommonly-encountered warbler (DM). Following the trend of increased reports from their boreal counterparts, both **Cape May Warblers** and **Bay-breasted Warblers** were reported from multiple locations (m.ob.). A late **Palm Warbler** was found in Avondale 11/26 (WBH). The **Wilson's Warbler** is an uncommon fall migrant, and was only reported twice: one at Hibernia Park 8/30 (RR), and another from West Goshen TWP 9/6 (NP).

The only observations of **Vesper Sparrows** this fall were reported from BCP: 10/14 and 11/11 (JS, HD, WBH, m.ob.). A most unexpected and exciting find 11/21 at WMP was a **Le Conte's Sparrow** (KF). This marked the third county record for this species. Reports of this secretive sparrow at this location continued through the end of the reporting period (m.ob.). It was a good fall for encounters with **Fox Sparrows**, with many reports continuing through the period (m.ob.). A high count was of up to 20 at BCP 11/12 (KN, et al), which seemed to host many of this large and colorful sparrow. **Lincoln's Sparrows** put on a good showing, with many reports flooding in. A high count was 4 found at Cheslen Preserve 9/29 (WBH, KN).

After a well-documented eastward invasion in summer, it was not surprising that the **Dickcissel**, a rare fall visitor, was reported twice. Both were observed at BCP, with the first 9/30 during a morning birdwalk (HD, et al), and the second calling while flying over the hawkwatch site there 10/6 (LL). A species of concern due to its precipitous decline on a continental level is the **Rusty Blackbird**. This fall, a higher number of observations were made than in recent years. The high count was 20 at Cheslen Preserve 10/31 (KN). A late female **Baltimore Oriole** spent time visiting a suet feeder in a backyard in the Exton area 11/4-21. Another Nov report of a female Baltimore Oriole was from the Ashebridge Preserve 11/11 (AL).

This season will long be remembered for a major finch invasion that included four species of northern finches that are irregularly encountered in *Chester*. A regular fall migrant, but sometimes in low numbers, reports of **Purple Finch** were more numerous this fall, starting in early Sep (m.ob.). A recording of a **Red Crossbill** found 9/9 at CORES was determined by spectrogram to be that of a "Type 3" (HM). Type 3 Red Crossbills staged a widespread invasion from west to east, so it was not surprising that the crossbill encountered was of this type. Other reports of "un-typed" Red Crossbills were: 4 at Longwood Gardens 11/25 (JM), 15 at BCP 11/26 (JS, DS), and 4 at WMP 11/29 (KN). **White-winged Crossbills** were also in store for birders across the state, and several observations occurred in *Chester*: a flyover at MCSP 11/10 (HM), 8 in West Goshen TWP 11/11 (NP), a flyover at SL 11/25 (WBH, HM, AG), and a high count of 32 feeding in Eastern Hemlocks and Norway Spruce at WMP 11/28 (KF, BE). Not to be forgotten in the near sweep of northern finches making appearances locally, were **Common Redpolls**. One was found at CL in a feeding group of **American Goldfinch** 11/11 (RR, CC, HM, BQ). Two were also briefly seen at the same location 11/25 during a field trip (AG, WBH, HM, DE, et al). After being nearly absent last fall and winter, **Pine Siskins** made a return with force. Reports from feeders came in very good numbers (m.ob.). The bulk of the reports were from early Oct through early Nov, with only a smattering of

reports continuing through the end of the reporting period. The long-awaited return of **Evening Grosbeaks** in *Chester* occurred 11/1 in Willistown Twp. when 2 birds were noted visiting a feeder (*fide* DM). Two other lucky birders encountered this declining species: a group of 10 were photographed in a yard in Devon 11/3 (JW), and 6 were detected in flight over WMP 11/5 (KF). Additional reports also came from feeders near West Grove and Kennett Square this fall (*fide* CS).

EXOTICS: A shocking sight was a **Harris's Hawk** sitting on a telephone wire in the Exton area 10/21 (BH, FH)! Since this species is not known to wander from its expected range, it was not surprising when it was confirmed as a falconer's bird, as jesses were noticed on the hawk. There were other reports of this Harris's Hawk from Exton and other nearby locations, but its history is unknown.

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Clarion County

Locations: Cook Forest (CF), Curlsville (CV), Foxburg (FB), Kahle Lake (KL), Mount Airy (MA), Mount Zion (Piney Tract IBA/SGL 330) (MZ), Rimersburg (RB).

By far the best waterfowl report of the past fall was the single **Ross's Goose** on the Allegheny River near FB 9/16 and present there with a large flock of **Canada Geese** until 9/18 (MM). This is very likely the first county record for this species and photos were obtained. The record was even more unusual due to the early date. The large group of Canada Geese it appeared with were noted as separate and likely a migrating group, distinct from the local small numbers of geese that are common along the river. **Tundra Swans** made their first appearance in several small flocks 11/14-15 at CV and Knox (ML, CW). Other reports of waterfowl were limited, with most coming from a scattering of small ponds on reclaimed strip mine fields near RB. Three **Wood Ducks** were last seen there 11/16, a single **Northern Shoveler** 10/1, and a **Gadwall** and 4 **Green-winged Teal** 10/23, which continued there through the end of the fall season (MM). Some of these small bodies of water have surprisingly passable water quality, and are generally very poorly covered by birders for waterfowl. With more people to document birds in these areas, as well as along the various rivers and small creeks bordering *Clarion*, the county would very likely record different pattern of occurrence for this family.

One interesting note for this fall and a carryover from the breeding season, 2 female **Wild Turkeys** were noted near Limestone 9/3 with 12 young birds, which were still fairly small (FW). This is not the first report of late nesting turkeys this year, possibly due to rain and cold weather earlier in the nesting season. A rather late **Osprey** was found near RB 11/6 (MM). In this same area with mixed small woodlots and large open areas, 2 **Merlins** were found 9/26, and a single bird was seen there 10/6-23 (MM). Another bird was reported from Knox the first week of Sep (ML). The first **Rough-legged Hawk** was seen outside of Knox 11/15 (ML), a rather typical first arrival date for these winter residents. Several **Northern Harriers** were reported, all female birds: one at the CV strips area 8/31 (MM), one on Rankin Rd. near CV 10/18 (CW), and another single present near RB 10/30-11/16 (MM, CW). All areas with harriers were reclaimed strip mines.

Very unusual were two sightings of **Sora**. The first a single bird 9/14 at marshy areas near RB on Cherry Run Rd (MM), and the second was also a single bird flushed at the grassy edges of KL 10/13 (GE).

There were some exceptional sightings of shorebirds related to Hurricane Sandy 10/30, but not many reports otherwise. At KL 8/19, 11 **Least Sandpipers** were present along with a single **Spotted Sandpiper** (ST). At small ponds near RB, 2 **Lesser Yellowlegs** were seen 8/23 and on 9/15 there were 2 **Solitary Sandpipers** reported at the same location (MM). After the passage of Hurricane Sandy, species reported 10/31 at KL included 140 **Dunlin**, 7 **Black-bellied Plover**, and 4 **Red Phalaropes** (JS), all exceptional records for this body of water shared with *Venango*. Also at

KL 10/30 during the hurricane, the only gull for the season was noted, but it was a good one: a single **Black-legged Kittiwake** (JS).

Unusual records of cuckoos are not often received in the county, but this year 2 **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were seen rather late in the season near CV 9/29, feeding together on caterpillars high in a chestnut oak (CW). **Barred Owls** are not often reported for any season, so 2 birds noted at CF 8/7 were welcome (CM). **Short-eared Owls** returned for the winter in early Nov, with the first sighting that of 4 birds on MA 11/8 (CW), and then 3 birds there 11/20 and 11/27 (MM). A single bird was also noted 11/14 at MZ and one 11/26 on Rankin Rd. near CV (CW).

It was a good season for hummingbirds this year with a report of a very late **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** in Knox to 10/12 (ML). Just two days later a probable *selasphorus* hummingbird was found in a yard near CV and subsequently captured for banding 10/16 (RM), when it was positively ID'd as a hatch year female **Rufous Hummingbird** (CW, RM, GE, ML). The bird continued at this location until 10/21, after which it was absent during a stretch of warm weather and then returned 10/25 and remained until 11/2 when it was last seen at feeders mid-day during stable weather (GM, JM, MM). As with other *selasphorus* reported this fall, it fed frequently at flowers (salvia and fuschia) and on insects, but then relied increasingly on feeders at the onset of colder weather. Two notable reports among woodpeckers were received, the first a high number of migrant **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers**, with 7 birds seen in a small area of property near CV 9/29, most seen on European Larch trees (CW). On 9/20 a sighting of a single **Red-headed Woodpecker** near FB islands was reported (MM), prompting speculation on the possibility of nesting birds as there have been regular spring and fall (but not summer) reports from this location for the past three years. With the declining numbers of this species and availability of appropriate habitat at this spot, it warrants more attention during breeding season.

A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**, a species not reported every year, was found and photographed 9/4 near RB (MM). At a property near CV, 2 **Eastern Kingbirds** were seen 9/17, and then a single bird at the same location 9/24 (CW). Both dates are on the very late end of this species migration period and likely a late record for the county. The first **Northern Shrike** for fall was seen at MZ 11/11, in one of their typical spots where they have been regular visitors for most winters (MW). A single **Philadelphia Vireo** was seen early in their migration period at SGL 63 near Shipperville 9/2 (LC), and a second bird was seen in a yard near CV 9/29 (CW). This is another species not seen yearly but reports seemed to be up this year throughout the state. Evidence of a banner year for **Red-breasted Nuthatches** was seen early on, with the first bird seen at a property near CV 8/29 (CW). At this and other sites with pines and spruce, numbers continued to grow through the second week of Sep with a high feeder count of 10 on 9/29. At MZ, where large stands of larch and red and scots pine are abundant, a count during two hours there yielded an astonishing total of 23 birds (RM). Normally more abundant in fall, **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were only seen four times this season, with just a single bird 10/7 and 10/9 (CW, MM), 2 birds 10/26 and a single bird last seen near CV 10/27 (CW).

Migrant thrushes were first noted 8/29 near CV with several **Veery** and one **Wood Thrush** flight call in early morning (CW). On the morning of 9/10 and 9/12, good flights were heard with several hundred calls of both **Swainson's Thrush** and **Wood Thrush** (CW, FM, JM). On the morning of 9/29 approximately 200 calls were again heard, primarily Swainson's and Wood Thrush, but also with 4 **Gray-cheeked Thrush** as well (CW). On that day later at the same location near CV, a Swainson's Thrush was observed feeding along with robins in wild grapevines at the edge of a scots pine stand (CW). In a nice early date for this species, Five **Snow Buntings** were observed at the parking area on the *Clarion* side of KL 11/15 (ML).

The warbler migration was mixed again this year, with overall numbers low, although variety was good. Both Tennessee and Cape May warblers showed in lower numbers than usual, while Palm and Wilson's were up. The first migrant of note was a single **Mourning Warbler** at CF 8/7, possibly a post-breeding individual at this early date and suitable habitat in the area (CM). The first big migrant push was at SGL 63 on 9/2, when a large variety was sighted although in small numbers for each species. Birds reported were **Tennessee, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Cape May, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Black-throated Blue, Palm, Pine, Yellow-rumped, and Black-throated Green Warblers** (LC). This gamelands area has excellent edge and wooded habitat with abundant small apples and crab apples, as well as shingle and white oak, and black cherry. A second day with good warbler variety was 9/29 near CV, when small numbers of the following were seen: **Tennessee, Nashville, Common Yellowthroat, Cape May, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Blackpoll and Black-throated Green Warblers** (CW). Also on this date, 2 **Pine Warblers** were seen, not a common migrant here, as well as a total of 15 **Palm Warblers**, likely an underestimate (CW). This was a high number of this species for the area, and birds were seen feeding low to the ground in small pines as well as gray dogwood. A single **Wilson's Warbler** was also

seen, the second one of the fall, with another bird at this spot 9/17 (CW). This species is also not reported annually. Lastly for this date and location, 14 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were also present, feeding often on poison ivy berries and some Virginia creeper, as is common this time of year.

The arrival of **American Tree Sparrows** typical this year with the first two birds noted in a brushy field area outside of RB 11/6 (MM,CW). At SGL 63 in some of the field areas, at least 30 birds was seen feeding on goldenrod along with one **Field Sparrow**, 3 **Fox Sparrows**, and 5 **White-throated Sparrows** 11/14 (CW). The departure of **Chipping Sparrows** as usual corresponded very closely with the arrival of tree sparrows, with the last one reported from a feeder near CV 11/7 (CW). Local breeding **Clay-colored Sparrows** were noted still at the CV strips site 8/9 with 2 birds seen, already in non-breeding plumage (MM). They were last seen there for the season with a single bird noted 8/14 (MM). A single migrant clay-colored sparrow was also reported from SGL 63 on 9/2 (LC). Breeding **Henslow's Sparrows** were also last noted for the county at the CV strips site 8/9, with photos taken of a juvenile bird (MM). **Fox Sparrows** were first noted at a yard near CV 11/5 and remained regular through the end of the reporting season (CW). For several years this species has been less regularly reported, so this was more unusual for the year. The first **Lincoln's Sparrow** was seen near CV 9/28 in its usual brushy field/edge habitat; 2 birds were seen in this same location 10/11 with no other sightings reported after this date (CW).

Dickcissels remained into the fall reporting season at their breeding site from this past summer's invasion, with a single bird still present at the CV strips site 8/9 and still carrying food (MM). Some better migration sightings for **Bobolinks** were obtained this fall with the last date 8/19 near RB (MM) and several flocks of 50+ birds in the evenings during the third week of Aug migrating near CV (CW). Four **Eastern Meadowlarks** continued on recently reclaimed strip mine fields outside of RB, with the last sighting there 11/6 (MM,CW). Although these birds are occasionally seen during mild winters in certain areas, they are not regular winter residents. Though reports of **Rusty Blackbirds** have gone from few to almost none for the county, this fall one sighting was received from 11/25, when 11 birds were found outside of RB at a marshy area (DY).

With abundant habitat available, *Clarion* joined the growing list of counties reporting northern finches in this irruption year. **Red Crossbills** were first seen at SGL 72 near Shipperville 11/11 with just a single bird, then a flock of 20+ birds at MZ 11/29 as well as 3 birds seen later that date at SGL 63, near Shipperville (MW). Two flocks with at least 5 birds were also seen outside of RB in pine and spruce stands 11/26 (DY). **White-winged Crossbills** were reported with even higher numbers. On 11/10 approximately 61 birds were seen in two flocks at a cemetery in Shipperville feeding in Norway spruce and hemlock (MW). At SGL 72, not far away, on 11/11, large numbers were also seen in Norway spruce stands feeding on cones (MW). Outside of RB, 5 flyover flocks, at least 6 individual birds, were seen in spruce and pine stands 11/26 (DY) and several birds also noted at MZ 11/29 (MW). A single bird was seen at a Norway spruce stand outside of CV 11/19 (CW). **Common Redpolls** were not as numerous but reported from several areas, 2 birds at SGL 72 on 11/11 (MW), 4 birds on a European larch near CV 11/23 (CW) and a single bird at a feeder in RB on 11/28 (MM). Several birds were also noted 11/29 at MZ (MW). **Evening Grosbeaks** were also sighted although few in number. A single flyover bird was noted near Knox 11/3 (DY) and a single female was seen at a feeder near CV 11/19 (CW).

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Clearfield County

No report.

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Clinton County

Locations: South Avis (SA), Swisssdale (SW), Woolrich (WR).

Hurricane Sandy did not produce any pelagic birds in *Clinton* but a small flock of **Black Scoters** and a lone **Brant** appeared on the Susquehanna River at Lock Haven 10/30 (CCH). A flock of **Tundra Swans**

was observed near Rote 12/29 (MA). **Black-bellied Plovers** and **Dunlin** were found at SA 10/30 following the passage of Sandy (BZ, CCH).

In October and November, 20 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were caught and banded at the banding station at Swissdale (WL).

On August 23, an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was observed near Farrandville in a regenerating old burn area (WL). **American Pipits** were found at SA 10/30 and 11/2 (CCH). A flock of **Snow Buntings** was also found there 12/29 during the local CBC. A small flock of **Evening Grosbeaks** appeared at feeders at a WR residence (CCH). On 11/13 a flock of 8-10 **Pine Grosbeaks** were briefly seen in the same WR yard (CCH). The homeowners were experienced birders and the birds were well described to sufficiently rule out White-winged Crossbills. Several large flocks of **White-winged Crossbills** along with a single **Common Redpoll** were found in a white spruce plantation along Ritchie Rd. near Hyner. At least one **Red Crossbill** was heard in the flocks (WL). The White-winged Crossbills remained through the period. A single female **Red Crossbill** was observed at a residence at Swissdale (SD). **Pine Siskins** appeared at feeders in WR on 10/6 and remained through the early part of the period (CCH). Two **Pine Siskins** were seen at a feeder at SW on 12/29 (BD).

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Columbia County

No compiler.

Crawford County

Locations: Conneaut Lake (CL), Conneaut Marsh (CM), Custards (C), Ernst Bike Trail (EBT), Erie National Wildlife Refuge (ENWR), Ford Island (FI), Geneva (GEN), Meadville (MEAD), McMichael Road (McM), Pymatuning Area (PA), Pymatuning Causeway (PC), Pymatuning Goose Management Area (PGMA), Pymatuning Spillway (PS), Shellito's Pond (SP), Sugar Lake (SL), Tamarack Lake (TL), Woodcock Lake (WL).

Birders in *Crawford* were treated to a much better than usual shorebird migration, in part due to the dryer than normal summer, but also to the draining of Tamarack Lake near Meadville. This lake has 2 dams, both of which were found to be leaking. The Fish Commission did not have the funds to repair the dams so they removed 75% of the fish to WL and drew down the water level to just a few puddles, creating ideal mudflats through Jul, Aug and Sep.

One **Greater White-fronted Goose** was found at WL 11/23 (SC). On 11/17, 3 **Tundra Swans** were observed at WL (SC). A great total of 526 were there 11/17 (RCL, RFL). At PA, 60 **Wood Ducks** were found 10/7 (RFL, IF). On his annual **Wood Duck** count, TM tallied 1024 at PGMA at Blair's Bridge over Rte. 285. Fifteen **Gadwall** were recorded at PGMA 8/26 (SC), and 47 were found at FH 11/11 (RFL, IF). Three **American Wigeon** were spotted on Towpath Road at CM 9/22 (SR, IF), with 15 at WL 11/3 (RFL). Teal were seen in good numbers at PGMA, with 254 **Green-winged Teal** through 10/28 (RFL, IF) and 30 **Blue-winged Teal** observed (TCN); 22 **Blue-winged Teal** were also observed at TL and 10 at FH (RFL). **Northern Shovelers** were first recorded 9/20 with 188 off the PC (RFL) and 35 were at PA 9/29 (RFL, RCL). Four **Northern Pintail** were located at PGMA 10/22 (SR, IF) and 16 were seen there 10/28 (RFL, IF). A **Greater Scaup** was noted at PC 10/28 (IF), 4 at CL 11/10 (RFL), and up to 120 at PS 11/3 (RFL). **Ring-necked Ducks** were located at several marshes and lakes, with up to 15 recorded 10/13-11/1 (m.ob.). Four **Common Goldeneye** were seen at CL 10/21 (RFL) and up to 50 **Bufflehead** were seen 10/28 on local lakes (RFL, IF). A pair of **Black Scoter** were observed at WL 10/30 (SR, IF). One **Long-tailed Duck** was found 11/2 at BVN. There were 28 **Common Merganser** at FH 9/23 (MV), the top count reported there was 150 on 10/28 (RFL, IF). Lower than usual numbers of **Red-breasted Merganser** were found at WL and PA, with 88 the best total 10/21 at WL (RFL). As usual, **Hooded Merganser** showed all period but in rather small numbers. A single **Ruddy Duck** was first seen 9/1 at PS, and 359 were seen on CL near the Boardwalk 10/28 (RFL, IF).

Two **Ruffed Grouse** were recorded near SL (RE) and one at ENWR 10/26 (TCN, RS). Up to 5 **Common Loons** were at PA and WL (m.ob.) Three **Red-throated Loons** were noted south of PC 10/21, one at PC and one at CL 11/10 (RFL). A lone **Red-necked Grebe** was seen off PS 11/4 (TCN). Up to 7 **Horned Grebes** were recorded at PA 11/1-17 (JB, IF, RFL, SR). **Pied-billed Grebes** were present all period with up to 17 birds noted at WL, CL, TL and PA (m.ob.). **Double-crested Cormorant** numbers seem to be increasing at PA; 4106 were counted there through 10/21 (RFL). A **Least**

Bittern was observed in flight at SP 7/29 (RFL), and one was noted at McM also in flight 7/22 (SC). **Great Blue Herons** were attracted to the shallow waters at TL and PA with 120 on 9/12 (RFL), and 70 at TL 9/22 (SR, IF, m.ob.). An unheard of number of 60 **Great Egrets** were recorded at WL 9/20; last was one at PS 11/17 (m.ob.). A very good find was **Little Blue Heron** near PS 8/11-12 (MV, SC, RCN, RFL). Single **Black-crowned Night Heron** were noted at PS 8/6 (RFL), Wilson's boat ramp 8/12 (SC), PS 8/26 (RFL) and Blair's Bridge 9/1. An adult male **Yellow-crowned Night Heron** was seen flying over the PC at close range 8/26 (RFL).

Single **Northern Harriers** were found 7/21-11/11 at PA, TL, CL, and ENWR (m.ob.). Two **Sharp-shinned Hawks** were sighted at Wayland 10/14 (RFL, IF). Two **Cooper's Hawks** were seen near SL 8/15 (RE). One to 3 **Osprey** were at WL 8/6 -9/27, one was at FI (TCN) 9/23, and one was at JSP 10/14 (IF). Lone **Golden Eagles** were sighted 10/14 at JSP (IF, RFL), at PGMA 11/4 (SC), and PGMA 11/11 (RFL, IF). The best total for **Bald Eagles** was 12 at TL and PA 9/9 (RFL).

Sandhill Cranes were recorded on 20 different dates (m.ob.) at PA and CL, with the top count of 20 at PGMA 10/14 (RFL, IF). A **Virginia Rail** was seen on McM 7/28 (SC), and a **Sora** was found at the same location on 9/23 (RFL, WV, IF). Two **Sora** were also noted at PGMA 9/23 (MV, SC). **Common Gallinule** was found at PA 8/12 and at EBT 8/19-20 (SC). **American Coots** were first noted at WL 9/27 (IF, SR), 375 were at CL 10/25 (RFL), and 480 were at CL 11/11 (RFL, IF).

A good find was an **American Avocet** at PGMA 8/11 (RFL). A **Black-bellied Plover** 9/15 at PC (IF) and 5 were at WL 10/9 (SC). Four **American Golden-Plover** were seen at TL 9/1 (SR, IF) and one 9/20, and one was at WL 9/22 (RFL). At least 33 **Semipalmated Plovers** were sighted at TL 8/19 (RFL, IF). A first record for this county was a **Snowy Plover** recorded at PC 9/20 (IF). A total of 16 **Lesser Yellowlegs** were at TL and 31 at PA 8/11 (RFL). Eight **Greater Yellowlegs** at TL was the highest total 8/11 (RFL). The best total of **Solitary Sandpipers** was 10 at TL 8/12 (SC). A lone **Willet** was found at PA 10/7 (SC). Single **Whimbrel** were recorded at TL 7/15 (SC) and likely a different bird at TL again 7/22 (RFL), a new species for TL. A **Ruddy Turnstone** was at PC 9/3 (RFL). One to 3 **White-rumped Sandpiper** were seen at TL and PA 8/11-9/1 (RFL, SC, RH, IF). There were 6 sightings of **Baird's Sandpiper** 8/6-10/14 at TL and PC (SC, RH, RFL, IF). A total of 30 **Least Sandpipers** were counted 8/11 at TL and PA (RFL), with 41 there 8/23. Good numbers of **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were found at PC: 30 on 8/6 and 60 on 8/19, along with 56 at TL (RFL, IF). A **Western Sandpiper** showed at PC 8/2 (RFL), 2 were there 9/20 (JB, IF), and one was at TL 9/27 (IF, RH, SC, SR). Two **Sanderlings** were located at TL 8/22 (SC) and one was there 9/1 (RFL). One **Stilt Sandpiper** was at PC 8/2 (RFL), 2 showed up at TL 8/12 (SC), and one was at TL 8/26 (SC, RH). **Pectoral Sandpipers** were recorded at PC, TL, FH and WL (m.ob.). A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** was found at TL 8/26 (SC, RH, RFL). A pair was found there 9/1 (RFL). This was also a new record for TL. Three **Wilson's Snipe** were located at WL 9/9 (RFL), and 9 were there 9/22 (SR, IF). Last were 2 on 10/21 (SC). A TL record 27 **Short-billed Dowitchers** were present 8/6 (RFL). A **Long-billed Dowitcher** was seen at WL on 9/30 (SC). Three **Dunlin** were at PC 9/3, and 26 were at WL 11/7 (RFL). A lone **Red-necked Phalarope** showed up at TL 8/21-23. A **Red Phalarope** was seen at PC 8/19 (RFL, IF). **Wilson's Phalarope** was recorded at TL 8/21 and WL 11/1 (SR, IF). Up to 4 **Caspian Tern** were found at PS 8/11-9/9 (m.ob.). **Forster's Terns** were noted at PS, WL, TL and ENWR 8/9-10/6 (m.ob.). **Common Terns** included one 8/26 at PS (RFL), 3 at PC 9/20 (RFL).

Black-billed Cuckoos were seen 8/20 (SC), and at EBT 9/10 (IF). **Barred Owl** were at TL (SR, IF), FH 10/13 (RFL), and 2 near SL 9/10 (RE). A **Common Nighthawk** was recorded 9/2 (TCN). A **Red-headed Woodpecker** was seen at MEAD 10/13 (IF). A **Rufous Hummingbird** was caught and banded by Bob Mulvihill at BA and DA's feeder near Saegertown 1/24. This would be the first documented record for *Crawford*. Single **Merlins** were found at EBT 8/30 (SC), FH 9/20 (JB, IF), CM 10/7 (RFL, IF), MEAD 10/13 (IF), CL 10/28 (RFL, IF), and PGMA 11/10 (RFL). A **Peregrine Falcon** was perched on the water tower inside CL 10/7 (RFL, IF). One was also seen at WL 10/22 (SR, IF).

A rather late **Eastern Kingbird** was well seen at PC 9/15 (RFL, IF). The only **Great-crested Flycatcher** was 8/26 at FI (SC, RH). An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was found in MEAD 9/1 (SS). A single **Philadelphia Vireo** was located at FI (SC), 3 were at SP 9/3 (RFL) and one was at SL 8/26 (RE). Two **Blue-headed Vireo** were noted at ENWR 8/14 (SC), and one was near SL 10/1 (RE). One **Northern Shrike** was recorded at North Main Street Ext. in MEAD 11/23 (SC). A total of 39 **Purple Martins** were found at PA 8/11 (RFL). Last were a dozen at FI 9/22 (RFL). The top count of **Barn Swallow** was 153 at Brooks Road 8/6 (RFL). **Tree Swallow** were found in good numbers, with 8100 at PA 9/23 (RFL, IF). Twenty **Bank Swallows** at FI 9/22 were last (RFL). The last **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** was seen 10/13 at PC (RFL). Two **Horned Larks** were seen 8/11 PGMA (RFL), and 6 were along Porter Rd 10/25 near CL (RFL).

A **Common Raven** was found west of MEAD 8/7 (RFL), 2 were at PGMA 9/3 (RFL) and 2 were near SL 9/12 (RE). A **Marsh Wren** was seen at ENWR 8/19 (RFL, IF) and one was at McM 9/1 (RFL). First **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was at PGMA 9/8 (DW). Three **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** at Towpath Rd. 11/11 were late (RFL, IF). A **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was north of PC 9/15 (RFL, IF). A late **Wood Thrush** was noted at SL 10/1 (RE). A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was observed west of MEAD at Brooks Road 10/13 (RFL). A **Hermit Thrush** was found 10/6 at FI (SC) and at PC 10/21 (RFL). On 10/14, 171 **American Robins** were at TC (RFL, IF) and 200 were at TL 10/22 (SR, IF). The best count of **Eastern Bluebird** was 20 at PC 10/25 (RFL, IF). One **Northern Mockingbird** was at PC 11/17 (RFL). At least 83 **Cedar Waxwings** were noted at PA 9/23 (RFL, IF). **American Pipits** included 40 at TL 10/14 (RFL, IF), 50 at TL 10/21 (RFL), 40 at WL 10/21 (SC), and 30 at TL and 30 WL 11/1 (SR, IF). Six **Snow Buntings** were found at WL 10/21 (SC), 6 were at PS 11/3 (JB, IF), and 11 were at WL 11/10 (SR, IF).

One **Northern Waterthrush** was across from FH 8/12 (SC). Lone **Orange-crowned Warblers** were found at EBT 10/4 (IF) and at SL 10/4 (RE). The only reported **Tennessee Warbler** was located near SL 10/4 (RE). A **Northern Parula** was seen at ENWR 8/19 (SC). A **Cape May Warbler** was seen at EBT 8/30 (SL) through 9/10 (IF). One was at FI 9/23 (RFL) and one was at SP 9/29 (RFL, IF). A late **Yellow Warbler** was seen at FI 9/23 (RFL, IF). Single **Bay-breasted Warblers** were seen at FI 9/23 (TCN), near SL 10/1 (RE), and along Towpath Rd 10/7 (RFL). Two **Blackpoll Warblers** were at ENWR 9/10 (SC), 10 were found 9/28 at ENWR (SC), and 4 were at FI 9/23 (RFL, IF). One **Blackburnian Warbler** FI 8/26 (SC). Three **Pine Warblers** were noted 9/10 (TCN), and 3 were across from FH 9/28 (SC). One **Kentucky Warbler** was at EBT 9/10 (IF). One **Connecticut Warbler** was well studied at ENWR 9/10 (SC). **Wilson's Warbler** was at ENWR 9/10 (SC), at SL 9/23 (RFL, IF), and EBT 9/27 (IF). One **Canada Warbler** was found 9/22 near Kerstown (SR).

A **Vesper Sparrow** was noted at Wayland 8/19 (RFL). A **Henslow's Sparrow** was near SL 10/11 (RE). A new record for ENWR came in the form of a **Nelson's Sparrow** 10/7 (SC). A good total of 23 **White-crowned Sparrows** was made at EBT 10/16 (IF). The first report of **American Tree Sparrow** was 4 at Wayland 10/13 (RFL). **Lincoln's Sparrows** were noted near SL 9/14-10/4 (RE), at Brooks Road, PA 10/17 (IF), and at FI 9/25 (SC). **Fox Sparrow** was logged at TL 10/22 (SR, IF), at EBT 11/3 (JB, IF), and 2 at WL's Colonial Crawford Park 10/21 (SC).

Two **Dickcissels** were present at Porter Rd, CL 8/6 (RFL), one was at Brooks Rd, PA 8/11 (RFL), and one was Marsh Rd, CM 8/14 (RFL). A total of 15 **Bobolinks** were seen near SL 8/30 (RE) and 30 were at PGMA 9/23 (MV). On 9/1 there were 5000 **Red-winged Blackbirds** in a field at Mt. Pleasant Rd, CM (RFL). **Rusty Blackbirds** were found on 8 dates 9/27-11/1 (m.ob.); best total was 26 at PGMA 10/28 (SC).

Two **Evening Grosbeaks** were at MEAD 11/10 (RFL). **Purple Finches** were at WL 10/21 (SC). Two **Pine Siskins** were at PC 9/23 (SC), 14 were at a feeder in MEAD 10/15 (SC), and 22 were at WL 10/21 (SC).

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Cumberland County

Locations: Big Spring (BS), Colonel Denning State Park (CDSP), Michaux State Forest (MSF), Mountain Road Marsh (MRM), Mud Level Road (MLR), Pine Grove Furnace State Park (PGFSP), Tichy Park Ponds, Mount Holly (TPPMH), Tuscarora State Forest (TSF).

August was slow as usual for birding. September was better with many warblers reported in good numbers. There were only a few good days for shorebirds but those few days produced some very good species. October, even with the passage of Hurricane Sandy at the end of the month, did not produce any exceptional species; the birds observed from the West Fairview boat launch were officially in *Dauphin*. November produced three western vagrants which were also all first county records, an influx of winter finches, and also marked the return for the seventh consecutive winter of a particularly notable falcon.

The only unusual waterfowl for the period was one female **Surf Scoter** at TPPMH 11/3 (PB, BP). Raptors of note included one **Northern Goshawk** and 3 **Golden Eagles** at Meadows Road Trail TSF 10/14 (RK, AnM), and one late **Osprey** on the BS 11/3 (VG, BF, GM) and again 11/9 (VG).

Shorebirds included 2 **Semipalmated Plovers** at the drained pond at

St. Patrick's School in Carlisle 8/30-9/3 (PB, BF, LF, VG, HW, KW), and up to 32 **American Golden-Plovers** at the corner of Duncan and MLR 9/3-8 (VG, m.ob.), up to 20 more at the same location 9/18-21 (VG, CK, MD, AT, m. ob.), and still another additional 28 at the same location on 10/6 (MS). Other birds of note at the corner of MLR and Duncan Roads included 20 **Black-bellied Plovers** 10/31 (VG), one to 2 **Baird's Sandpipers** 9/5-7 (TB, JD, DM, m. ob.), one **Stilt Sandpiper** 9/6 (VG), 2-3 **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** 9/5-7 (TB, JD, DM, m.ob.), one **Upland Sandpiper** 9/5-6 (TB, JD, DM, m.ob.), and one **Whimbrel** 9/5 (BO, VG, PB).

There was one large group of at least 75 **Common Nighthawks** at PGFSP 8/22 (BO). One **Peregrine Falcon** was at MLR 9/19-20 (MD, CK, AT, m.ob.). One **Merlin** was at the MRM, SGL 169 on 9/30 (VG), another was at the park near Lear Lane and Leidigh Road in Monroe Twp. 11/4 (VG, KK, AnM, SS), one was at MLR 11/20 (SG), and one was south of Carlisle on Bonnybrook Road 11/24 (PB). Last but not least was the return of the **Prairie Falcon** for a seventh consecutive winter at the MLR area. It was first reported 11/11 (ST). An adult female **Rufous Hummingbird** was at Upper Allen Twp, off of route 114 between Bowmansdale and Lisburn, 11/10-11/21, and was banded 11/16 (SM, RK), representing a first county record.

One **Olive-sided Flycatcher** (actually singing) was reported from the burn area on Ridge Road MSF 8/25 (KK, RK, VG, AnM, BO), one was on High Mountain Road MSF 9/3 (VG), and one was on Bridgewater Road SGL 169 on 9/14 (VG). Two **Least Flycatchers** were reported from Ridge Road MSF 8/31 (PB, VG, RK), another was at Big Flat 9/7 (VG, RK), one was found 9/8 at MRM SGL 169 (VG), and still another was on the Big Spring 9/24 (VG). **Eastern Kingbirds**, not usually found after the first few days of Sep, hung around with 2 near the intersection of Heckman and Mountain Road 9/8 (VG), 2 on Oakville Road south of Rte. 533 on 9/9 (VG), 3 on Oakville Road 9/10 (VG), and one at an unspecified location 9/15 (AM). The bird of the quarter and perhaps the year was the **Pacific-slope Flycatcher** 11/18-11/25 at SGL 230 (RK). There were photos taken of the bird. Fortunately the bird also called on numerous occasions allowing observers to distinguish it from the very similar Cordilleran Flycatcher. This represented the first for *Cumberland*.

A large flock of at least 100 **Cliff Swallows** was at the corner of Duncan and MLR 9/6 (VG, HW, DS, AT). One **Philadelphia Vireo** was reported at Cabin Road SGL 169 on 8/23 (VG), one at SGL 230 on 9/3 (RK), one at CDSP 9/7 (VG), and one at MRM SGL 169 on 9/22 and 9/28 (VG). There were many reports of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** during the period, with more than 30 reported on a few occasions. An early **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** was at CDSP 9/5 (VG). Two **Marsh Wrens** were reported at MRM SGL 169 on 10/2 (AM) and one was at the same location 10/3 (RK, TC).

Another western vagrant located this period was an adult male **Varied Thrush** on Tanger Road in South Middleton Twp. 11/4 (VG, KK, AnM, SS), representing a *Cumberland* first for the species. Unfortunately despite a few attempts the bird was not relocated. Other thrushes of interest were one **Swainson's Thrush** at Canada Hollow on Milesburn Road MSF 8/31 (PB, VG, RK), 3 at Ridge Road MSF 9/7 (VG, RK), and another 4 from Milesburn Road MSF 9/9 (AnM). The only **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was reported from the parking area at Lamb's Gap 9/16 (AMC). Two late **Gray Catbirds** were reported from the BS 11/22 (VG). Three reports of **Snow Bunting** at MLR included 30 on 11/15 (DH), 2 on 11/23 (KR), and one 11/27 (TB).

Warblers abounded this season. There were a number of reports of 15-20 species in a morning. The best locations were along the ridges. One **Golden-winged Warbler** was on Ridge Road MSF 8/25 (KK, RK, VG, AnM, BO). One **Mourning Warbler** was observed in a Newville yard 8/26 (BF, LF), one was on the Big Spring 9/1 (CC, BF, LF, VG, BP), another was at MRM SGL 169 on 9/19 (VG), and still another on Conifer Road Tree Farm 9/22 (VG). One **Connecticut Warbler** was reported on Bridgewater Road just north of Game Land Road, SGL 169 on 9/8 (VG), two were on Conifer Road Tree Farm 9/22 (VG), and one was at MRM SGL 169 on 10/3 (AM) and 10/5 (VG). One **Orange-crowned Warbler** was reported at the MRM SGL 169 on 9/19 (VG) and another from that location 10/3 (TC, RK). Other warblers of note included one **Northern Waterthrush** at Huntsdale Hidden Pond 9/2 (VG), one **Wilson's Warbler** at Lamb's Gap 9/16 (AMC), and another at the MRM SGL 169 on 9/17 and 9/19 (VG).

Reports of **Lincoln's Sparrows** were fairly numerous with up to 9 seen at MRM SGL 169 from 9/14-10/3 (VG, AnM, m.ob.), one at Canada Hollow Milesburn Road MSF 9/15 (VG), and still another on the Big Spring 9/24. One **Nelson's Sparrow** was also reported from the MRM SGL 169 on 10/2 (AM) along with one late **Grasshopper Sparrow** (TC, RK, VG).

Red and White-winged Crossbills were reported from a few locations including Shippensburg, Newville, Carlisle, and Boiling Springs; however a majority of the reports were from Camp Michaux. On two occasions there were reports of **Common Redpoll** among the crossbills at Camp Michaux, one 11/14 (RK) and 2 on 11/25 (RK, CK, WD) There were also 2 **Evening Grosbeaks** visiting a feeder at the Conifer Hill Tree Farm 10/28 (AM), and another 2 at a feeder of a Carlisle home 10/30-31 (SS). Rounding out the

finch bonanza was a number of reports of **Pine Siskins**, with a few counts exceeding 100 birds, and numerous reports of **Purple Finches**.

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Dauphin County

Locations: Boyds Big Tree Preserve (BBT), Blue Mountain (BMT), Fort Indiantown Gap, west corridor (FIG), Haldeman Island SGL 290 (HI), Milton S. Hershey School (MSH), Peter's Mountain (PMT), Stony Creek Valley (SCV), South Hanover Twp. (SHT), Susquehanna River (SR), SR at Fort Hunter (SRFH), SR at Harrisburg (SRHB), SR from Liverpool (SRLP), SR from Marysville (SRMV), SR from West Fairview (SRWF), Susquehanna Township (ST), Wildwood Lake (WL), Weiser State Forest (WSF).

It is unprecedented for a single natural event, in this case the passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30, to have such an impact upon the bird records for the county. If all the observations from this event are accepted by PORC, seven species will be added to the *Dauphin* list, as well as a half dozen second or third records for the county. Observers were stationed at several points along the Susquehanna, but the center of the action was certainly at West Fairview, where an all-day vigil was held by RK, JHr, and AMk on 10/30. Many people were also present at different times of the day; these included (at minimum): AL, AF, IG, JL, MR, MD, SB, PR, JR, AM, CD, JD, DM, DHo, EC, and AMc. Sightings of unusual birds at West Fairview that day have been as accurately assigned as possible to those who first spotted each bird, but this was not always feasible, and not all observers could be listed for every sighting in the report that follows. As RK commented, 10/30 "was the most exciting day of birding I have had in Pennsylvania."

On 10/27, about 30 **Brant** were observed at SRMV (TB); they were still present the following morning (RK). A single **Snow Goose** was reported 10/20 at WL (MM); and one was observed at SRHB 10/28 (P&RW). A flight of about 20 **Tundra Swans** was noted at SRMV 10/30 (DG, TJ, CR). During the height of Hurricane Sandy 10/30, there were numerous waterfowl species observed at SRWF, some in unprecedented numbers, including more than 500 **Brant** and 679 **Northern Pintail** (RK). Among the other waterfowl species reported were 25 **Black Scoters**, 29 **White-winged Scoters**, 23 **Surf Scoters**, and one **Long-tailed Duck** (m.ob.).

The **Common Loon** that spent the early summer SRHB was still being reported into the first week of Aug (AM). During Hurricane Sandy 10/30, a **Red-necked Grebe** and three **Horned Grebes** were reported at SRHB (DHo), a **Red-throated Loon** was found SRMV 10/31 (TJ, BW, et al.), and a **Common Loon** was on the SR (m.ob.).

Three of the many Hurricane Sandy related birds were species more likely to be encountered on north Atlantic pelagic trips than from the shoreline of the SR. Three or more **Leach's Storm-Petrels** (JHr, AMk, RK, AL, et al.), a **Cory's Shearwater** (JH, AMk), and an adult **Northern Gannet** (MR, ph. AL, et al.) were among the species observed 10/30 at SRWF. The Northern Gannet was seen flying north up the SR toward Fort Hunter, where probably the same bird was reported shortly after the West Fairview sighting (EC). The Cory's Shearwater and the Northern Gannet represent county firsts and the Leach's Storm-Petrel represents a second record; the first Leach's resulted from a hurricane 8/23/1933 which brought Leach's Storm-Petrels to a number of locations in southeastern Pennsylvania.

A **Little Blue Heron** was observed along the eastern shore of the SR just north of Halifax 9/16 (S&RZ). A **Snowy Egret** was reported 8/30 SRLP (DHo), and a very late **Snowy Egret** was reported at SRMV 10/30 during Hurricane Sandy (TJ, DG, CR). A little further south at SRWF 10/30, a **Cattle Egret** was observed (AL, et al.). An **American Bittern** was observed 9/12 near the end of the north boardwalk at WL (EB). A **Glossy Ibis** was reported at WL 10/1-6 (SL, CR, et al.). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** continued to be observed near their nest site in midtown HBG where two were reported 8/25 (PB, CM, MM). The latest report of a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron came from SRWF 10/5 (RK). An immature **Golden Eagle** was observed in SHT 8/31 (P&RW), an especially early date.

There were some amazing sightings of shorebirds at SRWF 10/30, including several flocks of **Red Knots** totaling about 195 (RK), several reports of **Dunlin** numbering from 300 to 700 birds (m.ob.), 3 **American Oystercatchers** (JD, RK, JHr, AMk, DM, et al.), 2 **Hudsonian Godwits**

(JHr, AMk, RK, et al.), a flock of **Sanderlings** (JH, AMk), and up to 25 **Red Phalaropes** (JHr, AMk, RK, et al.). Another 245 **Dunlin** and one **Red Phalarope** were reported at SRMV the same date (TJ, DG, CR, et al.). Three **Red Phalaropes** were at SRFH 10/31 (MW), as was a single **American Golden-Plover** at SRMV (DF, AMk, BW). The report of 2 **Greater Yellowlegs** and one **Lesser Yellowlegs** on HI 10/31 was also noteworthy (SB).

Another exciting observation during Hurricane Sandy 10/30 was a **Black-legged Kittiwake** at SRMV (DG, TJ, CR, et al.). This would represent yet another county first if accepted. A juvenile **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was reported at SRMV 10/23 (TJ) and a **Laughing Gull** was found sitting on a rock ledge with **Ring-billed Gulls** and a **Double-crested Cormorant** just north of City Island 10/28 (P&RW). Two days later Hurricane Sandy brought even more **Laughing Gulls** into the area with reports totaling as many as 50 at SRWF and smaller numbers at SRMV and SRFH (m.ob.). **Bonaparte's Gull** was also present during the height of Hurricane Sandy with as many as 45 reported at SRWF (m.ob.). The first **Caspian Tern** of the season was observed from the Millersburg Ferry 7/28 (JB). Through the next two months there were many reports from along the SR through 10/5 (RK); however, during Hurricane Sandy a single Caspian Tern was noted 10/30 at SRWF (JD, DM). **Forster's** and **Common Tern** were also reported the day of Hurricane Sandy and for the week following. On 10/30, 28 **Forster's Tern** and more than 50 **Common Terns** were observed at SRWF (RK, JD, DM, et al.); also, four **Common Terns** were reported from HI 10/31 (SB). A single **Black Skimmer** was observed at SRWF during the height of the storm 10/30 (AMk, JHr, RK, PR, JR, et al.). This represented another first for the county.

The words "jaeger" and "flock" are usually not heard in the same sentence; however, that is exactly what applied to the report of a flock of up to 58 **Pomarine Jaegers** during Hurricane Sandy 10/30 at SRWF. Most—about 47—landed briefly on the SR (JHr, AMk, RK, PR, JR). Two **Parasitic Jaegers** were also reported from this location (AL, JHr, AMk, RK, et al.). A single **Pomarine Jaeger** was found at SRHB 10/31 (EB).

Another exciting observation, and another first for *Dauphin*, was a **White-winged Dove** 10/31 in a ST neighborhood near Progress Ave. This bird was observed in the morning sitting on a telephone pole and then noted again in the afternoon at backyard feeders (EB). Two **Eurasian-collared Doves** were observed along Linglestown Rd. 8/25 near the Blue Ridge CC (M&RB). The Small Valley Saw-whet Owl banding station got off to a good start 10/1 when 3 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were netted on the first night of banding 10/1 (SW). Six were banded 10/7 (CB, et al.) and 4 on 10/25 (KC). The total for the Oct-Nov season at Small Valley was 279 Saw-whets including 21 previously banded birds from other locations (SL). The only sighting away from the Small Valley banding station was a single 11/19 at FIG (JD, DM). A single **Common Nighthawk** was reported from ST 8/2 (EB), 6 were observed flying over Union Deposit Rd. in LPT 8/21 (LC), 2 were noted in ST 8/24 (EB), and 4 were reported from LPT 8/31 (RS). The only confirmed selaphorous hummingbird was reported and photographed in SHT 10/16 (JG, MR). Video taken 10/17 confirmed it as a **Rufous Hummingbird** (AMc). The last **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was reported this year was 10/10 at SHT (JG). A **Merlin** was observed at Fort Hunter Park 9/16 (BH), 2 were found on Peters Mt. 10/6 (AM), 4 were reported along Goldmine Rd. near the Dauphin/Lebanon line 10/6 (BW), and one was noted at SRWF 10/31 (RK).

A **Red-headed Woodpecker** and an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** were among the species found 9/20 at FIG (DM, JD). A **Least Flycatcher** was noted in SHT 8/27 (JG). A **Philadelphia Vireo** was among the species reported from along Lykens Rd. in WSF 9/19 (RK). Another **Philadelphia Vireo** was observed at WL 9/20 (EB). A **Warbling Vireo**, likely Hurricane Sandy related, was observed at the West Fairview boat launch park (in *Cumberland*) 10/31 (MD, RK, DM).

Up to three **Cave Swallows** were reported by a number of observers 10/30-31 at SRWF (AF, RK, AL, JL, et al.). If accepted this would represent another new species for the county. **Tree Swallows** were counted in the thousands at SRWF and SRMV during and shortly after Hurricane Sandy 10/30-11/3 (m.ob.). Mixed in with these were **Barn Swallow** 10/30 (IG), **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** 10/31 (TB), and **Cliff Swallow** 11/2 (P&RW). These are new last dates for the latter three swallow species.

This was a good season for **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, first at SHT 8/30 where 2 were reported (P&RW). Through the rest of the season this species seemed to be everywhere, with numerous reports from various locations.

A **Mourning Warbler** was reported near Middletown 9/25 (PF), and another was among the species found on a walk at WL 10/5 (EB). **Yellow-rumped Warbler** made an earlier than normal appearance in the southern portion of the county when 4 visited a SHT yard 8/27 (JG). A rather late **Nashville Warbler** was reported from atop BMT 10/23 (M&RB), and a very late **Blackpoll Warbler**, possibly related to Hurricane Sandy, was noted at West Fairview boat launch (*Cumberland*) 11/3 (RK).

American Tree Sparrow was first noted 10/31 when two visited feeders in Susquehanna Twp. (EB). A **Lincoln's Sparrow** was reported in SHT 9/27 (JG), and another was observed at WL 10/17 (EB). The first report of **Fox Sparrow** was from Clarks Valley 11/8 (RK). The first **White-crowned Sparrows** were 2 at SHT 10/20 (JG). By early Nov, reports of White-crowns were coming from the MSH feeders at both the Environmental and the Horticultural Centers (m.ob.). One **Blue Grosbeak**, a singing male, was observed MSH farm fields 8/12 and another was noted along Longview Dr. in Swatara Twp. 10/23 (CB). An impressive count of 45 **Rusty Blackbirds** was tallied at WL 10/19 (RK), and a single was at Heritage Park, Marysville (Perry) 11/1 (EB).

It was an excellent fall for winter finches. The first **Purple Finch** was noted 8/21 on BMt (M&RB). By mid Sep they were being reported from feeders from WL to SHT and HER (m.ob.). Daily counts, especially by mid-Oct, at one SHT location sometimes numbered 30+ (JG). Reports continued through Nov. A male **Red Crossbill** paid a visit to feeders on BMt 9/20 (M&RB). This corresponded to the sightings of Red Crossbill at the Second Mt. Hawk Watch in Lebanon about 10 miles northeast. Twelve **Red Crossbills** and five **White-winged Crossbills** were reported from Paxtang 11/15 (DHo), and one **Red Crossbill** was found in the Paxtang Cemetery 11/18 (LC). The first report of **Pine Siskin** came from SHT 9/30, when 2 were observed with **American Goldfinches** at feeders (P&RW). They arrived in mass by the first week of Oct, with an impressive fallout 10/17-18 with 60-70 reported two locations in SHT (JG, P&RW). There were 10 **Evening Grosbeaks** near Carsonville 10/27 (SB). This was the beginning of a good season for this species. Seven Evening Grosbeaks were reported at BBT 11/2 (DHo), two showed up at feeders at the MSH Environmental Center 11/7 (NM), and as many as three visited feeders in SCV on two occasions in Nov (*vide* BHo).

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Delaware County

Locations: Barrett's Meadow (BM), Brinton Lake (BL), Crum Creek Reservoir (CR), Darlington Tract (DT), Delaware River (DR), Haverford College (HC), John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum-DelCo portion (TI), Philadelphia International Airport (PHL), PPL Park-Commodore Barry Bridge (PPL), Ridley Creek State Park (RCSP), Rose Tree Park Hawk Watch (RTPHW), Springfield Reservoir (SR), Swarthmore College (SC), Thornbury Trail (TT), Tyler Arboretum (TY).

The human tragedy that was and is Hurricane Sandy (10/28-30) should never be far from our minds as we read this report, but due to nothing other than the randomness of nature, the remnants of the eye of Sandy traveled through southern New Jersey and right over *Delaware*. The storm spared us the worst and deposited an amazing spectacle of "storm birds" along the Delaware R. and inland. In addition to birds, the storm attracted an elite group of birders who stationed themselves along the river and carefully documented the outstanding day of birding 10/30. Five new species were added to the county list. Even without Sandy, this season brought an uncommonly wide variety of species to the county. No better example of this was provided by long term birding educator and icon, Skip Conant. The list in his suburban back yard this season would be the envy of anyone. It included **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**, 2 **Philadelphia Vireos**, **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, **Swainson's Thrush**, **Brown Thrasher**, **Nashville Warbler**, 3 **Cape May Warblers**, **Rusty Blackbird**, **Purple Finch**, **Pine Siskin**, and 10 **Evening Grosbeaks**.

Rare in *Delaware*, 159 **Brant** on the DR at PHL 10/30 (AG) were the result of Sandy. This species was also seen in smaller numbers at other locations on the same day and numbers trickled off through the first week of November (m.ob.). Two **Cackling Geese** in a flock of **Canada Geese** at RTPHW 11/4 (AG) was the only report of this species. Sandy birders

located 2 **Greater Scaup** DR 10/30 (TJ, CR, DG) and 6 **Lesser Scaup** BL 10/30 (BB). Scaup are considered rare to occasional in *Delaware*. Considered accidental in the county, Sandy brought an unprecedented 14 **Surf Scoters** to the DR at PHL (TJ, CR, DG) and one to the DR at Marcus Hook 10/30 (AG). Single **White-winged Scoters** were on the DR 10/30 (TJ, CR, DG), and inland at BL 10/30, 11/2 (BB) and SR 10/30 (AG). A female, likely imm., **White-winged Scoter** was spotted on BL 11/10 (AC) and seen by others through 11/13 (NP, DE, HM). It is undetermined if the sightings on BL were of the same or two different individuals. **Black Scoters** included 34 on the DR at PHL 10/30 (AG, TJ et al.) and 12 at Marcus Hook on the DR 10/30 (AG). Another rare bird on the river, two **Red-throated Loons** were spotted on the DR at PHL 10/30 (AG) and from PPL 10/31 (NP).

The county's first **Leach's Storm-petrels** were a big story during the passage of Sandy. Nine were counted PPL 10/30 (JG). One was seen at PHL 10/30 (AG) and one on the DR at Marcus Hook (TJ, CR, DG). JG noted that the **Peregrine Falcons** on the Commodore Barry Bridge were hunting the storm-petrels and he witnessed two kills. Meanwhile two miles downriver at Marcus Hook, an imm. Peregrine Falcon was photographed taking a Leach's Storm-petrel out of mid-air. Increasingly found if looked for here, a **Great Cormorant** was at PPL 10/31 (AG, NP).

The RTPHW operated 9/1-11/30. Just about all of the watchable days were covered. The total count was 14,111 raptors, an 11 year high due to a whopping 10,536 **Broad-winged Hawks**, an 11 year high and well above the 10 year average of 3400. The **Broad-winged Hawk** push also started 7-10 days early with 507 on 9/10 and 2394 on 9/11. The big day was 3642 individuals 9/16, early for the peak count. The last big days were 9/23 and 9/24 when 1700 were counted following 2 days of inclement weather. Last year, 2 Northern Goshawks were counted at RTPHW but there were zero this year, totaling 2 in the past three years and only 8 in the past six years. The long term average for this species is about 6 per year. A single day record 63 **Red-shouldered Hawks** at RTPHW was set 11/4. The season total of 255 **Red-shouldered Hawks** is eclipsed only by the 278 in 2005.

Two **American Oystercatchers** were spotted and photographed flying down river DR at Marcus Hook 10/30 (CL, AG, TJ et al.). This represented another first county record. **Dunlin** included 25 on the DR at PHL 10/30 (AG) and 40 at PPL 10/30 (JG); they are very uncommon fall visitors and were obviously swept along with the storm. **Red Phalaropes** included 40 on the DR at PHL 10/30 (AG), 6 on the DR at Marcus Hook 10/30 (AG), and at PPL 10/30 (JG); this species was probably seen only once before in the county, following Hurricane Ernesto in 2006. One party reported a "phalarope sp." caught by a **Peregrine Falcon** before they could identify it (BH). **Laughing Gull** can usually be found in small numbers along the DR in fall, but 61 on the DR at PHL 10/30 (AG), 40 at PPL 10/30 (JG), and 10 on the DR at Marcus Hook 10/30 (AG) were well above normal numbers. **Common Terns** are rare along the DR, so 3 individuals 10/30 (TJ, CR, DG) were notable storm birds. An astounding 19 **Pomarine Jaegers** at PPL 10/30 (BH, BS, AD, JD) and one **Parasitic Jaeger** on the DR at PHL 10/30 (AG) both represented first county records.

The annual **Common Nighthawk** count was conducted HC 8/21-9/10 (SJ). The total count was 2372 individuals. The highest count was 982 on 8/27. Peak period was 8/21 to 9/1.

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** at RCSP 9/8 (AG) was noteworthy. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** is also a special treat; this season one was at RCSP 8/24 (AG) and one was in Springfield yard 9/30 (SC). **Least Flycatcher** was at RCSP 8/22 and 8/24 (AG) and at BM 9/25 (AG). A **Northern Shrike** at TI 10/31 (AG) was seen to fly into *Delaware* from its more usually reported haunts in *Philadelphia*. An occasional visitor, **Philadelphia Vireo** was at Media 9/14 (DM), RCSP 9/20 (AG), and presumably 2 different individuals in a Springfield yard 9/12 and 9/20 (SC). Sightings of **Common Raven** were almost too numerous to mention. There was a compelling but unproven report that the species nested in the county this past summer. Reports this season included RCSP 9/8 (AG, CL), 2 at RTPHW 9/20 (DE), RCSP 9/30 (EW), and 2 at DT 10/20 (DE, AG, et al.). Another county first resulting from Sandy's passage was a **Cave Swallow** at TI 10/31 (AG, MR, FW). This bird was also reported in the *Philadelphia* section of the refuge.

The first **Black-capped Chickadees** were at feeders in Springfield 10/26 (JH) and Swarthmore 10/27 (DE). There were only scattered reports of this species through the remainder of the season. The first of what was to be a flood of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** was in Glen Mills 8/7 (BB). Regular reports started 8/25 and increased through the season (m.ob.). Not always seen in the fall were 2 **Gray-cheeked Thrushes** at RCSP 9/22 (AG) and at TT 10/11 (JM). Corn was actually grown again on the corn field along Middletown Rd in RCSP, so this was the place to find **American Pipits**, including 6 on 10/7, 3 on 10/13, and 5 on 10/21 (AG).

Delaware birders found 27 species of warblers this fall. Highlights included **Cape May Warbler** in a yard in Springfield 9/1, 9/14, and 9/23 (SC), and at RCSP 9/22 (AG) and DT 10/8 (AG). There was only one report

of **Bay-breasted Warbler** RCSP 9/20 (AG). A **Connecticut Warbler** at SP 9/9 (eBird) was the only report of this species.

In the aforementioned corn field at RCSP held **Vesper Sparrow** 10/13 (AG). This was also an excellent spot for **Savannah Sparrows** 10/7-21 (AG). There was a decent showing of **Rusty Blackbirds**: 6 were on the RCSP corn field 10/13 and 8 on 10/20 (AG). Four **Rusty Blackbirds** were at a feeder in Springfield 10/20 (SC) and one flew over RTPHW 11/10 (SJ).

Reports of **Red Crossbill** included one from Middletown 9/17 (AG), 12 at TY 11/13 (MP), 5 at TY 11/28 (JM), and one at Swarthmore 10/3 (JM). The earliest **White-winged Crossbill** was one at RTPHW 11/14 (HM). Subsequently a flock ranging in number from 5-13 was reported TY 11/15-11/28 (JM, AG, DE). The earliest reported **Pine Siskin** was at TY 10/3 (TR). After that date, reports were widespread in flocks up to 20-30 individuals. Fifty **Pine Siskins** were counted at RTPHW 10/14 (AG). Finally, to top off a remarkable season, an **Evening Grosbeak** male was photographed at a feeder in Media 10/24 (*fide* GW) and 10 (8 male, 2 female) were at that very successful feeder in Springfield 11/3 (SC).

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Elk County

No compiler.

Erie County

Locations: Presque Isle State Park (PISP), Waterbird count at Sunset Point (WC).

Dry conditions persisted through the remainder of the summer and into the fall. Lake levels continued to fall, exposing mud and sand bars at places around Presque Isle State Park that haven't been exposed for many years. This gave shorebirds expansive areas to rest and feed, but this is not such a good thing for birders since the shorebirds were not concentrated. A juvenile **Piping Plover** appeared on Presque Isle sporting leg bands indicating it had been banded on its nesting grounds at Sleeping Bear Dunes in Michigan. There was nothing outstanding about the southbound movement of passerines. The exception was the abundance of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** that seemed to be everywhere there were pines. Hurricane Sandy did not make headlines in northwestern Pennsylvania, though several days of strong northeast winds pushed the **Brant** flight-line southwest into our area in unprecedented numbers, especially 10/30. The winter finch invasion began in October with **Pine Siskins** followed by several flocks of **Common Redpoll**. Both **crossbills** made an appearance, but not in the numbers reported in other areas across the state.

The following birds were recorded from PISP unless noted otherwise.

Small flocks of **Brant** consisting of a few to up to 100 birds were seen from 10/27 to 11/24 (JM). The exception was 10/30 when 1650 were counted flying past Gull Point during the WC in just two hours (JM). One **Brant** shot off beach 11 had leg bands that indicated it was banded in Hudson Bay. A single white **Snow Goose** set down briefly in a large pond in Waterford 11/13 (JH). The flock of 38 white **Snow Geese** that passed over the Wastewater Treatment Plant 11/15 (JD) was a larger than usual flock for fall. Up to 3 **Cackling Geese** were well studied and photographed 11/13-21 at the Fairview Business Park (MV, SC). An adult **Trumpeter Swan** with no wing tags or leg bands was photographed some time during the last week of Nov at the Erie Water Works (CK *fide* DS). The single **Lesser Scaup** off Gull Point 8/5 may have summered in the area (JM). The **Red-throated Loon** WC season total was 133 and the **Common Loon** count was 1360 (JM). A **Red-necked Grebe** flying past Sunset Point on the WC 9/29 was a record early date for *Erie* by about two weeks (JM). The WC season total for **Red-necked Grebes** was 11 birds (JM).

Two **American Bitterns** were seen at the wetlands restoration area at SGL 314 on 10/8 (MW). An immature **Little Blue Heron** was photographed at the head of Presque Isle Bay 8/5 (BB). **Black-crowned Night-Herons** are not often reported anymore, so the single bird found 8/24 was a good sighting (MF). The first fall *Erie* record of **Golden Eagle** was made 11/2 when an adult flew low past Sunset Point during the WC. This was during a period when very high numbers of Golden Eagles were seen at the hawk

watches along the north shore of Lake Erie.

A banded juvenile **Piping Plover** was photographed at Gull Point 8/12 (DP) and 8/17 (JM). The plover had been banded that spring at Sleeping Bear Dunes in Michigan. One or two **American Golden-Plovers** were reported periodically 9/11-10/11 (m.ob.). Two **American Avocets** were at Gull Point 8/4 (TJ) and another was on a sandbar off Beach 11 on 10/7 (ST, DW). A **Willet** was at Gull Point 8/5 (JM) and another was found there 8/10 (BC). Two **Whimbrel** made a brief appearance at Gull Point 8/10 (BC). Two **White-rumped Sandpipers** flew past Sunset Point during the WC 11/1 (JM). A **Stilt Sandpiper** was observed at Gull Point on 8/25 (RS) and another set down briefly at Gull Point 9/8 (JM). **Purple Sandpipers** made a brief stop at Gull Point 11/24 when a record number of 5 were seen together (NT); the following day two more were found there (GM).

There was a brief but exciting period of jaeger movement in late Nov. A total of seven immature **Parasitic Jaegers** passed Sunset Point during the WC from 11/24-26 (JM). An immature **Pomarine Jaeger** passed Sunset Point during the WC on 11/21 (JM, JF). Most unusual was a **jaeger sp.**, believed to be a Pomarine or a Parasitic, with a group of Herring Gulls in the Best Buy parking lot in Millcreek Twp. 10/29 (KA). A total of 7 adult **Little Gulls** were observed passing Sunset Point during the WC or in Presque Isle Bay 10/19-29 (JM, GM, MW). Single **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were reported on Gull Point 9/15 (RS) and the north pier 10/15 (JM).

A **Short-eared Owl** was flushed from a clear cut area at SGL 314 on 10/25 (JM). The second *Erie* record of **Western Kingbird** was of a bird on Long Pond Trail 9/29 (RS) and was documented with photographs (ST, JM). The kingbird was reported again the next morning (SC). Three **Northern Shrikes** were in *Erie* this season, one in Waterford 10/19 (JH), one at the Fairview Business Park from 11/11 to the end of the period (SC), and one at the north pier 11/28 (JM). **Common Ravens** continue to be reported in the county, but this time it was in a different location: 2 were seen in a field in North East Twp. 10/28 (SL). A season total of 5 **Lapland Longspurs** passed Sunset Point during the WC 9/29, 11/3 and 11/6 (JM). Two **Orange-crowned Warblers** were identified, 9/9 (SC) and 10/6 (GM). A **Connecticut Warbler** was present on the park 9/15 (RS), one was in *Erie* 9/28 (NA), and a third was on Long Pond Trail at the park 9/30 (SC).

The **Common Redpoll** at the Fairview Business Park 10/7 was record early for *Erie* by about two weeks (DM). Several flocks of Common Redpolls, some containing over 150 birds, were seen mostly in the birches at the east end of the park from 11/11 through the period (m.ob.). A flock containing about 150 redpolls was also in the Gray Birches at the Fairview Business Park 11/30 (MW). A small group of **Red Crossbills** made a brief visit near A-Trail 11/25 (ST). These were the only Red Crossbills reported in the county. The first **White-winged crossbills** of the season appeared 11/10 in Mckean (SS). Thereafter, singles and small flocks, mostly heard overhead, were found at the east end of Presque Isle to the end of the period (JF, ST, MW). Considered irregular in *Erie* over the past decade, a single female **Evening Grosbeak** was seen 10/31 at SGL 314 (MW) and 6 were at a feeder in Edinboro 11/14 (SW).

ADDENDUM: An adult **Franklin's Gull** was photographed at Gull Point 6/1/2012 (GM) but was originally misidentified by the observer as a Laughing Gull and thus not included last season's report.

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Fayette County

Locations: Greenlick Run Lake (GRL).

This was certainly one of the most exciting and notable seasons in *Fayette* history due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy 10/29-11/1. The storm dropped rarities into the county which in turn brought many birders from around the area. GRL was the center of activity as it was the depository for jaegers, Brants and tremendous numbers of waterfowl. Heavy rain, gusty winds, snow, and rare birds—it was all there the last week of October. This followed an exceptionally dry summer that lowered water levels, which attracted shorebirds to the county. It was a season of extremes.

A group of 13 **Common Mergansers** were at Confluence 8/11 (GG). There were two reports of **Osprey** this season: one at Confluence 8/11 (GG) and one at GRL 9/14 (MF).

Water levels at GLR were very low the first half of the season. An extensive area of mudflats attracted a good variety of shorebirds for this

county that lacks good shorebird habitat. **Semipalmated Plovers** were present for most of Aug and Sep. One was present 8/7 (MF) and 8/23 (EC), 3 were there 8/31 (MF), two 9/14 (MF) and one remained 9/26 (MF). A high of 16 **Killdeer** were there 8/31 (MF). A **Lesser Yellowlegs** and three **Solitary Sandpipers** were present 9/26 (MF). Single **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were there 8/7, 8/31, and 9/14 (MF). Two **Least Sandpipers** were there 8/7, three 8/31 and 9/14, and one 9/26 (MF). A **Baird's Sandpiper** provided a rare and notable sight there 9/14 (MF). A **Short-billed Dowitcher** 8/23-26 (EC, DM) rounded out shorebird migrants.

Around the passage of Sandy, birders checked Greenlick Run Lake the entire week. Waterfowl were in amazing numbers and almost too numerous to count, especially with the wind-driven rain. **Tundra Swans** were present at Greenlick Run Lake 10/29-31 with a max count of 58 (ST, CD, DY, JM). A flock of 12 **Snow Geese** were present 10/29 (ST, et al.). Interestingly 11 were blue morph and only one white. A flock of 80 were there 10/31 (DY). A flock of 77 **Brant** were discovered 10/29 (m.ob.) with decreasing numbers present to 11/2. The following ducks were present the entire week of the hurricane with high counts noted: **American Wigeon** (37), **Gadwall** (120), **American Black Duck** (5), **Blue-winged Teal** (3), **Northern Shoveler** (9), **Green-winged Teal** (4), **Ring-necked Duck** (150), **Lesser Scaup** (281), **Bufflehead** (250), **Hooded Merganser** (92), **Red-breasted Merganser** (5), and **Ruddy Duck** (4-5000). Three **Surf Scoters** and five **White-winged Scoters** were found 10/29 (ST). Four **Surf Scoters** were counted 11/1 (CD). A **White-winged Scoter** was at Rice's Landing 11/3 (PK). A flock of **American Coots** gathered at Greenlick Run Lake during the hurricane with a max count of 2500 on 11/1 (CD). A **Great Egret** and an adult **Black-crowned Night-Heron** were present 10/31 (DY, m.ob.). Great Egrets are annual in the county, but a Black-crowned Night-Heron is rare here. A flock of 120 **Dunlin** 10/30 (CD) probably represented the largest count of shorebirds ever recorded at the lake and in the county.

Herring Gulls were present during this time with a high of 40 on 10/31 (DY). **Ring-billed Gulls** were also at the lake in small numbers 10/29-30 (m.ob.). A flock of 18 **Bonaparte's Gulls** was found 10/30 (BC, CD) with a single bird present 10/31 (DY, MF). An **Iceland/Thayer's Gull** was at the lake 10/31 (MF, DY). Low light late in the day made viewing difficult, but the bird appeared to have whitish primaries with dark markings contrasting with darker tertials that were more in line with Iceland Gull. This individual did have a dark area around the eye which is more typical of Thayer's but the primaries were just too white for that species.

A **Parasitic Jaeger** (BC) and two **Pomarine Jaegers** (CD, AP) were found at GRL 10/30 in the early part of the day, and an amazing flock of 29 jaegers were there in the late afternoon (MF, et al.)! Most were Pomarine Jaegers; one or two birds may have been Parasitic Jaegers but with snow, gusty wind and the constant movement of the birds, identification of each individual was challenging. The birds were first spotted kettling, and then they landed on the lake for a few seconds before swirling up again and circling over the lake. After just a few minutes they moved on.

The tame **Ruffed Grouse** in Dunbar Twp. reported last season was still present this season. It walked at the feet of the homeowner and even jumped up and made contact with him (JL). A normally behaving bird was at Bear Run Nature Reserve 10/21 (TB). A **Barred Owl** was at Bear Run Nature Reserve 10/22 (TB).

A late **Tree Swallow** was at GRL 10/30 (BC, BM, MF). With all the **Red-breasted Nuthatches** reported this fall, a total of 8 at Bear Run Nature Reserve 10/21 (TB) was hardly surprising, yet still notable. A **Brown Creeper**, a **Golden-crowned Kinglet** and a **Hermit Thrush** were there that day (TB). Two **Hooded Warblers** were at Ohiopyle State Park 8/27 (MF).

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Forest County

Locations: Allegheny National Forest (ANF), Buzzard Swamp (BS), Cook Forest (CF), Marienville (MA), Tionesta (TI).

It was an exciting season in *Forest*. Notable species for the period included **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**, **Northern Shrike**, **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**, **Red Crossbill**, **White-winged Crossbill**, and **Evening Grosbeak**.

Three **Blue-winged Teal** were noted 9/8 (DY), a single **Green-winged Teal** 8/11 (ST), and 2 **Northern Pintail** 9/3 (FM), all at BS. A single **Pied-billed Grebe** was seen 9/16 and 9/24 on Tionesta Creek near TI (FM).

A **Great Egret** spent the latter part of the summer at BS; it was last

seen 9/8 (DY). Last date for **Green Heron** was 9/8, when 2 were spotted at BS (DY). A **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** was found in the Clarion River at CF on both sides of the *Forest/Jefferson* line and was seen by various observers for about a month, last reported 8/27. It was reported to be a second summer bird feeding on crayfish (CW, TM, JeM, TG, RN, GM).

The last report of **Osprey** was 9/8 at BS (DY). A female **Northern Harrier** was spotted 9/3 at BS (FM, JM), and 2 were reported there 9/8 (DY). The last report of **Broad-winged Hawk** was 8/21 at ANF (JL). Two **Greater Yellowlegs** and one **Lesser Yellowlegs** were noted 9/8 at BS (DY). A **Common Nighthawk** was a nice find 8/22 at CF in the Clarion River bridge area (CW). Last report of **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was 9/23 near TI (FM, JM).

The last **Eastern Wood-Pewee** was noted 9/2 near TI (FM). Two **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were netted and banded 9/7 at a USFS study site in the ANF near MA (SS, FM, JM). A **Northern Shrike** was seen 11/22 atop an evergreen in MA. It reportedly attempted to defend its perch from other birds for several minutes before flying off (ST). A **Yellow-throated Vireo** was noted 9/6 at TI, and the last report of **Blue-headed Vireo** was 10/4 near TI (FM). **Red-breasted Nuthatch** reports were much more plentiful than in previous years: a high of 5 was seen 11/19 at BS (CD), one was noted 11/28 at CF (JV), several reports from different locations near MA, one 11/3 at Endeavor (MV), and one at feeders near TI throughout Nov (FM, JM). Two **Swainson's Thrushes** were noted 9/7 near BS (DY). The only **Northern Mockingbird** was one 11/19 at BS (CD).

The warbler migration was lively. The last **Ovenbird** was 9/8 at BS (DY). A **Northern Waterthrush** was reported 9/13 near MA (MM). A **Black-and-white Warbler** was seen 9/9 near TI (FM). **Tennessee Warblers** were reported from 8/21 at the ANF (JL) through 9/15 near TI (FM). Three **Nashville Warblers** were seen 9/13 near MA (MM). The last **Hooded Warbler** was noted 9/7 near TI (FM), and three **American Redstarts** were observed 9/28 near MA (MM). **Cape May Warblers** were seen from 8/21 at the ANF near MA (JL) through 9/8 at BS (DY). Ten **Magnolia Warblers**, 15 **Blackburnian Warblers**, 10 **Chestnut-sided Warblers**, and 15 **Black-throated Green Warblers** were reported in a large migratory flock that moved through early in the morning 8/21 at a USFS Study Site in the ANF near MA (JL). The last **Magnolia Warbler** was reported 9/28 near MA (MM); the last **Blackburnian Warbler** and the last **Chestnut-sided Warbler** were seen 9/7 at BS (DY). The last **Black-throated Blue Warbler** was 9/7 near MA (SS, FM, JM). **Palm Warblers** were noted from 9/8 at BS (DY) through 10/8 near TI (FM). A **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was reported 8/25 at Beaver Meadows (LM). The last **Black-throated Green Warbler** was reported 9/28 near MA (MM), and the last **Canada Warbler** 8/25 at Beaver Meadows (LM). A **Wilson's Warbler** was banded 9/7 near MA (SS, FM, JM) and 5 were noted 9/28 near MA (MM). The last **Scarlet Tanager** was noted 9/9 near TI (FM). Fifteen **Bobolinks** were seen 9/8 at BS (DY).

Red Crossbills were seen by several observers 11/18-22 at BS (DY, ST, RN, CD, GM). The high count of 23 birds 11/18 were in four identifiable groups, estimated 70% male, reportedly feeding in red pines and not the numerous white spruces (DY). **White-winged Crossbills** were also seen 11/18-28 at BS (GM, CD, JV). A high count of 15 was reported 11/28 eating from cones at the top of a conifer (JV). A high of 13 **Pine Siskins** was tallied 11/3 at Endeavor (MV), and other Nov reports were made from the Neiltown area, MA, BS, and near TI (WD, DY, GM, JeM, FM). **Evening Grosbeaks** were reported 10/28 at a feeder in Endeavor (StS), but these birds did not stay. A flock was found at a private residence in MA, varying from 22 birds 11/6 to a high of 52 on 11/18 (DY). The latest report as of this writing was 5 birds 11/28 (JV). One observer described them as "very vocal and active...at feeders, on sidewalks gathering grit, on rooftops, in evergreens...biting off buds and branch tips while they perched" (ST). Up to five Evening Grosbeaks were also seen a few times 11/10-26 near TI (FM, JM).

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Franklin County

Locations: Caledonia Area (CA), Chambersburg Area (CH), Greencastle Area (GA), Kriner Rd. (KR), Shady Grove (SG).

This fall saw some uncommon shorebirds with the help of Hurricane Sandy. Numerous birders spotted 45 species of waterfowl, shorebirds and some seabirds 10/30 on ponds, along streams, and on flooded lowland

areas around CH and GA. **Bufflehead**, **Greater Yellowlegs**, **Green-winged Teal**, and **Ring-necked Ducks** were in the largest numbers. Rarities that day included **Red-throated Loon**, **Black Scoter**, **Surf Scoter**, **White-winged Scoter**, and **Black-bellied Plover**. Most of these birds present only one day. The most notable birds included **Hudsonian Godwit**, **Piping Plover**, and **Black Skimmer** at a flooded area east of CH along Back Creek (BO), **Wilson's Phalarope** near Upper Strasburg (BO), and **Red Phalarope** on Keefer Road northwest of CH (BO, DC, DG).

The small ponds and wetlands at KR and near CH provided stopover habitat for **American Coot**, **American Golden-Plover**, **Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs**, a few **Ruddy Turnstones** 9/1 at Greencastle Res. (DG), **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, **Western Sandpiper** at Greencastle Reservoir 9/26 (BO, DG), **Least, White-rumped, Baird's**, and **Pectoral Sandpipers**, and **Dunlin**. **American Woodcock** was present again at their spot along Stillhouse Hollow Rd (BK). Very few **Black Terns** were observed this fall.

An **Eastern Screech-Owl** occupying a hole along Grindstone Hill Rd., camouflaged but in full view of the road. Several **Great Horned Owls** were calling near Clay Hill, CH, and various other locations. A rather uncommon bird for the county was a **Rufous Hummingbird** that visited a feeder near the Willow Hill turnpike interchange (K&DL). It was present 10/11-12/2 and was banded 10/21 by Bob Mulvihill. Several **Merlin** and **Peregrine Falcon** were reported in and near CH and GA.

Recently, **Common Ravens** have made their presence known more and more in the county and were seen and heard at many locations this season. Four species of swallows, **Northern Rough-winged**, **Bank**, **Cliff** and **Barn**, were observed on the power lines at GR. There were an unusual number of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** reported across the county. Sep and Oct were good for **thrushes**, including **Gray-cheeked**, **Swainson's**, **Hermit**, and **Wood**, and for the warbler migration particularly in the CA (VB). For the first time in several years, many **White-winged Crossbills** and smaller numbers of **Common Redpolls** visited the county this season. **Evening Grosbeaks** were present for about a week beginning 9/30 near Willow Hill (K&DL).

Observers: **Dale Gearhart, P.O. Box 155, Shady Grove, PA 17256, (717) 860-5799, dgearhart01@comcast.net**, Valerie Barnes, Robert and Marion Carmack, Dave Cooney, Bill Frantz, Carl Garner, Donna Hocker, Bob Keener, Kathy and Dick Lavuers, Bill Oyler.

Fulton County

Locations: Cowan's Gap State Park (CGSP), E. Hill Rd in Needmore (HR), King Trail, Buchanan SF (KT), Peffer Trail, Buchanan SF (PT), Meadow Grounds Lake (MGL), Tuscarora Mountain, "The Pulpit" Hawkwatch (TM).

Unfortunately no sightings associated with Hurricane Sandy were made in *Fulton*. This season's highlights were primarily associated with the state-wide invasions of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** and northern finches.

There were no major concentrations of waterfowl this season. For the last several years, increased duck hunting at the county's largest lake (MGL) has been noted. Perhaps pressure from hunting is now causing migratory waterfowl to move on. On 10/8, a late flock of 8 **Wood Ducks** was noted at CGSP (CK, AT, DM). Two **American Wigeon** 10/18 (RTS) and a drake **Redhead** 11/8 (DS) visited CGSP. The top count of ducks for the season occurred at MGL 11/8, with 77 **Ring-necked Ducks**, 21 **Lesser Scaup**, 6 **Bufflehead**, 3 **Hooded Mergansers**, and 57 **Ruddy Ducks** observed (DS). Other flocks included 28 **Buffleheads** at MGL 11/17 (SD) and 12 **Common Mergansers** on MGL waters 10/8 (CK, AT, DM).

Upland game birds were also detected in the quarter: a **Ring-necked Pheasant** was at HSWRA 10/8 (CK, AT, DM), 2 **Ruffed Grouse** were in brushy woods at MGL 11/17 (SD), and **Wild Turkey** were present at HR and CGSP (AE, CB, CK). Only one **Common Loon** and one **Double-crested Cormorant** were found: one each at MGL 11/8 (DS). **Pied-billed Grebes** were at CGSP 10/18 (RTS) and MGL 11/8 (DS).

The fall raptor migration at TM seemed average at best. Unusual raptors such as Northern Goshawk and Rough-legged Hawk were not recorded. However, it appeared to be a relatively good vulture migration; 10/11 saw the third largest daily count of **Turkey Vultures** in the past 10 years: 134 (DG, RB). Another strong showing 10/12 totaled 85 Turkey Vultures (DG, DC). Less common at the watch, the daily high count of **Black Vulture** peaked at 8 on 11/5 (DG). A total of 14 **Ospreys** were recorded 9/28 (RB), and there were three days with 6 **Bald Eagles**: 9/10 (DG, AN, MO), 9/20 (JC), and 9/22 (DP, EB). Last Osprey went through 10/20 (DG). The TM **Northern Harrier** migration was the lowest in the past ten years. Only 44 individuals were counted from mid-Sep through early Nov. Two separate days had the daily high count of 4: 9/22 (DP, EB) and 10/13 (DP). Watchers on 10/10 had the second largest fall daily count of **Sharp-shinned**

Hawks of the past 10 years: 158 (DG, JC, RB). That day also had the highest daily count of **Cooper's Hawk** with 8 seen. A total of 8 Cooper's was also noted 10/23 (KL). Other raptors had a few good days: **Broad-winged Hawks** filled the skies with the fall's high of 1095 individuals 9/14 (DG, DC, DL, KL). There were 33 **Red-tailed Hawks** 10/17 (JC), 3 **Red-shouldered Hawks** 10/17 (JC), 10/22 (AN, DG), and 11/7 (JC), and 4 **Golden Eagles** on an unusually early date of 9/28, were the daily high counts for each species. Minus the Broad-winged, these high counts were almost 50% lower than 2011. Lucky observers 9/28 saw the season's high count for all three regularly occurring falcons: 5 **American Kestrels**, 3 **Peregrine Falcons**, and 4 **Merlins** (RB, MO). The superstar of the hawkwatching season would have to be the Merlin: both the daily high count and the overall season numbers were the highest in at least ten years. Other notable daily totals among falcons included 3 Merlins 9/21 (BC, MC) and 3 Peregrine Falcons 9/28 (RB, MO). Late dates were 2 Merlins 10/24 (JC) and a Peregrine Falcon 10/20 (DG).

Only **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was reported; one was at HSWRA 8/26 (AE). Most notable were two late birds 10/8 along the KT (AT, CK, DM). On 10/08, the birding group of AT, CK, and DM had good fortune in locating owls in the daytime. Two **Eastern Screech-Owls** were at both CGSP and HSWRA. The group also found a **Great Horned Owl** at PT. Owl banders netted 7 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** in 7.5 hours of effort 11/15 at an undisclosed location (AC, EE). The aggressive behavior of the diminutive **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** did not go unnoticed during this fall season. A total of at least 12 birds were defending 5 feeders from each other along HR 8/25 (AE). Most interesting was the hummingbird's aggressive behavior at HSWRA 8/26 (AE): 2 Ruby-throats were making active swipes at nearby flying **Chimney Swifts**. The swifts were then actively chased over the marsh by the hummers.

Good numbers of **Eastern Phoebe** were recorded 10/8, with 3 at PT and 2 at CGSP (AT, CK, DM). Noteworthy late dates included single **Blue-headed Vireos** 10/8 at CGSP and HSWRA (AT,CK,DM) and 2 on 10/21 at HR (AE), one **Philadelphia Vireo** 10/8 at KT (AT, CK, DM), and 27 **Tree Swallows** coursing over MGL 10/8 (AT, CK, DM).

Outstanding localized concentrations of nuthatches were witnessed at CGSP 10/8 (AT, CK, DM). One observer commented, "[I've] never heard so many in one day. At one time we had 6 in a tree. They really swarmed us when we did a screech owl imitation, and we saw and heard many even when we weren't pishing" (CV). That day 45 **Red-breasted** (45) and 20 **White-breasted Nuthatches** were reported. On 11/25, another birder counted the CGSP nuthatches and came up with 33 Red-breasted and 4 White-breasted (CB). Another species noted in good numbers was **Golden-crowned Kinglet** at CGSP. The area hosted 12 on 10/8 (AT, CK, DM) and 11 on 11/25 (CB). The tract of Norway spruce on the west side of the lake seemed to be preferred by the kinglets (CB). On 9/08, a loose mixed species flock of mimic-thrushes was noted along HR (AE). Working over a small area of cut hay near a fence row was a presumed family group of 6 **Northern Mockingbirds** and a group of 3 **Brown Thrashers**.

Some good warblers were entered into eBird this period. An adult male **Golden-winged Warbler** was observed at a residence along with an adult male **Black-throated Blue Warbler** 9/9 (AE). Golden-wings are difficult to find in the fall. Other finds along HR included: **Black-and-white** 9/24 (SH), **Tennessee** 9/24 (SH), **Yellow** 8/25 (SH), **Pine** 9/12 (SH), 12 **Yellow-rumped** 10/21 (AE), and **Canada** 8/25 (SH). Late season warblers 10/8 included **Nashville** at CGSP, **Magnolia** at HSWRA, first fall female **Blackburnian** at PT, **Blackpoll** at HSWRA, 2 **Yellow-rumped** at CGSP, and a **Wilson's** at KT (AT,CK,DM).

Four **Eastern Towhees** at CGSP 10/8 were a bit late (AT, CG, DM). A good total of 40 **Field Sparrows** was at HSWRA 10/8 (AT, CG, DM). Two **Lincoln's Sparrows** were at HSWRA 10/8 (AT, CK, DM). Two **Fox Sparrows** were at CGSP 11/8 (DS), and 8 **Swamp Sparrows** were at HSWRA 10/8 (AT, CK, DM). An outstanding start to a winter finch invasion was underway by season's end. A mixed flock of **crossbills** was detected at CGSP 11/25 (CB). Initially heard while flying, the crossbills alighted onto a Norway spruce behind the concession stand, and the flock was found to contain 19 **Red** and 5 **White-winged Crossbills** (CB). Also 11/25, a single **Evening Grosbeak** was feeding at a nearby CGSP residence (CB). Another single **Evening Grosbeak** and about 12 **Pine Siskins** made an appearance at a HR feeder 11/8 (SH). **Pine Siskins** noted 10/8 included 60 at CGSP, 12 at PT, and 3 at HSWRA (AT, CK, DM).

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Greene County

Locations: Claylick (CL), East View (EV), Last Chance Ranch (LCR), Ralph Bell Farm (RBF), Sycamore (SY).

Wood Ducks were last reported 11/5 at EV eating pignuts and acorns in a yard (MH). While searching for Hurricane Sandy birds 10/30, the following were at Lake Wilma: 3 **Lesser Scaup**, 5 **Bufflehead**, 14 **Hooded Merganser**, one **American Coot** and 4 **Pied-billed Grebes** (JC, MH).

In Rogersville 11/19 a **Ring-necked Pheasant** walked through a yard (MG). **Ruffed Grouse** was last seen at Tintagel Farms 10/21 (AP). At CL, 41 **Wild Turkey** were seen 11/2 (LA) and were last noted 12/8 at LCR (MLP). On 10/22 at Nineveh, 100 **Turkey Vultures** were sunning themselves (C&CA); they were last reported 11/3 at CL when 60 were noted (LA). A **Northern Harrier** was spotted carrying something near Rutan 11/19 (AC). From LCR 10/27, "a **Sharp-shinned Hawk** banged into the sunroom window after scattering all the feeder birds to the four winds. It flew away but I nearly dropped my coffee cup with the surprise attack" (MLP). **Red-tailed Hawk** young were heard calling at RBF 8/22 (RKB). An **American Kestrel** was feeding in the hayfield at SY 9/10 (JC).

A high count of 72 **Mourning Dove** was found at CL 10/10 (RA). **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was reported 8/19 at LCR (MLP) and **Black-billed Cuckoo** was last seen 11/9 at CL (LA). An **Eastern Screech-Owl** peeked out from the entrance of a wood duck box at LCR 10/26 (MLP). A pair of **Barred Owls** was heard calling at LCR 10/2 (MLP). On Whites Ridge, a **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was seen along the road 10/5 (JH). At RBF 11/11, a **Great Horned Owl** was heard (RKB). **Common Nighthawk** were first reported 8/17 (JW); 8-10 were flying over the farm just before dusk at LCR 8/31 (MLP) and were last seen 9/5 at RBF (RKB). A few **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** lingered in the Waynesburg area until the first week of Oct and were last seen feeding in a patch of tall cleome 10/4 at LCR (MLP). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** was at SY 10/10 (JC) and at RBF 11/7 (RKB).

An **Eastern Wood-Pewee** at RBF 8/22 was the last for the season (RKB). The last sighting of **Eastern Phoebe** was 12/7 at CL (LA). **White-eyed Vireo** was last seen at EV 9/25 and 9/19 was the last date for **Red-eyed Vireo** (MH). **Common Raven** was last seen 10/14; they are often heard at RBF (RKB). On 8/14 the last **Barn Swallow** left the nest at RBF. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were first noted at RBF 8/31 (RKB). **Brown Creepers** and **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were first reported at Tintagel Farms 10/21 (AP). A **Golden-crowned Kinglet** was seen flitting around at LCR 11/12 (MLP). On 11/10 a late **Wood Thrush** was found at CL (LA).

Ovenbird was last noted 9/23 in EV, **Worm-eating Warbler** was noted 9/12, a **Blackburnian Warbler** visited the yard 9/25, and a **Wilson's Warbler** was noted 9/11 (J&MH). The last **Eastern Towhee** was 10/15 at LCR (MLP). An **American Tree Sparrow** was reported at CL 11/6 (LA). A **Field Sparrow** was noted at SY 10/24. The first **White-throated Sparrow** was seen at RBF 10/26. At SY, a **Fox Sparrow** was noted 10/28, and the first **White-crowned Sparrow** showed up 10/12 (JC). The first **Dark-eyed Junco** was found at SY 10/12 (JC). The last report of **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was 10/2 at LCR (MLP). Rogersville was the site of the last **Red-winged Blackbird** and **Common Grackles** for the season 11/13 (MG). On 9/30, 15 **Eastern Meadowlark** were seen at RBF (RKB), and **Rusty Blackbirds** were reported 11/19 at SY (JC).

The first sighting of **Purple Finch** was 10/17 at SY, and a pair of **White-winged Crossbill** was seen at same location 11/4 (JC). Two **Common Redpolls** were seen briefly at CL on 11/26 (LA). **Pine Siskin** arrived 10/2 at LCR (MLP) and on 11/3 a flock of up to 40 were actively feeding in and around the hemlocks at SY (JC). The beginning of Nov brought excitement; a male **Evening Grosbeak** was sighted 11/3 at Nineveh (C&CA) followed the next day by a pair at EV (MH), and later by 3 at a feeder 11/5 at LCR (MLP).

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Huntingdon County

Locations: Aitch Access (AA), Ennisville (ENN), Lake Raystown (LR), Masseyburg (MAS), McAlevys Fort (McF), Old Crow wetland (OC), Seven Points Marina at Lake Raystown (SP), Shaver's Creek Environmental Center (SCEC), Stone Mt. hawk watch (SMHW), Tussey Mt, (TM).

The fallout from the remnants of Hurricane Sandy was spectacular and potentially resulted in eight first records for the county, one of which would

be a first state record if accepted. All of the action was at Lake Raystown; fortunately, the effects of the storm itself in the county were minimal. Several inches of rain fell but winds were weaker than forecast. The worst of the storm passed over the county overnight 10/29 and into the morning 10/30.

The first rarities were reported 10/30. One **Pomarine Jaeger** and 11 **Red Phalaropes** were at SP (DK), both county firsts, as well 250 **Dunlins** and one **Common Tern**; also **Common Loons**, **Horned Grebes**, **Bonaparte's Gulls** and a fly-over flock of 32 **Snow Geese** were spotted. At the dam breast, 2 **Parasitic Jaegers** and 3 **Red-necked Phalaropes** were seen (JK), also both county firsts, along with a late **Osprey**. Also at the dam, 101 **Ruddy Ducks** and 40 **Common Loons** were present (DK); and another 130 **Ruddy Ducks** were at the LR Entriken overlook (DK).

Early the next day, 10/31, a **Laughing Gull** was found at the dam, another first for *Huntingdon* (GG, DK, TK). Joining some 50 **Common Loons** there were at least two **Red-throated Loons**. Around 10:00 that morning, IG located a storm-petrel at SP that he identified as a **Wilson's Storm-Petrel**. At least nine observers saw this bird—several with extensive storm-petrel experience—and watched it for a long time as it foraged swallow-like over the water. The consensus remains that that it was Wilson's, but no photos were obtained to document this possible first for the county and the state. But at that point the day was not over at SP. A group of five birders who came for storm-petrel later found a **Sabine's Gull** and a **Cave Swallow** (AM, JH, DWi, DF, MD), two more county firsts. A second **Cave Swallow**, or the same, was seen several miles away at AA (DK, TK).

Otherwise, the season in *Huntingdon* was fairly typical. Temperatures for most of the season were close to average after a hot spring and summer, except that Nov was a bit colder than normal. Aside from Sandy's rain, conditions were somewhat dry. Waterfowl reports aside from Sandy's fallout were few, which is not unusual in the fall season here. Lake Perez remains completely drawn down, eliminating a good waterfowl location; hope remains that the dam will be repaired in the near future. The high count of **Tundra Swans** at SMHW was 299 on 11/14 (DK). On 11/3, 300 **Double-crested Cormorants** passed the watch (NB).

A total of 339 hours were logged at the Stone Mt hawk watch. **Bald Eagles** continued their upward trend with 113, the highest total ever. A one-day record of 17 was established 9/5. An encouraging sign were the 988 **Sharp-shinned Hawks** counted, above the long-term average for the second year in a row; the count of 133 **Cooper's Hawks**, on the other hand, was below average for the fifth consecutive year. **Broad-winged Hawks** were about average with 1520 counted and a high of 207 on 9/17. A total of 878 **Red-tailed Hawks** passed the watch, better than last year's dismal 562, but nevertheless below the long-term average for the fifth consecutive year. Are more Red-tails staying north? **Osprey**, **Northern Harrier**, and **Red-shouldered Hawk** were also below average as they have been the last few years. The SMHW **Golden Eagle** count of 112 was the fourth highest ever. Nineteen were tallied 11/9 and double-digit counts also occurred 11/1, 11/3, 11/8, and 12/5—the last being the latest double-digit date ever at SMHW. Another encouraging sign was the total of 105 **American Kestrels**, the highest since 2003 and just short of the long-term average of 108. This was the second consecutive year reaching 100 after hitting a low of 45 in 2008. The 39 **Merlins** represented the third best count ever; 16 **Peregrine Falcons** were close to average.

One or 2 **Soras** were at OC 9/13 until at least 10/14 (DK, TK, GG, JK, Beth Glasser). **Barred Owls** were found at Martin's Gap 10/4 (IG), SCEC 10/14 (DW), and along Kepler Rd on Tussey Mt 11/20 (JD). **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were also found along Kepler as well as Pennsylvania Furnace Rd 11/15 (IG) and 11/20 (JD). As usual, **Common Nighthawks** were seen in small numbers, mostly in the MF area 8/11-24, with a high count of 7 on 8/23 (DW, GG, IG, JK). The only **Red-headed Woodpecker** reported was near Seven Stars 8/22 (MB).

Single **Olive-sided Flycatchers** were at MAS 9/3 (GG) and SMHW 9/11 (GG, RC). Tough to find, single **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were at OC 8/26 (GG) and on Red Rose Rd 9/16 (JK). Moderately late **Eastern Phoebes** were at two LR locations 10/3-11/1 (GG, IG, AL, JL). At least 5 **Philadelphia Vireos**, a good seasonal total, were reported 9/6-26 with 3 in the area of SCEC and 2 at SMHW (GG, JK, DW). A **Yellow-throated Vireo** was at Joller 8/5 (GG, DK). At SMHW, a conservative count of 1250 **Tree Swallows** was made 9/17 (GG). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were present in good number. A **Marsh Wren** was found at OC 10/14, the best *Huntingdon* location for this rarity (JV).

American Pipits were in excellent number in fields along Pennsylvania Furnace Rd, including 86 on 10/2 and 125 on 10/28 (JK). Two **Snow Buntings** flew over SMHW 11/4 for the only report (JK). An **Orange-crowned Warbler**, not found annually, was at MAS 9/13 (GG) and a **Connecticut Warbler**, also uncommon, was at Mothersbaugh Marsh 9/9 (JK). A late **Common Yellowthroat** was at SGL 112 on 11/23 (JK).

The best sparrow of the period was the **Nelson's Sparrow** at OC 10/14 (GG, DK, TK, JV); 2 **Savannah Sparrows** were there on the same

date. The first **American Tree Sparrow** of the season was at ENN 11/3 (DW). **Lincoln's Sparrows** were at MAS 9/14 and 9/21 and at SMHW 9/25 (GG). Four **Rusty Blackbirds** at OC 10/14 comprised the only report (GG).

Eight **Red Crossbills** flew over SMHW 11/4 (JK). Other reports came from TM where 8 were found 11/9 and 6 on 11/10 (JB); in addition, 2 were there 11/18 (NB). Six were at MAS 11/30 (GG). A **White-winged Crossbill** was noted on TM 11/10 and a flock of 39 on Mill Creek Rd 11/23 (JK). Also 11/23, 8 **Common Redpolls** landed briefly at SMNH (JK). The first **Evening Grosbeak** appeared at feeders in ENN 11/4, with 11 the next day (DW). A female at the Grove feeders near MF beginning 11/17 stayed for about a week, occasionally joined by two more. However, grosbeaks seemed to have moved on by Dec.

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Indiana County

Locations: Blue Spruce County Park (BS), Indiana University of PA (IUP), Lewisville (LV), Shelocta (SH), Two Lick Reservoir (TL), Yellow Creek State Park (YC).

Canada Goose maxima included 208 at YC 10/9 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL, DM) and 100 on the IUP campus 11/20 (JT). Hurricane Sandy yielded several sightings of **Brant** at YC, including 2 immature birds 10/29 (LC, MH, RH) that lingered through 11/6 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT) and two fly-over flocks of 15 on 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT) and 75 the following day (JM). Two **Tundra Swans** were the first to appear at YC 11/3 for 15 observers (3RBC, TBC); top count of 125 occurred at YC 11/15 (TG, MH, RN); among many reports, migrating flocks included 79 over a yard near SH 11/14 (MH, RH), 74 over another yard near SH 11/24 (ED), and 68 at YC 11/27 (LC).

All duck reports were at YC unless otherwise noted. The high **Wood Duck** count of 115 (LC) was 9/27 at YC, where 5 still lingered 11/13 (TG, MH, RN). First **Gadwall** arrived 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT); best tallies included 262 on 10/29 (LC, MH, RH) and an estimated 275 on 11/3 (3RBC, TBC). Arrival date for **American Wigeon** was 10/23 (LC, TG, MH, RH, KT); numbers peaked at 150 on 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT) and 212 the next day (BC). First **American Black Duck** was sighted 10/1 (TG, MH, RH, ML) and the top count of 14 was obtained 11/27 (LC). The maximum **Mallard** tally was 202 on 10/29 (LC, MH, RH). First **Blue-winged Teal** arrived 8/19 (AF, AL); numbers built to 124 by 9/17 (LC); last observed were 4 on 11/13 (TG, MH, RN). The first **Northern Shoveler** were 9/4 (LC, MH, DM); 10 were spotted 10/19 (LC). A single **Northern Pintail** appeared 9/27 (LC); a flock of 55 flew past the beach on the evening of 10/30 (MH, RH). YC hosted the first 4 **Green-winged Teal** 9/4 (LC, MH, DM); 30 was the high on 11/3 (3RBC, TBC). Two **Redheads** 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT) were first; 4 on 11/13 (TG, MH, RN) marked the last sighting as well as the high count. **Ring-necked Duck** maxima included 346 on 10/28 (LC), an estimated 500 on 11/3 (3RBC, TBC), and 389 on 11/13 (TG, MH, RN). Twenty **Greater Scaup** was the top tally 11/3 (CD). Six **Lesser Scaup** arrived 10/28 (MH, RH) and the peak count was about 100 on 11/3 (3RBC, TBC).

Lingering scoters were compliments of Hurricane Sandy this season. In the past scoters have appeared one day and have been gone the next, but this was not the case this year. On the evening of 10/30 (MH, RH) a flock of 18 **Surf Scoters** landed on YC Lake; 6 were still present 11/6 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT), and a singleton was still noted 11/20 (LC, TG, MH, AM). On 10/28 (LC) 22 **White-winged Scoters** flew over TL; the following day (LC, MH, RH) 4 were on YC Lake; later that same day, 10/29 (LC), 4 were listed on TL. On 10/30 (TS) 22 appeared at YC, where 3 remained through the end of the period (LC). Both YC (LC, MH, RH) and TL (LC) harbored 2 female **Black Scoters** on 10/29; 3 were found at YC 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT); last noted were 2 on 11/6 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT), also at YC. A flock of 215 **Buffleheads** were counted at YC 10/28 (MH, RH) while TL hosted 104 the same day (LC); by 11/27 (LC) the flock had dwindled to 36 at YC. Two **Common Goldeneyes** listed 11/13 (TG, MH, RN) at YC were the only reported. A single **Hooded Merganser** appeared at YC 9/4 (LC, MH, DM); Sandy yielded a mere 18 on 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT) while the high tally of 76 occurred 11/25 (LC). Two **Red-breasted Mergansers** 11/6 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT) were amazingly the only ones noted. First 12 **Ruddy Ducks** arrived at YC 9/27 (LC); on 10/29 (LC, MH, RH) numbers reached

1349; an all-time high count of 2,072 occurred 11/3 (3RBC, TBC).

Only 2 **Ruffed Grouse** were reported this season, one at Blacklick Valley Natural Area on 10/6 (LC, TG, MH, RH) and a rather unusual report of one standing on a road near Nolo at 03:00 on 11/19 (CL, GL).

Single **Red-throated Loons** were listed 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT) and 11/3 (3RBC, TBC) at YC. An early **Common Loon** appeared at YC 8/14 (LC, TG, MH, DM, RN, KT) while maxima included 68 at YC 10/2 (TG, MH, RH, ML), 63 at TL 10/28 (LC), 98 at YC 10/29 (CL, GL), and 112 at YC 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT). The first 2 **Pied-billed Grebes** appeared 8/26; numbers spiked to 58 on 10/19 (LC), and 44 were still present 11/27 (LC). TL harbored the first 7 **Horned Grebes** 10/28 (LC); high YC count was 15 the following day (LC, MH, RH, GL, RN, KT). A single **Red-necked Grebe** was a good find at YC 11/27 (LC). A **Double-crested Cormorant** on a treatment pond near SH 9/24 (MH, RH) was first; top tally was 78 at YC 10/29 (CL, GL). Last **Green Heron** was found at YC 10/2 (TG, MH, RH, ML).

A **Black Vulture** just south of Indiana was the fourth county record 11/2 (AF). Twenty-four **Turkey Vultures** over Clymer 10/5 (AB) was the high, and last was one at Brush Valley 11/9 (CL, GL). Migrating **Osprey** included single birds at YC 8/26 (LC) and 9/25 (LC, TG, MH, RN, MVT). **Bald Eagle** reports encompassed seven days at YC (m.ob.) this period with sightings of both adult and immature birds. A female **Northern Harrier** visited YC 10/2 (TG, MH, RH, ML) and a male was sighted near Brush Valley 11/9 (CL, GL). **Sharp-shinned Hawks** were noted at two locations this quarter; **Cooper's Hawks**, at three. Last **Broad-winged Hawks** were listed 8/26 (LC) at YC and 8/30 (JT) over IUP. A **Merlin** was at YC on four dates between 9/4 (LC, MH, DM) and 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT).

Two **Soras** were feeding at the edge of Little Yellow Cove at YC 8/14 (LC, TG, MH, DM, RN, KT); a singleton was seen there on three dates through 10/21 (ST). The first 6 **American Coots** arrived 9/11 (LC, TG, MH, RN); top count was 1,999 on 11/3 (3RBC, TBC).

All shorebird reports were at YC. A **Black-bellied Plover** arrived 9/17 (LC) and was still present through 9/23 (AL). An **American Golden-Plover** first sighted 10/27 (ST) remained through 10/29 (LC, MH, RH). The season's first **Semipalmated Plover** appeared 8/7 (LC, TG, MH, AL, ML); 5 were counted 9/11 (LC, TG, MH, RN, KT), and last was noted 10/28 (LC). **Killdeer** lingered until 11/3 (3RBC, TBC). Last **Spotted Sandpiper** and **Solitary Sandpiper** were 10/2 (TG, MH, RH, ML) and 9/18 (LC, MH), respectively. Sandy brought 34 **Greater Yellowlegs** and 16 **Lesser Yellowlegs** early in the day on 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT) and another 15 Greater that evening (MH, RH). Single **Semipalmated Sandpipers** visited YC 9/4 (LC, MH, DM) and 10/9 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL, DM); these were the only sightings reported. Small numbers of **Least Sandpipers** (up to 9) utilized the mud in Little Yellow Cove on 20 dates through 10/19 (LC). **Pectoral Sandpipers** continued into the period with the high of 4 on 10/2 (TG, MH, RH, ML); 2 still lingered 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT). Three **Dunlin** arrived 10/9 (LC, MH, RH, GL, RN, KT); more than 1000 passed by the beach on 10/30 (LC, MH, RH); later that same day between 4:00-6:25, many small flocks passed by totaling 773 individuals (MH, RH). Sandy set an all-time Dunlin high for YC. One to 6 **Wilson's Snipe** were found on ten dates between 9/4 (LC, MH, DM) and 11/3 (IH). A **Red Phalarope** was sighted from the observatory on 10/29 (LC, MH, RH); 2 spotted in Little Yellow Cove the following day (TS) were still present 10/31 (MD). This was the second county record for Red Phalarope.

Two **Bonaparte's Gulls** 10/28 (LC) were first; max was a mere 12 on 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT). The late afternoon of 10/30 (MH, RH) saw 40 **Ring-billed Gulls** and 33 **Herring Gulls** dumped onto YC Lake. Two **Caspian Terns** stopped at YC 10/30 (LC, MH, RH, EK, GL, RN, TS, ZS, KT). A **Common Tern** appeared at YC 10/30 (TS), the lone report. **Forster's Tern** reports included 3 on 10/20 (TG, MH, RH), 23 on 10/30 (MH, RH), and single birds on 10/28 (LC), 11/2 (GL), and 11/3 (3RBC, TBC). Single **Black Terns** were nice finds 8/14 (LC, TG, MH, DM, RN, KT) and again 9/18 (LC, MH, GL). A **Pomarine Jaeger** flew past the YC beach 10/30 (LC, EK, GL, TS, ZS, KT) and another was spotted at TL 10/31 (LC); these are the first and second county records for this species.

Two **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** lingered at YC 8/21 (LC, TG, MH, ML, MVT) and last **Black-billed Cuckoo** was found at BS 9/22 (LC, DC, SD, MH, RH, EH, DW, RW). Two **Eastern Screech-Owls** were at Nolo 8/18 (AB, DB) and one was at TL (AL). **Great Horned Owl** was hooting near SH 11/5 (MH, RH). **Barred Owls** were calling near Nolo 8/8-9/15 (AB, DB) and near SH 9/5-8 and 11/4-11 (MH, RH). Last **Chimney Swift** was circling over SH 10/4 (MH). Last **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** included one near LV 9/27 (MC) and one near SH 9/28 (MH, RH). An immature **Red-headed Woodpecker** in a yard near SH was a nice find 10/4 (CG, MH). Sightings of **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** included one at YC 9/27 (LC), one at IUP 9/28 (JT), and another at YC 10/19 (LC).

BS yielded the last **Eastern Wood-Pewee** 10/3 (MH, RH, JT), the season's lone **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** sighting 9/10 (MH), and the last

Trail's flycatcher 9/15 (LC, MH, RH, DM, KT, JT, RW). An **Eastern Phoebe** still remained at YC 11/3 (3RBC, TBC) while 2 **Eastern Kingbirds** at YC 9/9 (LC) were last. Last vireo dates included 9/16 (ST) for **White-eyed Vireo** at YC, 9/10 (MH) for **Yellow-throated Vireo** at BS, 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT) for **Blue-headed Vireo** at YC, 9/10 (MH) for **Warbling Vireo** at BS, and 9/27 (MH) for **Red-eyed Vireo** near SH. Reports included three **Philadelphia Vireo** sightings—2 at YC 9/11 (LC, TG, MH, RN, KT), one at BS 9/15 (LC, MH, RH, DM, KT, JT, RW), and one near LV 9/17 (MC). Last **Fish Crow** reported was on the IUP south campus 8/3 (JT).

A **Purple Martin** appeared near LV 8/12 (MC). Last dates were 8/17 (LC) for 2 **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** at YC, 11/3 (3RBC, TBC) for 2 **Tree Swallows** at YC, 8/14 (LC, TG, MH, DM, RN, KT) for 2 **Bank Swallows** at YC, 10/6 (LC, TG, MH, RH) for 3 **Barn Swallows** at Blacklick Valley Natural Area, and 9/4 (LC, MH, DM) for one **Cliff Swallow** at YC. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were widespread with numerous reports this season (m.ob.). Last **House Wren** and the first **Winter Wren** were sighted 10/3 (MH, RH, JT) at BS. Another **Winter Wren** was listed at YC 10/31 (BC). A **Marsh Wren** was a good find at YC 8/14 (LC, TG, MH, DM, RN, KT). A **Bewick's Wren** was reported near Jacksonville 8/30 (BM) with details. Last **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was found at YC 9/11 (LC, TG, MH, RN, KT). First migrant **Golden-crowned Kinglet** arrived near SH 9/28 (MH). BS yielded the first **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** 9/22 (LC, DC, SD, MH, RH, EH, DW, RW) and last was near SH 10/23 (MH, RH).

Swainson's Thrushes were found in the county between 9/10 (MH) and 9/20 (RH). A **Hermit Thrush** was spotted at YC 8/7 (AL). The last reported **Wood Thrush** was at YC 9/17 (BC). YC produced the last 2 **Gray Catbirds** 10/9 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL, DM) and the last **Brown Thrasher** 10/2 (TG, MH, RH, ML). **American Pipits** visited YC between 10/9 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL, DM) and 11/20 (LC, TG, MH, AM) with high count of 35 on 10/23 (LC, TG, MH, RH, KT).

BS yielded the last **Ovenbird** 9/15 (LC, MH, RH, DM, KT, JT, RW). A rather late **Louisiana Waterthrush** was found at YC 8/13 (BC). Last **Northern Waterthrush** appeared at YC 9/17 (BC). BS produced the last **Blue-winged Warbler** 9/22 (LC, DC, SD, MH, RH, EH, DW, RW). Last date for **Black-and-white Warbler** was 9/11 at YC (LC, TG, MH, RN, KT). Two **Tennessee Warblers** lingered 10/3 (MH, RH, JT) at BS where the last **Nashville** appeared 9/10 (MH). Blacklick Valley Natural Area yielded the last **Common Yellowthroat** 10/6 (LC, TG, MH, RH). Last **Hooded Warbler** was observed at BS 10/3 (MH, RH, JT), and a yard near SH produced the last **American Redstart** 9/26 (MH). A **Kirtland's Warbler** made a brief stop in a silver maple in a yard near SH 9/3 (MH). **Cape May Warblers** moved through the county between 8/21 (LC, TG, MH, ML, MVT) and 10/3 (MH, RH, JT) when 5 were counted at BS. Last **Northern Parula** was at YC 9/16 (ST) and the last **Magnolia Warbler** was at BS 10/3 (MH, RH, JT). **Bay-breasted Warbler** reports, all at BS, included 3 on 9/10 (MH), 2 on 9/15 (LC, MH, RH, DM, KT, JT, RW), and one 9/22 (LC, DC, SD, MH, RH, EH, DW, RW). Last **Blackburnian Warbler** was noted 9/17 (BC) at YC and the last **Yellow Warbler** was found at IUP 8/21 (JT). A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** lingered near SH 9/27 (MH). BS harbored at least 22 **Blackpoll Warblers** and the season's last **Black-throated Blue Warbler** 10/3 (MH, RH, JT). **Palm Warblers** passed through the county between 9/14 (MH) and 10/11 (MH, RH), when the last was spotted near SH. Last **Pine Warblers** were 3 at YC 10/2 (TG, MH, RH, ML) and one near SH 10/10 (MH, RH). A **Yellow-rumped Warbler** lingered at YC 11/6 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT). A yard near SH yielded the last **Prairie Warbler** 9/12 (MH) and the last **Black-throated Green Warbler** 10/4 (MH). BS produced 2 **Wilson's Warblers** 9/15 (LC, MH, RH, DM, KT, JT, RW) and one a week later on 9/22 (LC, DC, SD, MH, RH, EH, DW, RW).

The last 2 **Eastern Towhees** were listed at YC 11/6 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT). Arrival date for **American Tree Sparrows** was 11/3 (3RBC, TBC) at YC. A late **Chipping Sparrow** was on the IUP campus 11/10 (JT). The first **Fox Sparrows** appeared 10/31 including one each near SH (MH, RH) and at YC (BC); last noted was one at YC 11/6 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT). Only two **Lincoln's Sparrows** were reported, both at YC, one on 9/17 (BC) and the other 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT). **White-throated Sparrows** arrived at YC 10/2 (TG, MH, RH, ML) and the first 3 **White-crowned Sparrows** were sighted near LV 10/13 (MC). **Dark-eyed Junco** first appeared near SH 10/10 (MH, RH). The IUP campus yielded the last **Scarlet Tanager** 9/28 (JT). The last **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** and **Indigo Bunting** both lingered near SH 9/26 (MH).

Rusty Blackbirds moved through YC between 9/30 (LC) and 11/6 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, KT) with the best count of 42 on 11/1 (GL). Last **Common Grackles** were 90 near SH 11/14 (MH, RH). A single **Brown-headed Cowbird** 8/5 (JT) at IUP was the last one reported. An **Orchard Oriole** remained at YC through 8/13 (BC). While most **Baltimore Orioles** had departed the county by 8/28 (TG), a female appeared at a feeder near Indiana 11/29 (DJ) where it remained into December.

Two **Red Crossbills** flew over a yard near SH calling on 9/12 (MH).

Thirteen **White-winged Crossbills** were spotted at YC 11/13 (TG, MH, RN). Three **Pine Siskins** first appeared near LV 9/15 (MC); by 10/21 (MH, RH) 37 were present near SH where numbers continued to build until 11/1 (MH) when 87 were counted; by 11/28 (MH, RH) the flock had dwindled to a mere 2. **Evening Grosbeak** reports included 3 on 10/31 (MH, RH) and 8 on 11/1 (MH) near SH; one on 11/3-4 (AB, DB) at Nolo; and 2 on 11/5 (MC) and one 11/6 (MC) at LV.

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Jefferson County

Locations: Clarion River (CR), Cloe Lake (CL), Falls Creek (FC), SGL 54 (G54), Kramer Road (KR), Mahoning Shadow Trail (MS), Punxsutawney (PX), Ringgold (RG), Sandy Ridge Road (SR), Summersville (SM).

Fifty **Tundra Swans** were seen flying high over the MS 11/24 (TF). A lone **Wood Duck** was found on the MS 8/15 (TG). One **Lesser Scaup** was last reported on CL 11/4 (TS), and the last **Common Merganser** was on the CL 8/26 (TG). One **Ruddy Duck** and 2 **Pied-billed Grebes** were both on CL 11/10 (AK). The last **Green Heron** was found on the CR 8/11 (ST). The highlight for this period in *Jefferson* was a second-year **Yellow-crowned Night-heron** foraging on crayfish along the CR. The bird was first noted in July, and last reported 8/26 (TG, GM).

The last reported **Turkey Vulture** was over RG 9/30 (AK). The resident female **Bald Eagle** was last seen near the nest tree on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM). The last **Killdeer** for the period was found on KR 11/4 (TS). A lone **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was on the MS 8/26 (TG), and a **Black-billed Cuckoo** was noted on the MS 8/15 (TG). A **Chimney Swift** was last seen over PX 8/24 (TG), and the last **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was in RG 9/30 (AK).

An **Eastern Wood-Pewee** was last found on the CR 8/26 (TG). The last reported **Eastern Phoebe** was in RG 9/16 (AK), and a **Great Crested Flycatcher** was on KR 9/10 (TS). The last **Blue-headed Vireo** was on KR 8/21 (TS), and a **Red-eyed Vireo** was on the MS 9/20 (TG, FM, JM, JT, MV). The last **Common Raven** was found on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM). A **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was in RG 11/10 (AK). The last noted **Veery** was located on KR 8/18 (TS). Two **Hermit Thrushes** were seen on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM), and the last **Wood Thrush** was on the MS 9/29 (TG, FM, JM, JT, MV).

The fall warbler migration included 4 **Black-and-white Warblers** on RG 8/13 (AK). The last **Common Yellowthroat**, **American Redstart**, **Magnolia Warbler**, and **Black-throated Blue Warbler** were all found on the MS 9/29 (TG, FM, JM, JT, MV). Three **Blackburnian Warblers** were in RG on 9/16 (AK), and the last **Pine** and **Black-throated Green Warblers** were both in G54 on 8/2 (TJ). The last **Yellow-rumped Warbler** for the period was on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM).

The last **Eastern Towhee** was on the MS 9/29 (TG, FM, JM, JT, MV). The first **American Tree Sparrow** was noted on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM). The latest **Chipping Sparrow** was found in RG 10/27 (AK). Two **Henslow's Sparrow** was last seen and heard on SR 8/10 (EF, TF, TG). First **Fox Sparrow** was on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM), and the last **Swamp Sparrow** was seen and heard on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM). First **White-throated Sparrow** was located on the MS 11/22 (TF).

Six **Scarlet Tanagers** were seen in SM 8/27 (JK). A **Blue Grosbeak** and an **Indigo Bunting** were both found in G54 on 8/2 (TJ). The last reported **Red-winged Blackbird** was in RG (AK), and a lone **Rusty Blackbird** was on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM). Twelve **Red** and 20 **White-winged Crossbills** were reported in FC 11/25 (MW). A **Pine Siskin** was also found on the MS 11/10 (TG, MH, RH, DM). The first **Evening Grosbeak** was on KR 11/4 (TS).

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Juniata County

No report.

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Lackawanna County

No report.

Compiler: **Jeff Greco, 3116 Township Woods Road, East Greenville, PA 18041, (484) 941-2667, jeef20@grecfamily.org.**

Lancaster County

Locations: Conewago Trail Wetlands (CTW), Lancaster County Solid Waste Management (LCSWM), Middlecreek WMA (MC), Octoraro Reservoir (OR), Susquehanna River (SR), Susquehanna River at the Conejohela Flats (SRCF), Susquehanna River at Long Level (SRL), Susquehanna River at Peach Bottom (SRPB), Wood's Edge Park (WE).

This fall was quite exciting to say the least. Birding was excellent during the passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30. The **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks** reported at MC last season were found to be escapees from a private collector in Newmanstown (BC). **Greater White-fronted Geese** made their appearance starting 11/11 with one at WE (SS, ME, ML). **Brant** were seen in very high numbers, thanks to Hurricane Sandy. On October 30, over 600 were seen on the SR (ME, GD, BS, TA, JBo, EW). The last one reported for the season, was 11/30 at LCSWMA landfill (ML). All three species of scoters were seen on the SR 10/30 (EW). **Black Scoters** arrived with Hurricane Sandy, and hung around for a few days. The high count was 30 on the SR 10/30 between SRL and Washington Borough (EW). **Long-tailed Duck** barely made it in for the season, with one at Lake Clarke 11/30 (ME). **Red-breasted Merganser** made an early appearance 9/2 at the SRCF (ME, BS, BC, DHc, CC). **Red-necked Grebe** also made an early appearance, with one on the SRCF 10/27 (BS, DHc).

The passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30 made for such an exciting day, but certainly the top birds were 2 **Leach's Storm Petrels** (GD, ME, BS, TA) and a **Wilson's Storm Petrel** (JBo) were seen on the SR. What great finds!

A **Great Cormorant** was seen flying upriver at SRPB 11/4 (BS). **American Bittern** and **Least Bittern** were both reported 9/27 on the SRCF (ME, DHc, CC). **Great Egrets** are not uncommon here, but this year there were two notable individuals. One was missing its right foot, and part of its right leg, and the other appeared to be oiled. They both seemed to be doing alright, even with their handicap, an amazing testament to the adaptability of these birds. A late **Snowy Egret** was reported on the SR 11/1 at Rte. 441 and Rte. 999 (CC), likely brought here by Hurricane Sandy. Several **Little Blue Herons** were reported, with the first 8/2 on the SRCF (DM). An interesting encounter with a **Green Heron** happened 8/12 when a **Peregrine Falcon** was seen making repeated dives at one floating on the water at the SRCF (ME). After the falcon gave up, it was noted that the heron seemed to be in trouble. ME paddled out to the bird, and brought it to a safe spot, and later the bird was gone, presumably having flown off (ME). The **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** was seen again at the Alcoa Marsh 8/1 (GD). A **White Ibis** was seen on the SR 8/19 below the Lock Haven Dam (DC). It was thought to be a different bird, then the one seen earlier. One was seen again, September 2, on the SRCF (ME, BS, BC, DHc, CC).

Raptors did not make a big showing this season. A late **Osprey** was seen 10/30 on the SR (EW). An immature or female **Northern Harrier** was seen on Meetinghouse Road in Salisbury Township 8/31 (PF). A total of 91 **Broad-winged Hawks** were seen migrating at Dead End Road 9/12 (CC).

A **Sora** was discovered on the SR, at Bainbridge (ME, DHc, CC). There were only two reports of **Sandhill Crane**. One was seen at MC 11/25 (ME); possibly same bird was over the Elizabethtown area.

Black-bellied Plover and **America Golden Plover** were seen until 10/30 on the SR (EW). **American Avocets** once again put in an appearance, with one 8/6 on the SR (AM) and 6 at the SRCF 9/25 (CC, DH, DHc, AM). On 8/26, 15 **Hudsonian Godwits** were seen on the SRCF (ME, GD), and one was there 9/12 (ME, CC). A late **White-rumped Sandpiper** was seen 10/28 on the SR (EW). An amazing 400 **Dunlin** were seen 10/30 on the SR (EW). Two **Short-billed Dowitchers** were seen on the SRCF (ME, BS, BC, DHc, CC). An **American Woodcock** was seen on the SR 10/28 (EW). **Red Phalaropes** graced the county with their presence, thanks to Hurricane Sandy. A high count of 23 was at SRPB 10/30 (BS, TA).

A **Bonaparte's Gull** was on the SRCF 8/16 (CC, ME). Highlight among gulls was a first winter **Franklin's Gull** on the SRCF 9/23 (CC, DHc, ME). A **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was seen 10/27 on the SRCF (BS,

DHc). Eight **Caspian Terns** were on the SRCF 10/7 (BS, ME), a bit late for them. A high count of 250 **Forster's Terns** was had 10/30 at SRPB, (BS, TA). Also 10/30, a **Black Skimmer** was discovered on the SR (EW). This bird hung around for a few days, giving many birders the chance to see it. It was last reported 11/4 (DC, TB, GD, DW, PW). Both **Pomarine** and **Parasitic Jaegers** were reported during the hurricane's passage: 8 **Pomarine Jaegers** were on the SRPB 10/30 (BS, TA), and a probable **Parasitic Jaeger** was seen at MC 10/31 (DSc, SSc).

A **Rufous Hummingbird** showed up 9/29 in Ephrata (EW). A **Merlin** was seen at Reservoir Road, in the Welsh Mountains 8/11 (SS).

Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen 8/19 at SGL 156 (AH). The next day 2 were seen in the same area (CC). OR provided a **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** 8/24 (CC). That same day, a **Philadelphia Vireo** was also at OR (CC). One was seen again at Dead End Road 9/12 (CC, ME). A **Cave Swallow** was seen on the SR at Wrightsville 11/1 (ME). The first **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was reported 9/4, on the SRCF (TB, DM) A total of 8 **Marsh Wrens** were seen 9/27 at the SR at Bainbridge (ME, DHc, CC). The next day, one was seen at the SRCF (ME). They hung around until 10/15 when one was at Bainbridge (DH).

A late **Northern Waterthrush** was on the SRCF 9/25 (AM). On 9/11, a **Golden-winged Warbler** was in a yard in Denver (LG). On the same day, a **Connecticut Warbler** was seen on SGL 156, near Dead End Road (BC). The only report of **Orange-crowned Warbler** for the season was at WE 11/11 (ME). A **Mourning Warbler** was at the Masonic Village 9/23 (GD).

Nelson's Sparrows made their appearance on the SR at Bainbridge 9/26 (EW); last report was 4 at Bainbridge 10/15 (DH). A few winter finches were welcome visitors to the county. Three **Red Crossbills** were observed in a yard in Lancaster 11/24 (GG). Two **Common Redpolls** were seen at WE 11/14 (CC). **Pine Siskins** were first reported 9/30, with 8 at a yard in Gap (CC); 20 were seen 10/15 at a yard in Fivepointville (KL).

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Lawrence County

Locations: Three Rivers Gravel Pond (TR), New Beaver (NB), Black Swamp (BS), Plain Grove (PG), New Wilmington (NW), Volant Strips (VS).

Up to 225 **Ring-necked Ducks** were at TR 11/2-3 (MV, TJ). A group of 3 **Canvasbacks** was observed at TR 11/2 (MV), and 2 **White-winged Scoters** were at TR 11/11 (BS). The **Little Blue Heron** found at the end of July (RN) at NB continued to at least 8/26 (GM). **Rough-legged Hawks** were again observed this fall at various locations. Up to 6 **Common Gallinule** were seen at a pond in NB throughout Aug (MV, et al.). A **Baird's Sandpiper** was at the same spot 9/8-9 (MV, ST). The VS continue as one of the most reliable locations for **Short-eared Owls** in the county. A **Merlin** was observed at the Amish farms in NW (CD). An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was seen near NW 9/23 (ST). A highlight of the fall for Lawrence was a large flock of 50 **Lapland Longspurs** in PG 11/25, along with one **Snow Bunting** and 75 **Horned Larks** (MV). Seventy longspurs were counted 11/27 (CD, BC, RG). A **Nelson's Sparrow** was found at BS 9/23 (ST), and probably a different Nelson's was there 10/14 (ST).

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Lebanon County

Locations: Fort Indiantown Gap (FIG), Kreider Farm Pond on Mt Pleasant Rd (KP), Memorial Lake State Park (MLSP), Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area (MC), Mt Pleasant Rd (MPR), Pine Road (PR), Quittapahilla Educational Wetlands Preserve (QEW), Reistville and Prescott Road Ponds (RPP), Second Mountain Hawkwatch (2Mtn), Shuey Lake (SL), Swatara State Park (SSP).

A hybrid goose, possibly a **Greater White-fronted x Canada**, was photographed at SL 11/21 (JD). Eight **Brant** were among a host of great storm birds seeking shelter at MLSP 10/30 (KB, TB, BW). A small flock of **Brant** were reported over 2Mtn 10/28, and two small flocks 11/4 (FW, et al.).

Three **Cackling Geese** were found with 2000 **Canada Geese** at dawn at MLSP 11/24 (AK). A single **Cackling Goose** was at MLSP 11/28 (JD).

Fifty-two **Northern Shovelers** was an excellent count at MC 9/15 (RCM). A pair of **Redheads** set a new county early date at MLSP 11/30 (RCM). **Greater Scaup** are not easy to find in *Lebanon* most years, but were regular at MLSP this fall. Beginning with a pair seen there 10/27 (TB, JD), they were reported in small numbers, with a final report of 3 providing a new late date at MLSP 11/27 (DM). Even more unusual in the county are scoters of any species. A female **Surf Scoter** provided a sixth county record at RPP 11/4 (SS). *Lebanon* also acquired fifth, sixth, and seventh county records for **Black Scoter**, all at MLSP, with a single female 10/27 (TB, JD), a photogenic male 10/30 (JD, TB), and two pairs 10/31 for a new county late date (RCM, BW, JHo). Seven fairly early **Common Mergansers** were found at MLSP 11/4 (RS, RCM). **Ruddy Ducks** began building at MLSP with 10 reported 10/1 (RCM), and an estimated 100 there 10/10 (TB).

A rare fall **Red-throated Loon** put in a brief appearance at MLSP 11/27 (TB). A total of 73 high-flying loons, likely **Common Loons**, were observed passing over 2Mtn 11/2 (LC, RCM, et al.). This included a single flock of 53 Loons. Single **Common Loons** were observed at MLSP 8/11 (DGe), 8/19 (TB), and during Hurricane Sandy 10/30 (TB).

S.A.

The days immediately before, during, and after Hurricane Sandy brought many exciting birds to the county. Perhaps most notable were the grebes at MLSP. For a period of nine days, from 11/4-12, five grebe species could be seen there. These included multiple **Pied-billed Grebes**, a **Horned Grebe**, **Red-necked Grebe**, **Eared Grebe**, and **Western Grebe**. Many birders traveled to the area to enjoy this spectacle. The **Red-necked Grebe** first observed 10/31 (RCM, BW, JHo) is likely the same bird seen again 11/4 (JD, TB, m.ob.), and remaining through 11/19 (DB). An **Eared Grebe** found 10/28 (JD) remained through the period 11/30 (RCM). The most exciting member of the quintet was a second state record **Western Grebe** found 11/4 (LCa), and last observed 11/16 (GB). Not surprisingly the **Western Grebe** also provided a first county record. Another great storm bird was a **Leach's Storm-Petrel** found resting on the surface of MLSP 10/30 (KB, TB, BW, DM, JD). A second **storm-petrel** of undetermined species was observed flying at MLSP 10/30 (KB, TB). The **Leach's Storm-Petrel**, representing a first county record, apparently departed overnight.

Forty-one **Double-crested Cormorants** passed over 2Mtn 10/6 (DS, et al.). Eleven **Great Egrets** were found at MC 9/1 (RCM). Three possible juvenile **White Ibis** were seen at 2Mtn 9/16 (FW, et al.).

An hour-long wave of 201 **Turkey Vultures** passed 2Mtn 10/12 (LC, DM, RCM). A pair of **Bald Eagles**, first noticed in the vicinity of a large stick nest in mid-October when the leaves fell, was reported at PR 11/16 (BC, TC). The pair was observed there regularly, sometimes positioning sticks in the nest. This is a first record of nesting **Bald Eagles** for *Lebanon*. Two **Northern Harriers** were noted at MPR 11/1 (PW, RW). Second Mountain Hawkwatch established two new records for the season. As of the end of Nov there were 15,255 raptors tallied. With a month remaining, that still surpassed the previous total raptor count of 14,063 in 2011. A total of 8493 **Broad-winged Hawks** topped the previous record of 8076 in 2002. On 9/14, 2621 **Broad-winged Hawks** migrated through, with 1500 during a one hour period (LC, m.ob.). Forty-three **Broad-winged Hawks** were seen in small kettles at SGL 145 on 9/19 (RCM). Sixteen **Golden Eagles** highlighted a great day at 2Mtn 11/3 (LC, DS, m.ob.). A **Merlin** observed at SGL 145 established a new county early date 8/3 (SH, m.ob.). A **Merlin** was harassing a **Sharp-shinned Hawk** over a half-hour period SGL 80 on 9/17 (TB). **Merlins** were also seen at SGL 211 on 9/20 (TB), SGL 145 on 9/27 (EC), MPR 10/4 (CB), and MLSP 11/4 (AM, PW, RW). A **Peregrine Falcon** was flushing shorebirds MPR 11/1-2 (RCM, JD, DM, TB, PW, RW).

A juvenile **Sora** flushed from the shoreline at QEW on a new late date 10/2 (JD, TB). The **American Coot** flock began assembling fairly early at MLSP, with a single bird reported 9/14 (SB), and building to a new county high of 144 on 11/6 (EB). Ten **Sandhill Cranes** flying over the Mt. Gretna home of EH provided a new county high count 9/17.

Shorebirds were a challenge this fall, with standing corn obscuring the view of KP, the county's best location. Many good species were found in a low field prone to flooding along MPR, but the extreme range made identification difficult at times. Two **Black-bellied Plovers** at MPR 11/1 (TB, RCM, JD, DM) were joined by a third 11/2 (RCM), providing a new county late date. Twenty **American Golden-Plovers** landed in the corn stubble MPR 9/29 (TB). Four **American Golden-plovers** were there 10/4 (CB), and two 11/1 (PW, RW). Five **Semipalmated Plovers** came into MPR 10/4

(CB). Twenty-nine **Greater Yellowlegs** were a good count at MPR 10/3 (CB), as were 15 **Lesser Yellowlegs** at MPR 10/2 (TB, JD). An amazing storm fallout of 400 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** represented a new high count at MPR 10/30 (TB). Two were found for a new late date 11/1 (RCM, DM). As part of the residual storm fallout, 50 **Western Sandpipers** were found, providing a new county high count at MPR 11/1 (TB). Two were found later the same day for a new late date MPR 11/1 (RCM, JD, DM). The only **Baird's Sandpiper** of the season was found at KP 8/4 (RCM). A good count of 8 **Pectoral Sandpipers** was found at MPR 10/3 (CB). Seven **Dunlin** were reported at MPR 11/1 (PW, RW) and four Dunlin were at MPR 11/8 (TB). Two **Stilt Sandpipers** were the lone report, at MPR 10/20 (CB, RCM). Two **dowitchers** of uncertain species were at KP 8/4 (CB). A **Wilson's Snipe** provided a rare Oct record at MPR 10/3 (CB, RCM). An **American Woodcock** flushed from the shore of MLSP and started the observer as he was watching gulls at sunset 11/1 (TB).

Large numbers of **Ring-billed** and **Herring Gulls** come to roost at MLSP in the evenings this season. Small numbers of **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** could often be found within the flock. **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were reported at MLSP with 2 there 10/30 (TB), and continuing through the period with two 11/30 (RCM). Five **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were observed roosting within the gull flock 11/6 (JH). Three **Great Black-backed Gulls** were soaring in a kettle with three **Black Vultures** at 2Mtn 11/22 (DS). A pale juvenile **Iceland Gull** was a fairly early find at MLSP 11/14 (RCM, MaC, DR, MM). Three **Caspian Terns** were observed at MLSP 9/3 (DM). Two **Common Terns** were found and photographed at MLSP 9/18 (TB, JD), providing an eighth county record. Hurricane Sandy provided a ninth county record **Common Tern**, in the company of two **Forster's Terns** at MLSP 10/30 (TB). The **Forster's Terns** provided a new county late date.

A **Eurasian Collared-Dove** was sighted twice during the quarter in the general area of Fontana, along US route 322, on 8/4 (TJ) and 10/28 (JH). An **Eastern Screech-Owl** was calling at SGL 145 on 8/30 (TB), and a **Barred Owl** was observed at SGL 211 on 9/7 (BR). A **Common Nighthawk** was seen in Grantville 8/30 (TB), and also 2Mtn 9/16 (FW, et al.). **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** persisted at two locations into early Oct; at a feeder in Grantville until 10/4 (KB, TB), and at a home in Palmyra through 10/10 (MaC). Twelve **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were tallied at 2Mtn 8/31 (LC, et al.). Two **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were seen in the Richland area 8/15 (CS). **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were also noted on at least two occasions from 2Mtn 8/27 (RB, RP) and 9/8 (DS, et al.). An amazing movement of 50 **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** was observed at 2Mtn 10/5 (LC, RCM, et al.).

Olive-sided Flycatchers were seen at SGL 145, with two found along Biddle Rd 8/27 (CB), and one at Epler Rd 8/31 (EH, SH, CB, et al.). **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were observed in three locations; one singing at SGL 145 on 8/29 (CB, RCM), at SSP 9/7 (DM), and near Palmyra 9/13 (TB). A singing **Willow Flycatcher** was reported at 2Mtn 9/12 (SZ, RZ). **Yellow-throated Vireos** were found several times at SGL 145 (RCM), with two 9/1, one 9/10, and one singing 9/19. **Philadelphia Vireos** were well reported, beginning with two at SGL 145 on 8/27 (CB). Six other reports of **Philadelphia Vireo** included single birds at SGL 145 8/30 (TB) and 9/10 (RCM), single birds at 2Mtn 8/31 and 9/14 (LC, et al.) and one at Spring Hill Acres 9/16 (JH). Two were seen near Palmyra 9/13 (TB).

A tremendous count of 3471 **Blue Jays**, a new county high, passed the dam at MLSP over a three hour period, in a swath estimated to be nearly a half mile wide 9/22 (RCM). Twelve **Common Ravens** were seen in a single flock passing by 2Mtn 11/14 (RCM, DS). Three **Cliff Swallows** were at KP 9/3 (TB). A **Barn Swallow** first seen at KP 11/1 (TB), and again 11/8 (SS) established a new late date. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were very evident in the county, found nearly anywhere with suitable habitat throughout the period. Counts of six were made on two occasions; SGL 211 on 9/5 (TB, JD, DM), and 2Mtn 10/5 (LC, RCM, et al.). Single **Winter Wrens** were reported from four locations; Grantville 10/1 (TB), 2Mtn 10/13 (JD), MLSP 11/10 (IG), and at a beaver dam in SGL 211 on 11/15 (TB). Two were found at SGL 145 on 11/23 (TB). A **Marsh Wren** found in wetlands at FIG provided a fourth county record 9/26 (JD, DM). The cattails at QEW provided a fifth county record **Marsh Wren** 10/19 (TB).

A **Veery** set a new late date 2Mtn 10/23 (GL). Flight calls of least four **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, along with a continuous chorus of **Swainson's Thrush**, were heard before dawn at the crest of Cold Springs Rd, SGL 211 on 9/24 (TB). Seven **Swainson's Thrush** were found at Governor Dick Park 9/11 (RCM). Accidental in late November was a **Brown Thrasher** at SGL 145 on 11/23 (SH, et al.) and 11/30 (SH, RCM, et al.). The fields at MPR hosted five **American Pipits** 10/3 and 58 on 10/9 (CB), and 22 on 11/1 (PW, RW). Twenty-two **American Pipits** were sitting on Hostetter Rd, Bellgrove, after a snow squall 11/27 (TB). A single **American Pipit** was at MLSP 11/16 (DG). During the same three hour count that produced the huge number of **Blue Jays**, 613 **Cedar Waxwings** were also tallied MLSP 9/22 (RCM), representing a new county high. **Snow Buntings** were found

at 2Mtn on several occasions, with two 11/4 (FW, et al.), and singles 11/6 (MC, RCM, HH), 11/24 (LC, RCM). Twelve **Snow Buntings** were at an area of bare ground along Cold Springs Rd FIG 11/7-8 (JD, DM, TB).

A great count of 12 **Tennessee Warblers** were found at SGL 145 on 9/10 (RCM). An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was seen by the Lancaster Wednesday Birding Group MLSP 10/10 (LG, et al.). Single **Nashville Warblers** were observed fairly late at QEW 10/19 (TB) and FIG 10/22 (JD). Three **Cape May Warblers** were a nice find at SGL 211 on 9/5 (TB, JD, DM). A **Yellow-throated Warbler** provided a new late date and eighth county record at 2Mtn 9/11 (RB). A **Bay-breasted Warbler** was seen near Grantville 8/30 (TB). Both a first fall **Mourning Warbler** and **Wilson's Warbler** were on the Boyer tract of SGL 80 on 9/17 (TB). Single **Wilson's Warblers** were also found at SGL 145 9/1 (RCM), 2Mtn 9/14 (LC, m.ob.), and two at MLSP 9/15 (TB). Two **Canada Warblers** were seen along Bidle Rd, SGL 145 8/27 (CB).

The final report of **Grasshopper Sparrow** came from MC 8/8 (AH). **Fox Sparrows** were found at 2Mtn 11/2 (LC, et al.) and 11/6 (MC, RCM, HH), at SSP 11/5 (TB), MLSP 11/12 (WK), and SGL 145 on 11/30 (SH, RCM, et al.). A **Lincoln's Sparrow** was spished from cover at FIG 9/26 (TB, JD, DM). A good count of 42 **Bobolink** was made at MC 9/1 (RCM).

Lebanon birders enjoyed good sightings from the fall finch irruption, with much of the action occurring at 2Mtn. **Purple Finches** were fairly common. The first sighting was a female SGL 211 on 9/5 (TB, JD, DM). Sixteen **Purple Finches** were counted 2Mtn 10/5 (LC, RCM, et al.), and 20 at a feeder in Grantville 10/20 (KB, TB). Two **Red Crossbills** at 2Mtn established a new early date 9/20 (FW, RCM, et al.). Four female **Red Crossbills**, sounding like "type 3", were seen 2Mtn 10/5 (LC, RCM, et al.), and three "type 3" were there 10/22 (TJ, AM, RCM). A new county high count of 27 **Red Crossbills** was established 11/30, with 26 seen at 2Mtn (LC) and one at Mt. Gretna (RCM, EH). The first **White-winged Crossbill** was reported from SGL 211 on 11/11 (ST). Some of the better counts of **White-winged Crossbills** were 16 at 2Mtn 11/16 (LC, DG, TJ), 13 seen MLSP 11/23 (JD), and 14 at Mt. Gretna 11/30 (DSt, et al.). **Common Redpolls** appeared on a new early date, with five seen at 2Mtn 11/16 (LC, DG, TJ). All subsequent **Common Redpoll** sightings were also from 2Mtn, with two seen both 11/23 (LC) and 11/24 (LC, RCM), and one 11/30 (LC). The first **Pine Siskins** were reported 9/29, with one each at MLSP (TJ, MR) and 2Mtn (DS, RCM, m.ob.). They were found in multiple county locations thereafter. The feeder of MaC in Palmyra provided great counts of 50 **Pine Siskins** 10/9, and 60 on 10/15. The first **Evening Grosbeaks** were two at 2Mtn 10/23 (MC, et al.). They continued to be seen at 2Mtn, with one 11/1 (FW, et al.), three 11/6 (RCM, HH), and one 11/24 (LC, RCM). Ten **Evening Grosbeaks** appeared at a feeder near Annville 11/3 (MC).

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Lehigh County

Locations: Bake Oven Knob Hawk Watch (BOK), Dorney Pond (DP), Fogelsville Quarry (FQ), Lehigh Furnace Gap (LFG), Trexler Nature Preserve (TNP), Walking Purchase Park (WPP).

The total number of species reported in *Lehigh* this season was 196, up 12 from last fall thanks to steady, solid contributions from several very good record keepers and eBird users. Notes and totals from the 52nd hawk watching season at Bake Oven Knob were gleaned, in part, from the HMANA Hawk Watching Exchange listserv, as reported by the official BOK counters. Additional BOK reports came from individual observers. According to National Weather Service data, monthly temperatures were nearly in line with the 30-year norm for all months with the exception of November, which was 3.1° F above norm. Compared to fall 2011, which was the wettest

autumn in recent history, this season's rainfall totals were a welcome return to something very close to normal for all months. The passage of Hurricane Sandy through southeastern Pennsylvania late in the day and through the night of 10/29-30 was the stand-out weather event of the season, if not the past 25 years. Although total rainfall from this event was fairly insignificant here, the storm's high winds were devastating in some areas. The "Superstorm" produced many unusual birds across the region, including a few in *Lehigh*.

Greater White-fronted Goose arrived 11/18 (ST), and was seen daily at DP and at nearby Trexler Park. For several years, this bird (or one just like it) has been regular at DP, where it is regularly seen at fairly close range. Only two small flocks of **Snow Goose** were reported, the first from TNP 10/23 (ChH). Up to three **Cackling Geese** were reported from Fogelsville Quarry and DP, beginning 10/23 with a single bird at FQ (FD, m.ob.). Seventeen species of ducks were recorded this fall, with the greatest diversity at FQ. A pair of **American Wigeon** were at DP once again this fall starting 11/18; two others were found at FQ much earlier 10/13 (FD). **Blue-winged Teal** was present 9/13-18 with a max count of 8 at Upper Macungie 9/13 (TW). The only **Northern Shovelers** (2) were at New Tripoli 10/29 (FD). Other less commonly reported ducks were up to 4 **Northern Pintail** 10/24 at New Tripoli (FD), **Greater Scaup** at Heidelberg 11/5 and at FQ 11/18 (BE, FD), max of 17 **Lesser Scaup** at New Tripoli (FD), **Bufflehead** (max 10) 11/24 at North Whitehall (FD), and **Hooded Merganser** (max 20) 11/24 at North Whitehall (FD). Following the passage of Hurricane Sandy, a female **Surf Scoter** was found at Leaser Lake 11/1 (FD) where it spent two days in the company of a few **Ruddy Ducks** on what was essentially a temporarily swollen marshy creek bed (Leaser Lake remained drawn down through the fall). This was the 6th known county record.

Common Loons were recorded migrating over BOK 10/21-11/4, with a max of 31 on 11/2. Away from the mountain, single birds were at quarries in North Whitehall 10/27 and 11/24 (JH, FD). Two **Pied-billed Grebes** arrived 9/1 at North Whitehall (FD). **Great Egret** was last reported 9/16 from TNP, and the last **Green Heron** was at the same location 9/29 (ChH).

Some notable 2012 seasonal totals from the hawk watch at BOK (official weekday counter KR, daily reports compiled by BH) include: **Bald Eagle** (289), **Sharp-shinned Hawk** (3830), **Northern Goshawk** (68), **Broad-winged Hawk** (7123), **Golden Eagle** (162), **American Kestrel** (182), and **Merlin** (106). Bald Eagle had a record-setting day at BOK 9/5 when thirty birds passed the lookout; the first sighting was very late in the morning at 11:25 as the morning fog began to break. The previous seasonal high count (242) for BOK was surpassed 10/21, and by the end of the season, the current high of 289 was set. Away from BOK, Bald Eagle was found at Allentown 8/27, 9/25 and 9/26 (EV, BM). An early **Northern Goshawk** was noted at BOK 9/6 and at LFG 9/14 (BE); the former sighting is a probable early fall date for the county. This year's max goshawk count for BOK (9) occurred 11/5. Twenty-four **Red-shouldered Hawks** passed BOK 11/4. The first **Golden Eagle** of the season was at BOK 9/18, but the real excitement started after the weather system associated with Hurricane Sandy cleared out. From 11/2-5, 111 Golden Eagles were tallied. A new all-time daily max count (39) was set 11/2, but was destined to be very short lived when 42 were counted on the following day. The only Golden Eagle reported away from the hawk watch was 9/26 at TNP (BE).

Shorebird season kicked off 8/6 in Upper Macungie Twp, where **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Semipalmated Sandpiper** and **Least Sandpiper** were observed (TW). As usual, most shorebird reports came from this general area, from typical locations such as the Nestle Way ponds, the Trexletown Pines area, and fields along Schantz Road. At the latter location, a recently graded construction area at the future Ocean Spray plant along Route 100 served as temporarily excellent habitat for some unusual shorebird species. The fun began here when both **Baird's Sandpiper** (2) and **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (4) were discovered around the construction site 9/3 (TW). Baird's remained through 9/14 (max 4), and the last Buff-breasted report came 9/8 (max 5). The birds were fairly cooperative, and attracted many birders to the site, which, in turn, generated many additional reports, including 2 **American Golden-Plover** 9/7 (MS), **Greater Yellowlegs** 9/4, and a max of 4 **Pectoral Sandpiper** starting 9/6, as well as many of the more expected species. A seasonal total of fourteen shorebird species matched that of last year. Some late dates were American Golden-Plover, Greater Yellowlegs (4), and **Dunlin** (15) in Upper Macungie 10/31 (BW). Two **Killdeer** lingered at Lynn Twp to at least 11/25 (FD). A **Laughing Gull** at Schantz Rd 11/2 (MB) was almost certainly driven here by Hurricane Sandy. **Herring Gull** arrived 11/19 at Allentown, and **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was first reported 11/23 at DP and Lake Muhlenberg. The first report of Lesser Black-backed (14) was also the max report (AL).

Predictably, the 2012 season was a very good cyclical migration year for **Northern Saw-whet Owl**. At SGL 205, a banding site operating 10/15-11/4 (SW, coordinator) captured and banded an impressive total of 289 of these owls. Among the captures were 18 owls that had been caught

previously, most from relatively nearby, but others were from places as far flung as Mohonk Mt, New York and Pisgah State Park, New Hampshire (SW). **Common Nighthawk** was present to 9/22 in Allentown (BM), but Eastern Whip-poor-will was missed entirely this season. The final date for **Chimney Swift** was 6 at WPP 10/6 (ES).

Lehigh's sixth and seventh *selasphorus* hummingbirds were welcomed visitors to an Upper Macungie yard this season (AY). The birds were dubbed "Bandy" and "Sandy" by their gracious host, and were drawn to a yard well planted specifically for hummingbirds. Bandy was captured and "band"ed 9/20 (SW); Sandy appeared later, a bit prior to the hurricane of the same name. Bandy was eventually confirmed to be *Lehigh's* fourth **Rufous Hummingbird**, a juvenile female, while Sandy goes down in the record books less specifically as *Lehigh's* seventh hummer of the *selasphorus* genus. Bandy first appeared 9/9 and eluded two attempts to capture her prior to 9/20. Sandy appeared 10/24 and fought over territory with Bandy until 11/28, which was the last day that the two birds were observed. Also of interest: Sandy (or a bird quite like Sandy, but definitely *not* Bandy), was noted and photographed on the property two days after Bandy's banding, and seen again 10/8; the chance that there were more than two different *selasphorus* hummers at this property this season seems quite plausible. *Selasphorus* hummers have now been found in *Lehigh* four years in a row.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker arrived at Haafsville 9/17 (DN). **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was at two locations 9/8: New Tripoli (FD) and TNP (ChH). There were three reports of **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** in the county this fall from 9/1 to 9/19 (ChH, TW, FD), and the only report of **Least Flycatcher** was at BOK 9/6. Two **Eastern Phoebe**s remained at Heidelberg Twp. through 10/25 (PS). Prior to Sandy (the storm, not the hummer...), about thirty **Tree Swallows** were noted at Leaser Lake 10/30 (FD). In Whitehall Twp., 3 **Barn Swallows** 10/14 were notably late (BE). **Winter Wren** arrived 10/8 at TNP (FD). A notable miss this season was Veery. A few late season thrushes were at WPP, where **Gray-cheeked Thrush** remained through 10/20, and **Swainson's Thrush** was found 11/11 (ES). Two **American Pipits** arrived 10/20 at North Whitehall, where the maximum count of 140 was 10/25 (BE). The first **Snow Bunting** was at Alburtis 11/3 (DG), followed by a dozen birds at BOK the following day.

Twenty-seven species of warbler were recorded. A male **Golden-winged Warbler** was a sweet find 9/14 at TNP (FD). The only **Nashville Warbler** was 9/19 near Macungie (BM, PM). At BOK, a **Mourning Warbler** was noted 9/1, again, the only report this season (JH). A few late Oct warblers included **Magnolia Warbler** and **Blackburnian Warbler** 10/25 at Heidelberg Twp (PS), **Palm Warbler** 10/27 at WPP (ES), and **Pine Warbler** 10/28 at Haafsville (DN). A pair of **Blackpoll Warblers** were regular backyard visitors at Slatington from late September to 10/31 (BE), but the late date for the season came a day later in west Allentown (BCM).

A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was well described 11/11 at SGL 205 (FD). There have been few, if any recent county records. **Lincoln's Sparrow** was widely reported this season, present 9/16 to at least 11/6. Along with the first Lincoln's of the fall, **White-crowned Sparrow** and **Dark-eyed Junco** were each first seen at TNP 9/16 (ChH).

Fall 2012 was widely reported to be an excellent year for winter finches across Pennsylvania and the northeastern United States. *Lehigh* had a smattering of interesting reports. **Purple Finch** was observed 8/19-11/17, first reported from BOK (CoH), with a max count of 29 at LFG 9/14 (BE). Crossbills were present but scarce. **Red Crossbill** was along the Blue Mountain at BOK 9/11 and 11/11, and a bit further east at LFG 9/14 (FD, DA, BE). No more than two were reported at any time. **White-winged Crossbill** first appeared 11/4 (6) at BOK (ES), then again 11/14 to 11/15 (max 11) at SGL 205 (BE, FD). **Pine Siskin** seemed to be widely present across the county in good numbers for a while, beginning 10/6 at Emmaus (TW), but disappeared by early November. The max count (35) occurred 11/2 at Leaser Lake (TW), and the final known sighting for the season was 11/7 at Haafsville (DN). A lone male **Evening Grosbeak** was seen briefly at Jordan Creek Park in Whitehall 11/11 (BE).

CORREGENDA: In the previous *Lehigh* report (Pennsylvania Birds Vol. 26, No. 3), a **Great Blue Heron** rookery was stated as being in Upper Macungie Twp, but was actually in Alburtis, Lower Macungie Twp and should not be confused with a recent rookery near Fogelsville Quarry in Upper Macungie. Additionally, the location of the **Monk Parakeet** nest was stated as being in west Allentown, but was actually in the southeast part of the city.

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Luzerne County

Locations: Crystal Lake (CL), Harveys Lake (HL), Kirby Park Natural Area (KPNA), Plymouth Flats (PF), Susquehanna River (SR), City of Wilkes-Barre (WB).

Unlike the extreme weather experienced in the fall of 2011 during Tropical Storm Lee and Hurricane Irene, *Luzerne* enjoyed a fairly normal season until late October. While the northeastern region of Pennsylvania was spared the major catastrophes Hurricane Sandy brought to our coastal neighbors, it was not without the wind, rain, and, of course, those unfortunate few rarities that spawn the pursuit of birders, more than willing to brave the elements, hoping to glimpse a county record.

With birders rushing to see the avian fallout from Sandy, waterfowl reports peaked near the end of Oct and continued steadily into Nov. For *Luzerne*, **American Coots** always seem to herald the much-anticipated arrival of the migrating waterfowl; this year 21 **American Coots** were first reported at HL 10/7 (JS). Following the storm, numerous great finds turned up throughout Luzerne. HL, the largest natural lake in *Luzerne*, was host to the most exciting discoveries. Rarities included one **Red-Throated Loon**, 12 **Brant**, 4 **Surf Scoters**, 2 **White-winged Scoters**, and 4 **American Wigeon** at HL 10/30 (DF, JH, KR, RK). Not uncommon, but definitely a result of the storm for the time of year, 8 **Double-Crested Cormorants** were also observed at HL 10/30 (DF, JH, KR, RK). On the same day, a total of 8 **Black Scoters** showed up at the Ceasetown Reservoir along with a high count of 45 **Ruddy Ducks** (JH, RK). **Ruddy Ducks** seemed to be in high numbers throughout the local lakes and ponds with the highest count of 75 recorded on 11/1 at CL (RK). Always a nice bird to see in our county, 3 **Common Goldeneyes** were reported at HL 10/31 (EJ, RK). The scoters stayed in the area through 11/1 where sightings included an additional **Black Scoter** and up to 8 **Surf Scoters** at HL (RK), and 26 **Surf Scoters** along with 12 **Black Scoters** at CL (RK). **Pied-Billed Grebes** were frequently reported but only 2 **Horned Grebes** were seen at CL 11/1 (RK). Rarely observed in *Luzerne*, one **Red-Necked Grebe** was a welcome sighting at the Huntsville Reservoir 11/7 (RM, RMo). **Great Egrets** were commonly observed along the SR through 9/23 at KPNA (BW).

The **Black Vulture** roost at the North West Area High School remained active throughout most of the fall where about 50 were reported 11/12 (BW). **Bald Eagles** are commonplace for parts of Luzerne but a sighting 10/18 (RM, RMo) in Sweet Valley was unusual. Unfortunately, Northern Goshawk and Northern Harrier went unreported this season. Another disappointment was the lack of sightings of Merlin and American Kestrel. Always reliably seen on the Greater Wyoming Valley Audubon's monthly KPNA walks, **Peregrine Falcon** was observed throughout the season (BW).

A bit of a surprise to see, though no doubt stocked game birds, were 4 **Ring-necked Pheasants** near the Francis E. Walter Dam 11/21 (BL, BLo).

Following last year's dismal season due to the floods, this year's shorebirding proved to be unspectacular as well. Although conditions were much more favorable, stirring up as much as a **Killdeer** proved to be daunting. Yet a few highlights were noted. A **Stilt Sandpiper** was observed wading in the Huntsville Golf Club pond near Hayfield Farm 8/11 (JH). A fairly late **American Woodcock** was spotted 11/1 near CL (RK). After their first-ever appearance in *Luzerne* last fall, an amazing count of 6 **Red Phalaropes** were seen this year in two different locations. On 10/31, 2 **Red Phalaropes** were sighted at Beech Mountain Lake (JD) and 4 were seen the next day on 11/1 at CL (RK). This year's county records were a result of the hurricane. Harveys Lake once again attracted records for the county; both a **Pomarine Jaeger** and **Parasitic Jaeger** decided to take up refuge on HL waters after the storm 10/30 (DF, JH, KR, RK). The **Parasitic Jaeger** was present only briefly; however, a photograph was made and the identity confirmed. The **Pomarine Jaeger** stayed fairly close to shore and gave plenty of time for great viewing. Seldom seen in *Luzerne*, a **Laughing Gull** was reported at HL 11/1 (RK). **Bonaparte's Gull** was also seen at Beech Mountain Lake (2) on 10/31 (JD) and 3 at HL on 11/1 (RK).

Rarely reported, one **Yellow-Billed Cuckoo** was heard calling from a property in Sweet Valley 8/20 (DF, HF). A very early record, and much more common in surrounding counties, a **Short-eared Owl** was reported at the PF 11/2 (KR, RK). The only report of **Common Nighthawks** was 8/22 (JS) when 40 were observed migrating south over Dallas. A nice total of about 50 **Chimney Swifts** was counted on the 9/23 KPNA walk (BW). The KPNA part of WB seems to be great habitat for the **Chimney Swifts** with its many historic buildings providing ample roost sites near the SR. Another first for *Luzerne*, and one that has been anticipated for some time, showed up in early Nov. A residence in Mountain Top and one in Shavertown both hosted female **Rufous Hummingbirds** that were successfully banded and released (m.ob.). A **Red-headed Woodpecker** was reported on Honey Hole Road near Nescopeck 11/10 EH.

Normally, **Horned Larks** are frequently observed in adjacent counties, but they are seldom reported in *Luzerne*. On 11/14, 11 **Horned Larks** (RK) showed up near the *Lehigh* border at the Francis E. Walter Dam. One of the latest records of **Tree Swallows** for the county was made 11/2 when 75 were seen near the PF (KR, RK). This season the county enjoyed a glut of **Red-breasted Nuthatches**. Nearly every person reporting feeder sightings listed the species, and any decent stand of evergreens seemed to have them too. A late **Brown Thrasher** was reported 11/11-12 in Wyoming (JS). Another great find near the Francis E. Walter Dam was a small drift of 7 **Snow Buntings** 11/14 (RK).

Warbler migration dropped off in late Sep. Highlights included a few birds seen during the monthly Audubon KPNA walks, including one **Worm-eating Warbler** 8/26, and 2 **Tennessee Warblers** and one **Canada Warbler** 9/23 (BW). **Cape May Warblers** were seen at a property in Sweet Valley 8/27 (DF) and in Wyoming 9/9 (JS). A **Wilson's Warbler** was sighted in WB 9/25 and a late **Palm Warbler** was also in WB 10/21 (JSt).

Many feeders were busy with winter finch activity this year. **Pine Siskins** were the first to show up 10/8, when 11 were seen at a feeder in Mountain Top (BZ). Siskins were reported at numerous other locations throughout the season. Much sought after in *Luzerne*, **White-winged Crossbills** were seen 11/30 (EJ) near Mount Zion Rd. By far the most commonly reported winter finches were **Common Redpolls**—flocks containing over 100 were not uncommon. The season high was 130+ at Francis E. Walter Dam on 11/14 (RK). The first sighting for the **Evening Grosbeaks** came from a feeder in Sweet Valley on 10/21 (RM, RMo) with a high of 10 seen on 11/3 near HL (AK, CK).

Observers: **David Fisher, 222 North Mountain Road, Sweet Valley, PA 18656, (570) 362-8727, Dave.Fisher11@gmail.com**, Jonathan Debalko, Ellie Harding, Helen Fisher, Sandy Goodwin (SGo), Jim Hoyson, Rick Koval, Ed Johnson, Alison Kocher, Carlton Kocher, Bill Loftus (BL), Becky Loftus (BLo), Robert Moase (RM), Ruth Moase (RMo), Kevin Ripka, Jim Shoemaker, Jeff Stratford (JSt), David Trently, Bob Wasilewski, Bernice Ziniewicz.

Lycoming County

Locations: Cemetery Road, Cogan House Township (CR-CHT), County Conservation District (CCD), Gravel quarry ponds in Montoursville (Quarry Ponds), Old Lycoming Township (OLT), Susquehanna River (SR), Rose Valley Lake (RVL).

As many counties will attest, the fall 2012 season was unlike any in some time. The combination of decent fall migration in September, extraordinary rarities from Hurricane Sandy in October and November, a wave of northern finches (of which *Lycoming* partook modestly), and lingering hummingbirds provided an exciting season.

A single report of **Mute Swan** came from the Susquehanna State Park on the SR 8/3 (NF). A pair of **Wood Ducks** remained through the season at the duck pond in Indian Park, Montoursville, since at least the beginning of Oct (LW). Among the various waterfowl linked to the Hurricane Sandy event (hereafter, Sandy) were **Brant**. From 10/30-31, groups of **Brant** were seen passing by several bodies of water, notably RVL, where about 120 birds passed at 16:00 on 10/30 (DB, SP, DF), and 40 were seen at the Styler Farms along Rte. 15 minutes later (AK). Forty flew by the Quarry Ponds in Montoursville 10/31 (LS, BI, DB). Waterfowl present on RVL prior to the passage of Sandy included 2 **Wood Ducks**, 2 **Gadwall**, 11 **Ring-necked Duck**, 10/13 and 15 on 10/28, and a female **Surf Scoter** from 10/18-31 (NF). Present 10/28 at RVL were 204 **Ruddy Ducks**, 15 **Ring-necked Ducks**, 3 female **Black Scoters**, 3 **White-winged Scoters**, 3 **Common Loons**, and an assortment of other waterfowl (NF, LNF). On 10/29, 4 **Red-throated Loons** and a **Red-necked Grebe** were seen.

In addition to those, species and numbers grew as Sandy passed. At RVL 10/30, 2 **American Wigeon**, 6 **Green-winged Teal**, 3 **Long-necked Ducks**, and 2 **Common Goldeneye** were found (DB, SP, DF). **Ring-necked Duck** numbers increased to 105, and 70 **Bufflehead**, 2 **Surf Scoter** (seen until 11/9) and 5 **Black Scoter** (DB, SP, DF) were also found 10/30. The **Red-throated Loons** continued to 10/30, and three species of grebes were seen on 10/30: 4 **Pied-billed**, 4 **Horned**, and 2 **Red-necked Grebes** (DB, SP). Continuing at RVL 11/1 were 58 **Ring-necked Duck** (down to 4 on 11/9), 40 **Lesser Scaup** (25 on 11/9 and 30 on 11/24), 4 **Black Scoter**, 55 **Bufflehead**, one **Common Goldeneye**, 414 **Ruddy Ducks** (250 on 11/9 and down to 189 on 11/25), one **Red-throated Loon**, 12 **Common Loons**, 9 **Pied-billed Grebe**, and one **Red-necked Grebe** (NF). One **Surf Scoter**, a **Long-tailed Duck**, and 11 **Hooded Mergansers** were present at RVL on 11/9 (NF). At the QP on 10/31, waterfowl present (some of which may not have been particularly storm-related) included 2

Gadwall, 2 **Wood Duck**, 20 **Mallards**, 15 **Green-winged Teal**, and 10 **American Black Ducks** (LS, BI, DB). A **Canvasback** lingered to 11/1 on the SR below the Williamsport dam, along with a **Lesser Scaup** (NF).

A highlight of the passage of Sandy was a **Leach's Storm-Petrel** at RVL 10/30 at about 16:15 (NFre, DF, NF, DB, details, ph.), representing a first county record. It remained until dusk but was not seen 11/1.

The only report of **American Bittern** was at RVL 9/23 (NF). A **Golden Eagle** was seen at the White Deer Ridge hawk watch 11/3 (NF). Three **Bald Eagles** (one adult and 2 immatures) were seen at RVL 10/31. **American Coots** were present at RVL since 9/16, and peaked 11/1 during Hurricane Sandy at 12 birds (NF).

A **Solitary Sandpiper** was seen 8/5, and 2 **Lesser Yellowlegs** and 2 **Least Sandpipers** were noted 8/12 at SGL 252 (NF). A flock of about 150 **Dunlin** flew past RVL 10/30 during the height of Hurricane Sandy, a most unusually large number for a normally uncommon species here.

Five **Bonaparte's Gulls** were seen at RVL (SP, DB, DF) 10/31, and 2 were at QP with one juvenile **Forster's Tern** (DB, LS, BI). A juvenile **Forster's Tern** had been at RVL 9/20 (CS). **Ring-billed Gulls** were seen along the SR and at the Lycoming County Landfill through the period. Another notable highlight of Sandy was a **Pomarine Jaeger**, 10/30 at RVL (SP, details, ph.). This also represented a first county record. First spotted by SP on the water at about 09:00, it (or possibly 2, although never more than 1 at a time) continued through most of the morning, alternately sitting on the lake or circling up into the clouds over the lake, later to be found sitting again on the water. This routine continued until early afternoon, and it was not seen again after about 15:00.

Lycoming also participated in the statewide western hummingbird invasion of fall 2012. An immature female **Rufous Hummingbird** was present from about 10/5 until 10/14 when it was captured and banded along the SR near Muncy (WL).

Blue-headed Vireos were moving south in mid-Oct, with 3 seen along the eastern end of Skyline Drive 10/15 (EC) and 2 at Rider Park 10/16 (DB). A single report of **Fish Crow** came from RVL 10/7 (NF). **Red-breasted Nuthatch** and 4 **Brown Creepers** were at SGL75 on 10/27 (NF). A lone **Snow Bunting** was seen at RVL 11/24 (NF).

Fall warbler migration highlights included a stellar day at Canfield Island 9/25 (JY), with at least 12 species including **Nashville** and **Blackpoll**, but with unusual numbers including approximately 50 **Black-throated Green Warblers**. Through Sep, various warblers were reported at RVL including **Cape May** 9/9, **Bay-breasted** 9/16, **Tennessee** 9/16 and 9/23, **Black-throated Blue** 9/16, **Palm** 9/16, 9/23, and 9/29, and **Wilson's** 9/23 (NF). On 9/29, **Nashville**, **Magnolia**, western **Palm**, 5 **Yellow-rumped**, and **Black-throated Green Warblers**, and an **Ovenbird** were seen at Camp Susque (MB). Notable was the **Connecticut Warbler** at Camp Susque, Trout Run, 9/17 (MB). **Palm Warblers** were reported on several instances, including 2 at OLT 10/8 (DF), and 2 western **Palms** on Canfield Island 9/30 (NF).

A **White-crowned Sparrow** was seen in OLT 9/30 and nice count of 20 was made there 10/8 (DF). Five **Savannah Sparrows** and 2 **White-crowned Sparrows** were seen in SGL 75 on 10/27 (NF), and a **Lincoln's Sparrow** was seen on Canfield Island 9/30 (NF).

The wide-ranging movement of crossbills this fall reached *Lycoming* as well. Two **Red Crossbills** were heard flying over Jersey Shore 11/19 (NF). A single **White-winged Crossbill** was heard on 11/16 at RVL, and one was seen on a spruce in Cogan House on 11/24 (SP). **Pine Siskins** were seen widely and in good numbers in early Oct, with a count of 27 at feeding stations in Picture Rocks 10/3 (WE), about 50 in OLT 10/27 (DF), and about 200 at RVL in the midst of the hurricane 10/30 (SP). They lingered until at least 11/3 in Williamsport, but then became scarce. A sign of things to come later in the winter was the 18 **Common Redpolls** at RVL 11/18 (NF). Three female **Evening Grosbeaks** were at a feeder in Warrensville 10/24, and one male and 2 females were near Williamsport 10/30 (SP). A single **Evening Grosbeak** was seen flying over RVL 11/16 (NF).

Observers: **Dan Brauning, 1920 Inverness Rd, Montoursville, PA 17754, (570) 433-0309, dan@thebraunings.com**, Margaret Brittingham, Ed Clark, Wes Egli, Dave Ferry, Norwood Frederick (NFre), Nate Fronk, Carol & Charles Hildebrand, Bonnie Ingram, Andy Keister, Gary Metzger, Steve Pinkerton, Lauri Shaffer, Linda Ward, Joe Yoder.

McKean County

No report.

Compiler: **John Fedak, 26 Race Street, Bradford, PA 16701, (814) 362-1052, (814) 366-2500, jlfedak@atlanticbb.net**.

Mercer County

Locations: Lake Wilhelm (LW), Mahaney Recreation Area (MRA), Sandy Lake (SL), Shenango R. Res (SRR), Williamson Rd (WR).

It was an exciting fall season for *Mercer*. Although no rarities were seen during the passage of Hurricane Sandy, a new species was added to the county list, and several notable waterfowl were found during and immediately after the storm. Moderate drought conditions persisted through Oct, exposing open mudflats at SRR where an impressive 23 species of shorebirds were found. Frontal systems grounded avian migrants 9/5 and 9/27-28 in exceptional numbers, and the period finished up with winter finches moving through in Nov, including some that were found at an unusual location. A total of 210 species were reported for this season.

Nine **Brant** were found at LW 10/30 during the passage of Hurricane Sandy, representing the first record for Mercer (NT), and 12 **Cackling Goose** were found there 11/28, possibly the highest number ever seen in the county (NT, SS). A major movement of **Tundra Swan** passed through the county 11/14, almost a week later than normal (NT). **Blue-winged Teal** first appeared at SRR 8/18, **Northern Shoveler** 9/10, and a male **Northern Pintail** was found on a farm pond along East Zahnizer Road 11/28 (NT, SS). Three immature **Surf Scoters** were found on SL 11/27 (MG), and were still there 11/28 (NT, SS). During the passage of Hurricane Sandy, 4 **White-winged Scoters** were found on LW 10/31 (NT, SS). One **Black Scoter** was on SL 10/30 and 9 were found on LW 10/31 (NT, SS). Three **Red-throated Loons** were found on LW 11/6 (BD, SS). In the past few years this species has been found in small numbers at LW every fall.

Great Egret remained at SRR until 10/3. A **Black-crowned Night Heron** was heard at the Shenango Wildlife Area 8/3 (SS) and a juvenile was found at SRR along West River Road 8/26 (GM).

A juvenile **Northern Goshawk** was found at MRA 11/11 flying from an open wooded area into dense pines (NT). Up to 40 **Broad-winged Hawk** observed in flight over WR 9/23, was one of the few fall sightings of this species for the county (ST). **Merlins** were found at SRR 9/7-10/8 (m.ob.), and several **Peregrine Falcons** frequented the SRR area from Aug through Oct, possibly feeding on the shorebirds at the reservoir (m.ob.).

A **Virginia Rail** was heard at Pennsy Swamp 10/3 (NT) and a **Sora** was flushed from knee-high grass at SRR 8/28 (NT). **Sandhill Crane** continued at Rattlesnake Swamp until at least 10/3 (NT).

As noted earlier, this fall was one of the best years for shorebirds at SRR since the late 1990s. All of the following shorebird sightings were from SRR. Single **Black-bellied Plovers** were found 8/28-9/20, **American Golden Plover** 8/26-10/3 with a high of 4 on 9/22 (GM). **Killdeer** remained until 11/11, and **Semipalmated Plover** until 10/6, with a high of 35 on 8/26 (GM). The last **Greater Yellowlegs** was seen 10/31 at LW. **Lesser Yellowlegs** were found until 9/26 with a high of 17 on 8/17 (GM), **Solitary Sandpiper** were found through 9/2 with a high of 29 on 8/3, and **Spotted Sandpiper** were seen through 9/26. One **Whimbrel** was briefly seen in flight 8/3, after being flushed by a passing **Bald Eagle** (GM) and **Sanderlings** were found 8/3-9/21 with no more than 3 at any time. All five peeps were seen: **Semipalmated Sandpiper** through 9/26 with 61 on 8/28 (GM), one **Western Sandpiper** was found at West River Road 8/17 (GM), **Least Sandpiper** were seen through 9/26 with 153 on 8/17 (GM), single **White-rumped Sandpipers** were found 8/17 and 8/28 (GM), and **Baird's Sandpiper** was present 8/11-9/27, with 7 on 9/3 (GM). **Dunlin** first appeared 10/14, and 6 were seen 10/31 (SS). With the exception of **Killdeer**, **Pectoral Sandpipers** were probably the most numerous shorebird most days in Aug. A high of 111 were found 8/3 (GM) and continued to be seen through 9/26 (NT). **Stilt Sandpipers** were present 8/17-9/3, **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** was present 8/28-9/26 with 3 on 9/3, and **Short-billed Dowitcher** was present until 8/26. The highlights of the season were one juvenile **Wilson's Phalarope** found 8/17 (GM) with possibly the same bird continuing 8/19 (BV, SD), and one juvenile **Red-necked Phalarope** seen briefly before a strong storm 8/21 (GM).

An early juvenile **Bonaparte's Gull** was at SRR 8/17 (GM) and an amazing 5 **Franklin's Gulls**, all first winter birds, were there 9/22 (SS, ph. GM). The sighting represented the second record for *Mercer*. **Caspian Tern** remained at SRR through 9/5, **Common Tern** 9/5-9/22 with 6 on 9/15 (GM, NT, SS). Two **Common Nighthawks** 8/31 were the only ones reported for the season, which was unusual (ST).

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** continued the Golden Run Wildlife Area at SRR 8/29-9/5 (m.ob.) and single **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were seen 8/26-9/20 at various locations in the county. **Philadelphia Vireo** were seen 9/7-9/19 at Skunk Run Rd (NT). A leucistic **Bank Swallow** was at SRR 9/22-24 (ph. GM, NT, SS), and a late **Barn Swallow** was found there 10/3 (NT). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** appeared 8/29 at WR and were found at MRA through the end of the period with a high of 8 there 11/11 (NT). Six **American Pipits** were at SRR 9/11 and were still seen at Holmes Rd. 11/30

(NT). A **Lapland Longspur** was seen 11/10 along WR and a **Snow Bunting** was heard 11/4 along E. Zahnizer Road (NT).

Warblers made a good showing with 29 species reported. Unless otherwise noted all sightings were by NT. Two **Prothonotary Warblers** were found at SRR 8/18 and **Orange-crowned Warblers** were seen 9/27-10/21 with a high of 2 on 10/14 along E. Zahnizer Road. Single **Connecticut Warblers** were found 9/5 and 9/21 at Skunk Run Road. A **Mourning Warbler** 8/26 was the only report for the period. **Cape May Warblers** were present 9/9-19, one **Cerulean Warbler** was found 9/5 at WR and one **Northern Parula** was seen 9/28 at Poole Road. Two late **Yellow Warblers** were at SRR 9/8 and a **Blackpoll Warbler** was heard singing twice 9/19. Single **Pine Warblers** were seen 9/14 and 9/28 along Poole Road and an early **Yellow-rumped Warbler** was found at SRR 8/31 (STh, DW). One **Canada Warbler** was seen at Poole Road 9/6 and a **Yellow-breasted Chat** was found there 9/28.

American Tree Sparrow arrived 10/31 at Hutchenson Road, and **Vesper Sparrows** were found at various locations in the county 10/9-30. Twelve **Fox Sparrows** were found 11/4 along East Zahnizer Road and one was still there 11/18 (NT). Unexpected was a **Bobolink** found with a flock of **Red-winged Blackbirds** along Holmes Road 10/9 (NT). Very few **Rusty Blackbirds** were reported this fall. They first appeared 10/6 at WR and were last seen 11/22 at SGL 294 (NT).

Purple Finches arrived 9/28 at a feeder along WR. **White-winged Crossbill** were first reported from MRA 11/4 (SS) with up to 30 there 11/10. They were also at Oak Hill Cemetery 11/12, where up to 18 were found and at Crestview Memorial Park, where up to 50 were found on the same date (SK). **White-winged Crossbills** were last reported in the county 11/25 and included a report of several at the Prime Outlet Mall in Grove City, of all places, 11/21-22. A **Common Redpoll** was heard at Coolspring Church Road 11/7 (HT), one was found with **American Goldfinch** in a weedy field 11/18 (JH, NT), and 7 were also found at the Prime Outlet Mall in Grove City 11/22, feeding on birch catkins in the parking lot (GM). **Pine Siskin** were first seen 10/1 at WR, with a high of 20 there 11/4 and were last seen 11/10 (NT). Unusual was a flock of 200+ **American Goldfinch** feeding in a weedy field along East Zahnizer Road 10/14-11/4 (NT). **Evening Grosbeaks** were heard at SGL 130 on 11/9 (MT).

Observers: **Neil Troyer, 876 Williamson Road, Mercer, PA 16137**, Sheree Daugherty, Bill Drolsbaugh, Mike Grguras, Joseph Hochsletler, Scott Kinsey, Geoff Malosh, Marty McKay, Steve Sanford, Shannon Thompson, Harvey Troyer, Melvin Troyer, Samuel Troyer, Bob VanNewkirk, Dave Wilton.

Mifflin County

Locations: Belleville (BE), Jack's Mt. Hawk Watch (JMHW), Juniata River (JR), Lewistown (LT), Stone Mt. Hawk Watch (SM).

At JMHW, 358 hours of observation were logged. Highlights include excellent total counts of both eagles: 73 **Bald Eagles** and 69 **Golden Eagles**, with a one-day count of 14 of the latter 11/3. The **Broad-winged Hawk** total was above average at 4236; the high was 1116 on 9/13 with other counts over 500 on 9/12, 9/16, and 9/17. Other raptors were mostly average or somewhat below (RS, et al). Uncommon but regular in *Mifflin*, a **Great Egret** was on the JR at LT 9/19 (JD). A **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was heard in Tuscarora SF 11/17 (TB). On the *Mifflin* side of SM, an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** and a **Philadelphia Vireo** were noted 9/11 (GG, RC) and another **Philadelphia** was there 9/14 (DW). A **Palm Warbler** was at the Zook farm near BE 9/11. Warbler reports from SM included **Blackpoll Warblers** 9/2 and 9/14 (GG, DW) and **Black-throated Blue** and **Nashville Warblers** 9/25 (GG). A **Lincoln's Sparrow** was at SM 9/24-25 (GG, DK).

Observers: **Greg Grove, 4343 McAlevys Fort Road, Petersburg, PA 16669, gwg2@psu.edu**, Tim Becker, Ron Crandall, Jim Dunn, David Kyler, Ron Singer, Doug Wentzel, Jay Zook.

Monroe County

Locations: Monroe County Environmental Education Center (MCEEC), Saylor's Lake (SL).

Another severe weather event hit the area this season. Hurricane Sandy inflicted damaging winds on the night of 10/29, but as a result, a number of storm-related birds were reported.

A single **Cackling Goose** was among a **Canada Goose** flock on SL 11/24 (SK), and a flock of about 150 **Brant** were seen over Saylor'sburg

10/31 (SK). Other waterfowl for the season were 5 **Gadwalls** in Cherry Valley 10/31 and 2 **Northern Shovelers** on SL 10/26 (SK). Uncommon waterfowl sightings in the county included the 15 **Greater Scaup** present on a pond near Bartonsville 10/31-11/1 (BH), a single **Surf Scoter** on SL 10/30 (SK, DA), 9 **Black Scoters** on SL 10/26 (SK), and 3 **Long-tailed Ducks** on a private pond 10/31 (*fide* SK) and another found grounded on the East Stroudsburg University campus 11/6 (SK). It was in a weakened condition and treated by a vet but died the following day.

The **jaeger sp.** reported by an observer driving along the Delaware River near Shawnee 10/31 (*fide* SK) would represent a county first. Three **Selasphorus hummingbirds** were reported during the period. One was observed for one day only at a feeder near Shawnee 9/22 (JW), and another was first seen 10/24 at a Henryville feeder and continued at least until 11/20 (DR). Interestingly, a week or so after this bird first appeared it was seen with a second *Selasphorus* sp. but only for one day. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** began making appearances at MCEEC feeders in August with a maximum of 2 there 9/22, but they all but disappeared after that (BH). A nice collection of migrants was seen at MCEEC 9/28 (SK) with number of individuals in parentheses: **Philadelphia Vireo** (one), **Nashville Warbler** (one), **Magnolia Warbler** (6), **Cape May Warbler** (one), **Black-throated Blue Warbler** (2), **Blackburnian Warbler** (one), **Bay-breasted Warbler** (one), **Blackpoll Warbler** (3).

Winter finches made an early appearance in the county. **Purple Finches** were seen at MCEEC feeders through Sep with a maximum of 6 there 9/22 (BH), and a fly-over **Red Crossbill** was observed at Kunkletown 8/25 (*fide* SK). The **Pine Siskin** invasion was huge with numbers first being reported in August. The MCEEC feeders at times had flocks of about 100 siskins in September and October, with numbers dramatically tapering off after Hurricane Sandy (BH). Once regular but now a rare treat to see, two **Evening Grosbeaks** at a Cresco feeder 10/30 delighted the observer (MJ).

Observers: **Brian Hardiman, Monroe County Environmental Education Center, 8050 Running Valley Road, Stroudsburg, PA 18360, (570) 629-3061, bhmccd@ptd.net**, Dan Altif, Matt Jardel, Steve Kloiber, Denise Roseti, Rick Wiltraut, Jim Wyckoff.

Montgomery County

Locations: East Norriton (ENT), Elkins Park (ELP), Evansburg State Park (ESP), Fort Washington State Park (FWSP), Green Lane Reservoir (GLR), Haverford College (HVC), Militia Hill Hawk Watch at Fort Washington S.P. (MHHW), Norristown Dam (ND), Norristown Farm Park (NFP), Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust (PERT), Prophecy Creek Park (PCP), Valley Forge National Historical Park (VFNHP).

Hurricane Sandy barreled through the region the night of 10/29, the most notable weather event of the season, but very few obvious storm-birds were reported from *Montgomery*. Whether this was due to birds favoring other bodies of water than *Montgomery's* GLR and the Schuylkill River, or whether it was simply a lack of coverage, as birders travelled to productive locations along the Delaware River and elsewhere, is unknown.

Another significant event was the beginning of an irruption of many northern passerines, including several varieties of "winter finches", due to the poor cone crops in boreal Canada. A parallel invasion of western hummingbirds was less explainable, and could very well relate to better education and late-season feeder-practices of potential hummer-hosts.

Two early **Snow Geese** were reported 9/19 at a golf course pond near Bally (CH). Similarly small numbers were seen at GLR from late Oct through Nov (m.ob.), reaching a maximum of 36 on 11/27 (KC). A single immature **Brant** was noted at GLR 10/27 (KR). Although this date was two days before Hurricane Sandy made landfall, the goose's appearance so far inland was still likely related to the storm in some manner. **Cackling Geese** were reported at GLR from 10/20 and beyond, through the month of Nov (m.ob.), with a high count of 4 on 11/29 (AG). The most unusual waterfowl sighting of the season was undoubtedly the pair of **Trumpeter Swans** at GLR 11/19 (AM, JM). This represented the first record of the species for *Montgomery*. The pair was observed flying off the evening of 11/19 and was not again seen at GLR. On 11/26, the presumed same swans were relocated on the Schuylkill River near Pottstown (LM).

As was to be expected of a county with only one large body of water, nearly all migratory duck reports came from GLR. **Blue-winged Teal** were one of the more interesting ducks seen there, with a high count of 4 on 8/27 (GF). Forty **Northern Shovelers** at GLR 11/20 was the high count for that species (SK). The seasonal county high count for **Gadwall**, 39 on 11/22, was also noted at GLR (ML). Two **Northern Pintail** were observed at GLR on both 10/23 (GF) and 11/2 (ML), with singles reported on several other dates (m.ob.). A single **Green-winged Teal** at NFP 11/1 was noteworthy

only because it was the only report of the species not from GLR (BH). Thirty-seven of them at GLR 10/25 represented the high count (GF). Small numbers of **Lesser Scaup** arrived at GLR 10/27 (BH), a few days before Hurricane Sandy. Six at GLR 11/13 was highest count (KC). A drake **Surf Scoter** and 14 **Black Scoters**, likely hurricane birds, were found at GLR 10/31 (GF, KC). Six Surf Scoters made an earlier, surprise appearance at GLR 10/8, seemingly unrelated to any storm event (GF). The first **Bufflehead** of the season arrived 10/30 at GLR (BH). More worthy of mention, however, was the large number of this species observed at that same location 11/24: an estimated 400 (GF). A single drake spotted at the mouth of the Perkiomen Creek 11/17 (MD, JE) and a pair at the Willow Grove Park Mall 11/14 (SW, JS) were the only non-GLR Buffleheads. Thirty-six **Hooded Mergansers** were observed at GLR 11/27, the high count for that species. Groups of 7-10 **Common Mergansers**, likely locally-hatched adolescents, were observed on the Schuylkill at ND 8/10, Longford Park 8/14 and VFNHP 8/31 (all BH). They were not recorded again until 9/21 at GLR (GF), and then not again until 50 were finally reported at GLR 10/17 (ML), after which point they became more regularly observed at that site. A single **Red-breasted Merganser** was found at GLR 11/3, possibly another windblown straggler from Hurricane Sandy (GF). Ninety-four **Ruddy Ducks** were noted at GLR 10/28, the high count (BD).

Common Loon numbers peaked at 7 at GLR 10/30, the day after Hurricane Sandy plowed through the region (KC). A **Red-necked Grebe** was reported, unfortunately with minimal documentation, at GLR 11/2 (PH), the only grebe reported other than **Pied-billed Grebe**. An immature **Great Cormorant** was discovered at GLR 11/19 (AM, et al.), the same day the Trumpeter Swans were found. Very rare for the county, this normally coastal species lingered for at least one additional day before moving on. A nocturnal flight call recorded in ELP 10/7 turned out to be a **Least Bittern**, and was the only report of the species (PD). There were no reports of American Bitterns. A late **Great Egret** on 10/27 was a nice find at PERT (AnM). Single immature **Little Blue Herons** were observed twice at GLR, 8/4 and 8/24 (GF). A fairly widespread breeder in the county, the last **Green Heron** of the season was noted at PCP 10/1 (BHi). **Black-crowned Night-Herons**, uncommon in *Montgomery*, were recorded only at GLR, with a high count of 4 on 8/6 (GF). All were immature birds.

Dedicated observers at MHHW scoured the skies throughout the months of Sep and Oct. They counted 29 **Osprey** 9/19, their top day for the species (JS, RC), and had a total of 291 for the season. Seven **Golden Eagles** were tallied from MHHW; one each on seven different days between 9/24 and 10/31 (AF, et al.). A total of 104 **Northern Harriers** were observed from MHHW (m.ob.), peaking with 9 on 10/27 (RC, SJ). The best day for **Sharp-shinned Hawks** at MHHW was 10/8, when 66 winged over (AB, BM). The season's Sharpie total was 1230. Two **Northern Goshawks** were seen from MHHW 10/10 (AF, JS, BM). The only other Goshawks noted in the county, also from the MHHW platform, were single birds 10/17 (JS, RC) and 11/4 (AF). A new one-day **Bald Eagle** record was set at MHHW 9/16, with 19 eagles seen (AF, SG), easily besting their old record of 13. One hundred seventy-five Bald Eagles were seen overall (m.ob.), a marked increase from 2011's 116, also MHHW's previous annual record for this steadily recovering species. MHHW saw a total of 79 **Red-shouldered Hawks** during the 2012 season (m.ob.), with a high count of 11 on 10/16 (AB, HB). Five Red-shoulders 11/3 from ENT was the non-MHHW high count (BH). Mostly during the month of Sep, 20,550 **Broad-winged Hawks** were counted by the MHHW crew. An astounding 57 percent of that total observed over two consecutive big-migration days: 6420 on 9/16 (AF, SG) and 5336 on 9/17 (CD, RC). The first Broad-wing of the season was spotted 8/4 from a moving vehicle in Conshohocken (TJ). An immature light phase **Swainson's Hawk** was picked out of a kettle of Broad-winged Hawks from MHHW 9/11 (CD, RC). MHHW tallied only 146 **Red-tailed Hawks**, but as the watch does not extend through Nov, when Red-tail numbers are high, this was to be expected (m.ob.).

Virginia Rail was reported twice at PERT, 9/8 and 9/17 (PD). The first bird was found dead by a roadside, but the latter rail was very much alive. **Sora** were noted at PERT on six different occasions, from late Aug to early Oct, with a high count of 2 on 8/27 (PD). Both the Sora and the Virginia Rail were encountered in a dry, tall-grass field, illustrating the flexibility of these water-loving species during migration (or perhaps the dearth of ideal marsh habitat in *Montgomery*). Twenty-three **American Coots** were noted at GLR 10/31, the highest coot-count of the season (GF). A **Sandhill Crane** was seen from MHHW 10/28, flying above the Wissahickon Valley (AF).

Generally speaking, the fall of 2012 was very poor for shorebirds in *Montgomery* due to a combination of lack of good habitat and bad luck with precipitation. A nice count of 78 **Killdeer** was observed at GLR 8/6 (GF); 71 were observed at the same location 9/15 (GF). **Spotted Sandpiper** was encountered at multiple locations, mostly at GLR and along the Perkiomen Creek and Schuylkill River through mid-Sep (m.ob.). A somewhat late Spotted was spotted at GLR 10/15 (GF). Two **Solitary Sandpipers** were

seen at GLR 8/9 (AM). Single **Greater Yellowlegs** made appearances at GLR 9/8 (BK) and 10/25 (GF, KC). Two **Lesser Yellowlegs** were also seen at GLR 9/8 (BK). Another Lesser Yellowlegs was detected 10/24, a rather late date for the species (KC). Only one **Least Sandpiper** was recorded in the county this period: a single bird at Mill Grove Wildlife Sanctuary 8/25 (VS). Two **Pectoral Sandpipers** were seen at GLR 9/8 (BK), and one 9/26 (KC). Hurricane Sandy brought with it a few surprises (emphasis on "few") to *Montgomery*. One of those was approximately 60 flyover **Dunlin** at ND 10/30 (BH), potentially a record high for the county. A flock of 65 unidentified *Caladris* sandpipers were observed the same day, circling GLR (KC). Dunlin was the most likely suspect, given the abundance of reports of the species throughout the state post-Sandy, but anything is possible during a storm like Sandy. A single grounded Dunlin was positively identified at GLR 10/30 (KC). **Wilson's Snipe** were first observed at GLR 10/25 and continued through the end of the period (GF, KC). Snipe were also seen at PERT 10/7 and 11/11 (PD). **American Woodcock** were at PERT 8/18, FWSP 10/17 (BM), the Ashbourne Country Club 10/23 (PD) and ENT 11/30 (BH).

Bonaparte's Gull was observed at GLR from 11/16-22, with a high count of 4 on 11/17 (KR, et al.). **Herring Gull**, far less common in *Montgomery* than **Ring-billed Gull**, was noted in small numbers at GLR and along the Schuylkill River beginning 11/16 (m.ob.). Though *Montgomery's* numbers are nowhere near as high as in neighboring *Bucks*, **Lesser Black-backed Gull** observation frequency continued in its upward trend this season. The first observation was of a single bird at GLR 9/25 (PS). Further reports from GLR began again 11/16 (GF) and continued through the end of the month, with a high count of 6 on 11/24 (NP). A single **Great Black-backed Gull**, which has become less common than *Lesser* in *Montgomery*, was reported at the Mermaid Lake Golf Course pond 11/24 (BHi). Small groups of **Caspian Terns** were encountered three times in *Montgomery* during the reporting period: 3 flying down the Schuylkill River near Oaks 8/14 (BH), 4 at GLR 8/21 (GF, TG) and 2 at GLR 9/15 (GF). A **Forster's Tern** was found at GLR 8/5 (NP). Another tern, an unidentified *Sterna* species, was noted at GLR 8/5 (GF).

Cuckoos were tough to find in *Montgomery* this season. Only three **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were located: NFP 8/30 (BH), the Pawlings area of VFNHP 8/31 (BH) and PERT 9/7 (BHi). Six **Barn Owls**, including 5 juveniles, were banded at a nest site in the Gilbertsville area 8/20, an encouraging sign for this declining species (TK). **Barred Owl** was reported 8/9 near ESP (SF). A migrating **Northern Saw-whet Owl** stopped off for the day in ELP 10/14 (PD). No huge **Common Nighthawk** numbers were reported, although many birds from the high volume Nighthawk Watch at HVC, straddling the *Montgomery/Delaware* line, almost certainly strayed into *Montgomery* airspace. Excluding those hypothetical birds, however, the highest counts came from two less formal backyard watches held 8/20. Fifteen Nighthawks were observed flying over Lansdale (RW) and 14 winged over ENT (BH). Last **Chimney Swifts** were 10/10 at FWSP (AnM) and NFP (BH). A high count of 120 was at GLR 9/25 (GF).

Montgomery's last 2012 **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were seen 9/22 at HVC (SJ) and North Wales (AM). A staggering six individuals of two western hummingbird species were confirmed by hard-working hummingbird banders during the reporting period. An immature male **Rufous Hummingbird** was present at a home in Pennsburg, near GLR, between 10/30 and 11/14 (WL, GaF, HE, et al.). An adult female visited a feeder in Congo, west of GLR, from 11/8-20 (WL, MA, HE, AM). A second adult female was a long-term guest at a home on the other side of the county, in Meadowbrook, from 10/16 through the end of the reporting period (SW, BF, et al.). Another immature male stayed for a similarly long time in ELP: 10/9 through the end of the reporting period (SW, PD). Finally, a fifth Rufous, also an immature male, was observed from 11/5 through the end of Nov in Pottstown (SL, AMa, DM, SS, TB). An immature male **Allen's Hummingbird** was banded 11/30 in Lansdale (SW, CL, AL). It had been present at that location since 10/7. This bird was the first of its species to be confirmed in *Montgomery*, and was only the fourth Allen's Hummingbird ever recorded in the state.

MHHW recorded 306 **American Kestrels** in Sep and Oct (m.ob.), with a high count of 30 on 9/19 (JS, RC). Five Kestrels were seen in the farmland area north of GLR 9/17 (GF), the highest count away from FWSP. Second place in the high count contest went to PERT, where 3 were observed 10/13 (PD). MHHW observers saw 35 **Merlin** during their two-month season (m.ob.). MHHW tallied 42 **Peregrine Falcons** during the same timespan (m.ob.), with a remarkable high count of 6 birds 10/6 (CD, MM). A migrating Peregrine was encountered at GLR 10/5 (GF). Presumed wintering individuals were seen settling into cold-season territories in Norristown (BH, BHi) and Limerick (CS) by late Nov. A Peregrine noted at GLR 11/24 may have also been looking for winter territory (KC).

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was photographed in Souderton 8/12 (ZM). Another was reported from FWSP 9/6 (BM). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** was noted at just one location: ELP 9/26 (PD). **Eastern Wood-**

Pewee was common throughout *Montgomery* until the last report of the species 10/6 at FWSP (MR). The county high count of 11 was at PERT 8/19 (BH). A **Willow Flycatcher** heard at FWSP 9/16 was late for the species (SK). Single **Least Flycatchers** were located at PERT 8/18-19 (BH), NFP 9/24 (BH) and FWSP 10/3 (BM). Nine **Eastern Kingbirds** were tallied at NFP 8/10, the county high count for the fall season (BHi). The last kingbird of 2012 was at PERT 9/13 (HBr, FV). A **Northern Shrike** was discovered at GLR 11/15, hunting in a field across from the Church Road Bird Sanctuary (LH). It was seen by many others over the next ten days. **White-eyed Vireo**, a localized breeder in *Montgomery*, were observed most regularly at ESP (BH, BHi), with a county high-count of 7 there 8/8. The high count for **Blue-headed Vireo** of 5 was recorded at NFP 9/24 (BH). More **Philadelphia Vireos** than usual were observed. Single birds were located at ENT 9/20 (BH) and GLR 9/23 (GF), as well as a somewhat late individual at GLR 10/8 (GF). Three different Philadelphia Vireos were noted at FWSP 9/16 (SK, BH). The **Red-eyed Vireo** high count of 14 came from ESP 9/6 (BH), and the last bird seen was 10/10 in ENT (BH), slightly late for the species.

Common Raven continued to become more commonplace in *Montgomery*. The species was observed at three locations in the Montgomeryville area during the reporting period: one 8/14 (ML), one 9/16 (KR) and two 11/14 (AM). A rock quarry south of the Montgomeryville Mall is a suspected breeding and roost site. Single ravens were also reported from FWSP 11/3 (BM) and 11/18 (AF). **Purple Martins** were scarce; most had already moved out of the area by Aug. Two were seen over ENT 8/8 (BH), and 5 were observed at GLR 8/9 (AM, GF). Though it was no quite as obvious in *Montgomery* as in some neighboring counties, **Tree Swallow** migration was extended by Hurricane Sandy. Numbers had been trending downward for the species until the hurricane pushed some new birds north. Fifty were observed at GLR 10/31 (GF). At least 10 were still present there 11/2 (BH). Small numbers were seen in the Norristown region during the same time period (BH). Well after the hurricane and probably unrelated, a final batch of 9 Tree Swallows was reported at GLR on the late date of 11/21 (BHi). Pre-storm numbers peaked with a count of at least 1000 seen at GLR 10/8 (GF). **Bank Swallows** were observed in a few places in the county, but were generally few and far between. One was seen 9/2 at GLR (GF), 3 on 9/15 at Lower Perkiomen Valley Park (RE) and 4 on 9/20 at GLR (GF). There were a few reports of lingering **Barn Swallows** in the northern part of the county: a single bird was observed at GLR 10/13 (GF), followed by a pair in nearby Pennsburg 10/19 (PH).

Although it received less publicity than the irruptions of 2012, **Black-capped Chickadees** made an advance of their own into *Montgomery* during the reporting period. The first was detected 10/22 at Jarrett Nature Center (GJ). They were seen at many other locations throughout the county through the remainder of Oct and beyond, with birds sticking to any area with a reliable food supply (m.ob.). A high count of 5 was recorded at GLR 11/19 (BH, HM, JG). **Red-breasted Nuthatch** also moved into *Montgomery* in a big way, beginning 8/18 when a single bird was found at PERT (BH). Even more so than with the chickadees, the nuthatches quickly descended into seemingly every park and backyard in the county (m.ob.). High counts of 13 and 11 were tallied at ESP 9/30 and 11/30, respectively (BH), and 6 were reported at both PERT 9/17 (AM) and 11/11 (MK). A late **House Wren** was discovered adjacent GLR 11/18 (BH, HM, JG). The first of many **Winter Wrens** was seen 9/30 at NFP (BHi). A high count of 6 was tallied at ESP 11/15 (BH). A **Marsh Wren** was a lucky find at the NFP pond 10/4 (BH). More remarkable, however, was a late-season nesting by a pair of **Sedge Wrens** at PERT (PD, m.ob.). First detected in a restored meadow at PERT 8/13, the pair went on to raise at least 3 fledglings, leaving 2 unhatched eggs in the nest. The Sedge Wrens were last observed 10/14 (PD). A tardy **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was seen in ENT 10/4, flycatching from a bare tree with a diverse cast of characters, including Red-breasted Nuthatches, **Eastern Phoebes** and four species of warblers (BH, Chi).

Twenty-eight **Eastern Bluebirds** were counted at GLR 10/27, the county's fall 2012 high mark (JV). A somewhat late **Veery** was seen in the company of a **Gray-cheeked Thrush** at PCP 9/28 (BH). Single Gray-cheeked Thrushes were also found at ENT 9/21 (BH), Riverbend Environmental Education Center 9/22 (WS) and at FWSP 10/5 (BM). Eight **Swainson's Thrushes** were counted at FWSP 9/16, including a group of at least 5 seen gorging themselves on berries (BH, SK). Twelve **Hermit Thrushes** were recorded along two miles of trail at PERT 10/31 (DS), the high count for that species. A few **Wood Thrushes** lingered into Oct, including one at PCP 10/1 (BHi) and 2 photographed nicely at Briar Bush Nature Center 10/3 (JSh, MF). At least 30 **American Pipits** at NFP during a corn harvest 10/23 (BH) was the high count.

Three Oct **Ovenbirds** were observed in *Montgomery*: 10/1 at NFP (BH), 10/3 in ENT (BH) and 10/7 at HVC (SJ). **Worm-eating Warbler**, a tough bird to spot in fall migration, was seen three times during the reporting period: 8/7 at NFP (BH), 8/13 at NFP (BHi) and 9/14 at FWSP (AnM). The last and season's only **Louisiana Waterthrush** was noted 8/7 in ENT (BH).

The first **Northern Waterthrush** was observed at the same location a week later, 8/15 (BH). The final two Northern Waterthrushes were reported from the Manatawny Creek in Pottstown 9/28 (JT). **Blue-winged Warbler** was noted at a few locations in the southern portion of the county in late Aug and early Sep: NFP (BHi), ENT (BH), PCP (BH, BHi), PERT (AM, BH, BHi), FWSP (AnM). Their declining sister species, **Golden-winged Warbler**, was seen just once, at ENT 8/16 (BH). A few **Black-and-white Warblers** lingered in the county into Oct (BH, BHi, GF). The final bird was seen at Gwynedd Wildlife Preserve 10/11 (BH). The season was a very good one for **Tennessee Warbler**, with regular reports throughout the county. The first was 8/25 at PERT (BK, GJ), and the last at Alverthorpe Park 10/18 (JSh). A high count of three was reported from Jenkintown 9/24 (JGI). An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was reported at ESP 10/9 (BHi). **Nashville Warblers** were observed at many locations, primarily in the southeastern portion of the county (m.ob.). A fairly early pair at NFP 8/26 (BHi) and a slightly late individual, travelling with a sparrow flock in the brush by ND 10/31 (BH), bookended the sightings of the species. Three **Connecticut Warblers** were seen at two locations: FWSP 9/13 (AnM), ENT 9/20 (BH, CHi) and FWSP again 10/5 (AnM). A hatch-year female **Hooded Warbler** was seen in North Wales 8/20-21 (AM). An adult male was reported at NFP 9/27 (CHi). Two Oct **American Redstarts** included one at Jarrett Nature Center 10/4 (GJ) and one at FWSP 10/6 (MR). The season seemed to be a good one for **Cape May Warblers**, which were encountered more often than during a typical *Montgomery* autumn. Single Cape Mays were seen at FWSP 9/2 and 9/9 (DB); PERT 9/17 (AnM); Jenkintown 9/24 and 9/30 (JGI); Norristown Riverfront Park 9/27 (BH) and GLR 9/16, 9/25 and 10/5 (GF). A pair was noted in Jenkintown 9/23 (JGI). At least four Oct **Northern Parula** were observed, the latest of which was at NFP 10/10 (BH). Late **Magnolia Warblers** were encountered at GLR 10/27 (BH) and North Wales 11/2 (AM). **Bay-breasted Warblers** were recorded at ESP 9/6 (BH), GLR 9/16 (GF) and Haverford 9/16 (SJ). **Blackburnian Warblers** started a long migratory passage 8/21, when one was seen at Briar Bush Nature Center (JSh, MF); the last was seen 10/6 in Pottstown (JT). Late **Yellow Warblers** were reported 9/16 at FWSP (AnM) and 9/24 at NFP (BHi). Oct **Chestnut-sided Warblers** were observed along the Manatawny Creek in Pottstown 10/4 and 10/6 (JT), at NFP 10/4 (BH, BHi) and in ENT 10/9 (BH). **Blackpoll Warblers** were reported widely across the county, starting with a fairly early bird 9/2 at FWSP (DB) and ending with a fairly late bird at ND 10/31 (BH). A late high count of 5 Blackpolls was seen, in one tree, at GLR 10/27 (BH). **Black-throated Blue Warbler** also had a strong fall in *Montgomery*, beginning at PERT 8/28 (LW) and ending slightly late in Jenkintown 10/22 (JGI). The same location in Jenkintown boasted 7 Black-throated Blues both 9/16 and 9/17 (JGI). Thirteen **Palm Warblers** seen at NFP 10/4 was the highest count of the species (BH). Numbers of **Pine Warblers** were rather thin, with very few reports county-wide (m.ob.). An estimated 70 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** at FWSP 10/18 was the high count for this prolific species (AnM). The last **Prairie Warbler** was at Jarrett Nature Center 9/14 (GJ). Eight **Black-throated Green Warblers** at VFNHP 9/26 was the largest quantity of this common species (BH). **Canada Warbler** was found at many locations, primarily in the southern county (m.ob.), beginning with a modestly early individual at NFP 8/7 and ending in nearby ENT 9/19 (both BH). **Yellow-breasted Chat**, the warbler that's not a warbler, was seen just once during the reporting period: in ELP, 10/25 (PD).

A high count of 11 **Eastern Towhees** was noted at ESP 11/30 (BH). The first **American Tree Sparrows** of the fall showed themselves in Worcester (JC) and GLR (KC) 11/8. Tree Sparrows were reported far more regularly in Nov 2012 than in 2011. **Chipping Sparrows** are an interesting case in *Montgomery*; they have wintered in the county during the past several years, something that was unheard of in the not-too-distant past. This year, Chippings were found at several locations in Nov: ENT 11/5 (BH), Alverthorpe Park 11/9 (JSh), VFNHP 11/11 (LT), and PERT 11/3 (AnM), 11/18 (PD) and 11/22 (GS). The 11/18 PERT observation was of a remarkable 30 birds. A high count of 20 **Field Sparrows** was noted at PERT 11/18 (PD). One **Vesper Sparrow**, an uncommon migrant, was seen 11/9 at PERT (PD). **Savannah Sparrow** was observed starting 9/27 at GLR (KC). An estimated 50 at PERT 11/18 was the high count (PD). **Fox Sparrows** returned to the county 10/17, when one was seen at GLR (GF); max was 12 at PERT 11/23 (PD), with 9 at ESP 11/30 also on the high side (BH). Sixty **Song Sparrows** were noted at NFP 10/25 (BH). **Lincoln's Sparrow** was noted at five sites in south-central *Montgomery* in late Sep through early Oct (BH, BHi, SJ). **Swamp Sparrow**, first noted 9/24 at NFP, peaked at 19 birds at the same location 10/25 (both BH). **White-crowned Sparrow** migration started out strong, with 5 seen at NFP 10/7, which was both the arrival date and the high count for the period (BHi).

Blue Grosbeak, a scarce breeder in *Montgomery*, was observed in the Palm area, probable breeding territory, 8/7 and 8/19 (GF). Oct **Indigo Buntings** were seen 10/1 and 10/4 at NFP and 10/8 in ENT (all BH). A high count of 9 was set at NFP 8/10 (BHi). **Dickcissel** bred in *Montgomery* for

the first time in decades during the summer of 2012. An adult was seen feeding juveniles 8/7 in a field near Palm (GF). Migrant Dickcissels were observed at PERT in Sep: a flight call was recorded during the several hours before dawn 9/20, and another was seen, in the fields, 9/24 (all PD). A Dickcissel was seen in the vicinity of the feeders at MHHW 9/16 (SP). MHHW also noted a flyover Dickcissel in Oct, on an unspecified date (AF). **Bobolink**, a presumed breeder in *Montgomery*, was seen throughout the county during migration, often in large numbers (m.ob.). A high count of 110 was reported from GLR 8/27 (GF). A very late, seemingly healthy Bobolink was reported at PERT 11/13 (PD). It continued through the end of the reporting period (PD). **Eastern Meadowlarks** were found in a graveyard in Souderton 8/6 (ZM), at GLR 9/23 and 10/8 (both GF), at PERT 9/3 and 9/4 (BHi), and at FWSP 10/21 (BM). **Rusty Blackbird**, a species in serious decline, was seen in small numbers at a few locations in the county: one at ESP 10/9 (BHi), one at White's Mill Preserve 10/14 (SGo), 4 at GLR 10/18 (GF), 2 at NFP 10/23 (BH), one at NFP 11/15 (BHi) and one at ESP 11/30 (BH). There were no particularly high counts of **Red-winged Blackbirds**, though this species was often recorded with an "X" in eBird. Aug **Orchard Orioles** were reported from the Palm area 8/7 (GF) and PERT 8/16 (BHi) and 8/20 (HBr), the last getting fairly late for this early-departing species. The last **Baltimore Oriole** was seen a few weeks later, at NFP 9/12 (BHi).

Purple Finches kicked off the exciting winter-finch irruption. The species was noted beginning 9/9 in Pensburg (GF). Numbers peaked in the second half of Oct, and included counts of 9 at ENT 10/22 and 15 at NFP 10/23 (both BH). Purple Finch numbers dropped significantly by early Nov, but scattered individuals were observed through the end of the reporting period. A Type-3 **Red Crossbill**, the most widely-observed variety of Red during the irruption of 2012, was recorded at PERT 11/10 (PD). A Type 10 bird was at ESP 11/15 (BH). Five birds of unknown type were seen at GLR 11/29 (BK). Twelve to fourteen flew over the MHHW platform 11/17 (AF). Single **White-winged Crossbills** were observed at PERT 11/9 (PD), ELP 11/19 (PD) and ESP 11/30 (BH). Calling flyover groups of 4 and 3 were reported from ELP 11/18 and 11/30, respectively (PD). Two small flyover flocks were also noted at MHHW 11/22 (AF). A **Common Redpoll** was observed in a yard in Congo (MA) 11/27. Flyovers were spotted 11/9 at PERT, and 11/14 and 11/29 in ELP (all PD). **Pine Siskins** were the most prolific of the migrant finches during the period, much to the delight of feeder-watchers throughout the county. The first bird was seen in Pensburg 10/5 (PH). As with Purple Finches, Siskin numbers peaked in mid-to-late Oct, then tapered off substantially a few days into Nov. Some of the larger flocks observed included 35 in Flouertown 10/13 (MS), 45 at HVC 10/14 (SJ), 115 in the Unami Creek area 10/14 (KC), 38 at NFP 10/23 (BH) and estimates of 70 and 120 at Souderton 10/30-31 (ZM). A female-type **Evening Grosbeak** was seen briefly beneath a feeder in ENT 10/31 (BH). An adult male was reported at a feeder in Plymouth Meeting (DB).

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Montour County

No compiler.

Northampton County

Locations: Gremer Rd Pond (GRP), Jacobsburg State Park (JSP), Koch Farm (KF), Little Gap (LG).

There was a **Greater White-fronted Goose** at Seiple's Pond 11/13 (MS). The 6 **Snow Geese** that summered at GRP were finally joined by

migrants in late Nov (MS). The only report of **Brant** (6) and **Cackling Goose** came from LG 11/3 and 11/5 respectively (MS). There were 4 **Gadwall**, 7 **Bufflehead** and 16 **Ruddy Ducks** at GRP and at nearby Nazareth Quarry, and on 11/13, there were 8000 **Canada Geese**, 12 **Lesser Scaup**, 3 **Ring-necked Ducks**, 12 **Ruddy Ducks** and 2 **Pied-billed Grebes** (MS, CCS). The retention pond at the new St Luke's Hospital off Rte. 33 hosted a female **Ring-necked Duck** from 8/14 until the period ended (MS, CCS). An adult male **Surf Scoter** was at Minsi Lake 10/26 (MSa). The trail to the LG hawk lookout is usually good for grouse in the fall but they were scarce this year. One **Ruffed Grouse** was flushed just up from the parking lot 11/15 (MS). A **Red-throated Loon** and a **Common Loon** flew south at LG 11/5 (MS). An early **Pied-billed Grebe** was at GRP 8/10 (MS). Reports of **Great Egret** in Aug came from Green Pond and Silvercrest Rd pond.

The LG Hawk Lookout had record numbers of **Black Vulture**, **Bald** and **Golden Eagle** and **Merlin**. There was a high of 27 **Black Vultures** 10/10. A single day **Bald Eagle** count of 47 on 9/5 nearly doubled the old record. There were 316 **Bald Eagles** counted this year. There was a single day record of 21 **Golden Eagles** 11/3. The new **Merlin** record is 116. Other highlights included 1929 **Broad-winged Hawks** 9/17 and 120 **Osprey** 10/6 (JL). Away from the ridge, a **Northern Goshawk** was seen in Bath 10/8 (RO). A **Peregrine Falcon** was seen in flight in Plainfield Twp 10/11 (KS).

There was little in the way of shorebird habitat. An **American Golden-Plover** was spotted in E. Allen Twp. 9/21 (DW). At LG, 4 **Bonaparte's Gulls** flew by the Lookout 11/3 (MS).

Both **Black-billed** and **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were reported from Monacacy Nature Center in Aug. **Black-billed Cuckoo** was also seen at JSP 9/4 and 2 **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were at LG 8/23 (MS). The banding station at LG caught a site record 87 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** 11/6-7 (RW). Away from the ridge, 7 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were banded near Bath in Nov (CCS). A late **Common Nighthawk** flew over JSP 10/19. There were 244 **Chimney Swifts** and 189 **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** (high count of 32 on 9/2) passing the LG lookout during the season. Last year's wintering female **Rufous Hummingbird** in Walnutport returned 9/13 (DWa). This same **Rufous Hummingbird** also visited a feeder at a residence near the LG hawk lookout and was seen there as late as 11/16 (MS). Two **Selasphorous** hummingbirds visited a feeder at a home near JSP from late Sept to 11/10 (*vide* RW). There were 4 **Red-headed Woodpeckers** counted at LG during the season.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was seen at LG 9/16 (MS, CCS), at Kirkridge 8/30 and at JSP 8/31 (RW). A late **Eastern Wood-Pewee** was in a yard in E Allen Twp 9/26 (DW). **Philadelphia Vireos** were observed at JSP, National Park and Institute Rd, and at LG. **Blue Jays** are counted at LG with 8413 tallied with a high of 3252 on 9/21. Common Ravens were seen regularly along the ridge at LG but no sightings off the ridge. Two late **Tree Swallows** passed by at LG 11/2 (MS). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were invasive with many county sightings. The LG count was 79. A late **Brown Thrasher** was at a feeder in Bethlehem Twp 10/12 (AS). There were 23 species of warblers found at LG during the season. Highlighting the season was a bright male **Townsend's Warbler** seen 9/16 on private property at LG (MS, CCS). It was observed several brief times over 15 minutes with no photos taken. If accepted by PORC, it would be a first county record. A **Yellow-throated Warbler** was in a yard in Bath, E. Allen Twp. 9/4 (DW). **Connecticut Warbler** was seen at LG 9/19 and 9/25 (MS, CCS). Another **Connecticut Warbler** was found at the KF in Williams Twp 9/24 (AK, DD) and there was a bird in E Allen Twp 9/26 (DW). An early **Connecticut Warbler** was also at JSP 9/4 (RW). **Mourning Warbler** was found at the KF 9/13-14 (AK) and at the early date of 8/12 at Monacacy Nature Center.

The first **Lincoln's Sparrow** was at the KF 9/14 (AK). At LG, there was a male **Eastern Towhee** still around on 11/5, and on the same day 7 **Snow Buntings** flew past the lookout (MS). An **oriole sp.**, possibly a first year Baltimore, visited a feeder in Bethlehem Twp. 3 times 10/30-11/7 (AS). This was an irruption year for winter finches with **Pine Siskins** and **Purple Finches** reported at multiple locations. There were 150 **Pine Siskins** feeding in a sunflower field at the KF 10/15 (AK). Two **Red Crossbills** were heard at LG 9/5 (MS, CCS) and 2 were in a tree at LG 9/6 (CCS). Along River Rd. in Lower Mt Bethel Twp., another **Red Crossbill** was reported 11/16 (MSa). On 11/14, 5 **White-winged Crossbills** flew past the LG lookout (MS). Another **White-winged Crossbill** was at Graver's Arboretum 10/18 (AS). **Common Redpolls** were seen on the ridge with fly-by birds at LG in late Nov (MS, CCS) and at Nelson's Overlook 10/24 (MSa).

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Northumberland County

No compiler.

Perry County

Locations: Miller's Gap (MG), Waggoner's Gap (WG).

A **Rufous Hummingbird** visited a Marysville residence from late September until mid-November. A **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** also was present at the same location 11/12. Both birds were banded (DB, SL).

A trip to look for migrants to the Tuscarora State Forest 9/1 was rewarding. Eighteen species of warbler were found with highlights of 11 **Tennessee**, 2 **Bay-breasted**, 16 **Hooded** and one **Wilson's Warbler** (AM, JR, KK, RK). A **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was observed perched among thousands of **Common Grackles** at WG 9/2 (DG).

The large, widespread southern movement of boreal species was first detected 9/9 as 6 **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were noted at WG (CH) and a **Purple Finch** was found at MG (RK). Thirty-nine **Purple Finches** were at MG 10/13 (RK). **Pine Siskins** were first noted at WG 9/29 and a high count of 200 was made 10/27 (DG). An **Evening Grosbeak** and 2 **Red Crossbills** flew past WG 11/4 and 3 **White-winged Crossbills** were found there 11/5 (JS). Six **Evening Grosbeaks** and 9 **Common Redpolls** were at WG 11/9 (DG) and 5 more **Common Redpolls** were found there 11/15 (AG).

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Philadelphia County

Locations: Benjamin Rush State Park (BRSP), Carpenter's Woods (CW), Delaware River (DR), Delaware River Trail (DRT), East Park Reservoir (EPR), Franklin D. Roosevelt Park (FDR), Glen Foerd Mansion (GF), John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum-Philadelphia portion (TI), Morris Arboretum (MA), Naval Business Center (aka Navy Yard) (NBC), Northeast Water Treatment Plant (NEWTP), Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee (PORC), Pennypack on the Delaware (POD), Schuylkill River (SR).

On 10/30, post-tropical cyclone Sandy brought tragedy to our neighboring states, but left Philly relatively unscathed. Birders benefitted both from the pelagic species borne north and south on Sandy's swirling wind, which included 3 species of scoter, **Long-tailed Duck**, **Leach's Storm-Petrel**, **Red Phalarope**, juvenile **Sabine's Gull**, **Sooty Tern**, **Royal Tern**, **Parasitic Jaeger**, **Pomarine Jaeger**, and many waders and passerines. Our fall species total was 236, of which about ten were driven to the area by Hurricane Sandy. A **Northern Shrike** appeared in exactly the spot where one wintered last year. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**, **Tennessee Warbler** and **Clay-colored Sparrow** sightings were relatively abundant, and **Cave Swallow**, **Dickcissel** and winter finches were present.

The following group of birders in various combinations and for various durations at POD is referred to in this report as storm watchers: (DA, GA, MD, TF, DG, TJ, CR, FW). They monitored the DR from dawn, mostly at POD, but also to the south. Another group (TC, TM, KA, RH) were at SP and POD. AB and DB were at TI. Across the DR in New Jersey TB and MI watched from Palmyra. Assigning proper credit to the finder of a storm bird and citing the complete list of observers who saw it are both, unfortunately, not possible for this report. Storm-related reports are from 10/30 unless noted otherwise.

Only 4 **Snow Goose** joined the large flocks of **Brant** moving past POD. The smallest group of 85 Brant was over TI (AB, DB), 95 were at TI on 10/31 (FW), but up to 345 passed POD (TJ, m.ob.) 10/30. Three Brant were at NBC to 11/16 (MD). A **Cackling Goose** was reported in a flock of 5 **Canada Goose**, "clearly much smaller with shorter wings and faster wingbeats, a short skinny neck and a small head" at POD 10/30 (GA, TF).

At TI upwards of 230 **Wood Duck** congregated 8/15 (BK), but none overwintered. Several **Wood Duck** were on the SR shore and at the NEWTP through 11/25. With fairly consistent monitoring, 450 **Black Duck** was the largest raft on the DR (FW) and amazingly **Mallard** numbers never exceeded those of **Wood Duck**. **Blue-winged Teal** continue to be attracted to TI where up to 150 and usually more than 50 could be seen through 10/14. A guided trip into the secured EPR also found 15 **Blue-winged Teal** in the west basin 8/28 (BB). Sandy brought 8 **Greater Scaup** and along with expected **Lesser Scaup**; one **Greater Scaup** rested at TI until 11/4 (TF).

The county had a trifecta of scoter species 10/30 with up to 14 **Surf Scoter** reported on the DR, but only three were seen from Philadelphia including a female which landed at TI (DB, AB). Just 2 **White-winged Scoter** (FW) and 20 **Black Scoter** were seen from POD (FW, TJ, m.ob) along with 4 **Long-tailed Duck** (FW, GA, TJ, ph.). Twenty-seven was a high count of **Bufflehead** (RK, CR) at TI 11/16. **Hooded Merganser** arrived early 8/16 (TF) and stayed in small numbers into the winter season. **Ruddy Duck** wowed birders as the impoundment at TI filled with anywhere from 100 to 450 from 10/11. Perhaps the vegetation that grew on the impoundment floor during the summer draw-down attracted them.

Successful broods of **Wild Turkey** brought the flock at the TI Visitor's Center to 25. Five **Red-throated Loons** (DA) and 115 **Common Loons** (TB) were on the DR with a **Horned Grebe** 10/30. A **Horned Grebe** was at TI 11/6 and a **Red-necked Grebe** was on the DR 11/27 (PK). Two **Pied-billed Grebes** FDR 8/13 may have bred, but no evidence was found (BH).

From POD at least 17 **Leach's Storm-Petrel** were seen (m.ob, ph), some sitting close to shore and many flying by so closely that Band-rumped Petrel could be ruled out (GA). On 10/9 **Double-crested Cormorants** were moving south in good numbers with 200 counted (FW). **Great Cormorant** returned to the DR 10/11. High wet fields at Southampton Woods hosted an **American Bittern** 8/16 (FW) and another lingered at TI 9/16-11/4. One of the resident **Least Bittern** at TI was last seen 8/18. Only 4 **Snowy Egret** were found 9/30 (DB) among the hundreds of **Great Blue Heron** and **Great Egret** at the TI mud flats created. The small herons made a poor showing this season with only four sightings of **Little Blue Heron** 8/5 (DE), 8/25 (AB), 9/11 (FW) and 9/24 (TF, GS). A **Cattle Egret** in the parking lot of the refuge was a surprise 11/6 (DB). From 7/31-8/23, one or 2 juvenile **Glossy Ibis** were at TI. One ibis had a broken but healed bill and birders watched 8/18 as the ibis' foot was trapped in the jaws of a snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*). The turtle attempted to draw the ibis down into the shallow water and mud for over an hour (JD, video). The turtle finally gave up his grasp allowing the ibis to escape having lost only one toe.

The raptor migration seemed normal in quantity and duration. An **Osprey** was present until 11/3 (FW), a little later than normal, and **Northern Harrier** hurried past after Sandy flooded marshes and drowned the small rodents. Two **Red-shouldered Hawks** stopped at TI 8/13 (AG) and continued to be seen throughout the season. There were less than 10 reports of **Broad-winged Hawk**, but a kettle of 100 was over a ne. Philly home 9/10 (FW). A **Northern Goshawk** was at POD 10/18 (FW).

Sora were at TI 8/1 (FW), 8/19 (TF, GA) and 10/14 (TF). From the New Jersey shore, a **Sandhill Crane** was seen moving south 10/28 (TB). Twenty species of shorebird, a combination of birds attracted to mudflats at TI and birds blown in by Hurricane Sandy, lived up the season. POD attracted **Black-bellied Plover** 8/15 and 10/7 (FW), but not a single American Golden-Plover. At TI, **Semipalmated Plovers** were more numerous than ever before with 20-60 present daily in Aug. At TI up to 31 **Stile Sandpiper** were present until 9/3 along with **Greater Yellowlegs** and **Lesser Yellowlegs**. **Sanderling** were at POD 9/2-5, and 10/30 when a lone bird appropriately nicknamed "Sandy" rested on the shore for several hours (TC). **Greater Yellowlegs** were also seen at the MA wetland 9/9 (KJ). Two **Willetts** flew north from Mud Island in the DR (FW). Also in early Aug, up to 3000 **Semipalmated Sandpiper** far outnumbered the high report of 200 **Least Sandpiper** at TI. Among these most abundant peeps, 2-4 **Western Sandpipers** and usually 3 **White-rumped Sandpipers** could be found daily for weeks on end. Add to this mix dozens of **Pectoral Sandpiper** and a few **Short-billed Dowitcher** and birders were satisfied with the shorebird show in Philly. At least two flocks of 50 and 68 **Dunlin** passed POD 10/30. **Wilson's Snipe** returned to POD 9/3 (GA), but weren't reported at TI until 11/7 (TF, FW). **American Woodcock** flushed unexpectedly from a ne. Philly garden 11/5 (FW) and at Woodland Cemetery 11/8 (AZ). Two **Red Phalaropes** were seen at TI 10/30-31 (AB, DB, ph.) and at POD where individual birds were swimming and flying close to the shore.

A juvenile **Sabine's Gull** flying north on the DR was found from the New Jersey shore (MI). It was relocated from the Pennsylvania side (GA, TJ, DG, CR). Twenty **Bonaparte's Gull** arrived with Sandy and were still present 11/18 (MS). Philly missed the spectacle of thousands of **Laughing Gull** in migration this fall, but they were present in numbers approaching 125 from July on. "Shrimpy" the **Lesser Black-backed Gull** returned to Pleasant Hill Park for the eighth consecutive winter 9/22 (FW). A juvenile **Sooty Tern** (TJ, MI) flying north was observed at POD 10/30. **Caspian Tern**, though numerous at TI 8/4-9/30 and not uncommon at DRT and POD, were not present during Sandy. This was an exceptional fall for **Black Tern** with as many as 9 seen daily at TI 8/11-9/24. There were reports of 35 **Common Tern** and more than 100 **Forster's Tern** at POD, DRT and TI. Also on 10/30 soon after dawn, the first 2 of 5 **Royal Tern** passed POD (ph. TJ). Although some birders' reports included the phrase "along with many smaller terns," not one Least Tern was found. A subadult **Parasitic Jaeger**, carefully observed and photographed, floated past the storm watchers'

viewing pier at POD allowing excellent views. **Pomarine Jaeger** "with tail spoons showing" was seen near POD from New Jersey at 07:45 (TB, TM) and photographed (TJ). A second was seen at 14:15 (TB).

Yellow-billed Cuckoos were seen almost daily in Sep but **Black-billed Cuckoo** at TI 8/6 and DRT 10/12 were the only reports (TF). Our three resident owl species, **Eastern Screech-Owl**, **Great Horned Owl** and the elusive W. Mt Airy **Barred Owl**, were heard but rarely seen or confirmed nesting in the case of the Barred Owl. A **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was found in a deciduous tree was surely a migrant 11/15 (DB, TF, FW). A report of 65 **Common Nighthawk** over E. Mt. Airy was a good count 8/23 (MS). Thousands of **Chimney Swift** again roosted in the brick chimneys of Jenks, Dobson and Shawmont grade schools with Jenks hosting the largest group of 3200 on 9/1 and Dobson coming in second with 2200 on 9/12. Only Jenks school still hosted 1300 in Oct (JS). Shawmont and the chimneys at St. Joseph's College were seldom used this year.

Rather than sketching as he usually does, KJ photographed an **Olivesided Flycatcher** at MA 8/16 and 9/9. The first of several **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** at TI 8/18 (DE, AG, ph. AB, HM) was heard and carefully described (SKac). Between 9/9-16, six Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were seen at four locations: MA (KJ), Southampton Woods (FW), 2 at DRT (TF), and 2 at TI (TF, FW). **Least Flycatchers** were similarly numerous with 3 birds in Aug at TI (AB, DB) and at least 7 sightings to 9/26 at TI (GA, FW, TF), at Southampton Woods (FW) and on the DRT (FW, TF). Unusual at TI **Alder Flycatcher** was singing 8/29 (FW). A **Northern Shrike** was found at TI 10/31 (TF) in the same tree—and apparently the same bird—as appeared there 11/24/2011.

Following a brief respite after our first **Cave Swallows** in 2008 and 2009, NEWTP again hosted **Cave Swallow** on the power lines 10/29 (DG, TJ) as it rested and fed with the resident flock of 100+ **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**. A second Cave Swallow was seen 10/30 at POD and 10/31 at TI (ph. AB, DB). Amazingly 9 Cave Swallows were on those NEWTP power lines 11/18 (MS). August brought migrating **Bank Swallow**: 75 on 8/4 (AL, AB) and 60 on 8/18 at TI (SKac, MD). Thirty additional Bank Swallow records are each less than ten birds. **Philadelphia** enjoyed **Red-breasted Nuthatches** throughout the city in very good numbers. **American Pipit** could be found on the grassy ballfields of POD 10/14 to 11/8 when a **Snow Bunting** joined them (FW).

We recorded only 30 warbler species, missing expected species such as Mourning Warbler and Kentucky Warbler, yet there were few complaints. Good fallouts 9/10 and 9/16 brought 20+ warbler species. Birders discussed the declining number sightings of **Tennessee Warbler**, never an abundant migrant in the county but occasionally down to zero or only a few sightings in recent years. This year, however, there were at least 16 sightings of Tennessee Warbler at the DRT and TI (FW, TF). **Orange-crowned Warbler** with more than ten observations 10/10-11/19 seemed to be especially attracted to the river edge at two relatively new birding locations—POD and DRT—which account for the recent years' increases. Six sightings of **Connecticut Warbler** included birds at POD 9/12-10/3 and at BRSP 10/15 (FW). Three other sightings were at DRT and TI 9/11-17 (TF, m.ob.). **Cape May Warbler** was also well represented from 9/10 with 2-3 birds seen at TI 9/16-21 and a remarkable 12 birds were reported during a 5 hour walk 9/29 (DA, TF, et. al.). A **Magnolia Warbler** at Andorra Natural Area 12/8 (JJ) was a very late if not the latest county record. One birder's list of 250 **Palm Warbler** showed as expected that **Yellow Palm Warbler** outnumbered **Western Palm Warbler** more than 2:1 from 8/30-11/28. At TI, a late **Black-throated Green Warbler** was found 11/17 (CR, RK) and a **Wilson's Warbler** was at GF 11/23 (MS).

Blue Grosbeak often linger at POD in the post breeding season (FW), but this year a lovely male also stopped at Bartram's Gardens 10/8 (DA). **Dickcissel** also rest and feed at POD as one juvenile did 9/30-10/3 (FW, BK ph.). An adult female Dickcissel was found 10/13 and was perhaps the one seen again 10/16 (FW). **Bobolink** frequent numerous locations especially along the DR; flocks increased to 135 through Aug, attracted to wild rice at TI (GA, TF). Six **Eastern Meadowlarks** were at POD 10/17.

The winter finch irruption began 9/11 with 8 **Purple Finch** at POD (PR). They were still at Houston Meadow 11/27 (KJ). Five **White-winged Crossbill** were at TI 11/17 (RK, CR) and 11/20 (TF). Near Nazareth Academy in northeast Philly, 3 crossbills were present in an eastern hemlock 11/21 and one 11/30 (FW). One **Common Redpoll** was at TI 11/15-17 (AB, DB, TF), at Houston Meadow 11/18 (FW) and at POD 11/28 (FW). Flocks of 20-30 **Pine Siskins** were common in parks and backyards, but by late Nov. they were gone. After 20+ years without a single report, an **Evening Grosbeak** was photographed at TI eating crabapples 12/2 (CH).

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Pike County

No report.

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Potter County

No report.

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Schuylkill County

Locations: Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, North Lookout (HMS), Landingville Dam (LVD), Locust Lake State Park (LLSP), Sweet Arrow Lake (SAL), Swatara State Park (SSP), Tuscarora State Park (TSP).

It was apparent this season that there was excellent coverage along the southern border of the county. Regular monitoring of SSP (BR), SGL110 (KG), LVD (TC, BJ), SAL (DD) and HMS (m.ob.) provide a gauntlet that is difficult for birds to pass without being observed. Combined with regular postings from other sites to the north the data are fairly extensive.

With some exceptions, waterfowl species are somewhat limited in *Schuylkill*, especially in abundance and frequency. One excellent bird this season, however, was a first year **Brant** at TSP 11/13, about 2 weeks after Hurricane Sandy passed through (DR). A number of ducks were sighted at SAL in Nov, including **Northern Shovelers** 11/23 (RR, SS), **Ring-necked Duck** 11/25 (DR, RR, DS, SS), and **Greater Scaup** 11/3 (DD). **Buffleheads** were seen at three locations this fall: at SAL 11/2 (DD); TSP 11/13 (DR); and LVD 11/13-14 (BJ, DR). A very rare sighting of three first year **Black Scoters** was made at LLSP 11/23 along with a **Hooded Merganser** (DR). **Common Mergansers** were spotted at two locations: HMS 11/4 (HM, BH) and LVD 11/1 (TC) and 11/13 (DR). An excellent early fall migrant was an **American Bittern** at LVD 7/20 (TC).

Since HMS is located in the county, there are excellent records of species and dates for migrating raptors. Since the data are summarized elsewhere in this journal, it will not be discussed here except to mention a few notable happenings. A season record for **Golden Eagles** was set, which included single day numbers of 48 on 11/3 and 27 on 11/2 (m.ob.). An immature **Swainson's Hawk** was seen at HMS 11/4 (KGr).

Shorebirds are not abundant in *Schuylkill*. A handful of migrants were posted from LVD 7/20 and again 7/29 by a single observer (TC). Included in the assemblage were **Solitary Sandpiper**, **Lesser Yellowlegs** and **Least Sandpiper**. A possible **Pectoral Sandpiper** was seen only 7/20. That same day, a single **Common Tern** was also reported at LVD (TC).

A very late **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was recorded 10/7 when 2 birds were still calling (DR). Although no **Northern Saw-whet Owls** were reported in the field, a large number were captured at SW's ongoing banding project. This year was the best since 2007 and the second best since research began in 1997. One station at Hidden Valley netted 330 birds and another along the Blue Mountain ridge right on the *Schuylkill/Berks* border netted 543 birds.

A few notable late dates were recorded for flycatchers. An **Eastern Wood-Pewee** was seen 10/1 (DR) and **Eastern Phoebe**s stayed around until 11/5 (DR) and 11/2 (BR). The only location this fall for **White-eyed Vireo** was SSP where the last one was spotted 9/14 (BR). The only records for **Yellow-throated Vireo** were 8/29 (AK, RK, LG) and 8/30 (RF), both at HMS. HMS was also the only location for **Warbling Vireo** where three were seen 8/30 (DH, AM, RF). **Red-eyed Vireos** had a notable late dates of 10/3 (BR) and 10/4 (DR). HMS, although known for its hawk watch, is also an excellent location for seeing migrating songbirds. Many species this season were limited to this location, including **American Pipit** (EH, RH, CK, RK). Twenty nine species of warblers, including both breeders and migrants, were observed in the county this fall. Most notable was an **Orange-**

crowned Warbler at SGL110 on 10/7 (KG).

The northern finches found their way into the county with HMS again the primary reporting location. **Purple Finches** arrived in large numbers beginning 9/21 at Stonehenge near Tamaqua (TC). One observer stopped counting at 50 on their feeder (BJ). **Red Crossbills** first appeared 9/1 at HMS (RF) and **White-winged Crossbills** followed 11/2 also at HMS (DK). A **Common Redpoll** appeared at a feeder 10/31 (*fide* SS) and what became a wave of **Pine Siskins** first appeared at SGL110 on 9/29 (KG). **Evening Grosbeaks** were recorded at HMS 11/4 (HS, HM, BH, KGr).

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Snyder County

Locations: Snyder County Birding Trail (SBT), Walker Lake (WL), Faylor Lake (FL), Adam T. Bower Memorial Dam (ATBD) and other various locations.

Three **Common Loons** were found on WL 10/9 (DM). An immature **Little Blue Heron** was found at FL 8/20 (JW); it was seen again 8/26 (CK, IG, AF, AL). Eight **Bald Eagles** were observed at the Shady Nook Boat Launch 8/7 (BQ), a single was at WL 9/9 (DM), 6 were at FL 8/20 (JW), and a single was at the ATBD 11/18 (AK). One **Caspian Tern** was found at ATBD 8/1 (AK). A **Merlin** was observed at SBT 9/3 (JW).

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was at SBT 9/3 (JW). A single **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was found at SBT 9/3 (JW) and 2 **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were outside of Middleburg 11/3 (JW). A **Lincoln's Sparrow** was also observed outside of Middleburg 10/27 (JW). Two **White-crowned Sparrows** were observed at the SBT 10/21 (JW) and 2 were found in the fields outside of Middleburg 11/3 (JW). A **Purple Finch** was found at the SBT 10/21 (JW), another was found outside of Middleburg 10/27 (JW), and yet another was found at Mohantango Orchard 10/28 (KC). A total of 12 **Pine Siskins** were also found at Mohantango Orchard 10/28 (KC).

Observers: Kay Cramer, Anna Fasoli, Ian Gardner, Chad Kauffman, Andy Keister, Alex Lamoreaux, Debby Meade, Brian Quindlen, Jason Weller.

Somerset County

Locations: Berlin Area (BA), Buffalo Creek (BC), Confluence Area (CA), Indian Lake (IL), Lanzone Property (LP), Payne Property (PP), Somerset Lake (SL), Stonycreek Lake (SCL), Summit Mills (SM), Quemahoning Reservoir (QR).

An outstanding fall migration capped a phenomenal birding year for *Somerset*. The continued drawdown of SL provided some shore bird habitat despite an overgrowth of smartweed, which was, however, favored by sparrows and rails. The center of the remnants of Hurricane Sandy's passed close by 10/30 and was met by a strong northwest low pressure system, resulting in a very unusual tropical snowstorm and low clouds which diverted most storm-driven birds east or west of the highlands. Persistence, dedication and skill by ML was rewarded with an amazing year total of 241 species at SL and a personal county year list of 264 species; only one additional species was seen in the county, resulting in 265 for the year.

About 65 **Brant** in several flocks flew low over SL 10/30 (ML). A nice flock of 100 **Tundra Swans** passed by SM 11/14 (EB). There were several duck fallouts at SL; perhaps the best was 10/28 with the following high

counts: 164 **Gadwall**, one **Eurasian Wigeon**, an immature male plus one possible female, 176 **American Wigeon**, 2 **White-winged Scoter**, 2 **Black Scoters**, one **Surf Scoter**, 27 **Northern Shovelers**, 46 **Green-winged Teal** (with another 36 at QR), 279 **Ring-necked Duck**, 176 **Lesser Scaup**, and 594 **Ruddy Duck** (ML). Other noteworthy waterfowl included 6 **Surf Scoters** and 6 **White-winged Scoters** at SCL 10/30 (AP, JP), and a late **Northern Shoveler** in BA up to at least 12/17 (JP). A single **Red-throated Loon** was at SL 11/22 (ML).

A nice count of 6 **Great Egrets** were at SL 10/6 (AL). A **Northern Goshawk** was prowling SL 11/5 (TM). A good flight of 218 **Broad-winged Hawks** passed LP 9/15. This location is along a secondary ridge on the plateau east of Laurel Mountain. One or two **Peregrine Falcons** were regular at SL in Sep and early Oct. A **Yellow Rail** in the smartweed at SL 10/6 was an excellent first for the county (ML). A subsequent "Rail drive" with pointing dogs 10/19 jumped 3 **Sora** and 2 **Virginia Rails** which all dove back in the cover never to be seen again (BC, ML, JM, JP). A sad tale included the happy sighting of a **Sora** in a grassy ditch 8/18 with a later unfortunate discovery of an immature **Sora** hit by a horse-drawn sickle in the same field in SM (EB). Two **Sandhill Cranes** at BC 9/19 had summered, and one was seen in CA 9/19 during a helicopter ride (AM).

Twenty-one species of shorebirds were detected during the period. A congregation of 41 **Killdeer** was spotted in the Shanksville area 8/28 (AM). SL yielded the following species with high count days noted: 6 **Black-bellied Plover** 10/28, 4 **American Golden Plover** 10/25, 3 **American Avocets** 9/5 with one remaining until 9/9 (second county record), a **Whimbrel** which entertained many while fattening on grasshoppers 9/5-14 (second county record), one or 2 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** throughout Sep, a high of 5 **Western Sandpipers** 8/28, 35 **Least Sandpipers** 9/5, 3 **Baird's Sandpipers** 9/5, 9 **Pectoral Sandpipers** 9/18, 53 **Dunlin** 10/30 (with another 120 storm-driven birds at QR that day), 3 **Stilt Sandpipers** 8/25-9/8, a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** with **Killdeer** 9/5 and a **Long-billed Dowitcher** 9/24-26 (ML, m. obs.)

A **Little Gull** was photographed at SL 11/16 for the second *Somerset* record, following this past spring's sighting (ML). A fast-moving **Pomarine Jaeger** at SL 11/2 was probably heading back to sea after the storm. **Caspian Terns** appeared up to 10/31 at SL when 3 were seen (ML).

An immature **Selasphorus hummingbird** put in a brief appearance at LP 10/17, but a female **Rufous Hummingbird** banded in BA 12/20 was present from at least mid-Oct to 12/21 (RM, ML, JP).

Philadelphia Vireo seemed to put in a good showing with 27 found through the season with a high of 4 9/21 (ML). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were widespread and common from late Aug until thinning out in late Nov. **Marsh Wren** is always a good find for the county; a bird 9/21 at SL was seen several times and a later bird was present 10/19 (ML). **Carolina Wren** populations are very cyclical depending on winter weather, so it was nice that more than 15 were reported in Sep. **Thrush** flights were noted but did not seem outstanding in Sep and early Oct. Two **Snow Buntings** were found in a parking lot at SL 11/29 (ML).

Thirty species of warbler were totaled for the season, with high numbers of **Cape May** and **Tennessee Warbler**. Of note 9/3 was an Alaskan subspecies **Yellow Warbler** and a possible *ridgewayii* **Nashville Warbler** at LP (ML). **Mourning Warblers** were spied several times around SL about 9/15 (ML). There were 4-5 **Connecticut Warblers** at LP through Sep (ML) and one at PP 10/1 (JP). An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was at PP 10/1 and 4 were at LP between 9/22-10/25. A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was found at SL 10/25 and *Somerset's* first **Nelson's Sparrows** were at SL 10/9 and Somerset County Conservancy property near Boswell 10/24 (both ML). **Lincoln's Sparrows** were numerous 9/17-11/2 with a high of 6 at SL.

A young **Blue Grosbeak** was heard 'chink'ing and seen in flight at SL 9/9 (ML). Two **Dickcissels** were in BA 9/13 (ML, JP). Twenty **Rusty Blackbirds** were the high count in SM 11/8 (EB). The appearance of winter finches started with a **Red Crossbill** at Somerset County Conservancy's Kimberly Run Natural Area 9/21 (ML) with multiple flocks seen in November (m.ob.). **White-winged Crossbills** showed up at PP 11/4 with 2 flocks of 31 birds in the company of 5 **Evening Grosbeaks**, over 100 **Pine Siskins** and one **Common Redpoll** (JP, CD). **Evening Grosbeaks** were also present at QR in late Nov to early Dec (TF). Other crossbill and siskin flocks were widely reported in Nov but dropped precipitously by late in the month.

Observers: **Jeff Payne 9755 Glades Pike, Berlin, PA 15530, (814) 267-5718**, Elmer Brenneman, Bob Croner, Cory DeStein, Tim Fox, Alex Lamoreaux, Mike Lanzzone, Anthony Marich, Jim Moses, Meg Moses, Robert Mulvihill, Trish Miller, Chris Payne, Alan Peterson.

Sullivan County

Locations: Dutch Mountain (DM), Cherry Township (CT), Eagles Mere Lake

(EML), Hunter's Lake (HL), Nordmont (NT), Shady Nook (SN), Splashdam Pond (SP).

Data for the fall migrant report and this narrative are based on few and sporadic reports for *Sullivan*. The report references trips in mid-August, Labor Day weekend 9/1-3, mid-September, and Thanksgiving week (11/22).

There were four **Tundra Swans** on EML 11/11 along with 4 **Bufflehead** and 46 **Ruddy Ducks** (WE). **Wood Duck** was last observed mid-Sep. **Ruddy Ducks** were still present on EML 11/19. A single **Ring-necked Duck** was found the same day on HL. A lone **Greater Scaup** was seen with a female **Hooded Merganser** and 2 female **Bufflehead** on SP 11/22. **Turkey Vulture** was seen in NT 10/13 (WE). **Osprey** was observed 9/1-3. **Broad-winged Hawk** was still present mid-Sep.

The last report for **Sandhill Crane** was 10/20. There were several reports throughout season. Four birds were heard and then seen flying high above SN in mid-Sep. Two adults and one immature were seen later the same day near Kinsley's corner in CT. There were multiple reports from CT in Oct. All the reports were of small groups.

A **Black-billed Cuckoo** was heard on DM in mid-Aug. A single **Common Nighthawk** was hawking insects above DM 9/1-3. **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** was still present 11/21. The last **Hermit Thrush** was found in mid-Sep. Several migrant songbirds were found at DM and CT in the very first days of Aug and not observed again, including **Eastern Kingbird**, **House Wren**, **Brown Thrasher**, **Yellow** and **Canada Warbler**, **Eastern Meadowlark** and **Baltimore Oriole**. Only the meadowlark seemed unusually early. **Eastern Phoebe**, **Blue-headed** and **Red-eyed Vireo**, **Barn Swallow**, and **Gray Catbird** were all still present in the county mid-Sep. Tree Swallow was reported from EML 10/13 (WE). **Red-breasted Nuthatch** and **Purple Finch** were observed multiple times throughout the season at feeders (R&PP).

Fall is always a good time for warblers in *Sullivan*. Sixteen species of warbler were observed during the season. County nesters last found in mid-Aug were **Ovenbird** and **Prairie Warbler**. **Nashville**, **American Redstart**, **Blackburnian** and **Chestnut-sided Warbler** were last found Labor Day weekend. Species still present in mid-September were **Black-and-white**, **Common Yellowthroat**, **Magnolia**, **Yellow-rumped** and **Black-throated Green Warbler**. Three transient warblers made their way through the county. **Tennessee** and **Bay-breasted** were observed during Labor Day weekend, and a **Wilson's Warbler** was seen at SN mid-Sep.

Among the planted corn at SGL 66 was a **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**, several **Indigo Buntings** and a nice flock of about twenty **Bobolink**. **Lincoln's Sparrow** was found as well. During the week of Thanksgiving, **American Tree Sparrow** was found in two separate areas of SGL 66. A lone **Snow Bunting** was observed at the boat launch area of HL. Large flocks of **Common Redpoll** were found on two separate days in a stand of larch on DM. Both flocks contained 30-50 birds.

Observers: **Rob Megraw, 131 Butternut Drive, Pottstown, PA 19464, (610) 323-0119, robert.r.megraw@xo.com**, Wes Egli, Roy and Penny Peterman.

Susquehanna County

Locations: Big Elk Lake (BEL), Lake Chrisann (LC), Lake Montrose (LM), Quaker Lake (QL), Salt Springs State Park (SSSP), Silver Lake (SL), Woodbourne Forest and Wildlife Preserve (WFWP).

Hurricane Sandy blew through the region 10/30, downing a variety of migrant waterfowl infrequently reported from *Susquehanna*, including a flock of 22 **Brant** at BEL 10/31 (Jsk). Two **Surf Scoters** lingered at QL 10/14-11/2 (EM, JM, Jsk), where they were joined by a flock of 6 **Black Scoters** grounded by the storm 10/30 (Jsk, EM); the latter species also put down at L. Montrose, where there were 3 on 10/30 (Jsk). Sandy also forced 2 **Red-throated Loons** from the skies at SL 10/30-31 (Jsk) and a rare fall **Red-necked Grebe** at LC 10/30 (Jsk). The single most noteworthy record of the season was that of a **Selasphorus hummingbird** photographed at a feeder in Springville Twp. 10/31 (Jsk). A first for *Susquehanna*, and one of dozens reported from the state this fall, it departed before it could be banded or identified to species. An imm. **Red-headed Woodpecker** made an unusual appearance at a suet feeder at WFWP 10/20 (Jsk).

A spectacular winter finch invasion documented by birders throughout Pennsylvania and across the ABA Area this fall was evident in *Susquehanna*, where several irruptive boreal species were observed. Single **White-winged Crossbills** turned up at a campground in Silver Lake Twp. 11/22 (WS) and at Salt Springs S.P. 11/23 (WS). Feeders in Dimock Twp. attracted a lone **Common Redpoll** 11/26 (Jst). **Pine Siskins** were numerous, peaking in late Oct, when flocks of 40-100+ were reported (Jsk,

JSt). Flocks of up to 20 **Evening Grosbeaks** graced Dimock Twp. 10/30-11/1 (JSt, PB), where 2 were noted again mid-Nov (JSt).

Observers: **Amy Davis, 129 W. Lancaster Ave. #2, Downingtown, PA 19335, (484) 753-5154, argdavis@gmail.com**, Rob Bate, Pat Bidlake, Edmund Burdick, Nick Bolgiano, John Hand, Evan Mann, Justin Mann, Win Shafer, Douglas Sheldon, Jerry Skinner (JSt), Joyce Stone (JSt).

Tioga County
No report.

Compiler: **Gary Tyson, 130 Hills Creek Drive, Wellsboro, PA, 16901, (570) 724-5789, gnats3@ptd.net.**

Union County
No compiler.

Venango County

Locations: Barkeyville fields (BF), Buttermilk Hill (BHNS), Clintonville Pond (CP), Kahle Lake (KL), Oil City Marina (OCM), Oil Creek State Park (OCSP).

Waterfowl were unimpressive with the exception of the few days around the passage of Hurricane Sandy 10/30. All waterfowl were at KL. There were up to 50 each of **Gadwall** and **American Wigeon** 10/30, at least 40 **Ring-necked Duck** 10/30, a **Black Scoter** 10/29-30, and 200 **Ruddy Duck** through 10/31. **Ruffed Grouse** numbers were up somewhat, with 8 individuals in the KL area 11/23 (GE). **Common Loon** was seen only at KL 10/28-31. There were 50 **Pied-billed Grebes** at KL 10/29-31.

Three **Great Egrets** were at CP 8/2 and another was at the OCM 8/23. A late **Osprey** was at KL 11/1 (RS, ML). A **Northern Goshawk** was at BHNS 11/9 (JS). A **Sora** was at KL 10/8. Shorebirds, all at KL, included 7 **Black-bellied Plover** 10/31 (JS), **American Golden-Plover** 11/1-5 (GE), **Semipalmated Plover** 8/7-10/27, **Pectoral Sandpiper** 10/29 (JS), 140 **Dunlin** 10/31 (JS), and **Venango's first Red Phalarope** 10/31 (JS, RS).

Also representing a first county record, a **Black-legged Kittiwake** was spotted over KL 10/30 (JS, RS, GE). A late **Common Tern** was at KL 10/27. A **Short-eared Owl** was at BF 11/28 after a few years absence (RS, GE). At least 3 **Northern Saw-whet Owls** responded to tape at OCSP 10/24 (GE, JW). The annual Nighthawk Migration Count was conducted 8/15-9/14 and produced 991 **Common Nighthawks**. A **Red-headed Woodpecker**, uncommon for *Venango*, was found at BHNS 10/7 (KG). **Merlin** was seen on the Nighthawk Count at OCM 9/5.

At BHNS, **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was seen 8/22 and **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** 9/9 and 9/21. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were up this year (GE), but numbers of **Golden-crowned Kinglet** were low and only 2 **Hermit Thrushes** were to be had. Warblers were about average. Notable were **Orange-crowned Warbler** 10/15, a late **Yellow Warbler** 9/12, **Cerulean Warbler** 9/11, **Mourning Warbler** 9/22 (JS, KG), and **Wilson's Warbler** 8/25 (MK). Sparrows included the first **American Tree Sparrow** 11/9, **Fox Sparrow** 10/19, and **Lincoln's Sparrow** 9/28-10/15. Several **Rusty Blackbirds** were at KL 11/5 (GE). Winter finches this season were **Red Crossbill** 11/11 at BHNS (JS, KG), **White-winged Crossbill** 11/10 at KL (GE), **Common Redpoll** 11/17, **Pine Siskin** 10/21, and **Evening Grosbeak** 11/5 and 11/19.

Observers: **Gary Edwards, 224 Meadow Rd., Apt. 9, Seneca, PA 16346, (814) 676-3011, gedwards@csonline.net**; **Russ States, 11 E. 4th St., Oil City, PA 16301, (814) 676-6320, pabirder@verizon.net**, Nancy Baker, Kathie Goodblood, Mike Leahy, Meg Kolodick, Jerry Stanley, Jim Wilson.

Warren County
No compiler.

Washington County

Locations: AMD Pond in North Strabane Twp. (AMD), Bentleyville (BENT), Canonsburg Lake (CL), Greencove Wetlands (GCW), Peters Township (PET), Robinson Township (RBT), Washington Cemetery (WCCEM).

Coverage this season in *Washington* was once again rather sparse, but some amazing rarities were found nonetheless, including two county

firsts, one of which would represent just the fourth state record if accepted.

A **Snow Goose** was near BENT 10/28 (AB). The only report of **Tundra Swan** was 4 over PET 11/27 (GG). A late **Wood Duck** was at Boone Res. 11/23 (RR). **Gadwall** was well reported at BENT 10/19-11/10, with a peak of 40 on 11/6 (AL, JL, AF, ST). Up to 15 **American Wigeon** were near BENT 9/30-10/28 (AB). **Blue-winged Teal** numbered in the teens near BENT 8/31-10/8 (AB). A nice early-Oct count of 9 **Northern Pintail** was made at BENT 10/8 (AB), and 8 were there 11/3 (AB). A female **Northern Pintail** appeared again at WCCEM 11/16 (LC) and was seen by several observers at least through 11/28. This bird has been seen at the cemetery each winter since 2003 (*fide* PB). **Green-winged Teal** were seen only at CL 10/15 (MV) and 4 on 11/23 (RR). A **Redhead** near BENT 11/6 (AL, JL, AF, ST) was the only report. The female **Ring-necked Duck** present at AMD since January was last reported 9/24 (MV). High count for this species was 48 near BENT 10/28 (AB), with the last one reported there 11/9 (MV). A **Greater Scaup** at BENT 11/10 (AB) was the only report, and **Lesser Scaup** were also reported only from BENT, but in better numbers 10/28-11/9 (AB, MV). Top count of **Bufflehead** was 12 at BENT 11/9 (MV). A **Red-breasted Merganser** near BENT 11/6 (AL, JL, AF, ST) was a nice find for the fall season. A great tally of 95 **Ruddy Ducks** was made at BENT 10/28 (AB), with smaller numbers persisting there until 11/10.

A duo of **Ring-necked Pheasants** was found at GCW 10/5 (ST, DW). The bird of the season was a first winter **Pacific Loon** found and photographed on a pond near BENT 11/3 (AB), which was present until 11/10. The location is on private property and not visible from any public road, so unfortunately the bird could not be made known to the public at large. A few local birders have a tenuous understanding with the landowner, which allows bird monitoring at this site to continue, but this will never become a public birding destination, unfortunately. If accepted by PORC, this would represent just the fourth verified Pacific Loon for Pennsylvania. Up to 8 **Common Loons** were at this same location with the Pacific, with the last seen there 11/20. **Pied-billed Grebes** had a great season, reported from six locations beginning 9/7 at AMD (GG). Two **Horned Grebes** were near BENT 11/3-6 (AB). A good count of 61 **Double-crested Cormorants** was at Lake Joann 10/30 (GG), the day that the remnants of Hurricane Sandy passed through the state.

Despite the fact that the entire eastern border of *Washington* is delineated by the Monongahela River, **Osprey** is still not yet known to nest in the county. Single birds, probably migrants, were seen in PET 9/2 and 9/23 (GG). **Bald Eagles** is also still quite unusual in the county, so four reports this season, all within three days of each other, were noteworthy: one in South Franklin Twp. (*fide* RI), one in BENT 8/31 (AB), one at Cherry Valley Res. 9/1 (RT), and one again in BENT 9/2 (AB). Three **Northern Harriers** were seen at a traditional wintering area in Robinson Twp. 11/16 (MV). A **Red-shouldered Hawk** was spotted in Scenery Hill 10/26 (AB). Reports of **American Kestrel** were limited to 2 on 10/12 at GCW (ST) and one in Robinson Twp. 11/16 (MV).

If not for the Pacific Loon, the bird of the season would have been a **Yellow Rail** found at GCW 10/5 (DW, ST), another first county record. It was seen well enough late that evening to confirm not only its identity but that it was an adult (ST, DW, GM), but unfortunately no photographs could be obtained. It was still present the next day (MD, MF) but not seen thereafter. This would represent the seventh state record if accepted, but there have been several more sight reports not submitted to PORC over the years. A **Sora** was seen at GCW 10/5 as well (ST, DW).

The same location near BENT that hosted the Pacific Loon is also the only shorebird site of any consequence in the county, and it has hosted several headliners over the years. This season the only rarity reported from there, however, was a **Red-necked Phalarope** 8/17 (AB). Other notable reports from that spot were 7 **Semipalmated Plovers** 8/27 (AB), 5 **Greater Yellowlegs** 10/28 (AB), one **Semipalmated Sandpiper** 8/31 (AB), up to 3 **Least Sandpiper** 8/17-9/2 (AB), one **Pectoral Sandpiper** 8/31 (AB), and 8 **Dunlin** 11/7 (GM) and one 11/9 (MV). Away from BENT shorebirds were very few with the only notable reports being one **Solitary Sandpiper** 10/15 at CL (MV), a **Wilson's Snipe** at GCW 10/8 (GM, MH) and 10/12 (ST), and an **American Woodcock** near Eighty Four 10/6 (AB). A single **Bonaparte's Gull**, rare for *Washington*, was with 2 **Herring Gulls** at BENT 11/9 (MV).

Short-eared Owls returned to winter at Robinson Twp. 11/16 (MV). A **Northern Saw-whet Owl** was seen on a construction site outside of Washington in mid-Oct. GM was invited to the site and was able to confirm the identity 10/24 but again, public access could not be obtained. There are only about five records for the county. Up to 15 **Common Nighthawks** were seen over PET 9/2 and 9/3 (GG). Very extraordinary was a late-season **Eastern Whip-poor-will** heard in the early morning during a hunting expedition near Daisytown 11/28 (AB). The observer reported hearing the bird call five or six times at dawn, and this was corroborated by a non-birding friend of his who was staked out nearby and heard the same thing. This likely represents the latest record of Eastern Whip-poor-will for Pennsylvania

in its history. The only report of **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** was one at WCEM 11/28 (PB).

A late **Eastern Phoebe** was in East Finley Twp. 11/12 (PH). A late-ish **Blue-headed Vireo** was seen in Washington Park 10/21 (LC), and the only **Philadelphia Vireo** was at Washington Park School 9/23 (LC). **Common Ravens** are now actually common in *Washington*, with reports this season from four locations: 2 at the nest site in Avella 10/6 (PB), 2 in Cecil Twp. 10/25 (PB), 4 in Scenery Hill 10/26 (AB) and 2 there again 11/30 (AB), and 2 in BENT 10/28 (AB). Four **Bank Swallows** were in BENT 8/12 (ST). **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were very common, especially at WCEM in Nov, when the peak count of 35 was made 11/17 (GM). The first report for the season was 8/11 at Hillman State Park (MF), but the species has bred there in the past, so the first known migrant was 9/30 at PET (GG). They were reported from four other locations as well. **Winter Wrens** were at Eighty Four 10/6 (AB) and Washington Park School 10/18 (LC). Up to 3 **Marsh Wrens** were reported at GCW 10/5-12 (ST, DW, MF, MD). **Golden-crowned Kinglets** invaded with reports beginning 10/6 at GCW (MF, MD). They were quite common at WCEM by season's end. A downright lousy season for thrushes saw only a single **Swainson's Thrush** at Washington Park 9/25-28 (LC).

Warblers were very poorly reported. A late **Louisiana Waterthrush** was found at GCW 9/1 (TM), and a late **Yellow Warbler** was at CL 9/24 (MV). **Palm Warblers** persisted at GCW to 10/6 (MF, MD). **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were setting up for winter at WCEM by 11/17 (GM).

Field, Savannah, and Lincoln's Sparrows were all reported only from GCW 10/8 (GM, MH), and **Swamp Sparrow** was also only reported from GCW but over a wider period of time in early Oct. **White-crowned Sparrow** was at GCW 10/12 (ST) and 3 were at Scenery Hill 10/26 (AB). Last **Indigo Bunting** was at GCW 10/6 (MF, MD). Five or 6 **Bobolinks** at GCW 10/5-6 (ST, DW, MF, MD) were also the last of the season. A first year male **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was reported at GCW 10/3 (MDi fide JB) but was not relocated. Up to 14 **Rusty Blackbirds** were among the roosting blackbirds at GCW 11/8-30 (ST).

Two or three **Purple Finches** became fixtures at a PET feeder 9/30 through the season (GG). **White-winged Crossbills** appeared in numbers up to 30 at WCEM beginning 11/14 (JB, et al.) but they proved harder to pin down from day to day at the cemetery than during their massive invasion in 2008-09. A flock of 22 was also reported at Avella 11/20 (JB) and 4 were at Scenery Hill 11/30 (AB). **Pine Siskins** were reported variously around the county beginning 10/6 at Eighty Four (AB). Good sized flocks (up to 23) were noted at a feeder in PET in Nov (GG).

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Wayne County

Locations: Dyberry Township (DT), intersection of S. Preston Rd. & Poyntelle Rd. (SPP), intersection of S. Preston Rd. and Red Shale Rd. (SRS).

Single **Bald Eagles** were reported on the Pennsylvania side of the Narrowsburg Bridge 8/19 (MS), near SRS 9/23 (JB, TG), in DT 10/22 (CF), near Hamlin 11/13 (KD), and on S. Preston Rd. south of Lakewood 11/25 (TG). An uncommon sighting for *Wayne*, a **Golden Eagle** was seen over private property in DT 10/13 (CF). A male **Northern Harrier** was observed 10/21 hunting low over fields on Sampson Farm, on S. Preston Rd. (TG). A juvenile **Northern Goshawk** was observed on private property in Texas Twp. 10/30 (BL). Many **Common Nighthawks** were observed moving over Bavarian Hill at dusk in Beach Lake 8/19 (MS). Two **Red-headed Woodpeckers**, one adult and one juvenile, were observed in Prompton State Park 8/1. It was exciting to confirm this species nesting in *Wayne* (CF). A **Merlin** was sighted in Beach Lake 8/19 (MS).

An early migrant **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was enjoyed in DT 8/4-6 (CF). A **Northern Shrike** was found 11/17 in a small ash tree at the Bromberg residence in northern *Wayne* near SPP (TG). A single **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was observed near Honesdale 9/27 (SWP). Another was heard in DT 9/22 (CF). A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was found in DT 9/7 (CF). Three **Swainson's Thrush** were reported along the Delaware River in Buckingham Twp. 10/18 (RK).

A single **Fox Sparrow** was at a private residence near Honesdale 10/21 (SWP). Two individuals were seen at the same location 11/6 (SWP).

Seven **Eastern Meadowlarks** were seen flying up in a group from the large meadow near SRS 9/29. Though present in the area throughout the summer, it is unusual to see so many at once (TG).

Groups of **Pine Siskins** consisting of from 25-45 individuals were regularly observed working the feeders and pine trees at a private residence near Honesdale 10/8-22 (SWP). A larger group of approx. 75-100 individuals was at the same location 10/26 (SWP). Pine Siskins also visited a feeder in DT 10/11-23, with a high count of 35 on 10/18 (CF). Twelve **Evening Grosbeaks**, including both males and females, were reported at a private residence near Honesdale 11/6 (SWP). Another was reported in DT 11/11 (JPS).

Observers: **Chris Fischer, c/o Bugaj/Fischer, PC, P.O. Box 390, Honesdale, PA 18431, (570) 446-9597, cfischer17@gmail.com**, John Bromberg, Kathy Dodge, Trudy Gerlach, Rick Keyser, Barb Leo, Sandra Ward Povse, Jim and Pat Sanders, Mike Shanley.

Westmoreland County

Locations: Beaver Run Reservoir (BRR), Delmont (DEL), Donegal Lake (DL), Kuehl Property Area (KP), New Stanton (NS), Powdermill Nature Reserve (PNR), Northmoreland Park (NP), Spruce Flats Bog (SFB), Trout Run Reservoir (TRR), Westmoreland Heritage Trail (WHT).

It was an active fall migration for *Westmoreland*, evidenced by the almost 7,000 birds banded at PNR for the season. Other than a post-storm **Cave Swallow**, *Westmoreland* missed out on rare birds from Hurricane Sandy, but did see some early reports on what appeared to be a good irruption year for boreal species.

Eight **Tundra Swans** were on DL 11/15 (BM), 50 flew over Bell Township 11/18 (KD), and a flock of 60-70 flew over NS 11/27 (MF). DL held 6 **Brant** (BC, BM, ST) and 2 **Surf Scoters** (ST) 10/29. High counts of waterfowl at DL during and after the passage of Sandy included 134 **Gadwall** 10/29 (ST), 47 **American Wigeon** 10/20 (BC, BM), 65 **Buffleheads** 10/30 (BC, BM), 153 **Rudy Ducks** 10/29 (ST), and 100 **Double-crested Cormorants** 10/30 (BC, BM). A single **Black Scoter** was at TRR 10/31 (KB). **American Coots** were also present in good numbers at DL on 10/30 (95 by BC-BM). Minus a report of 75 **Ruddy Duck** 10/29 (KB), BRR was largely a bust for Hurricane Sandy fallout, however a single **Brant** was present 11/1 (GM, DW). A **Great Egret** was at BRR 8/10 (MVT). An out of place **American Bittern** was photographed perched in ivy vines at a Scottsdale home 11/10 (fide DW).

Three **Black Vultures** were on Chestnut Ridge outside of Latrobe 10/28 (DM). A **Northern Harrier** was spotted in Bell Twp. 11/12 (KD). **Red-shouldered Hawks** were observed regularly during the season at PNR (BC) and at the KP (TK, JK). A dark-morph **Rough-legged Hawk** was observed at NP 11/23 (MVT). A late **Osprey**, possibly blown off course by Hurricane Sandy, was at DL 10/31 (BC, BM, KB). A **Bald Eagle** was also present that day. A **Golden Eagle** was at TRR 10/31 (KB). The **Peregrine Falcons** nesting on the Tarentum Bridge were seen 8/2 (RP), one of which attacked a Bald Eagle. A **Peregrine Falcon** passed through Delmont 10/4 (KB) chasing a flock of **Cedar Waxwings** at PNR 9/5 (BC, BM).

As usual shorebirds were few. Unusual reports included a **Least Sandpiper** in NS 8/28 (MF), and 2 **Dunlin** (ST) and 15 **Greater Yellowlegs** (DB) at DL 10/29. Hurricane Sandy blew in a high count of 17 **Bonaparte's Gull** at DL 10/30 (BC, BM), and 3 **Common Terns** were reported at BRR 11/1 (GM). **Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, and Northern Saw-whet Owl** were reported on various dates during the season at PNR (BC, BM). **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** were also reported on various date at PNR.

Three **Olive-sided Flycatchers** provided good looks near the PNR banding station 9/3 (BC). Wandering into a lower elevation area, and a species that is becoming commonplace in *Westmoreland*, a **Common Raven** flew over the KP 10/20 (TK). The best bird to come of Hurricane Sandy, and the only true rarity, was a **Cave Swallow** at BRR 11/1 (DW, GM). Among the many reports of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** was a report of 5 at Mammoth Park 9/28 (DS).

Near-daily outings at a hotspot near DEL were conducted again this year (KB). A total of 24 warbler species were counted, including a **Mourning Warbler** 9/22. The PNR Banding Station logged 29 species of warbler, including 13 **Connecticut Warblers**. An immature **Connecticut Warbler** was spotted perched in a Holly Bush at KP 9/23 (TK).

A single **White-crowned Sparrow** was in DEL 10/14 (KB) and 6 were there 10/19 (KB). A single **White-crowned Sparrow** was at the KP feeders 10/23 (JK). A **Nelson's Sparrow** was flushed, and then captured at the PNR Banding Station 9/29 (BC). This was only the second capture of this species at PNR.

Six **Pine Siskins** were at Mammoth Park 9/28 (DS), and 5 at the KP feeders 10/23 (JK). PNR captured 326 **Pine Siskin** this year. Three male and one female **Evening Grosbeaks** were at feeders near Loyalhanna Dam 11/5 (*vide* MVT). At NP, there were 15 **White-winged Crossbills**, one **Pine Siskin**, and numerous **Red-breasted Nuthatches** 11/22 (SG). Two **Red Crossbills** (Type-1) were at PNR 11/7 (BC). They were also reported at SFB, with 4 on 11/10 (ST) and 3 on 11/22 (SC). **White-winged Crossbills** were also present at SFB: one 11/10 (ST) and 9 on 11/22 (SC). Thirteen **Common Redpolls** were at SFB 11/10 (ST).

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Wyoming County

Locations: Lake Carey (LC), Oxbow Lake(OL), Sharpe's Lake (SL), Sordoni's Farm (SF).

Last year many locals had been reporting a relative scarcity of birds at their feeders. This year, just as many are reported that they couldn't keep their feeders filled... just another example of the ebb and flow of bird distribution.

This fall was similar to past seasons until the passage of Hurricane Sandy. The "superstorm" added a little excitement to the end of October, and resulted in the appearance of several species that are rare to *Wyoming*, including one possible first for the county.

Seventeen species of waterfowl were reported. Among the rarities was a single **Brant** at LC 11/1 (JS), the first record since 2006, blown in by Sandy. Other migrants include 3 **Gadwall** at LC 11/29 (JD), a single **Blue-winged Teal** at LC 11/17 (SG), one female **Northern Shoveler** at LC 11/13 (JD), and 3 **Green-winged Teal** at SL 11/17 (SG). **Ring-necked Duck** was reported at four locations in *Wyoming*, as early as 10/1 at LC (JD) and as late as 11/29 at OL (JD). **Bufflehead** appeared at four locations 10/30-11/29, each time in small numbers. A pair of **Surf Scoters**, rare visitors to the county, spent several hours at LC 10/31 (JD). A single **Black Scoter**, another rare surprise, foraged on the Susquehanna at Tunkhannock for most of the day 10/26 (JD). The local paper ran a photo and a brief article about the bird that week. Three additional **Black Scoters** appeared at LC 10/31(JD). Other transient migrants included a single **Red-breasted Merganser** at LC 10/31 (JD) that apparently came and left the same day. LC seems to host one of this species every fall. **Ruddy Duck** was present in small numbers throughout the county for the entire month of Nov. One **Common Loon**, perhaps the same bird at every sighting, was observed at LC 10/9-11/11 (m.ob.). Similarly, **Pied-billed Grebe** was present throughout *Wyoming* from mid-Oct through Nov. Up to 4 **Horned Grebes** were observed at LC 11/1-13 (JD). Though it has been recorded in the fall, this species appears more often during spring migration. Perhaps Hurricane Sandy had some influence on its appearance this fall.

One **Great Egret** stayed on the river near the Mehoopany Bridge for several days to 9/15 (JD, et al.). Thirteen Great Egrets were observed on the river near Tunkhannock 7/28 but were gone by the beginning of this reporting period. **Osprey** was observed only once during, near Beaumont 10/13 (SG). There are no confirmed reports of nesting in the county. Once again, **Sandhill Crane** was recorded throughout the summer, usually at or near SL. However, there is still no evidence of nesting in the county. One very exciting find was 2 **Little Gulls** swimming with 2 **Ring-billed Gulls** at LC 10/31 (JD). This may represent the first record of Little Gull for *Wyoming*.

Another exciting visitor was a **Rufous Hummingbird**, perhaps another first record for *Wyoming*, at the county line near Lymanville 10/29. The bird was reported by the homeowner whose feeder the bird was visiting over several days. An effort to band the bird and confirm the identification failed, as the bird left the area before an attempt could be made.

Red-breasted Nuthatch was observed more frequently than in recent years. They were reported at county feeders throughout Nov (BD, RL). If their frequency at feeders in Tunkhannock is any indication, **House Finch** may be making a bit of a comeback. There was a daily presence of 6-8 birds this season (JD), compared to being rare visitors last year. Finally, **Evening Grosbeak** reappeared in small numbers in *Wyoming*. First observation was at feeders in Tunkhannock 11/5.

Observers: **Joe DeMarco, 15 West Tioga Street, Tunkhannock, PA, 18657, 570-836-1468, jdemarco@epix.net**, Jim Borden, Mark Catalano, Bob Daniels, Sandy Goodwin, Rebecca Lesko, Jerry Skinner, Jon Thomas, Alan Thatcher.

York County

Locations: Althouse School Rd (ALT), Brunner Island (BI), Codorus State Park (CSP), Gifford Pinchot State Park (GPSP), Hawk Lake Golf Course (HAWK), High Point Scenic Vista and Recreation Area (HIGH), Lake Redman (LR), Lake Williams (LW), Long Arm Reservoir (LAR), Rocky Ridge County Park (RRCP), Sheppard-Myers Reservoir (SMR), Ski Roundtop (SRTP), Spring Grove (SG), Spring Valley County Park (SVCP), State Game Lands #242 (SGL).

An impressive 198 species for the period was buoyed by good lake and reservoir coverage 10/30 following Hurricane Sandy and a few good days of passerine migration.

Waterfowl fallout from Hurricane Sandy 10/30 is presented in the following table, broken out by the main bodies of water in the county with the Hanover area reservoirs grouped together. Observers were as follows: at LAR/SMR/CSP (AM), at LR/LW (DC), and at GSP (BJH, AM, BS). Although there were no pelagic species, variety was impressive especially at the Hanover area reservoirs.

Hurricane Sandy Waterfowl, 10/30

Species	CSP/LAR/SMR	LR/LW	GPSP
Canada Goose	252	--	--
Wood Duck	5	--	--
Gadwall	33	--	--
American Wigeon	20	--	--
American Black Duck	4	--	--
Mallard	33	8	12
Northern Shoveler	45	--	--
Northern Pintail	1	--	--
Green-winged Teal	89	--	--
Ring-necked Duck	140	8	23
Greater Scaup	3	--	--
Lesser Scaup	3	6	--
Scaup sp.	75	--	--
Surf Scoter	3	--	--
White-winged Scoter	2	--	--
Black Scoter	1	--	--
Bufflehead	110	8	50+
Hooded Merganser	8	--	--
Common Merganser	4	--	--
Ruddy Duck	1040	~100	24
Red-throated Loon	1	--	--
Common Loon	5	--	20
Pied-billed Grebe	--	--	4
Horned Grebe	--	--	3
American Coot	170	--	--

Outside of the Sandy fallout 10/30, other good waterfowl sightings were made. There were 16 **Snow Goose** over SRTP 11/1 (CH). A **Cackling Goose** at LAR 11/17 (AM) was photographed. Twenty **Tundra Swan** were at GPSP 11/11 (NZ) and ~100 were termed "stratospheric" over HAWK 11/14 (CC). A single **Long-tailed Duck** was at GPSP 11/11 (NZ). A very rare August sighting of a **Red-necked Grebe** was made at CSP 8/22 (KL). "Records of York County Birds" by the late Al Spiese indicates one prior August sighting, 8/10, with no year noted nor additional detail provided.

With the very noteworthy exception of a **White Ibis**, wader reports were typical. **Great Egrets** continue to favor LR during this period with multiple reports 8/2-10/12; 18 was the high count 8/21 (CK). **Little Blue Heron** can likely now be considered "annual" as CSP regularly hosts at least one. This period's bird carried over from the summer to 8/5 (DC). **Black-crowned Night Herons** were found at four sites 8/7-9/18 with a high count of 5 at BI 8/10 (AM). The juvenile White Ibis was first found in the Saginaw/Gut Rd. area along the Susquehanna River 8/9 (JMI) and remained through 8/12. This sighting falls within the dates of prior *York* sightings: 8/5-22.

The RRCP Hawkwatch peak count for **Broad-winged Hawk** was 9/17 (RP, PK) with 826 birds. The vast majority (703) were seen after 14:00. A Hanover industrial water tower held a pair of **Peregrine Falcon** last winter; activity starting mid-Nov this year (JS) suggested they returned to that site.

Shorebird diversity was fair with 13 species, but numbers were low. A nice find were two **Western Sandpipers** at LR 9/12 (DC, RP). There were single reports of **White-rumped Sandpiper** at LAR 8/14 (DC) and **Baird's Sandpiper** 8/24 (PJR) at a Hanover shopping mall retention pond. There were three reports of **Pectoral Sandpiper** from 8/15- 10/19 (m.ob.). A **Stilt Sandpiper** was at LR 9/3-12 (AM, DC, RP) with photos obtained. There were two reports of **Bonaparte Gull**: one at GPSP 10/30 (AM) and 9 at LAR

11/17 (AM). A **Herring Gull** was part of the Sandy entourage at LAR 10/30 (AM). LR produced a single **Black Tern** 8/10 (DC). Unusual was only one **Caspian Tern** reported, from LR 8/28 (CK).

A **Black-billed Cuckoo** was at SRTP 8/1 (CH). **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was detected more frequently than usual, with sightings from seven locations 8/1-24 (m.ob.). High count for **Common Nighthawk** was 35 overhead at CSP in a one hour period 8/23 (DL, KL, HM). Last reported **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** was 9/30 (IPL) in Dover Twp. The county hosted 2 **Rufous Hummingbirds**. A hatch year female was banded at a Hanover feeder 10/10 (SL), less than a quarter mile from last year's long staying Rufous. The second was in Springettsbury Twp. beginning 11/12 (DH), with banding 11/19 (SL) confirming an adult female. In a bit of a quirk, there were only two **Red-headed Woodpecker** reports and both were November sightings; 11/21 (BJH) at GPSP and 3 at Young's Woods from 11/11-14 (HM). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, **Hairy Woodpecker**, and **Pileated Woodpecker** followed last year's higher frequency of sightings with good reporting in 2012 as well: 10, 12, and 10, respectively.

A wave of migration 8/19 (AM) produced 12 **Eastern Wood-Pewees** at RRCP. There were three **Least Flycatcher** reports spanning 8/8- 9/6 (LC, AM, DS). An **Eastern Phoebe** at GPSP 11/22 (RK) was late. Vireos showed well at various locales with GPSP producing all expected species. The two **Yellow-throated Vireo** reports came from GPSP 8/5 (EB) and 8/31 (LC). **Philadelphia Vireo** was found at SRTP 8/30 (CH), SVCP 9/20 (AM), and a late one at GPSP 10/8 (LC). **Common Ravens** seem to be established at a quarry near John Rudy County Park; reports have carried over multiple periods. Two birds were also seen in the western part of the county at Kriedler's School Rd 11/21 (JW). Flocks of migrant swallows included 120 **Tree Swallow** over LR on 10/8 (CK), 35 **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** at GPSP 8/22 (LC), and 22 **Cliff Swallow** at HIGH 8/16 (AM). A single **Bank Swallow** was at ALT 8/15 (AM).

There were four reports of **Black-capped Chickadee** 10/25-11/30 (m.ob.). A **Tufted Titmouse** with a toeless right foot and flattened crest was struggling to balance on a feeder peg in Hanover 10/21 (PJR). The historic **Red-breasted Nuthatch** invasion was clearly evident across the county, and **Brown Creeper**, **Winter Wren**, **Golden-crowned Kinglet**, and **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** were all up as well. The thrush highlights were 3 **Veery** at RRCP 8/29 (AM), a **Gary-cheeked Thrush** at GPSP 10/10 (NF), and five reports of **Swainson's Thrush** with a high count of 3 in the vicinity of SMR 9/23 (AM). Twenty **American Pipit** were found at LAR 11/17 (AM). In what has to be one of the highest ever totals made in York, about 500 **Cedar Waxwing** were at GPSP 10/30 (BJH), another result of Hurricane Sandy.

It was an extremely strong reporting period for warblers, with 30 species noted. Although a number of sites produced birds over the typical migration periods for individual species, the data suggest 8/19-29 was a good period at RRCP, and 9/20-29 was equally good at SVCP. A **Golden-winged Warbler** was found at RRCP 8/19 (AM). Counts of 5 **Tennessee Warbler**, 2 **Orange-crowned Warbler**, and 5 **Nashville Warbler** were made at SVCP 9/29 (AM). A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** at RRCP 10/17 was running late (RP). A single report of **Cape May Warbler** came from GPSP

10/1 (AM). Six locations produced **Palm Warbler** 9/17-11/23 with nice counts of 6 at ALT 10/24 (RS) and 13 and 16 from HAWK 10/1 and 10/9, respectively (DH). The two reports of **Connecticut Warbler** came from RRCP 9/23 (RP) and SVCP 9/29. Nineteen **Common Yellowthroat** at SVCP 9/29 (AM) and a **Yellow-breasted Chat** at RRCP 8/21 (DC) rounded out the highlights.

Reports of sparrows clearly showed HAWK is becoming a favored habitat. This site is an abandoned golf course bought by a hospital/medical group that has graciously permitted public access. The owners allowed nature to take over, and with excellent access via the golf cart paths, walkers and birders have clearly benefitted. As has always been planned, it appears that development will begin in late 2013 or 2014, and this short-lived oasis will likely significantly shrink or disappear altogether. On a positive note, it has certainly demonstrated what is possible when quality bird habitat is provided even in a heavily commercialized area. HAWK provided a rarity for York and a likely first fall record—an immature **Clay-colored Sparrow** 10/9 (DH). SVCP produced 21 **Field Sparrows** 9/29 (AM). **Savannah Sparrows** were present at SVCP 8/5 (AM), and at HAWK 9/28-10/9 (DH) and 11/15 (AM). **Grasshopper Sparrows** were reported from ALT 8/15 (AM) and HAWK 10/1 (DH). **Fox Sparrows** were at SGL 11/11 (NZ) and SVCP 11/24 (DC). HAWK held two **Lincoln's Sparrows** 9/28-29 (DH) and on 10/19 also provided high counts of **Swamp Sparrow** (5) among six locations reporting, and **White-crowned Sparrow** (4) of five locations reporting (DH).

It was perhaps a record period for **Blue Grosbeak**, as they were found at five locations. Two were at Mt. Wolf 8/16 (AM), singles were at HIGH 8/16-18 (AE, AM) and RRCP 8/19 (LC), a male and female were at BI 9/7 (DC), and one was at HAWK 9/17-10/1 (DH). A pair of **Bobolink** were at ALT 8/26 (AM), and ALT also provided the high count of 14 **Eastern Meadowlark** 10/24 (RS). A single **Rusty Blackbird** was at BI 10/21 (BS).

Nice counts of 8 **Purple Finches** came from Dillsburg 10/1-17 (JD) and Nixon County Park 10/28 (RS). Nine locations reported **Pine Siskin** with high counts of 30 at Dillsburg 10/12-13 (JD) and 60 at York 10/19 (AM). The two **White-winged Crossbills** at LAR 11/17 (AM) would normally highlight any York Fall finch report, but this year they shared the marquee with two male **Evening Grosbeaks** at Dillsburg 11/1 (JD).

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE: Materials to be included in the publication are needed by the due dates below.

Issue	Sightings due to Compilers by...	Articles due to Editor by...	Publication Date
Dec-Feb (Vol. 1)	31 March	1 May	July
Mar-May (Vol. 2)	30 June	1 August	October
Jun-Jul (Vol. 3)	31 August	1 October	December
Aug-Nov (Vol. 4)	31 December	1 February	April

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IN FOCUS



*Pacific Loon, Washington County. See p. 271.
(Photo by Malcolm Harter)*



*Black-chinned Hummingbird, Morrisville, Bucks County. See p. 239.
(Photo by Rich Dulay)*



*Northern Gannet, Harrisburg, Dauphin County. See pp. 210 & 250.
(Photo by Alex Lamoreaux)*



*Calliope Hummingbird, Devon, Chester County. See p. 244.
(Photo by Wayne Laubscher)*



*Pacific-slope Flycatcher, SGL 230, Cumberland County. See p. 249.
(Photo by Tom Johnson)*



*Allen's Hummingbird, Pipersville, Bucks County. See p. 239.
(Photo by Geoff Malosh)*