

The worst drought on record continued into spring with most of the water districts adopting compulsory water rationing. In the Central Valley most of the ponds and wet fields dried up early, displacing many migrating shorebirds to the few small ponds which remained. Cool and rather wet weather typified the first three weeks in May, with some



Many observers noted that some flycatchers, warblers, and vireos arrived earlier than normal. The most exciting finds of the period were Scaled Petrel, Little Gull, and another Hepatic Tanager. An impressive migration of landbirds was witnessed on Point Reyes and on the Farallon Islands in June: the summer report should be rather extraordinary.

This spring a team of observers studied the migration of sea birds from shore at Pigeon Point, San Mateo County. In 433 hours on 54 days it logged an incredible 949,727 individuals of 43 species of migrating birds. Table 1 shows some of its results.

TUBENOSSES—Black-footed Albatrosses were fairly common offshore but it is difficult to explain why so many appeared close to shore at Pigeon Pt. (see Table 1); a similar study conducted last year yielded only two birds. Two Laysan Albatrosses were seen from shore at Pigeon Pt., Mar. 17 and another appeared there May 15 (BSa). The only other Laysan found was washed up dead Mar. 2 at Sharp Park, San Mateo Co. (Matt Leddy, *vide* PM).

A good description of a probable imm. Black-browed Albatross was received (BSA). Seen from shore at Pigeon Pt., Mar. 24 from a distance at times of less than a quarter mile, the bird was following a tanker in the company of two Black-footed Albatrosses. However, imm. Gray-headed Albatrosses look quite similar to imm. Black-broweds and only a closer look at the head could positively identify the bird in question. It is appropriate to mention that an unidentified white albatross was reported offshore in Monterey Bay Feb. 28 (Glenn Moffatt). It was described as "similar to the Laysans, with which it was associating, but slightly smaller and with a distinctly dark head." Observers should look closely at all light-bellied albatrosses and be aware of the field characters of the southern hemisphere species which may have generated these reports.

Last winter's flight of N. Fulmars left 13 in Monterey Bay Mar. 6, but there was only one present by the end of the period. Pink-footed Shearwaters were more common than usual, but the number of Short-tailed Shearwaters broke all previous spring records. Three to five were found in Monterey Bay Mar. 6 & Apr. 24 (RS). This species' status is still not well understood, but most reports are from mid-winter. A total of nine Manx Shearwaters was seen, all from shore. Singles passed Pigeon Pt., Mar. 21, Apr. 3, 4, 15, 20, May 3, 14, 18 (BSa *et al.*) and one was noted at Santa Cruz Apr. 22 (DP). On all birds the dark vent was observed, and all were flying N with little delay! The evidence is compelling that a definite spring migration of Manx Shearwaters took place along our coast. No such migration has ever been noted in the region before, and the species' occurrence has been erratic.

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in the region. The only Leach's Storm-Petrel reported was one found freshly dead at Sharp Park Mar. 2 (Matt Leddy, *vide* PM). Although the species breeds on the F.I., it is seldom encountered away from its breeding areas except far offshore.

PELICANS, HERONS—For the first time in recent years the Brown Pelican successfully wintered in the region. At least five were present throughout the period at Pt. Pinos, and a rash of early returnees was reported, led by one Apr. 7 at Pigeon Pt. (PM).

As usual Cattle Egrets were concentrated in Humboldt Bay with nine at the Arcata Bottoms Mar. 6 (*vide* DRu). Four in n.e. Contra Costa Co., Mar. 13 (R&LJ) were the only others reported. There was a Least Bittern at Gray Lodge Apr. 2 (BED, TM, JH). A White-faced Ibis at the Orange Cove Sewage Lagoon, Fresno Co., May 16 was late and out of place (RG).

WATERFOWL—Nine Whistling Swans at the Yolo Bypass Apr. 10 (*vide* BK) were late. "Aleutian" Canada Geese were tracked from the San Joaquin Valley to Crescent City where they were found Apr. 7-8 (BED). One at the F.I., Mar. 15 (RLeV, P.R.B.O.) was attributed to this subspecies. Single light-bellied "American" Brant were observed migrating past Pigeon Pt., Mar. 27 & Apr. 9 (BSa, PM). A Snow Goose passing Pigeon Pt., Apr. 10 (PM) was the only one reported coastally. Two blue-phase Snow Geese were found: one present during April at Gray Lodge was last seen May 2 (BED). Another was at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Apr. 17 (*vide* MT). A single Ross' Goose keeping company with "Aleutian" Canada Geese at Crescent City Apr. 7-8 (BED) appears to provide the second Del Norte County record.

Blue-winged Teal had a banner year. In Tulare County, they were found "everywhere this spring" (RAB) with six males the maximum at Bravo L., Apr. 6. Observers found a total of 45 individuals, mostly in the C.V., with the peak in April. A hybrid Blue-winged x Cinnamon Teal appeared at Los Banos Mar. 3 (RG + *et al.*). The description precludes the possibility that it was the same individual there last year. A hybrid Cinnamon Teal x N. Shoveler was described from the Caldwell Ponds, Tulare Co. (JLi + *vide* RAB). There is one previous regional record of this form. Up to five Eur. Wigeons concentrated at Bolinas Lagoon through the end of March (RS *et al.*). A late Ring-necked Duck lingered to May 4 at the Bolinas Sewage Ponds (JE). A hybrid Ring-necked Duck x scaup *sp.* stayed at L. Merritt until Mar. 27 (SFB). Five Greater Scaup occurred at three interior localities, where they are scarce. Up to two were at Tule Lake N.W.R., Mar. 7-12 (DS, SJ *et al.*); two were at the Woodland Sugar Ponds Apr. 8-17 (*vide* BK); and one was very late at Lower Klamath N.W.R., May 16 (*vide* MT).

The **Tufted Duck** which had been present at L. Merritt was rediscovered across the Oakland estuary at the Pacific Marina in Alameda Mar. 19-28 (Kathleen Edises, DRo, AE *et al.*). The controversial Tufted Duck x Ring-necked Duck (x Greater Scaup?) was last seen at Rodeo Lagoon Mar. 6 (JM). Coastally Com. Goldeneye lingered late, the last being a female at the F.I., May 18 (RS, P.R.B.O.) where it is rare in spring. A total of six Barrow's Goldeneyes appeared, mostly along the coast, but an imm. male sitting in the Sutro Baths, S. F., Mar. 23 (PM) was at an odd locality. Three ♀ Buffleheads lingered at Bolinas until May 25 (RS). In the C.V. a late Bufflehead left Gray Lodge May 12 (BED).

Eight Oldsquaws stayed along the coast with a maximum of three at Princeton Harbor. One lingered late at Monterey until Apr. 24 (RS). Only five Harlequin Ducks appeared along the coast, and one which spent the winter inside S. F. Bay at Brisbane left Mar. 27 (AE, GB). Black Scoters peaked in

early March at Pt. Reyes with 40 present there Mar. 2 (DS). A maximum of 21 flew past Pigeon Pt., Apr. 21 and a total of 111 was counted there this season (BSa).

Hooded Merganser reports totaled 40, all at expected localities, with the last being two females at Pt. Reyes Apr. 7 (DS, P.R.B.O.). The largest concentration of Com. Mergansers was 200 at L. Success, Tulare Co., Mar. 5 (RAB) but they all left by Mar. 20. One was unexpected flying past Pigeon Pt., Apr. 14 (BSa). A total of 13 Red-breasted Mergansers penetrated to the interior of the region at nine localities Mar. 19-Apr. 17. This appears to be the time when this species is most likely to be found inland.

KITES, HAWKS, FALCONS—White-tailed Kites spread into Shasta County in earnest this year with pairs found at Anderson and Palo Cedro (PD), but only at the expense of the regular population at the n. end of the C.V. where there were fewer than usual (SAL). Three remained at Honey L. through Mar. 12 (RS) where the species is still considered casual.

Goshawks nested at the low elevation of 1300 ft on the n. coast (DAG), and another wandered down from its usual mountain habitat to Jacoby Creek, Humboldt Co., May 25 (Roy Lowe, *vide* DRu). Five hours' observation at San Bruno Mt., Apr. 14-26 yielded 12 migrating Sharp-shinned Hawks and five Cooper's Hawks (PM). An ad. Sharp-shinned above Kernville Apr. 30 was late for the C.V.

A Red-tailed Hawk of the form *B. j. harlani* at Tule L., Mar. 7 (DS, SJ) was the only one of this subspecies reported. A total of 22 Swainson's Hawks near Woodland Apr. 19 (RS) was the maximum reported. A late Rough-legged Hawk and a late Ferruginous Hawk remained in the Sacramento-Davis area until Apr. 18 (*vide* BK).

Most of the known Bald Eagle territories in the n. part of the region were active (*vide* PD), but one at Seiad Valley was thought to have failed (*vide* MT). Two seen carrying sticks near Juanita L. were in an area where there are no known nest sites (MT). A nesting attempt by Ospreys at Pt. Reyes apparently failed. One seen near the F.I., May 24 (RS) was a first spring record for the island.

Seven Peregrine Falcons were reported with only one from the interior; but of 11 Merlins found, about half were interior and half coastal. An unusual Am. Kestrel nesting site near Tiburon was in the enclosed eave of an unused building. Two young were fledged. The entrance was via a ventilation hole (BL).

GROUSE, CRANES, GALLINULES—Blue Grouse appeared regularly along the Mt. Shasta Ski Bowl Highway in late April, but one which spent the month of March feeding with chickens in a yard at Paskenta was very much out of place (*vide* SAL). The nearest grouse habitat was within a few miles. Ruffed Grouse were absent from most of their few known localities but seven found Apr. 10 at Maple Creek, Humboldt Co. (W. Heard, *vide* DRu) appear to be the most ever reported from a single locality. Over 70 Sage Grouse at Crowley L., Mar. 4 (CH) was a high count.

Thirty Sandhill Cranes were seen flying E over Cedar Pass (el. 6000 ft) in the Warner Mts., Mar. 6 (DS, SJ). They are very seldom seen in the mountains. A Com. Gallinule at Grenada, Siskiyou Co. (MT+) was in an area where the species is casual.

SHOREBIRDS—A Black-necked Stilt at Bolinas Lagoon Apr. 4 (GP) was out of place as were two at L. Merced, S.F., May 9 (PM). Two Semipalmated Plovers at Lower Klamath N.W.R. remained unusually late until May 30 (*vide* MT). A pair of Killdeer successfully fledged three

young from a nest built on white crushed rock on the roof of a school in Auburn (MA). The Snowy Plover is rare in the interior, but one arrived very early at the Orange Cove Sewage Lagoon Apr. 1 (RG). One found Apr. 5 at the Caldwell Ponds (RAB) was only the second Tulare County record, but it was followed by another there Apr. 23–24, and three on May 10 with one still there May 15. The last Mountain Plovers left Dunnigan, Yolo Co., on time Mar. 19 (SAL). There was an Am. Golden Plover at Pajaro Dunes Apr. 12 (J&RW). Two others occurred at Pigeon Pt., Mar. 13 (PM) and another was late there on May 14 (BSa). A Black-bellied Plover at Millville Plains Apr. 11 (SAL) furnished a first Shasta County record, but there were 210 at Cottonwood, Shasta Co., Apr. 24 (SAL).

Always rare in the interior, single Marbled Godwits were found at Davis Apr. 8 (*fide* BK) and at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Apr. 22 (*fide* MT). One at the F.I., May 21 (RS, P.R.B.O.) was only the second spring record for the island. Whimbrels were much more common than usual both along the coast and inland. Three at the Caldwell Ponds Apr. 7 (RAB) represented the first Tulare County records, but flocks of up to 200 appeared in the county later. The species was last seen there May 12. Most unusual were Whimbrels at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Apr. 17 (*fide* MT) and at Mono L., May 22 (Walter Halland) since these seem to be the first spring records e. of the Sierra-Cascade axis.

A concentration of 19 Lesser Yellowlegs near the Dumbarton Bridge toll plaza Mar. 6 (EM) exceeded all other reports combined. Single Solitary Sandpipers appeared at Gray Lodge Apr. 21 (BED) and at L. Shastina May 11 (*fide* MT). This species is irregular in spring. A sudden rainstorm in the northern C.V., May 11 grounded an amazing 20 Willets near Redding (PD) and one near Red Bluff (SAL) which marked the second Tehama County record. The only other C.V. report came from near Sacramento Mar. 26 (*fide* BK). A Wandering Tattler May 30 at Ano Nuevo (AE,GB) was late.

Remarkable was a Ruddy Turnstone at Lower Klamath N.W.R., May 13 (*fide* MT). There are only two previous basin records, both in fall. Even more unusual was a breeding-plumaged Black Turnstone at the Woodland Sugar Ponds May 12 (RS⁺) for the second C.V. record.

Over 20 territorial displaying Com. Snipe were found in May in n. Tehama and s. Shasta Cos. (SAL). They have been suspected of breeding in this area for the last three years. When is someone going to find a nest? Short-billed Dowitchers are now expected in small numbers in the C.V., during migration, but one at Woodland Apr. 8–11 was the only one reported (J. Langham, *fide* BK).

The Sanderling is very rare in the interior, but seven were found away from the coast. Two were at Lower Klamath N.W.R., May 1 and two others were there May 30 (*fide* MT) which is very late. Three Sanderlings remained at the Orange Cove Sewage Lagoon Apr. 27–May 8 (RG) and a **Semi-palmated Sandpiper** found there Apr. 24 stayed through May 2 (RG⁺). This was the second C.V. and fourth regional spring record. A few W. Sandpipers lingered until May 30 at Lower Klamath N.W.R., where they were late. The **Baird's Sandpiper** goes virtually unrecorded in California in spring but three were unquestionably present at Abbott's Lagoon Apr. 19 with one there Apr. 14 and Apr. 27 (GP⁺). Extreme caution should be exercised in identifying this species in spring, and observers should always note the distinctive call. Casual in spring, two Pectoral Sandpipers were well described from the Caldwell Ponds Apr. 7 (RAB⁺). Five Rock Sandpipers were reported, with three still at Bodega Head Mar. 20 (BDP) and one still at Princeton Harbor Mar. 30 (PM). The **Ruff** which spent the winter at Pacific Grove was last seen Mar. 19 (Debi Robinson, *fide* DRO).

Wilson's Phalaropes remained late along the coast with one at Ano Nuevo May 30 (AE, GB). In the C.V. one stayed at the Caldwell Ponds through May 23 (RAB). Forty Red Phalaropes passed Pt. St. George Apr. 13 (BED).

GULLS—Six Glaucous Gulls, mostly from coastal localities, were above average, but one near the Napa Airport Mar. 28–31 (KVV⁺) provided one of very few inland records and only the second Napa County occurrence. Seven Herring Gulls at Lower Klamath N.W.R., Mar. 5 (*fide* MT), four at L. Levitt Mar. 11 (RS, TM), and one at the Crowley dump Mar. 12 (TH) were more than expected in the basin. Gray Lodge had its first Thayer's Gulls, with seven there Mar. 24 (BED). A pig farm in n. e. Contra Costa County held 200 Thayer's Gulls Mar. 28 (DE, RS), the highest concentration reported this season. An ad. **Mew Gull** at Susanville Mar. 11 (RS, TM) was the first regional basin record.

Pajaro Dunes had two ad. Franklin's Gulls May 10 (J&RW⁺). Bonaparte's Gulls staged a minor invasion through the C.V. One at the Caldwell Ponds May 3 (JLi), for a first Tulare County record, was followed by singles at other localities in the county and up to seven unexpectedly late at the Caldwell Ponds May 30 (RAB⁺). The region's second **Little Gull** described from Watsonville Slough Apr. 13 (RW⁺) was probably the same individual which passed Pigeon Pt., Apr. 16 (BSa⁺). Sauppe then drove 4 mi N to Pebble Beach and was able to observe the bird again the same day.

An injured Heermann's Gull remained at L. Merced, S.F., through April (PM). An early arrival was Apr. 27 at Pigeon Pt., but as expected they were still scarce at the end of the period. A Black-legged Kittiwake at L. Merced Apr. 19 (PM) was slightly out of place. Some observers noted a major northward movement of kittiwakes in the third week of May which brought large numbers to shore at Pt. Reyes. Nineteen Sabine's Gulls were seen, 15 of which were recorded at Pigeon Pt., May 4 & 16. One at MacKerricher Beach S. P., Apr. 5 was extremely early (BDP). Three near the F. I., May 18 (RS) were the only others reported. Numbers of Sabine's Gulls this year were quite low compared to last year's count of 323 at Pigeon Pt., Sauppe attributed this to the fact that last year strong NW winds prevailed whereas this year many low pressure systems moved in during April and May which resulted in S winds which tended to make birds migrate at great distances from shore.

TERNS—Always scarce in spring, eight Com. Terns were 10 mi off Pedro Pt., May 24 (RS) and two were in Monterey Bay Apr. 24 (DRo, DE). This was the best spring ever for Arctic Terns. In addition to the high counts from Pigeon Pt., (Table 1) there were three in Monterey Bay Apr. 24 (RS) and two there May 7 (JLu, JM). Least Terns arrived early with one passing Pigeon Pt., Apr. 1 (BSa, PM). They were first noted in S. F. Bay Apr. 29 (*fide* ER). Two very early Elegant Terns at Pajaro Dunes May 21 (J&RW) were the only ones reported. At Shasta L., Caspian Tern occurrence was correlated with the appearance of the Threadfin Shad, which come to the surface when the water temperature reaches 68°–70° F (PD). The only coastal reports of Black Terns were of one or two seen at Pajaro Dunes May 9–20 (J&RW) where they seem to be regular in spring, and one at Santa Cruz Apr. 23 (EM).

ALCIDS—Large numbers of Pigeon Guillemots arrived at the F. I., Mar. 12 (RLv, P.R.B.O.). The winter waters of this species are still largely unknown. The highest count of Marbled Murrelets was 37 at Pigeon Pt., Apr. 7 (BSa). Up to two Xantus' Murrelets were in Monterey Bay Mar. 16–May 1 (RS, PM). Two Ancient Murrelets lingered Apr. 24 off

Monterey (RS, DRo, DE), and one was still there very late May 7 (JLu, JM). The region's first spring **Horned Puffin** was photographed at the F. I., Mar. 18–19 (P.R.B.O.). Seven Tufted Puffins were noted at nesting burrows at Castle Rock, Del Norte Co., Apr. 12–14 (BED).

Table 1. Pigeon Point Migration Study

Species	Total	High Count	Peak Date
Common Loon	6,301	537	Apr. 16
Arctic Loon	404,085	46,770	Apr. 22
Red-throated Loon	5,470	786	Apr. 20
loon <i>sp.</i>	16,915		
Black-footed Albatross	277	56	May 6
		52	May 7
Northern Fulmar	188	26	Apr. 1
Pink-footed Shearwater	649	55	Apr. 13
Sooty Shearwater	48,815	10,281	May 6
Brown Pelican	274	37	May 29
Brant	48,444	10,191	Apr. 20
White-winged Scoter	1,904	294	Apr. 20
Surf Scoter	85,186	17,710	Apr. 20
Red-breasted Merganser	186	16	Apr. 15
Whimbrel	2,976	1,642	May 15
Northern Phalarope	77,479	14,651	May 19
Red Phalarope	555	186	May 18
phalarope <i>sp.</i>	44,115		
Pomarine Jaeger	82	16	Apr. 13
Parasitic Jaeger	3		
jaeger <i>sp.</i>	59		
Bonaparte's Gull	181,925	48,740	Apr. 21
Black-legged Kittiwake	1,168	214	Mar. 24
Forster's Tern	5,826	3,270	Apr. 28
Common Tern	50	10	May 3
Arctic Tern	78	25	May 20
Common/Arctic Tern	148		
Caspian Tern	215	27	Apr. 22
Common Murre	14,424	1,870	Mar. 17
Cassin's Auklet	17	4	Apr. 24
Rhinoceros Auklet	1,213	261	Apr. 23
Tufted Puffin	5	2	May 16

Data from Mar. 8–May 30 courtesy of Barry Sauppe. Contributing observers: Peter Metropulos, Tony Bledsoe, Roy Carlson, Dennis Parker.

PIGEONS THROUGH WOODPECKERS—A desiccated specimen of a Flammulated Owl was picked up at Mono County Park May 24 (TH). The bird was undoubtedly a migrant, since the area lacks suitable habitat for breeding (see *West. Birds* 5:25–44). A belated report was received of a juvenile bird not long out of the nest from near Klamath R., Siskiyou Co., during the summer of 1976. The bird was photographed and released (*vide* MT). Both records are within the known range of the Flammulated Owl. Six reports of Pygmy Owls were received: 13 birds from four locations in the Coast Range and three birds from two locations in the Sierras, where they are less common. Three reports of Spotted Owls were received, all from the Coast Range. In the Shasta Valley, Siskiyou Co., Com. Nighthawks have returned promptly on May 29 for the last 24–26 years. With skies clear and observers looking they arrived two days late on May 31 (*vide* MT)! At least 13 Lesser Nighthawks were reported from four locations in the Sacramento Valley. The population of this species may be increasing in the valley. All breeding locations should be reported. Black Swifts were seen in good

numbers in the Coast Range and in the Sierras. Early arrivals appeared in Yosemite Valley Apr. 27 (RS). A single nest was found at Lighthouse Pt., Santa Cruz, May 29 (PM *et al.*).

S.A.

Unseasonably cold and wet weather in the first half of May forced migrating Vaux's Swifts to seek shelter where they "rode out" the weather-induced food shortages. Many birds sheltered in chimneys in flocks of several hundred. People ignorant of this kind of behavior thought their houses were being "attacked" by birds. They lit fires in their fireplaces and killed, tragically, hundreds of swifts. The incident received wide coverage in the news media but, sadly, the behavioral reasons for the swifts' use of the chimneys were left out of their stories. In the end the public was no more enlightened than before and a good opportunity to educate them had been missed at the expense of the lives of several hundred Vaux's Swifts.

Eight reports of Black-chinned Hummingbirds were received, all from inland areas as far north as Weaverville, Trinity Co., (DA) the earliest of which was noted at Springville, Tulare Co., Mar. 31 (*vide* RAB). The spring's first Costa's Hummingbird was seen at Del Puerto Canyon Mar. 27 (EM). An ad. ♂ Rufous Hummingbird near Little Norway, El Dorado Co., Apr. 16 (el 6800 ft) was probably an early "fall" migrant (WS). About 40 Anna's Hummingbirds at feeders in a single yard in Springville Apr. 9 were probably largely migrants (*vide* RAB). It is often erroneously assumed that this species is resident in California but there is considerable migratory movement through the state. The Springville birds were all but gone by Apr. 14. At least ten Pileated Woodpeckers were seen including nesting pairs in Placer and Mendocino Cos.

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PARIDS—Two Tropical Kingbirds that wintered at L. Merced and Golden Gate Park, S.F., stayed until Apr. 7 (D. Murphy) and May 27 (PM) respectively. There are only two previous April and May records for the region. An encouraging number of 30–40 Bank Swallows was observed along the American R., in Sacramento Apr. 30 (*vide* BK). A high count of 45 Purple Martins was seen throughout May at Grenada, Siskiyou Co., (*vide* MT).

S.A.

A **Yellow-billed Magpie** was observed only 4.4 mi s. of the Oregon border by Greg Gillson Mar. 12. This represents the northernmost California record for this species. It is quite probable that Yellow-billed Magpies are wandering across the border into the southern part of the Rogue R. valley. Black Phoebe, White-tailed Kite, and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher have recently expanded their ranges into s. Oregon. Yellow-billed Magpie appears to be following the same southern expansion pattern and since it has never been recorded in Oregon this presents a good opportunity for some enterprising birder to claim a first state record. When this happens California will lose the distinction of having the known world range of this species confined within its borders: it is our only true endemic bird.

A Black-capped Chickadee at Arcata Mar. 16 (*vide* DRu) and two at Crescent Beach, Del Norte Co., Apr. 12 (BED) were the only ones reported.

NUTHATCHES THROUGH WAXWINGS—The Bendire's Thrasher that spent its second winter in Courtland was last seen Apr. 11 (*vide* BK). Twelve California Thrashers seen near Garberville, Humboldt Co., May 21 is a surprisingly high count as they are rather rare here (DRu). A Mockingbird nest photographed with four young in the Kilgore Hills near Yreka May 24 appears to represent the northernmost breeding record for California (*vide* MT). A single Bohemian Waxwing was seen May 8 in Scott Valley, Siskiyou Co. (MT). There are very few May records for this species.

SHRIKES THROUGH WARBLERS—Three N. Shrikes at Honey L., Mar. 11 were the last ones reported (RS *et al.*). The *plumbeus* race of the Solitary Vireo was seen 10 mi n.w. of Reeves, Inyo Co., in the Sierras May 28 (*vide* RAB). The area should be watched to see if this bird is breeding or just a migrant. Warblers were noted by many observers as arriving a little earlier than usual. Single Black-and-white Warblers were seen at Fairhaven May 30 (*vide* DRu), Mt. Tamalpais, Marin Co., May 2 (D. Gomke⁺) and near Springville Apr. 10 (M. Mires⁺). A wave of 15 Nashville Warblers was seen passing through Fremont Apr. 27 (EM). A Lucy's Warbler was observed in the Carmel R. mouth Mar. 6 (RS⁺). "Myrtle" Warblers stayed as late as May 5 at S. Lake Tahoe where there are no spring records (WS). A well-described Hermit x Townsend's Warbler was seen at Moss Beach, San Mateo Co., Mar. 17 [The Hermit part was early!] (JM). This hybrid is probably more common than is generally suspected because it is often misidentified. Two ♂ Hermit Warblers seen on Pt. Reyes Mar. 5 were probably wintering birds (BDP). A single Palm Warbler was seen on the F.I., May 5 (P.R.B.O., RS), and an Ovenbird was seen there May 25 (RLeV). A single N. Waterthrush was found on the F.I., May 22 (P.R.B.O., RS). They are much rarer in spring than in fall. At least 11 Yellow-breasted Chats were reported from as many locations, the earliest of which was at Springville Apr. 19 (*vide* RAB). A substantial wave of 30 Wilson's Warblers was reported passing through Fresno Apr. 30 (*vide* RH).

BLACKBIRDS THROUGH FINCHES—A single ♂ Bobolink was found at McKinleyville, Humboldt Co., May 31 (*vide* DRu). There is only a handful of spring records for the region. A ♀ **Hepatic Tanager** was seen and well described on the F.I., May 22 (P.R.B.O., RS⁺). This bird was the fourth for the region but the first ever recorded in spring. Four Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were reported: single males on the F.I., and in Mono County (AE, GB), and a male and female at Arcata (*vide* DRu), all in May. At least 18 Blue Grosbeaks were noted; all but two were found in the interior, the earliest at Yuba City Apr. 2 (JH). More information is needed to determine its true status in the region. A ♂ Indigo Bunting was found singing May 22–23 in the same area near Olema Marsh, Marin Co., where a male was found last June (JM *et al.*). It is probably the same bird. Lazuli Buntings were noted by many as being much more common this spring than normally. About 300 Gray-crowned Rosy Finches were seen just s. of Crestview, Mono Co., May 19 (E. Vollmer). Two Lark Buntings were reported: a female on the F.I., May 24 (P.R.B.O.) and one near Porterville Mar. 23 (RAB⁺). A rather late Vesper Sparrow was seen May 8 near Branscomb, Mendocino Co. (DAG).

Two Black-throated Sparrows were seen on the F.I., May 12 & 22: one was still present at the end of the period (P.R.B.O.). Two to four Rufous-crowned Sparrows were found in Antelope Canyon, Tehama Co., May 18 (SAL). They appear to be the first ever recorded in that county. Two Tree

Sparrows were banded on the F.I., May 24 (one present since May 20—P.R.B.O.) and another was seen at Honey Lake N.W.R., Mar. 12 (RS *et al.*). A Brewer's Sparrow seen at Pergo Meadow, Yosemite Apr. 27 (RS *et al.*) and May 21 (BDP) [Same bird?] was in an unusual location. A ♂ Black-chinned Sparrow singing in the Kilgore Hills near Yreka, May 11 furnished the northernmost record for the state (*vide* MT). Three Harris' Sparrows were observed at Honey Lake N.W.R., Mar. 11–13 (RS) and another that wintered in Porterville was last seen Apr. 7 (*vide* RAB). A breeding plumaged ♂ Lapland Longspur seen May 7 three miles e. of the Sonoma Creek Bridge, Solano Co., provided the latest regional record for this species (B. McLean⁺).

ADDENDUM—An E. Phoebe found Nov. 8–11 at Cape Mendocino (BC⁺ *et al.*) was omitted from AB 31(2).

CORRIGENDUM—A Philadelphia Vireo reported on the F.I., Sept. 12 in AB 31:220 was actually found Oct. 12.

Many of the region's active observers will be saddened to learn that Gordon Bolander died suddenly on April 21, 1977 at the age of 63 while on his way to Costa Rica for a birding trip. Gordon has been one of the region's most active observers for over 50 years and was a regular contributor to *American Birds*. He was one of the founders and past president of the Redwood Region Ornithological Society, a group whose membership regard his death as a personal loss. He was the acknowledged authority on the avifauna of Sonoma County and was working on a book on the county's birdlife when he died. Hopefully this work can be completed posthumously with the aid of a co-author.

Gordon had lived and taught school in Santa Rosa since 1950. After retiring in 1973 he spent most of his free time birding and adding a species or two to his yard list which stands at some 229 species and is probably the highest list of its kind in the state. Gordon's skill in the field was a source of amazement to his fellow birders: he was particularly well known for his ability to identify birds by ear.

He is survived by his wife Lois, his two daughters, four grandchildren, and three generations of birders who admired and respected him.

CONTRIBUTORS—David Anderson, Maurine Armour, Stephen F. Bailey, Bernice Barnes, Robert A. Barnes, George Bing, William Bousman, Rosamond Day, Phillip Detrich, Bruce E. Duel, Art Edwards, Dick Erickson, Jules Evans, Lynn Farrar, David A. Gaines, Ron Gerstenberg, L. W. Gralapp, Rob Hansen, Tom Heindel, Craig Hohenberger, Joel Hornstein, Robert and Lenore Johnson, Stuart Johnston, Margaret Keith, Betty Kimball, Stephen A. Laymon, Bill Lenarz, Ron LeValley, John Lindsay (JLi), John Luther (JLu), Eugene Makishima, Tim Manolis, Peter Metropulos, Gary Page, Dennis Parker, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Mike Rippey, Don Roberson (DRo), Elsie Roemer, Dave Rudholm (DRu), Barry Sauppe (BSa), Dave Schuford, Bruce Sorrie (BSo), Rich Stallcup, Wally Sumner, Michael Taylor, Kent Van Vuren, John & Rick Warriner. ⁺ = description on file.—**JON WINTER** (Pigeons through Sparrows), 1277 Yulupa Ave. #2 Santa Rosa, CA 95405 and **JOSEPH MORLAN** (Loons through Alcids), % Golden Gate Audubon Society, 2718 Telegraph Ave., Suite 206, Berkeley, CA 94705.