

Meadow Lark



CHUCK
RIPPER

Christmas with us
on Dav. Ch. Ct.

309 Acker St. Buffalo, N.Y.
Jan. 14, 1981 52728

Pete,

N. O. Oriole

This is the note you requested regarding the bird I saw on the above date at 11:00 A.M. in Fairport, Iowa. The first time I saw it, ~~as~~ it flew across the road in front of my vehicle on Highway 22. Then I returned on foot and approached to within 20-25 feet and saw a medium size bird (7") with brilliant orange and black plumage. The head and beak were entirely black and extended down the chest. The wings were black with white bars, either 3 or 4, the chest and rump were bright orange, and the tail appeared completely black 'til he flew to an apple tree. As he flew his tail fanned and revealed his outer feathers on both sides a duller but definitely orange color. I returned to my vehicle and observed the bird not more than 10 feet away from the passenger window. After 5 min. I left the area and he was still feeding on an apple clinging in the tree. I would not hesitate to say that what I saw was a male Northern Oriole.

Chris Reed

P.S.

Hope this is adequate -
 wish I could have seen your
 slides at the Audubon in Jan.,
 but I wasn't up to it - hope
 you'll show them again somewhere!



Tell Mary Lou that her
 note made Dan's day,

as you probably noticed he
~~was~~ is proud of his "Bar Believing" (?)
 ability. Thank God you didn't
 add any ketchup! ha See you
 guys again sometime!

C. Reed