

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species White-eyed vireo 2. Number: 1
3. Location Hickory Hill Park, Iowa City IA
4. Date: 5/2 - 5/5 5. Time Bird seen: 7:20 AM - 7:30 AM to 7:30 AM - 7:45 AM
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):  
bill + legs dark. iris whitish. upper parts, wings, tail dull olive. Some yellowish edging in primaries. lores + eye-ring (= spectacles) pale golden yellow. Under-parts whitish, with a dull yellowish wash on flanks + under-tail coverts. Two whitish wingbars.
7. Description of voice, if heard: Two of several different song types:  
+ 'pi'lo' + 'cheer, chek' (last notes strongly accented)
8. Description of behavior: hopping around in brush  
+ 'pe' wheen, 'tup'
9. Habitat - general: brush-filled gully. In city park, left in natural state -  
specific: woods, fields, meadows. at edge of city, on other side is farmland
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:  
yellow spectacles, ~~unreliable~~ voice rule out all other vireos (Solitary, Bell's, Yellow throated) as well as remotely similar birds such as ♀ goldfinch, blue-w. warbler, n-c Kinglet
11. Distance (how measured)? 15-30' (est.) 12. Optical equipment: 9x90 binocs.
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
① dull cloudy day ± no shadows; ② sunny day; sun at 90° angle but light filtered by foliage.
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:  
Have had experience with all spp named in (10); have seen w-e vireos in Mass, Md. Va. DC
15. Other observers: CS Newlon, N Halmi, T Staudt
16. Did the others agree with your identification? yes
17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: ?
18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description: none
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? This transcribed from original notes made on the spot.
- Signature: Michael C Newlon Address: 128 Grove St
- Date: 5.31.76 City, State: Iowa City IA