

Phyllis

310 University  
Shenandoah, Iowa  
February 5, 1978

Dear Dr. Halme,

I have a few items for  
Iowa Bird Life field notes.

Geese and ducks were  
abundant at the Reverton  
and Fornie Lake Refuges.  
At Reverton on Dec. 12-78,  
there were some Canada  
Geese, 20,000 Snows and  
30,000 Bens, + 93,000 Mallard  
Ducks. Betty Waller, Marie  
Spears and I also saw Am.  
Wigeon and Godwall Ducks.

Red-tailed Hawks are  
numerous, and Don Priebe  
reports seeing many Cough-legged

Hawks. I see an occasional  
Meadow or Northern Harrier, and  
Heterals are numerous.

Coming to my suet feeder I  
have Com. Flicker, Red-bellied, Hairy,  
and Downy Woodpeckers; and the  
Red-breasted Nuthatch is a  
daily visitor.

American Robins were abundant  
on the Swerton Refuge during  
the month of December, and were  
still numerous Jan. 22, 1978.

Occasionally, I see a Loggerhead  
Shrike.

Evening Grosbeak appear every  
day at my sunflower feeder. There  
have been 5 to 7 at one time.

Purple Finch are numerous  
at backyard feeders in Shenandoah.  
I have several at my feeders.



Two weeks ago, Shenandoah was invaded by Common Redpolls. Many people have resorted to the flocks of them at their finch feeders. I've trapped and banded 32 in the past week.

Pine Siskins are also abundant in town along with the more common American Goldfinch.

On Jan. 22, Harris' Sparrow and White-crowned Sparrow were numerous at the Livingston refuge. On that day I saw one Swamp Sparrow and several Song.

Jane Getzschler asked me to <sup>7</sup> report a Harlan Hawk - dark phase <sup>no!</sup> she saw Saturday, and she <sup>dec.</sup> has had the western race of the Rufous-sided Towhee. So she

had both races recently.

Betty Walters gave these notes to me after I had completed my report. She has a large flock of Mourning Dove wintering on her farm. American Goldfinch, Harris' Sparrow and Song Sparrow come to her feeder.

Barbara Wilson of Hastings Iowa reported flocks of Snow Buntings recently. Betty W., Marie Spear, and I drove up to Hastings this afternoon but missed the "flock" and saw two Snow Buntings.

2-6 Betty Walters just called to report a very large flock of com. Redpolls in a field near her country home.

Best wishes,

Luth Phipps