

Phipps

Ruth Phipps

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Feb. 7, 1979

Dear Dr. Halme,

I hope I'm not too late with my field notes.

Snow Geese and Mallards were abundant in Southwest Iowa in December with 70,000 geese and 14,000 Mallards counted Dec. 16. <sup>Also 1 Pintail observed 12-16</sup> I saw one Blue-winged Teal 12-16 and one Golden-eye Duck in the river north of Faragut Jan. 1, 1979. Marie Spear was with me.

Red-tailed Hawk have been numerous, especially in the Luveston area, thru the period. Also Long-legged Hawks have been observed with some dark-phase in both species.

Some Bald Eagles have been observed thru the period  
Marsh Hawk were numerous

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during Dec., and there are still a few in the area. Some Kestrels in the area - Betty Walter and I saw three Feb 3.

One Com. Snipe was seen by Betty Walter 12-16.

Mourning Dove were numerous 12-16, and Betty W. + I saw several 2-3.

Two Long-eared Owl and one Barred Owl were seen 12-16 by Betty W. Marie Spear + me. Our <sup>Iowa</sup> Conservation Office, Don Priebe reports he has seen several Long-eared Owl during January.

Marie Spear and I saw one Short-eared Owl north of Farragut Jan 1.

I have Com. Flicker and Red-bellied Woodpecker feeding in my backyard Red-headed Woodpecker observed in Shenandoah on 12-16 + 1-01-79.

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Male + female Hairy Woodpecker come to my suet feeder with numerous Downy.

Horned Lark are abundant.

One Red-breasted Nuthatch appeared in Betty Walter's backyard in Shenandoah 12-17.

Saw several Brown Creeper 12-16

Clifford Moles reported a Brown Thrasher 12-16 N.W. of Shenandoah <sup>near</sup> ~~at~~ his farm.

A few Am. Robins were seen 12-16 in Lewiston area.

One Golden-crown Kinglet - 12-14 Lewiston area.

One Cedar Waxwing appeared in my backyard 12-09.

Not many Loggerhead Shrike have been seen. Betty and I saw only <sup>one</sup> Feb 3.

Betty, Marie, + I saw a large flock of Red-winged Blackbirds and Corn Grouse. Jane Kettcher and Bob Silcock may mention this

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Same flock. 12-16

Purple Finch are numerous.  
line banded 77 in my backyard  
since Jan. 01

The first Pine Siskin in my  
backyard appeared Dec. 16, and  
they have been numerous since  
then.

Am. Goldfinch have been abundant  
in Betty Walters' backyard.

No one has reported any  
Com. Redpoll or Evening Grosbeak.

Marie Spear reports a friend  
who lives in the country south  
of Shenandoah has a Rufous-  
sided Towhee coming to a feeder.

Black-eyed Junco and Tree Sparrow  
are abundant this winter. I  
have both in my back-yard.

Betty Walters has one mature +  
one immature White-crown Sparrow  
in her backyard.

A Lincoln's Sparrow appeared in my backyard and stayed several days. I banded him 1-27.

Marie, Betty & I saw several Swamp Sparrow N.W. of Farrogut 12-16.

I banded a Song Sparrow in my backyard 1-28. Betty and I saw 3 Feb 3.

A few Snow Buntings <sup>with</sup> ~~in~~ large flocks of Horned Larks by Clifford Males, Don Priebe, and I saw my first two Feb 6.

Sincerely  
Ruth Phipps