

2019 - 2023 ADDENDUM TO:

THE BIRDS OF DUTCHESS COUNTY NEW YORK

STAN DEORSEY & BARBARA A. BUTLER



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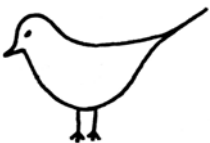
Digital edition published each year, usually in September.

*Compiled from the records of the Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club.
Photographs from the Special Birds Archive for digital photos of the Ralph T.
Waterman Bird Club.*

*The book, The Birds of Dutchess County, updated to 2021 is online at
WatermanBirdClub.org/publications/the-birds-of-dutchess-county-ny/.*

*Cover: juvenile Roseate Spoonbill, July 22, 2021 in the Casperkill near South Rd.,
Poughkeepsie by Carena Pooth. First occurrence in Dutchess County.*

Addendum to
The Birds of Dutchess County
2019 to 2023



The Birds of Dutchess County was published in 2006 and reprinted with updates in 2019. The online copy is updated to 2021 and also adds twelve early nest photos. No further book updates are anticipated. The “Status since 1990” sections are particularly outdated¹. This Addendum with changes from August 2019 will be updated online at least yearly. It includes all first county records, additional casual / accidental sightings, status changes to or from regularly seen, first or last known breeding report, and anything of special note, plus especially photographs. Early or late migration dates and large flock sizes are generally found in eBird.

The purpose of this Addendum is to prevent the loss of special Dutchess County bird records and supporting photographs while organizing them for easy reference. It may be printed as a booklet if so desired. Questions and comments may be directed to Stan DeOrsey (jsmd@att.net).

INDEX OF SPECIES UPDATED

Red indicates a photo		
Avocet, American.	5,19	
Blackbird, Yellow-headed	11,22	
Bobwhite, Northern.	5	
Bunting, Snow.	17	
Caracara, Crested.	13	
Cormorant, Neotropic.	8,23	
Duck, Harlequin.	5,25	
Falcon, Peregrine.	18	
Flycatcher, Fork-tailed.	11,24	
Scissor-tailed.	10,24	
Gallinule, Common.	15	
Gannet, Northern.	8	
Goldeneye, Barrow's.	5,21	
Goose, Pink-footed.	4,20	
Ross's.	4,21	
Grosbeak, Blue.	12,18	
Gull, Bonaparte's.	6	
Franklin's.	7,20	
Laughing.	20	
Thayer's.	7,17	
Heron, Green.	9,15	
Kite, Mississippi.	12	
Swallow-tailed.	9,22	
Kittiwake, Black-legged.	6,25	
Night-Heron, Black-crowned	9,16	
Yellow-crowned.	9,25	
Owl, Barn.	10	
Short-eared.	21	
Snowy.	15	
Pelican, American White.	8	
Pheasant, Ring-necked.	5	
Plover, Black-bellied.	15	
Redpoll, Hoary.	11,18	
Sanderling.	6,19	
Sandpiper, Baird's.	6	
Stilt.	6	
Snipe, Wilson's.	15	
Sora.	24	
Sparrow, Lark.	11	
Nelson's.	11	
Spoonbill, Roseate.	9,19	
Swan, Trumpeter.	4,26	
Tanager, Summer.	12,16	
Teal, Blue-winged.	5	
Tern, Arctic.	8,23	
Caspian.	7	
Sooty.	7,17	
Thrush, Bicknell's.	11	
Turnstone, Ruddy.	6,23	
Warbler, Connecticut.	16	
Orange-crowned.	22	
Yellow-throated.	11	
Whimbrel.	5	

[1] Also new sources of older records relative to “Historical Notes”: Maxwell Knapp’s *Rhinebeck Gazette* column summarizes first spring sightings in June 13, 1931 (125 species), June 24, 1932 (139 species), and June 16, 1933 (112 species); Millard Van Wagner’s 1893 and 1894 spring arrival dates for 12 warbler species in *Wilson Bulletin No. 4, Warbler Report*; 14 egg data cards from Lisenard Horton for 1894-1902; and Maunsell Crosby’s *Birding Journal* Vol. 2 (1921-22). All reflect historical changes.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Species Accounts are in taxonomic order per AOS *Check-list* update 64 (2023).

Ross's Goose – one on Jan.11, 2022 from Sand Dock Road Trail by Chris Chappell with about 20 Canada Geese, photographed⁺. Second county record. Perhaps the same individual reported from Feb. 2-15, at the same location plus the Oakwood Friends School playing fields and the McCann Golf Course, often with hundreds of Canada Geese. Another or the same one from March 2-6 at Baird State Park found by Liz Martens and photographed.

——— **PINK-FOOTED GOOSE** (*Anser brachyrhynchus*) ———

NEW SPECIES 2021

Accidental Vagrant

Only Date:

One on Nov. 26-27, 2021, at Wappinger Lake, Wappingers Falls, with about 50 Canada Geese, found by Debbie van Zyl and Anne Swaim, seen by many others, photographed⁺. Another or the same one on Jan.14-17, 2022 on Diddell Road, Wappinger Falls with 70 Canada Geese and one White-fronted Goose, found by Debbie van Zyl, seen by many and photographed. Again one found March 2, at Baird State Park by Jennifer Morton. Possibly the same individual as few were found in the East the winter of 2021-22.

Status: Pink-footed Geese are a European species nesting in eastern Greenland from where North American sightings are presumed to originate. They also nest in Iceland and islands north of Norway. Their numbers have increased significantly since the 1990s, at least in part presumed due to less hunting in England where many winter. Since 2007 one has been seen almost every year in New York State usually on Long Island.

——— **TRUMPETER SWAN** (*Cygnus buccinator*) ———

NEW SPECIES 2023

Accidental Vagrant

Only Date:

One beginning adult plumage, on Aug. 12-13, 2023 at Tivoli North Bay found by Derek Stoll also seen by Kyle Bardwell, photographed⁺.

Status: The Trumpeter Swan is the largest Swan in North America, named after its trumpet-like call. Many believe it was present in pre-colonial times to the Atlantic coast. Colonists ate it at every opportunity and used its feathers for many purposes. Forbush (1912) documents numerous references but there is no *physical* evidence confirming its presence in the 1600s at the coast. By the mid-twentieth century the Trumpeter Swan was in trouble with a vastly reduced range. In 1982 Ontario became the first to release wild Trumpeter Swans. Others followed with Ohio doing so in 1996. As a result New York sightings are considered descendants from Great Lakes area releases.

Blue-winged Teal – changed from breeding to “infrequently bred.” Bred four times between 1963 and 1969 but not known to breed since. Summer sightings are about once per decade.

———— **HARLEQUIN DUCK** (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2023

Accidental Vagrant

Only Date:

One immature male seen infrequently Jan. 6 to April 2, 2023, on Hudson River off Rhinecliff; found with 40+ Common Goldeneyes by John Askildsen and seen by others. Originally found Dec. 30, 2022 from Ulster by Wendy Tocci, subsequently on that side through April 3, seen by many and photographed⁺. Initially identified as a female until plumage changed.

Status: A male Harlequin is a treat to see, one of the most handsome ducks. In the East normally found in the ocean further north. In the winter some are off Long Island and along shores of the Great Lakes, particularly near Niagara Falls. They prefer fast moving water and rocky shores. Previously rarely found in New York, since the 1950s sightings have increased significantly but not inland. This is the first known sighting on the Hudson River.

Barrow’s Goldeneye – one female Jan. 28 - Feb. 6, 2022, at Rhinecliff, with multiple Common Goldeneyes. Found and photographed⁺ by Justin Schmidt, seen by others. The fourth county record.

– one female Jan. 6-21, 2023, at Rhinecliff with Common Goldeneyes, found here by John Askildsen and seen by others. First found on Dec. 30, 2022 on the Ulster side and seen there through March 21.

Northern Bobwhite – native birds were gone by the 1930s and are now listed as “Formerly Bred.” They were replaced by released hunt club birds which are not self sustaining although some occasionally breed. Since 2006 regular sightings have mostly ceased.

Ring-necked Pheasant – released in large numbers by hunt clubs. They are not self sustaining yet have occasionally bred. Usually seen near hunt clubs or infrequently one further away. Most recent confirmed breeding June 2002.

American Avocet – one on Aug. 11, 2021, at Beacon waterfront park. Found by Kyle Bardwell, seen by about 30 or more birders, photographed⁺. Second record.

– one flying July 21, 2023, off Sand Dock Rd., Poughkeepsie by Chris Chappell. Seen that afternoon in Putnam County.

———— **WHIMBREL** (*Numenius phaeopus*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2023 (Confirmed, was Hypothetical)

Casual Visitor

Only Dates:

One on July 23, 2004, near Beacon train station, found by John Askildsen. It was flying and calling during a rain storm associated with a front moving to the southeast.

One on Aug. 29, 2009, at Vandenburg Cove from a kayak by Alan Mapes.

One on Aug. 4, 2023, flew down river off Rhinecliff by Kyle Bardwell. Called and seen well. Photographed from a distance.

Status: A portion of the Whimbrel population nests along the shores of Hudson Bay, and migrates to the Atlantic Ocean via the Canadian Maritimes then out to sea and often directly to South America. However, a few are reported inland, most often during the fall migration.

Comment: Previously called Hudsonian Curlew, Whimbrels were classified a subspecies of the European form in the 1940s. There is apparently a lost record for Dutchess County, as Griscom included “curlew” in a list of birds he added to his copy of Crosby’s 1921 Dutchess County list. Details are unknown, although it is thought to be from Bloomfield’s collection.

Ruddy Turnstone – one on May 31, 2022, at Beacon waterfront park. Found and photographed⁺ by Jeanne Cimorelli, also seen by Debbie van Zyl. Fifth record, first in 1921.

Stilt Sandpiper – one on Aug. 26-27, 2022, at Hillside Lake, East Fishkill. Found by Anthony Macchiarola, seen by over ten others, photographed. The third county record.

Sanderling – one on Sept. 9, 2019, at Dennings Point, found by Ryan Van Manen. Others found along the Hudson near Kingston on the same day. Fourth record.

– one on Aug. 7, 2021, at Beacon waterfront, found by Sean Camillieri and Kyle Bardwell, photographed⁺. Also seen by Carena Pooth and Debbie van Zyl. Seen again Aug. 24 by Debbie van Zyl, although likely a different individual.

Baird’s Sandpiper – one on Sept. 6, 2022, at Briarcliff Lane, Pine Plains on polo field by John Askildsen. Fifth county record since 1970.

Black-legged Kittiwake – one first winter plumage, Jan. 4, 2022 over Hudson from Beacon Waterfront Park by Sean Camillieri, Anthony Macchiarola, and Bruce Nott. Photographed by Bruce Nott. Discovered on the Hudson, after a few minutes it took flight, not seen again. Fifth record.

– one adult May 5, 2023 on and over the Hudson from Poughkeepsie by Debbie van Zyl. Also one May 8 through 13 (two on the 13th), first from Sand Dock Rd., Poughkeepsie by Chris Chappell, photograph⁺, then by Brian DelPizzo, Claudius Feger, and Kyle Bardwell from Rhinebeck to New Hamburg, and seen in Putnam County as well. Kittiwakes were first reported from northern NY on May 3 with four seen, then from central Connecticut with five seen through May 8. It is unclear if the Dutchess sightings were from either of these. They are unusual inland at any time but especially in May.

– One first-winter plumage, June 21-29, 2023 off Rhinecliff, found by Kyle Bardwell, seen by Barbara Mansell and others, photographed⁺. Also reported from the Ulster side. The first inland state record for June.

Bonaparte’s Gull – flock of 450 on April 19, 2022 from the New Hamburg Yacht Club by Debbie van Zyl and Kyle Bardwell. Video taken. By far the largest flock

ever reported in the county, likely associated with a late snow storm near Albany. Seen yearly since 2014 but usually only one or two at a time.

———— **FRANKLIN'S GULL** (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2022

Accidental Vagrant

Only Date:

One first winter from Jan. 4-5, 2022 at Beacon Waterfront Park, found by Kyle Bardwell. Seen by many, photographed*. Originally found Dec. 16, 2021 in Newburgh by Ronnie DiLorenzo and seen to Jan. 8.

Status: Normally found in central US, the first NY State record was in 1939. Has been reported often in the Buffalo area and more recently on Long Island, but uncommon inland. It is known to wander.

Thayer's Gull – on Jan. 14, 2021 a brown first year gull was photographed* from the Beacon Riverfront Park by both Tony Macchiarola and Barbara Thomascall. This gull appears to be a Thayer's Gull, a subspecies of the Iceland Gull and once a separate species. It breeds in arctic Canada but in winter is found around Lake Erie and in western New York. Not normally found inland. First county record. Submitted to NYSARC.

Sooty Tern – one adult on Aug. 4, 2020 found injured by Cathy Brady in her backyard at Clinton Corners and photographed*. Picked up and taken the next day to Sharon Audubon where it died. Pushed north by Hurricane Isaisa, they were found across southern New England nearly all as single birds. Second county record.

———— **CASPIAN TERN** (*Hydroprogne caspia*) ————

Normal Dates: April 14 - May 15

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
						

Usual Locale: Along Hudson River

Transient

Status: **OCCURS REGULARLY 2020.** Since 2011 Caspian Terns have been recorded in the spring passing north along the Hudson River, more often from the west side. They apparently declined in the Northeast during the late nineteenth century and have slowly increased in New York State from about 1915, especially since 1970. The closest Caspian Tern nesting area is around the Great Lakes, a population which has been expanding to the east with the first nesting in New York State in 1986. They are regularly seen particularly in fall along the Atlantic coast but less frequently inland, possibly from the Maritimes and St. Lawrence populations which are also increasing.

First ten sightings:

- Two on April 30, 1920, at Cruger Island, by Maunsell Crosby.
- One adult on June 18, 1961, at Cruger Island, South Bay, by Br. Michael Dougherty.
- One on Aug. 25, 1990, at Cruger Island, by Peter Bedrossian.
- One on May 17, 2013, at Cruger Island, South Bay, by Alan Mapps, Michael Kalin, and Julie Elson, photographed.
- One on May 15, 2015, at the Beacon waterfront, found by Sue Infante, photographed.

- Two on May 5, 2016, off Rhinecliff by Susan Rogers.
- Up to five April 14-23, 2018, Tivoli to Rhinecliff, found by Susan Rogers, photographed by multiple people. It is unknown if any stayed multiple days or how many moved through over the period, two or three were often seen. One April 30 at Beacon by Alan Bacchiochi.
- One or two April 12-14, 2019, nine on April 26, Tivoli to Rhinecliff, found at Kingston Point and then seen from the Dutchess side by multiple people.
- One April 8, **2020**, Rhinecliff, photographed by Anthony Macchiarola and David Chernack. Three on April 16, one April 18, at Rhinecliff by Anthony and David.

———— **ARCTIC TERN** (*Sterna paradisaea*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2022

Accidental Vagrant

Only Date:

At least four on May 13, 2022 from Beacon to Rhinecliff with possibly ten on May 14 from New Hamburg to Rhinecliff, nearly all after 4PM. There were no sightings on May 15. Then up to five on May 16-17 at Rhinecliff which may have been different birds based on sightings south of New York. At least 15 people reported sightings and six or more took photographs⁺. No Common Terns were reported at this time to confuse id.

Status: This was part of an unprecedented inland invasion across eastern NY and southern New England, possibly due to strong winds from the east although no significant storm was reported. Multiple flocks of 20 or more were reported along the coast, dispersing into smaller groups as they moved inland. Arctic Terns normally migrate well off shore, only coming on land to nest. They nest as far south as Maine but now in decreasing numbers.

Northern Gannet – one immature on Nov. 16, 2021, flying south over the Hudson River about 8AM from Long Dock Park, Beacon by Kyle Bardwell and Debbie van Zyl, photographed. Next reported and photographed about 9:30AM from northern Manhattan. Third record.

———— **NEOTROPIC CORMORANT** (*Nannopterum brasilianum*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2022

Accidental Vagrant

Only Dates:

One May 29, 2022 seen flying from the Newburgh waterfront to the shore near Beacon by Ken McDermott and Carena Pooth. Found the day before at Newburgh by McDermott and Bruce Nott. Seen at Beacon on May 31 - June 2, photographed⁺, July 6-7, and Aug. 3. Seen at Newburgh through Oct. 9.

One seen July 4, 2023 at Beacon waterfront with occasional sightings through August 5, photographed. Seen in Newburgh from June 27 through August 17. Likely the same individual as in 2022. Still present as this is published.

Status: Normally found from south Texas through South America. A few have been recorded in the Mississippi River Valley to the Great Lakes. The first New York record is August 2013 along the Lake Ontario shore.

American White Pelican – one, June 28, 2023 at Beacon Long Dock by Lynn Costello, photographed. Also June 29 riding on a log with the incoming tide off

Pollepel Island (Bannerman's) by ElizaBeth Streifeneder, photographed. This is the sixth record for Dutchess County.

Green Heron – usually nesting alone, in 2019 a colony of Green Herons was reported in Dutchess Park Lake, Fishkill, by Laura Facchin and photographed⁺, the first known colony in Dutchess County. They also nested as a colony in 2020 and 2021 but not in 2022.

Black-crowned Night-Heron – first nesting in 70 years. From June 20 to Aug. 19, 2020 Susan Iannucci and others regularly watched two adult Night-Herons at Bowdoin County Park, Wappingers Falls. The nest was concealed across the lagoon near the railroad tracks, but on Aug. 3 a juvenile was visible and Susan snapped its photograph⁺. Adults had been seen occasionally at Bowdoin Park from 2015 through 2019. A juvenile was reported on Aug. 23, 2015 and on Aug. 1, 2018 (photo), but not known if either hatched locally.

The last confirmed nesting in Dutchess County was a small colony of nests at Hillside Lake by Helen Manson in July 1949 and July 1950, then disrupted by lake development. Population declines in New York were significant through the 1970s but increased afterwards (Levine). Juveniles were reported infrequently, usually along the Hudson, but never with an indication of local nesting.

In 2022, juveniles were reported and photographed on Aug. 6 at Beacon waterfront, on Aug. 11 at Sand Dock Rd., and on Aug. 18-19 at Dennings Point, not known if any were from local nests.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – *FIRST DUTCHESS COUNTY NESTING*. Two adults nested in a wetland behind a home near Hopewell Jct, at least two young seen in nest and photographed⁺. First reported on June 16, 2023 by Kateri Kosek.

———— **ROSEATE SPOONBILL** (*Platalea ajaja*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2021

Accidental Vagrant

Only Date:

One juvenile seen July 18-28, 2021 on the Casperkill near South Rd., Poughkeepsie, found by Vin Bihn. Barbara and Allan Michelin verified and arranged access for others. Seen by many and photographed⁺. At least three or four other juveniles were also seen in New York and Pennsylvania.

Status: Roseate Spoonbills are found along the Gulf Coast and through South America. Nearly extirpated from the United States by 1920, they have slowly increased in number. Like herons, Spoonbills wander after breeding but rarely north of South Carolina. However since 2018 they have been found north of Virginia with most sightings being of one juvenile.

———— **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** (*Elanoides forficatus*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2022 (Confirmed, was Hypothetical)

Accidental Vagrant

Only Dates:

One on May 2, 2011, flying over Bulls Head Rd. at Centre Rd., Clinton, by Jim Clinton. There were multiple reports from New Jersey at this time, one from Sandy Hook on the same day.

One on May 13, 2015, flying over Canoe Hill Rd., Millbrook, by John Askilden. Also reported from New Haven, Conn. on the same day.

One on May 20, 2017, flying over Hopewell Junction, by Jeff Gerlach, catching insects. Three were reported the day before in Northern New Jersey.

One May 5, 2022 seen and photographed⁺ by Eileen Stickle about 7AM on Spook Hill Rd., Wappingers Falls. Then on May 8 seen and photographed by two different people within 30 minutes of each other around 4:30PM near Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie.

One April 6, 2023 at 5PM, flying over Cary, Millbrook by Debbie Fargione. Well seen with binoculars and well described.

Status: Swallow-tailed Kites are beautiful and unmistakable when seen well. Once breeding as far north as Minnesota, their population collapsed through the 1930s but has since increased significantly. They recently expanded their breeding range from Florida into South Carolina and Texas. They also wander with many recent records to the north, more in spring than late summer. There are well over 20 New York state records, generally seen for one day.

Comment: None of the first three sightings were submitted to NYSARC.

Barn Owl – last confirmed nesting in 1980, to "Formerly Bred." However a Barn Owl was reported in September, 2020 with details not disclosed.

———— **SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannus forficatus*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2022 (*Confirmed, was Hypothetical*)

Accidental Vagrant

Only Dates:

One male in spring or summer of late 1930s or early 1940s along Sprout Creek south of Todd Hill Rd., LaGrange, by Ralph Waterman. Details reported to Allen Frost, now lost, recalled by Otis Waterman.

One male on June 25, 1985, at Bangall Rd., Mabbettsville, by Jesse Bontecou. Seen very close flying from fence post to fence post.

One male on Sept. 5, 2006, flew over field before Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge, by Jim Clinton.

One adult male on June 9-11, 2022, at Stony Kill Farm found by Stacey Adnams, seen and photographed⁺ by well over 50 birders.

Status: Scissor-tailed Flycatchers are normally summer residents in the Oklahoma area. However, they have been recorded sporadically during spring and fall migration in most states and southern Canada. They have been recorded in New York since 1939, more often in spring. Frequently they are found singly near the coast. Often they are seen for at most a few hours.

Comment: A report of the 1985 sighting was not accepted by NYSARC, the 2006 sighting was not submitted.

———— **FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannus savana*) ————

NEW SPECIES 2022

Accidental Vagrant

Only Date:

One adult on Sept. 17, 2022 at Greig Farm, Red Hook, found by David Chernack, photographed⁺ by David and Sean Carroll.

Status: The migratory population of Fork-tailed Flycatchers winters from Central America to southern Brazil. In September they migrate south to breed in southern South America but a few mistakenly migrate north to be generally found along the Atlantic coast. First found in New York State in 1944. Since 1986 reports have increased, often found singly on Long Island.

Bicknell's Thrush – years ago the Bicknell's was considered a regularly occurring species in Dutchess County due to a confirmed 1923 skin and a questionable 1940 record. As time passed it was classified historical, unrecorded for over fifty years. However it is now regarded as casual, meaning expected again. With few records, this seems appropriate.

Bicknell's is best identified by its song, but when it migrates through Dutchess County it is not normally singing. Photos are also generally inconclusive for identification. The Bicknell's looks like a small Gray-cheeked Thrush but measurements overlap requiring the bird to be in hand to measure accurately. Migration dates also overlap. To quote Griscom (1923, 1933) "I cannot regard this bird as identifiable in life, and reject all sight records. ... Birds I have shot as possible Bicknell's turned out to be Gray-cheeked."

The following is the best and most recent record of a possible sighting:

- One on Oct. 7, 2020, at Depot Hill, Poughquag, by Carena Pooth, photographs not conclusive. Not submitted to NYSARC.

Hoary Redpoll – two, male and female, on Feb. 17-21, 2021, on Fox St., Poughkeepsie, found by Kyle Bardwell with about 12 Common Redpolls. Seen by many, photographed⁺. Seventh record, fifth since 1970.

- one on March 8-19, 2021, Allen Rd., Salt Point by Barbara Mansell at her feeder often with ten Common Redpolls, photographed. Also seen by others.

Lark Sparrow – One immature on Oct. 21, 2021, at Greig's Farm, Red Hook found by Wendy Tocci. Seventh record.

Nelson's Sparrow – one from Oct. 21-25, 2021, at Greig's Farm, Red Hook, found by Matthew Rymkiewicz, seen by a number of people and photographed. Fifth record.

Yellow-headed Blackbird – one female on Feb. 4, 2022 in Millbrook on private property with many Grackles plus some Red-wings and Cowbirds. Photographed⁺ by Adrienne Popko. The ninth county record.

Yellow-throated Warbler – one on April 28, 2021, on Lake Pleasant Rd., Staatsburg, by Madeleine George. Tenth record, sixth since 1970.

- one on April 13, 2022, at Cary (CIES) lowlands, found by John Askildsen, also seen by Sean Carroll.

Summer Tanager – one female Jan. 15 to April 20, 2020, at Melissa Fischer's feeder and occasionally at the Michelin's feeder nearby, Wappinger Falls. Seen by many and photographed⁺. Fourth record. Accepted by NYSARC.
– one first year male on June 1, 2021 at Russ O'Malley's, Fishkill.

— BLUE GROSBEAK (*Passerina caerulea*) —

Normal Dates: May

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
				

Usual Locale: Brushy and overgrown fields

Visitant

Status: *OCCURS REGULARLY 2021*, tenth record, was a Casual Visitant. The Blue Grosbeak is more often found in May for one day generally in the western side of the county. Both breeding males, immature males, and females have been seen. The earliest arrival date is April 20, 2021 in Wappingers Falls.

During the first Breeding Bird Atlas, the state's first Blue Grosbeak nest was found on Staten Island. The species is a regular nester in New Jersey and regularly visits Long Island in small numbers during migration (Levine). The Dutchess County birds reflect a very gradual northward range expansion through river valleys of this southern bird.

First ten sightings:

- One immature on Oct. 25-29, 1991, at Stony Kill, Fishkill, by Otis Waterman, Barbara Michelin, Eleanor Pink, Marion Van Wagner, and many others.
- One female on May 17-21, 1996, at Old Route 9, Fishkill, by Russ O'Malley and six others. Photographed by Peter Relson.
- One adult male on May 16, 1998, at Kimball Rd, Poughkeepsie, by Bernie and Fran Heyman.
- One first-year male on May 14, 2000, at Verbank, by Barbara Butler.
- One adult male on May 4, 2003, at Poughkeepsie near Dutchess Community College, by Pat Gabel.
- One male on May 17, 2010, at Woodland Dr., Salt Point, by Alys and Robert Bowler.
- One male on Aug. 1, 2014, at Valkill, Hyde Park, by Dan Whalen.
- Two, one male, one female on May 27, 2015 on Berkshire Rd., Dover Plains by Barbara Mansell, Adrienne Popko, and Susan Joseph. Seen very well.
- One male on May 15, 2018, at Drayton Grant Park, Burger Hill, Rhinebeck by Sherman Suter.
- One first-year male on April 20, **2021**, at Tanglewood Dr., Wappingers Falls by Debbie van Zyl and many others, many photographs*.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

MISSISSIPPI KITE – *Hypothetical*

- One on June 13, 2023, flew over Rhinebeck, seen by Rodney Johnson. This is the third unconfirmed sighting for Dutchess County.
- One on July 1, 2023, flew over Millbrook, seen by David Chernack. Well described but no photo. Seen again July 6 by Sean Carroll, same location, no

photo. Perhaps the same individual as in June. The first NY state breeding record was in 2022 north of Schenectady.

Crested Caracara – *Hypothetical*

– One on April 7, 2020, flew low over Field Road, Clinton Corners, seen by Susan Joseph. One was also reported near Kingston on April 4 and one was photographed and seen by many in central Vermont from March 4 to 7. This sighting was not accepted by NYSARC.

The Crested Caracara is normally found in Mexico and further south with some in Arizona, Texas, and Florida. It does not tend to wander and any sighting in the North is very unusual, yet it has happened before.

Extralimital – a species unknown in a given area but possible. Used here when confirmed literally feet outside of Dutchess County yet never within Dutchess.

- **Ivory Gull** – one immature Jan. 11 - 23, 1981 at Newburgh near the shore and in the river. Found by Ed Tracy and Benton Sequin. Photographed.
- **Brown Booby** – one Aug. 3, 2019 landed on the sloop *Clearwater* underway well north of Cold Spring, staying for half an hour. Another one Aug. 11, 2021 at Esopus Meadows by Jim Yates. Both photographed.
- **Varied Thrush** – one adult male, Dec. 27, 1975 to March 20, 1976 on Belgo Rd., Salisbury, Conn. 300 feet from Millerton line. Photographed.

PHOTO GALLERY

These images continue the “Photo Gallery” from *The Birds of Dutchess County* thus confirming the species was recorded in Dutchess County. It includes photos of the first or early sightings plus species infrequently seen in the county. Other special photos are also included. A superscript + following the word photograph⁺ in Species Accounts indicates a photo is included here. The sequence is chronological.

A special thank you to all the photographers who take such exceptional photos and share them. Each is copyrighted by the photographer and used with permission. Often additional photos are in eBird, yet in some cases no photos are in eBird.

● indicates only one record, ● indicates ten or more records, more than casual



Snowy Owl - on the Walgreen Drug sign at 44 Plaza, Poughkeepsie. Stayed from Dec. 7 to March 25, 1997. Both photos by Peter Relson. ●



Wilson's Snipe - nest May 9, 2000 in town of North East, by Jesse Jaycox of NYSDEC. By May 25 the eggs had hatched. Only the third confirmed nesting in Dutchess County, south of the normal boreal breeding area. ●



Common Gallinule

- Four of at least eight young on Sharon Station Rd., Amenia, Aug. 13, 2015 by Maha Katnani. Gallinules were unreported in the county from 1997 through 2012.



Black-bellied

Plover - Sept. 28, 2018 off Sheffield Hill Rd., Amenia by Barbara Mansell. Not often seen in fall still in breeding plumage. In Dutchess almost always seen singly.



Green Heron

Colony - July 13, 2019, by Barbara Mansell. An island about 30 feet in diameter in Dutchess Park Lake, Fishkill supports at least seven nests. Twenty birds were seen including young. Usually nests singly, this is the first known Green Heron colony in Dutchess.





Connecticut Warbler

- Sept. 24, 2019 on Depot Hill Rd. by Aimee LaBarr. An uncommon warbler normally only seen in the fall. First Dutchess County photo. ●



Summer Tanager -

female, Jan. 15, 2020 at Melissa Fischer's feeder, Wappinger Falls. Most unusual in winter. Photo by Stephen Fischer.



Black-crowned Night-Heron -

juvenile, Aug. 3, 2020 at Bowdoin Park, Wappingers Falls by Susan Iannucci. Was with two adults, near nest. Note light colored bill. First known nesting in 70 years.



Sooty Tern -

Aug. 4, 2020 by
Cathy Brady taken in
her backyard at
Clinton Corners.
Blown north by a
hurricane, it was
injured.



Thayer's Gull - first
year, Jan. 14, 2021,
Riverfront Park,
Beacon by Barbara
Thomascall. Note the
brown wing tips,
pink legs, round
head, and long black
bill. A subspecies of
the Iceland Gull,
some winter near
Lake Erie.



Snow Buntings -

part of a flock
estimated at 2000 on
Jan. 30, 2021 at
Greig Farm, Red
Hook by Chris
Chappell. Flocks this
large are reported
less than once per
decade.



Hoary Redpoll - male, Feb. 18, 2021, Fox St., Poughkeepsie by Sean Carroll. Note the overall white appearance, totally white under the tail, and small bill with a high forehead.



Blue Grosbeak - first-year male, April 20, 2021 in Wappingers Falls by Debbie van Zyl. The tenth county record but first photograph. Slowly expanding its range north. ●



Peregrine Falcon - May 10, 2021 by Chris Nadareski of the NYC DEP who banded these four young on the Mid-Hudson Bridge where they have bred since 1996. ●



Roseate Spoonbill - juvenile, July 22, 2021 in the Casperkill near South Rd., Poughkeepsie by Carena Pooth. Recently have wandered further north after leaving rookery in the South.



Sanderling - Aug. 7, 2021 by Kyle Bardwell at Beacon waterfront park. Changing from breeding to winter plumage.



American Avocet - Aug. 11, 2021 at Beacon waterfront park by Barbara Mansell.



Laughing Gull -
first winter, Aug. 31,
2021 from Sand
Dock Road Trail by
Chris Chappell.
Being seen more
frequently but first
county photo. ●



Pink-footed Goose -
Nov. 26, 2021 at
Wappinger Lake by
Deborah Tracy-Kral.
First county record.



Franklin's Gull -
first winter, Jan. 4,
2022 at Beacon
Waterfront Park by
Sean Carroll. Found
three weeks earlier in
Newburgh. This is
the first sighting in
Dutchess County.
Note split eye ring
and red legs. ●



Short-eared Owl -

Jan. 8, 2022 at Greig Farm, Red Hook by Derek Stoll.

Short-eared Owls are seen a few times per decade, always in winter usually at dusk. This is the first photo from Dutchess County. ●



Ross's Goose - Jan.

11, 2022 from Sand Dock Road Trail by Chris Chappell, with Canada Goose showing small size of Ross's. The second county record and first photograph.



Barrow's Goldeneye

- Jan. 28, 2022 at Rhinecliff, by Justin Schmidt. Female (front) with male and two female Common Goldeneyes. Note the Barrow's female has an orange bill while the female Common only have a yellow tip to the bill.



Yellow-headed Blackbird - female, Feb. 4, 2022 by Adrienne Popko at a private Millbrook home. Seen with many Grackles plus some Red-wings and Cowbirds.



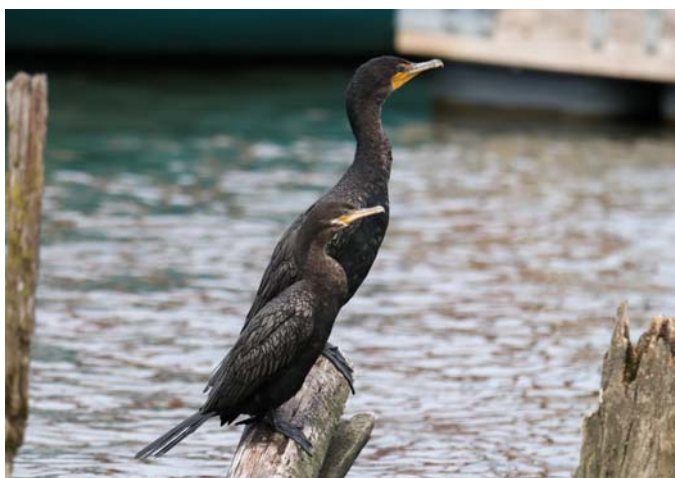
Orange-crowned Warbler - May 4, 2022 in Red Hook by Elisa Shaw. Not often found in spring when their migration path is further west. First spring photograph in Dutchess County. ●



Swallow-tailed Kite - May 5, 2022 by Eileen Stickle at a friend's home in Wappingers Falls. Found by her friend at 6AM perched in a tree preening.



Arctic Tern - May 13, 2022 at New Hamburg by Debbie van Zyl. First Arctic Tern reported in Dutchess County. Only one seen when photo taken but others also reported along the Hudson. Areas of dark on wings, and lack of dark wedge, identifies Arctic. ●



Neotropic Cormorant (front) - July 7, 2022 at Beacon waterfront by Anthony Macchiarola. Flew between both sides of the Hudson. White edge by the bill base and smaller than Double-crested Cormorant in back identifies this cormorant. ●



Ruddy Turnstone - May 31, 2022 at Beacon Waterfront Park by Jeanne Cimorelli. First photo in Dutchess County.



Sora - recently hatched with adult, June 6, 2022 along the Harlem Valley Rail Trail at Sharon Station Rd. by Maha Katnani. Three young were seen, one being fed by mother. Regularly breeds but the last report of young was in 1985. ●



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - June 9, 2022 at Stony Kill Farm by Anthony Macchiarola. First confirmed sighting.



Fork-tailed Flycatcher - Sept. 17, 2022 at Greig Farm, Red Hook by Sean Carroll. Normally a South American species but with prior NY sightings. ●



Harlequin Duck - first fall male, Feb. 26, 2023 in Hudson River from Freer Memorial Beach, Port Ewen by Peter Schoenberger. Regularly seen from Dutchess side during its long stay. ●



Black-legged Kittiwake - (right) Adult, May 10, 2023 from Sand Dock Rd., Poughkeepsie by Chris Chappell. Wing tips "dipped in ink," yellow bill. (left) First-winter plumage, June 23, 2023 from Rhinecliff Landing by Anthony Macchiarola. Black bill, "M" on back of wings.



Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - Adult with one of two young, June 18, 2023 near Hopewell Jct. by Anthony Macchiarola. Note black bill of young. First Dutchess County nesting. ●



Trumpeter Swan - plumage going to adult, Aug. 12, 2023 at Tivoli North Bay by Derek Stoll. Trumpeter Swans have been released in the Great Lakes area for many years and occasionally show up in New York. ●

SUMMARY

Regularly occurring	10+ records in last 50 years
Permanent Residents . .	62
Summer Residents	76
Winter Residents	8
Transients	83
Visitants	25
Total	254
Casual	31 Expected again
Accidental	37 Not expected again
Historical	13 Not reported since 1975
Grand Total	335
Breeding	139
Bred for a limited period . .	6 with (years bred)
	Blue-winged Teal (4), Golden-crowned Kinglet (4), Evening Grosbeak (1), Kentucky Warbler (2), Northern Parula (1), Western Meadowlark (1)
Formerly Bred	11 20 years since last suspected nesting
	Northern Bobwhite, Common Nighthawk, American Bittern, Northern Harrier, Barn Owl, Long-eared Owl, Sedge Wren, Henslow's Sparrow, Yellow-breasted Chat, Golden-winged Warbler, Nashville Warbler

Status changes by year

- 2020
- Barn Owl, last confirmed nesting in 1980, to “Formerly Bred.”
 - Caspian Tern, tenth record, to Spring Transient from Casual Visitant.
 - Black-crowned Night-Heron again confirmed nesting, was “Formerly Bred.”
- 2021
- Blue Grosbeak, tenth record, to Regular Visitant from Casual Visitant.
 - Roseate Spoonbill, first record, photographed, Accidental Vagrant.
 - Pink-footed Goose, first record, photographed, Accidental Vagrant.
 - Blue-winged Teal, not bred since 1969, dropped recent breeding. Known to have bred only four times.
- 2022
- The following species, not reported since 1975, are reclassified as Historical Records: Western Meadowlark 1962, Atlantic Puffin 1963, Townsend’s Warbler 1965, Henslow’s Sparrow 1965, Chestnut-collared Longspur 1968, Lark Bunting 1970, Red-necked Phalarope 1970, Eared Grebe 1972
 - Northern Bobwhite, native birds gone by the 1930s thus “Formerly Bred,” released birds not self sustaining but have bred.
 - Ring-necked Pheasant is not self sustaining and no longer a regular breeder.
 - Franklin’s Gull, first record, photographed, Accidental Vagrant.
 - Swallow-tailed Kite, first confirmed record, photographed, from Hypothetical to Accidental Vagrant.
 - Arctic Tern, first record, photographed, Accidental Vagrant.
 - Neotropic Cormorant, first record, photographed, Accidental Vagrant.
 - Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, first confirmed record, photographed, from Hypothetical to Accidental Vagrant.
 - Fork-tailed Flycatcher, first record, photographed, Accidental Vagrant.
- 2023
- Harlequin Duck, first record, Accidental Vagrant.
 - Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, first county nesting, photo of young in nest.
 - Whimbrel, first confirmed record, photographed, from Hypothetical to Casual Visitant.
 - Trumpeter Swan, first record, photographed, Accidental Vagrant.

SELECTION OF EARLY NEST PHOTOGRAPHS

The following photographs are primarily from the early years of birding in Dutchess County when cameras were relatively new for nature photography. The subject had to remain motionless for the exposure, making nests a common subject. Several photos confirm breeding for species which no longer breed in the county.

This selection of photos was added to the last digital version of *The Birds of Dutchess County*. It does not appear in the printed versions except for the Red-shouldered Hawk and Long-eared Owl photos, not included here.



Northern Harrier - nest with one recent hatchling, 1902 near Gretna, Pleasant Valley by Lisenard Horton. Harriers nest on the ground. The last confirmed nest in Dutchess County was in 1956.

*from
Shields Magazine,
January 1906*



Grasshopper Sparrow - nest with four eggs, 1902 near Gretna, Pleasant Valley by Lisenard Horton. Grasshopper Sparrows regularly nested in the county but declined from the 1940s with the last nesting in 1982 until re-found nesting in 2006.

*from Eaton's
Birds of New York*



Sedge Wren - nest, 1902 near Gretna, Pleasant Valley by Lispernard Horton. Sedge Wrens prefer damp areas where they build an enclosed nest with an entrance hole. The last suspected Dutchess County nesting was in the 1930s.

*from Eaton's
Birds of New York*



Northern Bobwhite - male standing near nest, Grasmere, Rhinebeck about 1904 by Maunsell Crosby. Native Bobwhite were mostly absent from Dutchess by the early 1900s due mostly to hunting.

*from Rhinebeck Bird
Club 1916 Yearbook*



Golden-winged Warbler - a female sitting on her nest, May 26, 1911 at Grasmere Farm, Rhinebeck by Maunsell Crosby. The Golden-winged was the most common warbler nesting at Grasmere. The last Dutchess County nesting was in the late 1980s.

*from Bird-Lore,
May-June 1912*



Barn Owl -
 Greenvale Farm,
 Poughkeepsie by
 George Gray who
 raised the young Barn
 Owl from September
 to November, 1916.
 Note it has been tied
 to the branch. Barn
 Owls are infrequent
 breeders in Dutchess,
 the last known was
 October 1980.
*from Frost Collection
 in Waterman Archives*



Tree Swallow -
 June 12, 1921,
 Grass Pond,
 Millerton by Allen
 Frost. First known
 Tree Swallow nest in
 Dutchess County,
 found by Crosby and
 Frost. Now an
 abundant breeder.
*from Maunsell
 Crosby's Birding
 Journal, vol. 2*



Blue-headed Vireo -
 sitting on four eggs,
 Turkey Hollow,
 Amenia June 8, 1922
 by Allen Frost. First
 nest found in
 Dutchess County of
 the then common
 transient
*from Bird-Lore,
 May-June 1925*



Hermit Thrush - three eggs in a nest on Mt. Riga near Millerton, June 8, 1924 by Allen Frost. Normally a transient this was the first nest found in Dutchess County. They now breed regularly particularly in the eastern portions of the county.

*from Bird-Lore,
May-June 1925*



Prairie Warbler - June 22, 1924 on a nest with three eggs, foot of Schaghticoke Mt., Dover by Allen Frost. First nest found in Dutchess. Now commonly found nesting in county.

*from Bird-Lore,
May-June 1925*



Prairie Horned Lark - four young wanting to be fed, April 16, 1941, Salt Point by Allen Frost. Horned Larks have become very scarce breeders in Dutchess County. The Prairie Horned Lark is a subspecies which expanded from the West.

*from Bulletin to the
Schools, March 1944*