

Hawk-Owl near Braddocks Bay: I first observed this Hawk-Owl (*Surnia ulula* caparoch) about noon on Oct. 25, 1962, sitting in a medium sized tree, at the intersection of Hogan Pt. and Hinchey roads, near Braddocks Bay.

When I spotted the bird, I stopped the car a few hundred feet away and took a look with 8 x 40 binoculars. I then drove up until I was almost beneath the tree and took a good, long look.

Besides the characteristic shape and size, I was most impressed by the heavy transverse barring across the underparts and the "side-burns". He seemed to be rather settled in that particular tree and quite tame. The feathers being blown about by the wind looked quite soft and fluffy.

When about 3 P.M., I stopped by again, he was in an adjacent tree about 400 feet away across an open field. At this time he seemed to be alert and looking for game. A smaller bird was in the same tree but was keeping out of his way. Soon the Hawk-Owl flew right back to the original tree. I never observed it to sit in the very top of a tree or jerk its tail.

The bird was under observation from noon until dark by about a dozen people and the identification was confirmed by these observers: Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dakin, Gary Leubner, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Moon, Al Starling, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Tanghe, Joseph W. Taylor and others.

The bird was observed to hover over and catch at least two mice. One of these, it left in an old bird's nest. Neil Moon reported that the bird caught a mouse and flew up the road a few feet off the ground directly toward him. As it neared him, it rose just high enough to avoid striking him in the head and continued on to a perch. Other instances of its fearlessness were reported. Some pictures were taken but I do not know the results.

Despite later visits, the bird was not seen after that day. A woman from the nearest farm said that the bird had been around for several days. The pheasant season was on at the time.

Recently, I observed the Hawk-Owl near Lockport and believe it to be a different bird than ours near Braddocks Bay. The Lockport bird seemed smaller in size.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FALL SEASON AUGUST 16 — NOVEMBER 30 DAVID B. PEAKALL

In general the fall migration of warblers and other passerines was reported as good with some notable peaks. In several areas September 27-29th was an especially good period, but otherwise the dates of peaks did not seem to correspond in the various parts of the state. Particularly noteworthy were the heavy TV tower kills near Buffalo.

The occurrence of a flock of 150 Red-throated Loons on Saratoga Lake is a very unusual occurrence. The distribution of this species upstate is strange, it sometimes occurs in large numbers on the southern shores of Lake Ontario (ie 3000 April 20, 1960 nr Rochester); it has never been recorded in large numbers on the eastern shore of Lake Ontario nor, until now, away from the lake.

The migration of Canada Geese was generally reported as good. The regional reports do not contain enough data to give an overall summary of the duck migration, but a number of interesting points emerge. The Red-head can be currently considered as a rare bird, in some regions it was unreported and the maximum count was nine on Chautauqua Lake. A Cinnamon Teal was observed in region 1, the first record for this area and the 3rd or 4th for the state. There is an old specimen from Yates county, one reported