

Two Hawk Owls seen by the writer and others and previously reported in this publication were one from Dec. 11, 1958 to Jan. 1, 1959 at 3 mi. NE Three Mile Bay, Jeff. Co. and one on Feb. 9, 1963 at 1½ mi. E of Sears Pond on Tug Hill in Lewis Co. Both were in treetops. (Note by Dr. Walter Spofford: Other observers seeing the 1958 bird noted that it sometimes perched close to the trunk halfway up in trees, unusual behavior for this species.)

Probably individuals of this species regularly visit the area but are not reported by competent observers.

On Jan. 1, 1965 at 4 P.M. EST as the sun was getting low, I saw a Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) make repeated harrassing dives on a red fox in an open field on Pt. Peninsula. The fox made no attempt to fight back but was crossing the field to get to some trees. The owl did not seem to strike the fox. Two more Short-eared Owls came over this field to join the first in a few minutes. At dusk, 4:55 P.M. EST, I saw three different Short-eared Owls flying around a barn on Pillar Point several miles away on the same date.

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Gyr Falcon in Jefferson County: On Dec. 23, 1964 I saw a dark phase Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) sitting on a telephone pole on the Dablon Pt. Road near Cape Vincent, Jeff. Co., and observed it from about 11:00 to 11:30 A.M. EST at close range. It greatly resembled a dark phase Rough-legged Hawk until it flew, but lacked any white on the tail and the flight was quite different. I had to shout and clap to make it fly the first time. I followed it from one pole to another several times in my car and could drive up beside it or past it without disturbing it. Only when I approached near on foot would it fly. Then it flew low over the ground with a steady, deceptively slow, gull-like beat — never soaring or hovering — before it flew up to its next perch. Once I saw it fly to the ground and walk around.

Frank Clinch and I located it later in the afternoon in a tree and observed it for nearly another 30 minutes on poles and in other trees near Cape Vincent.

On Dec. 26, 1964 in the morning I saw a black Gyr Falcon on Pt. Peninsula in a tree and later on a telephone pole beside the road. Although it looked like the first one I saw, I suspect it may have been a different bird.

All markings and other characteristics, which were noted at close range, have been compared satisfactorily with several of the most authoritative books on birds of prey.

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An Albino Horned Grebe: In early February 1965 Walter Friton photographed a pure white bird from the West End Jetty at Jones Beach, Nassau County. He thought he detected a red eye and although he was in doubt as to the species he felt it was a Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*), even though it seemed smaller than other grebes in the inlet.

Walter Friton, William Hackett and I observed the bird on February 23 and 26. The possibility occurred to us that it might be a Black Guillemot (*Cepphus grylle*), but choppy water, distance, and the wariness of the bird prevented our seeing it well or securing a photograph.

Returning to the inlet on 8 March, we spotted a group of Horned Grebes (about 24) in a compact flock and there, on the outside of the group, was the white bird. We tried to photograph it, but as we attempted to get nearer, it dove and reappeared on the far side of the group. As we advanced, it was the only bird to swim away, the others appearing unconcerned over our presence. This time the typical Horned Grebe shape of the head and thin neck were very apparent, and the bird's plumage, which a few weeks previously was totally white, was now streaked on the back and sides with buff.

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