

First record of Black-headed Grosbeak in Dutchess County: On Jan 23, 1964, in the midst of the heaviest snow storm of 1964-65, a storm that originated in the Texas Panhandle and moved northeast in about 36 hours, a bird, tentatively identified as a Black-headed Grosbeak in the immature plumage of a first year male, appeared at my feeder in Pleasant Valley.

The bird had a striped head, the center stripe being the same cinnamon or burnt orange as the throat, chest and rump. This same color followed around the back of the head and gave way to a bright yellow at the center of the breast. The mandible was dark, the maxilla light. Identification was confirmed through the study of skins at the American Museum of Natural History, by courtesy of John Bull. The latter has retained two of the seven slides taken of the bird.

The Grosbeak remained at my feeder for 81 days and was last seen on April 13. I had it under observation for a total of 115 hours during this time. It was extremely timid and always came into the feeding area from the same direction. The area from which it came is profuse with Multiflora Rose, Wild Grapes and Sumac. It usually stayed only a few minutes on the feeder, eating nothing but sunflower seeds, then left, not to return for another hour or so. The least noise or movement inside the window would frighten him away, and our pictures had to be taken from six feet within the room. There was no evidence of plumage change before his last appearance.

Records indicate that two or three of these birds are noted every winter in New England and the mid-Atlantic states. While some are single time observations, several like this one remained for some time. In at least two reported cases the birds moulted into adult plumage before leaving.

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Adult Little Blue Heron at Watertown: On May 9, 1965, while driving through Brookside Cemetery at Watertown, my wife, June, and I saw a heron fly from the edge of a pond to a tall tree. Realizing it was not a Green Heron, we moved nearer for a closer look but it flew out of sight. In 3 or 4 minutes it returned and perched in a nearby tree in full view about 30 feet from the ground.

We were able to study closely this adult Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*). The slim body, longer neck, dark legs and slate blue plumage distinguished it from a Green Heron. The bill was light blue with a dark tip. The bird remained in view for 10 to 15 minutes in large trees on the edge of the pond. Returning 30 minutes later, we found the bird wading in several inches of water.

At least 13 birders saw the heron that day at the cemetery ponds. We returned the next morning but were unable to locate it again.

The occurrence of a Little Blue Heron, especially an adult, in Northern New York in the spring seems unusual since most records show the "wanderers" of this species to be white immatures. There was, however, an adult seen five miles east of Phoenix, May 19, 1959. (*The Kingbird*, IX(2): 89.)

Robert C. Walker, Watertown, N.Y.

Sandhill Crane in Southern Oswego County: On May 16, 1965 I observed an adult Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*) in a small marsh about one mile southeast of Pleasant Lake, Town of Schroepfel, Oswego County. The bird was observed for approximately 25 minutes in good light (1700 EDST) with 10X binoculars and a 30X spotting scope by myself, Christian G. Spies, Jr., and Jon R. Bart. When seen initially, the bird was vigorously preening but shortly thereafter began to feed in a