

**White-eyed Vireo in Essex County:** On 2, 4 and 11 October 1976, I saw a White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) in a stand of alders, poplars and other small trees along a brook in the village of Elizabethtown, Essex County. On each occasion it was the middle of a warm, sunny morning. The bird was moving slowly and turning its head in a characteristic vireo manner. It appeared smaller than a Yellow-throated Vireo (*V. flavifrons*) and had two narrow, pale wing bars. The flanks, upper belly and "spectacles" were lemon yellow, the upper breast was light gray and the throat was white. The bird was clearly a White-eyed Vireo on the basis of its white throat and lemon yellow "spectacles," the former character distinguishing it from the Yellow-throated Vireo and the latter distinguishing it from Bell's Vireo (*V. bellii*). The iris was dark, indicating a first-year bird; White-eyed Vireos do not acquire a white iris until the spring following hatching or even later. The northernmost record for this species listed by Bull (1974, *Birds of New York State*, p. 456) is near Troy in Rensselaer Co., about 100 miles south of Elizabethtown.

Geoffrey Carleton, Elizabethtown, New York 12932

**Fox preys on nocturnal migrants:** While visiting Jones Beach State Park at 2:00 A.M. October 24, 1976, I noted a substantial flight of passerines moving west along the beach. The night was warm and overcast and birds' night calls were clearly audible. I discerned the notes of American Robins, Myrtle Warblers, and White-throated Sparrows; the remainder were unidentifiable. I continued to Robert Moses State Park at the western tip of Fire Island. At the water tower I observed a number of birds circulating in the lights that play on the tower. I parked and approached to investigate. There were about 200 Myrtle Warblers present, many alighting in bayberry bushes, on the concrete pedestal surrounding the tower, and on the sides of the tower. Nearing the tower, I observed a Red Fox (*Vulpes fulva*) on the pedestal. It was jumping about, attempting to capture exhausted birds. I am curious to know whether this opportunistic behavior has been noted at lighthouses or wherever there are tower kills.

Peter Polshek, Excerpted from *The Linnaean News-Letter*, Vol. XXX, No. 9