

The above figures are far from being a true total count. From the tower, there are about 30 guy wires reaching across to various points over fields and wooded areas, so that birds striking these wires fall onto a large area. It was impossible even with the help we had to cover all tracts. That first morning the road leading up to the tower was covered with crushed birds. Below the tower on one side were two fields of very deep grass. Later in the week, it was mowed and a small flock of crows was seen there on different days feeding on the dead birds. Besides the dead, there are always a number of live injured birds, which, of course, do not survive.

If these figures are multiplied by the number of TV towers in the country, one wonders what the future holds. In former years there were large, or larger kill at lighthouses. Do TV towers outnumber lighthouses? Perhaps the solution lies in some electronic means of repelling the birds. Dorothy Crumb of Syracuse told me that the kills at the tower there had been greatly reduced since the installation of two telephone relay towers in the vicinity.

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**The ability of a Saw-whet Owl to see by day:** On the afternoon of 19 March 1978 several of us were observing a Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) well concealed in a tangled grapevine in an old pear orchard in Braddock Bay State Park, Parma, Monroe County. One birder was within five feet of the owl, immediately below it, taking pictures with a long lens, and the bird was leaning forward slightly, staring down at him. At least ten other people were scattered about between six and 30 feet away from the bird. While we watched, a Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) flew overhead at an estimated altitude of 300 to 400 feet. Instantly, the owl's eyes narrowed to slits and its head snapped back, its gaze following the hawk until it disappeared. This is particularly interesting in that in spite of the owl's being seemingly buried in the tangle and virtually invisible, it sighted the hawk and then considered it more of a threat than this group of people, one of them only a few feet away pointing a long lens at it. After the hawk had passed the owl's gaze was again focused, wide-eyed, on the photographer.

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