

EDITOR'S NOTE

The issue you are reading begins the 70th volume of *The Kingbird* and is the first issue to be delivered digitally to members and subscribers preferring that medium. This milestone strikes me as an appropriate opportunity to reflect on several aspects of the print-digital divide that has shaped so much of the past 16 years I've served as Editor.

Two tedious but important record-keeping functions are accomplished in this issue and will be included in the initial issues of each volume. First, the corrigenda from the previous volume (and older volumes, if other mistakes come to light) are explained here. Although these will be corrected in the online journal, it is important that they be made visible and easy to find, as long as *The Kingbird* is used, to provide explication and resolution in case an error propagates into other publications or media. Similarly, a statement will be made in the first issue of each volume concerning the species sequence used in the Regional Reports. Changing the sequence of presentation every year provides almost no benefits, but it imposes serious costs to the writers, editors, and, especially, the future users of the reports. Browsing past *Kingbird* issues, my taxonomic brain is such (i.e., aged enough) that I can easily adapt back into the pre-1983 AOU sequence that fills so many volumes of our journal. In contrast, each one-off sequence that differs from

all preceding and all following it not only looks alien when introduced, but will be both unfamiliar and inaccurate for all future readers. Thus, in deference to those who will look back on these pages, perhaps looking for records of a particular species over a particular period, we will maintain at least a modicum of stability from year to year. Thus last year's sequence, although obsolete, will be retained in Volume 70. Digital searches, of course, are unaffected either way.

"Fifty Years Ago in *The Kingbird*," a feature that was published for several years about a decade ago, returns in this issue. It offers us insights into both the dynamic and the enduring aspects of the missions of our community and our organization. More recently, we have initiated a new feature, under the banner "Patch Birding," which also offers views into the habits, values, and mores of our community. The four installments of this series published to date have elicited a relatively large amount of direct feedback to me—more than most items published in *The Kingbird*. Most of the reactions have been very positive; readers have enjoyed seeing a shared activity through the eyes of others. But some have questioned whether these inherently subjective and personal essays fit within the mission of *The Kingbird*, and that of NYSOA more generally. It is important to stress that these pieces do not purport to represent the organization directly, nor to express NYSOA's preferences (if it has such) regarding best practices in birding. Instead, they are meant to communicate the diverse ways in which the authors view their craft—the motives and methods of the people who have built the knowledge of New York State birds recorded in these 70 volumes. I believe that they "further the study of bird life and ... document the ornithology of the state" and in doing so add value to this journal.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS III

The Breeding Bird Atlas III is underway. Information and contact information for Regional coordinators can be found on the NYSOA web page.

CORRIGENDA

Please make note of the following corrections to errors in Volumes 67 (2017) and 69 (2019) of *The Kingbird*. These will be corrected in the digital archive, accessible at nybirds.org.

KB 67.3 September 2017

p. 254 In the N. Parula entry, the extra space between arr and **11 Apr** and the empty parentheses should be removed

KB 69.1 March 2019

p. 3 Under Highlights, sixth line, the scientific name for Garganey should read *Spatula querquedula*