

Least Sandpipers Breeding on P.E.I.? - Andrew MacInnis from Nova Scotia sends the following report:

"On June 6, 1977 while digging clams at Savage Harbour with E. Hickey and R. Dibblee, I saw two Least Sandpipers (Erolia minutilla) which I believe were taking part in courtship activity. These birds were hovering just off the ground (1 m) and calling repeatedly. Every once and awhile they would land and as I approached they would fly off a short distance. I thought they may have been trying to lure me away from a nest but a short search revealed nothing. For the most part they were not wary and I was able to get within 8 m of them. This activity took place on the S. patens portion of a salt marsh.

I thought this note would be of interest of you as it may indicate a small breeding population of this species at this location."

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Mistakes? - Yes, We Do Make Mistakes!

Newsletter No. 26, November 1977 - Bruce Pigot from Mount Stewart sends in the following corrections on the article on Page 4 entitled Color-marked Shore Birds: "The note gives the impression that the bird was color marked and one of Dr. Morrison's birds. It was in fact color banded bird, and had been banded by Mr. A.L. Spans in Surinam (South America).

I first saw the bird and reported it to the interpretation center at the Park. ...I left for home and a short time later Richard Elliot arrived. He read my note, drove down and spotted the bird a short time later."

Newsletter No. 27, December 1977 - Several mistakes occurred in the Bird Watcher's Quiz on page 3.

- (4) Che bec, Che bec should be matched with (h) instead of (b).
- (7) "Liquid caw and plank" should read "Liquid caw and plunk".
- (h) "Alder Flycatcher or Traill's "should have been "Least Flycatcher".

Newsletter No. 28, January 1978 - In the article entitled An Uncommon Wealth of Owls on page 1, only 2 of the owls were found "to be in poor condition - the other two were not examined. The former specimens were obtained in Charlottetown and South Granville respectively.

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A New Bird for Prince Edward Island

A touch of color was added to Parkdale and Sherwood this winter when a male Cardinal blew in "from away". This is the first cardinal sighting reported in this province. Mrs. A.F. Gormley, 4 Hawthorne Ave., saw him at her feeder Jan. 1, 2 and 3, and again Jan. 13 and 15. Others who saw it were Mrs. F.E. Driscoll, 16 St. Peter's Road; Mrs. Kenneth Richards, 10 Hawthorne Ave., Mrs. Pat Campbell, 180 Belvedere Ave. and Rev. Douglas Gass, 9 Christie Drive.

In recent years, Cardinals have been moving north and east and have been showing up at winter bird feeders in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Hopefully, this Cardinal will be favorably impressed with the Island and decide to return next year.

Margaret Mallett  
53 Fitzroy Street

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Death at the Feeder

This winter my family has been entertained by the Blue Jays, Chickadees, Woodpeckers, and squirrels which visit our feeder. All appear to know their place and live in relative harmony. Although the Blue Jays commonly drive away other birds, feeding times seem to vary enough to accomodate all comers.

One cold morning in January a Chickadee mistakenly flew into our living-room window, fell to the ground, and began to flutter around, obviously injured. This abnormal movement was soon detected by the opportune jays. Several swooped down from the feeder and one appeared to kill the Chickadee which it then picked up in its beak and carried off. Within minutes, activities were again normal at the bird feeder.

John Bain  
Fish and Wildlife Division