THE MONTCLAIR BIRD CLUB QUIZ



Number 1: April 10, 2020

Any idea what this bird might be? It was photographed in Bloomfield, NJ in April.

While you are pondering, here are some useful links:

<u>Charles Waterton, Wanderings</u>. One of the most eccentric of nineteenth-century British naturalists—and that's saying a lot—Waterton's book is a mix of tall tales, rigorous science, and personal venom.

<u>Classic Illustrated Zoologies</u>. The New York Public Library holds a vast collection of natural history books, many of them beautifully illustrated—and available online for free.

James Jobling, Key to Scientific Names. If you've ever wondered ... just about anything about the names of birds, James Jobling has tracked it down.

Jan Freedman, Bring Out Your Dead. Do we really need museums and all those dead birds anymore? The answer is yes.

Ornithological Books On Line. Just a small selection, but well chosen.

Hamilton Book: Birds and Birding. Excellent prices on more or less randomly selected titles.

THE ANSWER IS ON THE NEXT PAGE

White-throated Sparrow

White-throated sparrows are extremely variable in spring, with white-striped adults at their very brightest and some (presumably) tan-striped (presumably) first-cycle individuals extremely dull. Even the blandest, brownest, streakiest bird can still be identified by its large size, long tail, jagged wing bars, striped head, and dark bill.





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