

W. M. ROSEN INSURANCE AGENCY

OGDEN, IOWA

Ogden, Iowa.
Oct 25 1940

Phil Du Mont
405 N. Cleveland
Arlington, Va.

Dear Phil:-

You may be surprised to hear again from your old pal of "Long Pond Days" but since I have not heard from you since you got down there with the "big shots" I thought that I would drop you a line to see whether or not you had gotten "high hat" yet. One of our local hunters shot a small goose in a small pond about two miles north of Ogden on the morning of Oct 29th and I called it a Hutchins but since it was the first bird of that kind that I had seen I was not positive. He gave the goose away to a friend who dressed it and ate it but I managed to salvage both wings and the head which I took over and gave to Dr Hendrickson. The bird looked just like a small Canadian and it weighed 4 lbs 12 oz. The length from tip of bill to tip of tail was 25 in. The length from tip of bill to tip of toe was 26½ in. The total wing spread was 54½ in.

Hendrickson gave me the following measurements on the wings and head which I gave him:-

The bill or culmen measures 1.5 inches or 38 mm.

The wing length is 15.2 inches or 386 mm.

An almost solidly black band runs down the throat to divide the white patches of the cheeks - that may be of importance to note.

If we knew the number of tail feathers in the tail we might make a positive identification more easily but it was too late so now I am trying to get some expert advice so that I will know for sure how to list it in my life list. What would you call it?

this summer I got a nice series of 16 mm kodachrome movies of the nesting of the Bell's Vireos with any number of shots close up of the old birds feeding the young at the nest and also cleaning the nest each time. We found five nests of these birds in some plum thickets and all within a radius of fifty yards. Three nests were either destroyed or abandoned but two were completed with three young in one and four in the other. I banded all the seven young the day before they left the nest. This constitutes my best pictures for 1940 although I took a great many other shots.

One of our Ogden boys who is working for the Government is married and also lives in Arlington and when he was home to his fathers funeral a short time ago I gave him your address so he may call on you. His name is Robert Moravetz and he is a dandy fellow. He is not so much interested in birds but his hobby is photography.

*373 N. Gales Rd
OX 1739-R* You might also be interested to know that I am a proud Grandpa. Walt has a nine pound boy born of June 16th (Father's Day) and he is now over four months old and weighs over 19 lbs. Looks like he will be the biggest Rosen in the whole tribe. Walt is still with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service and is located at 1001½ Sixth Ave. Gadsden, Ala. I expect to spend Christmas with them as I simply must get acquainted with my first and only grandson.

Give me your expert advice on this goose as I want to write a note on it for Fred Pierce for publication as I think it rather unusual. Hope you and your family are all well and happy. Saw your mother last Tuesday evening when I spoke before the Audubon Club in Des Moines. Kindest regards from your old pal, Walter