

poses. A concluding checklist of the endemic birds listed by island gives further indications of status. Scarce or accidental migrants and scarce introduced birds are also given sections in the back.

Attractive illustrations are the strong point of this work. Most species are shown in crisp, clear, well-reproduced color photographs; especially pleasing are the tropical seabirds. Other species, particularly landbirds, are illustrated with paintings, ranging from some relatively new, striking ones by H.D. Pratt to reproductions from 19th century works. Although the booklet is only 5" x 7", the illustrations are able to command attention despite their small size.

Four pages in the rear are devoted to maps of the main islands with brief suggestions for birding localities. The information in this edition is terribly brief; one hopes that a few more pages can be found in the subsequent edition to give a bit more idea of what can be found just where.

Owners of previous printings and editions of *Hawaii's Birds* will probably not wish to acquire this latest issue unless they are actually going there. For those who do not own one, 150,000 past buyers can't all be wrong.

The Joy of Birding. A Guide to Better Birdwatching. Bernstein, Chuck. 1984. Capra Press, P.O. Box 2068, Santa Barbara, CA 93120. 202 pp., soft cover. \$8.95.

The Joy of Birding is drawn from Chuck Bernstein's columns in *Bird Watcher's Digest*. The 22 chapters represent a smorgasbord of birding experiences and lore, but in displaying such a variety the author has created a strain between the main title, "The Joy of Birding," and the subtitle, "A Guide to Better Birdwatching." A stronger emphasis on either the adventure or the teaching might have led to a more unified book.

Bernstein certainly makes many points which most birdwatchers will find instructive. His chapters include discussions of such important topics as writing descriptions, keeping field notes, studying distribution, and learning about molt. But while his essays provide introductions to techniques beginning birders will wish to learn, they do little more than whet the appetite.

I was also unhappy with the content of some of the lessons. While races of some species are identifiable with fair confidence in the field, I feel the subject appears too easy in Bernstein's discussions. For instance, I would guess that the grayer Orange-crowned Warblers (p. 129) might be *orestera*, not nominate *celata*; still, noting the details is well worth the effort. The color phases of Western Grebe are not races (p. 139). A comment (p. 122) about a possibly red-phased female Summer Tanager sounds like something out of H.C. Oberholser's *The Bird Life of Texas*: such birds do, apparently, exist, but if such a subject is going to be introduced, then it needs more thorough discussion (just what percentage of females are red-phased?). And while the first chapter has some valuable comments, the heading "Leave Those Field Guides at Home: Birding British Style" makes me wince.

This volume also seems to be part of a trend: as birding becomes more sophisticated, the language becomes less so. I, for one, will utter a plea that such contractions and reductions as "immy," "juvy," "bins" and "Savvies" not become a permanent part of our lexicon.

There are, appropriately, pockets of "Joy" in this book. They can be found in the tales of birding adventure and the anecdotes about birders. Read about Pinto, the dog with the huge state list. The excitement of the account of the Eared Trogon left me with regrets that I had not chased the bird. Mark these passages and show them to your friends who don't understand birdwatching—they may gain some feeling for the pleasure we get.

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