

Nov. 5, 1974

Checked departure of birds from roosting area. Wind from S, sky clear except low clouds to east, temp. 24°F. 6:20 A.M. some calls but no activity, birds quiet, facing S. Candlepower .2. 6:25 A.M. .3 reading. some movement but mainly quiet birds (non-moving). 6:28 A.M. reading .6. birds still quiet. 6:32 reading 1.6 first flight and massive, confused and to the south instead of ESE or SE as usual. 6:35 A.M. reading 3.2 another explosive flight and to S. 6:38 first flight over but at 6:40 second flight mainly to N but some to S, few to ESE + SE. 6:43 reading 10 and end of flight. Low clouds obscured sunrise but rim of sun over a distant house top about 7:10 A.M. Today is first major change of departure pattern.

Trees ^{in town} with oak color dominant, other trees yellowish green fading, bright yellows fading but some being rejuvenated, 40% trees leafless. Many leaves falling. This year has shown one cycle, then rejuvenation to greens! and yellows. Individual trees are in all stages from maples, elms, locust etc, but overall the yellows, goldens are being replaced by maroons of oaks. Our maple tree at home went to reds from greens, then the reds died and leaves (green) changed to yellowish red. They fell off tree this morning as did the leaves of the rain tree in back of yard. The cat brought in a Signadon hispidus that measured 195 mm total length.

Nov. 5, 1976

Checked inflight of grackles, starlings, cowbirds, redwings this afternoon. Big inflight at 5:15 P.M. about sundown. Trees filled between 5:05 and 5:20 P.M. 5:23 most inflight over and some local adjustment within roosting area with birds flying from one area to another in roosting site. 2 Redtails active. 5:25 only a few stragglers and these may be robins ^{which have been numerous in last 3-4 days.} 5:30 Still some local adjustment, Weston exposure meter reading 6.5 Candlepower. At 5:35 it is 1.6 candlepower. When birds alight they use upper top branches but later they move down into inner parts of trees. Incoming birds frequently fly directly into the center of trees if upper parts are crowded. Big inflight from N today. Temp 46°F

Nov. 6, 1976

Started to leave 6:31 and ended at 6:47 A.M. There appeared to be an increase in numbers over yesterday. The flight pattern was typical with a more even ^{and continuous} departure ~~but~~ and although main movement was ESE & SE they moved out also in other directions. Two photos of these birds but ran out of film at main odorus. Photos 761106-1 ^{to} and 761106-4. Temp this A.M. at flight time 30°F. It seems unusual that this number of birds 4-5 million are not observed in the environs of the ~~low~~ roosting area.