

railing 2 feet from 10 feeding birds. It thrust head upward and body reacted to what I believe was vocalization but I could not hear from inside house. At one time observed one ♀ hold on to ^{neck} feathers of another ♀ for approx 3 sec. Also one ♀ stood on shoulders of a feeding female and pulled or caused the female to awkwardly back away from the feeder. Bunting one body against another is common practice. From general observations the male is only slightly dominant over female at the feeder. To date I have not witnessed or maybe not recognized the aerial nuptial flight of the male. I have seen buds leave, the feeding area in evening by horizontal departure up or down the shoreline, through trees along shoreline, straight up over house but never out over the water independently of shoreline.

7:55 P.M. ♀ ate alone on feeder for 8 sec. then flew S along shoreline to Lichen Point & beyond.

7:58 to 8:01 no buds at feeder, but soon returned from beyond feeder area and commenced feeding again. One ♀ sat 10' away from feeder for 20 minutes, ordinarily they remain away from feeder from 3-10 seconds. More and more evidence of using feet to scratch another feeding bud from feeder. They employ this method on head to lower back. Pecking with bill is common. This behavior is more prevalent when 10-12 are at 3 hole feeder. A full meal is ^{average} 8 thrusts into feeder for 2-3 seconds each or when unchallenged 8-10 second continuous, then to branch of tree from 6-20' away for 4 to 8 seconds. Sometimes 2 birds will put bill into one hole and can be 2 males, 2 females or a male and female. One ♂ would feed 2-3 seconds then fly to railing 3' away and with bill 70° manipulate tongue at end of bill. Tail reacting to operation of tongue. It appeared as if it had trouble swallowing.

8:25 P.M. No buds in area for 2 minutes then 2 arrived, 5 minutes previously 6 in area,

8:30 6 in area at feeder. ♂ & ♀

8:31 6 at feeder

8:32 6 at feeder

8:33 3 at feeder

8:34 2 ♂, one 18 seconds of feeding at average 2' intervals