

Painted Bunting - *Passerina ciris*Dates - May 9 1986 Time Bird Seen: 11:30 - 11:40locality - Lyons, Colorado - Mary Griest's residence which is just south of Lyons near Old South Rd.Optical equipment - <sup>Swift</sup> Audubon Mark II 8.5x44If photographed, please enclose copy - Pictures were taken but as yet not developed - will send a photo as soon as I receive one - Barbara Hyde took photos.Number of Birds seen - One male - Breeding plumagelight condition - partly cloudy at 11:30 when I saw the bird, but I was so close to the bird that I could see it well without my binoculars -

I was about 15 feet from the bird - The painted bunting was feeding on a hanging feeder with about five lazuli buntings -

Mary Griest's son, Ray, and I were the only people observing the bird at this

time.

Habitat - Mary's residence has a lot of shrubs and trees as do many of the residences near by. Near foothills

The Painted Bunting stayed for two days at Mary Griest's residence - May 9-10-1986

Wanda Griest, Mary's daughter, saw the bird 7:00'clock <sup>a.m.</sup> on May 9. Wanda <sup>was</sup> getting ready to go to work. She saw this different bird with all the lazuli bunting that were feeding on the driveway (the driveway is dirt and Mary throws feed on it). Wanda awakened her mother to come see the bird. Mary knew immediately it was a painted bunting. She had one last year but it stayed only a few hours -

Other people who saw the bird in the two days it was at Mary Griest's residence May 9 + 10 were:

Inez Prather	Tony Esposito
John Prather	Dana & Debbie Ciul
Pyllis & Ken Baker	Barbara Hyde
Inez Baker	Mary, Wanda, Roy Griest
Merle Thielen	Helen Kerchliter

Ann Means and there were several others -  
(myself)

Many <sup>of these</sup> observers saw the Painted Bunting eating on the driveway with 40 to 50 Lazuli bunting — a sight to behold — as though someone had thrown <sup>handfuls of</sup> precious glittering stones (jewels) onto the dirt driveway — The Painted Bunting was also seen at a <sup>residence</sup> feeder near Mary Griests home (just across the road) & in a <sup>oak</sup> tree there (same days) I heard, no call or sound from the painted bunting.

The Painted Bunting was easy to distinguish from the lazuli bunting in whose company it was seen.

The first thing I noticed was ~~the~~ chartreuse part of the upper back. with the red tower on the back as it sat on the feeder <sup>eating with back toward</sup> beside the lazuli buntings — Then I saw the blue head and complete red belly (underparts) and dark wings and the black at the end of the tail when it turned around — Then I, also, saw the red eye ring.

I had never seen a painted bunting before.

This report was written after observation.  
Ann Means - <sup>Doathills</sup> Audubon Club.