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THE PASSENGER PIGEON
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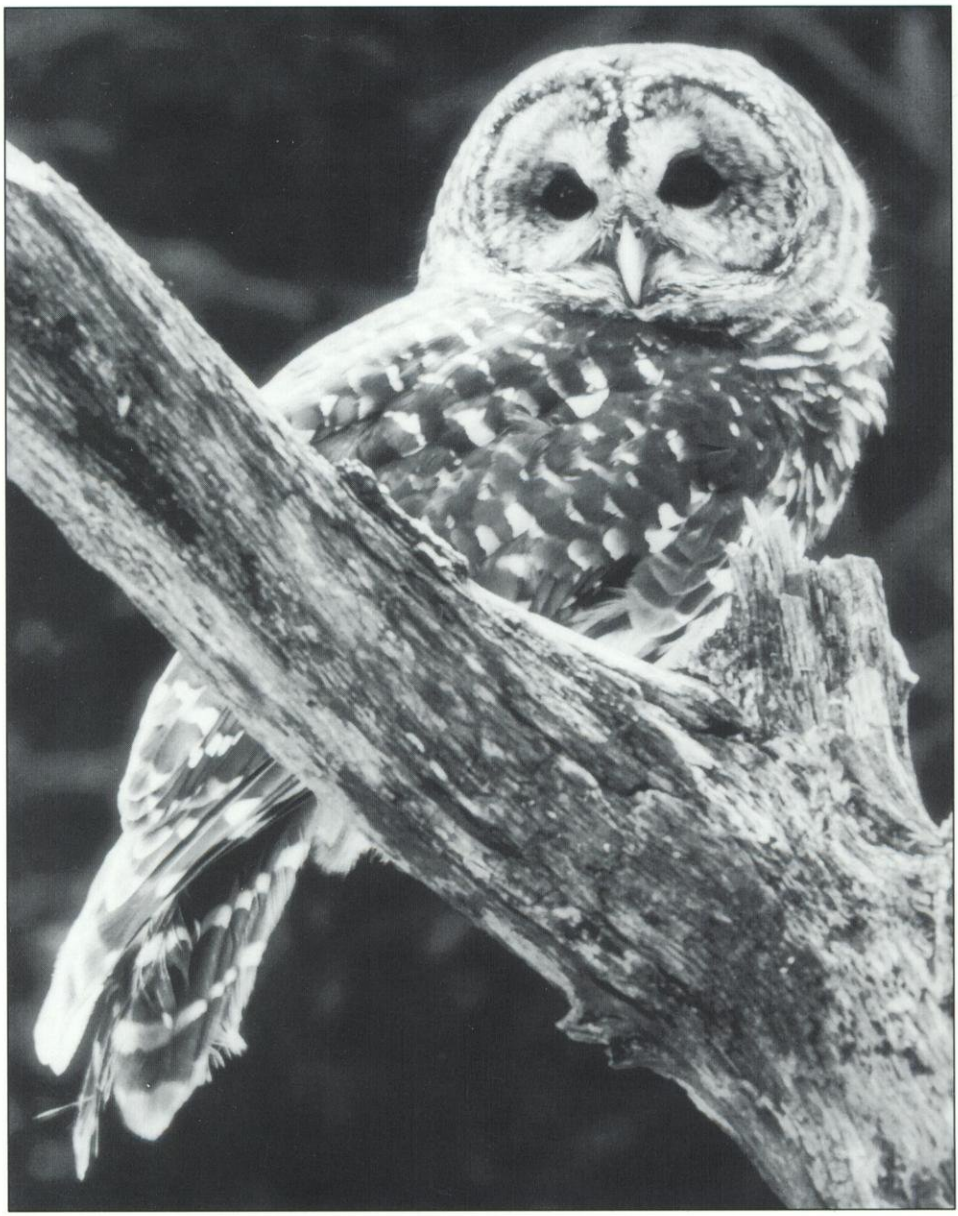

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Send all manuscripts and correspondence to the Editor; information for "Seasonal Field-Notes" should be sent to the Associate Editor or the appropriate Field-Note Compiler. Manuscripts that deal with information on birds in the State of Wisconsin, with ornithological topics of interest to WSO members, or with activities of the WSO will be considered for publication. All manuscripts submitted for possible publication should be typewritten, double-spaced, and on only one side of page-numbered typing paper. Illustrations should be submitted as photographs or good-quality drawings. Keep in mind that illustrations must remain legible when reduced to fit on a journal page. All English and scientific names of birds mentioned in manuscripts should follow *The A.O.U. Checklist of North American Birds (6th Edition)*. Use issues after Vol. 50, No. 1, 1988, as a general guide to style.

Research Opportunities—Something for Everyone

After the 1993 WSO annual convention a questionnaire was sent out to the membership asking about the contents for these meetings. Several members replied that they would be interested in hearing about opportunities for doing research on birds. On the evaluation form after the Grassland Birds Symposium, more of you mentioned an interest in research activities. I'm not sure exactly what sort of research you have in mind, but if you are defining research as work that is, or can be, published in a journal or book and is subject to peer review, then I have lots of suggestions for you.

Probably the oldest and most well known research effort that you can be a part of is the annual Christmas Bird Count. This count, occurring during the two weeks, or so, around Christmas, includes not only Wisconsin, but all the United States and Canada, plus several other places around the world. The information from this effort gives an excellent estimate of where the birds are at this time of the winter season, and since it has been done since 1900 it also reflects the long-term changes that have occurred. There were 85 Christmas Counts conducted in Wisconsin last year, but there are certainly areas of the state that are not covered. If you would like to be a part of this annual effort, either helping with an established count, or starting a new one, please contact Daryl Tessen, 3118 N Oneida Street, Appleton, WI 54911, 414-735-9903. He can help you set up a new count, or tell you the local coordinator for an established count.

Two similar events take place each spring, the May Day Count and the fairly new North American Migration Count. The Migration Count can also be the May Day Count since its rules are compatible with the May Day Count rules. Both sets of rules were given in the October 1995 *Badger Birder.* These counts give us a picture of the birds present in an area during the spring migration period (they also give you an opportunity to add lots of species to your annual state list). If you want to know about the count nearest you, contact Daryl Tessen at the address given above. An excellent way to celebrate International Migratory Bird Week is by holding a Migration Count on the final day of the week. This year that day will be Saturday, 11 May.

I know that many of you enjoy the Seasonal Field Notes in each issue of *The Passenger Pigeon.* Your research efforts can add to that body of information. Keep a record of what species you see, when you see it, and where you find it. Just a list of species, date, and place is all that you need to record, and send it to Daryl Tessen (address above) in a timely fashion. These reports help WSO to expand our knowledge about when and where birds are occurring in our state, and over the years it tells us what the trends in population are.

If you are particularly interested in breeding birds and northern Wisconsin forests, then you might try participating in the Nicolet National Forest Bird Survey. This point-count style survey has been conducted for 9 years in the Nicolet Forest, alternating between the southern and northern units. It is held on a weekend in June with volunteers working in teams early on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Very early! Most teams are headed out to their areas by 4 A.M. This research effort does not require that you be an "expert" birder, you will be teamed with an expert. It also provides an excellent opportunity for you to become an expert as you learn more each year. The resulting information is used in the development of the land and resource management plans in the Nicolet. If you are interested in this research with fun added, please contact Bob Howe, Department of Natural and Applied Sciences, UW-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI 54311–7001, 414-469-7451.

The DNR needs volunteers for breeding-bird surveys of the State Natural Areas. These surveys are done in June and require that you walk a route early in the day recording all birds seen and heard. These Natural Areas occur all around our state and include a variety of habitats. This work will give you an opportunity to get into some very interesting areas. If you would like to help contact Randy Hoffman, Natural Areas BBS Coordinator, P. O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, 608-267-7758.

There is one other breeding bird survey currently being conducted in the state, the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas. This work is a bit different than the above-mentioned surveys. It requires more than one visit per year in the count area, and it is not timed. You can do research by volunteering as a field observer for the Atlas, and spend time thoroughly covering a 3 ± 3 mile area, called a "block," recording the evidence of all species nesting in that area. You can make as many visits as you want in this block, either all in one year, or over the life of the Atlas project. You would visit each habitat type in the block, taking as long as necessary to find the breeding activity for each species. The results of your work will be included in the final products, a book and a CD-ROM, that will contain the data we have collected about all the birds breeding in Wisconsin. If you want to try this type of research, contact me at 5188 Bittersweet Lane, Oshkosh, WI 54901, 414–233–1973.

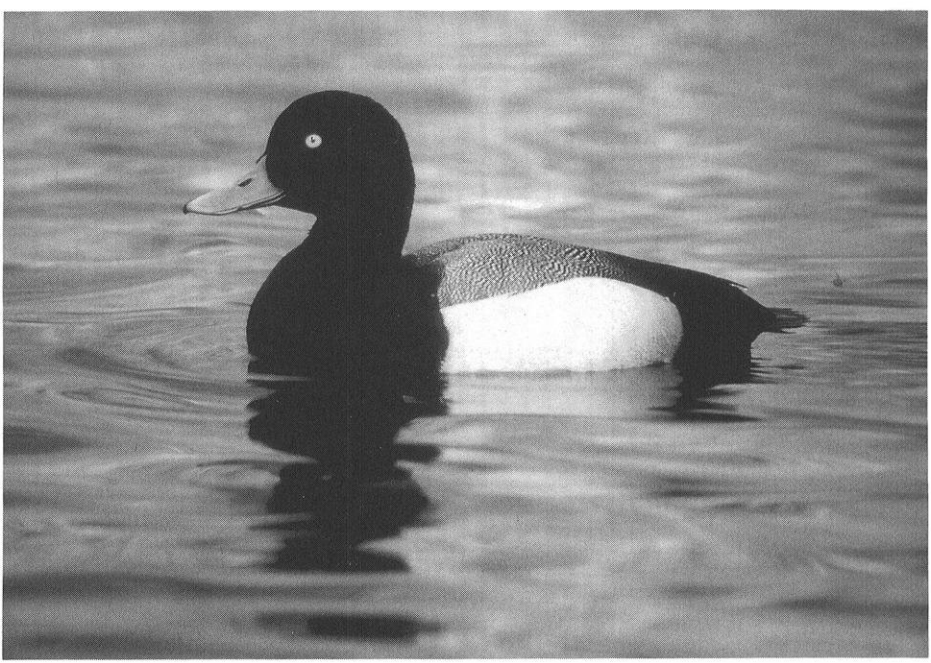
And finally, if none of the research efforts mentioned are really what you would like to do, then write your own research proposal. Each year WSO gives several grants and scholarships for ornithological research. The Steenbock Award is given to beginners in the field of ornithology of any age for independent research projects. If your work would require some financial assistance, please write a proposal and send it to Janine Polk, chair of the WSO Grants and Scholarship Committee, at 1407 Frederic, Eau Claire, WI 54701. You can call Janine at 715-839-9265 for the 1996 deadline for applications.

I am delighted that WSO members are interested in doing ornithological research. This field has a proud tradition of contributions by amateurs. I

hope that many of you will find one or more efforts that you can participate in, continuing that excellent tradition.

Bettie Harriman

President



Lesser Scaup *by Gerald H. Emmerich, Jr.*

Red-tailed Hawk *by Larry Michael*

WSO Records Committee Update

This update from the Records Committee includes a brief synopsis of the history, the purpose, and the functioning of the committee, the importance of exceptional record documentation, guidelines for submitting documentation, and finally an update of the State List.

by Jim Frank

The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology established a Records Committee on April 15, 1978 with the intention of "evaluating the validity of aberrant or unusual records of bird sightings." In 1979, the committee became operational under the guidance of chair Bill Hilsenhoff and committee members Bill Foster, Joe Hickey, Sam Robbins, and Daryl Tessen. Since 1979, other WSO members who have served an average of 5 year terms on the committee include John Bielefeldt (chair), Fred Lesher (chair), Eric Epstein, Roger Sundell, John Idzikowski (chair), Charles Sontag, Dick Verch, Janine Polk (chair), Al Shea, and Tom Schultz. The 1995 Records Committee includes Mark Peterson, Robbye Johnson, Randy Hoffman, Jeff Baughman, and Jim Frank (chair).

The purposes of the WSO Records Committee stated in its Procedural Rules are:

A) Validate records of birds found in the state of Wisconsin.

B) Maintain permanently the original bird records and all committee votes and comments for use by future students.

C) Publish at least minimal data on all records receiving a decision.

D) Provide a means by which sight records can gain universal acceptance as valuable scientific data.

E) Establish standards of observation and reporting against which field observers may compare their own techniques.

F) Keep or cause to keep the official Wisconsin State List.

In more realistic terms, species asterisked on the WSO Seasonal Report Forms, those species absent from the forms, and species sighted outside of their normal dates should be "documented" on the WSO Exceptional Record Documentation Form and submitted to the Associate Editor of the *Passenger Pigeon* with your seasonal reports. These documentations are then copied and sub-

mitted to the five committee members for evaluation. Drawing on their own field experience, numerous reference books and articles, or on occasion other personal contacts around the country, each member votes independently to accept or not accept the record as written and/or photographed. Reasons for an individual committee member's skepticism and non-acceptance are then circulated on questionable records. Most records receive one round of analysis, but in some instances, a second round of voting occurs based on new information from a committee member or observer. A 4–1 or 5–0 vote is required for acceptance of an unusual record into the state ornithological record.

If the report of an accepted species is not previously found on the State List, it requires two or more independent observations/documentations of the bird, a photograph, or a skin specimen for addition to the State List. Single observer or collaborative group sightings of birds not yet on the State List, if accepted, are placed on the Hypothetical List for the state. The Hypothetical List thus comprises birds having strong evidence of occurrence in Wisconsin.

Following final voting, observers of accepted records are notified by postcard of the committee's decision. In the cases of records not accepted, the observer receives a letter explaining the reasons the report was not considered sufficient for identifying the species in question. Finally, the seasonal report of the Records Committee's deliberations is published in the *Passenger Pigeon*. In this seasonal report the committee attempts not just to publish the accepted records, but summarize the pertinent field marks that their decision was based on. In the instances of non-acceptance of a report, reasons are also supplied as to why that report may not have completely separated the species in question from other similar species. These summaries are an attempt to keep all Wisconsin observers aware of appropriate field marks for rarer/unfamiliar species. When significant identification articles are in print, reference is made to further educate interested observers.

Evaluating Documentations

One of the most difficult aspects of Records Committee work is the awareness the five members have of the ill feelings that may be created by their decisions. In spite of this pressure, the committee evaluates these documentations from the standpoint of a future WSO member doing a retrospective look at the state's ornithological record. The committee lays aside the name/field skills of the observer and accepts each documentation as an accurate statement of facts, reading it for accuracy in the identification and *completeness*. Though individual observers of non-accepted reports may take the decision as a personal attack on their birding expertise, all observers should realize that most every observer who submits reports on a regular basis probably has received a non-acceptance notification—including past or sitting members of the Records Committee. A significant percentage of these are documentations written for brevity

to lessen the chore of submitting the report, instead of written for completeness to convince future ornithologists of the identification.

During the past 4 years, 472 documentation have been reviewed by the WSO Records Committee. Of those, 59 have not been accepted for an overall 87% rate of acceptance. Of those not accepted, 40–50% are judged more than likely to be accurate identifications, but the documentation is extremely sketchy, leaving the committee to *assume* certain field marks must have been seen—which it cannot do. Even experienced observers may miss a field mark, not have a long enough look to see the pertinent field marks, or not know all the necessary field marks. Just as the committee accepts each documentation as an accurate representation of events, it must accept any events/field marks not reported as not occurring/not observed. In an effort to encourage all observers to document their rare sightings for the ornithological record, a synopsis of documentation techniques follows.

Submitting Documentations

When possible, submission on the Exceptional Record Documentation Form is suggested. The use of this form is more for the observer's benefit than anything else because it asks specifically for information in an organized manner. There is less likelihood of overlooking pertinent information though that obviously still occurs.

Initial Impressions—Note the general family or species of the bird based on the first fleeting glimpses of it. What size, shape, or color characteristics led you to that assumption? If you stayed with the initial identification, proceed to describe the bird. If you didn't stay with initial impression, what changed your mind? For instance, your attention may have been drawn to a large black bird assuming it to be a crow or raven, but once you got a look at the bird, the white wing patch and undulating flight of a Pileated Woodpecker became obvious. It isn't a suggestion that you don't know the difference between a crow and a Pileated Woodpecker, it just shows a logical train of thought in arriving at an identification. Another situation might involve spying an all red bird high up in a deciduous tree. Initially there might be an assumption that this will be a Scarlet Tanager, but where are the black wings and tail? The next thought might be it's a cardinal, but you note its foraging habits seem inconsistent with that. A good look at the head will finally confirm there is not a crest and the beak shape is in fact that of a tanager. Now you are set to detail the rest of your description of a Summer Tanager.

Comparison to Similar Birds—There is nothing in a documentation that better defines an identification than comparison to familiar species. In citing the initial impression, this process is already begun. You have compared the bird in question with more familiar data you have accumulated from other observations and demonstrated how this bird didn't fall into the usual categories. In particular families of birds, such as gulls,

shorebirds, and waterfowl, observations are only infrequently made of solitary birds. Make use of adjacent "known species" to continue the comparison. To identify and document many rare gulls, using the size, head shape, mantle color shade, etc. in comparison to the immediately adjacent Ring-billed or Herring Gulls is essential. The use of the seemingly inexact terms "bigger than" or "slightly smaller than" are much more believable and accurate than specifying the bird to be "10 inches long" unless the bird is in hand of course. How many times have you observed a solitary bird of uncertain identification at a distance and assumed it to be of a certain size only to have a "known quantity" swim up next to it? Then you realize how deceiving distance can be when estimating size. Similar comparative data should be noted in shorebirds regarding bill length and shape, leg length, body length, body slenderness, in addition to color patterns.

Thorough Description—At this point in the documentation, there is some tendency to assume that one or two points of identification are all that is necessary. Perhaps there aren't too many birds to confuse a male Vermilion Flycatcher with, but there aren't many birds that don't have something that they need to be differentiated from. The description should include a systematic comment on as many aspects of the bird as you looked at; head, eye, eyeline, supercilium, crown, lores, throat, neck, back, wing coverts, rump, wings, wingbars, tail, breast, flanks, belly, bill, legs, and feet. This should include relative size and shape of these parts of the body to similar species as well as coloration, even if the more familiar species is not present at the time of the sighting. Again, remember the usefulness of terms like longer, more curved, darker than, browner than, and rounder than. A reminder should be made to observers not to fall into the habit of using the terminology "the characteristic color of" or "the characteristic pattern of." You must state what that pattern or color is. Additional information such as flight patterns, foraging habits, or aggressiveness can be helpful in completing the description.

Sometimes an observer will see something about a bird that is not mentioned in standard field guides or is inconsistent with what is depicted. There is a tendency to ignore or fail to supply those facts. There are two good reasons not to overlook this information. First, field guides cannot show all plumages of a species. Some species have a first year plumage before full maturity, or even several years as in the case of larger gulls. Birds may also be in transition plumages. Of surprise to some observers is that some field guides have occasional inaccuracies in their depictions and there are always refinements in our understanding of birds so information in them may become outdated. The bottom line is the inconsistency you saw is there for a reason. Report it as it may be significant to the accuracy/consistency of the sighting. It may even shed new light on unknown characteristics.

Additional Documentation Evidence—The old adage, "a picture is

worth a thousand words" is worth mention here. Of course observers who can photograph an unusual bird should make every effort to do so. Even a distant photo could be of value. This doesn't preclude supplying a written description because only so much can be seen on field photographs given the distances often involved. Observers should consider adding a sketch or two to a documentation to demonstrate a particular shape or pattern to the plumage. Even though most observers feel they lack the artistic skills to do this, even "crude" drawings can be very useful in interpreting what was seen and may be easier to use for a lot of people once they realize these aren't expected to be artistic endeavors.

Documentation of "Heard Only" Birds—There are circumstances where this is the only evidence available on a given bird identification. There is every reason to submit this and for it to be accepted—if it tackled with the same attention to detail and comparison as visual documentations. It is admittedly more difficult for people to express audible observations. For example, simply stating that the bird's call went "will's-widow" doesn't separate the call from "whip-poor-will." Both calls have 3 notes. The report should also include the number of syllables, any rising or falling patterns to the notes, accents or increased volume on any of the syllables, and slurring, buzzing, or clarity of notes. The accents are on "whip" and "will" in the case of the Whip-poor-will, but on "wid" for a Chuck-will's-widow. Whenever possible compare the song to a known vocalization to demonstrate what was the same and what was different.

Timing of Documentation—Finally, remember to document your sightings as soon after the event as possible. Some observers have developed the good habit of taking notes during or immediately after the observation. This assists them in taking a thorough look at the bird because they take another look or two to fill in other details they did not initially notice. It also helps them not to forget pertinent information between the time of the sighting and the writing of the documentation. For all the times you have observed a Blue Jay, could you describe all of the plumage patterns, relative shades of blue of different areas, location of the black stripes and marks? If time hasn't etched that information in your head, it is difficult to imagine accurately recalling the details of one sighting of a Sharp-tailed Sandpiper three months later.

Examples of Documentation Styles—The following is a "real" documentation that probably represents to observers the thorough, scientifically-written documentation that they fear is required of them. Many don't feel like putting this much effort into the documentation. Others don't feel they have the ability.

1. Species; *Curlew Sandpiper*
2. Sunday, May 28, 1995
3. Time: About noon
4. Length: Observed for more than one hour

5. Distance: 50 yards, minimum
6. Location: Pond s. and w. of intersection of County DM and WIBU Road, Dane Co. WI
7. Circumstances:

Single bird spotted and initially identified among shorebirds through a 25× scope from a distance of several hundred yards. Bird was actively feeding in shallow water within a foot or two of the shore with a few Dunlin close by. More than a hundred waders were present along perhaps half a mile of shoreline of the pond. Dunlins were most numerous, followed by Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers, Baird's and White-rumps, several Killdeer and Semipalmated Plovers and a Spotted Sandpiper.

8. Description of bird:

a. **Plumage.** Even at a distance of several hundred yards, this dark and distinctly reddish shorebird stood out prominently among the similarly-sized breeding-plumage Dunlins that were nearby.

In the period of more than an hour during which I had the bird under observation I had ample opportunity to check out details suggested by the text and illustrations of the species in the 1990 edition of the Western Peterson and the 2nd edition of the National Geographic guides, both of which I had with me and had opened.

The illustration of the breeding-plumaged bird in the Western Peterson comes close to reproducing the color as I saw it in the dull gray light. The Geographic Guide notes that many sightings of the bird are in "patchy Spring Plumage" and that point was in some degree true of this bird.

The head, nape, and underparts to the lower belly were predominantly a deep reddish color. The top of the crown was more reddish brown and some blackish streaking was apparent. A whitish area appeared at the base of the bill, most conspicuous below the bill when the bird was viewed head-on. A faint, shadowy supercilium—most prominent forward of the eye—could be seen. Beneath, a general uniform reddish color gave way to some horizontal barring on the lower belly that in turn merged into white undertail coverts.

The mantle was relatively dark and uniform in appearance, contrasting sharply with the spotted or scaly appearance of the scapulars, formed by the broad, buff-white edging of the feathers. The illustration of the Curlew, described as "worn" summer plumage, in Jonsson's *Birds of Europe* conveys this impression better than anything else I found in my later searches. The illustration of the breeding bird in the National Geographic shows a thin white line along the edge of the wing coverts and the bird described here revealed this briefly on several occasions shortly after landing. The wing linings and axillars looked white in the upraised wing.

Much is made of the species' white rump. I never got a very good look at this. Several times, the feeding bird lifted a wing and turned its head to peck at its lower back and on those occasions enough was visible to persuade me the rump was white. But on each occasion that the bird took flight it initially flew toward me and I could not follow it in my scope. Overall, the bird when not on wing was a smaller, dark shorebird.

b. **Size, Shape, and Bare Parts.** It was noted above that the bird at considerable distance appeared similar in size to the Dunlins. When later I could study it in the close presence of Dunlins, it appeared marginally larger. This was particularly apparent when, distracted from feeding, it raised its head and its longer, slender neck was lifted. Too, when the two species passed close to one another, the Curlew proved a bit taller but I did not regard the longer legs of the Curlew a particularly helpful field mark despite some stress in field guides on that point. All told, it seemed a somewhat elongated, less chunky bird than the Dunlin.

The bill rates some special comment. It was as short or shorter than bills on some of the associated Dunlins, probably indicating this was a male bird. (1) Too, the bill was considerably more slender than that of the Dunlins and looked fairly evenly down-curved for more than half its length to the tip. Dunlin bills do much of their drooping near the tip. Most of the illustrations in the guides examined demonstrate the differences in shape and thinness but show proportionally longer bills than appeared to be the case in this bird.

(1) Paulson's *Shorebirds of the Pacific Northwest* notes on page 307 that the bills average slightly (4mm) longer in female Curlew Sandpipers. Bills of Curlew Sandpipers are generally a bit longer than those of Dunlins but the ranges overlap. Hayman et al *Shorebirds* on pages 381, 382.

9. Comparison with Other Species: Red Phalarope, the Dowitchers, and the Red Knot.

Four other small to medium sized shorebirds have underparts which might be characterized as reddish to some extent: Red Phalarope, the two Dowitchers, and the Red Knot.

Taking account of size, only the Red Phalarope in breeding plumage is a possible candidate. Both birds are dominantly a rather similar reddish. But the differences between them are substantial. The Phalarope's bill is short, straight and yellow tipped with black. It has a whitish cheek patch that extends prominently back of the eye. Its back is strongly striped and it lacks the white rump present in the Curlew Sandpiper. Finally, its legs are light-colored, not black.

The significantly larger Dowitchers and the Red Knot in breeding plumages have strongly colored underparts but the colors are wrong. None of these has the deep, intense reddish coloration of the bird reported here. Dowitchers have a lot of white up their back, but the white is not confined to crossing the rump, as in the Curlew Sandpiper. The Red Knot in breeding plumage has a somewhat barred, light-colored rump—as do some Curlew Sandpipers apparently—but the Red Knot lacks the white rump present in the bird described here. Legs of the Dowitchers and the Red Knot are light-colored, not black as in this bird. The bills of the Dowitchers and the Knot are straight, not downcurved in the manner described above for our bird.

Summing up, a Curlew Sandpiper in breeding plumage is an unusually distinctive bird, taking account of its coloration, size, and shape. It simply has no remotely similar kin.

10. Previous experience with species:

I most recently saw a few breeding plumaged Curlew Sandpipers in mi-

gration in the Coto Donana of southwest Spain in early May of this year. Earlier than that I saw them in large flocks in Afghanistan (1976), Turkey (1987), and Tunisia (1993). It is an unforgettable, knock-out of a shorebird and the one reported here gave us a real show in putting the species on my North American life list.

11. Habitat description:

Pond (or extensively flooded field) immediately southwest of the intersection of County DM and WIBU Road in north central Dane County. The area covered by the pond at the time of the observation reported here has, in some dry periods, dried entirely during the past 40 years. For four or more recent years, however, it has retained at least half of its maximum surface area throughout the year and when not frozen has provided a resting place and food for numerous kinds of water birds, waders, gulls, and terns.

The two roads mentioned above form the north and eastern borders of the pond while the amount of water at the time controls the size and shape of the pond on the rich-looking land it covers. Apart from the essentially straight lines that form the northern and eastern boundaries of the pond, its shape is generally in the form of a crude circle into which a couple of narrow peninsulas project toward the center. Away from the road edges, the shoreline of the pond advances and retreats with changing water levels and typically some shorebirds are present throughout the period that the pond is not frozen.

12. Conditions (weather, position of sun, etc.)

The morning was overcast and marked by intermittent light showers, borne on a southeast wind that by noon had reached the level of 8–12 miles an hour. Temperature at this time was in the low 60s F.

13. Optical equipment:

KOWA scope with 25× eyepiece; 8×42 Bausch and Lomb Elite binoculars.

14. Other observers:

As reported above, Sam Robbins responded to my phone call and arrived to see the bird while I was still watching it. Kay Burcar and Ellen Hansen saw the bird before dark that Sunday evening in response to phone messages from me. Daryl Tessen and others saw the bird early the next morning (Monday).

15. Sources consulted:

As already indicated, I had copies in hand of the Western Peterson and the National Geographic guides while initially observing the bird. That afternoon and evening, I examined text and illustrations in Hayman et al, *Shorebirds* (1986); Jonsson, *Birds of Europe* (1993); and Paulson, *Shorebirds of the Pacific Northwest* (1993) in preparing this account.

16. Signature:
Bill Foster

17. 5616 Lake Mendota Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53705

18. The basic facts describing the bird were set down in notes written Sunday afternoon, May 28, 1995, within a few hours of the observation. I had no copy of the report form used by the WSO and not until Thursday, June 1st. did the copy Sam Robbins

mailed reach me. I write this line about 4:30 P.M., Friday, June 2nd.

Documentation done with this much effort and thoroughness in the description and comparison leaves no doubt about the bird's identity to anyone reading it in the future. The reader is almost able to "see" without photographs or having witnessed the bird first hand. Recall the sense of wonderment we have as we read some of the written "documentation" left to us from birders of earlier this century and the last. We should be leaving similar reports as our legacy to birders of the next century. As Bill said, he was very fortunate to have such a long look at the bird and to have references handy. The fact remains, this type of documentation took considerable effort to compose and may be of significant ornithological value to future birders. Also, credit should be given to the other observers mentioned in the Curlew Sandpiper documentation. Contrary to the usual case, they *all* submitted documentations of this bird, and all were good reports.

As previously mentioned, many birders don't have the interest or perhaps the writing skills to turn in this type of documentation. In the following "real" report, a much less experienced birder has written her first documentation of an unusual observation. In it, the basic tenets of a good documentation are still met in a less "formal" style.

RE: Western Tanager Sighting

On April 29, 1995 I sighted a Western Tanager (Piranga ludoviciana) at my home bird feeder.

During a phone conversation with a friend I glanced out my kitchen window to check the activity at my bird feeder. There was a bird with its back to me. I saw yellow and black. I have many goldfinches, and continued looking as I spoke on the phone. A goldfinch flew up to the end of the feeder and I suddenly realized the bird in the middle of the feeder, the one with his back to me was much larger than the goldfinch. I ended my conversation abruptly and grabbed my binoculars. The bird turned and I saw a red head! I knew this was something special and immediately called another friend that is an experienced birder. I described to her this bird as it sat at the feeder and calmly ate . . . red head, yellow chest, yellow rump, black wings and tail, with a white wing bar, and the size larger than the goldfinch. I estimated the bird to be @ 7 inches long, the size of a Cedar Waxwing. For several minutes I paged through my field guide my friend suggesting first one bird then another. We exhausted finches and warblers. She suggested maybe it was an immature Scarlet Tanager. When I turned the page, I saw the Western Tanager and knew immediately what was still eating at my feeder.

I remembered my camera just about the time the bird moved to the top of the feeder and there in the sunlight, its head was magnificent. It was a brilliant orange-red. It then flew to the top of our lilac tree, which is about 6 ft. from the feeder. It looked around and then flew on, my camera useless in my hand as I watched mesmerized. The whole incident lasted 10–15 minutes. I will never forget the beauty of the un-

usual visitor to my northern Wisconsin feeder.

The feeder was filled with my usual mixture of sunflower seeds, cracked corn and niger.

Linda Hendrickson
1230 N. Superior
Antigo, WI 54409

Again the basic portions of documentation are attended to. There is the initial impression of the bird's identity, the reasons for changing those thoughts, a complete description of the bird's plumage, and comparison to familiar birds.

The two previous documentation examples were used in an attempt to show contrasting styles from birders of significantly different experience levels, with both leading to the same end—a good documentation. Hopefully, all birders can find a little extra time, exhibiting their own style, to document their rare sightings for present and future birders.

Summary

Documentation is not meant to be an English composition challenge. Write in phrases, sentences—whatever is comfortable. It is also not a contest to describe a bird in 25 words or less. Take the little extra time to do it completely. Make the effort to do it soon after the observation while the excitement is still there to give it relevance and the memory is there to give it accuracy. **DO IT!**—unfortunately too often the other birders observing the same bird assume someone else will do the documentation and it won't get done. **COMPARE, COMPARE, COMPARE!!**—it is essential for accurate identification skills and well substantiated documentation. Written documentation is essential to expanding the ornithological record unless we want to return to relying only on skin collections for our ornithological history.

Additional information can be found in "How to Document Rare Birds" in *Birding*, Vol. 24, No. 3, June 1992.

Wisconsin State List Update-1995

Since the *Passenger Pigeon* Vol. 51, no. 1, Spring 1989 article "Trends in the List of Wisconsin Birds: A Historical Perspective" by John Idzikowski, the state list has grown from the 1988 total of 392.

Additions of Fulvous Whistling-Duck in July, 1989, Anna's Hummingbird in November, 1990, California Gull in November, 1991, Phainopepla in November, 1993, Townsend's Warbler in December, 1993, Brambling in January, 1994, and Harris' Hawk in October, 1994 have increased the Wisconsin State List to 399 species. As I write this, or as it awaits publication, perhaps one of you is watching Wisconsin State Bird 400. Or maybe one of you is writing the necessary documentation to add it to the list. If this information doesn't reach you in time for that, I hope it will still be of assistance to you in diminishing the fear and apathy that too often accompanies the words—**Document It!!**

Jim Frank
WSO Records Committee Chair
4339 W. Laverna Ave.Mequon, Wisconsin 53092

Records Committee Review List—12/95

The following species sightings require documentation evidence for acceptance in the Wisconsin ornithological data. Also requiring documentation is any bird not on the state list, or any out of season sightings of otherwise common birds. (See *Passenger Pigeon,* Volume 56, No. 2, Summer 1994 article "Wisconsin Record Extreme Dates" by Bob Domagalski.) H = hypothetical

Pacific Loon
Clark's Grebe (H)
Brown Pelican
Anhinga
Magnificent Frigatebird
Tricolored Heron
White Ibis (H)
Glossy Ibis
White-faced Ibis
Roseate Spoonbill
Wood Stork
Fulvous Whistling-Duck
Trumpeter Swan
Ross' Goose
Brant
White-cheeked Pintail
Cinnamon Teal
Eurasian Wigeon
Common Eider
King Eider
Barrow's Goldeneye
Masked Duck
Black Vulture
American Swallow-tailed Kite
Black-shouldered Kite
Mississippi Kite
Harris' Hawk
Ferruginous Hawk
Gyrfalcon
Prairie Falcon (H)
Willow Ptarmigan
Black Rail (H)
Purple Gallinule
Whooping Crane
Snowy Plover
Black-necked Stilt
Spotted Redshank (H)
Eskimo Curlew
Long-billed Curlew
Black Turnstone
Purple Sandpiper
Curlew Sandpiper
Ruff
Red Phalarope
Pomarine Jaeger
Long-tailed Jaeger
Laughing Gull (immature plumages)
Little Gull (away from Lake Michigan)
Common Black-headed Gull
Mew Gull
Thayer's Gull (immature plumages)
Iceland Gull
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Great Black-backed Gull (immatures)
Black-legged Kittiwake
Sabine's Gull
Ivory Gull
Royal Tern
Roseate Tern
Arctic Tern
Least Tern
Sooty Tern
White-winged Tern
Dovekie
Ancient Murrelet
Common Ground-Dove
Groove-billed Ani
Barn Owl
Northern Hawk-Owl
Burrowing Owl
Great Gray Owl (southern 3/4 of state)
Chuck-will's-widow
Anna's Hummingbird

Rufous Hummingbird
Lewis' Woodpecker
Three-toed Woodpecker
Western Wood-Pewee (H)
Say's Phoebe
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Fork-tailed Flycatcher
Vermilion Flycatcher (H)
Cassin's Kingbird (H)
Clark's Nutcracker
Black-billed Magpie
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Bewick's Wren
Northern Wheatear (H)
Mountain Bluebird
Sage Thrasher
Curve-billed Thrasher
Sprague's Pipit (H)
Phainopepla
Gray Vireo
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Townsend's Warbler
Hermit Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Kirtland's Warbler
Painted Redstart (H)
Western Tanager
Black-headed Grosbeak
Blue Grosbeak
Lazuli Bunting
Painted Bunting
Green-tailed Towhee
Black-throated Sparrow
Lark Bunting
Baird's Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Smith's Longspur
Chestnut-collared Longspur
Brambling
Rosy Finch
Lesser Goldfinch (H)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow

1993 Migratory Bird Survey—Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

During the fall (8/30–9/30) of 1993, a migratory bird survey was conducted on the Outer Island sandspit as part of the park's long-term monitoring program. Previous migratory bird surveys were conducted during the fall of 1991 and 1990 and during the spring of 1990. In these surveys, numbers of birds were counted through direct observations. In 1993, a temporary banding station was also established to capture, band and color-mark raptors to assist in determining the significance of Outer Island to raptors, specifically falcons, as a stop over and migratory route. The total numbers of birds recorded in 1993 were higher than in 1991, but migratory flow was lower. However, 1991 and 1993 numbers and flow were twice that recorded during Harris' 1978 and 1980 surveys. During all fall surveys (1990, 1991 and 1993), bird composition was heavily dominated by passerines and the falcon migration was strong. Peregrine falcon numbers recorded in 1993 at Outer Island were higher than those recorded at Hawk Ridge, Little Suamico and Cedar Grove. In the upper midwest, Outer Island had the strongest Peregrine Falcon migration. Outer Island provides important habitat and its sandspit is a concentration point for migratory birds. The island appears to be regionally, if not nationally, significant for falcons.

by Julie F. Van Stappen and Thomas C.J. Doolittle

From August 30 through September 30, 1993, a fall migratory bird survey was conducted on the Outer Island sandspit (Fig. 1) as part of the

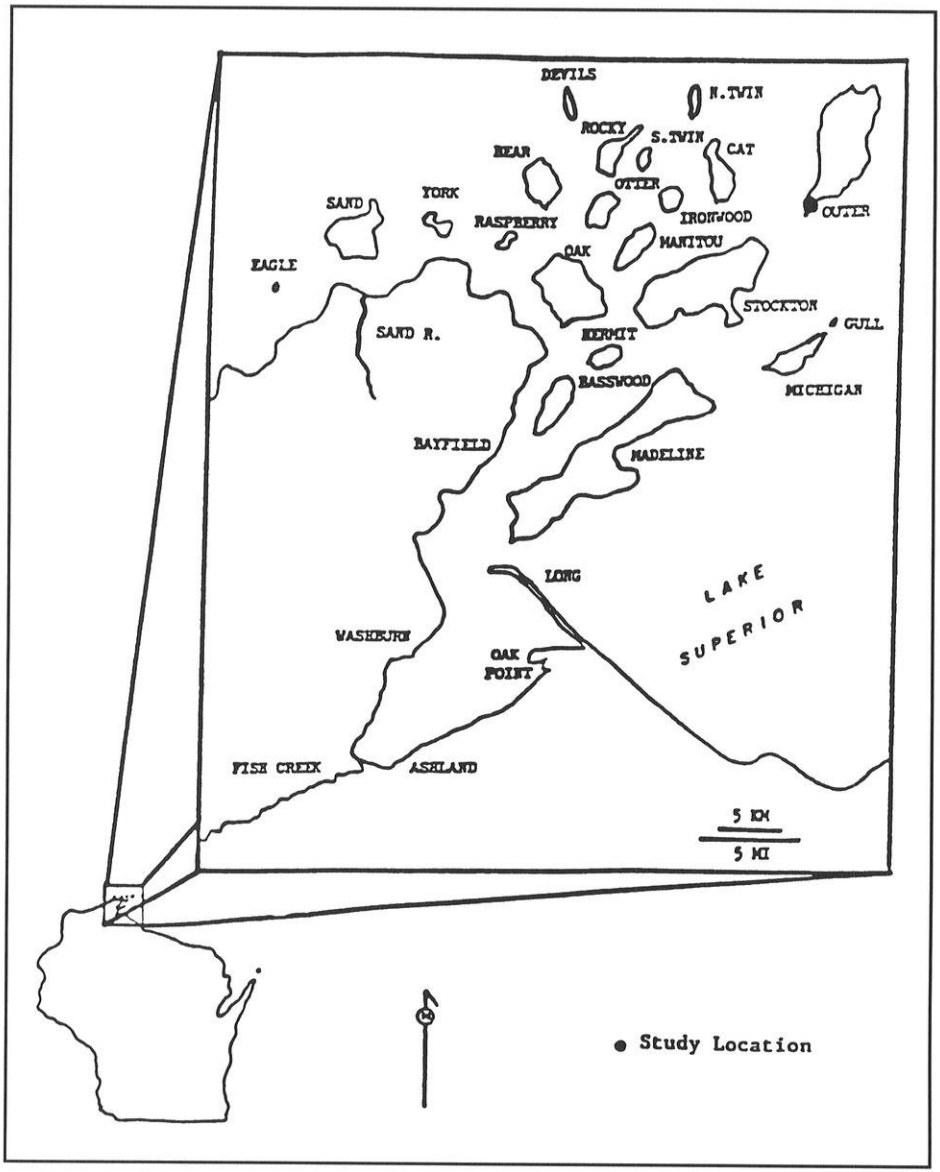


Figure 1. Map of Apostle Islands Area

park's long-term monitoring program. During 1990, both spring and fall migrations on Long and Outer Island were surveyed (Van Stappen and Doolittle 1991). Very high numbers of birds were recorded on Outer Island during the 1990 fall survey, therefore this portion of the moni-

toring project was repeated in 1991 and 1993 to see if 1990 was an exceptional or average migration year.

During the 1990 and 1991 surveys, unexpectedly high numbers of falcons, primarily Peregrines and Merlins, were recorded. It was very difficult to determine whether the falcons staged on the sandspit for a number of days to feed on passerines or whether they quickly migrated southward. The observation data did not allow us to directly compare our data with that of banding stations located in other parts of the region. Therefore, in 1993, a temporary banding station was established to capture, band and color-mark raptors. Capturing and color-marking the birds enabled us to determine turnover rates and allowed us to directly compare data with other banding stations.

Previous studies of migratory birds on the Apostle Islands were conducted at Outer, Devils, Stockton, and Michigan Islands by Harris in the spring of 1976 and 1977 and at Outer Island during the fall of 1978 and 1980 (Harris 1977, 1978, 1980). The greatest concentrations of migrants were seen at the sandspit on Outer Island.

Study Area

Outer Island is the farthest island north and east in the Apostle Island archipelago and the second largest island in the national lakeshore (8,000 acres) (Fig. 1). On its south end is a large sandspit (approximately 20 acres). The sandspit has areas of dunal vegetation, pine forest, and a large lagoon.

Objectives

1. Conduct long-term monitoring of migratory birds in the lakeshore through periodic surveys on Outer and Long Islands to determine trends in migratory volume and species richness.
2. Determine the number of rare migrating falcons which use the Outer Island sandspit during migration and obtain information on their migratory routes.
3. Determine the relative significance of Outer Island sandspit to rare migrating falcons through comparison of our data with other raptor banding stations and migratory lookouts.
4. Develop protocols for long-term monitoring of falcons.

Methods

Direct Observations—Observation sites were established where migrants tend to concentrate and an excellent view of migrating birds was available. On the Outer Island sandspit, the observation site was to the west of the campsite in the dune vegetation near the remains of an old boat. At this site, all birds seen or heard (primarily visual) were recorded during one-half hour observation periods. The surveys began one-half hour before sunrise (approximately 6:30 A.M.). In 1990 and 1991, the observation period varied depending on migratory bird flow. To standardize the observation period, the 1993 observations were done from 6:30 and 9:30 A.M. The nature of the sandspit facilitated counting the number of birds leaving the island. The departure of Merlins and Peregrines which staged at

the sandspit was more difficult to determine; however, only birds seen leaving the island were counted. Observations of species not recorded during the survey period were recorded as miscellaneous.

Prior to each survey, temperature, wind direction, wind speed, sky condition, and precipitation were recorded. These measurements were estimated. Changes in weather and relevant phenology were also documented during the survey periods.

Banding Station—Raptors were trapped by bow net, mist net and/or dho-gazza from dawn to dusk. Live lure birds (English Sparrow, European Starling and Rock Dove) were used as bait to trap raptors. Upon capture, all raptors were banded, weighed and specific physical measurements taken. The physical measurements included: wing chord, wing chord flat, and tail length. Additionally, degree of molt was determined and each bird captured was checked for ecto-parasites. Just prior to release, Peregrine Falcons and Merlins were marked in one of 81 different color patterns. The areas of the body that were color marked were the back, wrists and belly. Nontoxic spray paint was used for marking; colors used include white, fluorescent pink, green and orange. The birds were painted in two patterns, a circle and a stripe. Eighty-one individuals or 81 populations could be marked by combinations of the marking methods. Stencils to place color patterns on the birds were made of cardboard. The circle was 2 inches in diameter and the stripe was 0.5 ± 3 inches in size.

Results

The total number of birds recorded during the fall survey on Outer Island during 1993 was higher than in 1991, but fell short of the 1990 migration. During 31 survey days (93 hours of observation), a total of 52,352 birds were recorded (Table 1). This compares with 141,442 birds recorded during 23 survey days (55.4 hours of observation) in 1990 and 39,435 birds recorded in 22 days (45 hours) of observation in 1991 (Table 1). The total number of species recorded in 1993 was 114, while 133 and 107 species were observed in 1991 and 1990 respectively (Table 1). Migratory flow rate in 1993 ranged from 18 birds/hour to 2,840 birds/hour with an average of 631 birds/hour. In 1991, migratory flow ranged from 77 birds/hour to 5,156 birds/hour with an average of 851 birds/hour. This compares with a high of 28,118 birds/hour recorded in 1990 and an average volume of 2,541.

Fall migratory bird composition on Outer Island in 1993, 1991 and 1990 was almost completely dominated by passerines (94%, 96% and 98%). Large numbers of passerines were observed flying across Lake Superior from the northeast. In addition, all migratory surveys conducted on Outer Island during the fall have recorded a strong migration of falcons.

With the exception of passerines and waterfowl, the number of species by bird group was very similar between all years. The number of waterfowl species was very similar in 1990 and 1991 and then decreased by 47% in 1993. The number of pas-

serine species recorded was highest in 1991 and lowest in 1993. The ability to identify birds to species is highly dependent on cloud cover and how low the birds are flying. Without additional surveys, it is not possible to determine whether these decreases are a result of "normal" fluctuations or not.

The most abundant bird species recorded during the fall migrations are shown in Table 2. American Robin, Cedar Waxwing and Palm Warbler were among the most abundant birds in all three surveys. A higher percentage of passerines were identified to species during the 1991 survey; miscellaneous passerines made up 54% of birds recorded in 1991 and 72% and 80% in 1993 and 1990 respectively.

The banding station was operated from September 1, 1993 through September 30, 1993. The capture rate was low (3 raptors/trapping day), however, of 90 raptors banded, 79 (88%) were falcons (Table 3). Merlins were most common (n 4; 49% of total), while Peregrine Falcons (n 0) were 22 percent of the catch and second in abundance. All Peregrine Falcons caught were tundra Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus tundrius*). More Peregrines were captured on Outer Island during the survey period than either Hawk Ridge in Duluth, Minnesota or Cedar Grove, near Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Table 4). Cedar Grove, however, captured a higher number of Merlins than Outer Island. Hawk Ridge has the largest known fall flight of raptors in the region, however, it does not tend to have a large falcon

Table 1. Relative abundance by bird group

Bird Group	# of Species 1990	Total # 1990	Percent by Group 1990	# of Species 1991	Total # 1991	Percent by Group 1991	# of Species 1993	Total # 1993	Percent by Group 1993
Passerines	68	138,584	98.0%	92	37,804	95.9%	49	49,534	94.6%
Waterfowl	14	1,305	0.9%	15	418	1.0%	8	1,084	2.0%
Seabirds	3	1,027	0.7%	4	876	2.2%	5	1,234	2.4%
Raptors	12	352	0.3%	13	272	.7%	12	365	0.7%
Shorebirds	7	164	0.1%	9	65	.2%	6	100	0.2%
Misc.	3	10	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	1	9	0.02%
	107	141,442	100.0%	133	39,435	100.0%	81	52,326	100.0%

Table 2. Ten most abundant bird species

1990	%	1991	%	1993	%
American Robin	7.7	American Robin	9.3	Cedar Waxwing	5.4
Dark-eyed Junco	2.6	Yellow-rumped Warbler	6.2	Northern Flicker	3.5
Cedar Waxwing	1.2	Swainson's Thrush	3.8	Clay-colored Sparrow	3.2
Yellow-rumped Warbler	.9	Dark-eyed Junco	2.3	American Robin	3.1
Northern Flicker	.9	Cedar Waxwing	2.3	Canada Goose	1.6
Palm Warbler	.8	Palm Warbler	2.2	Cliff Swallow	1.4
Golden-crowned Kinglet	.8	Pine Siskin	1.9	Palm Warbler	1.4
Pine Siskin	.6	Red-breasted Nuthatch	1.7	Ring-billed Gull	.9
Canada Goose	.6	Red-winged Blackbird	1.7	Double-crested Cormorant	.6
Herring Gull	.4	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1.3	Herring Gull	.5

Table 3. Migratory count of raptors observed on Outer Island () = # banded

Species	Numbers 1993	Total (%) 1993	Frequency (%) 1993	Numbers 1990/1991
American Kestrel	105(15)	30.0	50	57/23
Merlin	100(44)	28.9	97	105/93
Peregrine Falcon	64(20)	18.5	63	66/41
Sharp-shinned Hawk	21(7)	6.1	30	36/37
Northern Harrier	16(3)	4.6	30	8/4
Bald Eagle	14	4.0	23	20/33
Osprey	10	2.9	20	21/10
Broad-winged Hawk	8	2.3	7	0/3
Cooper's Hawk	4(1)	1.2	10	5/9
Turkey Vulture	2	0.6	7	0/1
Golden Eagle	1	0.3	3	0/0
Ferruginous Hawk	1	0.3	3	0/0
Goshawk	1	0.3	3	5/1
Grand total	346	100		350/255

Table 4. Comparison of Peregrine Falcons and Merlins trapped/observed at Outer Island, Cedar Grove and Hawk Ridge

Species	1993 trapped Outer	1993 trapped Cedar Grove	1993 trapped Hawk Ridge	Mean observed Outer	Mean observed Cedar Grove	Mean observed Hawk Ridge
Peregrine	20	8	3	57	44	20
Merlin	44	57	33	99	335	210

migration. Peregrine Falcons are known to migrate over expanses of open water and Hawk Ridge's interior location is not conducive for large migratory movements of Peregrine Falcons (Evans pers. comm.). Cedar Grove, however, is considered the Midwest's best location for banding falcons. Goshute Mountains in Nevada (1 Peregrine; 8 Merlins) and Manzano Mountains in New Mexico (1 Peregrine; 4 Merlins), two other fall migration banding stations, had lower numbers of both Peregrine Falcons and Merlins than Outer Island.

All but three raptors caught were hatching year birds. The only raptors caught in adult plumage were three Peregrine Falcons. Most raptors were captured in dho-gazzas (72%), while bow nets captured 23 raptors. A size ETX mist net was used from September 16 until the station closed, but only two raptors were captured in the mist net. Overall trapping success was estimated at 29 percent, while trapping success for Merlins and Peregrine Falcons was estimated at 40 percent. A low altitude flight line contributed to the high capture rate of falcons. In addition, some individuals may stage for a day or more providing multiple opportunities for capture. The peak trapping and migration day, overall, was September 18, while Merlins and Peregrine Falcons peaked on September 11 and September 23 respectively. There was insufficient data to determine

peak migratory flow for other raptors captured. Only four other raptors were captured (American Kestrel, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Northern Harrier and Cooper's Hawk).

Migratory volume of raptors (n 46), as calculated from direct observations, was low (12 raptors/observation day), however, 78 percent of the volume were falcons. Merlins were seen migrating in the highest frequency, but American Kestrels were slightly more abundant. Sixty-four Peregrine Falcons were observed migrating off Outer Island, six of which were unbanded continental Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) (Table 3.). The source of the continental Peregrines was unknown. A Richardson's Merlin was captured on September 9, 1993 and a Golden Eagle, Krider's Red-tailed Hawk and Ferruginous Hawk were recorded migrating off Outer Island. Reasons why western species were seen more commonly than expected for the region are also unknown. These migratory count figures represent minimum estimated numbers of migrants. Only individuals actually observed to be migrating out of binocular vision to the south were recorded as migrants. Morning counts (standard survey) of raptors did not accurately reflect numbers of migrating raptors. For example, 22 Peregrines were recorded in morning counts compared to 64 observed from the blind. The most accurate assessment of raptor numbers can be accomplished through sunrise to sunset counts.

The total count (observations) of 64 Peregrine Falcons migrating off Outer Island was above Cedar Groves 10 year mean (1977–1987) of 44 Peregrine Falcons observed, however, Cedar Grove's and Hawk Ridge's average Merlin counts (1987–1991) were higher than averages recorded (from 1990, 1991, and 1993) on Outer Island (Table 4). The fact that three out of 20 captured Peregrines were adults is significant. Adult Peregrines are rarely caught. In addition, 30% of Peregrines observed were adults.

Color marked falcons (n 4) were observed 15 times. Forty percent of falcons observed were on the island for only 24 hours. However, a color marked falcon on one occasion returned after not being observed for seven days and two others after five days. No color marked falcons were observed for more than two consecutive days. A majority (86%) of color marked falcons were not observed after their capture. The color marking data suggests a high turnover rate of falcons. Color marked Peregrine Falcons were observed staging more often during periods of low pressure. However, there was no correlation between weather observations and staging of color marked Merlins.

There were three band recoveries. A color marked Peregrine Falcon (orange belly spot, #987–91907), banded on September 29 on Outer Island, was captured at Cedar Grove in southeastern Wisconsin. A hatching year male Merlin (band #1153–84009), banded at a nest in Ashland, Wisconsin on July 3, 1993 was captured on September 10 on Outer Island, 54 km northeast of its nest area. A Peregrine Falcon (band #1387–060004), banded September 23, 1993 on Outer Island was found dead in Pampano Beach, Florida on October 10, 1993.

Most raptors captured were in good physical condition as determined by health indices (breast fullness, parasite presence, weight). Although, one Peregrine Falcon (#987–91903) was captured five times over three consecutive days and was in low condition. This bird was transported to the Raptor Center in St. Paul, Minnesota, where it arrived safely and underwent treatment. Flying lice (Hippoboscidae) were found on one Merlin and a Northern Harrier, but both birds were in good condition otherwise.

Discussion

Weather Conditions—During the fall surveys, northwesterly to southwesterly winds were predominant (63%). Winds during the survey period were often strong, with wind speeds as high as 30–50 knots. Temperatures were generally in the 40s and 50s (F) during the survey period. Cloud cover was often low during 1993, but precipitation was recorded on only one survey day (3.3%). In comparison, precipitation was recorded during 32% of the survey time in 1991 and 11% of the time in 1990.

West winds of 15–20 knots and clear to partly cloudy skies following a low pressure system were the best weather conditions for raptor migration. However, Peregrine Falcons were also seen during low pressure cells, especially as they weakened. Low pressure systems may force Peregrine Falcons off the lake, resulting in staging on Outer Island. Nineteen days of westerly winds (63%) may have been the cause for the high occurrence of western species being observed on Outer Island.

Summary and Conclusions

The number of birds recorded during the 1990 fall survey on Outer Island was greater than the number recorded in either 1991 or 1993. However, migratory flow was still twice as high in 1991 and 1993 as the flow recorded by Harris (1978, 1980). Although passerine counts were conducted near Duluth from the early 1980's through 1990, they were not done in 1991 or 1993, preventing comparisons with our data.

In summary, the overall migratory volume and capture rate of raptors on Outer Island during the fall of 1993 was low compared to other raptor migratory lookouts. However, the number of falcons observed and captured, especially Peregrine Falcons, was high. During September of 1993, the Outer Island station trapped the highest number of Peregrines in the region. Unfortunately, the logistics involved in getting to and from Outer Island prevented the survey from being extended into October or November.

Outer Island also has a strong spring migratory flight of raptors, unlike most banding stations which have either a strong spring or fall migration. Future banding during the spring migration would assist in determining the importance of Outer Island for raptor migration in the spring.

Acknowledgements

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Julie F. Van Stappen
Supervisory Resource Management Specialist
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
Rt. 1, Box 4
Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814
and
Thomas C.J. Doolittle
Wildlife Biologist
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

Great Blue Heron *by Gerald H. Emmerich, Jr.*

Acadian Flycatchers Nest in Portage County

The first nesting record for the Acadian Flycatcher in Portage County is described by the authors.

by Robert Rosenfield and John Bielefeldt

Since 1989, the Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) has been listed as a threatened species in Wisconsin. According to Robbins' (1991) map, its usual summer range--presumably its breeding range—is restricted to the southern third of the state, as far north as Brown, Calumet, and Fond du Lac among eastern counties, Columbia and Sauk Counties at midstate, and Monroe and LaCrosse Counties in the west. Robbins (1991) has also mapped occasional June–July detections beyond the usual summer range in central Wisconsin, including Green Lake, Juneau, Waupaca, and Waushara Counties, and wondered whether these individuals might be post-breeding wanderers. Since Robbins' compilation, additional records for June have also been reported from Menominee and Green Lake Counties in central Wisconsin (Soulen 1992, 1995).

Here we describe the first nesting record for the Acadian Flycatcher in Portage County, about 75 km north of its previously-reported breeding range of midstate longitudes. We also speculate that the dates and circumstances of other summer records in central Wisconsin are consistent with locally resident birds rather than post-nesting vagrants from more southerly areas.

Background

In five years' study of the breeding behavior of the Acadian Flycatcher in southeastern Wisconsin (Bielefeldt and Rosenfield 1992, 1994), we've become thoroughly familiar with song and other distinctive vocalizations in a species that's otherwise difficult to identify. Call notes are especially useful in detecting females and tracking them to nests during building and incubation stages of breeding.

Observations

On 28 May 1995, we repeatedly heard a singing Acadian Flycatcher near Amherst, Portage County (T22N, R10E, S14). Our searches for a mate to this bird were fruitless until 17 June, when simultaneous detections established the presence of two calling individuals. Nest building

was underway by 30 June, and a clutch of three eggs was completed by 7 July. Incubation was still in progress on 19 July and fledglings were present on 31 July. Adults and young were simultaneously seen within 5–10 m of the nest as late as 21 August.

The nest was built in a white oak (*Quercus alba*) in a 100+ ha woodland dominated by oaks (*Quercus* spp.) and white pine (*Pinus strobus*) among overstory trees, and by black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), and red maple (*Acer rubrum*) among understory saplings.

Discussion

A breeding pair of Acadian Flycatchers in 1995 apparently represents the first summer observation in Portage County as well as one of the state's northernmost nesting records. This observation joins previous June–July reports (see above) from other central counties outside the species' usual summer range in southern Wisconsin. Robbins (1991) has tentatively suggested that these prior midstate summer records might involve post-breeding vagrants. However, it seems to us equally plausible, perhaps more plausible, to treat these birds as potentially nesting summer residents. In support of this view, we invoke additional midstate nest records and a breeding schedule that casts doubt on the likelihood of June–July vagrants.

Additional Midstate Nest Records— Acadian Flycatchers beyond the "usual" summer range in Green Lake County were indeed breeding there, as documented by discovery of 3 nests on 17 June 1983 (M.J. Mossman, pers. comm.). Acadian nests in two central counties--Green Lake and now Portage—do not indicate that other mid-Wisconsin birds are summer residents or breeders, but they do imply that nesting is a possibility. Nest-finding depends on acquired skills, patience, and luck in a combination that's often peculiar to the breeding habits of each species. Experience and time were conveniently at hand in the case of the Acadian nest in Portage County in 1995; we suspect that the opportunity for diligent nest searches was unavailable in most of the other summer records of this species in central Wisconsin.

In southern Wisconsin (JB and RNR, unpubl. data), as elsewhere in the upper midwest (Mumford 1964, Walkinshaw 1966), Acadian Flycatchers have a protracted breeding season that runs from the latter half of May through much or all of July and sometimes parts of August. In brief, most pairs will attempt one or more re-nests after early-season (June) failures of initial nests, and most will try a second brood in July if early nests are successful. In extreme cases, nestlings were still present as late as 22 August in Wisconsin (pers. obs.) and 31 August in Michigan (Walkinshaw 1966). Unmated males are persistently in song on their territories into late July or early August (pers. obs.) in Wisconsin. Most of the summer records of Acadians in central Wisconsin have come in June at a time when post-breeding vagrants thus seem unlikely.

Although we know of no evidence of northbound midsummer vagrancy

in Acadians, we cannot dismiss the possibility that a few birds may wander long distances after early-season nesting attempts or failure to secure a mate. Nevertheless, in view of breeding schedules in southern Wisconsin and four known nests in central Wisconsin, it seems equally reasonable to suppose that most Acadians in central counties are spring vagrants (or "colonists") that subsequently stayed the summer.

Nesting is now known to occur in some central counties, and we urge observers to search for breeding evidence in future observations of Acadian Flycatchers in central Wisconsin. Larger populations in Sauk (Mossman and Lange 1982), Waukesha-Jefferson (Bielefeldt and Rosenfield 1992), and other southern counties (Robbins 1991) will bear the main burden of conserving this state-threatened species, but smaller numbers in outlying areas at midstate are also important elements of bird species diversity on local and sub-state levels of concern.

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Robert N. Rosenfield
Biology Department
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Stevens Point, WI 54481
and
John Bielefeldt
Racine County DPW
Sturtevant, WI 53177

Brown Thrasher *by Lawrence Michael*

Blue-winged Teal Clutch Augmentation

Salvaged Blue-winged Teal eggs were added to other Blue-winged Teal nests. Hatching success was observed and documented.

by James O. Evrard and Bruce R. Bacon

Recently the North American Wildlife Foundation proposed gathering thousands of duck eggs from nests destroyed by agricultural activities in prairie Canada, placing them in artificial incubators, and raising the hatched ducklings for release into the wild (Ward 1990). This effort was designed to compensate for low duck production due to high nest predation in the prairies of Canada and of northcentral United States.

In a much more modest effort, we removed Blue-winged Teal eggs from nests prior to their destruction by fire and placed them into other teal nests for hatching. Our objective was to determine if eggs salvaged in this manner would hatch and contribute to Blue-winged Teal production.

Study Area and Methods

The study area was located in the prairie pothole region of northwestern Wisconsin. The 1,295-km^2 area in northcentral St. Croix and southcentral Polk counties has been described by Evrard and Lillie (1967).

Approximately 400 ha of grassy vegetation on federal and state Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs) were searched for duck nests once in May, June, and July, 1985 using a cable-chain drag (Higgins et al. 1969) pulled between 2 vehicles. Nests were found when female ducks flushed as the cable-chain drag passed over occupied nests. Eggs in the nests were counted and candled to determine the stage of development of the clutch by estimating the age of the embryos within the eggs (Weller 1956). Weller's method placed Blue-winged Teal eggs in 7 age classes (unincubated or 0 days, 4 days, 8 days, 12 days, 15 days, 18 days, and 20 days). We attempted to more precisely estimate embryo ages within those age classes. Nests were marked so they could later be revisited.

Most 1985 prescribed burning used to manage nesting cover on WPAs took place in late May after the first nest search had been completed. We knew the location of nests in areas scheduled for burning and salvaged those eggs prior to burning.

We placed 3–5 salvaged Blue-winged Teal eggs each into 5 teal nests having eggs of similar embryonic development in areas not scheduled for burning. The egg-augmented nests were revisited at projected hatch dates to determine their fates.

Results

Two of the 5 nests were destroyed by predators prior to the estimated hatch day. Of the 3 successful nests, Nest A had 12 eggs at an estimated 5 days of incubation when 3 salvaged eggs at an estimated 6 days of incubation were added. Fourteen eggs hatched 21 days later. The egg that failed to hatch was from the original clutch, not one of the salvaged eggs.

Nest B had 11 eggs at an estimated 11 days of incubation when 4 salvaged eggs at an estimated 7 days of incubation were added. The 11 original eggs hatched 13 days later. The 4 added eggs were abandoned.

Nest C had 11 eggs at an estimated 5 days of incubation when 4 salvaged eggs at 9 estimated days of incubation were added. All 15 eggs hatched 18 days later.

Discussion

Augmentation was successful in 2 of the 3 cases where successful nests received salvaged eggs. Differences in the estimated age of the original and salvaged eggs was +1 day in Nest A and +4 days in Nest C. The difference in estimated age between the original eggs and the salvaged eggs was—4 days in Nest B where the salvaged eggs failed to hatch.

The differences between the estimated ages of the original and salvaged eggs in all 3 nests were within the limits of accuracy of the aging technique (Weller 1956). These limits permit larger than desired differences in estimated ages of the embryos which, in some cases, results in abandonment of less advanced eggs when the more advanced eggs hatch. It may be that the likelihood of abandonment is increased when the number of more advanced eggs in an augmented clutch is larger than the number of less advanced eggs.

It may also be that small differences in embryonic development between the original eggs in a clutch and the added salvaged eggs can be overcome by the hatching stimulus of ducklings peeping within the eggs (Vince 1969) and the normal hatching process (pipping, hatching, drying in nest) which takes 1–3 days depending upon the weather and other factors.

Our data support the findings of Rohwer (1985) that Blue-winged Teal hens can successfully hatch artificially augmented clutches. Hens having good brood patches with an area of 100 cm^2 successfully incubated clutches of 12 eggs having an area of 150 cm^2. He reported manipulated Blue-winged Teal nests did not differ in hatching success from unmanipulated nests. In two nests having clutches of 12 eggs, he added 12 and 13 eggs. In one nest, 21 of 24 eggs hatched and in the other nest, 24 of 25 eggs hatched.

This technique, although successful, cannot be considered a viable alternative to current accepted methods of increasing waterfowl production due to the high labor costs

involved in searching for soon-to-be-destroyed and surrogate nests.

Summary

Salvaged Blue-winged Teal eggs, placed into teal nests having eggs within an estimated 1–4 days of incubation of the salvaged eggs, hatched in 2 of 3 successful nests. This method was successful in salvaging doomed eggs in an effort to increase waterfowl production, but on a very limited scale. If this method was expanded to a scale where waterfowl production was significantly impacted, costs would be prohibitive.

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James O. Evrard
Bureau of Research
Department of Natural Resources
Box 367
Grantsburg, WI 54840
and
Bruce R. Bacon
Bureau of Wildlife Management
Department of Natural Resources
Ranger Station, 3291 State House Circle
Mercer, WI 54547

Mourning Dove *by Robert A. Kleppin*

The Spring Season: 1995

by Laura Erickson

Birders are ever dreaming of the perfect spring—bazillions of waterfowl and early land birds arriving precisely on the first of March along with some accidental gulls here and there, crowding out a myriad of winter finches, Varied Thrushes, and owls, followed by April's spectacular hawk and shorebird migration, May's abundance of sparrows, thrushes, and tanagers, and then wave after wave of warblers, with a dozen days of 25 or more warbler species. Naturally there is exactly the right amount of rainfall and wind, with nothing more than a light drizzle on weekends, and temperatures slowly and steadily rising in perfect correspondence with weather service data averages. There has never been such a spring, of course—our nostalgic memories tend to combine every wonderful day we've experienced over the years into a single magnificent season long ago. Reality pales in comparison, but hopes and dreams of those perfect days are rewarded by enough fine birding to keep us coming back every year. Even as we justifiably worry about declines in shorebirds, nighthawks, grassland species, and neotropic migrants, we find ourselves taking for granted those newly re-established Wild Turkey and expanding House Finch populations, and aren't a bit surprised to see sizeable groups of Sandhill Cranes, when just two short decades ago we'd have been thrilled to see just one! And more and more people are spotting Trumpeter Swans, some banded, some not, in more and more places. Documentations of sightings of this reintroduced species should still be included in reports.

The spring of 1995 started with unseasonably warm weather—according to word-of-mouth reports from Superior, a pair of ravens began nesting in February, but the sudden, unseasonable cold that followed killed the nestlings. Across the state, birders as well as ravens were optimistic, perhaps foolishly so, after that balmy winter, but hopes were dashed as the cool, lackluster spring weather held later migrants back well into May. Janine Polk, right in the center of the state, writes, "After a warm win-

ter and a warm start to March, it might have been reasonable to expect an early spring. Wrong! Most of the rest of the season was cool and seemed to be at least a week behind, in terms of both vegetation and migration. Birds trickled in until May 7, when a big push of songbirds finally occurred. The late schedule continued into June."

Daryl Tessen, whose post-retirement peregrinations brought him just about everywhere in the state, writes, "Weather was cold, cloudy, windy, especially most of March and April. Only warm spell was first week of March when record highs were recorded (70s). By early April record lows were recorded (first week). May was unusually cool and generally dry. Finally got 80 degree weather last two days of month. Migration was *late* (1–2 weeks easily) as a result of the cold weather. Warbler movement was especially late but more leisurely once it started. A strange blend of early, mid and late migrants often seen. Thrush movement seemed poor—exception 23 May. Evidently shorebird migration peaked around 22–23 May."

From up north in Ashland and Bayfield, Dick Verch writes, "Cold spring—vegetation appears 5–7 days behind normal development. Vireos and late warblers were later than usual." Robbye Johnson writes that in Douglas County, Lake Superior's "ice refused to leave. It was still there in mid-May, blowing in and out with the wind. Ice-out in smaller water was also late, and so, of course, was the duck flight."

Despite the lateness, migration seemed pretty good to many reporters. Dick Verch had "several excellent warbler days" in Ashland and Bayfield Counties. In Brown County, Melvin Wierzbicki found that "the number of species viewed increased this spring. It was the best since 1989. However, the numbers are still below the average of a few years ago. Most observers in the area claim that they have seen more birds than usual." Ellen Hansen found "the best continuous warbler migration in several years. Still not many individuals but good species totals *for days.*"

Philip Ashman writes from Dane County, "One benefit of the cool weather was that the foliage of most trees was much reduced so that by the time the birds showed up it was easy to spot them. May 7–8 brought in the first wave of species though not many individuals. The period 10–22 May was excellent—every time I went out I saw lots of birds. May 11, 13, and 15 were the best days from the standpoint of number of species and number of individuals. I covered a lot of ground on several days, usually spending most of my time in the Wingra Woods part of the Arboretum and the first parking lot near the Vilas Park entrance. It was impressive to have a number of days in succession with greater than 20 species of warblers and decent numbers of individuals of each species—a rarity in recent years. May 17 was the first day that many females showed up in numbers; also flycatchers as a group were commonest on that day." David Cederstrom also found good warbler numbers in Madison on 14–15 May.

Murray Berner writes from Portage County, "Even usually oblivious, park-walking locals commented on the abundance of birds during the

week of 14 May. Two insect phenomena provided easy access to foraging migrants during May: a hardwood scale infestation along the Tomorrow River and the clouds of an unidentified flying insect (shoreflies?) associated with jackpine along McDill Pond. The essentially leafless woods through the 21st also helped."

Sheboygan County also enjoyed a large wave on 14 May, where Scott Baughman found "a push of flycatchers and warblers. In a little over one hour along the lake front on the north side of Sheboygan I had four flycatcher species and 12 warbler species. All of these birds were seen while standing in one spot from 7:15–7:30 P.M." In Milwaukee County, Norma Zehner was surprised to have "a good many species and individuals of warblers in the week of 21 May."

As always, data collected by birders in spring has somewhat limited value in assessing larger population trends. This year's odd weather patterns made some species seem frighteningly scarce or wonderfully abundant when they were simply been blown off their usual course. Bill Hilsenhoff points out that "the nearly constant east winds made more easterly migrants (Black-throated Blue Warbler) more common and more westerly migrants (White-crowned Sparrow) scarce." A powerful south wind at the end of March may have been instrumental in blowing in Jean Strelka's amazing April Fools' Day nighthawk (see the W.S.O. Record's Committee report), and the long, cold April and May may have been the force keeping Alicia Baily's Varied Thrush in Langlade on 14 May.

Even if a few bizarre, weather-related phenomena don't prove much about larger population trends, the observations of dozens of birders combing the landscape in search of migrants add up, and over time really do give some clear indications of important trends. Habitat losses, especially for shorebirds, continue to cause problems. Alta Goff in Barron writes, "It is getting harder to see sandpipers where we used to find them . . . There is more disturbance around wetlands and swamps, which seems to keep the birds wary." Scott Baughman finds that "the shorebird habitat seems to be dwindling in Sheboygan County. Spots that have been productive in the past are drying up earlier due to advancement in drainage for farm use." The problems shorebirds face are even worse than local habitat losses. Even where habitat was available, shorebird numbers were down in some places. Scott Diehl noted, "The shorebird flight in Milwaukee County and all of southeastern Wisconsin was terrible; very few birds. Available habitat was less than some years but not non-existent." Up in Ashland and Bayfield Counties, Dick Verch found that "Shorebirds continue to decrease, both in variety and numbers. There were exposed shorelines and mudflats this year but not many birds." In Vilas, Paul Bowman commented, "Ducks and shorebirds seemed to bypass or fly over the area this year. Not as many numbers as in the past." Several reporters noted a dearth of shorebirds in Dane and Columbia Counties, where they usually abound.

But even the shorebird picture wasn't entirely bleak. For Philip Ash-

man, "The shorebird migration was very good; I saw twenty-five species with fairly good numbers of a few. The best habitat available for shorebirds was in northern Dane County; ponds along Schumacher Road; WIBU Road and County Highway "DM;" and "DM" and County Highway I. The habitat at the Nine Springs lagoons was terrible—very few mudflats due to high water levels—however, many species were seen there foraging and roosting on the dikes of the easternmost lagoon. In Columbia County, in general very little was seen, with both the waterfowl and shorebird migrations much reduced from the last few years. The habitat at the Harvey/Wangness Roads complex in particular was a lot different this year with a lot less water."

And, of course, the Curlew Sandpiper discovered by Bill Foster in Dane was a treat few birders will soon forget, whether they added it to their lists or unhappily missed out on it. (See the W.S.O. Records Committee Report.) Avocets aren't nearly as rare, but based on the details reporters sent in, the sprinkling of avocets were enjoyed for their beauty fully as much as the curlew was for its rarity. The Barn Owl that surprised Marge Gibson in Langlade County is another hopeful report. (See "By the Wayside.")

Despite one record-breaking early bird, nighthawks continue to come in late and to be found in low numbers. Among songbirds, thrushes and grassland species seem to be the most obviously difficult to find of late. In an otherwise positive report, Philip Ashman noted, "The only species which didn't have a good migration were thrushes in general, although I did see a few individuals here and there. There were no wave days." Tom Uttech writes, "In the past 5 years, on my Ozaukee County property, I have lost as breeding species Henslow's Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Sedge Wren, Wood Thrush, Mourning Warbler, and Barn Swallow (!) without any change of habitat. This year no permanent bluebird occupation was occurring (at the end of the spring season)."

Everyone of course noted the lack of winter finches and Red-breasted Nuthatches.

There were some interesting sightings of unidentifiable birds this season. Tom Uttech's new baby was greeted on the way home by a bizarre gull "which looked to be a hybrid between a Herring Gull and a muskrat and a jaeger." The bird was apparently sick, and though we will never know what kind of hybrid it was, keeping his detailed description and drawing on file may be useful for future taxonomy studies. And the "unidentifiable bird" reported by Rudy, which looked virtually identical with field guide pictures of Kirtland's Warbler but, on close inspection, turned out to be either a heavily pigmented Magnolia Warbler or a hybrid between a Magnolia and some other species, makes a fine case for taking careful notes and drawings of every oddity, and realizing that not every bird we see can be identified.

This spring 84 people sent in reports about 300 species, some of just a single rarity or a listing of the best birds of the season, while others were wonderfully detailed and helpful accounts, on the W.S.O. Seasonal

Report Form, of all the birds they found along with early and late dates, weather conditions, etc. A pile of daily checklists one reporter sent in were singularly difficult to plow through. We received fairly substantial reports about the full season from 50 counties.

There were two significant errors in last year's report (*Passenger Pigeon,* Vol. 56, no. 4). On page 267, Thomas C. Wood did not see the Little Blue Heron in Sheboygan County on 14 May, but rather the one in Dodge County on 15 May. And on page 272, he did not see a Ruff in Sheboygan County—the Ruff he saw was the one listed for Dodge County. These mistakes are entirely the fault of the Spring Field Note Compiler, who is still figuring out the best way of organizing the mountain of data from reporters across the state in a timely but accurate way.

Red-throated Loon.—Reported in 4 Lake Michigan counties between 14 March in Ozaukee and 15 May in Manitowoc—that one in full breeding plumage (Tessen). Other reports from Milwaukee and Sheboygan.

Common Loon.—Reported in mostly normal numbers from 33 counties throughout, beginning March 17 in Washington (Domagalski). Ott counted 24 in Marathon 12 April. Remained through the end of the season in northern, western, and Lake Michigan counties.

Pied-billed Grebe.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 39 counties beginning 11 March in Ozaukee (Uttech). Ashman counted 36 on 10 April and Hilsenhoff counted 58 on 14 April, both in Dane. Remained through the end of the season throughout.

Horned Grebe.—Reports from 27 counties throughout in mostly normal numbers beginning 19 March and ending 14 May. On 29 April, Jeff Baughman counted 85 in Sheboygan.

Red-necked Grebe.—Reports in below average numbers from 8 counties throughout beginning 1 April in Columbia. Remained through the end of the season in Green Lake, Winnebago, and Dane, where Robbins reports "A pair was breeding on a pond south of Dane, being monitored almost daily by Jim Stephenson."

Eared Grebe.—First reported 29–31 March in Juneau Park Lagoon, Milwaukee (Gustafson). Other reports from Dane, Green Lake, Oconto, and Sauk, with birds remaining through 23 May.

American White Pelican.—Reports from 10 counties throughout except south beginning 22 April; some groups remained through the end of the season in Brown and Winnebago.

Double-crested Cormorant.—Reports from 34 counties throughout in mostly normal numbers, first birds appearing in Winnebago before 1 March. Biggest numbers 1–20 May, with 500 counted on 5 May in Kewaunee (Hansen) and 750 on 20 May in Marinette (Tessen).

American Bittern.—Reports from 18 counties in below normal numbers beginning 9 April in Marathon (Ott). Tessen counted 6 in Winnebago on 6 May.

Least Bittern.—Reports beginning 13 May from Columbia, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Oconto, and Winnebago, where Ziebell counted 10 on 13 May.

Great Blue Heron.—Reports in mostly normal numbers throughout, starting BOP in LaCrosse (Dankert), other early migrants beginning 12 March. A rookery with 24 nests reported from southern Brown (Mead). Ziebell reports nests with eggs in Winnebago on 16 May.

Great Egret.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 18 counties beginning 4 April. Northern reports from Douglas, Marinette, Oconto, and Vilas, all in May.

Snowy Egret.—Reports with supporting details from Dane 13 April (Tessen). Other reports from Brown and Oconto 8–28 May.

Cattle Egret.—Several reports from Brown 13 April through EOP; 10 counted on 5 May (Hansen) and 8 on 21 May (Tessen); also reported from Outagamie on 15 April (Tessen).

Green Heron.—Reports from 26 counties throughout in mostly below normal numbers, beginning 17 April in western counties.

Black-crowned Night-Heron.—Reports from 14 counties throughout in normal numbers, beginning 24 March in Winnebago (Tessen). Ziebell counted 20 in Winnebago 13 May, and Hansen counted 44 in Brown 16 May.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron.—Only report in Grant 31 May (Tessen).

Tundra Swan.—Reports in normal and below normal numbers from 26 counties beginning 15 March in southern counties. Biggest numbers on 17 and 18 March, with 210 in LaCrosse (Dankert), 300 in Winnebago (Ziebell), 400+ in Portage (Berner) and 450 in Outagamie (Tessen). Migrants last reported 20 May in Douglas (Johnson), with individuals remaining through the end of the season in Burnett (Hoeffler) and Eau Claire (Polk); both birds were reportedly sick or injured.

Trumpeter Swan.—Reports beginning 13–22 March in Washington (Domagalski). On 18 March, Tessen found in Outagamie. On 26 March, Ott saw 3, with one yellow and two green bands, at Mead Wildlife Area in Marathon. Schultz saw a group of 3—two adults with size difference indicating male and female, and an immature—at White River Wildlife Area in Green Lake from 15–22 April. The Lukes found a pair in Door 15–28 April. On 6 May, Gustafson saw 3 birds, 2 with neck bands 43K and 44K, at Necedah NWR in Juneau. Remained through the end of the season in Burnett (Hoeffler) and Marathon (Ott).

Mute Swan.—Individuals or groups of two or three found in a total of 11 southern, central, and northern counties, throughout the season in Portage (Berner), Dane (m.ob.), and Ashland/Bayfield (Verch).

Greater White-fronted Goose.—Reports from 12–31 March in Outagamie (Nussbaum and Tessen); and 13–19 March in Columbia and Dane (m.ob.). Tessen counted 13 in Outagamie on 12 March, and Hilsenhoff counted 17 in Dane on 19 March.

Snow Goose.—Reported in mostly normal numbers from 18 counties throughout. Most migration between 10 March and 29 April. On 13 March, Dankert counted 100 in Vernon; on 23 March, Tessen counted 75 in Outagamie. Present at both the beginning and end of the season in Winnebago (Nussbaum and Ziebell).

Ross' Goose.—(See W.S.O. Records Committee Report.) Reported 16 March–9 April in Dodge, Outagamie, and Dane Counties (Hansen, Nussbaum, Robbins, Tessen).

Canada Goose.—Reports from throughout the state throughout the season in normal and above normal numbers; migration peaking between 11 March, when Hilsenhoff counted 8000 in Dane, and 23–24 April, when Berner found 2700 in Portage and Tessen found 1000s in Outagamie. Sontag reports annual late migration in Manitowoc (see "By the Wayside").

Wood Duck.—Found in mostly normal numbers at the beginning of the season in western, central, and Lake Michigan counties and at the end of the season throughout. Most migration began March 8 and peaked in May.

Green-winged Teal.—Found throughout the state in normal and above normal numbers beginning 12 March, and remaining through the end of the season in all regions. On 9 April Ashman counted 275 in Dane.

American Black Duck.—Reports from 29 counties in normal and below normal numbers throughout the season. Maximum counts in the 20s in mid-March.

Mallard.—Found throughout the state throughout the season in mostly normal numbers. Several observers counted over 400 during the first half of March.

Northern Pintail.—Reports from 27 counties in normal and below normal numbers. Found at the beginning of the season in LaCrosse (Dankert), Ozaukee (Uttech) and Portage (Berner); last reported 29 May in Outagamie (Tessen). Hilsenhoff counted 28 in Dane on 12 March.

Blue-winged Teal.—Found in mostly normal numbers throughout, from the beginning of the season in Vernon (Dankert); most migration beginning 13 March. Hilsenhoff counted 137 in Dane 29 April; the LaValleys counted 128 in Douglas on 1 May.

Northern Shoveler.—Found in normal and above normal numbers from the beginning of the season in Dane (m.ob) and Winnebago (Tessen). Most migration began 11 March; Hilsenhoff counted 212 on 11 March and Ashman counted 300 in 28 April, both in Dane; remained through the end of the season in several counties throughout the state.

Gadwall.—Reports in mostly normal numbers from 27 counties throughout, from the beginning of the season in southern counties and Winnebago, and remaining through the end of the season in Lake Michigan and western counties and in Winnebago. On 10 March, Morris counted over 50 in Dane.

American Wigeon.—Reports in normal and below normal numbers throughout the state from the beginning of the season in central and southern counties and remaining through the end of the season north of the southernmost counties. On 19 March, Hilsenhoff counted 106 in Dane.

Canvasback.—Reports from 26 counties. Reporters were evenly divided about numbers, a third finding normal numbers, a third finding more and a third finding fewer than usual. Reported from southern, central, and eastern counties at the beginning of the season, and remaining in Marathon through the end of the season (Ott). Diehl counted 40 in Milwaukee 9 March, Parsons counted 75 in Walworth 5 April, Tessen counted 150 in Winnebago 11 April, and Verch counted 74 in Ashland/Bayfield 23 April.

Redhead.—Reports from 27 counties in mostly normal and above normal numbers. Found at the beginning of the season in Milwaukee and Ozaukee and remaining through the end of the season in southern and central counties. On 26 March Hilsenhoff counted 180 in Dane.

Ring-necked Duck.—Found throughout the state in mostly normal and above normal numbers, from the beginning of the season in the central area and through the end of the season in all areas except Lake Michigan counties. Most migration began 8 March. On 16 March, Hilsenhoff counted 335 in Dane.

Greater Scaup.—Reports from 25 counties in mostly normal numbers, from the beginning of the season along Lake Michigan and in Winnebago (Nussbaum). A pair remained on Lake Wissota in Chippewa County through the end of the season (Polk). Tessen counted 400 in Milwaukee 2 March, 450 in Manitowoc on 22 March, 600+ in Manitowoc 29 April, and 800+ in Sheboygan 29 April.

Lesser Scaup.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 36 counties, from the beginning of the season in mainly the southern half and the Lake Michigan counties; remaining through the end of the season in all areas except west. In Winnebago, Ziebell counted 300 on 17 March, Tessen counted 500 on 22 March, and Tessen counted 350 on 11 April. In Milwaukee, Diehl counted 1500 on 29 March. In Ashland/Bayfield, Verch counted 330+ on 8 May.

Scaup sp..—Diehl counted 5000 on 1 March in Milwaukee.

King Eider.—(See W.S.O. Records Committee Report.) 11–24 March 1995 in Door (Stover).

Harlequin Duck.—Found in Milwaukee on 2 March (Tessen), Ozaukee between 11 March and 12 April (Uttech), and Sheboygan between 25 March (Robbins) and 7 April, when Hansen counted four.

Oldsquaw.—Found in normal and below normal numbers in 6 Lake Michigan counties and Washington from the beginning of the season through 17 May in Manitowoc (Sontag) and 20 May in Kewaunee (Mueller); also some March reports in Columbia and Dane. On 19 March, Tessen counted 700 in Sheboygan; on 13 April Hansen counted 500 in

Door; and on 29 April Jeff Baughman counted 75 still remaining in Sheboygan.

Black Scoter.—Found between 5 March in Ozaukee (Baughman) and 5 May in Sheboygan (Brasser); other reports during this time from Manitowoc and Milwaukee.

Surf Scoter.—Lake Michigan county reports between 5 March in Ozaukee (Jeff Baughman) and 29 April in Door (Bontly) and Ozaukee (Tessen). On 22 April, M. Peterson counted 40 in Ozaukee. Also reported during that time from Manitowoc and Milwaukee. Lake Superior reports from Douglas between 5 May (LaValley) and 18 May (Johnson). One female reported from LaCrosse 29 March (Dankert).

White-winged Scoter.—Reported from the beginning of the season in Door (Lukes); also found in Manitowoc and Ozaukee between 5 March and 29 April. Jeff Baughman counted 12 in Ozaukee on 5 March.

Common Goldeneye.—Found in normal and below normal numbers in 36 counties throughout from the beginning of the season. Last reports from Door 25 May (Lukes) Ozaukee 26 May (Uttech) and through the end of the season in Winnebago (Nussbaum). On 9 March Diehl counted 200 in Milwaukee and Sontag counted 261 in Manitowoc.

Barrow's Goldeneye.—Reported from Ozaukee, remaining from the winter season through 19 March (m.ob.)

Bufflehead.—Reports from 37 counties in normal numbers, from the beginning of the season in southern and eastern counties, appearing in western counties 9 March, central counties 15 March, and in the north 19 March. Last reports 24 May except for one remaining in Burnett through the end of the season (Hoefler). On 5 April Parsons counted 110 in Walworth; Verch counted 63 in Ashland/Bayfield on 8 May.

Hooded Merganser.—Reports in mixed numbers from 37 counties throughout the state. Found at the beginning of the season in all areas except the north, and remained through the end of the season as far south as Dane and Milwaukee. On 20 March, Berner counted 22 in Portage.

Common Merganser.—Reported in mostly normal numbers from 36 counties, from the beginning of the season in all areas except north, where first reported 18 March; remained through the end of the season in northern and Lake Michigan counties and also in Winnebago (Nussbaum). On 8 March, Sontag counted 185 in Manitowoc; on 31 March, Verch counted 219 in Ashland/Bayfield.

Red-breasted Merganser.—Reports in mostly normal and below normal numbers from 28 counties throughout, from the beginning of the season in east and central counties, with most migration beginning 16 March. Remained through the end of the season in Door (Lukes), Ashland/Bayfield (Verch), and Eau Claire (where Polk reported 2 still at the Oakwood Mall pond). On 1 March, Jeff Baughman counted 220 in Sheboygan; on 29 April, Tessen counted over a thousand in Sheboygan and also in Manitowoc. Over 400 were in Ashland/Bayfield on 3 May (Verch) and over 200 in Douglas on 8 May (LaValley).

Ruddy Duck.—Reports from 22 counties in normal and below normal numbers. Present at the beginning of the season in Winnebago (Nussbaum and Tessen); main migration first noted 8 March in Dane (Evanson); remained through the end of the season in eastern, southern, and central counties. Northern reports from Douglas 1–4 May (LaValley). In Winnebago, Ziebell counted 60 on 17 March, and Tessen counted 400 on 11 April.

Turkey Vulture.—Reports in normal and some below normal numbers from 42 counties throughout, from the beginning of the season in Sauk (Burcar)! Migrants appeared 17 March. Remained through the end of the season throughout.

Osprey.—Reports from 25 counties in mostly below-normal numbers beginning 3 April in Wood (Stout). Remained through the end of the season in all areas except southern counties.

Bald Eagle.—Reports from 35 counties in normal and above normal numbers throughout the season throughout the state. Verch frequently found 5 in Ashland/Bayfield. At end of season nesting in Door

(Lukes), and Ziebell found a nest with 2 young on 23 May in Winnebago.

Northern Harrier.—Reports from 42 counties in normal and below normal numbers, throughout the season in southern, central, and eastern counties, where Lukes noted a high mouse population. Migrants appeared in west and north 11 April. Berner counted 7 in Portage on 30 March.

Sharp-shinned Hawk.—Found in below normal numbers in 29 counties throughout the season. No migration numbers reported.

Cooper's Hawk.—Found in normal and above normal numbers in 29 counties, from the beginning of the season except in the north, where first birds noted 17 March. No migration numbers reported.

Northern Goshawk.—March reports from 9 counties south to Richland (Duerksen), Washington (Domagalski), and La-Crosse (Dankert). Last reports 27 May in Oconto (Smith) and through the end of the season in Door (Lukes). Notably absent in Ashland/Bayfield.

Red-shouldered Hawk.—Reports in normal and below normal numbers beginning 11 March from 22 counties north to Barron (Goff) , Forest (Reardon and Soulen), and Vilas (Reardon). Notably missing from Milwaukee and Ashland/Bayfield.

Broad-winged Hawk.—Reports of below normal numbers from 36 counties, but not found in Manitowoc or Milwaukee, possibly due to long period of easterly winds during migration. First reports 3 April. No big migration numbers reported.

Swainson's Hawk.—Only report from Oconto, with no documentation.

Red-tailed Hawk.—Reports from throughout the state throughout the season in normal numbers. Ziebell found nests with 3 young on 13 May and 24 May in Winnebago. The Smiths counted 18 in Oconto on 12 March, and Ziebell counted 12 in Winnebago on 9 April.

Rough-legged Hawk.—Absent or reported in below normal numbers in the eastern third of the state, in mostly normal numbers in the western two-thirds of the state from the beginning of the season. May reports from many locations, through the end of the season in Barron (Goff). Jeff Baughman counted 40+ in Portage on 5 March.

Golden Eagle.—Reports from Burnett, Marathon, Outagamie, and Vilas between 22 March (Nussbaum) and 27 April (Dankert). Reporters are reminded to include details with all sightings of this species.

American Kestrel.—Reports in normal numbers from all but northern counties throughout the season, and in the northern counties beginning 5 March. On 9 March, Hilsenhoff counted 11 in Dane.

Merlin.—Reports from 18 counties, in all areas except western counties, in normal and above normal numbers. In Ashland/Bayfield throughout the season, and also noted at the end of the season in Douglas and Door, where the Lukes report nesting. Migrants first noted 21 March, in Lake Michigan counties, and found in eastern, southern, and central counties through 28 May. Tessen observed one eating a chickadee in Manitowoc 29 March.

Peregrine Falcon.—Reports from 9 counties. Found throughout the season in Milwaukee (Gutschow), and through the end of the season in Dane, at the state capitol. Migrants noted between 2 April and 18 May. No reports from northern counties.

Gray Partridge.—Reported throughout season in Door, and also in Columbia (Robbins), Dane (Hilsenhoff), and Shawano (M. Peterson) between 17 March and 22 May. Notably absent in Ozaukee (Uttech).

Ring-necked Pheasant.—Found in 33 counties north to Barron, Douglas, and Marinette, in normal and below normal numbers. Notably absent in Manitowoc (Sontag).

Spruce Grouse.—Reports from Vilas 14–29 April, with 4 on 24 April (Jim Baughman). (See "By the Wayside.")

Ruffed Grouse.—Found throughout the state throughout the season in normal and below normal numbers.

Greater Prairie-Chicken.—Reports from Marathon, Portage, and Wood. Jeff Baughman counted 45 in Portage on 5 March.

Sharp-tailed Grouse.—Found throughout the season in Burnett (Hoeffler) and Douglas (LaValley).

Wild Turkey.—Reports of mostly normal and above normal numbers from 31 counties north to Oconto (Smith) and Marinette (Robbins). Hale counted 20 in Jefferson on 3 March.

Common Bobwhite.—Northernmost report of residents from Dunn (Polk). Also reported throughout the season in Dane, Iowa, Richland, and Sauk. Dankert heard one on 9 May in LaCrosse and Robbins found it all the way up in Marinette on 22 April.

Yellow Rail.—Reports from Burnett 7 May (Peterson), Marquette 23 May (Jeff Baughman and Tessen), and Vilas, at the Powell Marsh, on 29 May (Jeff and Jim Baughman).

King Rail.—Reports from Columbia, Oconto, Ozaukee, Sheboygan, and Winnebago between 13 May and 31 May. Tessen reports up to 3 in Columbia 16–31 May.

Virginia Rail.—Reported in 19 counties throughout the state in mostly normal numbers, beginning 10 April.

Sora.—Reports from 32 counties throughout, in normal and below normal numbers, beginning 21 April. Noted absent from Manitowoc and Portage. Ziebell counted 22 in Winnebago on 13 May.

Purple Gallinule.—Robinson's report from Middleton in Dane on 6 May was most likely an escaped European Purple Gallinule.

Common Moorhen.—Reports from 7 counties north to Oconto in normal and above normal numbers. Burcar counted 9 in Dane on 13 May; Rudy reports several nesting at Kiel in Calumet.

American Coot.—Reported throughout the season in mostly normal numbers, with migration peaking in April. In Dane, Ashman counted 1250 on 2 April and Hilsenhoff counted 1300 on 5 April. Parsons counted 1430 in Walworth 5 April. Polk observed 1000s in Dunn on 21 April.

Sandhill Crane.—Reports in normal numbers from 42 counties throughout, beginning 4 March in Dane (Burcar) and Washington (Domagalski). Hale counted 340 in Jefferson 14 March; Diehl counted 187 in Washington 13 April.

Black-bellied Plover.—Reports in normal and below normal numbers from 13 counties, none in the western tier. First reported 24 April in Manitowoc (Sontag), last reports 31 May, south to Dane (Tessen).

American Golden Plover .—Reported in below normal numbers from only Columbia, Dane, Dunn, Marinette, Outagamie, and Ozaukee, beginning 3 May in Columbia (Burcar) through 30 May.

Semipalmated Plover.—Reports from 20 counties throughout in mostly below normal numbers, beginning 3 May. Some found through the end of the season in Dane (Tessen), Outagamie (Nussbaum) and Ashland/Bayfield (Verch). Tessen counted 35+ in Outagamie on 8 May. In Dane, Ashman counted 28 on 21 May and Hilsenhoff counted 27 on 22 May.

Killdeer.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from throughout the state, from the beginning of the season in Vernon (Dankert), other migrants showing up 4 March.

American Avocet.—Reports from Milwaukee, where Diehl reported 6 in breeding plumage at the Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment on 21 April, at least one remaining through 28 April (Gustafson); also reported in Ozaukee on 21 April, where Uttech found one in a small farm field pond during a rainstorm.

Greater Yellowlegs.—Reports in below normal and normal numbers from 29 coun-

ties throughout, beginning 15 March in Columbia and continuing through 27 May.

Lesser Yellowlegs.—Reports in below normal and normal numbers from 25 counties throughout, beginning 15 March in Columbia (Burcar) and continuing through the end of the season throughout. Ashman counted 55 in Dane on 6 May.

Solitary Sandpiper.—Reports of mostly below normal numbers in 23 counties, six reporters finding it absent altogether from usual areas. First reported 28 April in Barron (Goff) and 29 April in Dane (Hilsenhoff); last reports on 23 May except through the end of the season in Barron.

Willet.—Scattered reports from 10 counties, none in the western tier, from 28 April through 21 May.

Spotted Sandpiper.—Reports from 32 counties throughout in mostly normal and some below normal numbers, beginning 10 April in Milwaukee (Strelka). On 15 May Verch counted 19 in Ashland/Bayfield; on 16 May Diehl counted 8 in Milwaukee.

Upland Sandpiper.—Reports of mostly below normal numbers from 17 counties, and noted completely absent in several central counties. First reported 20 April in Iowa (Burcar).

Whimbrel.—Reports of below normal numbers from Manitowoc 18 May (Sontag), Brown and Vilas 20 May (m.ob.), and Outagamie 25 May (Wood).

Hudsonian Godwit.—First report by Belter on 8 April in Marathon—an earliest date record (see W.S.O. Records Committee Report); that bird also seen by Ott. All other sightings 20–25 May in Ashland/Bayfield, Brown, Columbia, Dane, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Ozaukee, and Vilas. The Smiths counted 11 in Oconto on 20 May.

Marbled Godwit.—Gustafson reported the only April record on the 28th in Milwaukee. Other reports 9–25 May in Brown, Dane, Manitowoc, Marathon, Outagamie, and Ozaukee.

Ruddy Turnstone.—Reports from 10 counties (none in the western tier) in mostly normal and below normal numbers beginning 6 May in Lake Michigan locations. Ashman found 10 at Nine Springs in Dane on 15 May; Ziebell found 130 in Winnebago on 24 May. Remained through the end of the season in Douglas (LaValley), Manitowoc (Sontag), Outagamie (Nussbaum), and Winnebago (Ziebell).

Red Knot.—Reports from 19 May in Dane (Ashman), 20 May in Marinette (Jeff Baughman and Tessen) and 24–29 May in Manitowoc (Peterson and Sontag).

Sanderling.—Reports of below normal numbers from 9 counties (none in the western tier), beginning 9 May in Manitowoc (Sontag) and remaining through at least 31 May in Ashland/Bayfield, Winnebago, and even Dane (Tessen). On 24 May, Ziebell counted 24 in Winnebago.

Semipalmated Sandpiper.—Reports of below and normal numbers in 19 counties, with several observers reporting it absent. Remained through the end of the season in southern and eastern counties. On 21 May, Ashman counted 75 in Dane.

Western Sandpiper.—Reports 26–31 May from Columbia, Dane, Manitowoc (where Sontag used the call note to verify the identification), Outagamie, and Ozaukee. Tessen saw single birds with large flocks of Semipalmated Sandpipers for clear comparisons. Reporters are asked to include clear details for reports of this species.

Least Sandpiper.—Records from 24 counties in normal and below-normal numbers; noticed absent in several areas. First reports 24 April in southern counties; last reported 30 May. Hansen counted 45 in Brown on 11 May.

White-rumped Sandpiper.—Reports from 12 counties in all but western areas in below-normal numbers, all 10–31 May.

Baird's Sandpiper.—Reported in below normal numbers from Barron, Columbia, Dane, Eau Claire, Oconto, and Outagamie, 10–31 May.

Pectoral Sandpiper.—Reports of below normal numbers from only 9 counties; conspicuously absent from many locations. First reported 29 March in Dane; last reports 28 May. Ashman counted 170 in Dane on 17 April.

Dunlin.—Reports of below and normal numbers from 21 counties throughout between 13 April in Dane (Burcar) and the end of the season in several locations. Ashman counted 600 in Dane 21 May; the Smiths saw 99 in Oconto 25 May, and Hansen counted 60 in Brown 30 May.

Curlew Sandpiper.—Reported 28–29 May in Dane (see W.S.O. Records Committee Report).

Stilt Sandpiper.—Only reports from Chippewa, Dane, and Eau Claire, 14–21 May.

Short-billed Dowitcher.—Reports of below normal numbers from 16 counties throughout, 6–27 May. Three reporters noted its absent from areas they usually find it. Ashman found 10 in Dane on 17 May.

Long-billed Dowitcher.—Reports from Dane, Oconto, Outagamie, and Ozaukee, 6–25 May.

Dowitcher sp..—Reports from 23 April to 6 May in Dane.

Common Snipe.—Reported in normal and some below normal numbers from 38 counties beginning 17 March in southern counties; through the end of the season except in southern counties. On 7 April, Hilsenhoff counted 39 in Dane.

American Woodcock.—Reported in mostly normal numbers from 37 counties throughout, beginning 11 March.

Wilson's Phalarope.—Reports, in normal and below normal numbers, from 11 counties throughout beginning 23 April. Remaining through the end of the season in central and western counties.

Red-necked Phalarope.—Up to four reported 14–20 May in Dane (m.ob.). Additional reports 23 May in Fond du Lac (Baughman) and Green Lake (Schultz and Tessen), and 25 May in Marathon (Berner).

Franklin's Gull.—Reports from Brown, Dunn, LaCrosse, Ozaukee, and Winnebago. Only March report was on the 26th, when Polk saw a subadult at Lake Tainter in Dunn. 9–30 May in Brown and Ozaukee, 19 May in LaCrosse, and Ziebell reports in Winnebago from 25 May through the end of the season.

Little Gull.—Reports from LaCrosse (!) 25–28 April (Collins, Dankert and Lesher), Winnebago 12–13 May (Nussbaum and Tessen), and Oconto 27 May (no supporting details). Absent from Manitowoc.

Bonaparte's Gull.—Reports in mixed numbers from 30 counties throughout beginning 25 March in Dane. Reported through 20 May in western counties, 28 May in southern counties, and through the end of the season in Ozaukee, Sheboygan, Winnebago, and Ashland/Bayfield. On 17 April, Hale counted 500+ in Jefferson. In Dane, Burcar counted 500 on 17 April, Ashman counted 430 on 23 April, and Hilsenhoff counted 552 on 29 April.

Ring-billed Gull.—Reports of normal and above normal numbers from 42 counties throughout, from the beginning of the season in eastern, southern, and central counties, and first reported in northern counties 9 March. On 25 March Lesher counted 2–3000 gulls, mostly Ring-bills, in LaCrosse. On 26 May, Ziebell counted 14,500 in Winnebago, finding nests with eggs and young.

Herring Gull.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 36 counties throughout, from the beginning of the season in eastern, southern, central, and northern counties. Diehl counted 3600 in Milwaukee 9 March. Ziebell found nests with eggs 26 May in Winnebago.

Thayer's Gull.—Reports from the beginning of the season through 13 May in Ozaukee, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Sheboygan, and, on 2 March, in Columbia (!) (Tessen). Reports of this tricky species should include supporting details until it gets lumped and we can forget all about it.

Iceland Gull.—Only reports from Milwaukee 10 March (Tessen) and Marinette 20–29 May (!) (Baughman and Peterson).

Lesser Black-backed Gull.—Reports from 30 March–15 April in Dane (Burcar and Sutton). (See W.S.O. Records Committee Report). "Presumably the same individual that spend two-week periods in the same area in December, 1993, April, 1994, and November–December 1994," (Robbins).

Glaucous Gull.—Reported in normal and above normal numbers in Douglas and 5 Lake Michigan counties from the beginning of the season through 14 May, except that Sontag also reports in Manitowoc through the end of the season. On 4 March, Jeff Baughman counted 8 in the Superior Harbor in Douglas. Also in Outagamie on 22 March (Tessen).

Great Black-backed Gull.—Reports beginning 9 March in Milwaukee (Strelka) until 17 April in Kewaunee (Hansen); additionally in Manitowoc, Ozaukee, and Sheboygan.

Caspian Tern.—Reports from 19 counties throughout, in normal and below normal numbers, from 13 April along Lake Michigan through the end of the season in eastern, central, and northern counties. Ashman and Hilsenhoff each counted 7 at Nine Springs in Dane 14–21 May. Gutschow counted 180 in Milwaukee 22 April, and Tessen counted 300+ in Manitowoc on 16 May.

Common Tern.—Reports from 23 counties in below normal numbers. Reports beginning 15 April, and remaining through the end of the season in eastern, northern, and central counties. On 18 May, Verch counted 200+ in Ashland/Bayfield; Sontag counted 133 in Manitowoc on 23 May; the Smiths counted 125 in Oconto 27 May; and the LaValleys counted 100 in Douglas 28 May.

Forster's Tern.—Reports from 24 counties in mostly normal numbers, beginning 10 April in Dane, where Ashman found a prolonged migration through 24 May. Ziebell counted 46 in Winnebago on 13 May; Ashman counted 20 at the Vilas Park beach in Dane 17 May.

Black Tern.—Reported in mostly normal and below normal numbers from 28 counties beginning 3 May. The Lukes report nesting in Door. On 15 May, Ashman counted 325 in Dane and 75 in Columbia, and Schultz counted 500 in Green Lake. (See "By the Wayside.")

Rock Dove.—Reports throughout the state throughout the season in mostly normal numbers.

Mourning Dove.—Reports throughout the state throughout the season in mostly normal numbers. On 13 March Ziebell counted 80 in Winnebago; on 16 April, the Smiths counted 57 in Oconto; on 1 May the LaValleys counted 38 in Douglas.

Black-billed Cuckoo.—Reports from 20 counties throughout, beginning 6 May in Door (Stover).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo.—First report 16 May in Dane (Tessen); additional reports from Grant, Green Lake, Iowa, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Richland.

Barn Owl.—Gibson found one in Langlade on 18 April. See "By the Wayside."

Eastern Screech-Owl.—Reports in normal numbers from 12 counties north to Door, Shawano, and Waupaca.

Great Horned Owl.—Reports from 37 counties throughout in normal and below normal numbers. Diehl counted 8 on 4 April in Milwaukee; Lesher found a nest with one young in Trempealeau at the end of the season.

Snowy Owl.—Only reports: from the beginning of the season through 18 March in Ashland/Bayfield (Verch) and through 25 March in Winnebago (Ziebell); also seen on 25 March in Burnett (Hoeffler).

Barred Owl.—Reported in normal numbers throughout the season in 35 counties. Morris reports an adult and 2 young on 11 May at the Madison arboretum in Dane.

Long-eared Owl.—Reports of a pair in Calumet from November 1994 through 15 April 1995 (Rudy); Other reports from Washington, the beginning of the season through 10 March (Domagalski), Winnebago 2 March through 6 April (Nussbaum), and Milwaukee on 6 April (Diehl).

Short-eared Owl.—Missing from many places usually found. Reports from the beginning of the season in Door and Dane (m.ob.). Additional sightings in Oconto, Portage, and last reported 29 April in Milwaukee (Diehl).

Northern Saw-whet Owl.—Missing from several places in central counties where usually found. Reports between 7 March and 27 May in Burnett, Douglas, LaCrosse, Oneida, Shawano, and Vilas.

Common Nighthawk.—Reports from 34 counties in mostly below normal numbers. Strelka reports one on 1 April in Dane—an earliest state record (see W.S.O Records Committee Report). Normal migrants first reported 11 May. Berner counted 35 in Portage on 16 May.

Whip-poor-will.—Reports of below normal and normal numbers from 18 counties throughout beginning 6 May.

Chimney Swift.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 40 counties throughout beginning 14 April in Sauk (Burcar).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird.—Missing from many areas where usually present. Reports from 34 counties throughout beginning 6 May.

Belted Kingfisher.—Reports from 40 counties in normal and below normal numbers. Found throughout the season in western, central, and southern counties, first reported in the north on 9 April.

Red-headed Woodpecker.—Reports from 29 counties in mostly below normal numbers; throughout the season in central and southern counties.

Red-bellied Woodpecker.—Reports throughout the season in mostly normal numbers from 40 counties north to Barron (Goff) and Douglas (LaValley).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.—Reports of normal and below normal numbers from 42 counties throughout, from the beginning of the season in Walworth (Parsons), with main migration beginning 14 March. Ashman counted 12 in Dane on 10 April; Tessen counted 10 in Grant 31 May.

Downy Woodpecker.—Reported in normal numbers throughout the state throughout the season.

Hairy Woodpecker.—Reported in normal and below normal numbers throughout the state throughout the season.

Black-backed Woodpecker.—Report in Portage on 28 March of a female at the confluence of Poncho Creek and Tomorrow River (Berner) and in Vilas between 14 April and 27 May (Jeff and Jim Baughman).

Northern Flicker.—Reports of mostly normal numbers throughout the state, from the beginning of the season in several places north to Oconto (Smith). On 13 May, Verch counted 26 in Ashland/Bayfield.

Pileated Woodpecker.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 39 counties throughout the season; Tessen found one at the Atkinson Marsh in Brown; Lesher found a nest in Trempealeau.

Olive-sided Flycatcher.—Absent from several locations where normally found, but some observers found normal and even above normal numbers, from 16 counties throughout beginning 14 May and remaining through the end of the season in the north and in Sauk (Burcar).

Eastern Wood-Pewee.—First reported 3 May in Door (Stover); reported in 40 counties throughout, in mostly normal numbers. Berner counted 10 in Portage on 31 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.—Reports from 17 counties throughout, beginning 11 May and remaining through the end of the season in the north and in Marathon (Ott).

Migrants still found in many locations the last three days of May.

Acadian Flycatcher.—First reports 15 May in the south; reports from Dane, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green Lake, Iowa, Ozaukee, Sauk, and Washington.

Alder Flycatcher.—Reports of normal numbers from 27 counties beginning 18 May, remaining through the end of the season as far south as Washington.

Willow Flycatcher.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 23 counties north to Door, Marinette, and Oconto beginning 12 May.

Least Flycatcher.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 41 counties throughout, beginning 10 April (!) in Green Lake (Schultz); main migration began 3 May in LaFayette (McDaniel). Verch counted 50+ in Ashland/Bayfield on 18 May.

Eastern Phoebe.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 47 counties throughout beginning 14 March in Ozaukee (Uttech) and 15 March in Green Lake (Schultz). Verch counted 26 in Ashland/Bayfield on 18 May.

Great Crested Flycatcher.—Reports from 43 counties throughout in normal and below normal numbers beginning 6 May.

Eastern Kingbird.—Reports from 46 counties throughout in normal and below normal numbers beginning 3 May.

Horned Lark.—Reported in normal and below normal numbers throughout the state throughout the season. Duerksen counted 29 in Richland on 8 March.

Purple Martin.—Absent in many areas, and most reporters found below normal numbers. Reports from 33 counties beginning 9 April in LaCrosse (Dankert and Lesher).

Tree Swallow.—First reports 13 March; found throughout the state in mostly normal numbers. Berner counted 700 in Portage on 25 March; Ashman counted 350 in Dane on 28 April; Lesher found 1000 swallows, mostly Tree, in LaCrosse on 8 May.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow.—Reported from 41 counties in normal numbers beginning 13 April. Lesher found many with thousands of swallows in LaCrosse on 8 May. Verch counted 30 in Ashland/Bayfield on 23 May.

Bank Swallow.—Reports from 33 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 12 April.

Cliff Swallow.—Reports from 40 counties in mostly normal numbers beginning 4 April in Door (Lukes). Verch counted 100+ in Ashland/Bayfield on 3 May. Berner counted 1000+ in Portage on 14 May.

Barn Swallow.—Reports from throughout the state in normal and below normal numbers beginning 11 April. Lesher counted 1000s of swallows in LaCrosse on 8 May, many Barns. Ziebell counted 300 in Winnebago on 13 May.

Gray Jay.—Several reports from Vilas early in the season, and from Douglas, Forest, and Oneida in May (Johnson and Soulen).

Blue Jay.—Reports from throughout the season in normal numbers.

American Crow.—Reports from throughout the season in mostly normal and above normal numbers.

Common Raven.—Reports in mostly normal and above normal numbers from 20 counties south to Wood, Portage, Waushara, and Outagamie. "Successful raven nests now number two, and possibly three, in Portage" (Berner). Baughman counted 100 in Douglas on 4 March.

Black-capped Chickadee.—Reports from throughout the season in normal and below normal numbers.

Boreal Chickadee.—Only reports from Ashland (Nussbaum), Oneida (Soulen), and Vilas (Jeff and Jim Baughman).

Tufted Titmouse.—Reports from 12 counties north to Chippewa, Dunn, and Eau Claire (Polk).

Red-breasted Nuthatch.—Reported from 31 counties in mostly below normal numbers; altogether absent from many areas.

White-breasted Nuthatch.—Reports from throughout the season in normal and below normal numbers.

Brown Creeper.—Reports of mostly normal and above normal numbers, found at the beginning of the season north to Ashland/Bayfield, and through the end of the season except in southern counties. Berner counted 10 in Portage on 14 March; Tessen counted 15 in Ozaukee on 29 April.

Carolina Wren.—Lesher found one in Racine County 30 April; Robbins found one in Dane on 10 May.

House Wren.—Reports from throughout the state in mostly normal numbers beginning 16 April.

Winter Wren.—Reports from throughout the state in mostly normal and above normal numbers beginning 16 March in Manitowoc (Sontag). Remained as far south as Grant on 31 May (Tessen).

Sedge Wren.—Reports from 32 counties in mostly below normal numbers beginning 30 April. Ziebell counted 14 in Winnebago on 13 May.

Marsh Wren.—Reports from 26 counties throughout in normal numbers beginning 15 April in Green Lake (Schultz).

Golden-crowned Kinglet.—Reports in normal numbers from the beginning of the season throughout the state except in the northernmost counties, where migrants first reported 25 March. Remained through the end of the season in the northern counties and also Fond du Lac (Jeff Baughman), and Portage (Berner). On 10 April, Ashman counted 45 in Dane; on 19 April, Berner counted 45 in Portage.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from throughout the state beginning 25 March in Washington. On 14 April Evanson counted 25 in Dane; on 29 April Tessen counted 20+ each in Manitowoc, Milwaukee, and Ozaukee; on 30 April Fred Lesher counted about 40 in Racine.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.—Reports beginning 14 April in Sauk (Burcar), in mostly normal and above normal numbers, from 30 counties north to Lincoln on 11 May (Erickson) and Oneida 7–27 May (Smith). Remained throughout the end of the season north to Door (Lukes).

Eastern Bluebird.—Reports from 46 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 11 March.

Veery.—Reports in below normal and normal numbers from 36 counties throughout, beginning 6 May in Lafayette (McDaniel).

Gray-cheeked Thrush.—Reports in mostly below normal numbers from 23 counties throughout beginning 27 April in Ashland/Bayfield (Verch) and 29 April in Milwaukee in Milwaukee (Gutschow); last reports 28 May. Tessen counted 7+ in Fond du Lac on 23 May.

Swainson's Thrush.—Reports in mostly below normal and normal numbers from 29 counties beginning 1 May and remaining through the end of the season in some northern counties, Milwaukee and Sheboygan. Berner counted 13 in Portage on 17 May and Tessen counted 15+ in Fond du Lac on 23 May.

Hermit Thrush.—Reports in below normal and normal numbers from 35 counties beginning 5 April and last reported 25 May in Dane and through the end of the season in northern and central counties.

Wood Thrush.—Reports in below normal and normal numbers from 37 counties beginning 17 April (!) in Richland (Duerksen); most migration began 7 May.

American Robin.—Reports in normal numbers throughout the state, from the beginning of the season in all areas except the

northernmost counties where first migrants reported 13 March. On 17 March, Ziebell counted 300 in Winnebago.

Varied Thrush.—In Winnebago, Nussbaum reports one from 7 March through 5 April and Benedict reports one at a Winneconnie feeder from the beginning of the season through "the end of April." In Shawano, Peterson reports a female coming to a feeder 9 March. In Langlade, new Wisconsin late spring date reported by Baily on 14 May south of Antigo.

Gray Catbird.—Reports of normal and below normal numbers throughout beginning 29 April; in Dane, Ashman counted 14 on 29 April and Hilsenhoff counted 14 on 15 May.

Northern Mockingbird.—Reports from Dane from the beginning of the season through 25 April; according to Hilsenhoff, this was "undoubtedly the same bird that we saw on the Madison CBC. It was in the same area of the Arboretum and had been seen by others throughout the winter. It responded to 'pishing' and perched within 10 feet of me." Also, Johnson reports one in Douglas on 28 May.

Brown Thrasher.—Reports in normal and below normal numbers from the beginning of the season in Door (Lukes) and one present all winter and spring in Calumet (fide Rudy). Most migrants appeared beginning 8 April.

American Pipit.—First report from Dane, where Ashman found 3 very early birds on 18 March. Additional Dane sightings through 14 May (Burcar, Robbins). Also reports from Columbia on 1 April (Tessen), Outagamie on 13 May (Tessen), and Douglas on 17 May (Johnson).

Bohemian Waxwing.—Only report of a flock of 30 in Douglas on 7 March (Johnson).

Cedar Waxwing.—Reports of normal and some below normal numbers throughout the season throughout the state; migrants hadn't reached Ashland/Bayfield by the end of the season. Ashman counted 150 in Dane on 13 May.

Northern Shrike.—Reports from 28 counties throughout in normal numbers from the beginning of the season through 17 April in Vilas (Reardon).

Loggerhead Shrike.—Only two reports: 25 March in Columbia (Gustafson) and 20–21 May in Door (Lukes).

European Starling.—Reports in normal numbers throughout the state.

White-eyed Vireo.—Only reports from Iowa, 25 May through the end of the season (m.ob.), and from Milwaukee 22–25 May (Gustafson and Gutschow).

Bell's Vireo.—Reports from Dane on 17 May (Ashman and Hansen); Richland, 27 May through the end of the season (Duerksen); and Grant and Iowa on 31 May (Tessen).

Solitary Vireo.—Reports from 27 counties in mixed numbers beginning 29 April in Manitowoc (Tessen), and remaining through the end of the season in northern and central counties. On 15 May, Ashman counted 4 in Dane; on 18 May Verch found 4 in Ashland/Bayfield and Berner found 5 in Portage.

Yellow-throated Vireo.—Reports from 37 counties in mixed numbers beginning 7 May. Rare and absent in eastern counties through the end of the season. On 14 May, Berner found 8 in Portage.

Warbling Vireo.—Reported in normal and below normal numbers from 38 counties throughout beginning 5 May.

Philadelphia Vireo.—Reports from 12 scattered counties 15–27 May. Tessen found at least 3 in Fond du Lac on 23 May.

Red-eyed Vireo.—Reports in mixed numbers from 42 counties throughout beginning 7 May. Ashman found 18 in Dane on 28 May.

Blue-winged Warbler.—Reports of normal and above normal numbers from 28 counties north to Chippewa, Door, Dunn, Marathon, and Pierce beginning 6 May.

Golden-winged Warbler.—Reports of normal and below normal numbers from 33 counties beginning 7 May and remaining through the end of the season south to Iowa (Burcar). On 13 May, Ashman counted 10 in Dane.

Brewster's Warbler.—Reported on 15 May in Manitowoc, where Sontag found one singing a blue-wing song in Silver Creek Park, and in Washington (Domagalski); also on 31 May in Iowa (Burcar and Hansen).

Lawrence's Warbler.—Reports from 12 May in Sauk, where Hansen found one paired with a Blue-wing on the same Baxter's Hollow territory for the third year in a row; 19–29 May in Iowa (Burcar); and 22 May in Dunn, where Polk found a male on territory, paired with a female Golden-winged Warbler and singing a blue-wing song. This one remained through the end of the season.

Tennessee Warbler.—Reports from 33 counties in mostly normal and below normal numbers, beginning 7 May and remaining through the end of the season in Douglas, Eau Claire, and Portage. Berner counted 27 in Portage on 7 May, and Ashman counted 26 in Dane on 20 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler.—Reports from 21 counties beginning 27 April; found in mostly normal numbers, but absent in some eastern locations. Last reported in Milwaukee 30 May (Gutschow).

Nashville Warbler.—Reports from 42 counties in mostly normal numbers beginning 29 April in Door (Lukes) and remaining through the end of the season throughout except the southern counties. Berner counted 26 in Portage on 17 May.

Northern Parula.—Reports from 30 counties in mixed numbers beginning 1 May in Ozaukee (Uttech); remained through the end of the season in north. Berner counted 15 in Portage on 14 May.

Yellow Warbler.—Reports of normal numbers from 44 counties beginning 28 April. Ziebell counted 42 in Winnebago on 13 May.

Chestnut-sided Warbler.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 40 counties beginning 5 May. Berner counted 45 in Portage on 16 May.

Magnolia Warbler.—Reports from 36 counties in mostly normal numbers beginning 6 May, and remaining through the end of the season in northern counties and Milwaukee (Bontly), Portage (Berner) and Winnebago (Ziebell). Berner counted 30 in Portage on 16 May.

Cape May Warbler.—Reports from 32 counties in widely varying numbers beginning 7 May; found through the end of the season in northern counties and Outagamie (Anderson/Petznick). Berner counted 25 in Portage on 14 May. One killed by cat in Dane on 24 April 1994, an addendum to 1994 spring report (Cederstrom).

Black-throated Blue Warbler.—Reports from 18 counties in normal and above normal numbers, except in the eastern counties where mostly below normal numbers and absent from some regular areas, beginning 7 May and remaining through the end of the season in the north. Ashman found 4 males in Dane on 11 May.

Yellow-rumped Warbler.—Reports from 48 counties in mostly normal numbers, though a few observers found fewer than normal, beginning 1 April and continuing through the end of the season as far south as Outagamie (Nussbaum), Lafayette (!) (McDaniel), and St. Croix, where Soulen found 3, including one singing a territorial song, on 29 May in Cylon Marsh. Schultz counted 150 in Green Lake on 10 May; Ashman counted 135 in Dane on 11 May; and Berner counted 200 in Portage on 14 May.

Black-throated Green Warbler.—Reports from 36 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 29 April in Milwaukee (Gutschow). Remained through the end of the season as far south as Sauk (Burcar). Ashman counted 11 in Dane on 10 May; Berner counted 13 in Portage on 14 May; Verch counted 10 in Ashland/Bayfield on 23 May.

Blackburnian Warbler.—Reports from 31 counties in mostly normal numbers beginning 6 May and remaining through the end

of the season in northern and central counties and in Washington (Domagalski). Berner counted 15 in Portage on 14 May; Verch counted 12 in Ashland/Bayfield on 23 May.

Yellow-throated Warbler.—Only reports from Grant, where Hanson found on 11 May on the same territory as last year in the pines at Wyalusing State Park, and remained at least through 31 May (Tessen).

Pine Warbler.—Reports from 27 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 13 April in Dane (Tessen) and 15 April in Oneida (Bowman) and remaining through the end of the season in northern and central counties.

Prairie Warbler.—Absent in Sheboygan (S. Baughman). Only reports in Iowa beginning 27 May (Robbins).

Palm Warbler.—Reported in normal and below normal numbers from 36 counties beginning 23 April and remaining through the end of the season in northern counties and Portage, where Berner counted 60 on 26 April. Ashman counted 35 in Dane on 8 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler.—Reports from 23 counties beginning 6 May in Sheboygan (Brasser), in mostly normal and below normal numbers, and absent from several places where usually found, though a couple of observers noted more than usual. Last reports on 30 May. Berner counted 7 in Portage on 17 May; Verch counted 10 in Ashland/Bayfield on 23 May.

Blackpoll Warbler.—Reports from 30 counties in mostly normal and below normal numbers beginning 7 May; last reports on 29 May except in Milwaukee, where Bontley found one through the end of the season. Ashman counted 8 on 22 May in Dane.

Cerulean Warbler.—Reports beginning 8 May from 13 counties north to Washburn, where one was found on 29 May (Haseleu). Remained through the end of the season in southern and central counties. Reporters equally divided with above and below normal numbers.

Black-and-white Warbler.—Reports of normal and below normal numbers from 39 counties beginning 27 April; reported through the end of the season in all areas. Ashman found 13 in Dane on 11 May.

American Redstart.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 40 counties beginning 6 May. Ashman counted 18 in Dane on 13 May; Berner counted 30 in Portage on 17 May; Verch counted 29 in Ashland/Bayfield on 25 May.

Prothonotary Warbler.—Reports beginning 7 May in Grant, LaCrosse and Vernon, where found through the end of the season. In Dane found "on the same territory in the arboretum as last year. This might not be the same bird; its plumage is much different. Last year's bird successfully nested" (Hansen). Furthest north in Outagamie on 26 May (Tessen). Also reported in Iowa and Milwaukee.

Worm-eating Warbler.—First reported in Dane on 7 May at Picnic Point (Cedarstrom); additional sightings in Sauk, where remained through the end of the season (Burcar), in Grant on 31 May at Wyalusing S.P. (Tessen), and Ozaukee 12–13 May (Uttech and Bontly).

Ovenbird.—Reports from 46 counties throughout in normal and below normal numbers beginning 2 May. Berner counted 30 in Portage on 16 May; Verch counted 38 in Ashland/Bayfield on 18 May.

Northern Waterthrush.—Reports from 32 counties throughout in below normal and normal numbers beginning 28 April.

Louisiana Waterthrush.—Reports from 10 counties beginning 14 April in Sauk (Robbins) and continuing through the end of the season in central, southern, and western locations as far north as Burnett (Hoefler). Missing from some normal Dane and Manitowoc locations.

Kentucky Warbler.—First reported in Door 14 May (fide Lukes), where it remained through the end of the season. Additional reports 16 May in Milwaukee (Gustafson and Gutschow), 24 May in Brown (Hansen) and Dane (Robbins), and 25–31 May at Wyalusing S.P. in Grant (Lesher and Tessen). Tessen counted 10+.

Connecticut Warbler.—Reports from 11 counties beginning 9 May in Dane (Burcar) and 10 May in Milwaukee (Bontly), and remaining through the end of the season in northern counties and also in Portage (Berner).

Mourning Warbler.—Reports from 31 counties in mostly normal and below normal numbers beginning 10 May. Continued through the end of the season except in western counties. On 28 May Berner counted 5 in Portage.

Common Yellowthroat.—Reports from 44 counties throughout in normal numbers beginning 30 April in Dane (Morris). On 23 May Verch counted 27 in Ashland/Bayfield.

Hooded Warbler.—First report 8 May in Door (Lukes). Additional reports in Dane (present for the fourth consecutive year at Brooklyn Wildlife Center—Ashman), Fond du Lac, Milwaukee, Sheboygan (present for the fourth consecutive year along the Ice Age Trail—Wood), Waukesha, and Winnebago. Remaining through the end of the season in Dane, Fond du Lac, Milwaukee, and Door.

Wilson's Warbler.—Reports from 28 counties in mostly normal and above normal numbers—perhaps that easterly wind effect. First recorded 30 April in Dane (Hansen), and remaining in many areas through the last few days of May and through the end of the season in some eastern counties. On 22 May, Ashman counted 13 in Dane.

Canada Warbler.—Reports from 24 counties in normal and above normal numbers beginning 10 May, and remaining through the end of the season throughout except in southern counties. Berner counted 7 in Portage on 19 May.

Yellow-breasted Chat.—Reports from Sheboygan on 14 May (Wood), Calumet on 15 May at Hi Cliff Park (Rudy), and Columbia on 29 May (Tessen).

Summer Tanager.—One female at Riveredge in Ozaukee on 17 May (Uttech).

Scarlet Tanager.—Reports of mostly normal and below normal numbers from 32 counties throughout beginning 8 May. Ashman found 5 in Dane on 13 May; Berner counted 14 in Portage on 27 May.

Western Tanager.—Reports from Langlade, Vilas, and Door, 29 April–17 May (see W.S.O. Records Committee Report).

Northern Cardinal.—Reported in mostly normal numbers throughout the season north to Oneida (Bowman) and Barron (Goff).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak.—Reports from 49 counties throughout in mostly normal numbers beginning 30 April in Washington (Domagalski). Berner counted 13 in Portage on 16 May.

Indigo Bunting.—Reports from 41 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 8 May in Walworth (Parsons). Ashman counted 10 in Dane on 28 May.

Dickcissel.—Only reports on 31 May, from Grant (Tessen), and Dane and Iowa (Burcar).

Green-tailed Towhee.—Reported 12 May in Winnebago (Berkopec and Reed) (see W.S.O. Records Committee Report).

Rufous-sided Towhee.—Reports from 39 counties throughout in normal and below normal numbers beginning 17 March in Walworth (Parsons).

American Tree Sparrow.—Reports from 40 counties throughout in normal and above normal numbers, from the beginning of the season through 3 May. Berner counted 60 in Portage on 5 April.

Chipping Sparrow.—Reports from 49 counties in normal and above normal numbers beginning 10 April in Walworth (Parsons) and 11 April in Outagamie (Anderson/Petznick). One 27 March record in Door lacked supporting details. On 7 May, Berner counted 31 in Portage and the Smiths counted 64 in Oconto.

Clay-colored Sparrow.—Reports from 31 counties in normal and above normal numbers beginning 1 May in Barron (Goff) and

continuing through the end of the season in all regions except south.

Field Sparrow.—Reports from 34 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 10 March in Dane (Robbins) and continuing through the end of the season except in northern counties. Ashman counted 17 in Dane on 14 May.

Vesper Sparrow.—Reported from 33 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 26 March in Oconto (Smith) and continuing through the end of the season throughout. Berner counted 11 in Portage on 22 April.

Lark Sparrow.—Reports of normal and above normal numbers remaining through the end of the season in Portage, Sauk, and Dunn, where first reported 30 April (Polk). Also found north in Ashland/Bayfield on 8 May (Verch).

Savannah Sparrow.—Reports from 43 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 1 April in Columbia (Jeff Baughman). Ziebell counted 284 in Winnebago on 13 May.

Grasshopper Sparrow.—Reports from 20 scattered counties throughout in below normal and normal numbers beginning 30 April in Dunn (Polk).

Henslow's Sparrow.—Reports from Fond du Lac, Grant, Green Lake, Iowa, Oconto, and Richland beginning 4 May.

LeConte's Sparrow.—First reported in Oconto 30 April (Smith). Additional reports from Burnett, Marathon, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Shawano, and Vilas. Conspicuously absent from Portage, Ashland, and Bayfield.

Fox Sparrow.—Reports from 32 counties in mostly normal and below normal numbers beginning 15 March in several locations and remaining through 7 May in Outagamie (Tessen). Ashman counted 24 in Dane on 10 April.

Song Sparrow.—Reports from 51 counties throughout in mostly normal numbers, from the beginning of the season in Dane, Dodge, Iowa, and Washington, migrants appearing in other parts of the state on 6 March. Ashman counted 40 in Dane on 19 March; Berner counted 55 in Portage on 5 April; and Ziebell counted 350 in Winnebago on 13 May.

Lincoln's Sparrow.—Reports from 20 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 19 April in Lake Michigan areas. Most migration was apparently over by 25 May, with birds remaining through the end of the season in northern counties and also Portage (Berner).

Swamp Sparrow.—Reports from 42 counties in normal and below normal numbers, from the beginning of the season in Dane, where some apparently overwintered, and migration beginning 19 March in Manitowoc (Tessen). Berner counted 18 in Portage on 25 April; Verch counted 14 in Ashland/Bayfield on 1 May; Ziebell counted 140 in Winnebago on 13 May.

White-throated Sparrow.—Reports from 42 counties in normal and below normal numbers, from the beginning of the season throughout except in northern counties, and remaining through the end of the season throughout except in southern counties. Most migration peaked between 26 March and 22 May. On 29 April in Dane, Ashman counted 80 and Hilsenhoff counted 83; on 30 April in Portage, Berner counted 50. Partial albino found 20 April in Ozaukee (Evans) (see "By the Wayside").

White-crowned Sparrow.—Reports from 28 counties in mostly below normal and normal numbers beginning 8 April in Ozaukee (Uttich). Last migrants reported 28 May, except through the end of the season in Door (Lukes).

Harris's Sparrow.—First report 8 April at a feeder in Outagamie (Jeff Baughman); additional reports of below normal and normal numbers from Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Douglas, and Door, where last reported 25 May (Stover).

Dark-eyed Junco.—Reports from 45 counties in mostly normal numbers, from the beginning of the season throughout, and remaining through the end of the season in the north. Tessen found Oregon Juncoes in Manitowoc and Ozaukee on 19 March. On 8 April,

Ashman counted 60 in Dane; on 16 April, the Smiths counted 65 in Oconto. Gibson reports nest in Oneida with five eggs hatched around 29 May.

Lapland Longspur.—Reports from 12 counties (none in the western tier), in mostly normal numbers from the beginning of the season in Dunn (Raile), with birds appearing in many areas on 5 March and remaining through 19 April. On 15 March, Berner counted 130 in Portage; on 30 March, Frank counted 150 in Ozaukee; and on 15 April Ashman counted 200 in Dane.

Snow Bunting.—Reports from 10 counties from the beginning of the season in Door (Lukes) and Pierce (Carlsen), through 4 May in central locations. On 5 March, Jeff Baughman found 100s in Portage, and on 8 March Carlsen counted 100+ in Pierce.

Bobolink.—Reports from 35 counties throughout in mostly normal and below normal numbers, beginning 1 May in Ozaukee (Uttech). Verch counted 50+ in Ashland/Bayfield on 18 May.

Red-winged Blackbird.—Reports from throughout the state in mostly normal numbers, from the beginning of the season in Kenosha and southern counties and migration beginning 2 March. On 4 March, Evanson counted 220 in Dane; on 13 March, Berner counted 100 in Portage; on 7 May the Smiths counted 339 in Oconto, and on 13 May Ziebell counted 1500 in Winnebago.

Eastern Meadowlark.—Reports from 47 counties in normal numbers, from the beginning of the season in Dane (Burcar), with other migrants first appearing 5 March.

Western Meadowlark.—Reports from 19 counties throughout with reporters divided about numbers. First noted 12 March in Outagamie (Tessen). Berner counted 15 in Portage on 30 March.

Yellow-headed Blackbird.—Reported in below normal and normal numbers from 19 counties throughout, beginning 13 April in several southern locations.

Rusty Blackbird.—Reports from 19 counties in mostly normal numbers, from the beginning of the season in LaCrosse (Dankert), with migrants appearing in other locations 12 March. Most migrants gone by the end of April, except also on 7 May in Outagamie (Tessen). In Dane, Hilsenhoff counted 100 on 24 March and Ashman counted 100 on 23 April.

Brewer's Blackbird.—Reports from 26 counties in normal and below normal numbers beginning 13 March and remaining through the end of the season throughout except in southern counties, where last reported 5 May.

Common Grackle.—Reports from 50 counties throughout in mostly normal numbers, from the beginning of the season in eastern and southern counties and also Vilas (Jim Baughman). Other migrants came in 10 March. On 21 March, Ziebell counted 2000 in Winnebago; Berner counted 125 in Portage on 4 April.

Brown-headed Cowbird.—Reports from 50 counties in normal and above normal numbers beginning 5 March in Jefferson (Hale). Hilsenhoff counted 100 in Dane on 14 April; Ziebell counted 110 in Winnebago on 13 May.

Orchard Oriole.—Reports from 15 counties north to Door beginning 5 May in Dane (Burcar) and remaining through the end of the season in Dunn and Eau Claire (Polk), Dane (Burcar), Iowa (Tessen), and Calumet (fide Rudy) where 2 singing males were found in 2 different locations.

Northern Oriole.—Reports from 46 counties in mostly normal and below normal numbers beginning 7 May in many locations; though Burcar somehow unearthed one in Dodge on 13 April. Ashman counted 15 in Dane on 13 May.

Pine Grosbeak.—Reported in below normal numbers from the beginning of the season in Ashland/Bayfield (Verch), also seen in Douglas (Jeff Baughman), and Vilas (Reardon) until last report on 18 March when Verch counted 7 in Ashland/Bayfield.

Purple Finch.—Reported from 30 counties in mostly below normal numbers from the beginning of the season; completely absent

from many normal areas. Remained through the end of the season except in southern counties. Berner counted 80 in Portage on 28 March.

House Finch.—Reported throughout the season from 48 counties in normal and above normal numbers. Ziebell counted 70 in Winnebago on 25 March; Zehner counted 40 in Milwaukee 12 May.

Red Crossbill.—Reports of normal and below normal numbers from the beginning of the season in Portage (Berner); also seen in Door, Forest, Oneida, and Vilas through 13 May. On 14 March, Berner counted 8 in Portage.

White-winged Crossbill.—Only report from Oneida on 21 May. "Shortly after a very brightly-colored male perched for several minutes, calling continuously, at the top of a spruce at close range in the Three Lakes Bog, a group of about 2 dozen more flew over, also calling" (Soulen).

Common Redpoll.—No reports in spring, 1995.

Pine Siskin.—No reports at all from southern and central counties, and reported in mostly below normal numbers throughout the season from 12 counties south to Burnett and Door.

American Goldfinch.—Reports of mostly normal numbers from 51 counties throughout the season. The Smiths counted 65 in Oconto on 16 May.

Evening Grosbeak.—Reports from 11 northern counties throughout the season; also Outagamie 2–17 May (Anderson/Petznick).

House Sparrow.—Reports from 49 counties in normal numbers throughout the season.

CONTRIBUTORS

James Anderson, Philip Ashman, Alicia Baily, Jeff Baughman, Jim Baughman, Scott Baughman, Dan Belter, Murray Berner, Lynn Benedict, Tim Berkopec, Homer C. Bishop, Marilyn Bontly, Paul W. Bowman, Jr., David and Margaret Brasser, Kay Burcar, Nathan Carlsen, Dorothea B. Carson, David Cederstrom, Brian M. Collins, Jeff Dankert, Scott Diehl, Bob Domagalski, Frank and Ruth Donner, Barbara Duerksen, Laura Erickson, Richard M. Evans, Martin Evanson, G.W. Foster, Jr., Jim Frank, Marge Gibson, Alta Goff, Robert Green, Dennis K. Gustafson, Ronald Gutschow, Karen Etter Hale, Ellen Hansen, Jan J. Hansen, Judy Haseleu, Linda Hendrickson, Bill Hilsenhoff, James Hoefler, Ron Hoffman, Roland J. Kuhn family, Steve and Laura LaValley, Roy and Charlotte Lukes, Fred Lesher, Carol McDaniel, Bob Mead, Audrey Morris, William P. Mueller, Don Nussbaum, Lynn Ott, Patricia Parsons, Mark Peterson, Steve Petznick, Janine Polk, Mary Jean Raile, Bill Reardon, Shawn Reed, Carol B. Richter, Sam Robbins, Penelope Robinson, Carroll Rudy, Lee Scharpf, Thomas Schultz, Jerry and Karen Smith, Charles Sontag, Tom Soulen, Gary Stout, Barbara R. Stover, Jean M. Strelka, Daryl Tessen, Tom Uttech, Dick Verch, Melvin Wierzbicki, Christopher L. Wood, Thomas C. Wood, Norma Zehner, Tom Ziebell.

Laura L. Erickson
4831 Peabody Street
Duluth, MN 55804

Bluebird *by Barbara Herrera*

"By the Wayside"

Observations of special interest include those of Canada Geese, Spruce Grouse, Black Terns, Barn Owls, Cat Kills, a partial Albino White-throated Sparrow, and an albino Barn Swallow.

Canada Goose Movements in Manitowoc County

Each year there is a substantial northward migration of Canada Geese that begins in late May and ends in early June. The flight often includes swans and Snow Geese, but this year it was just the Canada Geese. The flight began this year about 23 May and at this writing (12 June 1995) it seems to be essentially over. Bill Volkert suggested this may be the northward movement of "this" year's birds from southern Illinois and Missouri. I am not completely certain that this explains the movement observed in this area.—*Charles Sontag*

Spruce Grouse Activities in Vilas County

On 14 April 1995, in Conover (Sec 35-42-10E), at approximately 6:35 A.M., Jeff Baughman and I heard a male Spruce Grouse calling. The bird was observed in a small upland island of mixed pine—black spruce-fir within a large tamarack-black spruce muskeg lowland complex. A second male was heard calling in an adjacent upland spruce-pine-fir area as well (approximately 350 feet away). We did not locate the second grouse. When we returned to the main road (approximately 800 feet from the furthest displaying male grouse) there were two female Spruce Grouse on the sand roadway getting grit. The total number of birds seen or heard was 4.

On 23 April 1995, in Conover (Sec 34-42-10E), at 6:20 A.M., two female Spruce Grouse were on an old farm road getting grit.

On 29 April 1995, at 6:30 A.M., I heard a female calling and found it along Fire Lane Road in the same location as the 14 April sighting. At 6:45 A.M., I heard a male and found him making short display/ courtship flights in the same location as the second male that had been heard but not seen on 14 April. No vocalizations were heard, just short display flights up and down from adjacent spruce and jack pines. At about 8:30 A.M., a female was seen at the same location as the 23 April observation along Old Farm Road.—*Jim Baughman*

Black Tern Migration in Dane and Columbia County

Black Terns staged a huge migration from 14–15 May 1995 in Madison and the northern Dane County ponds (and also at Schoeneberg's Marsh in Columbia County). I found 120 individuals at the County Highway "V" pond on 14 May and 175 were present the next day, 15 May. Later in the evening of the 15th, 150 birds were at Nine Springs. Initially about 50 birds were foraging on a hatch of insects over one of the lagoons; as the evening progressed flocks of 20–30 additional birds would appear out of the sky and join the flock on the lagoon until at least 150 birds were milling about at dark. These numbers easily eclipsed my previous highs from past years. I estimated a total of 400 birds on the 15th: 325 in Dane County and an additional 75 in Columbia County. Good numbers have remained through the end of the period and hopefully Black Terns will have a good breeding season.—*Philip Ashman*

Barn Owl in Langlade County

On 18 April 1995, at about 10:15 P.M., I was driving south on Western Ave. within the city limits of the town of Antigo, Langlade County. As I approached the new high school building I was amazed to have a Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) fly in front of my van and land on the pavement within 5 feet of my vehicle. It had been hunting, apparently missed its prey, and then, startled by the vehicle, hesitated for several seconds before flying to a nearby stop sign. It watched my vehicle for several seconds, giving me an excellent look at the heart-shaped face so distinctive of the Barn Owl. I believe this bird to be a female judging from the large size and the darker colored chest. From the stop sign the bird flew over some small conifers and then landed on a light standard. I parked my vehicle and watched the bird for about 5 minutes. After that time, with the bird still on the light standard, I drove to my home, got my husband, and drove back to the location. Once again we observed the owl.

The following morning I went back to the area to check the habitat and possible nesting sites. The area is plowed potato fields on the west, and a newly constructed high school building and subdivision to the east. To the southwest about ½ mile there is an old barn, possibly unused or used for storage. The top has broken shutters and one window is broken out, giving entrance possibilities to a Barn Owl. I will try to obtain landowner permission to check the barn for nest or roost site. (Editor's note: No second adult or nest were found, but Gibson reports that Mike Winski found a Barn Owl within a half mile of this location leaving a silo early one morning in May, and two fledglings were found dead on a roadside within a quarter mile of the barn on 5 June.) To the north of the site is residential housing. This housing is older and has established trees, possible cavity candidates. To the south are farm fields, mostly plowed, not much in the way of grasslands. There is a small marshy area and creek 2 miles from the observation site.—*Marjorie Gibson*

Cat Kills Cape May Warbler: Addendum to 1994 Spring Report

On 24 April 1994, a male Cape May Warbler was killed by a cat in Dane County.—*David Cederstrom*

(Editor's note: Reporters are asked to note birds killed by cats on their spring season reports.)

Partial Albino White-throated Sparrow in Ozaukee County

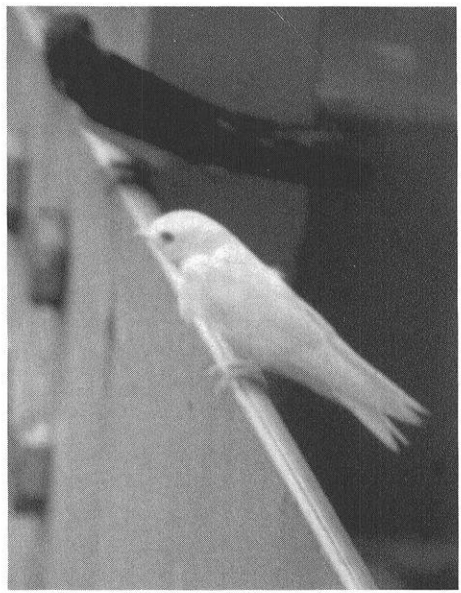
In the late afternoon on 20 April 1995, I checked our feeding area and was amazed to see a sparrow that had a pure white head and neck. This bird was perching in an open area, and seemed much more "tame" and fearless than the other white-throats. When it began eating seeds on the ground directly in front of our patio window, the binocs disclosed the diagnostic yellow spots at the base of the bill, superimposed on the white head. I also noted a dark-red hue to its eyes. I verified that the back was streaked with white.

Lorrie Otto, who lives about 300 yards away, noted the same bird, which hung around her feeding area most of the day on the 20th. It disappeared from her yard late in the afternoon—about the same time it showed up at my place. Lorrie and I agreed that this bird's behavior was atypical. She saw it as more "aggressive" than other white-throats; I saw it as more "tame." This surprised us both, because this bird would have been so obvious to a predator. It hung around our house the next two days, 20–22 April, keeping company with a small flock of other white-throats that came and went, and was seen and verified by Mary Donald.—*Richard M. Evans*

Albino Barn Swallow

Trempealeau County, Mississippi River Lock and Dam Number 6—A full albino Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)—complete with red eyes and white beak and feet—was discovered among the swallows nesting and feeding at the Trempealeau Locks. It was first seen by John Welch of Trempealeau County, while he worked as a "lockman" at Dam Number 6 during the summer of 1994. Mr. Welch reported the bird to Sam Nottleman of Winona, Minnesota, whom many of you may recall as my accomplice in tracking down reports of albino Red-tail Hawks in western Wisconsin in the last few years. The bird reappeared at the Lock in August of 1995 and Sam was called to come and photograph it. During several days of photographing, 29 August to 5 September 1995, Sam compiled some noteworthy observations concerning the bird and its behavior. Two things were immediately apparent: (1) the bird was not accepted by the other Barn Swallows and Cliff Swallows present; and (2) it was extremely light sensitive and always closed the eye that faced the sun when perching. When the albino swallow was perched the other birds left it alone for the most part, but when it flew it was often pursued and harassed by several swallows at a time. Still it could easily be seen from the observation deck above the lock as it flew and fed with the other swallows. The albino often perched alone on fences or wires away from the more gregarious collections of

swallows, though at times it was permitted to join these groups. This bird appears slightly smaller in size than the others of its species when in flight against a dark background of water. Yet, when perched with others there is no discernible size difference. Several good photos were taken by Sam Nottleman and submitted with this note. Background research indicated that only two albino birds of this species had been previously reported for North America. Of those two, one was a full albino with red eyes reported from the state of Oregon. The second had dark eyes and was not considered full albino for that reason. The latter bird was reported from near Stone Dam, in New York state. Both records are listed in the Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds (Terres, J. K. 1980. A. Knopf and Co, New York. P.865). Both records indicated that the white swallows were chased by others of their species. In the general discussion of avian albinism in the above text the author also noted that true albinos were thought to be very light sensitive, as this bird proved to be.—*Dr. Philip C. Whitford, Biology Department, Capital University, Columbus OH 43209. Photo by Sam Nottleman, Winona MN.*



Big Day Counts: 1995

by Jim Frank

The 14 Big Day Counts for 1995 are a significant drop off in activity from the usual 21–28 counts of recent years. As a result, only two counts surpassed 170 species (as opposed to 7 in 1992, 3 in 1993, and 1 in 1994). Both of these were taken in the south central portion of the state; the first by J. Baughman, S. Baughman, T. Schultz, and D. Tessen (181 species including 17 ducks and 4 rails) and the second by M. Peterson and D. Tessen (174 species with 18 shorebirds). Only 3 counts mounted totals above 160 species (compared to 10 in 1992, 6 in 1993, and 3 in 1994). That third count by D. Tessen was a strong 163 from the southwestern part of the state on the late date of May 31. Due to the late date only 15 warblers were tallied, but check the count summary that follows to see the "tough-to-get" ones he found. The best warbler list came from B. Brouchoud and C. Rudy who traditionally restrict their Big Day to Woodland Dunes in Manitowoc County. They found a remarkable 26 species there on May 17.

Of interest is a trend in the dates of recent Big Day Counts. The average date for 25 counts in 1992 was May 19, for 28 dates in 1993 it was May 14, and for 21 dates in 1994 the average was May 18. This year, without any counts in the northwestern and north central parts of the state where they are usually conducted during the last week of May, the 14 count average was May 20. A few notations by Big Day birders suggest they feel they are picking up a few more shorebirds and flycatchers by waiting for the next "wave" of migrants. What they might miss in male warblers seems to be offset by struggling with identification of the slightly later migrating female warblers.

Combining all of the Big Day Counts, a list of 239 species was recorded. In comparison, 1994 counts had 252 species, 1993 had 256 species, and 1992 listed 262 species. In addition to the shortage of counts, this list was influenced by no counts in the northwestern or north central parts of the state. The most noteworthy sightings included Red-

Table 1. Wisconsin Big Day Counts—1995

Species	Observers	Date	Area	Time	Temp	Wind	Sky	Mi./Car	Mi./Ft.
181	Baughman, Baughman, Schultz, Tessen	5/23/95	SC	0:00–21:41	50–66	W8	Rain	571	2
174	Peterson, Tessen	5/16/95	SC	0:00–21:00	53–81	SW15	P.Cl	520	4
168	Peterson, Miller, Minkebige, Parks	5/22/95	NE	1:00–22:00	60–80	?10	P.Cl	375	4
163	Tessen	5/31/95	SW	3:30–19:30	50–83	SW8	P.Cl	460	1
158	Peterson, Peterson, O'Connell	5/20/95	NE	2:00–22:00	55–75	?25	P.Cl	325	5
156	Mead, Hauser, Norris	5/20/95	NE	1:30–20:30	40–70	NW25	P.Cl	240	4
152	Tessen	5/13/95	SC	1:00–17:00	53–59	SE25	Clo.	402	2
146	Diehl, O'Connor	5/19/95	SE	4:07–21:10	46–76	W15	P.Cl	261	3
142	Diehl	5/25/95	SE	3:30–20:35	45–62	N?	P.Cl	264	3
141	Diehl	5/15/95	SE	3:15–20:15	48–75	W20	P.Cl	240	2
132	Woodcock	5/26/95	NE	4:00–21:30	37–66	SE10	P.Cl	257	0
131	Brouchoud, Rudy	5/17/95	NE	4:00–21:00	?	W8	P.Cl	18	10
122	Dankert, Dankert	5/09/95	W	5:15–22:55	46–57	E10	Clo.	132	2
89	Warren, Schollmeyer	5/24/95	W	4:30–21:30	50–72	SW5	P.Cl	286	3

throated Loon, Eared Grebe, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Merlin, Western Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Long -billed Dowitcher, Red-necked Phalarope, Little Gull, Short-eared Owl, Yellow-throated Warbler, and Prairie Warbler.

For those unfamiliar with the rules for the WSO Big Day Counts:

1) Count must be taken between May 1–31.
2) Count must be taken within a 24 hour calendar day (midnight to midnight).
3) Count must taken within the state boundaries, but it may cover as many parts of Wisconsin as birders can reach in the time limit.
4) All participants must be within direct conversational contact at all times during the birding and traveling periods. This excludes meal and rest stops if birding is not conducted during these times. This limits the number of parties involved to **ONE** and participants to that number safely and comfortably contained in one vehicle (1–6?).
5) Areas can be revisited during the day.
6) Counting individuals is **optional.**
7) The same areas may be covered on **different** Big Day Counts.
8) No fees are involved in conducting the counts.
9) An official Big Day Count Form (available from the associate editor—D. Tessen) should be filled out for each count. It is critical that all unusual species—whether they be late sightings or rare species—be completely documented. Capitalized species on the form may be documented on the back of the form. New additions to the form should be documented on the traditional WSO Exceptional Record Documentation Form with probable review by the Records Committee.
10) Having fun is mandatory. Keeping your sanity is optional.

Details of the 1995 Big Day Counts follow; italicized species were unique

to the 1995 Big Day Counts; italicized groups were the largest number of that group seen on this year's counts. Sharpen your birding skills and try a Big Day Count next year. As is apparent from this year's accounts, some birders drive like crazy on their counts, other restrict themselves to a yard, a nature center, or a county. They all are interesting.

Northeastern Region

Peterson, Miller, Minkebige, and Parks, 5/22/95, 168 species.—Birding Navarino Wildlife Area, Stockbridge Indian Reservation, Barkhausen Nature Preserve, Atkinson Marsh, Bischoff Road, Woodland Dunes, and the Manitowoc Impoundment, they located White Pelican, Cattle Egret, Red-shouldered Hawk, King Rail, American Golden Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, White-rumped Sandpiper, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, LeConte's Sparrow, 5 herons, 12 ducks, 8 hawks, 3 galliformes, 3 rails, 17 shorebirds, *3 owls, 7 woodpeckers,* 7 flycatchers, *4 wrens,* 5 thrushes, 4 vireos, 23 warblers, 10 sparrows, 9 blackbirds, and 4 finches.

Peterson, Peterson, and O'Connell, 5/20/95, 158 species.—Once again they visited Navarino Wildlife Area, Stockbridge Indian Reservation, Barkhausen Nature Preserve, Atkinson Marsh, Woodland Dunes, Manitowoc Impoundment, and Bischoff Road. Interesting sightings included White Pelican, Red-shouldered Hawk, Hudsonian Godwit, White-rumped Sandpiper, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Black-throated Blue Warbler, LeConte's Sparrow, 4 herons, 9 ducks, 3 galliformes, 14 shorebirds, 2 owls, 6 woodpeckers, 8 flycatchers, 3 wrens, 5 thrushes, 4 vireos, 23 warblers, *12 sparrows,* 9 blackbirds, and 4 finches.

Mead, Hauser, Norris, 5/20/95, 156 species.—Starting at Peshtigo Marsh, they continued on to Peshtigo Harbor, Oconto Marsh, Machickanee Forest, Barkhausen Wildlife Preserve, Green Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, and Atkinson Marsh. The best for there day included White Pelican, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Red-shouldered Hawk, King Rail, *Whimbrel,* Hudsonian Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, White-rumped Sandpiper, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Purple Finch, 7 *herons,* 11 ducks, *9 hawks,* 3 rails, 16 shorebirds, 1 owl, 5 woodpeckers, 8 flycatchers, *4 wrens, 7 thrushes,* 3 vireos, 21 warblers, 9 sparrows, and 8 blackbirds.

Woodcock, 5/26/95, 132 species.—His Big Day consisted of stops at Jones Spring, Archibald Lake, Cathedral Pines, Oconto Marsh, Atkinson Marsh, Collins Marsh, and Manitowoc Harbor. The noteworthy birds were White Pelican, Ruddy Turnstone, Alder Flycatcher, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Purple Finch, *Pine Siskin,* Evening Grosbeak, 4 herons, 7 ducks, 5 hawks, 10 shorebirds, 4 woodpeckers, 7 flycatchers, *4 wrens,* 5 thrushes, 4 vireos, 19 warblers, 7 sparrows, 8 blackbirds and *5 finches.*

Brouchoud, Rudy, 5/17/95, 131 species.—In their usual Woodland Dunes *only* Big Day, they listed *Short-eared Owl,* Olive-sided Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Orange-crowned

Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Purple Finch, 4 herons, 3 ducks, 4 hawks, 3 galliformes, 4 shorebirds, 3 woodpeckers, 8 flycatchers, *4 wrens,* 6 thrushes, *5 vireos, 26 warblers,* 8 sparrows, and 7 blackbirds.

Southwestern Region

Tessen, 5/31/95, 163 species—This late, but impressive Big Day covered Mud Lake Wildlife Area, Blanchardville, Governor Dodge State Park, Wyalusing State Park, Spring Green, Arlington Ponds, Grassy Lake, Horicon NWR, Shiocton, and Green Bay. The list of interesting sightings included Red-necked Grebe, White Pelican, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, *Yellow-crowned Night Heron,* Red-shouldered Hawk, Wild Turkey, King Rail, Sanderling, *Western Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper,* Franklin's Gull, Acadian Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Tufted Titmouse, *White- eyed Vireo, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-throated Warbler, Prairie Warbler,* Cerulean Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, *Kentucky Warbler, Dickcissel,* Lark Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, *9 herons,* 13 ducks, 7 hawks, *4 galliformes,* 3 rails, 11 shorebirds, *4 gulls, 2 cuckoos, 3 owls, 7 woodpeckers,* 8 flycatchers, *4 wrens,* 4 thrushes, *5 vireos,* 15 warblers, 10 sparrows, and *10 blackbirds.*

Western Region

Dankert, Dankert, 5/9/95, 122 species.—Exploring new Big Day areas, they birded Chipmunk Coulee, Goose Island, LaCrosse River Marsh, French Island, Brice Prairie, and Amsterdam Prairie in LaCrosse County, Perrot State Park, and Trempealeau NWR in Trempealeau County, and Goose Island, Pool 8 of the Mississippi River, and Coon Creek in Vernon County. Among their listings were White Pelican, *Common Merganser,* Northern Bobwhite, Tufted Titmouse, Orange-crowned Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Orchard Oriole, 3 herons, 11 ducks, 4 hawks, 7 shorebirds, *7 woodpeckers,* 5 flycatchers, 4 thrushes, 1 vireo, 20 warblers, 9 sparrows, and 8 blackbirds.

Warren, Schollmeyer, 5/24/95, 89 species.—Also exploring new Big Day territory, they searched Augusta State Wildlife Area and Trempealeau NWR to turn up White Pelican, *Tundra Swan,* Tufted Titmouse, Grasshopper Sparrow, 4 ducks, 6 hawks, 2 shorebirds, 6 woodpeckers, 4 flycatchers, 2 vireos, 7 warblers, 5 sparrows, and 8 blackbirds.

South Central Region

Baughman, Baughman, Schultz and Tessen, 5/23/95, 181 species.—Working a later date than usual this year, they visited White River Marsh, Comstock Bog, Mud Lake Wildlife Area, Grassy Lake, Horicon NWR, Kettle Moraine State Forest (including Mauthe Lake, Noyes Woods, Haushalter Road, Jersey Flats, and Spruce Lake Bog), Hobb's Woods, Grand River Marsh, Lake Puckaway, Lake Maria, Arlington Prairie, Horicon MWR, Mullet Marsh, Manitowoc Co. Hwy. LS, Cleveland, and Atkinson Marsh. Their unusual sightings were Red- necked Grebe, *Eared Grebe,* White Pelican, Canvasback, Greater Scaup Duck, *Merlin,* Peregrine Falcon, *Yellow Rail,* King Rail, American

Golden Plover, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, *Pectoral Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalarope,* Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Acadian Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, *Connecticut Warbler,* Henslow's Sparrow, *3 grebes,* 6 herons, *17 ducks,* 6 hawks, 3 galliformes, *4 rails,* 16 shorebirds, 3 owls, 5 woodpeckers, *9 flycatchers,* 3 wrens, 6 thrushes, *5 vireos,* 25 warblers, 11 sparrows, and 9 blackbirds.

Peterson, Tessen, 5/16/95, 174 species.—Wandering through Rat River Marsh, Rush Lake, Grassy Lake, Mud Lake Wildlife Area, Laws Bottoms, Spring Green, Sauk Co. Hwy. PF, Baxter's Hollow, Arlington Prairie, Lake Maria, Horicon NWR, Cleveland, Manitowoc, Two Rivers, Woodland Dunes, Atkinson Marsh, Barkhausen Wildlife Area, and Shiocton, they listed *Red-throated Loon,* Red-necked Grebe, White Pelican, Northern Bobwhite, King Rail, American Golden Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, White-rumped Sandpiper, *Stilt Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher,* Acadian Flycatcher, Tufted Titmouse, Orange-crowned Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Lark Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, *2 loons,* 6 herons, 13 ducks, 5 hawks, 3 galliformes, 3 rails, *18 shorebirds, 3 owls, 7 woodpeckers,* 7 flycatchers, *4 wrens,* 3 thrushes, 4 vireos, 25 warblers, *12 sparrows,* and *10 blackbirds.*

Tessen, 5/13/95, 152 species.—This Big Day covered Rat River Marsh, Rush Lake, Grassy Lake, Mud Lake Wildlife Area, Arlington Prairie, UW Arboretum, Lake Barney, Patrick Marsh, Horicon NWR, Hobb's Woods, Haekroat Park, Neenah-Menasha, Black Otter Lake, and Shiocton. Among the interesting sightings were King Rail, White-rumped Sandpiper, *Little Gull,* Northern Raven, *American Pipit,* Orange-crowned Warbler, Orchard Oriole, 5 herons, 14 ducks, 6 hawks, 3 rails, 13 shorebirds, *4 gulls,* 2 owls, 5 woodpeckers, 5 flycatchers, 6 thrushes, 4 vireos, 20 warblers, 9 sparrows, and *10 blackbirds.*

Southeastern Region

Diehl, O'Connor, 5/19/95, 146 species.—Starting at Cedarburg Bog, they continued on to bird Riveredge Nature Center, Fredonia, Harrington Beach State Park, Port Washington Harbor, Pike Lake State Park, Horicon NWR, and the Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment. Of note were *Mute Swan,* Canvasback, Northern Bobwhite, King Rail, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, 4 herons, 12 ducks, 5 hawks, *4 galliformes,* 3 rails, 6 shorebirds, 2 owls, 5 woodpeckers, 8 flycatchers, 3 wrens, 6 thrushes, 4 vireos, 21 warblers, 10 sparrows, and 9 blackbirds.

Diehl, 5/25/95, 142 species.—Once again starting at Cedarburg Bog, his birding took him to Riveredge Nature Center, Fredonia, Harrington Beach State Park, Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest, Horicon NWR, Holy Hill, Estabrook Park, and the Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment. The most interesting birds were Canvasback, Greater Scaup Duck, Peregrine Falcon, King Rail, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, 4 herons, 13 ducks, 7 hawks, 3 rails, 3 shorebirds, *3 owls,* 6 woodpeckers, *9 flycatchers, 4 wrens,* 5 thrushes, 4 vir-

eos, 20 warblers, 9 sparrows, and 8 blackbirds.

Diehl, 5/15/95, 141 species.—This first of three Big Day efforts included birding at Cedarburg Bog, Riveredge Nature Center, Harrington Beach State Park, Port Washington, Holy Hill, Pike Lake, Horicon NWR, Theresa Marsh, and the Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment. Birds of interest were *Mute Swan,* Peregrine Falcon, Franklin's Gull, Olive-sided Flycatcher, LeConte's Sparrow, 4 herons, 14 ducks, 6 hawks, 3 galliformes, 6 shorebirds, *4 gulls,* 2 owls, 4 woodpeckers, 7 flycatchers, *4 wrens,* 4 thrushes, 4 vireos, 20 warblers, 9 sparrows, and 9 blackbirds.

Jim Frank
4339 W. Laverna Ave.
Mequon, Wisconsin 53092

May Day Counts: 1995

by Jim Frank

The 19 May Counts in 1995 is the lowest of the past 7 years primarily due to a drop in participation in counts in the southeastern corner of the state. Leading the way in participation were Winnebago (28), Marathon (28), Oxbo/Field (27), and Sheboygan/Plymouth (26).

Four counts exceeded 150 species with Winnebago as usual setting the pace with 182. Strong counts of 169 from Oconto, 156 from Fond du Lac, and 156 from Sheboygan/Plymouth were also compiled. Interestingly, 4 of the 5 highest counts were conducted on the early date of May 13 in cloudy, rainy weather.

The 240 species this year is 4–5 off the average of the past 7 years. Of note were Oldsquaw (Kewaunee), Boreal Chickadee (Vilas), Gray Jay (Vilas, Oxbo/Fifield), Black-backed Woodpecker (Vilas, Oxbo/Fifield), Glaucous Gull (Sheboygan), Little Gull (Winnebago, Oconto), Rusty Blackbird (Marathon), and Kentucky Warbler (Sheboygan). Also unusual were Rough-legged Hawks on 4 counts, American Tree Sparrows on 4 counts, King Rails on 4 counts, White-rumped Sandpipers on 4 counts, Northern Ravens on 10 counts, Harris' Sparrows on 3 counts, Henslow's Sparrows on 2 counts, and Red Crossbills on 2 counts.

Most of the drops in numbers of individual species is due to fewer counts being conducted; however, several species seem to be inordinately underrepresented on the tallies. These include Green Heron, Solitary Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Wilson's Phalarope, Black-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Purple Martin, Red-eyed Vireo, Rufous-sided Towhee, and Orchard Oriole. The average date for the count this year was 5/17 vs. 5/16 last year and 5/14 for 1993 so timing of the counts doesn't appear to account for the declines.

To refresh everyone's memory, the W.S.O. May Day Count Rules are as follows:

1) Count period is May 1–31.
2) Count must be taken within a 24 hour calendar day.
3) Count must cover a **set** area, ide-

ally a circle consisting of a predetermined distance diameter (10, 15, 20 miles??) **or** a county.
4) The number of parties and observers involved may vary.
5) Count areas may be recovered as often as desired during the count day, unless individuals are being tallied.
6) The counting of individuals is **optional.**
7) Do not initiate a May Count within an area where one is already conducted. Instead join the existing count or establish one in a new area.
8) There are no count fees.
9) Be sure to fill out an official May Count form. Completely document unusual species whether they be late or rare. Send the completed form with documentation to associate editor by June 10.

Please note the North American Migration Count is similar to the May Count but differs in that:

1) The Count is restricted to **the second Saturday in May.**
2) Individual **numbers** of each species are counted.
3) Party hours are counted.
4) The boundaries for the count are a county.
5) A separate form is filled out from the state North American Migration Count coordinator.

One count can qualify for both a May Count and a North American Migration Count if conducted with these added rules.

The 1996 WSO state convention will be in early June, hopefully allowing an extra weekend for conducting a May Count in your area.

Jim Frank
4339 W. Laverna Ave.
Mequon, Wisconsin 53092

Table 1. 1995 May Day Counts

Count	Date	Time	Sky	Wind	Temp	Observ.	Party	Species
Ashland/Bayfield	5/18	04:00–16:00	Clear	NW5	40–78	13	3	145
Burnett	5/19	04:15–21:30	Clear	NW12	50–80	2	1	127
Oxbo/Fifield	5/27	?	P.Cl.	NW?	50–70	27	17	97
Vilas	5/27	00:30–12:30	Clo.	W5	58–52	2	1	126
Clark	5/13	04:00–22:45	Rain	SE10	51–56	12	7	119
Marathon	5/13	04:00–21:30	Rain	SE10	53–56	28	15	149
Portage	5/13	?	Rain	SE10	52–63	?	?	97
Shawano	5/20	02:00–21:00	P.Cl.	? 20	55–75	6	?	144
Oconto	5/27	02:00–19:00	P.Cl.	NE10	45–62	5	3	169
Kewaunee	5/20	00:39–18:00	P.Cl.	W15	49–71	8	4	111
Calumet	5/14	05:00–22:00	Clo.	W25	50–60	7	4	112
Manitowoc	5/20	06:00–19:00	P.Cl.	SE20	55–65	4	3	112
Winnebago	5/13	02:30–19:30	Rain	SE15	58–65	28	16	182
Fond du Lac	5/13	01:00–20:00	Rain	SE20	52–60	9	4	156
Sheboygan	5/13	04:00–18:30	Clo.	SE10	45–56	26	10	156
Horicon	5/13	?	?	?	?	16	?	119
Oconomowoc	5/14	04:30–20:00	Clo.	SW10	50–68	11	5	127
Rock	5/06	?	?	?	?	?	?	72
Kenosha	5/13	04:30–20:00	Clo.	SE8	54–64	2	1	116

Table 2. Species seen on southern Wisconsin May Counts.

Species	Calumet	Manitowoc	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Sheboygan	Horicon	Oconomowoc	Rock	Kenosha
Common Loon			x		x				
Pied-Billed Grebe		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Red-necked Grebe			x						
American White Pelican			x						
Double-crested Cormorant		x	x	x	x	x		x	x
American Bittern			x	x					x
Least Bittern			x	x					
Great Blue Heron	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Great Egret		x	x	x	x	x			
Snowy Egret						x			
Cattle Egret			x						x
Green-backed Heron	x		x	x	x	x	x		x
Black-crowned Night-Heron			x	x	x	x			
Tundra Swan			x						
Trumpeter Swan									
Mute Swan				x					x
Snow Goose			x						
Canada Goose	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Wood Duck	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Green-winged Teal	x	x	x	x	x				
American Black Duck			x	x					
Mallard	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Pintail			x						
Blue-winged Teal	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Shoveler	x	x	x	x					x
Gadwall		x	x	x					
American Wigeon			x	x					
Canvasback			x					x	
Redhead			x	x	x	x			x
Ring-necked Duck			x	x	x				x
Greater Scaup									x
Lesser Scaup	x	x	x					x	
Oldsquaw									
Common Goldeneye			x						
Bufflehead			x						
Hooded Merganser			x		x				
Common Merganser			x		x				
Red-breasted Merganser			x		x				x
merganser (sp.)									
Ruddy Duck	x		x	x		x		x	x
Turkey Vulture	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Osprey					x			x	
Bald Eagle			x						x
Northern Harrier	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Sharp-shinned Hawk			x	x	x		x		
Cooper's Hawk	x		x	x	x	x	x		
Northern Goshawk			x						
Red-shouldered Hawk					x				
Broad-winged Hawk			x		x			x	
Red-tailed Hawk	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rough-legged Hawk									
American Kestrel	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Merlin					x				
Peregrine Falcon					x				
Ring-necked Pheasant			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Ruffed Grouse	x			x	x				
Greater Prairie-Chicken									
Sharp-tailed Grouse									
Wild Turkey	x	x	x	x	x		x		
Northern Bobwhite							x		

(continued)

Table 2. *Continued*

Species	Calumet	Manitowoc	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Sheboygan	Horicon	Oconomowoc	Rock	Kenosha
King Rail			x	x	x	x			
Virginia Rail			x	x	x	x	x		
Sora	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Common Moorhen			x					x	
American Coot			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sandhill Crane	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Black-bellied Plover		x							x
American Golden Plover									x
Semipalmated Plover					x	x	x		
Killdeer	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Greater Yellowlegs	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Lesser Yellowlegs	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Solitary Sandpiper			x		x	x	x		
Spotted Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Upland Sandpiper			x						
Ruddy Turnstone			x		x				x
Sanderling									x
Semipalmated Sandpiper			x	x	x				
Least Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
White-rumped Sandpiper		x	x						
Baird's Sandpiper									
Pectoral Sandpiper				x			x		
Dunlin		x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Short-billed Dowitcher		x	x	x					
Common Snipe	x		x	x		x	x	x	
American Woodcock	x	x	x		x		x		x
Wilson's Phalarope	x	x							
Little Gull			x						
Bonaparte's Gull		x	x		x	x			x
Ring-billed Gull		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Herring Gull	x	x	x	x	x				x
Glaucous Gull					x				
Caspian Tern		x			x				
Common Tern		x	x	x	x				x
Forster's Tern		x	x	x	x	x			x
Black Tern	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Rock Dove	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Mourning Dove	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Black-billed Cuckoo				x					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo									
cuckoo (sp.)			x						
Eastern Screech-Owl			x	x			x		
Great Horned Owl			x	x	x		x		x
Barred Owl			x	x	x	x	x	x	
Short-eared Owl			x						
Northern Saw-whet Owl									
Common Nighthawk			x	x		x			x
Whip-poor-will			x	x	x				
Chimney Swift	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	x	x	x	x	x		x		
Belted Kingfisher		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Red-headed Woodpecker		x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Red-bellied Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		x			x	x			x
Downy Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Hairy Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Black-backed Woodpecker									
Northern Flicker	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Pileated Woodpecker				x					
Olive-sided Flycatcher		x							

(continued)

Table 2. *Continued*

Species	Calumet	Manitowoc	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Sheboygan	Horicon	Oconomowoc	Rock	Kenosha
Eastern Wood-Pewee		x	x			x			
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		x							
Alder Flycatcher	x								
Willow Flycatcher	x		x	x			x		
Least Flycatcher	x	x	x	x	x		x		
Eastern Phoebe	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Great Crested Flycatcher	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Eastern Kingbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Horned Lark	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Purple Martin		x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Tree Swallow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Bank Swallow		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Cliff Swallow	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Barn Swallow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Gray Jay									
Blue Jay	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
American Crow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Raven		x							
Black-capped Chickadee	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Boreal Chickadee									
Tufted Titmouse							x		
Red-breasted Nuthatch				x					
White-breasted Nuthatch	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brown Creeper	x		x		x		x	x	x
House Wren	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Winter Wren	x	x		x	x				
Sedge Wren		x	x						
Marsh Wren	x		x	x		x	x		
Golden-crowned Kinglet			x	x					
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			x	x	x	x			x
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Eastern Bluebird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Veery		x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Gray-cheeked Thrush	x		x	x	x				x
Swainson's Thrush	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Hermit Thrush	x		x		x				
Wood Thrush	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
American Robin	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Gray Catbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Brown Thrasher	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Cedar Waxwing			x	x		x	x	x	
European Starling	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Solitary Vireo			x	x	x	x			
Yellow-throated Vireo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Warbling Vireo	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Philadelphia Vireo	x				x		x		
Red-eyed Vireo	x	x	x	x	x		x		
Blue-winged Warbler		x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Golden-winged Warbler	x		x	x	x	x	x		
Tennessee Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Orange-crowned Warbler	x				x				
Nashville Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Northern Parula			x	x	x	x	x		
Yellow Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Chestnut-sided Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Magnolia Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Cape May Warbler	x		x	x	x	x			
Black-throated Blue Warbler			x	x		x			x
Yellow-rumped Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

(continued)

Table 2. *Continued*

Species	Calumet	Manitowoc	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Sheboygan	Horicon	Oconomowoc	Rock	Kenosha
Black-throated Green Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Blackburnian Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Pine Warbler			x	x	x		x		
Palm Warbler	x		x	x	x	x	x		x
Bay-breasted Warbler			x	x	x	x	x		x
Blackpoll Warbler			x	x	x	x		x	x
Cerulean Warbler						x	x		
Black-and-white Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
American Redstart	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Prothonotary Warbler							x		x
Worm-eating Warbler									x
Ovenbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Northern Waterthrush	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Louisiana Waterthrush				x					
Kentucky Warbler					x				
Connecticut Warbler			x						
Mourning Warbler	x	x	x						x
Common Yellowthroat	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Wilson's Warbler	x	x	x		x				
Canada Warbler		x	x	x					x
Scarlet Tanager	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Northern Cardinal	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Indigo Bunting	x	x	x	x	x		x		x
Rufous-sided Towhee			x	x	x		x		
American Tree Sparrow						x	x		
Chipping Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Clay-colored Sparrow		x			x				
Field Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Vesper Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x				
Savannah Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x		x		x
Grasshopper Sparrow		x		x	x				
Henslow's Sparrow				x					
Le Conte's Sparrow			x						
Fox Sparrow									
Song Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Lincoln's Sparrow	x		x	x	x	x			x
Swamp Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
White-throated Sparrow			x	x	x	x		x	x
White-crowned Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Harris' Sparrow									
Dark-eyed Junco							x		x
Lapland Longspur			x						
Bobolink	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Red-winged Blackbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Eastern Meadowlark	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Western Meadowlark	x		x	x			x		
Yellow-headed Blackbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Rusty Blackbird									
Brewer's Blackbird			x		x		x		x
Common Grackle	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brown-headed Cowbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Orchard Oriole			x						
Northern Oriole	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Purple Finch		x		x	x		x		
House Finch	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Red Crossbill									
Pine Siskin									
American Goldfinch	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Evening Grosbeak									
House Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Total Species	112	112	182	156	156	119	127	69	116

Table 3. Species seen on northern Wisconsin May Counts.

Species	Ashland	Burnett	Fifield	Vilas	Clark	Mara-thon	Portage	Sha-wano	Oconto	Kewau-nee
Common Loon	x	x	x	x		x			x	
Pied-Billed Grebe		x		x	x	x		x	x	
Red-necked Grebe		x								
American White Pelican										
Double-crested Cormorant	x	x				x	x	x	x	x
American Bittern	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Least Bittern										
Great Blue Heron	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Great Egret										
Snowy Egret										
Cattle Egret										
Green-backed Heron	x	x			x	x	x		x	
Black-crowned Night-Heron									x	x
Tundra Swan					x					
Trumpeter Swan		x				x				
Mute Swan	x									
Snow Goose										
Canada Goose	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Wood Duck	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Green-winged Teal	x					x		x	x	
American Black Duck	x		x					x		
Mallard	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Pintail						x			x	
Blue-winged Teal	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Shoveler	x	x				x			x	x
Gadwall	x	x							x	x
American Wigeon	x	x		x		x			x	
Canvasback		x								
Redhead	x									
Ring-necked Duck		x		x		x		x		
Greater Scaup	x									
Lesser Scaup	x	x			x	x		x		x
Oldsquaw										x
Common Goldeneye	x									x
Bufflehead	x									
Hooded Merganser			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Common Merganser	x		x	x		x		x		
Red-breasted Merganser	x			x						
merganser (sp.)					x					
Ruddy Duck										
Turkey Vulture	x		x		x	x			x	x
Osprey		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Bald Eagle	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Northern Harrier	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sharp-shinned Hawk	x					x			x	x
Cooper's Hawk						x			x	
Northern Goshawk					x				x	
Red-shouldered Hawk						x		x	x	
Broad-winged Hawk	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Red-tailed Hawk	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x
Rough-legged Hawk			x	x		x				x
American Kestrel	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Merlin	x		x							
Peregrine Falcon										
Ring-necked Pheasant		x			x	x		x	x	x
Ruffed Grouse	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Greater Prairie-Chicken					x	x				
Sharp-tailed Grouse		x								
Wild Turkey								x	x	x
Northern Bobwhite										

(continued)

Table 3. *Continued*

Species	Ashland	Burnett	Fifield	Vilas	Clark	Mara-thon	Portage	Sha-wano	Oconto	Kewau-nee
King Rail										
Virginia Rail						x		x	x	
Sora	x	x				x	x	x	x	x
Common Moorhen									x	
American Coot		x							x	
Sandhill Crane		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
Black-bellied Plover									x	
American Golden Plover										
Semipalmated Plover		x								x
Killdeer	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Greater Yellowlegs	x					x			x	x
Lesser Yellowlegs	x					x		x	x	x
Solitary Sandpiper	x				x					
Spotted Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Upland Sandpiper	x	x								
Ruddy Turnstone									x	
Sanderling									x	
Semipalmated Sandpiper								x	x	x
Least Sandpiper	x	x						x	x	
White-rumped Sandpiper								x	x	
Baird's Sandpiper									x	x
Pectoral Sandpiper										
Dunlin	x							x	x	x
Short-billed Dowitcher	x							x	x	
Common Snipe	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
American Woodcock	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x
Wilson's Phalarope									x	
Little Gull									x	
Bonaparte's Gull	x								x	x
Ring-billed Gull	x					x	x	x	x	x
Herring Gull	x		x	x		x	x		x	x
Glaucous Gull										
Caspian Tern	x								x	x
Common Tern	x								x	x
Forster's Tern									x	
Black Tern		x			x	x		x	x	
Rock Dove	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Mourning Dove	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Black-billed Cuckoo				x						
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			x							
cuckoo (sp.)										
Eastern Screech-Owl										
Great Horned Owl	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Barred Owl	x	x		x		x		x	x	
Short-eared Owl										
Northern Saw-whet Owl				x						
Common Nighthawk				x		x		x	x	
Whip-poor-will		x	x			x		x	x	x
Chimney Swift	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x
Belted Kingfisher	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Red-headed Woodpecker		x	x		x	x		x		
Red-bellied Woodpecker	x				x	x	x	x	x	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Downy Woodpecker	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Hairy Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Black-backed Woodpecker			x	x						
Northern Flicker	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Pileated Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Olive-sided Flycatcher				x				x		

(continued)

Table 3. *Continued*

Species	Ashland	Burnett	Fifield	Vilas	Clark	Mara-thon	Portage	Sha-wano	Oconto	Kewau-nee
Eastern Wood-Pewee	x	x						x	x	x
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				x					x	
Alder Flycatcher	x			x				x	x	x
Willow Flycatcher								x	x	x
Least Flycatcher	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x
Eastern Phoebe	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Great Crested Flycatcher	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Eastern Kingbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Horned Lark		x		x	x	x		x	x	x
Purple Martin	x	x	x		x			x	x	x
Tree Swallow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Bank Swallow	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x
Cliff Swallow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Barn Swallow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Gray Jay			x	x						
Blue Jay	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
American Crow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Raven	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Black-capped Chickadee	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Boreal Chickadee				x						
Tufted Titmouse										
Red-breasted Nuthatch	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
White-breasted Nuthatch	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Brown Creeper	x			x					x	
House Wren	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Winter Wren	x	x		x	x	x			x	
Sedge Wren	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Marsh Wren	x	x		x		x		x	x	x
Golden-crowned Kinglet	x			x		x			x	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	x			x		x	x		x	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		x			x			x	x	x
Eastern Bluebird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Veery	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Gray-cheeked Thrush		x				x	x			
Swainson's Thrush	x					x	x	x	x	
Hermit Thrush	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
Wood Thrush	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
American Robin	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Gray Catbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brown Thrasher	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Cedar Waxwing		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
European Starling	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Solitary Vireo	x			x		x		x	x	x
Yellow-throated Vireo	x	x			x	x		x	x	
Warbling Vireo		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Philadelphia Vireo					x				x	
Red-eyed Vireo	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Blue-winged Warbler						x		x		
Golden-winged Warbler	x	x			x	x		x	x	x
Tennessee Warbler	x			x	x	x		x	x	
Orange-crowned Warbler										
Nashville Warbler	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Northern Parula	x			x				x	x	
Yellow Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Chestnut-sided Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Magnolia Warbler	x	x		x	x	x		x		x
Cape May Warbler	x			x	x	x	x	x		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	x			x		x		x		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	

(continued)

Table 3. *Continued*

Species	Ashland	Burnett	Fifield	Vilas	Clark	Mara-thon	Portage	Sha-wano	Oconto	Kewau-nee
Black-throated Green Warbler	x			x		x		x	x	x
Blackburnian Warbler	x		x	x		x		x	x	x
Pine Warbler	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Palm Warbler	x	x		x	x	x	x			
Bay-breasted Warbler	x		x			x	x	x		
Blackpoll Warbler	x	x		x	x					
Cerulean Warbler					x					
Black-and-white Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
American Redstart	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Prothonotary Warbler						x				
Worm-eating Warbler										
Ovenbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northern Waterthrush	x	x		x	x	x			x	
Louisiana Waterthrush		x						x		
Kentucky Warbler										
Connecticut Warbler				x		x			x	
Mourning Warbler				x		x		x	x	
Common Yellowthroat	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Wilson's Warbler	x	x		x			x	x		x
Canada Warbler		x	x	x	x			x	x	x
Scarlet Tanager		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Northern Cardinal			x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Indigo Bunting		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rufous-sided Towhee	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
American Tree Sparrow			x			x				
Chipping Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Clay-colored Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Field Sparrow		x			x	x	x	x	x	x
Vesper Sparrow	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Savannah Sparrow	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Grasshopper Sparrow			x			x		x	x	
Henslow's Sparrow									x	
Le Conte's Sparrow								x	x	
Fox Sparrow						x				
Song Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Lincoln's Sparrow				x					x	
Swamp Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
White-throated Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
White-crowned Sparrow	x		x		x		x		x	x
Harris' Sparrow	x		x		x					
Dark-eyed Junco			x	x						
Lapland Longspur										
Bobolink	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Red-winged Blackbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Eastern Meadowlark	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Western Meadowlark	x	x				x		x		
Yellow-headed Blackbird		x	x			x		x	x	
Rusty Blackbird						x				
Brewer's Blackbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Common Grackle	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brown-headed Cowbird	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Orchard Oriole										
Northern Oriole	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Purple Finch	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
House Finch	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Red Crossbill			x		x					
Pine Siskin	x	x	x	x					x	
American Goldfinch	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Evening Grosbeak	x		x	x				x	x	
House Sparrow	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Total Species	145	127	97	126	119	149	97	144	169	111

Table 4. Totals for state by year.

Species	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Common Loon	8	7	9	9	5	8	11
Pied-Billed Grebe	14	17	17	20	13	16	15
Red-necked Grebe	2	3	2	2	3	4	1
American White Pelican	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Double-crested Cormorant	14	14	14	12	12	8	11
American Bittern	11	10	16	17	13	15	16
Least Bittern	2	4	5	5	4	4	3
Great Blue Heron	19	22	24	24	21	22	22
Great Egret	5	7	11	10	7	10	11
Snowy Egret	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Cattle Egret	2	1	4	1	0	2	1
Green-backed Heron	13	16	20	20	21	19	21
Black-crowned Night-Heron	6	7	7	6	7	8	8
Tundra Swan	2	1	0	3	0	2	4
Trumpeter Swan	2	2	3	1	1	1	0
Mute Swan	3	7	5	5	3	4	7
Snow Goose	1	3	0	0	0	2	1
Canada Goose	19	20	23	22	20	21	19
Wood Duck	18	21	22	24	20	22	21
Green-winged Teal	9	10	13	13	10	11	10
American Black Duck	5	8	7	9	7	6	5
Mallard	19	22	24	24	22	21	22
Northern Pintail	3	4	7	7	6	5	0
Blue-winged Teal	18	20	22	23	21	22	20
Northern Shoveler	10	11	14	14	14	14	10
Gadwall	7	6	8	8	4	7	9
American Wigeon	7	8	8	6	8	8	11
Canvasback	3	2	2	5	1	4	3
Redhead	6	4	6	7	5	5	9
Ring-necked Duck	8	11	10	10	7	8	9
Greater Scaup	2	0	6	6	1	2	1
Lesser Scaup	10	6	9	9	9	12	8
Oldsquaw	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Common Goldeneye	3	2	3	5	1	3	5
Bufflehead	2	6	7	5	3	7	6
Hooded Merganser	9	9	9	9	7	7	8
Common Merganser	7	6	6	5	4	3	4
Red-breasted Merganser	5	7	7	4	2	5	5
merganser (sp.)	1						
Ruddy Duck	6	8	7	9	7	10	10
Turkey Vulture	14	14	16	19	15	11	16
Osprey	10	6	15	13	8	7	11
Bald Eagle	11	9	11	10	8	7	5
Northern Harrier	18	19	21	18	12	15	14
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8	10	14	17	7	9	10
Cooper's Hawk	8	12	11	9	7	9	12
Northern Goshawk	3	2	2	3	2	1	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	6	2	5	5	5	5
Broad-winged Hawk	11	14	17	18	11	11	13
Red-tailed Hawk	17	22	22	24	21	20	21
Rough-legged Hawk	4	2	1	3	3	6	1
American Kestrel	19	18	24	24	22	21	21
Merlin	3	2	2	2	2	3	3
Peregrine Falcon	1	3	3	0	2	1	0
Ring-necked Pheasant	13	15	17	13	13	15	13
Ruffed Grouse	13	14	14	14	14	14	16
Greater Prairie-Chicken	2	2	3	3	2	2	4
Sharp-tailed Grouse	1	2	2	3	2	2	2
Wild Turkey	9	9	9	7	5	4	3
Northern Bobwhite	1	4	2	2	2	2	0
King Rail	4	2	2	1	1	2	2

(continued)

Table 4. *Continued*

Species	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Virginia Rail	8	12	10	8	5	7	8
Sora	14	17	18	23	15	20	15
Common Moorhen	3	5	6	4	4	4	4
American Coot	9	12	15	16	13	17	15
Sandhill Crane	14	19	22	23	18	18	18
Black-bellied Plover	3	5	3	4	1	4	5
American Golden Plover	1	2	0	1	0	0	1
Semipalmated Plover	5	12	8	13	7	6	11
Killdeer	19	22	24	24	21	21	21
Greater Yellowlegs	12	10	9	13	8	13	10
Lesser Yellowlegs	12	9	14	12	7	14	13
Solitary Sandpiper	6	12	13	10	10	13	9
Spotted Sandpiper	18	19	21	21	18	18	19
Upland Sandpiper	3	5	6	6	6	6	8
Ruddy Turnstone	4	6	4	3	3	2	6
Sanderling	2	2	2	3	1	3	2
Semipalmated Sandpiper	6	12	2	9	6	6	8
Least Sandpiper	11	14	14	16	9	12	13
White-rumped Sandpiper	4	3	1	2	3	0	2
Baird's Sandpiper	2	4	2	2	1	1	2
Pectoral Sandpiper	2	7	3	6	4	9	7
Dunlin	11	11	7	9	9	4	8
Short-billed Dowitcher	6	6	5	8	6	5	6
Common Snipe	15	17	19	18	15	19	17
American Woodcock	14	15	21	17	10	18	11
Wilson's Phalarope	3	6	5	4	6	10	4
Little Gull	2	0	0	0	0	1	2
Bonaparte's Gull	8	10	10	8	7	7	7
Ring-billed Gull	14	16	19	17	19	14	14
Herring Gull	13	15	16	9	7	9	10
Glaucous Gull	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
Caspian Tern	5	9	9	6	5	7	7
Common Tern	8	11	12	9	7	10	10
Forster's Tern	7	12	9	9	10	14	7
Black Tern	13	15	17	19	16	16	17
Rock Dove	19	21	24	23	22	21	22
Mourning Dove	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Black-billed Cuckoo	2	7	10	11	10	8	14
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	2	0	0	3	3	6
cuckoo (sp.)	1						
Eastern Screech-Owl	3	8	6	3	3	5	5
Great Horned Owl	14	14	17	19	11	16	15
Barred Owl	12	10	12	14	6	12	10
Short-eared Owl	1	1	1	1	2	0	0
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1	1	2	2	1	0	1
Common Nighthawk	8	11	14	9	13	9	16
Whip-poor-will	9	8	13	7	8	8	12
Chimney Swift	19	21	22	22	20	20	22
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	14	16	18	16	15	13	14
Belted Kingfisher	16	17	21	23	17	18	21
Red-headed Woodpecker	12	16	21	20	17	19	21
Red-bellied Woodpecker	15	16	18	19	16	17	20
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	12	12	12	11	8	10	10
Downy Woodpecker	18	19	23	23	22	21	23
Hairy Woodpecker	17	22	23	22	19	21	21
Black-backed Woodpecker	2	1	1	1	0	1	0
Northern Flicker	19	22	24	24	22	22	22
Pileated Woodpecker	10	10	9	11	9	10	9
Olive-sided Flycatcher	3	5	5	4	4	9	3
Eastern Wood-Pewee	8	14	19	10	13	13	16
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	3	5	3	3	1	1	3

(continued)

Table 4. *Continued*

Species	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Alder Flycatcher	6	6	5	2	2	1	8
Willow Flycatcher	7	5	2	2	5	5	9
Least Flycatcher	14	20	19	21	18	20	19
Eastern Phoebe	17	21	21	23	19	20	19
Great Crested Flycatcher	18	20	22	24	20	21	21
Eastern Kingbird	18	20	23	23	22	21	21
Horned Lark	16	19	21	21	17	18	19
Purple Martin	14	19	20	23	19	19	21
Tree Swallow	19	22	24	24	22	22	21
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	18	17	21	24	17	20	21
Bank Swallow	16	17	19	20	16	14	16
Cliff Swallow	17	20	21	16	13	16	16
Barn Swallow	19	22	24	24	22	21	22
Gray Jay	2	2	1	2	0	1	1
Blue Jay	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
American Crow	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Northern Raven	10	9	8	8	8	5	8
Black-capped Chickadee	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Boreal Chickadee	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Tufted Titmouse	1	1	2	2	2	4	2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	9	17	14	12	7	15	10
White-breasted Nuthatch	18	21	24	24	22	21	23
Brown Creeper	9	6	10	8	6	0	13
House Wren	18	22	24	24	22	21	23
Winter Wren	10	11	12	10	7	5	9
Sedge Wren	11	14	16	17	13	16	10
Marsh Wren	12	17	15	16	11	14	7
Golden-crowned Kinglet	6	5	10	3	4	6	6
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	10	14	16	15	7	14	15
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	12	15	14	15	14	14	15
Eastern Bluebird	18	22	23	24	21	22	21
Veery	17	19	18	18	15	20	17
Gray-cheeked Thrush	8	5	9	8	7	10	4
Swainson's Thrush	12	14	17	14	13	14	11
Hermit Thrush	11	15	14	14	10	12	13
Wood Thrush	17	18	21	21	19	19	19
American Robin	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Gray Catbird	18	22	24	23	22	21	23
Brown Thrasher	19	21	24	23	21	20	21
Cedar Waxwing	14	15	15	16	14	13	15
European Starling	18	22	24	23	22	22	23
Solitary Vireo	10	15	13	9	6	9	9
Yellow-throated Vireo	14	15	18	13	14	12	16
Warbling Vireo	16	18	21	22	20	19	16
Philadelphia Vireo	5	7	7	4	8	6	7
Red-eyed Vireo	14	19	22	19	21	17	19
Blue-winged Warbler	8	15	11	11	12	13	10
Golden-winged Warbler	13	18	14	14	9	13	16
Tennessee Warbler	14	18	18	18	16	15	17
Orange-crowned Warbler	2	6	8	3	4	7	9
Nashville Warbler	15	18	19	20	16	18	18
Northern Parula	9	10	10	12	4	9	10
Yellow Warbler	19	22	24	24	20	21	22
Chestnut-sided Warbler	17	21	24	20	18	17	18
Magnolia Warbler	16	17	19	17	16	19	16
Cape May Warbler	11	16	16	14	12	10	13
Black-throated Blue Warbler	8	9	6	7	4	2	7
Yellow-rumped Warbler	18	22	23	22	18	22	20
Black-throated Green Warbler	15	19	19	19	16	17	18
Blackburnian Warbler	15	20	19	19	14	16	13
Pine Warbler	12	12	9	6	8	6	9

(continued)

Table 4. *Continued*

Species	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Palm Warbler	13	15	21	22	12	19	17
Bay-breasted Warbler	11	14	15	13	12	13	14
Blackpoll Warbler	10	13	11	9	14	10	11
Cerulean Warbler	3	3	6	7	7	3	8
Black-and-white Warbler	18	21	19	19	16	20	21
American Redstart	18	20	22	21	18	19	20
Prothonotary Warbler	3	2	6	1	0	3	7
Worm-eating Warbler	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Ovenbird	18	21	23	22	19	20	21
Northern Waterthrush	13	18	20	19	11	16	12
Louisiana Waterthrush	3	3	1	2	3	4	5
Kentucky Warbler	1	0	1	3	1	0	0
Connecticut Warbler	4	5	5	6	5	3	2
Mourning Warbler	8	11	14	18	11	8	11
Common Yellowthroat	17	21	22	24	20	21	22
Wilson's Warbler	10	14	12	14	10	15	12
Canada Warbler	11	13	15	14	13	7	9
Scarlet Tanager	14	19	23	17	17	16	17
Northern Cardinal	16	17	22	23	20	20	22
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	19	21	23	24	22	22	23
Indigo Bunting	17	19	19	20	20	18	19
Rufous-sided Towhee	12	18	20	19	18	18	17
American Tree Sparrow	4	3	1	1	0	1	2
Chipping Sparrow	19	22	24	24	22	22	21
Clay-colored Sparrow	12	14	15	12	11	10	12
Field Sparrow	15	18	17	18	17	18	19
Vesper Sparrow	14	14	17	17	15	16	15
Savannah Sparrow	16	19	22	21	19	21	19
Grasshopper Sparrow	7	10	10	9	8	6	7
Henslow's Sparrow	2	3	1	0	1	3	4
Le Conte's Sparrow	3	3	4	0	4	4	2
Fox Sparrow	1	2	4	3	4	7	7
Song Sparrow	19	22	24	24	22	20	23
Lincoln's Sparrow	8	8	10	12	5	5	12
Swamp Sparrow	18	20	21	21	19	20	23
White-throated Sparrow	16	21	22	23	15	21	18
White-crowned Sparrow	14	14	16	21	13	19	15
Harris' Sparrow	3	0	0	2	2	5	0
Dark-eyed Junco	4	6	9	5	3	6	7
Lapland Longspur	1	2	1	3	2	2	0
Bobolink	18	19	21	22	20	19	19
Red-winged Blackbird	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Eastern Meadowlark	18	21	22	22	22	19	18
Western Meadowlark	8	10	11	15	11	16	12
Yellow-headed Blackbird	13	14	15	19	15	16	17
Rusty Blackbird	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Brewer's Blackbird	13	13	13	14	12	14	16
Common Grackle	19	22	24	24	22	21	23
Brown-headed Cowbird	19	22	24	24	22	21	23
Orchard Oriole	1	3	7	3	4	4	3
Northern Oriole	17	22	23	24	22	21	22
Purple Finch	12	17	17	17	13	13	9
House Finch	18	22	22	19	16	12	11
Red Crossbill	2	1	1	0	1	2	1
Pine Siskin	5	11	11	10	6	18	4
American Goldfinch	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Evening Grosbeak	5	7	6	7	3	4	4
House Sparrow	19	21	24	24	21	22	23
Total Species	240	247	244	245	242	244	245
Number of Counts	19	22	24	24	22	22	23

North American Migration Count 1995—Wisconsin

by Jim Frank

The fourth North American Migration Count took place on May 13, 1995 in numerous states and counties across the country. This count differs from Wisconsin's traditional May Counts in that this count attempts to count the *individual numbers* of each species (as you do on Christmas Counts) and the *number of party hours* is reported (again as on Christmas Counts). It differs from Christmas Counts in that the count area is an entire county, *not* a 15 mile diameter circle. In addition, this count is taken on *the same day* across the country (*the second Saturday in May*) to in essence take a "snapshot" of the spring migration in North America. The premise is that *numbers* of birds will create useful comparative data for the future, something merely "ticking" off species doesn't generate.

The count is held on the second Saturday of May, a time when some of the northern states haven't reached their peak of migration, but still have early lingering migrants. The southern states may be past their peak, but late migrants may still be present in these areas. Because spring migration is so dynamic, counts have to be held on the same day to avoid repetitive counting. Obviously nothing is foolproof, we all are aware of how far birds can fly in a day's time, if they are "on the move."

Please note WSO is still conducting May Counts as they always have, any day in May your county wants to conduct one. It is possible for interested groups to do one count that can be turned in for both the North American Migration Count and the Wisconsin May Count by conducting the May Count on the second Saturday in May and by counting individual birds and party hours in the process.

In examining the counts from the last 3 years, note should be made of improved coverage of northern counties in the state in 1994 and 1995 with appropriate species increases. In evaluating 1993's count, its early date of May 8 versus May 14, 1994 and May 13, 1995 should be taken into consideration. That 5 day interval allows a significant wave or

two of neotropical migrants to enter the state in many instances. Party hours for 1994 and 1995 were roughly 10% higher than in 1993 allowing fairly reasonable comparison of many species not restricted to the northern counties. Data for 1994 have been modified from last year's publication by the addition of data from Marathon and Clark Counties received too late for printing. In addition, one count from 1994 (Waukesha) and one from 1995 (Dodge) were separated from the main body of data for computation of individuals/hour as party hours were not submitted for these counts.

Hopefully numbers of each species will be fascinating, making one want to speculate as to the actual numbers we could document across the state (and country) with dramatically improved coverage. Though some birders feel the early date isn't conducive to good lists in the northern counties, a look at the following data will suggest otherwise. As is becoming traditional, Winnebago County led the way with 182 species, slightly off their 1994 total of 190 species, and their 1993 total of 191 species that placed them second across the country!

The 1996 North American Migration Count is to be held May 11, 1996. Compilers of the 1995 North American Migration Counts are listed below. If you are interested in joining one of the counts, contact the compiler. If you want to initiate a count in a previously uncovered county, please contact Jim Frank, 4339 W. Laverna Ave., Mequon, Wisconsin 53092. Even if you count alone, the data are valuable since it is analyzed per party hour.

Douglas Co. Burnett Hojnacki, 13670 S. Lakeview Circle, Gordon, Wis. 54838.

Bayfield Co. Phyllis Johnson, P.O. Box 303, Cornucopia, Wis. 54827.

Vilas Co. Bill Reardon, 2547 Hwy 70E, Eagle River, Wis. 54521.

Oneida Co. Rosemary Boxrucker, 4413 Highlander Rd., Rhinelander, Wis. 54501.

Langlade Co. David and Marleen Bell, W11200 Horseshoe Bend, Deerbrook, Wis. 54424.

Marathon Co. Ken & Jan Luepke, B-894 Eau Pleine Rd., Spencer, Wis. 54479.

Clark Co. Ken & Jan Luepke, B-894 Eau Pleine Rd., Spencer, Wis. 54479.

Taylor Co. Greg Scott, W14437 Hookers Rd., Gilman, Wis. 54433.

Winnebago Co. Tom Ziebell, 1322 Ceape Ave., Oshkosh, Wis. 54901.

Fond du Lac Co. Jeff Baughman, W8985 Co. Hwy SS, Adell, Wis. 53001.

Columbia Co. Marvin Calewart, 16635 W. Crescent Dr., New Berlin, Wis. 53151.

Milwaukee Co. Jim Frank, 4339 W. Laverna Ave., Mequon, Wis. 53092.

Kenosha Co. Ron Hoffmann, Box 886, Kenosha, Wis. 53141.

Dodge Co.

Ozaukee Co. Jim Frank, 4339 W. Laverna Ave., Mequon, Wis. 53092.

Jim Frank
4339 W. Laverna Ave.
Mequon, WI 53092

Table 1. Numbers of individuals of each species observed on Migration Day Counts.

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Vilas	Oneida	Langlade	Marathon	Clark	Taylor	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Columbia	Milwaukee	Kenosha	Dodge	Total 1995	Total 1994	Total 1993
Common Loon	1	7	38	1	2	3		2	1						55	32	9
Pied-billed Grebe		11	1			4	2	2	24	10	5	4	2	4	69	36	68
Red-necked Grebe									2		1				3	10	22
American White Pelican									8						8		
Double-crested Cormorant		65			1	188			92	5			8	18	377	219	587
American Bittern		1	6		1		3	3	10	4			1		29	35	33
Least Bittern									10	5					15	5	7
Great Blue Heron	1	13	13			98	14	3	62	20	8	1	14	36	283	261	195
Great Egret			1						3	31				38	73	8	92
Snowy Egret														1	1		
Cattle Egret									1				2		3		
Green-backed Heron					1	9	2	1	11	4			1	4	33	80	61
Black-crowned Night-Heron									26	6				14	46	36	11
Tundra Swan							1		2						3		
Trumpeter Swan						1									1	2	4
Mute Swan	4	5								1			7		17	1	2
swan (sp.)																1	2
Snow Goose									1						1	2	
Canada Goose	4	29	71	2		117	21	8	137	86	9	46	1192	202	1924	906	436
Wood Duck	7	5	14		3	67	23	6	60	6	2		3	9	205	184	139
Green-winged Teal		14	6			7			6	3					36	36	12
American Black Duck		4	4						3	1					12	42	7
Mallard	14	30	107	8	20	391	104	9	496	91	49	10	56	141	1526	1981	942
Northern Pintail						2			2						4	30	12
Blue-winged Teal		17	13			118	30	1	118	24	25		3	72	421	342	396
Northern Shoveler		16				2			9	5			1		33	31	65
Gadwall		1							34	2	3				40	32	27
American Wigeon		6	6			2			19	1					34	7	20
Canvasback									1						1	8	2
Redhead									54	15			2	7	78	48	101
Ring-necked Duck	7	6	20			39		6	4	3	7		1		93	14	101
Greater Scaup													4		4	5	11
Lesser Scaup			2			2	7		212						223	22	46
scaup (sp.)											10				10	11	67
Common Goldeneye		1							3						4	1	19
Bufflehead		8	2						3						13	10	39
Hooded Merganser	5	2	14		1	2	1		1						26	14	6
Common Merganser		3	10			3			6						22	23	9
Red-breasted Merganser		3							5				2		10	25	202
merganser (sp.)							2								2		
Ruddy Duck									10	16	4		4	8	42	85	116
Turkey Vulture		2	6			10	13			13			1	2	34	29	33
Osprey			4			6									10	14	18
Bald Eagle	3	3	16		1	4	7	1	2						37	26	19
Northern Harrier	1	1	5			44	16	1	11	3	1		1	6	90	82	113
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1			2	5			1	1	1				11	7	8
Cooper's Hawk		1	1			2			6	2				1	13	10	14
Northern Goshawk							1		1						2	2	
accipiter (sp.)												1			1		
Red-shouldered Hawk			1			1									2		
Broad-winged Hawk	1	4	7			7	5		3						27	14	29
Red-tailed Hawk	1	3				16	10	1	31	22	1		3	8	96	137	142
Rough-legged Hawk						1									1		
American Kestrel	1	7	1			29	15	2	21	9	5		3	11	104	88	121
Merlin																3	
Peregrine Falcon																2	
hawk (sp.)																2	4
Gray Partridge																2	2
Ring-necked Pheasant						1	1	1	35	7	3	1	3	14	66	77	120
Spruce Grouse																6	
Ruffed Grouse	1	11	14	1		21	8	2		5	1				64	36	11
Greater Prairie-Chicken						9	7								16	18	11
Sharp-tailed Grouse	3							3							6	4	
Wild Turkey									1	9					10	19	4
Northern Bobwhite																9	3

(continued)

Table 1. *Continued*

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Vilas	Oneida	Langlade	Marathon	Clark	Taylor	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Columbia	Milwaukee	Kenosha	Dodge	Total 1995	Total 1994	Total 1993
Yellow Rail																2	7
King Rail									1	1				1	3	1	1
Virginia Rail		1	1			5			12	10				1	30	19	16
Sora			1			8		3	54	36	1	1		53	157	76	165
Common Moorhen									5		2				7	11	9
American Coot		1							112	9	51	2	2	2	179	259	361
Sandhill Crane			4			138	19	9	184	32	13			33	432	532	347
Black-bellied Plover													4		4	97	
American Golden Plover													20		20	68	1
Semipalmated Plover														6	6	13	1
Killdeer		9	13	2		146	67	3	154	39	4	2	13	42	494	622	516
Greater Yellowlegs		3				1			1	1			1	1	8	22	21
Lesser Yellowlegs		12				1			8	1					22	64	67
Solitary Sandpiper							1		3					1	5	13	13
Spotted Sandpiper	2	26	9		2	13	3		10	20			2	3	90	55	34
Upland Sandpiper		1							2						3	14	5
Hudsonian Godwit																4	
Marbled Godwit																1	
Ruddy Turnstone									110				8		118	336	26
Sanderling													16		16	14	30
Semipalmated Sandpiper									10	6					16	27	
Least Sandpiper			4	1					10	5				29	49	74	18
White-rumped Sandpiper									1						1		
Pectoral Sandpiper										8					8	5	47
Dunlin		4							6	25			34	6	75	33	2
peep (sp.)																71	21
Short-billed Dowitcher									6	4					10	15	6
dowitcher (sp.)																2	9
Common Snipe		10	18			5	2	6	32	1				3	77	67	65
American Woodcock		3	2			19	2		10				3		40	34	50
Wilson's Phalarope																17	7
Little Gull									2						2		
Bonaparte's Gull									267				8	5	280	316	1056
Ring-billed Gull		307	1			16			5842	57		9	26	3	6261	4310	4363
Herring Gull		112				4			252	4			13		385	872	2817
gull (sp.)		150				20			204				1980		2354	8425	2151
Caspian Tern																149	45
Common Tern		206							166	13			13		398	586	102
Forster's Tern			17						92	26			11	11	157	119	127
tern—Sterna (sp.)									37				1186		1223	13082	171
Black Tern						17	2		98	48	150		3	14	332	123	88
Rock Dove		13	11			400	180	2	504	37	28		262	112	1549	1710	1664
Mourning Dove	1	25	27	17	3	242	88	3	628	70	21	12	135	68	1340	1050	1226
Black-billed Cuckoo										1					1	3	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo																1	
cuckoo (sp.)									1						1		
Eastern Screech-Owl									1	1					2	5	
Great Horned Owl			1			3	2		2	14			4		26	19	14
Barred Owl			4			6			2	7				1	20	8	8
Short-eared Owl									1						1		
Northern Saw-whet Owl			1												1	2	
Common Nighthawk						2			2	2			3	1	10	14	52
Whip-poor-will		13				6			1	3	1				24	4	14
Chimney Swift		1	1			50	14		168	57		2	11	33	337	565	430
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	1	4	1					7	1					15	35	15
Belted Kingfisher		2	9			10	3		6	3			2	2	37	36	45
Red-headed Woodpecker						3	4		4	1			1		13	37	46
Red-bellied Woodpecker			1			8	5		10	3		1	2	2	32	46	36
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	7	48		2	1	3	4					2	1	69	39	17
Downy Woodpecker	1	6	26	2	2	35	12	1	47	11	2	6	1	7	159	149	101
Hairy Woodpecker	1	7	29	1	2	25	10	1	12	6			1		95	71	39
Northern Flicker	5	55	31	1	3	42	151	3	96	25	4	2	12	17	447	287	233
Pileated Woodpecker		1	8	1	2	4	3	3		3					25	19	7
Eastern Wood Pewee			2						1		1			2	6	26	8
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher																1	2

(continued)

Table 1. *Continued*

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Vilas	Oneida	Langlade	Marathon	Clark	Taylor	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Columbia	Milwaukee	Kenosha	Dodge	Total 1995	Total 1994	Total 1993
Acadian Flycatcher																1	
Alder Flycatcher																8	1
Willow Flycatcher									1	1					2	5	2
Least Flycatcher			6		1	14	4	1	22	11					59	181	165
empidonax (sp.)						1									1	8	15
Eastern Phoebe	4	8	20			30	15	2	17	5				2	103	126	92
Great Crested Flycatcher			1			15	11	1	14	7	1		1	5	56	158	96
Eastern Kingbird	2		6			26	8	4	32	4	3	3	1	5	96	241	192
Horned Lark			1			38	10	2	28	12	1		7	3	102	62	184
Purple Martin	1		15				1		127	5			16	14	179	269	341
Tree Swallow	55	82	393	14		1669	280	22	1300	2339	159	7	208	294	6822	3921	2129
Northern Rough-winged Swallow			36			318	54		17	149		3	1	1	579	385	97
Bank Swallow		4	2			109	17		84	235			2	4	457	566	629
Cliff Swallow		6	165			751	33	5	145	208					1313	1704	1138
Barn Swallow		6	23		50	396	188	10	694	574	176	24	33	92	2264	1768	1146
Gray Jay			8												8	8	
Blue Jay	7	119	61	5	2	226	101	6	148	56	18	4	10	35	798	751	919
American Crow	13	47	218	5	2	509	195	29	153	93	75	121	41	43	1544	1431	907
Common Raven		14	30			21	13	2							80	36	11
Black-capped Chickadee	8	129	121	3	9	322	73	9	65	42	6	11	5	17	820	628	568
Tufted Titmouse																1	
Red-breasted Nuthatch		17	49		2	16				1					85	60	6
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	10	21	1	4	41	10	1	27	12	2	3	1	5	140	116	99
Brown Creeper	1	3	4		1			1	1				1		12	11	8
House Wren		1	2			46	6		147	45	5	7	2	16	277	384	278
Winter Wren		2	11			8	1			2					22	16	8
Sedge Wren		1	5			35	31		37						109	403	260
Marsh Wren		1	2			28			458	11				8	508	585	342
Golden-crowned Kinglet			12			2		1	2	1					18	7	12
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		15	8		1	2			3	12	2		1	1	45	46	67
Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher							1		27	18		4		11	61	59	54
Eastern Bluebird	10	3	6			36	12	5	13	2	3	1		3	94	152	100
Veery		3	3			10	4	3	7	6			1	3	40	50	22
Gray-cheeked Thrush						2			3	3			1		9	8	16
Swainson's Thrush		2	2			2			28	6		2		2	44	43	30
Hermit Thrush		1	19			4	5		7		3				39	60	16
Wood Thrush			1			40	14		13	6	1	1	2	11	89	119	80
American Robin	10	109	163	30	14	891	418	9	1556	510	73	29	100	298	4210	3577	3050
Gray Catbird		1				38	26	2	119	36	13	7	1	32	275	550	368
Northern Mockingbird																1	
Brown Thrasher	2	5	11			32	21	1	25	7	2	2	1	6	115	138	132
American Pipit																3	10
Cedar Waxwing						32	1		53	1		7		2	96	148	101
Northern Shrike																1	
European Starling	1	43	136	9		663	178	7	1934	422	53		107	242	3795	3589	3403
Solitary Vireo		2	3			1			3	1		1		2	13	15	7
Yellow-throated Vireo			1			1	6		3	2				2	15	29	27
Warbling Vireo						14	1		54	10	1		1	2	83	134	94
Philadelphia Vireo							2								2	3	2
Red-eyed Vireo						5	2		9	1					17	84	13
Blue-winged Warbler						1			2	4			1	1	9	25	14
Golden-winged Warbler		1	1		2	9	11	3	6	3				1	37	81	46
Tennessee Warbler			1			11	1		26	8			2	3	52	127	42
Orange-crowned Warbler					1										1	7	11
Nashville Warbler		8	26			38	38	6	37	14		1		6	174	292	170
Northern Parula		2	3						3	1				1	10	27	7
Yellow Warbler	1	6	27		1	130	30	4	239	48	16	12	5	85	604	771	457
Chestnut-sided Warbler					1	20	1		18	23	2	3	4	5	77	228	116
Magnolia Warbler		1	1			6	1		20	42		6	2	3	82	188	91
Cape May Warbler		5	8			14	2		26	14				6	75	89	87
Black-throated Blue Warbler			5			1			4	2		1	1	1	15	7	6
Yellow-rumped Warbler	3	99	134		5	325	41	8	202	55		16	7	82	977	1018	691
Black-throated Green Warbler		16	9			9			15	21		3	4	6	83	104	53
Blackburnian Warbler		1	6		1	10			8	11		1	7	1	46	74	38
Pine Warbler		1	11			1	6		1	2					16	34	26

(continued)

Table 1. *Continued*

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Vilas	Oneida	Langlade	Marathon	Clark	Taylor	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Columbia	Milwaukee	Kenosha	Dodge	Total 1995	Total 1994	Total 1993
Palm Warbler		25	12			69	2	2	72	39		10	4	35	270	185	155
Bay-breasted Warbler						3			6	1			1	1	12	89	25
Blackpoll Warbler		2					1		1	1		1	1	2	9	34	21
Cerulean Warbler							1							1	2	8	2
Black-and-white Warbler		6	17		1	26	18	8	13	15		2	3	8	117	115	134
American Redstart	1		6		1	21	4		56	29		2	3	20	142	237	122
Prothonotary Warbler			1			1							1		3	2	
Worm-eating Warbler													1		1	1	1
Ovenbird	5	27	36			151	165	8	330	11			2	3	738	611	509
Northern Waterthrush		4	2			8	3	2	11	5				2	37	38	52
Louisiana Waterthrush										1					1		
Connecticut Warbler						5			1						6	4	
Mourning Warbler						1		1	2				1		5	7	1
Common Yellowthroat		7	2			37	36	2	106	30	3	1	5	80	309	626	472
Hooded Warbler																1	
Wilson's Warbler									2			1			3	31	9
Canada Warbler							7		1	5		2	3		18	25	5
Summer Tanager																1	
Scarlet Tanager						4	2		19	8		2		2	37	84	48
Northern Cardinal		1				100	8		108	59	4	24	6	20	330	355	305
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	10	30	3	5	115	61	4	98	49	10	4	2	26	418	604	295
Indigo Bunting					2	6	4		13	11		5	1		42	132	51
Rufous-sided Towhee	8	4	2			18	25	1	3	7	6	1	1		76	115	83
American Tree Sparrow		21	2			6								7	36	19	3
Clay-colored Sparrow	9	6	6			108	18	2							149	61	105
Chipping Sparrow	420	104	104	1	5	255	115		195	40	18	1	13	18	1288	1306	696
Field Sparrow		1	1			39	16		2	9	21	2	1	3	95	76	80
Vesper Sparrow	2	1	7			15	4		5	1	1				36	37	28
Savannah Sparrow	1	38	30			146	60	3	419	129			2		828	892	1006
Grasshopper Sparrow						1				1					2	17	5
Henslow's Sparrow										8					8		
Le Conte's Sparrow		2							1						3	2	2
Fox Sparrow			2			2									4	2	4
Song Sparrow	7	44	92		3	399	251	11	755	87	40	11	2	80	1782	1579	1579
Lincoln's Sparrow			4						1	5			1	1	12	15	7
Swamp Sparrow		23	30			16	18	6	429	131	7		3	88	751	264	486
White-throated Sparrow	1	41	80		5	55	7	2	47	30		1	1	25	295	253	264
White-crowned Sparrow		64	2	3	3		2		8	7		4		3	96	51	38
Harris' Sparrow							1								1		
Dark-eyed Junco		2	18	3									4		27	29	3
Lapland Longspur			5						200						205	300	30
Bobolink		19	11			86	61	2	46	26			4	6	261	301	361
Red-winged Blackbird	36	184	299	11	50	3901	1847	76	4486	1145	362	37	109	739	13282	10878	8762
Eastern Meadowlark		6				145	55		62	27	13		7	8	323	287	389
Western Meadowlark		4				5			5	1					15	12	29
meadowlark (sp.)																3	19
Yellow-headed Blackbird						23			305	53	22		4	13	420	601	742
Rusty Blackbird						2									2		
Brewer's Blackbird		24	3	6		148	52		6		12		2		253	395	201
Common Grackle	4	76	132	14		495	398	5	1324	742	72	33	101	223	3633	3150	3461
Brown-headed Cowbird	56	54	71	6	3	348	125	8	377	117	15	14	4	47	1245	1138	1009
blackbird (sp.)				5									111		116	100	100
Orchard Oriole									3						3	1	15
Northern Oriole	1		4		2	62	25	3	77	24	6	12	3	8	227	474	350
Purple Finch	3	37	43	12	9	29	13	5		2					155	132	30
House Finch		7	8			88	62		248	65		4	14	27	523	499	340
Red Crossbill			1				3								4	1	
Pine Siskin	1	153	111	14	17										296	62	5
American Goldfinch	11	23	145	17	12	553	376	30	392	56	12	28	19	110	1784	1777	1295
Evening Grosbeak	1	31	72	3	7			7							121	120	
House Sparrow		5	6			757	316	4	1528	148	17	14	102	117	3014	3276	3978
SPECIES	55	125	134	32	47	153	119	74	182	156	68	65	116	119	226	229	222
INDIVIDUALS	754	3188	3842	203	270	17517	4999	425	30267	9230	1649	487	6201	4133	83165	87395	66071
															-4133	-15376	
# Counties															14	12	9

(continued)

Table 1. *Continued*

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Vilas	Oneida	Langlade	Marathon	Clark	Taylor	Winnebago	Fond du Lac	Columbia	Milwaukee	Kenosha	Dodge	Total 1995	Total 1994	Total 1993
Parties	1	7	9	2	1	15	7	1	16	4	1	1	1		66	68	50
Observers	2	9	10	2	2	28	12	1	28	11	2	8	2	16	141	127	90
Total Hours	6.5	26.5	50	8	3	148	67	4.25	136	48.5	18.5	7.25	15.5		541	530	490
Hours—Foot	0	2	16	3	0	35	5	1.5	36	16.5	0.5	6.25	3		124.75		
Hours—Car	6.5	24.5	34	2	3	107	62	2.75	100	32	15.5	0	12		401.25		
Miles—Foot	0	4	12	2	0	26	3.5	0.5	24	11.5	1	6	2		92.5		
Miles—Car	60	70	524	30	47	1408	753	42	875	510	177	0	138		4634		
Individuals/Hour	116	120	77	25	90	118	75	100	223	190	89	67	400		128	136	135

Wood Duck *by Barbara Herrera*

WSO Records Committee Report—Spring 1995

by Jim Frank

Twenty-five documentations of rare birds were reviewed by the WSO Records Committee for the Spring 1995 season. The twenty-one accepted reports constitutes an acceptance rate of 84%. Observers were notified by postcard in the case of accepted reports and by personal letter in the case of reports not accepted.

Two early spring records were broken by these reports.

Accepted

Ross' Goose—

#95–002 *Dodge Co.;* 16 March 1995, Tessen (2 birds)

#95–003 *Outagamie Co.;* 24 March 1995, Tessen (2 birds); 8 April 1995, Nussbaum.

#95–004 *Dane Co.;* 1 April 1995, Robbins; 1 April 1995, Tessen.

White geese, smaller than Snow Geese, were noted to have black primaries. The pink bills were shorter and stubbier than those of the Snow Geese. In addition, they lacked the dark gray "grin patch" along the side of the bill. The necks were shorter, the head more rounded in profile than the Snow Geese.

(Observers should note all the above field marks in identification. "Barnyard hybrids" might be mistaken for Ross' Geese if the black primaries and bill and head shapes are not analyzed.)

King Eider—

#95–005 *Door Co.;* 11–24 March 1995, Stover.

On three different days, this large duck was seen and noted to be similar in size to adjacent Common Mergansers, but exhibited a striking pattern of black back and sides with a white head, neck and breast. The rounded white head was broken up by a gray line on the side of the face extending down the side of the neck. On one day, a large, mottled brown, female duck was noted swimming with the drake, but was too far away to identify it positively as a female King Eider, though the behavior suggested they were a pair.

Hudsonian Godwit—

#95–007 *Marathon Co.;* 8 April 1995, Belter.

A large shorebird, much larger than adjacent snipe, was noted to have a bicolored, upturned bill, with a slight reddish brown tinge to the barred, lower breast. In flight, a white rump without evidence of wing bars was noted. Also reported were dark-colored legs.

This is an early spring record for Wisconsin.

Curlew Sandpiper—

#95–008 *Dane Co.;* 28 May 1995, Foster; 28 May 1995, Burcar; 28 May 1995, Robbins; 28–29 May 1995, Hansen; 29 May 1995, Tessen; 29 May 1995, Ashman.

This shorebird was initially noted to be similar to or slightly larger in size than surrounding Dunlins. The deep, red coloration of the head, nape, and underparts was *strikingly* different. The crown was more reddish brown with black streaking and a whitish area was noted at the base of the bill, particularly behind the lower mandible. The deep red breast became horizontally barred with dark brown, finally grading into white undertail coverts. The dark brown mantle contrasted with the buff-edged, scaly appearance to the scapulars. Thin white wing lines were noted in flight, as was a white rump. The bill was a bit shorter than, but quite similar in length to the Dunlin's bill. It downturned over the distal half of its length, not just drooping at the tip like the Dunlin's bill does. Most of the reporting observers suggested the bill of this Curlew Sandpiper was shorter in length than depicted in various field guides. Finally, the legs were dark in color, similar in length to the Dunlins.

This is the sixth documented record for Wisconsin.

Lesser Black-backed Gull—

#95–009 *Dane Co.;* 30 March 1995, Burcar; 1 April 1995, Sutton (photo).

This gull was considerably larger than surrounding Ring-billed Gulls, but slightly smaller than the Herring Gulls. The most obvious difference from the other gulls was the darker gray mantle. In flight, black wing tips contrasted slightly with the dark gray mantle. White primary spots were also mentioned. The legs and bill were yellow, the bill having a red gonydeal spot. A white head, breast, and tail completed the description.

Common Nighthawk—

#95–010 *Dane Co.;* 1 April 1995, Strelka.

This brief look occurred from a car as a dark bird with "erratic flight" and long, pointed wings flew into view. It briefly tipped to show "squarish" white primary patches.

This is an early spring date for Wisconsin.

Western Tanager—

#95–012 *Langlade Co.;* 28 April 1995, Hendrickson.

#95–013 *Vilas Co.;* 7 May 1995, Green (photo).

#95–014 *Door Co.;* 17 May 1995, Carson.

Variously described as Cedar Waxwing-sized, larger than a House Sparrow, or bigger than a Goldfinch but

smaller than a Robin, this yellow and black bird was sighted at three different feeders this spring. The birds were yellow with dark or black wings, a yellow rump, a black tail, and light or yellow wing bars. The most striking characteristic was, of course, the red head.

(Observers should take note of the beak shape in these birds. Western Tanagers can be confused with some oriole species if they aren't exhibiting the red head of the breeding male. The bill shape is a necessary field mark to clear up any confusion between such birds.)

Green-tailed Towhee—
#95–016 *Winnebago Co.;* 12 May 1995, Berkopec, Reed.

This sparrow-like bird was noted to be a bit longer than adjacent Purple Finches in both body and tail length. It also had a "sparrow-shaped" bill. A prominent white throat was flanked by two moustache marks. The breast was reported to be gray, its back a uniform olive green, and its cap was rusty. No wingbars were evident.

Not Accepted

Ross' Goose—
#95–003 *Outagamie Co.;* 9 April 1995.

This report is in all likelihood of the Ross' Geese reported on the previous day at this location. These were reported to be mallard-sized white geese. The distance involved in the observation precluded a good bill description. In addition, there was no mention of black primaries. Given the committee's evaluation of each report as a separate observation, the sighting could not be accepted with the limited description.

Purple Gallinule—
#95–006 *Dane Co.;* 6 May 1995.

This bird was reported to be a brilliant blue and purple chicken-like bird with orange legs, and white under the tail. In laborious flight, the legs were noted to hang down. In addition, the bill was reported to be red.

One field mark and a lack of mention of some field marks generated some question about the identity of this bird. First, the red bill was specifically noted to extend up the center of the forehead. Purple Gallinules have a light blue frontal shield. Second, no mention was made of a yellow bill tip, another characteristic usually apparent on a Purple Gallinule. Finally, the body color was described as blue, but more purplish on the sides. Usually the greenish color of the back and wings is mentioned in a Purple Gallinule description, but purple coloration normally isn't. Interestingly, there is a Purple Gallinule in European field guides, scientific name *Porphyrio porphyrio,* that has a red frontal shield, an all red bill, and blue-purple plumage. It is significantly larger than our Purple Gallinule, *Porphyrula martinica.* No mention of the relative size of this bird was made to assess this field mark.

Given the description being inconsistent with our Purple Gallinule and the similarity to the European Purple Gallinule, it would seem more likely that this was an escaped bird, rather than an extremely off-target

vagrant. (Observers should take note that the completeness of the observer's field observation and documentation were important to the avoidance of acceptance of an incorrect record. Even a brilliantly colored, hard-to-confuse bird needs accurate documentation, just because of cases like this.)

Warbler (sp.)—
#95–011 *Manitowoc Co.;* 17 May 1995.

In a careful, 10 minute observation of this warbler, an inconclusive, but very interesting identification was suggested by the observer. It was submitted to us as "an unidentifiable bird" presenting yet another demonstration of the need for thorough observations and documentation.

A warbler was observed with a bright yellow breast and throat, and a dark gray, black-striped back. The head was noted to be dark gray with a black mask, no eyeline, and white eyelids (not an eyering). A sparse necklace of black stripes trailing down the sides of the breast along the folded wing edges was also observed. The wings were plain gray, lacking any wing stripes or patch. Until the wingbars were noted to be absent, an impression of a Magnolia Warbler was forming for the observers. A Kirtland's Warbler was also considered. When the bird finally exposed the tail and rump to them, a gray rump was noted; however, the expected two white patches on the sides of the tail characteristic of a Magnolia Warbler were seen. Were it not for the tail markings, and the black facial mask, the bird could have passed for a Kirtland's. Were it not for the gray rump and the lack of wingbars, it might have passed for a Magnolia. It was observed in a group of predominantly Magnolia Warblers.

The Records Committee guesses were as varied as this bird was. The differential list accumulated from the committee included aberrant Magnolia, Magnolia hybrid, Magnolia × Kirtland's, Magnolia × Canada, aberrant Kirtland's, and aberrant Canada Warblers.

The closing comments in this documentation from the observers are worth mentioning. As banders, they have over the years seen a "blonde" Tree Swallow, a yellow-crowned Hairy Woodpecker, a white Goldfinch, spotted Juncos, a white Wood Thrush, a Nashville Warbler with a hood suggestive of a Connecticut Warbler, a Tennessee Warbler with yellow undertail coverts expected from an Orange-crowned Warbler, a yellow Purple Finch, robins with white tipped, Eastern Kingbird-like tails, and a Red-winged Blackbird with white secondary patches seen in Red-headed Woodpeckers.

As if it isn't enough for birders to decipher male, female, immature, 1st year, 2nd year, etc. plumages, we must all bear in mind that some birds are non-conformists through aberration or hybridization. *They can't all be identified—even with excellent looks.*

Black-headed Grosbeak—
#95–015 *Washington Co.;* 14 May 1995.

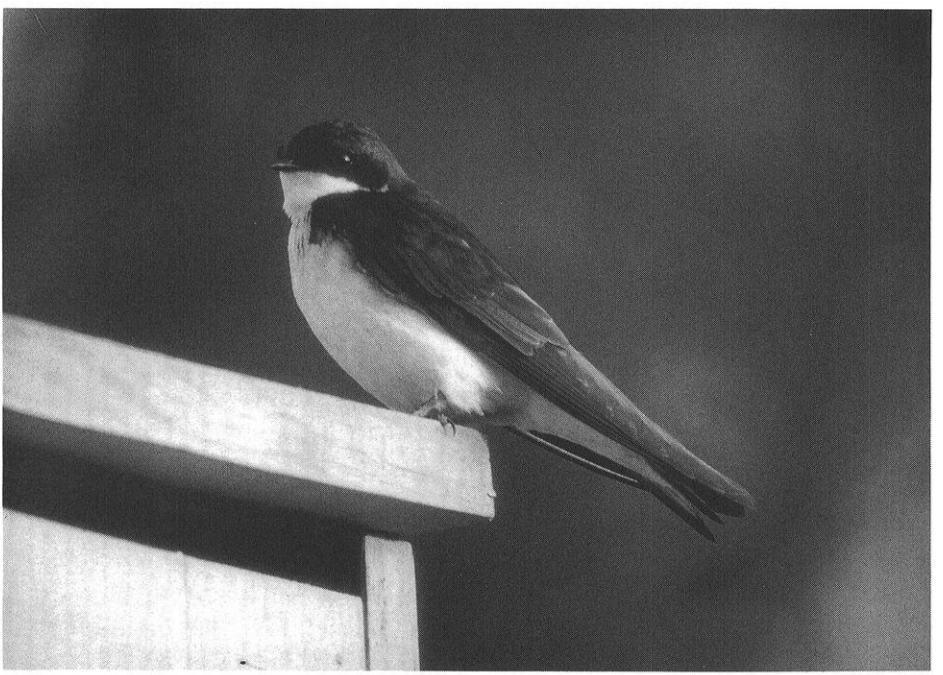
This report lacked any specific description of the bird other than it gave the initial impression it was an oriole, but the beak didn't fit. It was noted to have a Rose-breasted Gros-

beak body type. Without *specific* mention of colors or patterns or beak shapes, it is difficult to say what this bird was. There is the possibility this was a male Black-headed Grosbeak. Initial descriptions of other birds can also fit this report though.

Jim Frank
WSO Records Committee, Chair

50 Years Ago in *The Passenger Pigeon*

WSO President Clarence Jung authored a paper entitled, "A History of the Starling in the U. S." The Starling is described as that black devil that is prolific, imitative, and noisy. Like the House Finch several decades later, the Starling got its start in the eastern U. S. on Long Island, New York. It apparently survived its first winter in 1895. The first Milwaukee Museum record is from February 1922 and birds nested in Downer College (UW-Milwaukee) woods in 1923. By 1940, the total Starling population on our continent was about 50 million. Also as with House Finches, Starlings developed a migration pattern while a portion of the population was sedentary. Jung summarizes the Starling's diet based on 2626 stomachs collected in 1916 from birds in MA to PA to DE. In April, May, and June, 90% of their food is insects and even in February, animal matter still comprises 28%. Weevils were consumed year-round. Millipedes were especially important in April (60%) and May and grasshoppers comprised about 25% of the diet in October. Wild fruit and seeds became dominant from August through January. Jung concludes that for all these bad habits, the bird is an economic asset. (Excerpts from Volume 7, 1945)



Tree Swallow *by Gerald H. Emmerich, Jr.*

ABOUT THE AUTHORS AND ARTISTS

Bruce R. Bacon is a wildlife manager of Wisconsin DNR's Northwest District.

John Bielefeldt is one of southeastern Wisconsin's most active ornithologists. He received WSO's Silver Passenger Pigeon Award in recognition of his many contributions to Wisconsin ornithology.

Thomas C.J. Doolittle is a Wildlife Biologist for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

Gerald H. Emmerich, Jr., is a serious amateur photographer who enjoys searching for the perfect nature photograph. He and his wife donated a portion of the Pickerel Lake Fen to The Nature Conservancy and he spends his time "hunting" for the perfect photo at the Fen, at Lulu Lake, and at his family's cottage near Eagle River. Gerry is also a 20-year member of the Image Makers Camera Club.

Laura Erickson is the hard-working compiler of the Spring field notes and author of *For the Birds: An Uncommon Guide.* She is working toward a Ph.D. in avian physiology and has received many awards and honors for her work in conservation.

James O. Evrard is a Wildlife Biologist with the Wisconsin DNR's Bureau of Research. He is currently involved in research in northwest Wisconsin's pine barrens. He obtained his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Wildlife Ecology from the UW-Madison.

Jim Frank has been one of WSO's most active contributors to Seasonal Field-Notes. He now assists WSO by compiling and summarizing the annual May Day Counts, Big Day Counts and Migration Day Counts and is the Records Committee Chair. He is a veterinarian in Milwaukee with an interest in avian medicine.

Bettie Harriman is current President of WSO and coordinator of the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas.

Barbara Herrera grew up on her parent's farm in Muskego where she developed her interest in nature and nature photography. She's been

"shooting" birds for about 10 years, and enjoys the challenge of teaching her two young sons about getting close to the natural world. As a member of the Image Makers Camera Club, her photography is published regularly in the Wisconsin Chapter of The Nature Conservancy's calendar.

Robert A. Kleppin is a long-time resident of Menomonee Falls. His backyard is a tamarack swamp, the headwaters of the Illinois Fox River and Bob's photography workshop. His interest in his natural "backyard" has given him the perfect opportunity to show his skills as a nature photographer. As a 20-year member of the Image Makers, Bob has taught his specialty to many new club members.

Larry Michael's photographic work has taken him from the tundra of Alaska to the rainforests of Central America as well as the Midwest. His photography concentrates on producing transparencies that seek to abstract a scene or subject into its essence and communicate that to the viewer. His photographs have been published and widely exhibited in such places as the Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee Art Museum, Fuji Film Corporate Offices, galleries, and Northword Press.

Scott Mulcahy began his quest to learn photography and explore his fascination with nature about six years ago. Through his photography, he has enjoyed peace and tranquility while searching the outdoors for the next photo opportunity. As a photographer of nature, it is his aspiration to convey the spirit and beauty of our land and wildlife untouched by man.

Robert Rosenfield is an Assistant Professor of Biology at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He has his Ph.D. degree from North Dakota State University.

Julie F. Van Stappen is a Supervisory Resource Management Specialist with the National Park Service and is stationed at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

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Records*: Jim Frank, 4339 West Laverna Avenue, Mequon, WI 53092 (414-242-2443)

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