

The passenger pigeon. Vol. 56, No. 3 Fall 1994

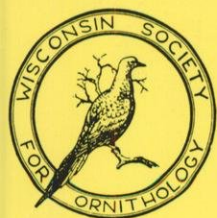
Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Fall 1994

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/E7VMCRO5KPRJT9A>

<http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/InC/1.0/>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.



THE PASSENGER PIGEON

Vol. 56 No. 3

Fall 1994

JOURNAL OF THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY



T H E PASSENGER PIGEON

Vol. 56 No. 3

Fall 1994

EDITOR

Rebecca S. Isenring
6869 Taylor Road
Sauk City, WI 53583
(608-643-6906)

ASSOCIATE EDITOR (Field Notes)

Daryl D. Tessen
3118 N. Oneida Street
Appleton, WI 54911
(414-735-9903)

ASSISTANT EDITOR (Art)

Cary Anne Reich
5214 River Road
Waunakee, WI 53597
(608-849-4909)

FIELD-NOTE COMPILER (Spring)

Laura L. Erickson
4831 Peabody Street
Duluth, MN 55804
(218-525-6171)

FIELD-NOTE COMPILER (Summer)

Thomas K. Soulen
1725 West Eldridge Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55113
(612-631-2069)

FIELD-NOTE COMPILER (Autumn)

Mark S. Peterson
Box 53
Caroline, WI 54928
(715-754-2661)

FIELD-NOTE COMPILER (Winter)

Kenneth I. Lange
Devil's Lake State Park
Baraboo, WI 53913
(608-356-8301)

The Passenger Pigeon (ISSN 0031-2703) is published quarterly (Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter) by The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, W330 N8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029. Subscription rates are: Individual, \$15 per year; Family, \$20 per year; Sustaining, \$35 per year; Library, \$18 per year; Life (Single), \$300; Life (Couple), \$400; and Patron, \$750. Back issues may be obtained for \$5.00 each. Send back issue and change of address requests to Memberships, W330 N8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029.

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.

Copyright© 1993 by The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc. Except for purposes of review, material contained herein may not be reproduced without written consent.

Changes: Large and Small

It certainly is good that I am not the President of the country since what I endorsed with enthusiasm was met with much irritation, and by some, indignation. The idea of a new logo for the Society seemed appealing as it would give the Society a "face lift," and perhaps rejuvenate interest in WSO. I guess health care reorganization and the crime bill are sufficient change for most people, and something that isn't broken shouldn't be fixed. But, changes are not necessarily bad and even subtle changes in the organization can be a way of infusing a renewed sense of purpose to the organization. Rest assured, we will not do something that the Society does not want. If, after the creative skills of the membership have been reviewed and a new logo is not found to be acceptable, nothing will be changed.

One change that was met with great interest and enthusiasm was the initiation of the Bronze PASSENGER PIGEON Award. The response to the new award was extremely gratifying. Although many of the recipients were unable to attend the Annual Convention in Beloit, Wisconsin, the Society community support was impressive. Several local newspapers published articles in recognition of the individual that was honored with the award. The Bronze PASSENGER PIGEON Award filled an important void that permitted the Society to reach out and recognize lifelong contributions that have been made by very dedicated individuals that would perhaps otherwise go unnoticed.

Daryl reported at the summer meeting of the board that the number of Spring Counts and Big Day Counts have remained constant for the last several years. It is hoped that this interest in bird census will continue as the Wisconsin version of the Breeding Bird Atlas becomes reality. Support for the project is beginning to materialize as various agencies are including the project in their budget requests and some have already committed funds to the project. The director of the project has yet to be identified because, in part, all of the participating agencies have not been identified. When this happens and the director has been secured, visible progress will become measurable and your able assistance will be summoned.

Wisconsin will shortly offer an Endangered Resources license plate option. Although this is "just" another license plate in a long line of alternative license plates to the Wisconsin farm scene, it does provide WSO members and others a way of supporting all of Wisconsin's endangered resources. The plate will cost an additional \$25, and the vanity lettering can be added for an additional fee if that is also desired. It has been projected that if only 2% of the people opt for the Endangered Resources plate, a million dollars will be generated for the Bureau of Endangered Resources. Not often is it possible for naturalists to support a worthwhile cause for a modest fee, and to advocate for the cause with distinctive plates. Maybe the next logical step would be to offer this as a

The Winter Season: 1993–94

by *Kenneth I. Lange*

The last two winters have been mostly overcast, and this winter began the same way. I work at Devil's Lake State Park and I was beginning to wonder if an older name for Devil's Lake (and my favorite), "Lake of the Red Mountain Shadows," was a misnomer (this name is especially appropriate when the setting sun of late fall and winter illuminates the east bluff in a red glow). But then, beginning in late December, the pattern changed, apparently because the El Nino was finally dying, and clear skies became more common. Once again it was winter in the old-time, classical sense, with low temperatures (and much snow). Devil's Lake again was the Lake of the Red Mountain Shadows.

It was a confusing time for El Nino forecasters (*Science News* 20 November 1993). El Ninos typically follow a 12–18 month cycle; this El Nino developed in 1991 and was expected to run its course by the end of 1992. But it persisted, and unexpectedly redeveloped in December 1992. Some forecasters were predicting a reemergence for this winter, but it was not to be.

The period began with seasonal tem-

peratures and a snow cover of at least an inch over most of the state. Above normal temperatures then reduced the snow and frost depths to their lowest levels since these surveys were started in 1961, but colder weather in late December caused an increase in frost depths.

Then, just in case you had forgotten about bitter cold, there was January, with wind chills of 40–70 below for several days in the third week for the coldest weather in approximately a decade. And then, just in case you had forgotten about the variability of weather, there was a shift to thawing temperatures 5 days later, a dramatic increase of approximately 100 degrees.

Bitter cold returned at the end of the month and extended into early February. Lake Superior, the largest of the Great Lakes, was officially reported ice-covered by the National Weather Service on 9 February for the first time in 16 years. "It kind of shows that it's the coldest winter in some time," declared a meteorologist.

Indeed it was. But why? This winter's severe cold apparently resulted from

the pattern in which high-altitude winds of the jet stream were sending Arctic air into Wisconsin and the eastern states. An atmospheric scientist at the University of Wisconsin commented, "It's the old-time type of weather pattern that we had in the '60s and '70s."

How about snow? The snow depth for Wisconsin at the end of December averaged 2.1 inches, 4 inches below the 32-year average. Light snowfalls occurred throughout January. But then there was February, the snowiest month in recorded history for a number of communities, for example Madison with 37 inches. Robert Domagalski reported a snow depth of 15 inches in Washington County at the end of February.

Snow amounts were actually less in northern Wisconsin, for example Vilas County as reported by Jim Baughman. Another contributor from Vilas County, Kathy Castelein, summed up the period in 2 words—"Quiet and cold!"

So how did this winter compare ornithologically with previous winters? Open water obviously was reduced when the cold weather arrived; even common wintering species, like Common Goldeneye and Bald Eagle, were then scarce and hard to find in LaCrosse County, and in Douglas County the gulls left earlier and more completely. On the other hand, waterfowl species and numbers were reduced in Madison mainly because the warm water outlet on Lake Monona was not operating.

Certain species should be affected adversely in bitter cold winters, but comparisons with previous winters are always risky. These species, however, are suspect: Great Blue Heron, Bald

Eagle, Eastern Screech Owl, Long-eared Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Winter Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, the mimic thrushes which were completely absent (at least after the Christmas Bird Counts), and Swamp Sparrow.

Yet the period inexplicably produced 2 new state records: Brambling, an Eurasian finch, one at a feeder in Winnebago County from 17–25 January, and Townsend's Warbler, a western North American species, one at a feeder in Ozaukee County from 5–12 December.

One other warbler, a Pine Warbler at feeders in Dane County throughout the period, was noteworthy. Also of special interest were Wisconsin's third Eurasian Tree Sparrow and record numbers of the Varied Thrush. At least 12 (13?) thrushes were reported from 11 counties, apparently the greatest number since this western species was first noted in Wisconsin in 1944.

Gulls were represented by a total of 10 species, including Wisconsin's second California Gull, which Daryl Teszen found in Milwaukee County on 20 February.

A big flight of the Northern Goshawk again did not materialize. After the Christmas Bird Counts, this raptor was noted in a total of 17 counties, south to Dane and Milwaukee Counties; this was similar to last year and "fewer than hoped for," as Molly Evans expressed it in the Hawk Ridge Annual Report.

Another 11 species of diurnal raptors were noted; the 2 eagles; Northern Harrier in 8 counties after the Christmas Bird Counts; Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks, each in 17 counties after the Counts; 3 butes; and 3 falcons.

Six species of owls were reported after the Counts. The Snowy Owl was noted in 14 counties, one less than last year. The Short-eared Owl was found in 3 southern counties, the Northern Saw-whet Owl in Dane County, and the Eastern Screech Owl in 4 counties, compared to 12 last year.

All the winter finches were present, but only the Common Redpoll was consistently reported in high numbers. This species ranged southward to Richland, Dane, and Walworth Counties, and was still numerous in southern Wisconsin at the end of the period. The Pine Siskin was scattered throughout the state, but generally in low numbers. The Purple Finch was irregular and usually in low numbers, while the Pine Grosbeak was only in northern counties. The Red Crossbill was reported for 5 northern counties, and the White-winged Crossbill for Marathon and Sauk Counties, after the Christmas Bird Counts. The Evening Grosbeak was noted in 5 northern counties and Sheboygan and Washington Counties in January and February.

Northern limits for the House Finch were Polk, Barron, Vilas, Oneida, and Outagamie Counties, not quite as far north as last year.

Sparrows, after the counts, were represented by American Tree Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow at a feeder in Waupaca County, Field Sparrow in 3 counties, Fox Sparrow in Kenosha County, Song Sparrow in 9 southern and eastern counties, Swamp Sparrow in Dane County, White-throated Sparrow in 6 southern and eastern counties and Price County, White-crowned Sparrow in Kenosha County, and Harris' Sparrow at a feeder in Waushara County.

Lapland Longspurs, after the

Counts, were noted in 6 southern and eastern counties and were still in Dane and Columbia Counties at the end of the period; flocks numbered from 25–30. Snow Buntings were reported in 21 counties after the Counts, with large flocks (75–400) in 8 counties.

Blackbirds again were relatively scarce. A total of 7 species was found after the Counts; numbers ranged from 1–12, mainly 1–4.

The Red-breasted Nuthatch was numerous in some areas, but relatively scarce in others. Brown Creepers ranged northward to Vilas, Langlade, and Door Counties, but a dead one in Winnebago County, found by Bettie Harriman on 7 January during an extended cold period possibly indicates the perils of overwintering in Wisconsin for this species. Golden-crowned Kinglets, after the Counts, were noted in 5 southern and eastern counties and Oconto County.

Thrushes were represented by the American Robin and the Hermit Thrush, in addition to the Varied Thrush, but mimic thrushes (Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher) were absent.

Bohemian Waxwings were found in 10 counties in the northern half of Wisconsin, with flocks of 40 and more (up to 200+) in 8 counties. Cedar Waxwings were absent from northern Wisconsin, except for Barron County; in southern Wisconsin they were generally scarce.

The Northern Shrike was in normal numbers in some areas, below normal in others. After the Christmas Bird Counts, it was found in a total of 20 counties scattered throughout the state.

The winter range of the Red-bellied Woodpecker continues to oscillate

slightly in northwestern Wisconsin; this winter the northern limit was Washburn County. The Red-headed Woodpecker, after the Counts, was reported in 10 counties, up one from last year, but not as far north. After the Counts, the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was noted in 3 southern counties, and the Northern Flicker in 9 southern and eastern counties and Oconto County.

Late fall migration was reported for the Tundra Swan, Snow Goose, Canada Goose, and Sandhill Crane. Spring migration was reported for the following species: Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Canada Goose, American Black Duck (?), Mallard (?), Northern Pintail, Gadwall (?), Red-head, Ring-necked Duck (?), Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Common Merganser (?), Ruddy Duck, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk (?), Red-shouldered Hawk (?), Rough-legged Hawk, Sandhill Crane, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Northern Flicker (?), Horned Lark, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow (?), Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Rusty Blackbird, Common Grackle, and Brown-headed Cowbird (?). Refer to the species accounts for details.

A total of 81 people contributed reports covering 60 counties. The counties with the most extensive coverage (6 or more contributors) were Columbia, Dane, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Sauk, and Winnebago. The following 12 counties, scattered throughout the state were not covered: Burnett, Florence, Green, Iron, Jackson, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Racine, St. Croix, Taylor, and Wood.

The following common statewide species are not included in the species accounts: Ruffed Grouse, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, and Black-capped Chickadee.

These abbreviations are included in the species accounts: BOP—beginning of period, EOP—end of period, TTP—throughout the period, m. obs.—many observers, and CBC—Christmas Bird Count(s).

REPORTS (1 DECEMBER 1993–28 FEBRUARY 1994)

Pied-billed Grebe.—One in Dane County thru 1 January (Burcar), the only record after the CBC.

Horned Grebe.—Two injured birds in Milwaukee County on 28–29 January (Diehl), the only records after the CBC.

Red-necked Grebe.—Two in Dane County, 5 December (Lockwood).

Double-crested Cormorant.—One record after the CBC: Winnebago County, TTP, maximum 4 (Nussbaum).

Great Blue Heron.—Tessen found one in Waukesha County, 6 February, the only record after the CBC.

Tundra Swan.—The last big push from 21–25 December, with lone birds lingering thru 6 January in LaCrosse County and 22 January in Dane County (m. obs.).

Trumpeter Swan.—A group of 4, all wearing neck collars, on Rock Lake, Jefferson County, in December; one was a 4-year old adult male, released in Vilas County in 1991, 2 were this bird's offspring from last year, and one was an offspring of this year (the mate had died several months earlier of unknown causes). Also reports of a group of 3 (3 of the original 4?) on

Rock Lake in January (Hale). This species was also reported from Dane County—4 banded birds from 9–11 December (Lockwood; Tessen), and Juneau County—14 December (Richter).

Mute Swan.—Milwaukee, Waukesha, Dane, Portage, Shawano, and Douglas Counties (m. obs.).

Greater White-fronted Goose.—Ashman found 2, with 15 Canadas and 4 Snows, in Columbia County, 20 February, only the 3rd February record for this species in Wisconsin and the earliest date ever. Also reported by Hansen.

Snow Goose.—Columbia County, 6 December, and 2 in Milwaukee County, 18 December. Diehl found 16 in Waukesha County, 24 January, and Ziebell reported 1 TTP in Winnebago County. Spring migrants were 4 in Columbia County, 20 February, and one in Walworth County, 21 February.

Canada Goose.—Fall migration on 25 December in Dane County, with some lingering there until at least 22 January, and on 7 January in Jefferson County (“at least 300 flying south”—Hale). TTP in southeastern and eastern Wisconsin, from Kenosha and Walworth Counties north to Outagamie County, also TTP in Portage and Polk Counties. Spring migration on 19–20 February in Dane, Columbia, Jefferson, and apparently Washington Counties, and apparently on 24 February in Polk County.

Wood Duck.—After the CBC, these records: Ozaukee County, 28 January (Domagalski); Brown County, a male TTP (Nussbaum); Winnebago County, a pair at the Menasha dam, 8–22 January (Nussbaum); and Portage County, one on 1 January (Bernier).

Green-winged Teal.—A female thru 17 February in Washington County (Domagalski), the only report after the CBC.

American Black Duck.—TTP in 14 counties scattered throughout the state (m. obs.). Migrants (?) on 14 February in Door County (Stover) and 27 February in Oconto County (Smiths).

Mallard.—TTP in 23 counties scattered throughout the state (m. obs.). Migration by EOP?

Northern Pintail.—After the CBC, these records: Milwaukee County, 1 January (Frank), and LaCrosse County, 11 January–12 February (Dankert). A male, probably a migrant, in Pierce County, 28 February (Carlsen).

Northern Shoveler.—After the CBC, these records: Dane County, TTP, maximum 85, 7 December (Ashman); Winnebago County, 1 thru 8 January (Ziebell); and Brown County, a male TTP (Nussbaum).

Gadwall.—After the CBC, these records: Milwaukee County, 1 January (Domagalski); Washington County, thru 23 January (Domagalski); Dane County, TTP, maximum 66, 26 February—migration? (Hilsenhoff); and Brown County, 2 females, TTP? (Nussbaum).

American Wigeon.—TTP in Dane County, Portage County (1 in Steven Point’s Whiting Park; Bernier), and Outagamie County (a female; Nussbaum); also one in Chippewa County, 5 February (Polk).

Redhead.—Uttech found this species in Ozaukee County, 24 January; probable migrants in Milwaukee County, 20 February—EOP (Tessen; Domagalski).

Ring-necked Duck.—Portage County, 3 TTP (Bernier), and Waupaca County, thru 9 January (Nussbaum). A male (migrant?) in Winnebago County, 20 February (Nussbaum).

Greater Scaup.—After the CBC, noted in Lake Michigan from Kenosha to Door Counties (m. obs.), with one in Dane County, 13 February (Tessen).

Lesser Scaup.—January and February records for Lake Michigan and Winnebago County (m. obs.); also 23 February in LaCrosse County (Dankert), probably migration.

Harlequin Duck.—A female in Manitowoc County, 31 December–1 January (Sontag), and one in Milwaukee County, 10–13 January (Uttech; Domagalski).

Oldsquaw.—TTP in Lake Michigan, Kenosha to Door Counties (m. obs.).

White-winged Scoter.—The only scoter

exclusive of the CBC was one in Oconto County, 24 December (Smiths).

Common Goldeneye.—TTP in Lake Michigan, Kenosha to Door and Oconto Counties; Winnebago County; Wisconsin River, north to Marathon County; and the Mississippi River, north to Polk County (m. obs.). For Washington County, Domagalski reported it for the BOP and (apparently a migrant) 20 February.

Bufflehead.—TTP in Lake Michigan, Kenosha to Door County, and in Dane County (m. obs.). For Winnebago County, thru 8 January, then (apparently migration) 28 February.

Hooded Merganser.—After the CBC, these records: one thru 8 January in Winnebago County (Ziebell), and a female thru 9 January in Waupaca County (Nussbaum).

Common Merganser.—TTP in Lake Michigan, Kenosha to Door Counties; TTP in the Wisconsin River, north to Marathon County (Lincoln County, 9 February, 2) Price County, 14 January–4 February, 3; TTP in Winnebago County and TTP in the Mississippi River, north to Pierce County. For Washington County, thru 2 February; TTP (?) in Walworth County.

Red-breasted Merganser.—TTP in Lake Michigan, Kenosha to Door Counties (m. obs.).

Ruddy Duck.—26 February, 2 in Kenosha County (Hoffmann), and 28 February, Winnebago County (Nussbaum); most likely migrants.

Bald Eagle.—TTP in approximately 10 counties in the Fox-Wisconsin River valleys and the Mississippi River, north to Outagamie, Marathon, and Polk Counties (m. obs.), also TTP (an immature) in Kenosha County (Hoffmann). Returning by EOP to northern Wisconsin, for example 28 February in Vilas County (Baughman); Douglas County, 23 January–EOP (Johnson).

Northern Harrier.—Overwintering uncertain, but possibly in Ozaukee County, where Uttech noted this species from 3 January–15 February; thru 10 January in Dane County. 6 February records for Milwaukee and Washington Counties may represent wintering birds or early migrants. Later records, for example 26 February in Marathon County, 27 February in Dane County, and 28 February in Dodge County, are migrants.

Sharp-shinned Hawk.—After the CBC, reported from 17 counties, north to Polk, Barron, Marathon, Oconto, and Door Counties; migrants by EOP in at least several counties (m. obs.).

Cooper's Hawk.—After the CBC, reported from 17 counties, north to Price, Marathon, Oconto, and Door Counties; migrants (?) on 20 February in Ozaukee County and 27 February in Monroe County (m. obs.).

Northern Goshawk.—After the CBC, records for 17 counties, south to Dane and Milwaukee Counties (m. obs.); this was similar to last year and again the possible big flight did not materialize.

Red-shouldered Hawk.—One in the University of Wisconsin Arboretum in Dane County, TTP? (Ashman), and an adult at a breeding site in Monroe County, 29 January (Epstein).

Red-tailed Hawk.—Northward to Douglas County, TTP?, Vilas County, 6 December, Marathon County, TTP, Oconto County, TTP, and Door County, TTP (m. obs.).

Rough-legged Hawk.—Relatively low numbers. Migrants in February, mainly later in the month (m. obs.).

Golden Eagle.—Exclusive of the CBC, these records: 11 December, an adult in Dane County (Tessen); 30 December, an immature in Waushara County (Nussbaum); 11 February, an adult in Sauk County (Pike); and a minimum of 3 (2 adults and an immature) TTP in Monroe County in the Kickapoo River drainage (Epstein).

American Kestrel.—Northward and at least into January in the following counties: Douglas, 23 January; Marathon, 2 January; Langlade, 25 January; Oconto, 7 February; and Door, TTP (m. obs.).

Merlin.—One in Milwaukee County, 13 January (Frank), and an adult male in Monroe County, 22 January, perching on a bur oak and chasing tree sparrows in an open field (Epstein).

Peregrine Falcon.—One in Milwaukee County, 18 February (Uttech).

Gray Partridge.—Green Lake, Columbia, and Washington Counties (Harriman; Burcar, Mueller; Domagalski).

Ring-necked Pheasant.—Northward to Barron, Oconto, and Door Counties (m. obs.).

Greater Prairie-Chicken.—Marathon and Portage Counties, with flocks of 22–38 birds (Belter, Berner, Peterson).

Wild Turkey.—Reported from 16 counties, north to Pierce, Monroe, Waushara, Oconto, and Door Counties (m. obs.).

Northern Bobwhite.—After the CBC, reports for Monroe, Richland, and Sauk Counties (m. obs.).

Virginia Rail.—No records after the CBC.

American Coot.—After the CBC, records for one or a few birds for these counties: Eau Claire, Dane, Ozaukee, Milwaukee, Kenosha, and Walworth (m. obs.).

Sandhill Crane.—24 December, a flock of 80 flying south over Dane County; this flock apparently spent the previous night along Black Earth Creek (Cederstrom). Spring migrants were noted in Walworth County by Parsons; 21–27 February, maximum 10, 27th.

Killdeer.—One record after the CBC, one with 5 snipe in Crawford County, 21 January (Burcar and Domagalski).

Dunlin.—One at North Point, Sheboygan County, 4 December (Brassers), Wisconsin's first December record since 1984.

Common Snipe.—21 January, Crawford County, 5 with a Killdeer (Domagalski and Burcar), and 23 January, LaCrosse County, 1 (Dankert).

Bonaparte's Gull.—Kenosha County, 2 thru 14 January and 3 on 26 February (Hoffmann).

Mew Gull.—One at the South Shore Yacht Club, Milwaukee County, 11 December–22 Feb-

ruary (documented by Gustafson, Domagalski, Boldt, Uttech).

Ring-billed Gull.—TTP in Lake Michigan, north to Sheboygan County (thru 6 January in Manitowoc County); thru 5 January in Winnebago County (m. obs.). Parsons noted a total of 75 in Walworth County on 20 February.

California Gull.—Tessen found one at the South Shore Yacht Club, Milwaukee County, 20 February, for Wisconsin's second record; the first was in Sheboygan County, 29 November–8 December 1991.

Herring Gull.—TTP in Lake Michigan, north to Sheboygan County (thru 2 January in Manitowoc County), also TTP in Winnebago County and (in the thousands) at a landfill in Washington and Waukesha Counties. Noted at BOP and EOP in Kewaunee and Door Counties (m. obs.).

Thayer's Gull.—Excluding the CBC, this record: 20 February, one in Milwaukee County (Tessen).

Iceland Gull.—Excluding the CBC, this record: 12 December, one in Milwaukee County at the South Shore Yacht Club (Boldt).

Lesser Black-backed Gull.—Excluding the CBC, this record: one in the Picnic Point area of Lake Mendota, Dane County, 7–13 December (Legler, Boldt).

Glaucous Gull.—Excluding the CBC, these records: Kenosha County, 14 January, 1 (Hoffmann); Milwaukee County, 1 January (Domagalski); Ozaukee County, 6 December–EOP (m. obs.); and Manitowoc County, 1–24 January, at least 3, 6 January (m. obs.).

Great Black-backed Gull.—Excluding the CBC, these reports: one at McKinley Beach, Milwaukee County, 7 December (Diehl); Ozaukee County, 28 December–EOP (Uttech); and Manitowoc County, at least 2, 1 January–19 February (m. obs.).

Rock Dove.—Northward to the following counties, where TTP: Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Vilas, Oconto, Door (m. obs.).

Mourning Dove.—Northward to the fol-

lowing counties, where TTP: Bayfield, Ashland, Vilas, Oconto, Door (m. obs.).

Eastern Screech-Owl.—After the CBC, reported from Milwaukee, Washington, Dane, and Door Counties (m. obs.).

Snowy Owl.—Reports for 14 counties, south to Iowa and Kenosha Counties (m. obs.). Still in Manitowoc, Door, and Chippewa Counties, and northwestern Wisconsin EOP (m. obs.).

Short-eared Owl.—After the CBC, these records: Dane County, one in the Brooklyn Wildlife Area, 12 February (Ashman); Columbia County, 7 February (Burcar); and Green Lake County, one in the White River Marsh, 30 December–9 January (m. obs.).

Northern Saw-whet Owl.—17 February, 2 in Dane County (Lockwood; Robbins).

Belted Kingfisher.—After the CBC, records for 6 counties: Crawford, Pierce, Chippewa, Dane, Waushara, and Waupaca Counties (m. obs.).

Red-headed Woodpecker.—After the CBC, records for 10 counties: LaCrosse, Monroe, Vernon, Grant, Dane, Sauk, Kenosha, Oconto, Portage, and Clark (m. obs.).

Red-bellied Woodpecker.—Northward to Washburn, Marathon, Langlade, Oconto, and Door Counties (m. obs.).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.—After the CBC, these records: Sauk County, 22 January (Burcar); Dane County, 30 January (Burcar); and Kenosha County, 2, 26 February (Hoffmann).

Black-backed Woodpecker.—Vilas, Oneida, and Oconto Counties (m. obs.).

Northern Flicker.—After the CBC, records for these counties: Oconto, Outagamie, Winnebago, Kenosha, Jefferson, Dane, Columbia, Monroe, and LaCrosse (m. obs.). Late February records, for example 2 in Kenosha County, 26 February, may include migrants.

Eastern Phoebe.—A second hand report (via Hudick) of one on 9 December at a spring pond in Polk County.

Horned Lark.—TTP in Dane, Columbia, Winnebago, and Barron Counties. Migration most pronounced in February, with individuals appearing in some northern counties, for example Oconto, by 17 January (m. obs.).

Gray Jay.—Excluding the CBC, records for these counties: Price, Vilas, Oneida, and Forest (m. obs.).

Common Raven.—Southernmost records: Monroe County, 4 February, 2 (Epstein); Portage County, 12 December, 2 (Berner); and Outagamie County, 1 February, 2 near New London (Nussbaum).

Boreal Chickadee.—Excluding the CBC, records for Vilas, Oneida, and Forest Counties (m. obs.).

Tufted Titmouse.—Excluding the CBC, records for these counties: Polk, Monroe, LaCrosse, Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Dane, and Rock (m. obs.).

Red-breasted Nuthatch.—Generally a spotty distribution: above normal numbers in some areas, for example Dane County; normal numbers in other areas, for example Vilas County; and below normal numbers in still other areas, for example Portage County (m. obs.).

White-breasted Nuthatch.—Northward to these counties: Washburn, 23 January; Bayfield and Ashland, TTP; Vilas, 30 January; and Oconto and Door, TTP (m. obs.).

Brown Creeper.—After the CBC, northernmost reports from Vilas County, 9 February (Burcar); Langlade County, 4 February (Pickering); and Door County, 28 February (Stover). Harriman found a dead individual in Winnebago County on 7 January during an extended cold period.

Carolina Wren.—After the CBC, these reports: LaCrosse County, one at a feeder on 8 January (Dankert, Leshner); Door County, one at a feeder thru 3 January (Hammerberg); and Milwaukee County, 1 January (Frank).

Winter Wren.—After the CBC, these reports: Dane County, one in the University of Wisconsin Arboretum, 4 January (Hansen); Jef-

erson County, one on 7 January (Hale); and Manitowoc County, one on 13 January (Sontag).

Golden-crowned Kinglet.—After the CBC, records for these counties: Oconto, thru 6 February (Smiths); Manitowoc, thru 10 January (Sontag); Washington, 2 January (Domagalski); Milwaukee, 6 January (Bontly); and Dane, TTP, maximum 2 (Ashman).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet.—Exclusive of the CBC, these records: one in the University of Wisconsin Arboretum in Dane County, 1 December (Ashman), and one at a feeder in LaCrosse County, 8 January (Leshner).

Hermit Thrush.—One record after the CBC: an injured bird in Milwaukee County, 10 January (Diehl).

American Robin.—January and February records (maximum number: approximately 15) for Milwaukee, Washington, Winnebago, Dane, Sauk, Monroe, and Dunn Counties; mid-late February records, beginning on the 17th, for Kenosha, Walworth, Lafayette, Dane, Dodge, and Monroe Counties (m. obs.).

Varied Thrush.—Excluding the CBC, a total of 12 (13?) reports, apparently the greatest number since this species was first reported in Wisconsin in 1944. All were males, except 1(2?) female(s). Noted from 6 December–EOP in the following counties: Sawyer, Trempealeau, LaCrosse, Monroe, Vernon, Adams, Sauk, Dane, Green Lake, Winnebago, and Door (m. obs.).

Bohemian Waxwing.—Excluding the CBC, reports from 10 counties, south to Price, Portage, Shawano, and Kewaunee Counties (m. obs.). Groups of 40 and more, with a maximum number of 200+, for 8 of these counties.

Cedar Waxwing.—Absent from the north, except for Barron County where TTP (Goff). Generally scarce; migrants in southern Wisconsin, for example Dane County, by 19 February.

Northern Shrike.—After the CBC, noted in 20 counties scattered throughout the state. Normal numbers in some areas, below normal in others. Still in Barron, Marathon, Oconto, and Door Counties EOP (m. obs.).

European Starling.—Northward to these

counties, where TTP: Douglas, Price, Vilas, and Door (m. obs.).

Yellow-rumped Warbler.—One first noted on the Shiocton CBC, Outagamie County, lingered at least thru 13 January (Nussbaum); also 1–2 in Winnebago County, 4 December–2 January (Ziebell).

Townsend's Warbler.—The first state record for this western species was one at a house feeder approximately 50 feet from the Lake Michigan bluff in Mequon, Ozaukee County, 5–12 December. The bird frequented the thistle feeder, and also caught insects at the base of the house; often it perched in a low yew 3 feet from a picture window (Ralston).

Pine Warbler.—One at a feeder in Madison, 24 December–9 January, and at a nearby feeder, also in Dane County, 12 January–EOP, was probably the same bird (first reported by Stephenson, later by Burcar, Lockwood, Robbins). This species in winter has previously been found on 3 CBC, on 1 February 1975 in an Oshkosh cemetery, and from 15 December 1990–3 February 1991 (perhaps later) at a feeder in LaCrosse County. See "Pine Warbler Eating From Feeders," by Bettie R. Harriman, *Passenger Pigeon*, 55(4):362–363, 1993.

Northern Cardinal.—Northward to these counties: Bayfield and Ashland, TTP; one near Hiles, Forest County, 29 January; and Oconto and Door, TTP (m. obs.).

Rufous-sided Towhee.—A "spotted" towhee (the western race) at a feeder in Madison TTP for the 4th consecutive winter (Robbins). Also an unspotted bird at a feeder in Price County (Hardy).

American Tree Sparrow.—Northward to Polk, Barron, Price, Oconto, and Door Counties (m. obs.).

Chipping Sparrow.—One at a feeder in Waupaca County, 4–13 January (Nussbaum).

Field Sparrow.—After the CBC, noted in Sauk County, 8 January (Lockwood, Robbins), Fond du Lac County, 22 January–EOP (Flesch), and Door County, 10–18 January (Lukes).

Fox Sparrow.—One in Kenosha County, 26 February (Hoffmann); probably a migrant.

Song Sparrow.—Kenosha and Washington Counties, TTP, and Iowa County, 22 January. February records for Rock, Dane, Columbia, Dodge, Ozaukee, and Kewaunee Counties; some of these records, for example 5 on 26 February in Rock County, most likely were migrants.

Swamp Sparrow.—At least one overwintered in the University of Wisconsin Arboretum, Dane County (Ashman).

White-throated Sparrow.—After the CBC, records for Price, LaCrosse, Monroe, Outagamie, Dane, Milwaukee, and Kenosha Counties (m. obs.). Maximum numbers 2–3.

White-crowned Sparrow.—Kenosha County, 3 TTP (Hoffmann).

Harris' Sparrow.—One at a feeder in Waushara County, 23 December—EOP (Nussbaum).

Dark-eyed Junco.—Northward to these counties: Douglas, 9 December–25 February; Bayfield and Ashland, TTP; Vilas, 2 December; Langlade, TTP; Oconto, TTP; and Door, TTP (m. obs.).

Lapland Longspur.—After the CBC, records for these counties: Sauk, Dane, Columbia, Green Lake, Dodge, and Ozaukee (m. obs.). Still in Dane and Columbia Counties EOP. Maximum flock size, 25–30.

Snow Bunting.—After the CBC, records for 21 counties scattered throughout the state except for the extreme north (m. obs.). Still in a number of counties EOP. Large flocks (75–400) in Dane, Columbia, Door, Langlade, Marathon, Portage, Monroe, and Pierce Counties (m. obs.).

Red-winged Blackbird.—Apparently TTP in Dane, Dodge, Winnebago, and Shawano Counties (m. obs.). Migrants, 17–20 February, in Kenosha, Walworth, Waukesha, Washington, and Ozaukee Counties (m. obs.).

Eastern Meadowlark.—Burcar found

this species in Iowa County, 22 January, and Boldt noted 4 in Ozaukee County, 27 February.

Western Meadowlark.—Robbins identified one by song in Eau Claire County, 31 December.

Rusty Blackbird.—21 February, a male in Brown County (Nussbaum), and 25 February, one in Walworth County (Kyles), and Dane County (Burcar).

Brewer's Blackbird.—14 January, a group of 12 in a feedlot in Kenosha County (Hoffmann).

Common Grackle.—Apparently TTP in Dodge County (Haseleu; Burcar). Single birds, most likely migrants, from 21–26 February in Kenosha, Walworth, Dane, and Monroe Counties (m. obs.).

Brown-headed Cowbird.—January and February records for Dane, Sauk, Dodge, and LaCrosse Counties (m. obs.). One in Milwaukee County, 24 February (Diehl); migrant?

Brambling.—This Eurasian finch mysteriously appeared at a feeder in Neenah, Winnebago County, on 17 January; it was last seen on the 25th (Krake). First record for Wisconsin.

Pine Grosbeak.—Only in northern counties: Bayfield and Ashland, TTP, maximum 12, 13 February (Verch); Vilas, 1 December–30 January, (Baughman; Burcar); and Price County, 5 December—EOP, maximum 300, 24 January (Hardy).

Purple Finch.—Scattered and irregular; generally in low numbers—flocks usually from just a few birds to approximately a dozen (m. obs.).

House Finch.—Northward to these counties: Polk, TTP, maximum 32, 24 January (Hudick); Barron, 24 February—EOP (Goff); Vilas, 10–18 December, maximum 9 (Baughman); Oneida, 31 January (Burcar); and Outagamie, thru 18 February (Anderson and Petznick).

Red Crossbill.—After the CBC, these records: Douglas County, TTP (LaValleys); Bayfield and Ashland Counties, TTP, maximum 37,

27 February (Verch); Vilas County, 13 January–3 February (Baughman); and Oneida County, 2, 29 January (Peterson).

White-winged Crossbill.—After the CBC, these records: Marathon County, 1 January, 7 (Belter), and Sauk County, 8–22 January (Robbins; Burcar).

Common Redpoll.—After December, records for 21 counties, south to Richland, Dane, and Walworth Counties (m. obs.). Large flocks (over 100) in Marathon and Shawano Counties on 1 January and Oconto County on 6 February (m. obs.). Tessen reported the largest flock in southern Wisconsin, 75 in Columbia County on 27 February.

Hoary Redpoll.—After December, these records: 1 (2?) in Barron County, 21 January (Faanes), and 1 in Columbia County, 27 February (Tessen); with Common Redpolls in both cases.

Pine Siskin.—After the CBC, reported from 19 counties scattered throughout the state; 10 or fewer birds noted at a time, except for these records: 19 in Manitowoc County, 3 January (Sontag); 26 in Walworth County, 28 January (Parsons); and approximately 100 in Sauk County, 6 February (Lockwood).

American Goldfinch.—Northward to these counties where TTP: Polk, Barron, Marathon, Oconto, and Door (m. obs.). Reardon reported this species in Vilas County on 19 December, and Baughman on 22 February. Pickering found 4 (migrants?) in Langlade County, 28 February.

Evening Grosbeak.—After the CBC, records for these counties: Douglas, Bayfield, and Ashland, TTP; Vilas, TTP; Oconto, 19 December–27 February; Sheboygan, 3 February; and Washington, 3 February–EOP (m. obs.). The largest flocks were 15 on 30 January in Oconto County (Smiths), and 25 on 3 February in Washington County (Domagalski).

House Sparrow.—Northward to these counties where TTP: Douglas, Bayfield and Ashland, Vilas, Oconto, and Door (m. obs.).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow.—Wisconsin's third record was one at the Glen and Iola

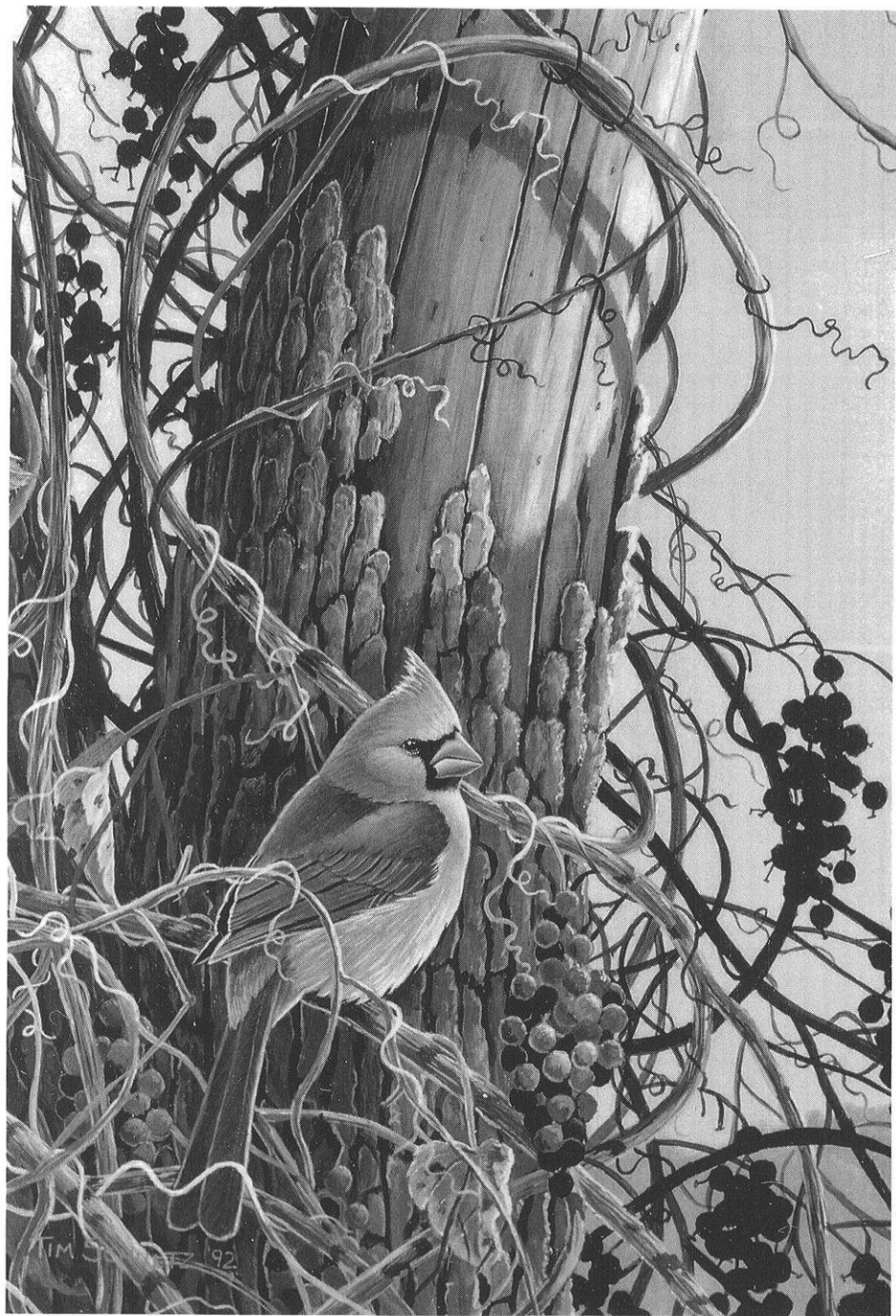
Thompson feeder, rural Beloit, Rock County, from "before Christmas" to at least 13 February (documented by Boldt, Burcar, Domagalski, Sontag, Tessen, and Peterson).

CONTRIBUTORS

James Anderson and Steve Petznick (Mosquito Hill Nature Center), Philip Ashman, Jim Baughman, Dan Belter, Murray Berner, Brian Boldt, Marilyn Bontly, David & Margaret Brasser, Kay Burcar, Nathan Carlsen, Kathy Castlein/David Lauten, David Cederstrom, Jeff Dankert, Scott Diehl, Bob Domagalski, Barbara Duerksen, Eric Epstein, Martin Evanson, Craig Faanes, Betty Flesch, Bill Foster, Jim Frank, Alta Goff, Dennis K. Gustafson, Karen Etter Hale, W.F. Hammerberg, Ellen Hansen, Maybelle Hardy, Bettie Hariman, Judy Haseleu, Dan Hazlett, Bill Hilsenhoff, Ron Hoffmann, Inez M. Hogden, Joe Hudick, George Hyke, Robbye Johnson, Kenneth V. Krake, Dennis Kuecherer, Roland J. Kuhn family, Steven & Patricia Kyle, Kenneth I. Lange, Steve & Laura LaValley, Karl Legler, Fred Lesher, Ron Lockwood, Roy & Charlotte Lukes, Carol McDaniel, William P. Mueller, Andrew Nelson, Don Nussbaum, Lynn Ott, Patricia A. Parsons, Mark Peterson, Bernard Pickering, Jim Pike, Janine Polk, Mary Jean Raile, Malvina Ralsten, Bill Reardon, Carol B. Richter, Sam Robbins, Sandy Schwebke, Jerry & Karen Smith, Charles Sontag, Robert A. Speich, Philip N. Stephenson, Barbara R. Stover, Jean Strelka, Mark Tacke, Daryl D. Tessen, Tom Uttech, Dick Verch, Norma Zehner, Tom Ziebell.

Kenneth I. Lange

Department of Natural Resources
Devil's Lake State Park
Baraboo, WI 53913



Grapevine Lady by *Tim Schultz* (A limited edition print with the permission of the artist and the publisher, Northwoods Craftsman, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051)

"By the Wayside"

Observations of interest document unusual nesting behavior in Canada Geese, matings between Mallard and American Black Duck and cooperative foraging in Sandhill Cranes

GIANT CANADA GEESE NESTING ON A ROOF

Milwaukee County, Park Place—Two giant Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis maxima*) neck-collared (58RT, 63RT) as adults on 19 June 1991 were observed in May 1993 nesting 40 ft. above the ground on a roof area of One Park Place (a highrise office building) in northwest Milwaukee County. On May 6, 1993 six goslings hatched. All six leaped off the roof at the coaxing of the pair. Three fell to the lawn area and joined the parents unhurt. The other three fell onto a metal grating at ground level and were killed on impact. This was the first documented case of giant Canada Geese nesting at this height in Wisconsin as well as producing young from such an elevated building site.

On 20 April 1994 I observed four pair of geese nesting on the two adjacent buildings at the same site (One Park Place and Two Park Place). The collared goose 58RT again nested on One Park Place and hatched and led 6 goslings to a pond on the property.

Observations of neck-collared geese are being made as part of ongoing research by the Wisconsin Department

of Natural Resources. Partial funding for these studies was provided by the Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration under Pittman-Robertson Wis. Proj. W-141-R.—*William E. Wheeler, Southern Wildlife Research, Wisconsin DNR, 1210 N. Palmatory St., Horicon, WI 53032.*

EXTENDED SERIAL COPULATIONS BETWEEN A MALLARD AND AMERICAN BLACK DUCK

16 April 1994, Marquette Co., Harris Pond—During the annual crane count I had the opportunity to witness an extremely unusual copulation sequence involving a drake Mallard, *Anas platyrhynchos*, and both a male and female American Black Duck, *Anas rubripes*. I was listening for cranes at the western end of crane counting site 48, on the south edge of Harris Pond. As I stood listening, I became aware of a commotion on the water nearby. When I looked closely, I discovered a drake Mallard standing on the back of a fully submerged American Black Duck hen and going through the motions of copulating every 7–9 seconds. (It wasn't until the end of the sequence when she was released that I could positively

identify the species of the female.) However, there was a male black duck swimming alongside and about 12–18 inches from the copulating pair. The female was struggling and swimming as the Mallard continued to adjust his grip on the back of her head, arch his back and sweep his tail across the base of hers to move it out of the way for copulation. He would thrust one to several times with the pelvis and then readjust footing and head grip and repeat the process. Over four and a half minutes passed from the time when I first saw them (where he was already copulating) until the Mallard was knocked off the female by a physical assault from a second male black duck. During that time, the female swam more than 45 yards in a long arc, and I witnessed a minimum of 23 successive copulations by the drake Mallard. I have no idea how long it went on before I noticed the activity. The female's head only came above water when the Mallard reared back to copulate and I feared she might be drowned. At first the drake American Black Duck just quacked and swam alongside of the pair, but after roughly three minutes he moved in closer and began to bite and peck at the head and neck of the Mallard, seemingly in an attempt to dislodge him. When a second male black duck flew in and struck the Mallard forcefully with his body (still partially airborne), the female made her escape by diving and then running across the water for 20–30 yards. I had spent the preceding weeks studying Canada Goose copulation behavior at a park in Columbus, Ohio, where numerous American Black Ducks and Mallards were present. There, I had video taped copulation sequences of both species. The normal behavior for

these species is for the male and female to go through a head bobbing sequence for 20–30 seconds or more, followed by 4–5 seconds of mounting and copulation, then immediate dismounting. I never saw serial copulations under those conditions. I can only speculate that the presence of the second male, obviously intent on copulating with the same female, somehow inspired the continual copulatory behavior of the Mallard. This behavior would be consistent with current ideas on sperm competition between males in polygamous species, where one male tries to swamp the female's reproductive tract with his sperm in an effort to insure his paternity of offspring. The presence of the second male might well trigger such behavior under these circumstances, to prevent the other male from copulating or reduce his relative contribution. However, if this male's multiple copulation series is at all typical of what happens when male Mallards and female black ducks hybridize, one can understand why American Black Ducks are being displaced from much of their native range by gene competition/hybridization with Mallards. One or several copulations with the male black duck after this spree—if they occurred—would be unlikely to have much influence on the paternity of eggs produced by this female during the next several days.—*Dr. Philip C. Whitford, Biology Department, Capital University, Columbus, Ohio 43209.*

**AN OBSERVATION OF COOPERATIVE
FORAGING ACTIVITY BY GREATER
SANDHILL CRANES**

12 August 1994, Marquette County—
At 18:00 hours, I was driving south on
17th Road between County Highway J

and State Highway 23, several miles north and east of the town of Montello. Roughly three miles below the Comstack Marsh, I discovered a large group of Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis*) feeding in an alfalfa field that, judging by height of vegetation, had been mowed and baled 7–10 days earlier. My first reaction was surprise at seeing so many cranes grouped together so early in the year. On closer inspection, I was immediately struck by the fact that the birds were not randomly arranged in small groups within the field, as I am accustomed to seeing them when they congregate in fall in harvested grain fields. Instead, all the cranes were arranged as a skirmishing line, between 80 and 100 yards long, and no place more than three birds deep. This meant that the width of the line was no more than 10–15 feet down its entire length. Stopping for a closer inspection, I counted 114 cranes in the field. From less than one hundred yards away, I judged roughly 80 of the cranes were adults, based on remnants of rusty stain on the wings and back that indicated they had bill-painted themselves for breeding earlier in the year. The remaining cranes were all young of the year, slightly smaller in stature than the adults, lighter in color, and most sporting some remains of their orange colt coloration on the upper neck and head. Later observations indicated that all these young were flighted at this time—though I saw evidence of non-fledged colts elsewhere in the county over the next few days. The young were distributed fairly evenly among the adults such that a single young (and in a few cases two) were flanked by two adults, one on either side. Each pair and its young, as I guessed these groups to be,

was separated from the next pair by as little as 2–3 yards, just barely greater than the personal distance between birds within these family groups, but noticeable none-the-less. It was obvious that the birds were feeding, each bent forward, studying the ground intently. Periods of watching were punctuated by repeated jabs at the ground and short pursuit movements. This made it fairly clear that they were feeding on moving food—insects—hidden among the short alfalfa. The light was perfect to see the glint off fluttering wings as an occasional grasshopper flew up to escape a feeding crane. Often, the escapee was rapidly pursued and eaten by a neighboring crane upon landing. Pursuit of insects frequently led birds into neighbors feeding areas, leading adjacent adults to give a sparing threat towards the intruders—wings raised, necks poised for a light jab at the interloper, causing them jump or “dance” backward into their own area with a single flap of the wings. Despite these regular interruptions, the overall form of the long line and spacing of birds remained visibly unchanged. The line moved forward uniformly, at a very slow rate. The birds were observed to cover only about 60 yards forward in slightly over one hour. Everything about the process I observed suggested that this group of adults with young was involved in a finely orchestrated cooperative feeding activity, one well suited to effectively gleaning all the insects from the feeding area. The timing of observation of this behavior may not be entirely accidental. I would speculate that such behavior as I observed might be particularly useful in providing high protein foods to both rapidly growing young, to replace the large

quantities of protein used in feather formation during the fledging process, and to adults that are involved in their major period of annual feather replacement at this time of year. In the half hour before sunset, the large group of cranes broke up and took wing in groups of 3–4 birds and headed back toward the Comstock Marsh to the north. I returned the following night to see if the process would be repeated, but all I found was a tractor and manure spreader actively

working in the feeding area. The birds had abandoned the site in light of this disturbance. I wish to thank Scott Swengel of the International Crane Foundation, Baraboo, WI for his help in determining whether this was a previously recognized behavior of the species (it is not to the best of our knowledge) and for his encouragement to publish this observation.—*Dr. Philip C. Whitford, Biology Department, Capital University, Columbus, OH 43209.*

“By the Wayside”

Documentations of rare birds observed include Trumpeter Swan, Harlequin Duck, Mew Gull, California Gull, Iceland Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Carolina Wren, Varied Thrush, Townsend's Warbler, Pine Warbler, Brambling, and Eurasian Tree Sparrow.

TRUMPETER SWAN (*Cygnus buccinator*)

7-25 December 1993, North end of Rock Lake, Lake Mills, Wisconsin—

Three white and one gray swan, all with yellow neck collars, were hugging the western shore across from the County Park. At that distance, I couldn't read the numbers with a 45× scope, and could only tell that these swans looked large, with heavy necks and heavy bills. They were preening. No other swans could be found on the lake. The next morning the swans were right up along the north shore. Number 89KN was dusky gray overall, with a dark bill that was lighter in its middle portion. Numbers 71KU, 72KU and 73KU all had black bills, with no dishing and no yellow. When I first arrived, one gave a low, loud honking, which was given several more times after 72KU and 89KN bobbed their heads and necks several times and all four then swam slowly away. This call was louder than any Tundra Swans I've heard and not as mellow or muted. These four were seen again 12/14, and again Christmas

afternoon, when they were sitting on the ice, as Rock Lake had frozen 12/22.—Karen Etter Hale, 517 Tower St., Lake Mills, WI 53551.

HARLEQUIN DUCK (*Histrionicus histrionicus*)

*13 January 1994, Milwaukee County—*Directly east from the North Point parking lot, and about 100-150 feet offshore, I saw one male Harlequin Duck. Small, darkish, diving duck. Large white patch on front half of face, a small circle of white behind the eye, and a line of white near back of head. White line around neck and a similar line across lower breast. Flanks a rich cinnamon color.—Bob Domagalski.

MEW GULL (*Larus canus*)

*22 February 1994, South Shore Yacht Club, Milwaukee County—*In size this bird was close to though not quite as big as a ring-billed. The mantle was sufficiently darker than ring-billed that it could be picked out of a group of 50

or so with little trouble. The eye was dark, with much dark streaking around it. The head in general was more heavily streaked than a typical ring-billed, especially towards the front and top. The bill was unmarked, save for an orangish or reddish spot near the tip. The bill, though thinner and shorter than in the ring-billed, seemed a little longer than on previous Mew Gulls I have seen. At rest the wider tertial crescents were noted. Also, I noticed that as with previous Mew Gulls I've seen, much more of the length of the primaries is visible on the folded wing than is on ring-billed. In flight, the greater amount of white at the wingtip compared to ring-billed was also noted. The legs were yellowish.—*Brian Boldt, 19190 Emerald Dr., Waukesha, WI 53186.*

CALIFORNIA GULL (*Larus californicus*)

20 February 1994, South Shore Park, Milwaukee County—While scanning the few gulls on the ice at South Shore Park one gull stood out. It stood somewhat distant from the surrounding ring-billeds and Thayer's. It was in breeding plumage—white head, gray mantle. What first drew my attention was the gray-green legs—very distinct. Closer examination revealed a dark eye, and a yellow bill with a black and red spot. The gull was between ring-billeds and the Thayer's in size. The mantle was not distinctly darker than adjacent gulls which is characteristic of Californias.—*Daryl Tessen, 2 Pioneer Park Place, Elgin, IL 60123.*

ICELAND GULL (*Larus glaucooides*)

12 December 1993, South Shore Yacht Club, Milwaukee County—This

bird was very pale overall, in size close to a small Herring Gull. The back and scapulars were pale gray, paler than Herring Gull, with irregular white patches. The coverts had a finely mottled appearance, the overall impression of color being of a tanner gray. The primaries were largely white but each seemed to have a light tan crescent or arrowhead shaped internal mark near the tip. The legs were dull pink, the bill was dull pink at the base and black at the tip, the border between the two being blurry. The eye was dark. The head appeared smaller and more rounded than herring or the typical Thayer's. The bill also seemed much shorter than herring or Thayer's.—*Brian Boldt, 19190 Emerald Dr., Waukesha, WI 53186.*

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus fuscus*)

8 and 13 December 1993, on Lake Mendota, off of Marshall Park and off of Spring Harbor Park and University Bay and Class of 1918 Marsh, Madison, Dane County—This bird was *much* larger, not just slightly larger, than 3 or 4 adjacent ring-bills. It was also *much* smaller than Herring Gull. Sitting in water, wings were noticeably dark. Recognized at once as too dark for California Gull. Wings solid charcoal. Ring-billed Gulls were very pale gray while this bird was quite dark. No brown in the mantle. I found the mantle to be not merely darker than the field guides portrayal of California Gull but so dark as to be fundamentally different. The mantle was so dark as to have much poorer contrast with the blackish wing tips. Much more uniform coloration. In power flight I glimpsed underwing which was light with some

grayish duskiness. Diffuse darkness around eye gives a black-eye look. Iris was plainly seen and repeatedly compared with adjacent 5 or 6 ring-billed. The light yellow iris of the ring-bills stood out very prominently and obvious but the iris of this bird was very obviously darker. Bill seemed rather short and chunky. Tip is bright yellow (unlike pale legs). Large red spot present. Black apparent at inner edge of red spot (this was a contrast effect where the red spot met the dark base of bill). Rest of bill dusky color. Even at very close range the legs were exceedingly pale and nondescript lacking in obvious or very definite color. I judged the legs to have a yellowish cast. The feet were just slightly more towards pinkish. But both were very subtle. When sitting contrasting broad white tertial band. In flight, uniform across entire mantle but this was at a substantial distance. Head and neck and breast whitish. Nape streaked substantially with gray. Crown not as dark as nape. In flight tail was pure white. Head oblong but crown rounded. The size of this bird was intermediate between Herring Gull and Ring-billed Gull.—*Karl Legler, 429 Franklin Street, Sauk City, WI 53583.*

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus marinus*)

7 December 1993, McKinley Beach, Lake Michigan Shoreline, Milwaukee County—The bird was feeding on a large dead fish carcass on the beach. Three Herring Gulls in hatching-year plumage walked around the feeding bird but approached no closer than about 3 feet. At one point most of the gulls on the beach flushed; the Great Black-backed Gull was swooped at by

the Herring Gulls. They all landed again after about a minute and the black-backed resumed feeding.

This was a very large heavy-bodied gull. It had a dark and light checkered mantle (this is how I described it in my notes, before checking field guides). Primaries were black. The leading edge of the folded wing (wrist and metacarpal area) appeared blackish. The breast, belly, and throat were whitish. The head, neck and sides were also whitish. The sides of the breast and the sides were streaked with dark brownish-gray. The crown and nape were more finely streaked with gray. The legs were light pink (pale). The eye was dark. This was a very large-billed gull. The bill was all black, and appeared deepest at the gonys.—*Scott Diehl, S.68 W.12977 Camilia Dr., Muskego, WI 53150.*

CAROLINA WREN (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*)

1 January 1994, Kletzsch Park, Milwaukee County—As I walked along the Milwaukee River in the NE part of the park, a scolding wren call was heard in a thicket near the path. I slowly moved in toward the sound, then back and forth unable to spot the source of the scolding. I finally noted movement 15 feet up in a tree on a branch near the trunk instead of down low as I was expecting. As I expected, I was looking at a brown wren, but much larger than the Winter Wren I was expecting. The overall brown color with erect, relatively longer tail were obvious. The breast and belly were buffy in color diminishing to white on the throat. A prominent white eyeline was also seen. A pointed bill, again longer than I was expecting was also noted. It appeared

grey-black in color. Faint white spots were noted in the vicinity of where wing bars are seen on some other species of birds. The whole 5 minutes of observation the bird stayed in the same spot, occasionally scolding me, occasionally bobbing up and down.—*Jim Frank, 4339 W. Laveria Ave., Mequon, WI 53092.*

VARIED THRUSH (*Ixoreus naevius*)

*Winter 1993-94, Wisconsin Dells—*Am sending 2 pictures of a Varied Thrush that spent the winter here with us; saw him all winter long here at our bird feeders or squirrel tree, eating corn that fell to the ground. Our squirrel tree is 2-2 × 4s nailed together in a T with spikes through it to put corn on.

Squirrels eat corn off it but only eat the hearts of the corn at first and drop the rest on the ground where the birds come to eat it.—*George Hyke, 3440 Hwy 13, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965-8836.*

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER (*Dendroica townsendi*)

*5-12 December, 1993, Ozaukee County—*I am enclosing several copies of the picture of the Townsend Warbler seen on our property Dec. 5-12, 1994. We live on Lake Michigan and see many species of birds during spring and fall migration. Our house is located about 50' from the lake bluff. On Dec. 5 my husband spotted this warbler feeding at a tubular feeder stocked with thistle, on the ground and catching insects around the base of our



Figure 1. Varied Thrush at Wisconsin Dells feeder. Photo by George Hyke.

house. He often sat in a low yew 3' from a picture window. He also frequented my next door neighbor's tubular and took shelter under his deck. He was sighted several times during this time period, which was bitterly cold and windy. We took several pictures of him sitting in the yew, the camera being 2-3' from the window. Unfortunately only one picture turned out. He seemed not to take notice of us, but as Mary Donald said—He was starving! Only intent on food. My best reference book was *The Golden Book—Birds of North America*. This bird was a male in winter plumage, as his throat was streaked rather than a dark, solid black. I feel this is an important fact in positive identification. This sighting has been very interesting

to us, especially considering the fact that his normal territory is far to the west. It was a strong, cold wind that blew him so far off course.—*Melvina Ralston, 12410 N. Lake Shore Drive, Mequon, WI 53092.*

PINE WARBLER (*Dendroica pinus*)

24 December 1993–9 January 1994, Madison, Dane County—First seen at suet feeder about 25 ft. from our window on December 24, 1993 about 12:30 P.M. Seen at various times almost every day since then between noon and 3:30 P.M. The stays on the feeders vary from approximately 5 to 10 min. (As I write, the bird is on the peanut feeder at 9:50 A.M.) On the first sighting, the bird stayed in our binoculars long



Figure 2. Townsend's Warbler. Photo by Melvina Ralston.

enough, at close range, so that we knew we had a warbler with a bright yellow breast and throat with white wing bars and faint streaking on the sides. After consulting Peterson's page of confusing fall warblers with streaks or wing-bars we were reasonably certain it was a Pine Warbler. It definitely had a warbler's bill and on subsequent visits we verified the fact that it had an unstreaked back.

Since the checklist indicated this would be a rare sighting, we called Madison Audubon. The man on the phone referred us to Sam Robbins. It was our good fortune that the warbler appeared almost at once for Mr. Robbins and he verified our identification.—*Philip N. Stephenson, 2813 Irvington Way, Madison, WI 53713.*

BRAMBLING (*Fringilla montifringilla*)

17–25 January, Town of Clayton, WI, Winnebago County—This was a small bird approximately the size of a junco, maybe slightly larger. It was a very pretty bird with a rusty orange brown breast (similar in color to a male robin) which changes to white near the leg area. It had a strong black wing bar and a conspicuous white patch on his back near his rump. He had a dark head (chocolate brown in color) with stripy black patches mixed in. His head had an unusual shape, "square" like a flycatcher—not round. He had a dark brown back streaked with black. He had a sharp, peaked bill which was cream or light yellow in color. He was capable of eating sunflower seeds, but his bill was not designed to open seeds. He appeared to have difficulty opening seeds. Most often he would land, grab one seed, take off immediately and disappear. His flight path was very erratic

in direction, flying in a darting manner. Once in a great while, he would feed for a minute or two on the ground—never on the feeder. He was very nervous, almost never sitting still.

It was very difficult to photograph him because of his constant movement. He was always by himself; never did he associate with other birds (juncos, goldfinches or cardinals were almost always around). To get photographs, I "baited" two areas with sunflower seeds and prefocused the camera and waited until he showed up. He would "flush" constantly, even when the other birds would remain. He was here infrequently for a period of eight to ten days, usually in the mornings. He arrived with the beginning of very cold weather and lots of new snow. He disappeared on the afternoon of January 25 and never returned.—*Kenneth V. Krake, 3010 Ridgeway Rd., Neenah, WI 54956.*

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW (*Passer montanus*)

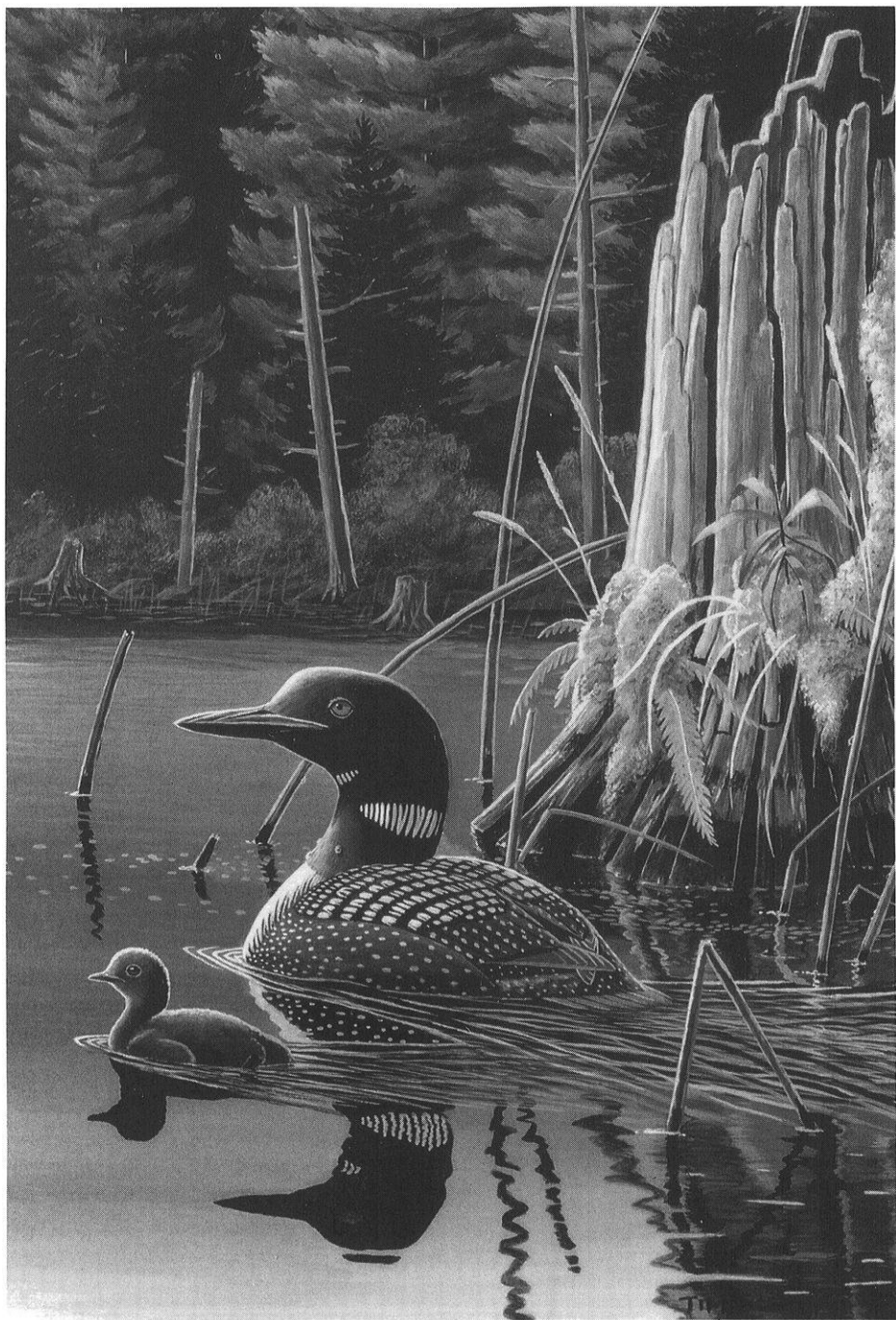
1 February 1994, Feeder, Rock County—This sparrow was immediately distinguished from the House Sparrows because of the more extensive white and black cheek and white collar. I noted the black cheek spot under the eye and the well defined black chin which contrasted from the more indistinct black area of the House Sparrow. The eye was dark with a black area between the bill and the eye. The chestnut crown and back of the neck was ringed by the white collar which extended to one half inch of meeting at the back of the neck. The conical shaped bill was yellow colored near the proximal end on both upper and lower mandibles while the distal end ap-



Figure 3. Brambling. *Photo by Kenneth V. Krake.*

peared dark. The back and rump were unstreaked light brown and two white wing bars were visible. The bird was approximately the same size as the Dark-eyed Juncos that fed with the bird on the ground under the feeders. The bird also explored a cavity in the

tree going in and out of this hole for several minutes. The bird perched in a bare lilac bush within 10 feet of the house for several minutes duration giving excellent opportunities for observing.—*Kay Burcar, 175136 Enchanted Valley Rd., Cross Plains, WI 53528.*



"Vilas County Legacy" by *Tim Schultz* (A limited edition print with the permission of the artist and the publisher, Northwoods Craftsman, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051)

WSO Records Committee Report—Winter 1993–1994

The WSO Records Committee received 19 documentations for review for the winter 1993–1994 season. 14 were accepted for an acceptance rate of 74%. Included in the reports were first state records for Townsend's Warbler and Brambling. All observers were notified by postcard in the case of accepted reports or personal letter in the case of reports not accepted.

by Jim Frank

ACCEPTED

Mew Gull—

#93–060 *Milwaukee Co.*; Gustafson, 11 December 1993, 21, 24 January 1994; Domagalski, 23 January 1994; Boldt, 22 February 1994.

Identification was based on an overall size slightly smaller than adjacent Ring-billed Gulls, a mantle color a shade darker gray than the ring-bills, a head slightly rounder than the ring-bills, a heavier brown "hood effect" streaking on the head, a yellow bill—shorter and thinner than the ring-bills, larger white spots in the primary tips than the ring-bills, and a dark eye.

California Gull—

#94–001 *Milwaukee Co.*; Tessen, 20 February 1994.

This breeding plumaged bird was

larger than adjacent ring-bills, but smaller than an adjacent Herring Gull. It had a dark eye, yellow bill with a red and black spot at the gonys, gray-green legs, and a darker shade of gray to the mantle than the ring-bills though not strikingly so. This is the second state record for a California Gull.

Iceland Gull—

#93–063 *Milwaukee Co.*; Boldt, 12 December 1993.

The gull was slightly smaller than a Herring Gull, with a paler gray mantle than a Herring Gull. Interspersed in the gray mantle were white patches. Primary tips were white with faint tan markings near the tip. The legs were pink and the bill was pink at the base, but black tipped and smaller than a herring's bill. The head was smaller and rounder than a Herring Gull.

Lesser Black-backed Gull—

#93-064 *Dane Co.*; Legler, 8, 13 December 1993; Boldt (photos) 12 December 1993.

This gull was noticeably larger than adjacent Ring-billed Gulls, but noticeably smaller than adjacent Herring Gulls. The mantle was described as charcoal, much darker than the ring-bills. Darker black primary tips contrasted only slightly with the mantle color. Eye color was described as brownish-straw—not yellow and not dark, as the iris could be discerned from the pupil. The legs were yellowish, the feet pinkish. The head, though white, had grayish streaking on the nape and to a lesser extent, the crown. The bill was confusing in that the distal one-third was yellow, the proximal two-thirds was dark or grayish. A red spot was noted on the gonys and a black mark was on the *proximal* side of the red spot—not distal side as is characteristic of adult California Gulls. This black mark is not unusual in 4th winter lesser black-backs. The underwing had a broad dark trailing edge from body to wing tip.

Townsend's Warbler—

#93-066 *Ozaukee Co.*; Ralsten, 5-12 December 1993.

This photographed bird, though not sharply in focus, revealed an olive-green back and crown, a yellow face accented by a black auricular patch (an area entirely yellow on a Black-throated Green Warbler), a white breast with light black streaking on the flanks, a hint of yellow is noted on the flanks as well. A hint of black streaking can be detected on the side of the olive-green back. It is felt this bird was an immature male or adult female Townsend's Warbler.

Brambling—

#94-002 *Winnebago Co.*; Krake, 7 February 1994.

This photographed bird is unmistakable. It appears to be junco-sized with a dark gray head, upper back, flight feathers, and tail. Sharply contrasting are an orange-brown breast, shoulders, and wingbar. The orange breast grades to a whitish belly with dark spots on the flanks. The bill was yellow with a dark tip. This suggests the winter plumage of an adult male bird.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow—

#94-003 *Rock Co.*; Boldt, 1 January 1994; Domgalski, 1 February 1994; Burcar, 1 February 1994; Sontag, 6 February 1994; Tessen, 13 February 1994.

In comparison to the House Sparrows at the feeder, this bird was slightly shorter and more slender with a slightly less bulky bill. The bill was dark with a yellowish base. The legs seemed a brighter pink than those of the House Sparrows. The chestnut crown, a blacker, smaller, more neatly defined chin patch, lighter cheek patch, and white neck ring contrasted to the grayish color of the House Sparrows. The chestnut back extended down to and included the rump instead of transitioning to gray as in House Sparrows. This is the third state record for Wisconsin.

NOT ACCEPTED**California Gull—**

#93-061 *Dane Co.*; 7 December 1993.

This bird appears to be the Lesser Black-backed Gull reported at the same time in this area. The darker gray

mantle of a California Gull should only be a shade darker than a ring-bill or herring, not strikingly darker as lesser black-backs are. The other confusing field mark on this bird was the red and black spots on the gonys. Instead of being black distal to the red spot, this bird was black proximal to this red mark. Be reminded of the black marks on the distal portions of 3rd year Herring Gulls, Lesser Black-backed Gulls, etc. that can linger as the bird approaches adult plumage.

Iceland Gull—

#93-062 *Manitowoc Co.*; 11 December 1993.

This bird was well described in coloration—white with a lighter gray mantle than adjacent Ring-billed Gulls. The legs were pink, the bill yellow with a red spot on the gonys. Without a size reference more specific than “larger than a Ring-billed Gull”; it could not be certain if this was an Iceland or Glaucous Gull. A red periorbital ring probably indicates this was an Iceland Gull.

Lesser Black-backed Gull—

#93-064 *Dane Co.*

These descriptions were undoubtedly of the aforementioned Lesser Black-backed Gull; however, the brevity of the descriptions left doubt about the identification if based only on these reports. More description than a dark blackish mantle and relative size of the

bird is necessary for a convincing documentation. Noting the relative darkness of the primary wing tips to the mantle and if the bird is seen other than in a swimming position, noting the leg color are also important field marks.

Western Gull—

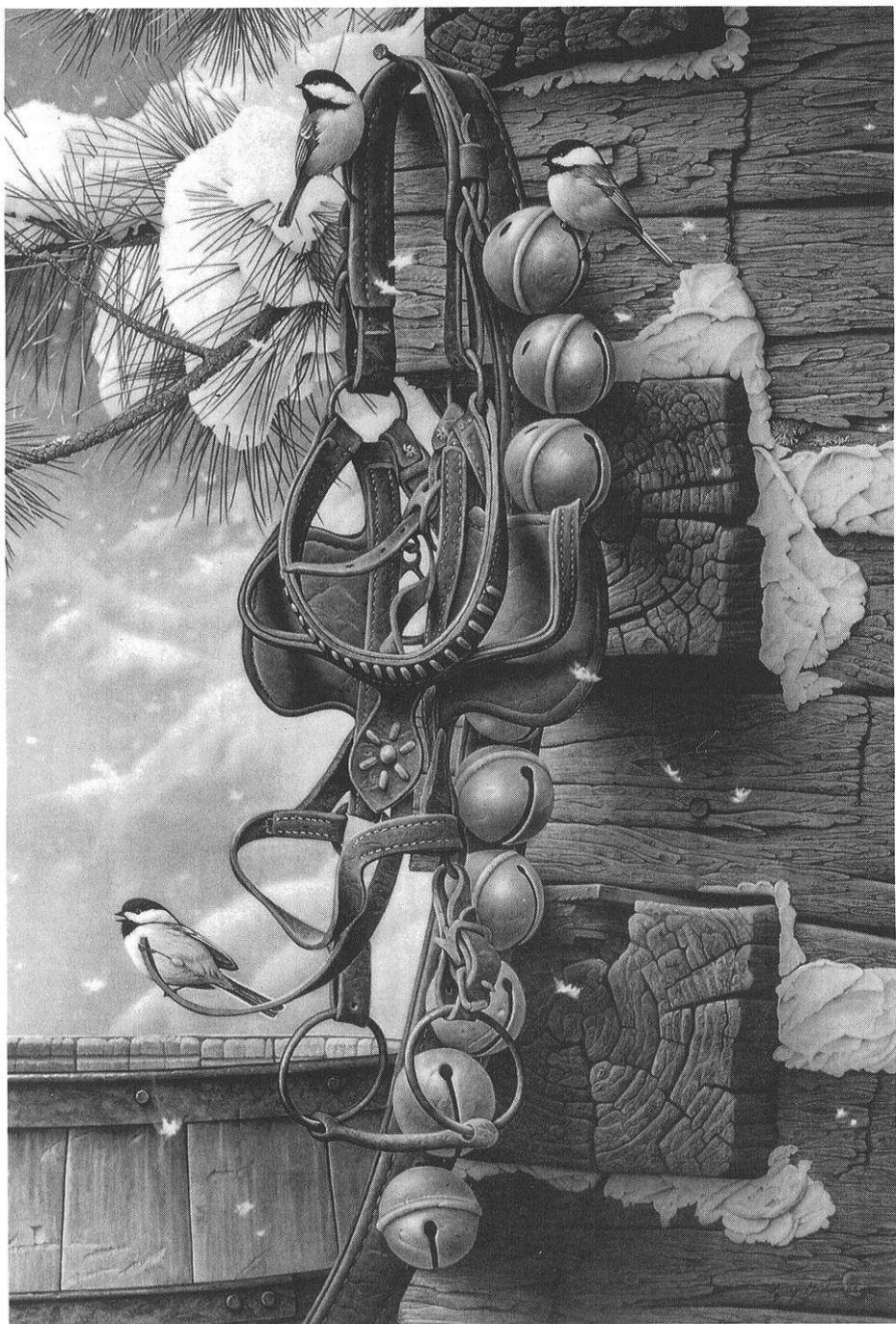
#93-065 *Kewaunee Co.*; 27 December 1993, 27 January 1994; *Ozaukee Co.*; 22 February 1994.

This black mantled bird has a number of characteristics suggestive of different species. There appeared to be a lighter darkness to the mantle than the primary wing tips (as slaty-backed, western, and lesser black-backed). The size was intermediate between Herring Gulls and Glaucous Gulls and the legs were pink (as could fit slaty-backed, small great black-backed, or Western Gulls). The eye seemed dark, but the pupil was discernible from the iris and may have been lightening. The yellow bill had red and black in the region of the gonys as can many 3rd year gulls transitioning to adult plumage.

It is difficult to say for certain what the identification is of these reports, but a smaller Great Black-backed Gull is possible. At close range the mantle doesn't always seem as black as the primary wing tips. A photograph could have made for a very interesting discussion of these reports.

Jim Frank

WSO Records Committee Chair



"Sleigh Bells Ring" by Jerry Gadamus (A limited edition print with the permission of the artist and the publisher, Northwoods Craftsman, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051)

1994 Silver Passenger Pigeon Citation

Awards like the Silver Passenger Pigeon allow us as members of the WSO the pleasure of recognizing individuals for their special contributions to the organization, as well as the opportunity to say thank-you. Organizations like the WSO continue to evolve, mature, and progress because of the dedication, insight and resourcefulness of people like this year's winner.

He joined the WSO in 1979, and in 1987 took on the task of organizing and leading WSO field trips. He was instrumental in expanding the field trip schedule to include not only additional locations within the state but also trips nationally and internationally. He has been a member of the WSO Records Committee since 1990 and contributed to the society's *Wisconsin's Favorite Bird Haunts*, both with area descriptions and with marvelous drawings and sketches.

He became best known, to most birders, as the artist who wonderfully illustrated the gulls and terns in the National Geographic Society's *Field Guide to the Birds of North America*. But because of his ability, both as an artist and field observer, this contribution was only just the tip of the iceberg, for there are many artistic projects current and in the future for this man.

He has spent countless hours participating, organizing and/or compiling birding events, in all seasons, for a variety of organizations. They include Christmas counts [initiating Green Lake's count], Crane counts, May Day counts, and Big Day counts.

He participates in both the US Fish & Wildlife Service and Wisconsin State Natural Area Breeding Bird Survey routes, and also the Nicolet National Forest Bird Survey, just to mention a few. He has also initiated a breeding bird atlas project for Fond du Lac County for 1994, through the Owen J. Gromme Bird Club, of which he is one of its most active members.

It is with great honor and pleasure that the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc. recognizes his service to the Society by presenting the 1994 Silver Passenger Pigeon Award to Thomas R. Schultz.

1994 SILVER PASSENGER PIGEON CITATION

This recipient of the Society's Silver Passenger Pigeon Award is an exceptional field birder who has contributed significantly to the Society since becoming a member in 1977.

In 1989 he assumed the demanding role of Spring Field-Note Compiler and served the Society in this position through 1992.

In 1989 his bird identification skills were recognized with an appointment to a 5-year term on the Society's Records Committee.

Also in 1989 he joined the WSO Board as Vice President for two terms followed by two terms as President of the Society during 1991 and 1992.

He has been an active participant and compiler for Christmas, May Day & Big Day Counts and has led several birding field trips for the Madison Audubon club. He led the 1989 pre-convention field trip for the Society's fiftieth year anniversary Madison convention.

The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc. gratefully recognizes the significant service to the Society and is pleased to present this Silver Passenger Pigeon award to Allen K. Shea.

1994 CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Whereas, he played an instrumental part in the establishment of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc. in 1939, served as its first President, 1939–1940, and as Vice President, 1943–1944, and

Whereas, he edited *The Passenger Pigeon* from 1943 to 1953, with able assistance from his wife Clara, which included the development of a field note department to collect and publish field observations of birds in all parts of Wisconsin, and

Whereas, he assisted with the publication of *Wisconsin Birds—A Checklist with Migration Charts* in 1942, and with each of four subsequent revisions in 1950, 1960, 1975 and 1988, and

Whereas, he established the WSO Supply Department in 1947, and managed its affairs until 1955, and

Whereas, in 1964 his early contributions to the Society were recognized as one of the initial recipients of the Society's Silver Passenger Pigeon, and

Whereas, he introduced thousands of readers of the *Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin* to scores of Wisconsin birds through a series of 145 monthly articles, 1952–1974, and

Whereas, he took an active part in Christmas bird counts from 1939 through 1992, and in breeding bird surveys from 1966 through 1981, and

Whereas, he published *Birds Tomorrow* in 1991, a 347 page book on the management of birds containing over 300 of his original photographs, and

Now, be it resolved that the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology recognizes these achievements, and extends its congratulations to Norval R. Barger with this Certificate of Appreciation.

1994 BRONZE PASSENGER PIGEON AWARD

Bob Adams has taken his lifelong interest in birds and birding and made a successful career of informing, educating and entertaining any and all who would listen.

As a member of the Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club of Waukesha since 1938, he has served as president five times, long-time Christmas count coordinator and has held just about every other office in the club often for several years.

He was the major driving force behind both WSO conventions held in Waukesha.

A bird bander from 1938 to 1957 he banded thousands of swallows, grebes, sparrows, bluebirds and warblers.

He is a continuous bird house builder. His bluebird and Wood Duck houses dot southeast Wisconsin and there are not too many wood lots that do not have one of his owl boxes. Reports have him climbing the inside of a silo to install an owl box when he was 73. Need a bird house? Call him, he would be happy to build you one.

A Boy Scout since his youth, Bob has helped hundreds of scouts earn the Bird Study Merit Badge.

He has given a number of bird talks to nature clubs, nursing homes, Girl Scout troops, Boy Scout & Cub troops and church groups.

A lifetime devoted to the birds should be documentation enough but perhaps his most significant contribution is the number of people who have been changed from ordinary souls into birding fanatics under his tutelage. Tom Soulen, Charles Sontag, Pete Weber, James Toft, Harlan, Harlow and John Bielfeldt and many others who went birding with Bob and had their lives changed forever.

1994 BRONZE PASSENGER PIGEON AWARD

Daniel D. Berger has, since 1951, led the operation of the Cedar Grove Ornithological Station which is the oldest, continuously operated, raptor trapping and banding station in North America.

The quality and volume of the scientific publications generated from this long-term research has earned Cedar Grove an international reputation. It is doubtful if any other Wisconsin field station can exceed Cedar Grove in the number of published works on birds.

These Cedar Grove accomplishments would not have been possible without his dedication and perseverance. For over forty years he has averaged over 100 days of observation and trapping annually and for years undertook financial responsibility for the station operation. Over the years he has trained many individuals in the art of raptor trapping and banding. Most of the current raptor researchers in Wisconsin can trace their roots back to Cedar Grove. Innovations devised for more efficient and safer trapping of raptors are many. Most notable was the "reinvention" of the bal-chatris noose trap which provided researchers a method to trap adult raptors safely. Prior to this technique most raptors were banded as nestlings.

He was also involved in the early monitoring of Peregrine Falcon and Osprey populations in Wisconsin. This early work was invaluable in the DDT era to help document their population decline. His great interest in peregrines has involved him in research and surveys in Canada, Greenland and the Rocky Mountain states.

It is only fitting to honor one of our own for his lifelong dedication. The Cedar Grove Ornithological Station remains a valuable resource to Wisconsin due to his efforts.

1994 BRONZE PASSENGER PIGEON AWARD

Merle Pickett is an outstanding example of the teacher who takes a love and interest of our natural world and through enthusiasm and teaching skills is able to touch the lives of countless students and individuals that have the fortune to have met her.

As a High School teacher since the late 1930's at Washington Junior High in Manitowoc she started the Roger Tory Peterson Bird Club as an extra curricular student activity. She taught hundreds the skills and excitement of bird identification and the joy of field trips to view the birds in their natural habitat. Young people were especially touched by the opportunities for natural science lessons this "Bird Club" offered.

She introduced sponsorship of the Audubon Film Series as a Club activity with students handling ticket sales, ushering, and introducing the speakers. The programs were well attended through the 1960's. Countless of her students have carried an enthusiastic interest in birds she and the Club provided into their adult years.

She began a bird breakfast after the Spring bird counts in the Manitowoc area and was involved in the counts and the breakfasts for a number of years.

Her long professional career and her birding interests are a credit to her and other teachers who strive to introduce to our youth the lifelong enjoyment that birds and our nature environment can offer. We thank her for this long demonstrated interest in our youth.

1994 BRONZE PASSENGER PIGEON AWARD

Edward Prins can be said to be the quintessential birder of southeastern Wisconsin, certainly in his Racine County home area.

Starting observing and learning of our natural world at a early age, in High School he joined the Washington Park High Audubon Society. Later following a short tenure in the Taxidermy department of the Milwaukee Museum under Owen Gromme he worked to restore and rejuvenate the mounted bird collection of Dr. Philo Hoy.

In 1964 he was one of the founding members of the Hoy Bird Club [now the Hoy Nature Club] and has continued through the years as one of its strongest supporters. He was active in the club acquisition of the Nicholson Wildlife Area in Racine County and continues to keep a watchful eye on it.

His special interest in cavity nesters, especially bluebird houses, is known throughout the state with his design experimentation to encourage habitation and discourage the undesirable tenants. He established several bluebird trails and continues to be involved in trail monitoring.

From the early days he has been willing to spend the time with those less knowledgeable in the field and with his extensive slide collection for programs at the club and in the schools. His nature photography is exceptional, and has appeared in publications such as James Zimmerman's *Wildflowers and Weeds* and *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine.

He is kind of a Renaissance birdman who has many interests in education, conservation and organization that relate to ornithology. He knows where and when to find a particular species and is more than glad to share his knowledge. He can tell you where to find the Snow Buntings, when to watch for migrating hawks and where to find the Woodcock's peenting ground. He has earned this recognition and our thanks.

1994 BRONZE PASSENGER PIGEON CITATION

Winnie Woodmansee has always epitomized the tireless, unselfish ornithologist, naturalist, and conservationist who can make a difference in the individual lives she touches.

The establishment of the Schlitz Audubon Center, 20 years ago, as a nature center and wildlife sanctuary is in significant part due to her efforts. Her foresight, support, and stamina brought a vision to reality.

Her daily records of bird sightings at the Center for the last 20 years, along with her encouragement of countless others to add their sightings, has created a wealth of migratory information. This data, along with breeding censuses, has been invaluable to local, state, and federal agencies in policy decisions that affect the environment and endangered species.

Her education of the public in ornithology classes taught through the Schlitz Audubon Center and the UWM Extension have enlightened countless people to the enjoyment and plight of birds and the environment. Those that seek more information always find her available to nurture their interest through field trips, Christmas Counts, and WSO conventions. Of course, she always instills in them the belief that birding should be more than a pastime. Through submission of their records to the Center, WSO, the DNR, and *American Birds*, they learn to be contributors of important scientific information. Many of her pupils have continued on to in turn teach classes to others on birds or to pursue a career in ornithological research in the tropics.

Without her efforts, the thousands of bird skins in the Milwaukee Public Museum collection would remain unidentified and useless. Without her strong support, *Living Lightly in the City*, *Living Lightly on the Planet*, and *Rain Forest: Exploring Life on Earth* would have remained unfinished ideas.

Winnie has always known that talking about problems doesn't accomplish solutions and that financial support isn't enough to insure success. She can always be counted on to take on the project, enlist appropriate collaborators, and see that someone completes it—in the process touching the lives of others with her awe of birds and nature. Though she doesn't seek accolades for these efforts, she greatly deserves recognition, especially when she has done so much to further the cause of the birds and the environment in the Milwaukee area. She deserves our heartfelt thanks.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS AND ARTISTS

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.

Jerry Gadamus has a B.S. degree from UW-Stout where he has instructed wildlife carving classes. A pioneer in techniques of "free hand" airbrush in wildlife art, he received the 1987 "Artist of the Year Award" from Northwoods Craftsman, who publishes his art.

Kenneth I. Lange has been the Naturalist at Devil's Lake State Park since 1966. He has a master's degree from the University of Arizona. Ken has

been a frequent contributor to WSO publications: as a field-note compiler and author of articles and the book, *Breeding Birds of the Baraboo Hills*. He formerly worked at the Smithsonian Institution's U.S. National Museum. He is the 1993 recipient of WSO's Silver Passenger Pigeon award.

Tim Schultz is a well known Wisconsin artist (and the brother of Tom Schultz). He has won both the Wisconsin Duck Stamp and Trout Stamp competitions, an unusual dual accomplishment that reveals his versatility. He obtained his college education at UW-Fond du Lac. He is represented by Northwoods Craftsman.

Charles Sontag is WSO's current President and Professor of Biological Sciences at UW-Manitowoc. He holds an MS and PhD from UW-Madison and is an active birder statewide.



"Winter Parade" by *Tim Schultz* (A limited edition print with the permission of the artist and the publisher, Northwoods Craftsman, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051)

Notices and Advertisements

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING (MAY 21, 1994, БЕЛОIT, WISCONSIN)

The 55th annual business meeting of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology was called to order at 1:37 P.M. in the Wilson Theater of the Oscar Meyer Building of Beloit College by President Charles Sontag. Approximately 100 people were present. The convention was hosted by the Ned Hollister Bird Club. Convention chairman was Sheryl Austin.

At the entrance to the meeting room a packet containing reports of the officers and committee chairs was handed out. A copy of these is filed with the original copy of these minutes.

MINUTES of the May 22, 1993 meeting held at University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh were printed in the Fall 1993 issue of the PIGEON and distributed in the packet of committee reports handed out at the entrance to this meeting. On motion by Mary Donald, seconded by Jerry Smith the minutes were approved.

PRESIDENT Sontag thanked Sheryl Austin, Carol Owen and all the volunteers of the Ned Hollister Bird Club and Beloit College for the excellent convention they are hosting.

VICE-PRESIDENT Bettie Harri-man made a motion that the 1995 annual convention be held at Marinette, Wisconsin the motion was seconded by Jim Williams, and passed. Date for the meeting has not been set.

Bettie is in the process of setting up

a Speaker's Bureau to help bird clubs and other groups find speakers for their meetings.

At a recent WSO Board meeting, there was a discussion about the present WSO logo. The feeling was that it ought to be updated and made easier to reproduce on stationery, awards plaques, etc. and for printing via computer. One problem is that we do not have the original drawing of the logo. The board decided to have a WSO Logo contest open to our members. A sheet giving rules for the contest was included in the packet. The contest begins today with the winner being announced at next year's convention. Stan Temple asked if the membership gets to vote on whether or not they wish to change the Logo. Bettie said that is an option and that keeping the present logo with some cleaning up of or eliminating the fine lines may well be the result. Carl Hayssen suggested that we take an informal and non-binding vote of the members present whether or not we keep the present logo. A straw vote was taken with about two-thirds voting to keep the old logo.

Bettie is serving on the *ad hoc* planning committee for the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas.

TREASURER Alex Kailing summarized some of the treasurer's reports for 1992, 1993 and 1994 to date. The full report is on pages 6, 7 and 8 of the handout. Alex touched on some of the highlights and explained some of the items. With pending increases in the postal rates the mailing expenses

will be about \$600 more in 1995 than this year. The Society is in good financial shape. Total assets at the end of 1993 were \$164,700 vs. \$159,700 for 1992.

EDITOR Becky Isenring had nothing to add to her report in the handout other than to reiterate that she is struggling to get and keep the PASSENGER PIGEON on schedule, and that she welcomes any feedback that members have to offer about contents and format of the PIGEON.

BADGER BIRDER Editor Randy Hoffman's report was complete as in the handout.

FIELD TRIPS, Tom Schultz and Jeff Baughman: Field trips within the state have brought continued success, but three out-of-state trips were cancelled because of insufficient registrations.

PUBLICITY: Bettie Harriman has continued to send notices of WSO field trips to local newspapers and press releases of scholarship and awards winners to hometown papers of the awardees and to the BADGER BIRDER. She prepared articles for Wild Birds Unlimited news letters. The WSO display was used at several symposiums and meetings. WSO has continued to participate in the Sentinel Sports Show. She expressed thanks to Noel Cutright for his efforts regarding the Show.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Daryl Tesen's work on planning this convention's pre-convention bus trip kept him from getting a report in for the handout. Daryl will be retiring and moving out of Illinois and into Wisconsin so those who send in seasonal reports should look for the new address when it is reported in the BIRDER.

CONSERVATION: Noel Cutright stated that at the BIRDATHON/BAN-

DATHON last week at Honey Creek 85 species of birds were seen (about average of other years) and 31 species banded (above average). A new record of pledge money was obtained.

EDUCATION: No report.

LEGAL COUNSEL: No report.

MEMBERSHIP chairman Alex Kailing: Membership is at an all time high. We obtained 180 new members this past year, an all time high. Alex requested that members moving, even for a seasonal change as south for the winter, should notify him of their address change. Mail other than first class is *not* forwarded but returned to the sender with a charge for the return. Return of the BADGER BIRDER costs us 35 cents.

PUBLICITY Bettie Harriman: Adding to her report in the handout, Bettie said that there are membership brochures at the BOOK STORE which are available for distribution by our members. Brochure stands are available from Bettie for members to take if they know of a store, nature center etc. which will use one. She gave special thanks to Ike Eckstein for the number of brochures that he has distributed.

RECORDS: Jim Frank's handout report listed other members of the committee as Tom Schultz, Mark Peterson, Robbye Johnson and Randy Hoffman. 139 records were examined and 123 accepted. A new state bird was added to the list, a Phainopepla.

RESEARCH: Bob Howe has been active in many state and national research planning activities such as *Partners in Flight*, *Natural Resources Research Institute*, *the Atlas Project* and others. He said that he is looking for members who would like to do small research projects. Partners in Flight and the Cornell Laboratory of Orni-

thology are two of several organizations that are looking for volunteers. Anyone interested should contact him. WSO is beginning to undertake the Breeding Bird Atlas Project in Wisconsin. Anyone who would like to get involved in the planning efforts should contact Kailing or Howe. Their names and addresses are listed in the back of the PASSENGER PIGEON.

WSO BOOK STORE, (formerly called the Supply Department) Margie and Mark Amato: Margie reported that total receipts their first year were \$13,800. The new WSO checklists are now available. The price remains at five cents each although our cost is double that. Wild Birds Unlimited, Upstart Crow (Illinois) and wholesaler Baker and Taylor are stocking WSO publications. Several retailers and nature organizations are also selling them. They are up-dating their procedures and inventory.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS: Janine Polk's reports listed the following recipients:

Steenbock/Kaytee Award—Irving School, West Allis

Scholarship Awards went to:

Kathleen Castelein and Gain Basili—*A New Technology to Locate Grassland Bird Nests*

Mary Derr—*Mercury Levels in Piscivorous Waterbirds*

Joan Elias—*Bad River Corridor Breeding Bird Research*

Margaret J. Robertsen—*Predicting Impacts of Landscape-scale Ecosystem Management on the Dynamics of Forest Bird Populations*

Janet Snedeker—*Nesting Ecology of Grassland Birds in Central Wisconsin*

Liying Su—*Habitat Use and Local Movements of Sandhill Cranes at Briggsville, Wisconsin.*

Janine was unable to attend the convention so Bettie Harriman reported for her.

WSO LANDS: No report.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The committee consisted of David & Margaret Brasser of Sheboygan and Daryl Tessen, chairman. Daryl presented the following slate of officers in nomination for 1994–95:

President	Charles Sontag
Vice president	Bettie Harriman
Secretary	Carl Hayssen
Treasurer	Alex Kailing
Editor	Becky Isenring

Motion by Bob Termanski, seconded by Ike Eckstein the motion to accept the slate as presented was voted on and passed.

The meeting closed at 2:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Carl G. Hayssen, jr. secretary.

Annual Reports from officers and committee chairs follow.

ANNUAL REPORTS (JUNE 1993–MAY 1994)

President—Charles Sontag—The Society, with its many officers and committee chairs, represents the membership from many perspectives. These individuals provide their service in both time and energy with enormous generosity. As the first part of this report, I would like to thank them all for their dedicated service and shared talents.

It is hard to know just what should be included in this report, since it is the Board that conducts the business of the Society and not just a reflection of my interests or abilities. As a compromise to this quandary, I will offer

several highlights of what the Board has addressed during this past year that go beyond the day-to-day operation of the Society. These activities include:

- Initiation of the work that will become the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas;
- Joint sponsorship of *One Bird/Two Habitats* with Sue Gilchrist;
- Exploration of extramural funding for Society Scholarships;
- Formation of the Honey Creek Committee;
- Initiation of the search for a new logo for WSO;
- Creation of a new service award: The Bronze Passenger Pigeon;
- Reexamination of and possible return to the Student Membership category;
- Initiation of a Speaker's Bureau.

As the Society continues to grow, many issues present opportunities to reshape and to re-direct the destiny of the organization. We hope that you too will make your interests known and tell us how the Society can best serve your interests in the birding experience.

Vice President—Bettie Harriman—The only task assigned to the Vice President is to find the sites for the annual conventions. I have been in communication with several individuals and groups about future locations for the meetings, but only the 1995 place is definite at this time. Arm-twisting will continue until other groups say yes!

After the 1993 convention, I conducted a survey to help us plan future conventions. The results of that survey were announced in the October Badger Birder. I again thank all of you who returned your questionnaires.

Due to comments by several members about needing help finding programs for their local groups, I am in the process of putting together a Speaker's Bureau on birds for WSO. I hope to have it ready for use by this fall.

I am serving as chair of the Logo Contest, which will be announced at this convention. I am also serving on the *ad hoc* planning committee for the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas.

Treasurer—Alex Kailing—		
	12/31/92	12/31/93
Cash	2,870.95	1,062.13
Savings Accounts		
General Savings	38,355.28	45,003.59
Endowment	10,081.69	12,734.75
Investments		
Endowment		
(total fund)	25,002.25	25,002.25
Savings (amer. adj rate)	6,000.00	6,000.00
Inventories		
Bookstore		
Cash	3,196.13	3,110.41
Inventory	36,243.06	32,663.48
Slides		
Cash	3,105.64	3,351.63
Inventory	2,265.03	3,134.49
Membership		
Cash	0	0
Inventory	0	0
Fixed Assets		
Equipment	674.92	674.92
Land & Buildings		
Prairie Chicken	1,491.39	1,491.39
Honey Creek		
Land	21,475.86	21,475.86
Buildings	<u>8,927.88</u>	<u>8,927.88</u>
Total		
Current Assets	\$159,690.08	\$164,632.78

Passenger Pigeon Editor—Becky Isenring—Volume 55 of *The Passenger Pigeon* featured the following items of note:

408 pages were published;

37 articles were contributed; 55% of the pages were devoted to birding topics, 15% to research reports, 25% to people (including the series "In the Words of Ornithologists Past. . ."), and 5% to WSO business; 78 pieces of artwork and photography were used.

During 1993 the editorial staff consisted of Rebecca S. Isenring, Daryl D. Tessen, Cary Anne Reich, Laura L. Erickson, Thomas K. Soulen, Mark S. Peterson, and Kenneth I. Lange. I continue to use the same typesetter and printer and, with exception of a few problems, remain pleased with their work.

I continue to struggle with the timeliness of the *Pigeon* and include a schedule of deadlines for submitting work to be considered for publication. I hope if these deadlines are honored that I can begin to get issues out to the readers before the respective field note season begins (Table 1).

As always, I welcome any feedback that members have to offer about content and format of the *Pigeon*.

Badger Birder Editor—Randy Hoffman—Ten issues of the *Badger Birder* were published in 1994 and the first annual Honey Creek issue was published. This past year saw several new series and submissions of articles by

many WSO members. The *Badger Birder* continued its policy of printing articles and series most requested by the membership. In addition, cooperative arrangements have been made with other states, especially Minnesota, to exchange articles of mutual interest. A few individual requests for specific series were received; however, these were single requests and given lower priority than others. If anyone or any local group wants to have a specific topic covered let me know or consider writing an article.

Conservation Chair—Noel Cutright—As the Conservation Chair this year, I have:

- Supported legislation to establish an endangered resources license plate. This bill was the last one to pass in this session and was signed by Gov. Thompson on Earth Day. The license plate will become available some time in the next year for a \$25 fee;
- Supported federal legislation to re-authorize the Endangered Species Act; Represented the WSO on Horicon Marsh initiatives;
- Served (and continue to serve) as Education and Information committee chair for the Wisconsin Working Group for the Conservation and

Table 1. Publishing deadlines for *The Passenger Pigeon*.

ISSUE	FIELD NOTES PUBLISHED	DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES	GOAL FOR DELIVERY DATE
SPRING	SUMMER	FEBRUARY 15	MAY 15
SUMMER	FALL	APRIL 15	JULY 15
FALL	WINTER	AUGUST 15	NOVEMBER 15
WINTER	SPRING	NOVEMBER 15	FEBRUARY 15

Management of Neotropical Migrant Birds (Partners in Flight);
 Served on two WDNR working committees—Land Use Classification of state lands and Forestry Best Management Practices;
 Prepared “Conservation Clips” column in the *Badger Birder*;
 Supported publicity efforts by making several bird presentations around the state, using the WSO displays at various functions, and coordinating the Milwaukee Sports Show Birdhouse/Birdfeeder contest booth;
 Actively supported initiation of a Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas;
 Supplied comments to the WDNR on the state threatened and endangered bird species list;
 Supplied comments to the WDNR on its biodiversity report;
 Supplied comments on the Nine Springs Sewage Treatment facility for the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District. This is a prime shorebird viewing area that may undergo significant change in management and usage; and
 Continued to coordinate the Honey Creek Birdathon/Bandathon.

Field Trip Chairs—Thomas Schultz and Jeffrey Baughman—The past year has brought continued success with our state field trips. Although weather has hampered us at times, most of our outings have been enjoyable and successful. Photos from some of our field trips were used in an Iowa Public Television production titled “Midwest This Fall,” which will be airing on public TV this summer and fall.

During this period we have scheduled some exciting out-of-state tours, but some (to Texas, Cape May, and Alaska) have been cancelled, due to in-

sufficient registrations. We did, however, have an outstanding 12-day tour to southern California in late March and early April which netted 249 species. Another trip, scheduled for early June 1994 was also well received. Led by Kim Hisen and Jeff Baughman, it will explore the rich prairie habitats of western Minnesota and North Dakota. Preliminary plans for 1995 include a possible trip to Michigan to see Kirtland’s Warblers—watch for upcoming details!

Membership Chair—Alex Kailing—New members for the calendar year 1993 were 180. Society brochure exhibits in various establishments, exhibits at special events, publicity reference in statewide publications, membership referrals and a special October solicitation mailing to 263 potential members helped recruit the new members. A gift acknowledgment card and special gift are sent to all recipients of a gift membership in the Society. In response to requests 1994 renewals were mailed out separately during the third week of December. Two additional renewal notifications are sent before memberships are cancelled prior to the annual convention. An increasing number of members are leaving Wisconsin for the winter without providing us a forwarding address. 2nd and 3rd class mail is not forwarded and the post office will not provide a forwarding address. Such mail is returned with the notification of “Temporarily away” at the single piece rate [a *Badger Birder* costs us 35¢]. As we do not know when the individual will return it is difficult to temporarily discontinue the mailing so the cost is repeated with the next mailing. If I know the change it is more economical for

us to change the destination for the period of time the individual is away. Please help control these costs!

Publicity Chair—Bettie Harriman—I have continued to send notices of WSO field trips to local newspapers. Several members have clipped and sent me these notices when they see them. I appreciate this feedback.

Press releases concerning the Steenbock and WSO Scholarship winners were sent to several newspapers in the state and to the hometown papers of the awardees. An article about the winners and their work was published in *Badger Birder*.

I prepared two articles for Wild Birds Unlimited newsletters and sent three membership brochure displays to these stores. Membership brochures continue to be sent to members as they are requested. Do you know some place that could display our brochure?

This year's event which WSO co-sponsored during the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Museum's "Birds in Art" exhibit was a presentation by William Volkert, which was very well received. Be sure to watch for information about this year's event.

Six new membership brochure displays have been made. Please call me if you need a display.

The WSO display was used at the

Midwest Birding Symposium in Michigan, the Stewardship meeting of The Nature Conservancy, and the Birding Expo sponsored by Bubolz Nature Center.

WSO continued to participate in the Sentinel Sports Show, thanks again to the efforts of Noel Cutright.

Records Chair—Jim Frank—The WSO Records Committee, consisting of chair Jim Frank, Tom Schultz, Mark Peterson, Robbye Johnson, and Randy Hoffman, examined 139 records of 37 species (Table 2). The overall acceptance rate was 88.5% of the records submitted for evaluation. One new species was added to the state list—a Phainopepla. Complete information on the committee's work appeared in the *Badger Birder*, August 1993 for the winter season and in *The Passenger Pigeon*, Vol. 55 No. 4, Vol. 56, No. 1 and No. 2 for the spring, summer, and fall of 1993 seasons.

Research Committee—Bob Howe—My activities during 1993 and 1994 have included participation in state-wide and national research planning activities and, together with other WSO and DNR representatives, initiation of a major research program for the state.

This past year saw the formation of

Table 2. Breakdown by season of records submitted to the Records Committee.

	Records Examined	Accepted	Rejected	Deferred
Winter '93	51	49	2	0
Spring '93	33	26	4	3
Summer '93	9	7	2	0
Fall '93	46	41	5	0
Total	139	123	13	3

a statewide working group for the widely-sponsored *Partners in Flight* program. I led discussion groups at two meetings held in Stevens Point on November 19, 1993 and February 19, 1994. These meetings identified goals for the Partners in Flight Working Group, including a published summary of state research activities, a general bibliography of Wisconsin ornithological research, and an electronic bulletin board for communication between researchers. Future meetings will be aimed at implementing these ambitious objectives. Biologists at the Department of Natural Resources already have developed a draft summary of Wisconsin research projects.

New opportunities for research have been provided by the National Science Experiment, a series of 3 nationwide experiments sponsored by the Cornell Laboratory for Ornithology and National Science Foundation (Project Pigeonwatch, Project Feederwatch, and Project Tanager). I served on the advisory panel for the project and attended a two-day planning meeting during May of 1993; I will attend an additional meeting on May 23–24 of 1994.

I represented WSO at a regional meeting of ornithologists and resource managers who are interested in standardizing methods of monitoring forest bird populations. At the meeting, held at the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth, Minnesota, researchers and project coordinators from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Ontario discussed alternative methods for conducting bird population studies. Standardized methods for point counts were proposed as a guide for local studies; eventually a picture of regional population distributions and

trends will emerge from comparisons and synthesis of many local studies. Dr. Gerald Neimi, organizer of the conference, has summarized results and listed standard methods that are widely used in the Midwest. Another meeting is planned for 1995.

Finally, at its October 1993 meeting the WSO Board of Directors endorsed a statewide breeding bird atlas project. Subsequent meetings of an *ad hoc* planning committee (Noel Cutright, David Flaspohler, Bettie Harriman, Bob Howe, Becky Isenring, Sumner Matteson, Mike Mossman, Sam Robbins, and several others) dubbed the project the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas. Plans call for field work to begin during 1995. A grant proposal is being prepared for funding, and letters are being sent to agencies and organizations soliciting support. Based on experiences in other states, the expectation is that the Atlas should be completed after 7–8 years, culminating in a major publication of Wisconsin breeding bird distributions.

WSO Bookstore—Mark and Margie Amato—We have completed our first year as WSO Bookstore managers and look forward to serving you this year. The WSO Bookstore had \$13,796.68 in total receipts for calendar year 1993. Of that amount, \$3,728.11 was for WSO publications. The WSO publications sold include:

	#	Dollars
Bird Haunts	204	\$2714.00
Baraboo Hills	59	413.00
Apostle Isles	2	1.50
Ducks at a Distance	184	137.60
WI Birds, Checklist with graphs	915	462.01

We have a new WI Birds checklist

now available. The price remains \$.05. We have a few new retailers who have our WSO publications in stock. These include Wild Birds Unlimited in Racine, Lake Geneva, and LaCrosse (to open soon), Upstart Crow in Illinois, and Baker and Taylor. Our WSO publications continue to be sent to many retailers and nature organizations for resale.

We met our 1993-94 goals. We have printed a new bookstore catalog, updated the children section, have checklists of some birding hotspots, and highlighted bookstore items as they related to WSO field trips. We continue to try to reduce our stock of LPs and older edition books.

Goals for 1994-95 are:

- Computerize more bookstore records
- Highlight WSO author publications and WSO artists
- Continue to highlight bookstore items that correlate with WSO field trips
- Offer new birding publications per request and as they become available
- Reduce the inventory in the wildflower, garden, natural history, and astronomy sections so selections can be updated.

We hope to continue to provide quality service. To order, mail your request to: WSO Bookstore, 1516 W. Fiesta Lane, Mequon, WI 53092, or phone, 414/241-5165.

CORRIGENDUM

In J. Bielefeldt and R.N. Rosenfield, Summer birds of conifer plantations in southeastern Wisconsin, *Pass. Pigeon* 56:123-135 (1994), the first paragraph of column 2, page 133, should read as follows: Closed-canopy upland forests occupied 50% of regional area in the presettlement land surveys of 1836 but only 7% in 1990, and only 1% of remaining forest parcels are >32 ha in size (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, unpubl. data). Rural lands including woodlands have been converted to residential and other urban uses at an average regional rate of 2000 ha *per year* since 1950 (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission 1992). There seems little prospect for averting a continued conversion and fragmentation of many of the region's privately-owned woodlands.

50 Years Ago in *The Passenger Pigeon*

May day counts have been conducted in Wisconsin since at least 1935 when the Kumlien Club of Madison started counts in Dane County. Ten years of counts are summarized in this issue with 228 species encountered. The average number of observers was 11 and the average number of species counted was 157. Among the areas birded were Sun Prairie for Yellow-headed Blackbirds and shorebirds, Madison marshes for rails and ducks, Pine Bluff for grouse and Upland Plovers, and Mazomanie for Prairie Chicken, Pileated Woodpecker, Lark Sparrow, warblers, and southern species including the Yellow-breasted Chat, Tufted Titmouse, and Kentucky Warbler. Species observed only once during the 10 year period were European Wigeon, Sandhill Crane, Golden Plover, Stilt Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, Bell's Vireo, and Harris' Sparrow. Also listed as rare were Holboell's Grebe, Pigeon Hawk, Henderson's Dowitcher, Brewster's Warbler, Grinnell's Waterthrush, and Gambel's Sparrow. Do you know our names for these six species today? Bewick's Wren was tallied twice. (Excerpts from Volume 6, 1944)

PS Form 3526

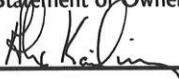
Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685

Publication Title: **The Passenger Pigeon** Publication No.: **422820** Filing Date: **9/21/94**
 Issue Frequency: **Quarterly** No. Issues Annually: **4** Subscription Price: **\$15 - \$18**
 Address - Known Office of Publication: **W330 N8275 W. Shore Dr. Hartland, WI 53029-9732**
 Address - General Business Office: **W330 N8275 W. Shore Dr. Hartland, WI 53029-9732**
 Publisher: **Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc.** **W330 N8275 W. Shore Dr. Hartland, WI 53029-9732**
 Editor: **Rebecca S. Isenring** **6869 Taylor Rd. Sauk City, WI 53583**
 Managing Editor: **None**
 Owner: **Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc. W330 N8275 W. Shore Dr. Hartland, WI 53029-9732**
 Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and other Security Holders: **None**
 Nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes **Has Not**
 Changed During the Preceding 12 Months.
 Publication Name: **The Passenger Pigeon** Issue Date: **September 19, 1994**

Circulation	Avg. No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Actual No. Copies of Last Single Issue
Total No. Copies	1563	1597
Paid Circulation Through Dealers	0	0
Paid Circulation Through Mail	1370	1365
Total Paid Circulation	1370	1365
Free Distribution by Mail	61	26
Free Distribution Outside Mail	7	6
Total Free Distribution	68	32
Total Distribution	1438	1397
Copies Not Distributed-Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled	125	200
Copies Not Distributed-Return from News Agents	0	0
Total	1563	1597
Percent Paid/Total Circulation	95.27	97.71

This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the Vol. 56 #3 issue of this publication



Membership/Circulation Mgr.

9/19/94

THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY

The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology is an educational and scientific non-profit organization founded in 1939 "to encourage the study of Wisconsin birds." The Society achieves this goal through programs in research, education, conservation, and publication.

OFFICERS (1993-94)

President*: Charles Sontag, 801 North 4th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220 (414-682-8988)

Vice President*: Bettie R. Harriman, 5188 Bittersweet Lane, Oshkosh, WI 54901 (414-233-1973)

Secretary*: Carl G. Hayssen, Jr., 6855 North Highway 83, Hartland, WI 53029 (414-966-2839)

Treasurer*: Alex F. Kailing, W330 N8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029 (414-966-1072)

Editor*: Rebecca S. Isenring, 6869 Taylor Road, Sauk City, WI 53583 (608-643-6906)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (1992-93)

Annual Convention (1995): Wendel Johnson, U.W.C. Marinette, 750 Bay Shore, Marinette, WI 54143, (715-735-9204)

Associate Editor*: Daryl D. Tessen, 3118 North Oneida St., Appleton, WI 54911 (414-735-9903)

Awards*: Mary F. Donald, 6918 North Belmont Lane, Milwaukee, WI 53217 (414-352-8940)

Badger Birder*: Randy Hoffman, 305 5th Street, Waunakee, WI 53597 (608-849-4502)

Conservation*: Noel J. Cutright, 3352 Knollwood Road, West Bend, WI 53095 (h. 414-675-2443, w. 414-221-2179)

Education*: William K. Volkert, W996 Birchwood Drive, Campbellsport, WI 53010 (414-387-7877)

Field Trips*: Thomas R. Schultz, N6104 Honeysuckle Lane, Green Lake, WI 54941 (414-294-3021) and Jeffrey L. Baughman, W8985 County Hwy SS, Adell, WI 53001 (414-626-4713)

File Keeper*: Thomas C. Erdman, Richter Museum of Natural History, UW-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI 54311-7001

Hotline (414-352-3857): Brian Boldt, 1832 Jeffrey Ln., Waukesha, WI 53186 and Mark Korducki, 4410 South 21st St., Milwaukee, WI 53221 (414-282-7058)

Lands*: Gordon F. Cox, S8097 Alder Drive, Loganville, WI 53943 (608-544-5081)

Legal Counsel*: Carlo A. Balistrieri, P.O. Box 327, Ashippun, WI 53066 (414-474-7578)

Loan of Slides*: Stephen J. Lang, 5613 Commanche Way, Madison, WI 53704 (608-249-5684)

Membership*: Alex F. Kailing, W330 N8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029 (414-966-1072)

Publicity*: Bettie R. Harriman, 5188 Bittersweet Lane, Oshkosh, WI 54901 (414-233-1973)

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

Research*: Robert W. Howe, Department of Natural and Applied Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, WI 54311 (414-465-8263/2272)

Records Committee Archivist*: John H. Idzikowski, 2558 S. Delaware Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53207 (h. 414-744-4818, w. 414-229-6274)

Scholarships and Grants*: Janine Polk, 1407 Frederic, Eau Claire, WI 54701 (715-839-9265)

Book Store*: Mark and Margie Amato, 1516 West Fiesta Lane, Mequon, WI 53092 (414-241-5165)

*Members of the Board of Directors

CONTENTS

Volume 56	Fall 1994	Number 3
Cover Artwork (Lady Hawk) <i>Jerry Gadamus</i>		
President's Message <i>Charles Sontag</i>		193
The Winter Season: 1993-94 <i>Kenneth I. Lange</i>		195
"By the Wayside" <i>Giant Canada Geese Nesting on a Roof, Extended Serial Copulations between a Mallard and American Black Duck, An Observation of Cooperative Foraging Activity by Greater Sandhill Cranes, Trumpeter Swan, Harlequin Duck, Mew Gull, California Gull, Iceland Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Carolina Wren, Varied Thrush, Townsend's Warbler, Pine Warbler, Brambling, and Eurasian Tree Sparrow</i>		207
WSO Records Committee Report—Winter 1993-94 <i>Jim Frank</i>		219
WSO Awards		223
About the Authors and Artists		231
Notices and Advertisements		233