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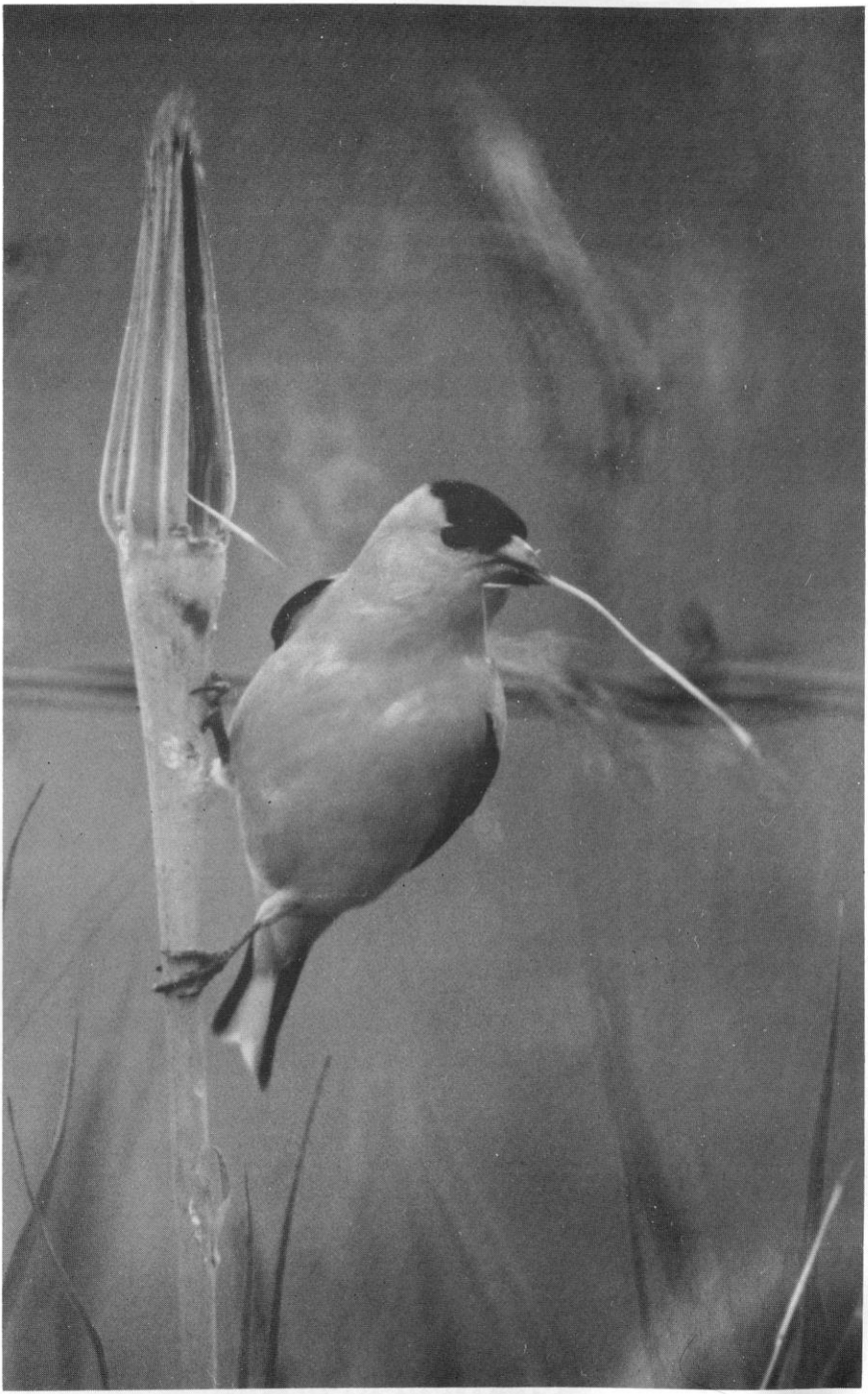

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Cover Photo: Ruffed Grouse by Stephen J. Lang
Inside Front Cover: Goldfinch by Stephen J. Lang
Inside Back Cover: Black-billed Cuckoo by Stephen J. Lang

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INTERVIEWS WITH WISCONSIN SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

I. Sam Robbins is the latest WSO honorary life member, but the first in the series to be presented in the Passenger Pigeon.

Kemper: I am talking to Sam Robbins as we are driving home from a W.S.O. Board Meeting at Honey Creek. It is July 15, 1978. Sam, you are now just a matter of months away from finishing up your manuscript of Birds of Wisconsin. Is that right?

Robbins: We hope it's more nearly weeks away, a couple of weeks from completing the first draft and then it will take some time after that. I don't know how many months to revise the manuscript and put on all the finishing touches.

Kemper: How long have you been working on this now?

Robbins: I began work on the Birds of Wisconsin in 1969. About this time of year I told Owen Gromme that I had to finish up my master's thesis and that I would start work on this right after that if he still wanted me. And the very day I sent my thesis out to my major professor, I sent a post card to Owen and said the decks were clear and I was ready.

Kemper: Just for the record, what was the background before you entered the picture on the Birds of Wisconsin? That book was in preparation many years before that. At least the idea for it was many years ago, wasn't it?

Robbins: The first I had known about it, Owen Gromme was starting work at about 1940. He had gotten clearance from the board of directors of the museum to tackle the project and I think he began in the year 1940 to collect information. I learned more recently in talking with Owen that actually there had been some thoughts about a book like this about 20 years before that. Around the time that Herb Stoddard started work with the Milwaukee Museum, which I think was in 1921. He evidently

had some ideas even then about writing a book on Wisconsin Birds. But at that time the project never got off the ground because there was no financing for it. Shortly after that, probably 1923 or so, Herb left the state, so the project never got going at that time and as far as I know it remained completely dormant from that time until Owen Gromme started around 1940.

Kemper: He started with his paintings and there was a fire and he lost all his paintings and he had to start all over again, is that correct?

Robbins: Yes, this is what happened. He began work on both the paintings and the gathering material for the text, because his original plan was to publish it all as one. At that time the Milwaukee Museum had the help of some clerical WPA workers, so he got them going right away on copying material from some old books. And he began a file on each species at that time. Secondly, he started to contact observers all over the state asking them to submit observations of different kinds. And he developed quite a file of potential observers. Some that were just regular ordinary bird observers, some that were primarily interested in bird nests, and some who were interested in bird banding. And he prepared report forms for them to use in submitting data. He did not receive a lot of information from these sources but this was one of the first steps he made. And then thirdly, he began to paint and as things developed, the painting went faster than the gathering of text material. He finally completed the paintings and that was when they had the tragic warehouse fire in which the paintings were destroyed.

Kemper: When was that fire?

Robbins: My guess is that this was in the early 1950's. Then he had to start all over again with that and by the time he had completed the paintings a second time around and he still had not made any significant progress on the text, the decision was made to publish the paintings separately. This was put out by the University of Wisconsin Press as a separate volume in 1963.

Kemper: I remember how we used to discuss at the board meetings, when is this book ever going to get finished. Still it seems not quite true that it's finally going to get finished. I remember some of those forms because I filled some of them out on birds — their weights and their measurements. Quite a few of those I filled out. Will that data be used in the book?

Robbins: Your efforts were not wasted, Charlie. I have looked through all of those forms that you filled out and I have used that information along with that from lots of other people and the data from it is all there — you might say it helps to round out the picture for each species. So it was not wasted effort. You did this twice and I did this twice and quite a few other oberservers submitted things like that also. Owen himself never really got going on using that material. But when I took this over, one of the first things I did was to read through everything that was in the files and then we filled out from many other sources. Interestingly enough, you say that we thought that this was going to be completed long ago, I remember thinking that when the first talk of this was going on, Owen had in mind that it was going to be done in three or four years. And so when my parents celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in 1942 I thought it would be nice to make it a wedding anniversary present, a copy of Gromme's Birds of Wisconsin. And I figured, well, so what if the gift was a year or so late. They will enjoy it very much because they knew that I contributed something to it.

Kemper: You know when Dr. Bailey came out to the Chippewa Wildlife Banquet. I remember his comment that he had just finished writing The Birds of Colorado. But he commented to me, he said I don't think our book is ever going to get finished. He said I don't think anybody knows what a lot of work there is involved in that.

Robbins: The work is endless really. When I started this in 1969, I had visions of getting it done in about four years. But the more I worked on it the more I discovered that many things that were not known. One thing just led to another and there just

isn't any end to it. Even now when I think I'm winding it up, I'm just going to have to say over and over again that there are things we do not know about our Wisconsin birds.

Kemper: Well, I guess it's a good thing that we don't know everything yet. Otherwise there would be no point looking any more, would there? If we knew everything, and knew that everything we saw was old hat, why bother to look?

Robbins: Not only that, but what is true with this book is true of every other bird book that has ever been published. In a sense it will be out of date before it even gets into the reader's hands.

Kemper: Well, out of date in some ways, but timeless — I would think — in other ways. Your book is a photograph of right now, that instant in time. One year or one century is just an instant in time really.

Robbins: One thing that has come to me as I've worked on this, is a greater feeling of respect for Kumlien and Hollister. I remember an impression that their book was mainly about the birds of southeastern Wisconsin. But I found in going through it in greater detail that they had done more traveling in other parts of the state than I had given them credit for. And that they had good reasons for some of the conclusions that they had found, about other parts of the state that I had thought maybe were just a little bit of wild guessing. But I'm also convinced that there were huge areas in the state that they were not well acquainted with, I would have to say that even when I took this project over in 1969, one of the things I thought I needed to do first of all was to get out into some areas of the state with which I was unfamiliar, and with which relatively little ornithological work had been done by anybody. So I had a lot of fun poking down around the Mississippi River in some areas and getting up into the Nicolet Forest, and some areas that I knew practically nothing of. I got into more of northwestern Wisconsin that had been covered very little. And I found it both enjoyable and also very helpful in filling out the picture of some of the Wisconsin birds that we have.

Kemper: Sam — you've mentioned your mother and father's twenty fifth anniversary. You came from a family of bird watchers, did you not?

Robbins: That's right. I don't know of there being any special leanings toward ornithology in generations before my father. You have to remember that in those days ornithology consisted almost entirely of collecting. But my father was very much interested in birds as a teenager and young adult. He had a good ear, learned many bird songs. He didn't go out on many extensive field trips. He hiked around his home territory a good deal. I don't think he ever kept records to amount to much of anything. But my brothers and I inherited a love of birds and we quickly learned to identify birds both by sight and sound from our parents.

Kemper: What was your dad? Was he a minister?

Robbins: My father was a pioneer in the field of speech pathology. He was a bad stammerer himself and while he was in college, he got interested in studying his own defect. He managed to correct it and in so doing, he developed a deep interest in what was then a virgin field. So he went back to Harvard and got his masters degree in psychology. He set up his own speech correction school after that. It was one of the first speech correction schools in the country. He was one of those who developed more of a scientific understanding of what causes stammering. He proved that it was caused more by psychological difficulties. This revolutionized the whole concept and led to a blossoming out of the field as we know it today.

Kemper: Your father lived where?

Robbins: My home town was Belmont, Massachusetts — right outside of Boston — eastern Massachusetts.

Kemper: Well, was your dad a contemporary of Ludlow Griscom and Aretas Saunders?

Robbins: Dad was more of a contemporary of William Brewster. Griscom came a little later. Dad was before Saunders and his famous book on bird songs.

Robbins: You remember that Griscom was the one who did more than anyone else to validate sight records in ornithology. Up until Griscom proved otherwise, ornithologists thought the only time you could be certain of a record was if you had the bird in the hand. In fact Gromme has told me more than once that when anyone came into the museum with a supposed record of a rare species, the categorical question would be asked, "Where are the feathers?" If you couldn't produce the feathers, your record wasn't worth a hoot. Griscom was the one who pioneered and changed that and proved to the collectors that you could identify birds by sight and sound. Dad had been doing some of this for years before that as had a good many others.

Kemper: He was. You got started then actively studying birds — what year then?

Robbins: My first bird records date from the year 1931 when I was 9 years old. I may have been out on occasional bird walks with my parents before then, but if I did I have no memory of it and I have no records. One of my earliest recollections was of being out on a hike with my parents early in May . . . I don't know if it was 1931 or a little beyond it. We came across a buzzy bird song and my dad called my attention to it. "Sam, that's a Golden-winged Warbler. Don't forget that." And to this day I have been able to recognize instantly the song of a Golden-winged Warbler. I think that's being a dutiful son. Isn't it?

Kemper: About the time you were on your first bird walk I was involved in a series of bouts with abscessed ears that left me ruined for being able to hear high pitched sounds. But nevertheless you have a great gift of not only being able to hear very well but of instant recognition.

Robbins: I feel very much blessed by this. Not bragging because I don't think I've done a thing to deserve it or earn it, but I do have an unusual keen ear, especially for high pitched sounds. Somehow I have been able to remember well enough so that when I have heard a bird song after an interval of 7 or 8 years, it comes to mind just that quick.

Kemper: Yeah, most of us, when we hear a sound — "I know I've heard that before, now what the heck is it, then a lag — Oh yes. Of course."

Robbins: Ludlow Griscom in his book "The Warblers of America" said that 95 percent of the ornithologists have to learn bird songs over every year. I feel very fortunate to have been in the minority in that category.

Kemper: Well, one thing that has helped a great deal is the publishing of bird song recordings that enabled a lot of people to become familiar with the songs. But you were certainly familiar with the songs long before that happened. In fact your expertise goes far beyond just knowing the songs, but every little chirp and call seems to register with you.

Robbins: I had the opportunity fortunately of learning bird songs and call notes in the very best way. I learned by going out in the field with people that knew them. They could point them out to me and tell me what I was hearing.

Kemper: That was your dad.

Robbins: Partly my dad and partly my brother. My brother Chandler was three and a half years older than I. He picked up things quicker than I, and taught me a great deal. We'd go out in the field together and being older and wiser, he could recognize things better than I. . . A few things that were learned in those days I've had to unlearn. One of those things was the Alder Flycatcher. Somehow I got the impression when I was a child that this "Wee-bee-oh" sound was coming from a Short-billed Marsh Wren. I used to be quite excited when I heard that song and would write down Short-billed Marsh Wren on my list. It was quite some time later that I learned that the Short-billed Marsh Wren had a completely different song. This song that I had mistaken for the

wren was actually the flycatcher. That's about the only instance I can think of where I learned something wrong and had to relearn it.

Kemper: You had another brother. Was he younger than you? The one who is an engineer in Chicago.

Robbins: Roger is a year and a half older than I — younger than Chan but older than me.

Kemper: Does he have the same enthusiasm for birds that you and Chan have?

Robbins: Not as much. He did have some and he did have some expertise but Roger's interests tended to lie along some other lines. He is still very much interested. He likes to go on birding trips, but he has some of the handicaps you have mentioned. He has some hearing loss and listening to things comes more difficult for him for that reason.

Kemper: It's interesting. I didn't realize I had that much hearing loss till I got interested in birds . . . When did you leave Massachusetts and come to Wisconsin?

Robbins: I came to Wisconsin in 1939 to enter the university in Madison and I've been out in this part of the country almost constantly ever since with the exception of brief vacation periods. This meant four years at Madison, then going to graduate school at Chicago for three years, then starting my ministry at Neillsville, Wisconsin. There were two years at Neillsville, three years at Mazomanie, nine years in Adams, eight years at Roberts. We are just winding up 10 years at Cadott — we'll be moving to Medford 10 years to the day we moved to Cadott.

Kemper: I'll never forget the day you called me up to tell me you were moving to Cadott — I couldn't believe it. There is one other interesting thing you do that I think is unique. (I guess most birdwatchers have their own way of doing this) and that's your way of keeping records. How did you get to this.

Robbins: That's an interesting question. I don't know if I can provide an answer. I don't recall seeing anyone else use this method of keeping records. And I really don't know how I got started in doing it by this graph paper method — I would call it. But I started this in 1939 when I came to Wisconsin and the method is really very simple. And it appeals to me because it keeps things in such a — you might say — simplified and telescopic version. I got started by just taking some sheets of graph paper. At the beginning of the month I would try to make a list of those birds that I was most apt to see that month. I would list these birds in the left hand column and then I would draw 30 or 31 columns, depending on the number of days in the month. At the end of each, I would simply take a few moments to write down how many individuals of each species I could remember seeing or hearing that day. It provided a very simple way to record things, provided a beautifully compact way if you wish to consolidate this data. Then the end of the month I would get out some fresh sheets of graph paper, and then what I had done in pencil, I now copied over in ink in a more permanent way. I have most of my monthly records since something like October, 1939. I've missed a few months, but not very many. Then I refined this a little. Sometimes I forgot to write down where I had been on a certain day and those records are a little bit doubtful now in terms of location. I soon corrected that. And I have down now a location where I was each day and I have developed a county code or a state code so that you can tell at a moment's glance in what state or county a given record would be.

Kemper: When you started out in 1939 with these records, did you have anything particular in mind.

Robbins: All I had in mind was that I wanted to keep my bird records in a permanent and usable form. I didn't have the slightest idea what further use I might make of them, but having made these records I just thought — well, keep them. And believe me, since I started work on the Birds of Wisconsin, I've been everlastingly glad I've had them. I can go back to them now and dig out information about just when these birds are most expected to be found in the state, in different parts of the state. I never could have come up with all of that data in any other way. But it's a simple

matter now to go back to some of these records and simply determine for-say-a given bird like a Chestnut-sided Warbler. When did you first see it. When did it become fairly numerous. When did it begin to drop off? When did you see the last one? The kind of records you've got published in the **Passenger Pigeon** will give you earliest and latest dates but often times they don't tell you the periods of greatest abundance. None of the other records that I found in Gromme's files or any records from any other source give me very much help in terms of greatest abundance. And I've found these records of mine to be of tremendous value in giving me this information.

Kemper: Everyday for you is a bird count then.

Robbins: Not exactly. If I spend a day where I don't do any more than run around my living room, maybe sit out on the deck and don't do anything more. I guess those birds don't get recorded. But on the days that migration is going on and most every-day when I am out in the field those days get recorded.

Kemper: You also keep file cards for every county and every field trip.

Robbins: I hope to. I have the makings of it, but this is something I have not yet done. Maybe that will be a retirement project — coyping a lot of this data on cards.

Kemper: I thought you used a lot of these cards as a check list.

Robbins: This card system I developed was not a personal system but a system I developed for the WSO — working as associate editor back in 1946. At that time there was no good way by which the records turned in by WSO observers could be filed in a way that would be useful for reference purposes. So at that time I began to develop a filing system whereby I had a separate card for each species and county. Then when observers would send in their field note reports I would copy this data onto these cards. I could put 10 years' observations onto a single card simply by having 10 lines, one for each year and columns for a spring arrival date, spring departure date, summer status, fall arrival, fall departure, winter status for each species and the observer's name. All that got on each card. So for quite some years that was **the** system WSO had for keeping in useful form the records from their observers.

Kemper: They don't do that any more now?

Robbins: The computerizing of fall notes at Stevens Point succeeded this card file. It's much less work. You get more data, into smaller space.

Kemper: That's an awful lot of data collected over the years.

Robbins: It was a pretty big job when it got started but it got rapidly bigger when we built up a larger network of observers. At first there might have been 25 or 30 observers submitting field note forms. In a few years' time this tripled. You can imagine by the time you went through about a hundred reports from observers and then tried to copy that onto file cards and had this job coming up every 3 months. It became quite a process.

Kemper: Sam, you were a year behind. You were not a charter member of WSO.

Robbins: Right. I joined in the end of WSO's first year.

Kemper: Norval Barger was editor. You succeeded him as editor in what year?

Robbins: When WSO started Norval was the first president. Walter Scott was the first editor. I'm not sure in what year it was that Scott resigned and Norval took over as editor. It was during World War II when Walter Scott went into service and Barger took over as editor. Soon after Barger became editor. I took over as associate editor and Barger must have been editor for five years or so. I can't remember the years that each one of us had charge of it. But I believe I was the third editor and I had it for about seven years.

Kemper: After you was Nils Dahlstrand, right?

Robbins: I guess Nils was the first one after that. Again, I am very hazy about how long each one had it. I think Gene Roark was editor for a short period. I am not sure

when you started but I am quite positive that you've been at it longer than anyone else.

Kemper: I succeeded Nils in 1963 or thereabouts, 1966 it was.

Robbins: I think that my particular relationship to this was being associate editor for around five years and editor for seven years, then off it for a year or so, then president for a year, and then becoming associate editor again after that which might have been for eight or nine years. Finally I resigned from that about the time that I began work on the 'Birds of Wisconsin.'

Kemper: Sam, during that time you have been a minister at a number of places and have changed your occupation once or twice and raised a family. What was the main motivation behind leaving the ministry and going into teaching, then back into ministry again?

Robbins: In a way, I object to the phrase "leaving the ministry." I know that in a sense that is what happened and that's the way it appears to many people, including some of my very closest friends, both in and outside the ministry. But I have tried very hard to explain to people how I really feel about this. I did not feel as if I was leaving the ministry at all. I had simply reached the point where I thought that I had done what I could in the churches of Roberts and Hammond, that it was getting to be time for a change in pastorate. I also got to feeling that if I was ever going to do any specializing in particular forms of ministry, it ought to be done now, or never. In my work as a minister, that part of it I did the best was individual counseling. So I began to think about what it would be like, not so much in a church situation but to get into a school situation where I would have the chance to actually counsel not only with people who were brought up in a church, but also people outside the church, and try to really help them at a time when they are making some of the most crucial decisions of their lives.

Robbins: So this really appealed to me as a more specialized form of ministry. Now because you do this in a public school situation, it could be very easily misunderstood by people if you said, "Well, I am going to be this kind of a minister." You don't use that term, it would be greatly misunderstood. But in my own heart, this is what I was doing. So, I went to Stout for a period of a few months to get my master's degree in school counseling, and because the State of Wisconsin does not allow a school counselor to practice without having had some public school teaching experience, I did some part-time teaching of junior high science during my first two years at Cadott. I had trained for teaching science originally in Madison. This is what was behind the switch-over, it was simply wanting to specialize in a particular type of ministry. As the years have gone by, I feel good about many aspects of what I did. But at the same time, I was feeling, you might say, more of a hunger to deal with people of other age groups, not just dealing with high school-aged young people. So I found myself with a growing urge to get back into the parish ministry. It so happened that when I was thinking seriously about making this switch to the parish ministry again, I found that the people at the museum, my sponsors for this book, were getting increasingly impatient with the slowness of the progress of the book, and I don't blame them one bit. I then decided to resign from my school job, devote full time to the finishing of the book, and then synchronize the finishing of the book and return to the parish ministry. That is where I am right now. I expect to have the first draft of the book finished in two weeks and I will be moving in a month, resuming the full time ministry.

Kemper: Are your new bosses going to allow you take off certain critical times of the year to go to the W.S.O. convention and other things like that?

Robbins: Well, this hasn't been a part of the discussion that we have had with them so far, but I think I will resume the practice that I had for a good many years, getting to every W.S.O. convention no matter where it has been in the state. I attended them Friday night and all day Saturday, then driving half the night on Saturday to get home. Quite often I wouldn't get home until 4 o'clock on Sunday morning. But I was always ready to get in the pulpit when Sunday morning rolled around.

Kemper: That is another one of your talents I envy you for, Sam: your ability to get along without much sleep.

Robbins: I can take a certain amount of it, but too much is too much and it really catches up with me sometimes. I should say in connection with this that I have had the feeling ever since I was in college, that I wanted my ornithology to be a hobby, a sideline. I never really wanted it to be a full time occupation. The ministry to my mind is such an important vital phase of helping human beings that I always felt that I wanted that to count first. Ornithology has certainly made great claim on my spare time but I have felt that I wanted my full time occupation to be the ministry.

Kemper: I am wondering, during migration season, what time do you generally get up in the morning?

Robbins: If it is a morning that I want to be out in the field, I will often get up around 5 o'clock and on certain special occasions it has been nearer 4 o'clock or even 3:30. If it is not a day that I wanted to be out especially early, I might stay home and eat breakfast and then go out for a while. This is a pattern that changed quite a bit when I changed over to the school job. Before that, my regular work day would not end until maybe 10 o'clock at night. So if I didn't choose to start my ministerial work for the day until 10 o'clock in the morning, I certainly didn't feel that the church or the church people were getting cheated. So often then I would go out in the field, come back and eat breakfast, then start work at maybe 9:30 or 10 o'clock in the morning. Once I started the school job, I had to be on the job at least by 8 o'clock and usually nearer 7:30. This meant that any early morning field trip had to be pretty short and confining. It also meant that I did much less field work when I changed over to the school job. Now I am looking forward to being able to get out in the field in the morning more than I used to.

Kemper: One of your accomplishments then is organizing the summer Breeding Bird Survey. That has taken a tremendous amount of time. I know how much work is involved in one of those. In fact, the amount of paper work involved alone is substantial.

Robbins: This comes from several phases and the story for this actually goes back to about the year 1960. Around that time, there had been very little talk about trying to have any kind of a breeding bird survey or summer survey of birds either in Wisconsin or other places in the nation. We got the idea that maybe something like this could be done if we could really get enough people going on it. I can remember a meeting of the W.S.O. board of directors when I approached the subject to them. Their first reaction was that it was a fine idea, trying to get people out in the field to the transect areas and then repeat them each year. But they said they didn't think I could get observers to do it because people generally put their binoculars away at the end of the spring migration season, and they don't do much birdng again until fall. I thought it was worth a try though, so we developed a few simple guide lines and we started out in 1961 with what we called a summer bird count. It had a very modest beginning but we repeated it each year through 1965 and it got a little bit bigger and better each year. We then began to feel that we were assembling quite a bit of data. Then along about 1963-1964, my brother Chandler had been thinking very seriously about getting a bigger project going with more definite guide lines. He too had reservations about getting enough people together to really make it go. My understanding is that it was because of what we did in Wisconsin during those five years, when we got up to 70-75 different areas covered, that Chan and his compatriots decided that this was really worth trying on a continental-wide basis. So, in 1965 they began in Maryland and Delaware what is now called the 'Breeding Bird Survey'. It worked there and so they decided to expand it. When they wanted to include all of the states east of the Mississippi starting in 1966, we in Wisconsin then dropped our project and went to theirs.Ever since then, Wisconsin has been whole-heartedly a part of this project. They asked me to coordinate Wisconsin as part of it. First of all this meant that we had to draw 70 transects. That didn't take too awfully long but then it required finding people to man all 70 transects — and this was quite a job. We ended up getting 50 of them done the first year, then I think we got up over 60 and we have

been over 60 almost every year since then, but we have never quite succeeded in getting all 70 to be run. A part of the time-consuming process for me now involves finding out who is going to run each one and then finding people to fill the holes. This year it was a bigger job than it has been other years because we had more people who declined continuing transects that they had run previously. I don't know whether we have got all 70 done this year or not, but I am hoping that we did. We had someone assigned to each one, that much I know. Then a really time-consuming part of this has been involved with what we do with the data once we get it. The Fish and Wildlife Service receive this data from 70 transects, as well as maybe 1500 or 2000 other transects around the continent and they do a certain amount of processing the data on their part. But then, they make just one printout of Wisconsin data available to this state and that comes to me. If I sit on it and do nothing, then nobody else in Wisconsin gets the benefit from this data. So whatever is done with is pretty much up to me. This is a huge job. Phase I of this job that I have been able to keep up with pretty well is to prepare a separate sheet for each of the 70 transects and to copy the data from the printout onto these sheets. I have 10 years of data now because I have 10 columns on each sheet for each of the 70 transects. Now I am just starting to copy data from years 11 and 12 onto new sheets. The second phase has been to prepare and publish a summary these data. Iit is such a big job that I have not tried to do this each year. I have prepared 5 year summaries. I did this in 1971 for the first 5 years of the project. I did this again in 1976 for the first 10 years of the project. You may remember that the manuscript was almost a small book in itself; I think it filled up over half an issue of the **Passenger Pigeon**. That summary was to my mind almost like a master's thesis -- there was so much data to evaluate. But if I don't do it, how is it going to get done? And if it doesn't get done, what is the good of assembling the data in the first place?

Kemper: Which brings up the question, Wisconsin is just one of 50 states and part of Canada, what is being done on a large scale? Is this information stored on a computer somewhere I wonder?

Robbins: It is being stored, but it is also being worked with. Every now and then the Fish & Wildlife Service people have published kind of an overall summary, trying to pinpoint those species for which there was either a significant geographical increase or significant geographical decrease. I have seen some of these summaries that have been published and I think there are some I have not seen. Secondly, this data is being made available to researchers who want to study either a given region or a given species. They are able to prepare computerized maps to indicate a relative abundance of given species in different regions what they call "strata" of North America by means of a code system. I think they have prepared maps of quite a few of these species. I am sure that they plan to do a great deal more with this data if they have time and man power. I can't be sure of this but I rather think that this Wisconsin bird book that I am finishing is going to be one of the first, if not the first, major state bird book which will be making large use of the breeding bird survey data. We are in a particularly good position to do this because we have come pretty close to having all of our transects covered each year. We haven't done this entirely but I think that our ratio is between 85 and 90% which is really very high. So, we have a lot of good data there and the range map that will appear in this book will be based largely on breeding bird survey data.

Kemper: Will the Fish and Wildlife Service people give you a computerized map?

Robbins: I haven't asked them to do this, and I doubt if they could prepare the kind of maps that we'd want. Now, the kind of map that I want takes the state of Wisconsin and divides it into eight geographical or ecological regions. I have assigned each of the 70 transects to one of those eight regions. The Fish and Wildlife Service does not have the state divided into geographical regions. I think it would be very difficult for us, as for them, to take our geographical regions and transfer all their data to it. So what I have done, and I had some clerical help in doing this, was to take the first 10 years of the breeding bird survey data in Wisconsin and prepared the data for each map in a more manual way. It has been a time-consuming thing, but I think it has been very helpful and I am glad we have taken time for it. I am very concerned

that this book I am working on has a lot of good useful maps. It is interesting to me that whenever I am talking with an individual or a group of people about this book, one of the questions that has been invariably asked is "Are you going to have pictures in it?" This says to me that people are greatly attracted to pictures of birds, probably more so than text. My answer to them is "Yes, it will have some pictures. However, the pictures are a minor part of this book." Maps tell more of the kind of information for which this book is written than pictures ever would.

Kemper: Well, it will be a monumental achievement when you get it done.

Robbins: Whenever someone says to me that they will sure be glad when it is done, I say, "You won't be anwhere near as glad as I am." When people tell me that they are going to buy a copy for sure, I say that they had better start saving their money for it right now because it is going to cost half a fortune when it's done. My guess is that it is going to be at least a $20-$25 book.

Kemper: Is that going to be one volume?

Robbins: Yes, it will be one volume. The book will be something like 9 by 12 and it will probably be between 600 and 700 pages, so it will be a pretty thick volume. I won't be a bit surprised if when it comes out some reviewers will pan us saying that we've put some unnecessary material into it, which is not strictly historical data, but may be dealing a little bit more with the habits and behavior of birds. I have in mind a book which I hope will appeal not only to researchers but also to a lot of people who will want it in their own homes, in their own personal libraries. Even if they are not experienced ornithologists themselves, they will feel by reading this book that their interest in birds has advanced. They will know more about where to go to look in Wisconsin for certain birds, when they would go to find them. I hope their interest in birds will be whetted by this. Maybe this is a questionable marriage of two rather different purposes, but I think that the same volume can be made to serve both purposes and that it will be useful to a good many different people for that reason. I hope it will be understood and accepted as such.

Kemper: After the manuscript is written, it will be a job editing it for photographs and that sort of thing, won't it? Do you have all the photographs you need, or do you have to go to work on that then, or what?

Robbins: After the first draft is finished, #1, I am going to have to do more work on photographs. #2, I am going to finalize the maps. I have them in rough draft now, but they need some final work. Thirdly, I will go back over everything I have written and I will incorporate into it the newer observations that have been accumulating since the first draft was written, some of which is already 7 or 8 years old. I will be incorporating the suggestions that have come to me from experts. For instance, I have sent the waterfowl drafts out to people like Dick Hunt and Jim Marsh, and they have given me a lot of feedback. I have sent hawk material to people like Dan Berger and Tom Erdman and I have gotten a lot of feedback. These people know these birds much better than I. I have gotten back some good material from the Hamerstroms on Prairie Chickens and Sharp-tailed Grouse, Sandhill Cranes and quite a few other birds. So, all of this feedback is going to be incorporated into the final draft. I think the book will be much stronger because of it. Finally, at the end of the revision, there will also come some more finalized decisions about what records we include and what records get screened out. I face some very tentative decisions along these lines, but I made that the judgment of one person like myself is not as good as the combined judgment of four or five people who are experts. So I have in mind to circulate all of the questionable records, the records with any doubt, both those that I think I want to include and those that I would screen out myself. The decision of screening these will be left for this committee. That too may result in some final revisions.

Kemper: You just keep plugging away.

Robbins: That's the way it has been. Parts of it have gone quite rapidly, parts of it have gone almost at a snail's pace. I think I see light at the end of the tunnel now. I certainly never dreamed that it was going to be this big a job when I told Owen Gromme that I would do it.

A Wisconsin Bird Survey Based on Field Checklist Information: A WSO Research Project

By Stanley A. Temple

Researchers have often lamented that amateur ornithologists rarely keep records, except for checklists, of their field activities. There have been many attempts to encourage amateurs to keep more detailed records (e.g. nest-record card programs, breeding bird surveys, colonial bird surveys, etc.), but most approaches have been received unenthusiastically, and only a very small portion of American bird watchers ever participate in these worthwhile programs. It seems clear that the field checklist remains the type of record most amateur ornithologists are willing to take on a regular basis.

Unfortunately, there has long been an assumption that birding checklists were of little scientific value. As a result, some amateurs merely file their checklist records away and most eventually destroy them. On the other hand, researchers have rarely looked in a critical way at checklist records to assess their potential value. It is surprising, therefore, that in the few instances where researchers have examined and analyzed checklist data, they have proven to be extremely interesting and had mush scientific value (e.g. Temple and Temple 1976, Temple 1981). Most researchers are coming to realize that birding checklists are worthwhile and, if analyzed properly, can make a significant contribution to our understanding of bird populations. What is needed to achieve this potential is an organized program in which amateurs can regularly contribute their checklist records for analysis. In this paper I propose that such a program be undertaken by WSO as a pilot project which other states and regions may wish to duplicate.

What Can Be Learned From Checklists?

A checklist is a simple record of the bird species seen by an observer at some locality over a specified period of time. It does not require that the observer make any judgement about the abundance of each species, but only that its presence or absence be noted. Taken singly checklists are not, in fact, particularly informative, but if a large collection of checklists is assembled over a period of time or from a large group of observers, more information can be derived. This is possible by calculating "frequency of occurence on checklists" for each species. This is simply the percentage of checklists on which a particular species of bird has been reported. This is a good predictor of abundance; birds that occur on a high percentage of checklists are most abundant whereas those that occur on a low percentage of checklists are rarer (Temple 1981). For example, Temple and Temple (1976) used frequency of occurence on checklists each year over a 36-year period to detect long-term population changes (Fig. 1). The results were very informative and fully corroborated by other more time-consuming methods of censusing birds.

If a large number of observers contributed their checklists, it would be possible to calculate frequency of occurrence over shorter intervals of time, perhaps a month or week. In this way it would be possible to keep track of changes in bird populations within each year as well as changes between different years. It should be possible, for example, to detect the seasonal ebb and flow of migrants through a region, to detect the flush of young birds

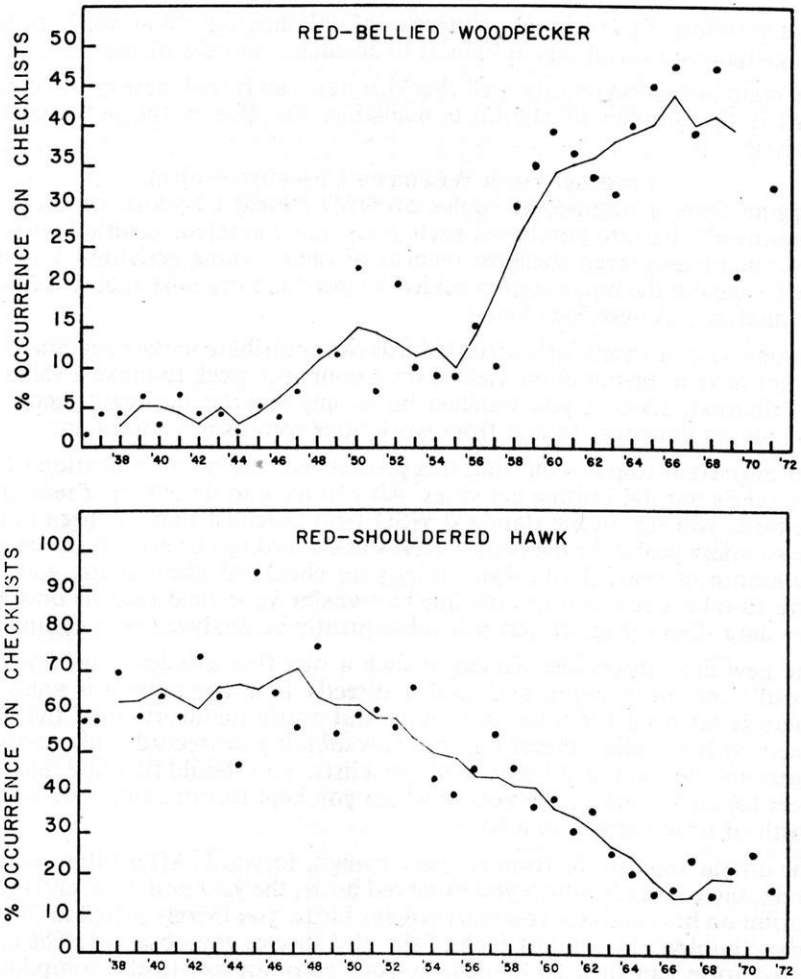

FIGURE 1. Population trends over a 36-year period for Red-bellied Woodpeckers and Red-shouldered Hawks in central New York as revealed from checklist records (from Temple and Temple, 1976).

after the breeding season, and perhaps to track the wanderings of nomadic species through a region.

If a large number of observers were to submit weekly checklists (the record of the species they detected during a one week period) over the entire year, and the observers were scattered over a wide geographic area, at least the following results should be possible:

1. Detection of seasonal changes in abundance that result from migratory movements and breeding.
2. Detection of year-to-year changes in abundance that may reflect either long-term increases or declines in a population.

3. Detection of regional patterns of abundance that may reflect geographic variations in habitat or localized sources of mortality.

The main limitation on how well checklist data can reveal these types of patterns is the number of checklists available, the greater the potential for analysis.

Proposal For a Wisconsin Checklist Project

Judging from a number of copies of WSO "Field Checklist of Birds of Wisconsin" that are purchased each year, many amateur ornithologists in the state already keep checklist records of their birding activities. I would like to expand the number of checklist-keepers and organize their checklists for analysis, as described above.

Anyone who can accurately identify birds can contribute to the program. You do not have to be out in the field several hours per week to make a valuable contribution. Even if you watched birds only at your backyard feeder or casually on your way to and from work your records are important.

It is important to point out that this project requires no modification of an observer's normal birding activities. All you have to do is keep a record of the birds you see on the standard WSO field checklist that has been in use for so many years. At the end of each week's birding, or even at the end of the month or year, if you want to let your checklists accumulate, you will have to take a few minutes of time to transfer your field records onto the new data sheets (Fig. 2) that will subsequently be analyzed by a computer.

The new data sheets are printed in such a way that a special machine can "read" the information and feed it directly to a computer for analysis. There is no need for time-consuming and costly handsorting of the data sheets. It is essential, therefore, that you submit your records only on these sheets and not on the old style field checklists. You should fill out a separate sheet for each week of the year in which you kept records, only one week's worth of observations to a form.

The instructions on the form are very straight forward. After filling in your name, the county in which you observed birds, the year and date, and information on how actively you searched for birds, you merely pencil in the circular "bubble" in front of each of the bird species you observed. The completed form can then be mailed, at your convenience, to the compilation center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The amassed records of all contributors will be stored on magnetic tapes for subsequent analysis. The most immediate feedback that contributors receive will be a printed summary of their personal birding activities during each year. The computer will print out a graphical synopsis of when and where you saw birds during the year. This will serve two functions: it gives observers a concise summary of their birding activities and a reward for contributing, and it gives them a chance to double-check the record, to be sure that no mistakes were made in the data submitted.

In addition, the WSO Research Committee will prepare an overall summary of the entire statewide program for presentation at the annual meeting and publication in the **Passenger Pigeon.**

The information obtained from the checklist project should complement existing WSO record-keeping programs, such as the seasonal "Field Notes." Copies of the checklist results for the appropriate seasons can be sent to the

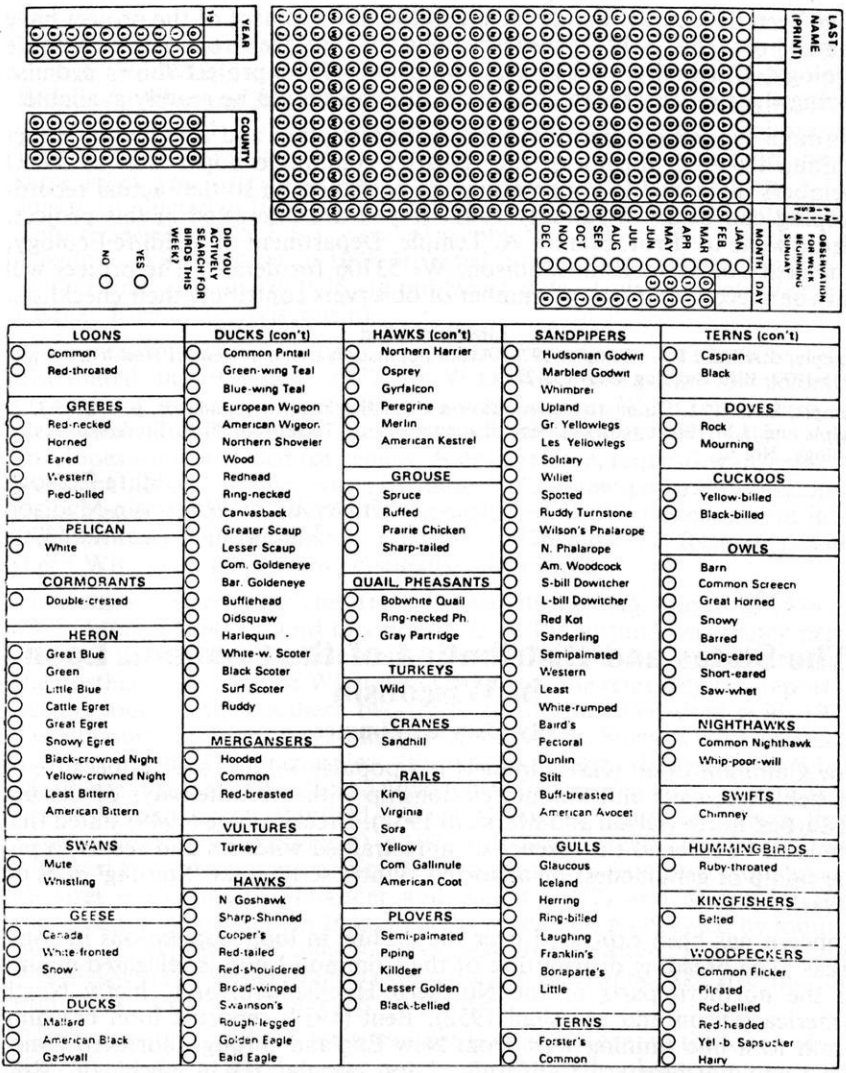

FIGURE 2. The front page of the new data sheet that will be used in the statewide WSO checklist project.

"Field Notes" editors who can then extract observations records that people did not submit to them independently. Any particularly interesting observations that warrent further details can then be easily tracked down by the editors.

Coordination and Schedule of the Program

The project will be initially coordinated by the WSO research committee. Data sheets have been printed and computer programs for analyzing them

have been developed. Funds for the initial development of the project have come from the A.W. Schorger Fund of the Department of Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison. If the project shows promise during the first few years, long-term funding should be readily available.

Through the publication of this project description and a follow-up direct mailing to WSO members, the research committee hopes that all WSO members interested in cooperating can be signed up so that actual record-keeping can begin in January 1983. If you are interested in this project, please write to: Prof. Stanley A. Temple, Department of Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706 for details. The project will only be successful if a large number of observers contribute their checklists.

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The Status and Distribution of the Common Loon in Wisconsin

By Gary E. Zimmer

The Common Loon **(Gavia immer)** is a popular wildlife species because of its behavior, calls and unique relationship with the waterways of the undisturbed north (Olson and Marshall 1952). Breckenridge (1949) stated that the loon "expresses the essence of unrestrained wildness and seems to put the stamp of genuineness on a North Country setting like 'Sterling' does on silver".

Concern has been expressed over the decline in loon populations in some areas. The breeding distribution of the Common Loon is relegated mainly to the northern parts of the Northern Hemisphere, and chiefly North America (Olson and Marshall 1952). Bent (1919) reported loon breeding south to a line running west from New England through northern Ohio, Iowa and northeastern California. Loon populations in Michigan, Minnesota and New Hampshire have declined, with breeding birds found chiefly in less developed sections (Manville 1952, Roberts 1932, McIntyre 1976). Little information was available on the status of the Common Loon in Wisconsin. The Endangered Species Committee within the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources placed the Common Loon on a "Status Undetermined" category in 1971. Students, from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, compiled summer breeding observations of the Common Loon (Wisdom et al. 1975). A limited study by Kohel (1972), using mail surveys, reported a few loon nesting records and possible migration patterns for Wisconsin loons in 1970. The purpose of this study was to determine the breeding status and distribution of loon populations in Wisconsin.

Methods

Historical data on the Common Loon in Wisconsin were located. These included the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (W.S.O.) field notes, Wisconsin Breeding Bird Surveys (B.B.S.), Cornell Nest Records (C.N.R.) observations and banding records from the Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland. These records were pertinent because loon pairs use the same lakes year after year (Bent 1919, Munro 1945). Data from a loon survey conducted in 1976 in the Nicolet National Forest by the United States Forest Service (U.S.F.S.) were also obtained. A survey of the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area in 1976 provided information on loon populations in that area (Lombard 1976, unpublished data, University of Wisconsin Center, Rice Lake, Wisconsin).

Mail questionnaires, seeking information on loon distributions, were distributed in 1976 and 1977 to W.D.N.R. and U.S.F.S. personnel throughout the state. Questionnaires were sent to W.S.O. members and were also distributed at their annual conferences. Postpaid, return envelopes were provided for replies. A news release, requesting information from the general public, was distributed to all newspapers in Wisconsin. Local radio stations in northern Wisconsin broadcasted a request for information throughout the summer months of 1976 and 1977. Residents of northern Wisconsin lakes were personally interviewed.

Field surveys were conducted from 15 May through 15 August in 1976 and 1977. Munro (1945) found this period to be the normal occupancy period for loon pairs in British Columbia, Canada. The surveys were restricted to the northern one-third of Wisconsin because of the relatively few reports of nesting loons in the southern two-thirds of the state (Wisdom et al. 1975). Twenty northen Wisconsin counties were surveyed. Surveys were conducted in the northeastern counties (Florence, Forest, Lincoln, Langlade, Marinette, Oconto, Oneida and Vilas) in 1976, and the northwestern counties (Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor and Washburn) in 1977. All lakes, larger than 30 acres, were surveyed from the ground or air. Observations were requested from lakes of all sizes even though Sjolander and Agren (1972) and McIntyre (1975) reported that lakes smaller than 30 acres were seldom occupied by loons. A sample of lakes smaller than 30 acres, was also surveyed from the ground. Wisconsin Lake Survey Reports were used to determine lake size and location. Most lakes were surveyed only once.

Censuses were conducted from vantage points adjacent to the lakes with 7x binoculars and a 20x spotting scope. A 10-minute observation was conducted at each vantage point. Lakes with many bays or islands, which could not be accurately censused from land, were surveyed from the lake with a canoe. Nests were found by walking shorelines of small lakes and islands. Nest searches of large water areas were conducted by canoeing within 20 feet of the shoreline. Olson and Marshall (1952) reported that loons nest close to the water's edge. Loon observations were conducted from ½-hour before sunrise till ½-hour after sunset. Surveys were not conducted when winds exceeded 15 mph.

A tape recording of the tremalo call of a loon (Olson and Marshall 1952) was broadcast with a Panasonic portable tape recorder and 6 inch oval amplifier to elicit responses. Calls were broadcast for 10 seconds, with 10 to 20 second listening interval between calls. The calling-listening periods were

continued for 5 minutes or until loons were observed. Bent (1919) reported that loons will even answer calls made by humans.

Aerial surveys were conducted during July and August in 1977 on large (greater than 1000 acres) and inaccessible water areas that could not be efficiently surveyed from the ground. Lake Superior was surveyed from the aid within 0.5-mile of the Wisconsin shoreline with fixed winged aircraft at an altitude of 300 feet. Aerial surveys were flown only when winds were less than 5 mph. Transects were flown at 0.25-mile intervals on the large water areas. When a loon was sighted, the area was circled for 3 minutes to detect other submerged loons. Palmer (1949) reported the duration of loon dives to be 8.5 to 60 seconds.

Results and Discussion

The Wisconsin loon population is estimated to be 1300 adults and 258 juveniles. A total of 976 adult and 222 juvenile loons were actually observed on lakes larger than 30 acres (Table 1). Five hundred thirty-eight (26.6 percent) of these 2,019 water areas contained loons. Five (3.5 percent) of 143 lakes less than 30 acres had loon populations (9 adult, 1 juvenile). Sjolander and Agren (1972), and McIntyre (1975) also report few loons on small water areas. The results of the small lake survey were extrapolated to all of the 5005 lakes which are less than 30 acres in the northern one-third of the state (Table 2), and added to those actually observed to arrive at a total estimated population of 1300 adult and 258 juveniles.

Most resident loon populations were located in the northern one-third of the state. Two hundred forty-one (24.7 percent) of the 976 adult loons in the state were observed in Vilas County. Adjacent Oneida County had the second largest adult loon population (138 adults). These counties also have the largest number of lakes in Wisconsin (over 1100 in each). However, loons do not inhabit all lakes. Munro (1945) reports that in British Columbia loons occupy the same lakes each year, and avoid other lakes, which appear to have similar nesting habitat and food resources.

Resident loons were reported in 9 counties (Columbia, Door, Juneau, Kewanee, Marathon, Menominee, Portage, Shawano and Wood) south of the field survey area. However, loon populations were reported only on 10 water areas in these 9 counties. Six of these water areas (Swan Lake in Columbia County, Meadow Valley Wildlife Area and Pettinwell Flowage in Juneau County, Mead Wildlife Area in Marathon County, Lake Dubay in Portage County and Sandhill Wildlife Area in Wood County) are located within 20 miles of the Wisconsin River suggesting an association with this major river system. Jahn and Hunt (19674) report the Wisconsin River as being the main artery for diving duck migrations in Wisconsin. I have observed more than 60 loons in one group on the Wisconsin River near Stevens Point during the spring migrations of 1977 and 1978. These concentrations remained for 3 days (9-11 April 1977, 10-12 April 1978); some of them may have dispersed and remained for the summer months. McIntyre (1975) noted a similar pattern along the Mississippi River in Central Minnesota.

Forty percent of the adult loons were successful breeders. A nest was considered successful if one or more of the eggs hatched. Non-breeders and unsuccessful nesting pairs comprised the remaining 60 percent of the adult population. Twenty-eight percent of the adult population were single loons.

County	Loon		Nests	Water areas with loons	Number of water areas surveyed
	Adult	Young			
Ashland	25(2.6)	7(3.2)	7(3.6)	11(2.0)	40(2.0)
Barron	9(0.9)	2(0.9)	1(0.5)	7(1.3)	62(3.1)
Bayfield	66(6.8)	14(6.3)	11(5.6)	36(6.7)	130(6.4)
Burnett	62(6.4)	23(10.4)	17(8.6)	29(5.4)	144(7.1)
Douglas	32(3.3)	9(4.1)	6(3.0)	18(3.3)	77(3.8)
Florence	22(2.3)	9(4.1)	7(3.6)	13(2.4)	48(2.4)
Forest	62(6.4)	6(2.7)	7(3.6)	38(7.1)	88(4.4)
Iron	70(7.2)	14(6.3)	12(6.1)	33(6.1)	92(4.6)
Langlade	11(1.1)	2(0.9)	2(1.0)	7(1.3)	52(2.6)
Lincoln	10(1.0)	2(0.9)	3(1.5)	7(1.3)	43(2.1)
Marinette	9(0.9)	2(0.9)	1(0.5)	6(1.1)	54(2.7)
Oconto	20(2.0)	7(3.2)	4(2.0)	10(1.9)	70(3.5)
Oneida	138(14.1)	31(14.0)	26(13.2)	80(14.9)	266(13.2)
Polk	12(1.3)	2(0.9)	2(1.0)	6(1.1)	105(5.2)
Price	21(2.2)	3(1.4)	3(1.5)	15(2.8)	67(3.3)
Rusk	6(0.6)	2(0.9)	2(1.0)	4(0.7)	35(1.7)
Sawyer	56(5.7)	12(5.4)	9(4.6)	27(5.0)	116(5.7)
Taylor	2(0.2)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	2(0.4)	27(1.3)
Vilas	241(24.7)	60(27.0)	63(32.0)	130(24.2)	340(16.8)
Washburn	80(8.2)	14(6.3)	13(6.6)	45(8.4)	163(8.1)
Others	22(2.2)	1(0.4)	1(0.5)	14(2.6)	-
Total	976	222	197	538	2019

TABLE 1. Distribution, by county, of the Wisconsin loon population on lakes larger than 30 acres (1976-1977). (Percentages in parentheses).

Loons do not breed until 3 years of age; this may account for many of the nonbreeders in the population (Taverner 1929, Roberts 1932). Twenty-eight of 35 nests observed throughout the nesting period were successful. An unknown predator destroyed 2 nests; 3 nests, on lakes with constant human activity, were deserted.

There were 198 nests on the study area. The 63 nests in Vilas County comprised 32.0 percent of the total nests in the entire state (Table 1). Only 1 nest was located in the southern two-thirds of Wisconsin (Meadow Valley Wildlife Area in Juneau County).

The Memorial Day Weekend, with the associated increase in human activities on water areas during the last week in May, could be an important nesting success factor (Olson and Marshall 1952); human disturbance during this stage of incubation could lead to desertion of nests. Hatching, during both years of the study, began during the third week of June. Assuming a 29-day incubation period (Bent 1919, Olson and Marshall 1952), incubation began in mid-May.

Survey type	Number of adults	Number of young	Number of water areas with loons
Direct observation (Lakes ≥ 30 acres)	976	222	538
Direct observation (Lakes < 30 acres)	9	1	5
Estimates (Lakes < 30 acres)	315	35	175
Total Population	1300	258	718

TABLE 2. Loon population in Wisconsin as calculated from field surveys and estimates from lakes less than 30 acres (1976-1977).

Year	Brood size		
	One chick	Two chick	Three chick
1976	53(59.5)	35(39.3)	1(1.1)
1977	65(61.3)	39(36.8)	2(1.9)
Total	118(60.5)	74(37.9)	3(1.5)

TABLE 3: Brood sizes of Wisconsin loons in 1976 and 1977. (Percentages in parentheses.)

Brood size averaged 1.41 young per successful loon pair. A pair was determined to be successful if one or more young hatched. One hundred eighteen (60.5 percent) of 195 observed broods had only 1 chick (Table 3). Three broods, consisting of 3 young were observed; two in Oneida and one in Vilas County. Broods of 3 young have not been reported in other studies. McIntrye (1975) reported an average brood size of 1.4 for loon populations in Minnesota.

Loon distribution is currently restricted to the northern one-third of

Wisconsin; loons are observed infrequently in the south. Since the early 1900's, loons have abandoned previous nest sites in Southern Wisconsin. Human disturbance may be responsible for this movement (Olson and Marshall 1952). Bent (1919) included the entire state as breeding range of the loon, with records of loon nesting in Waukesha County. W.S.O. field notes from 1946-1953 report resident loons in Fond du Lac, Waupaca and Waushara Counties. Wisdom et al. (1975) report observations of resident loons in Brown, Green Lake, Sheboygan and St. Croix Counties since 1954. The remainder of the observations were reported from the northern one-third of the state. Kohel (1972) reported a few loon nesting records for northern Wisconsin in 1970.

Reports from northern Wisconsin residents indicate that there has been little change in loon populations over the last 15 years. Robbins (1977) reported no significant changes in loon populations from 1966 through 1975. Loon populations appear to be stationary in Wisconsin at this time but increased human disturbance could cause a decline in the future. The effect of continued disturbance may not be seen for many years because loons live for 30 to 40 years (McIntyre 1976).

Summary

The estimated Wisconsin loon population is 1300 adults and 258 juveniles. Loon distributions were primarily restricted to the northern one-third of Wisconsin. Average size of 195 broods was 1.41 young per brood. Three broods, consisting of 3 young were observed. Forty percent of the observed adult loons were successful breeders. Loon populations appear to be stationary in Wisconsin, but continued human disturbance could lead to a future decline. The desertion of 3 loon nests was associated with human disturbance.

Acknowledgements

This paper constitutes part of my master's research performed while I was a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. I wish to thank Dr. R.K. Anderson, my major professor, for his invaluable encouragement, guidance and manuscript editing. I would also like to thank Dr. L.E. Nauman, Dr. N.F. Payne and Dr. R.L. Hine for their helpful suggestions during the study. Appreciation is extended to L. Martoglio, E.A. Lombard, J. Anderson, R.J. Welch, D. Fenner, D. Jansen and S. Murphy for their assistance in various aspects of the project. I am extremely grateful for the cooperation of more than 300 individuals who provided loon information, without which the study would not have been complete. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provided partial funding for the study.

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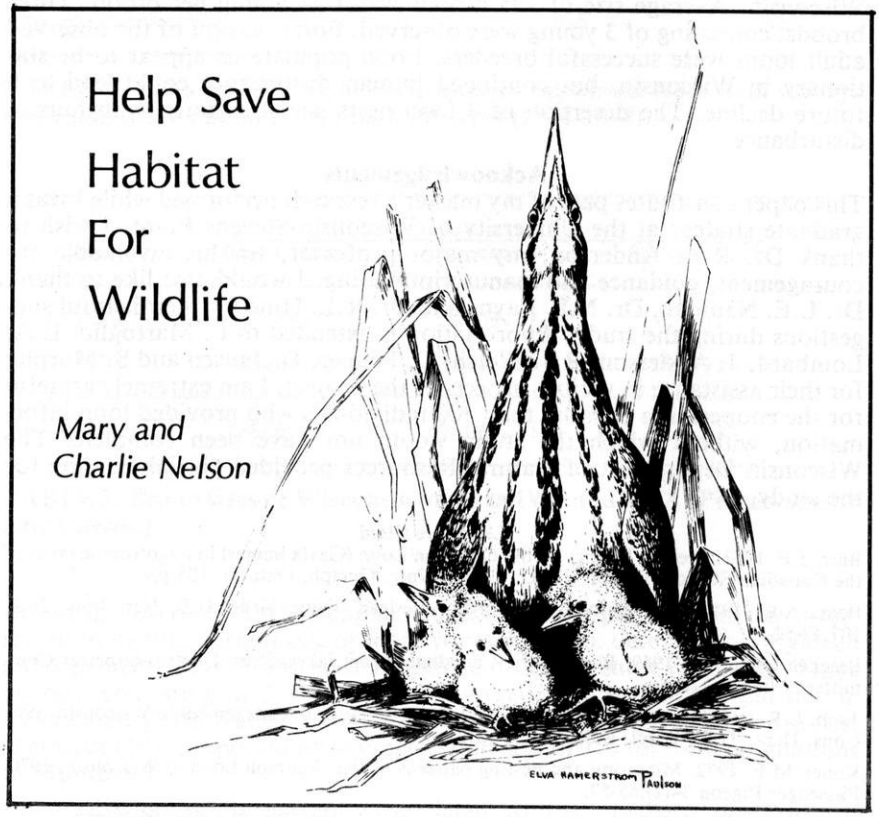

Great Gray Owl at Medford, Taylor County

By Don G. Follen

On Sunday, December 6, 1981 as I was making firewood near the house, Mary called out the door to say that a man from Medford had called and that he was bringing along a big owl that he had found. He thought it was a Great Gray Owl, **(Strix nebulosa)**, and Mary said that she thought the description fit. The man turned out to be Les Buehler of rural Medford and he had agreed to bring the bird to Marshfield if I could get that far to pick it up.

I met Mr. Buehler and his family by a gasoline station on Highway 13 north of Marshfield and after introductions he hastily opened his automobile's trunk and there was a large box in it with the covers folded in place. I anxiously pulled the tabs open and am sure I gave an excited gasp. Mary said, "It is". It seems that Buehler family that live three and a half miles north of Medford on Highway 13 had seen this large owl flying about and then it clumsily flew into the grass and stayed there. They walked out to where the owl was and it just sat there and made no atempt to move. They then picked up the bird and attempted to call the Medford Department of Natural Resources and Sam Robbins to no avail. The Buehler's daughter had remembered that during the recent deer hunting season that I had a made a request for sightings in the Medford Star, a local newspaper. Then they called.

The bird was immediately taken to the Wildwood Animal Hospital operated by Dr. Roger Korgstad, DVM who has an excellent interest and background in natural history and who has been aiding me in rehabilitation attempts of injured raptors. An x-ray of the bird revealed no broken bones at all, an empty stomach, and no sign of shot or other injuries of any type. The bird proved to be quite emaciated and weak. During the time the bird was in the box it had not excreted any ureates at all. A mixture of egg yolk and high protein concentrate was immediately given to it along with an injection of steroids and B complex vitamins. We would have to await and see the outcome in the morning and I took the bird home in order to be near it.

Arising at 0430 on Monday morning I found the bird sitting on the top of our couch and thought, well that looks good. I called Dr. Pat Redig of the School of Veterniary Medicine at the University of Minnesota during the night and he gave me additional instructions. So I fed the bird some liver in the morning and it appeared to be making a rapid comeback. When I again left the bird with Dr. Krogstad, I thought our problems were over. Such did not prove to be the case. Upon calling Dr. Krogstad after arriving home from work that evening, he dejectedly informed me that while feeding the bird routinely, it suddenly had died. It will be donated to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point where it will be mounted and put on permanent display. A fitting place for one Great Gray Owl found fairly near central Wisconsin.

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank the family of Les Bueher for sharing with us, even if temporarily, this magnificent creature; it is indeed a humble privilege to work with these birds.

9201 Rock Inn Road
Arpin, WI 54410

First Record of Boreal Owl in Wood County

By Don G. Follen, Sr.

On March 3rd, 1982, we received a call from Mr. Richard Thompson of Lindsey saying he had caught a little owl and would we be interested in it. Mr. Thompson had thought that the owl was injured as it was so tame that he and his son had captured it as it was sitting on his porch, by hand. Needless to say, I immediately thought it was probably another Screech Owl, **(Otus asio)**, as I had banded five since January one and Ken Luepke had banded some and had received some dead ones also. The other likely bird would be a Saw-whet Owl, **(Agoleus acadicus)**, our other not so unusual small owl.

Photo by Warren Nelson, Aitkin, Minnesota 56431.

Upon arriving home and receiving the message, I called Mr. Thompson as it was around 10:00 p.m. and informed him that I would not be able to come until after work the following day, but to see if it would eat a mouse or something and his reply was that it was eating well.

When on March 4th I walked with Mr. Thompson to his garage and looked in his screen topped box it hit me like a bolt of lightning. This was a first for me - an unusual bird - a Boreal Owl, **(Aegolius funereus)**. Dark ring around the face, yellow bill, white spots on top of head, large white spots on back and dorsal portion of wing, earless and intriguing. It was in some ways like part Saw-whet and part Hawk Owl with its black facial ring and large spots on wing and spots on the head instead of streaks.

I took the bird home with me for an intense study of its condition and flying condition and upon arriving there called Ken and Jan Luepke and several other close birders. It was a first with me and I wanted to share this moment with others. Contrary to the condition of most of the owls we have handled this winter, this Boreal Owl was in excellent condition. Mr. Thompson had told me the bird escaped the box at his home and had freely flown throughout the house and basement before he could catch it again. Upon getting a few photographs of the bird and banding it, I released it. Then it flew to a tree about twenty five feet away, sat for about five minutes, flew to another tree more distant and in a few more minutes it was gone into the woods, a piece of personal history.

This is another of these mysterious little owl species that needs concentrated studying. On August 11, 1978, the author and a friend found the remains of a Boreal Owl on the Lincoln-Marathon County line on Highway 51. In Douglas Co. in mid April, 1980 the author and friend listened to what we thought was a male Boreal Owl singing in an ash-spruce bog but because of the time and the night conditions we could not fully check it out. A Boreal Owl sounds like a winnowing Snipe with the exception that the sound comes

out of the woods instead of up in the air and with Snipe active at this time of year it is not hard to make a mistake. Again because of their diminuitive size, probable preference of habitat and coloration; this may well be another species that is largely over looked.

We are currently gathering all records of this species in Wisconsin to date. This is another opportunity for a birder to contribute to Wisconsin ornithology. We will gladly return any photos, etc., but we do hope that we can put together these records in order to draw a mental image of the habits and actual whereabouts of this bird in Wisconsin. If anyone has any records of Boreal Owl; photos, mounts, dates, anything that may have some verification, we openly solicit such data.

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Great Gray Owl Study - 1981

By Don G. Follen, Sr.

Increasingly our project takes on scope and widens with every year. Since we started in 1978 we have reached a momentum where the media has been very cooperative and has greatly aided our efforts as described in **The Passenger Pigeon,** Volume 42, No. 2, 1980. We are still confronted with individuals who refuse to contact us with sightings so in some cases we may not have all the records.

It is also interesting to note how these reports come from the same areas most of the time even though the individual reporter may be different. We sincerely hope that all will be aware and will contribute their sightings to us and that in a year or two we can make a further presentation of the known status and distribution of this magnificent species.

Most of our 1981 observations have been combined to a total of only half of the previous years study. This may reflect a number of factors such as my being very busy employment wise; fewer owls actually visible or that some form of movement had taken some of the birds to more remote areas. Our goals along with those of Bob Nero of Winnipeg and Steve Loch of Minnesota are to provide specific answers.

Great Gray Owls sightings 1981, Wisconsin.

January 1, 1981	Douglas Co. tn. 45N R 13W Sec. 34 Mono Kevala via Fred Hennessey
January , 1981	Florence Co. W. of Fence. Stanley Majewski
February 12, 1981	Washburn Co. tn.42N R12W Sec. 22. Larry Blaylock via Fred Hennessey
May 17, 1981	Price Co. TN 39N R 2W Sec. 17. Maybelle Hardy
June 7, 1981	Rusk Co. near Potato Lake. Dick Steinwagner
June 7, 1981 (2)	Lincoln Co. TN31N R7E Sec. 1. Tony Geiger, Wis. DNR
July 2, 1981	Forest Co. Tn.36N RR16E Sec. 13. Kwinn Kastrosky
October 23, 1981	Marathon Co. Tn27N R5E Sec. 10. Jean Rowe
December 2, 1981 (with photo)	Marathon Co. Tn.29N R2E Sec. 19. Jerry Rankl
December 3, 1981	Marathon Co. Tn.29N R7E Sec. 15. Tony Geiger, Wis. DNR
December 6, 1981	Taylor Co. Tn.31N R1E Sec. 2. Les Buehlers, (specimen now at U.W.S.P. Stevens Point, Wis.)

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Consolidated Papers, Inc. and the Wisconsin River Power Company for allowing me funds for doing a study on the west bend of Petenwell Flowage in Juneau County. I would like to thank all of those who can see the significance of our research and who unselfishly have contributed their sightings to us. I would also like to thank the Wisconsin D.N.R. for their support and getting sightings to us quickly and for their continued appeals through their media outlets. I want to also thank Linda Safir for editing help.

*A special note:Our address is now: 9201 Rock Inn Road, Arpin, Wisconsin 54410 and our telephone is the same: 715-652-2510.

Additional Breeding and Breeding Period Records of Saw-whet Owls in Wisconsin

By Don G. Follen, Sr.

7-17-70		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
7-29-70		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
8-4-70		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
8-8-72		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
8-11-72		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
8-14-72		Bayfield Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
8-7-74		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
8-8-74		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
8-28-74		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
6-17-75		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
7- -75	5 Young	Monroe Co.	J. Chinook	Kim Mello
8-27-75		Price Co.	Wis. DNR	Larry Gregg
7-3-78	4 Yng. 1 ad.	Waushara Co.	T. Laurion	T. Laurion
4- -81	1 immature	Fond du Lac Co.	W. Volkert	W. Volkert
6-26-81	1 immature	Calumet Co.	C. Rudy	C. Rudy
Summer 81		Dane Co.	S. Temple L. Keith	J. Hickey

These are sixteen additional Wisconsin Breeding period records of Saw-whet Owls for those wishing to update Follen P.P.43:4.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all sending in their observations and/or proof of Saw-whet Owls in Wisconsin in response to our request. A special thanks to Larry Gregg of the Wis. DNR at Park Falls for submitting his records which were obtained incidental to the mist netting and banding of Woodcock in northern Wisconsin. We will still request any additional records for this period; April 1 to August 31 but no significant follow up report will be forthcoming for a period of one year.

9201 Rock Inn Road
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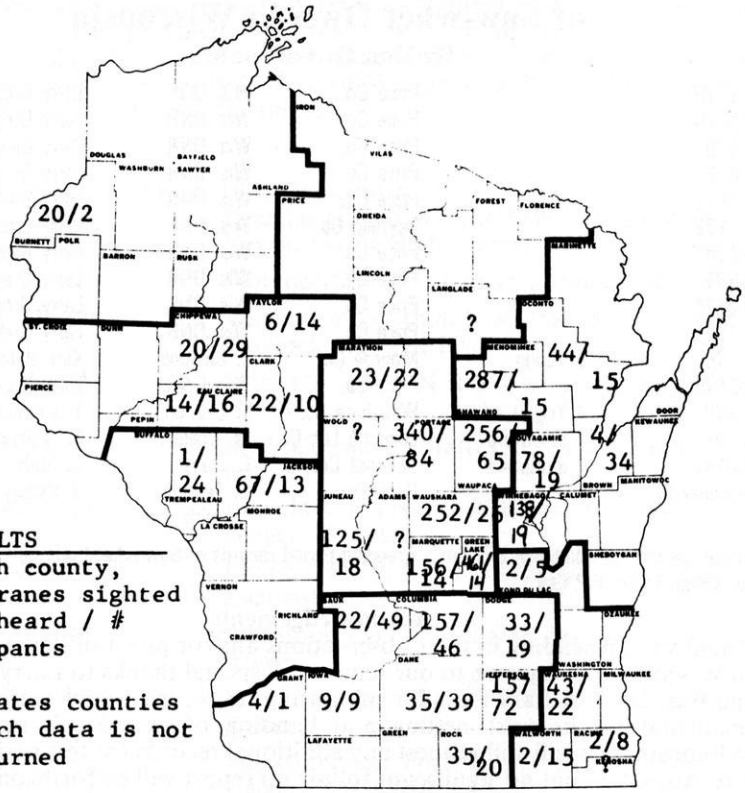
April 4, 1981 Crane Survey Results

At dawn on April 4, 1981, the 6th annual Sandhill Crane survey was conducted in 34 counties. A total of 641 participants reported 2794 cranes seen or heard. Returns from every county were examined and individual survey forms checked against master maps to eliminate any duplicate or questionable sightings. The * column gives known summer census figures from previous studies (see references). Of the 34 counties in the 1981 census, previous survey figures are available for 31 counties. Comparison of the 1981 total number of cranes censused in these 31 counties (2777 cranes) with the total resident census from previous surveys (4401 cranes) shows that roughly 63% of the cranes present were seen in the 1981 survey. However the great variability of coverage from county to county, and the complications of migration in progress makes this comparison rough at best.

Sandhill Crane Count



RESULTS

for each county, read #cranes sighted and/or heard / # participants

? indicates counties for which data is not yet returned

Total # cranes sighted and/or heard on April 4th, 1981= 2,824
Total # of observers = 760
Total # of counties surveyed = 32

County	1981 Est. Total Cranes	*Previous Census	1981 #Sites Surveyed	Potential Sites	1981 No. Participants
Marquette	156	367(B)	19	70+	14
Green Lake	461	252(B)	6 (huge)	50+	14
Fond du Lac	2	4(B)	2	more	5
Columbia	157	312(B)	29	50+	46
Dodge	33	8(B)	23	60+	19
Dane	35	13(B)	21	25	39
Jefferson	157	87(B)	40	70+	72
Waukeshaw	43	13(B)	15	?	22
Rock	35	18(B)	12	30+	20
Walworth	2	15(B)	9	&	15
Racine	2	11(B)	5	more?	8
Kenosha	1	2(B)	1	more?	1

County	1981 Est. Total Cranes	*Previous Census	1981 #Sites Surveyed	Potential Sites	1981 No. Participants
Waushara	252	567(M)	22	?	26
Waupaca	256	612(M)	44	44	65
Outagamie	78	927(M)	8	more	19
Winnebago	138	730(M)	13	?	19
Grant	4	--	1	?	1
Iowa	9	--	6	?	9
Sauk	22	18(H)	24	26	49
Juneau	125	71(G)	15	15-20	18
Adams — data in transit					
Jackson	67	26(H)	10	many (aerial?	13
Trempeleau	1	1(H)	14	?	24
Eau Claire	14	3(H)	8	12+	16
Wood - data not yet returned					
Portage	340	56(G)	37	37	84
Marathon	23	48(H)	10	many	22
Clark	22	24(H)	13	more	10
Chippewa	20	2(G)	17	more?	29
Taylor	6	5(H)	9	more?	14
Shawano	287	57(G)	17	20+	15
Oconto	44	10(H)	8	more?	15
Brown	4	--	24	24	34
Burnett	20	30(H)	8 sect.	more	2
TOTALS	2819	4289	490		759

More significantly, there were positive sightings of cranes in counties here-to-fore considered to be on the periphery or outside the generally known crane range. These counties include Iowa, Grant and Brown Counties. In every county in which survey efforts were undertaken, cranes were sighted. Valuable information about the locations of cranes has been gained, and we can build and expand upon this in the future.

Detailed summary sheets and master maps have been made for each county, showing the locations and numbers of cranes sighted. These are available at the Crane Foundation. The results will also probably be published in the 1981 Crane Workshop Proceedings.

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FIELD NOTES

The **Passenger Pigeon** *owes a great debt of gratitude to Hal and Nancy Roberts for the years they have given us as field editors for the Summer Season. This is their last contribution after many years. What can one say to such loyal help. "Thanks" seems very trite somehow - but we wish them well.*

By Hal and Nancy Roberts

The Summer Season **June 1 to July 31, 1981**

The summer season started with two weeks of above normal temperatures and a shortage of rainfall which was followed by locally heavy rains in the second week with 9.5 inches falling within a 24 hour period at Rainbow Dam. The last half of June saw below normal temperatures and little rain. Early July turned hot with numerous days of 90 degrees or better and moderate precipitation. The end of July was again cool with temperatures four to five degrees below normal. Heaviest rains were in the south with the northeast remaining dry.

Some highlights of the **Field Notes 1981** published by The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Office of Endangered and Nongame Species: Double-crested Cormorants reached an all-time high in Green Bay. An Apostle Island colony was up from 40 active nests in 1980 to 128 this year. There were 47 nests at Fish Lake Wildlife Area, Burnett County, compared to 39 last year. A colony at Delta Marsh, Trempealeau County, started with 43 nests, up from 20 in 1980, but was destroyed by July windstorms. Artifical nesting platforms may have had something to do with the dramatic increase, but it is speculated that a population shift from other parts of the United States and Canada may be taking place.

Chuck Sindelar field-checked 202 nest territories which showed some degree of Bald Eagle activity. Of these, 137 were successful. This is up from 131 productive nests out of 175 active territories in 1980. The average number of young fledged was 1.66, down from 1.76 last year. Heavy summer windstorms took a toll of eagle nests and eaglets.

Osprey nests were counted along with eagles by spring and summer aerial surveys. The number of nests was up to 176 compared to 161 in 1980. However, only 57 percent were successful and fledged an average of 1.7 per nest, both figures a decline from last year. This apparent decline may reflect a "young" osprey population. With accumulating years of date and increased public awareness, nesting territories may be discovered earlier than in the past and the figures may represent a lot of first-try nest failures. Again, summer windstorms took a toll of nests and young.

No nests of Peregrine Falcon have been known in the state since 1965.

OENS researcher Sumner Matteson in his annual Piping Plover survey located only one nest with four eggs in the traditional Lake Superior beach habitat. A combination of dirt bikes that ran within five yards of the nest, possible predation by raccoons and skunks and heavy rains destroyed the nesting; no chicks hatched. Only one adult was seen nearby. A Piping Plover pair was seen at another traditional nest site, but there was no nest.

There were eight nesting colonies of Forster's Terns in eastern Wisconsin with 450 nests compared to about 300 in 1980. The largest colony was at Lake Poygan, Green Lake County, where 200 young were fledged from as many nests. Artificial styrofoam nesting platforms covered with vegetation were very successful.

Of the fourteen historical Common Tern colonies in the state, two remain: Green Bay and Chequamegon Bay. The Green Bay colony consisted of forty nests which brought off 100 young. The Chequamegon Bay colony had 48 nests with 47 young. Regrowth of vegetation, competition with gulls and human disturbance of beach habitat endanger Common Terns.

Field study showed dramatic population shifts in Black Terns with a 104 percent increase in Vilas county to a 46 percent decline in the Ashland area. Over-all there was an increase of about two percent.

Only one confirmed nesting of Barn Owls brought off six owlets from a Green county silo. Southern Wisconsin landowners are being encouraged to build nest boxes to attempt to help the Barn Owl population.

In independent research, Don Follen, Sr., is trying to determine if Great Gray Owls are regular nesters in the state and reports three probable sightings in northwestern locations this summer. The yellow-eyed Owl is the largest in North America.

Following are the highlights of the summer season:

LOONS, GREBES, CORMORANTS

Common Loon: Midsummer observations were made in a number of areas farther south than usual; LaCrosse County (David Johnson, Fred Lesher), Monroe County (Eric Epstein, Daryl Tessen) and Marathon County (Sam Robbins). Along Lake Michigan, Loons were also noted in greater than normal numbers in Door County (Roy and Charlotte Lukes) and in Manitowoc County (James Steffen).

Red-necked Grebe: Nesting occurred in three areas; Oakridge Lake in St. Croix County (Janine Polk, Mike Mossman), Winnebago County where 67 birds were counted on June 11 (Thomas Ziebell, Tessen) and at Grassy Lake Wildlife Area, Columbia County (Mossman).

Eared Grebe: Two observations; one on June 11 in Winnebago County (Ziebell) and ten present at Lake Maria, Green Lake County, in late June (Bruce A. Eichhorst) See **By the Wayside.**

Western Grebe: Two observations; five present in Douglas County on June 3 and again on June 26 (Robbye Johnson) and one noted in Burnett County on June 13 and 14 (James Hoefler). See **By the Wayside.**

White Pelican: One was observed in Burnett County on June 17 (Hoefler). See **By the Wayside.**

Double-crested Coromorant: Quoting Tom Erdman, "A major shift is taking place; probably the western and prairie (northern) populations are spreading back onto the Great Lakes. Gull Island on Lake Superior now has 120 or more nests (30 last year), lower Green Bay has 250 to 300 nesting pairs. Mid Green Bay birds nested on Hat and Jode Islands for the first time since 1956. The upper bay and Door peninsula colonies on Spider and Gravel National Wildlife Refuge continue to increase. There are approximately 250 pairs on those two islands. The total population for Door, Green Bay and Lake Michigan islands is over 600 pairs, possibly as high as 700 pairs. This number exceeds all recorded historical popula-

tions." Other colonies were present in Burnett with 90 (Hoefler), Marathon with as many as 350 (Tessen, Ken and Jan Luepke), Taylor with 27 (Robbins), 25 to 30 in Clark for the second year (Robbins), 100 or more in Green Lake county (Tessen) and smaller numbers reported in Marquette, Fond du Lac and Dodge counties. Also found Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Oneida for the first time in summer (P. Vanderschaegen), Barron, St. Croix, Dunn and Winnebago Counties.

HERONS, EGRETS, BITTERNS

Little Blue Heron: One was noted at the Mead Wildlife Area on July 11 (Luepkes) See **By the Wayside.**

Cattle Egret: Reported from three counties; Brown, where there were 13 to 15 pairs with at least 30 young (Erdman). Fond du Lac county where there were 10 to 20 on July 11 (Tessen) and Dodge County where they were seen by many observers (Gary Casper, Judy Haseleu, Dennis Gustafson, Tessen, Steve Thiessen).

Great Egret: Found in the usual locations and also in Marathon County where three were recorded on July 11 (Luepkes).

Snowy Egret: One pair bred in Brown County (Erdman). Others were found in Dodge County where one was noted on July 3 (Bill Cowart, Gustafson) one July 11 (Tessen) and on July 14 (Haseley). Located in Fond du Lac County on July 11 (Tessen) and one at Grand River Marsh, Green Lake County on July 18 (Ziebell).

Louisiana Heron: One was observed at Horicon on July 31 (Haseleu). See **By the Wayside.**

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: One seen in St. Croix County on July 20 may be a first record for the county according to Faanes (1981). However it is only moderately north of the Red-wing area where they have summered for years (Robbins). Additionally reported only from Dodge (Haseleu, Gustafson) and Outagamie (Jim Anderson, Mary Goodwin, Larry Prickette all of Mosquito Hill Nature Center; Richard Biss, Mark Peterson).

Least Bittern: Good numbers noted in south and east areas. Also found in Burnett County where two were seen on June 26 (Hoefler) and two on June 3 in Kakagon Sloughs of Ashland County (Mossman).

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS, MERGANSERS

Mute Swan: Noted by many observers in the Ashland area where they have nested for several years. Two were also present on July 31 at Wisconsin Point, Superior (R. Johnson) and two were in Manitowoc County on Juny 17 (Charles Sontag).

Whistling Swan: Summering birds were noted on July 1 to 3 in Burnett County (Hoefler), on July 30 in Oconto Marsh (Erdman and Joel Trick) and June 5 in Winnebago County (Ziebell).

Blue Goose: A Snow Goose was resident with a domestic flock in St. Croix County where it was present last year also (Polk).

Gadwall: Again found in Marathon County (Robbins) and also in Wood County (Luekpes) in addition to north and east locations.

Pintail: Observations were reported from Eau Claire and Chippewa (Polk), Marathon (Luepkes, Robbins), Winnebago (Ziebell), Columbia (William Mueller), Fond du Lac (Thiessen) and Dodge (Thiessen) Counties.

Cinnamon Teal: On June 19, a pair with male in breeding plumage were in Horicon Marxh (Biss and Mary Czaplinski).

Shoveler: Discovered in Douglas (R. Johnson), Barron (Alta Goff), Eau Claire and Chippewa (Polk), Clark (Robbins) Marathon (Luepkes, Robbins), Brown (Tessen), Winnebago (Ziebell), Columbia (Tessen) and Dodge (Ziebell) Counties.

Redhead: A brood of 15 was noted in Dodge County on July 11 (Casper) and one of 12 in Winnebago on June 19 (Ziebell). Other observations came from Ashland (Robbins), St. Croix (Polk), Manitowoc (Robbins, Sontag, Tessen), LaCrosse (Lesher), Marathon (Luekpes) and Dodge (Casper, Haseleu) Counties.

Ring-necked Duck: Several hens with broods were noted in Monroe County on June 13 (Epstein). Reported also in Burnett (Hoefler), Barron (Goff), Marathon (Luepkes, Robbins), and Oneida (Vanderschaegen) Counties.

Canvasback: One was seen in Douglas County on June 23 (R. Johnson), in St. Croix County on July 13 (Polk), a male in Marathon County on June 21 (Luepkes), above normal numbers in LaCrosse on July 4 (Lesher) and four were present mid June in Winnebago County (Ziebell).

Greater Scaup: One was observed in Manitowoc on June 18 (Robbins and Tessen).

Lesser Scaup: Apart from expected north and east locations, birds were found in LaCrosse County on July 4 (Lesher), one in Monroe County on June 2 (Epstein) and one in Columiba County on June 6 (Tesse).

Common Goldeneye: Birds were seen until June 3 in Douglas County (R. Johnson), in Iron County (Mary Butterbrodt), one on June 6 in Burnett (Hoefler), in Barron (Janelle) Humphrey), Door (Lukes) and one on July 27 in Outagamie County (Tessen).

Black Scoter: A first nesting record for the state was approved by the WSO Records Committee; in Door County on July 6 (James Hale). See **By the Wayside.**

Hooded Merganser: Southernmost birds were again in Outagamie County as in 1980; a late migrant on June 3 (Anderson) and one on July 27 (Tessen).

Common Merganser: Four observations; Iron County (Butterbrodt), Sawyer County from June 9 to 29 (David Chasson), two in Price County on July 5 (Luepkes) and two in Oneida County on July 24 (Tessen).

Red-breasted Merganser: One was noted on Stockton Island of the Apostle Islands on June 25 (Butterbrodt), six were present in Douglas County until June 3 (R. Johnson), in Vilas County on June 28 (Robert and Susan Spahn), present in Door County (Lukes) and two in Outagamie County on July 27 (Tessen).

VULTURES, HAWKS, GROUSE

Turkey Vulture: Eight new nests were located in the Baraboo Hills (Mossman). Other observations covered the state including Ashland (Mueller), Burnett, (Hoefler), Sawyer (Chasson) and St. Croix (Robbins) Counties.

Goshawk: Tom Erdman reports a population explosion with a total of up to 42 nests with 2.6 young per active nest (1.7 needed for stable population). New nesting sites were found in Brown, Shawano and Monroe Counties. Juneau County nest was again active and successful. Another new site was in Portage County and three new ones in Door County. Others observing this bird were Harold Lindberg in Marinette County, Luepkes in Marathon County, Spahns in Vilas County and Tessen in Forest County.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Reported by 14 observers in 13 counties. Erdman found three nests in Brown County.

Cooper's Hawk: Five nests were in Brown County (Erdman). A DNR-USDI study at Stevens Point by Bob Rosenfield had over 25 nests. About half of these failed, due mainly to depredation by Great Horned Owls and raccoons (fide Erdman). Reports came from Iron County (Butterbrodt), Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties (Polk, Robbins), Monroe County (Epstein, Robbins), Oconto (Tessen) and Manitowoc (Steffen) Counties.

Bald Eagle: Reported in northern counties of Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Iron, Vilas, Burnett, Sawyer, Price, Oneida, Barron, Taylor, Marinette, and Dunn.

Osprey: Listed in eighteen counties by as many observers. Four observers found birds in Manitowoc County.

Peregrine Falcon: One was noted in Price County on July 21 (Maybelle Hardy)

Merlin (Pigeon Hawk): Birds were located in five counties; Iron (Butterbrodt), Price on June 4 (Hardy), Oneida on July 24 (Tessen), Barron (Humphrey) and Jackson on July 28 (Dorothy Harmer).

Spruce Grouse: The only observation reported was of one in Forest County on June 29 (Spahns).

Sharp-tailed Grouse: Noted in Iron County (Butterbrodt), Vilas County where there were five on July 6 (Spahns), Taylor (Peterson), Marinette (Lindberg) and Jackson (Harmer).

Common Bobwhite: Most northerly observation was in Barron County on June 10 (Humphrey). Birds were found in Dunn County by both Polk and Robbins.

CRANES, RAILS, GALLINULES

Wild Turkey: An unusual observation in Marinette County (Lindberg).

Sandhill Crane: Reported in sixteen counties by fifteen observers.

King Rail: On July 30, one was feeding on fish in a ditch at the Oconto-Brown County line (Erdman and Joel Trick).

Virginia Rail: Sam Robbins found an adult with one young in Mead Wildlife Area on June 6 and wonders if this is an early date for young.

SHOREBIRDS

Semipalmated Plover: Last seen in Douglas County where there were five on June 3 (R. Johnson). Earliest fall arrivals were July 9 in Dunn County (Polk) followed by three in Fond du Lac County on July 11 (Tessen).

Piping Plover: One was seen on July 12 in Manitowoc where the birds have been irregular visitors (Sontag).

Lesser Golden Plover: Single birds were seen in Horicon on July 3 (Gustafson) and July 26 (Tessen). Also located in Fond du Lac County on July 11 and 26 (Tessen) and three on July 12 (Thiessen).

Black-bellied Plover: Fall birds were in Milwaukee on July 26 (Casper) and July 30 at Oconto Marsh (Erdman and Trick).

Ruddy Turnstone: Latest spring birds were two in Manitowoc on June 13 (Tessen). Early fall arrivals were in Fond du Lac by July 17 (Tessen). Over 250 spring birds lingered in Douglas County until June 3 (R. Johnson).

Whimbrel: A single spring migrant was found at Wisconsin Point, Superior, on June 3 (R. Johnson). Fall observations were July 30 at the Coast Guard Impoundment in Milwaukee (Bill Cowart, Thiessen).

Upland Sandpiper (Plover): Noted to be scarce in the Milwaukee area (Cowart), but otherwise appeared in normal numbers in appropriate habitat throughout the state.

Solitary Sandpiper: Last spring birds were seen in Dane County on June 6 (Thiessen); early fall migrants were June 24 in Chippewa and June 28 in Eau Claire Counties (both Polk).

Willet: One was present in the Mead Wildlife Area, Marathon County, on June 6 (Luepkes and Robbins) and one was noted in Manitowoc on July 16 (Tessen).

Greater Yellowlegs: Arrived in large concentration in Horicon on July 3 (Cowart) and in Eau claire on July 4 (Polk).

Lesser Yellowlegs: Spring birds lingered in Barron County until June 2 (Goff) and to June 6 in Marathon County (Robbins). One was noted in Winnebago County on June 24 (Clark Schultz) and 70 were in Chippewa County the same date (Polk). A large concentration was present in Horicon with the Greater Yellowlegs on July 3 (Cowart).

Red Knot: Spring birds were in Douglas County on June 3 (R. Johnson) and at the Coast Guard Impoundment in Milwaukee on June 12. Unusual July observations in Milwaukee from July 8 to 11 (Casper) and Dodge County on July 11 (Tessen).

Pectoral Sandpiper: One in Horicon on June 26 may have been a summer wandered (Gustafson). Fall migrants arrived in Dane County on July 3 (Thiessen) and Eau Claire County on July 4 (Polk).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Last spring date was June 11 in St. Croix County (Polk) and Winnebago County (Ziebell). The early fall bird was in Horicon on July 18 (Gustafson).

Baird's Sandpiper: Spring birds lingered until June 1 in Taylor County (Robbins), five in Columbia County on June 6 (Tessen) and in Milwaukee on June 10 (Gustafson). Fall migrants were recorded in Fond du Lac County on July 17 (Tessen). These are the only reported observations.

Least Sandpiper: Latest spring birds were noted in Marathon County on June 6 (Luepkes, Robbins) and same date in Columbia County (Tessen). Fall arrivals were in Iron County on July 2 (Butterbrodt) and in Dane County on July 3 (Thiessen).

Dunlin: Three dallied in Winnebago County from June 5 to 11 (Ziebell). One was still in Marathon County on June 6 (Luepkes, Robbins). Fall birds were found in Ashland County on July 18 (Dick Verch).

Short-billed Dowitcher: Early fall birds were in Dane County on July 10 (Thiessen) and in Dodge (Casper) and Fond du Lac (Tessen) Counties the next day, July 11.

Long-billed Dowitcher: Two fall birds were present in Fond du Lac County on July 17; one still in spring plumage was in Horicon on July 18 (Gustafson).

Dowitcher (sp): A large concentration was observed in Horicon on July 7 (Cowart).

Stilt Sandpiper: Earliest birds were found in Dane County on July 10 (Thiessen) and July 11 in Fond du Lac County (Tessen).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Lingered until June 11 in St. Croix County (Polk) and in Winnebago County (Ziebell). Returned to Manitowoc County by July 6 (Steffen) and Fond du

Lac County by July 11 (Tessen).

Western Sandpiper: One was observed in Marathon County's Mead Wildlife Area on June 6 (Luepkes, Robbins), another was in Milwaukee on July 21 (Jim Frank) and a third in Manitowoc on July 28 (Sontag).

Marbled Godwit: Sam Robbins was the lucky observer in Marathon County on June 6.

Hudsonian Godwit: Noted in Barron County to June 7 (Goff) and a pair in Polk County on the same date (Stauffer and Elinor Miller).

Sanderling: Four delayed in Manitowoc until June 13 (Tessen). Fall birds arrived in Manitowoc on July 20 (Sontag).

Avocet: One was observed at Horicon on July 3 (Gustafson) and one at the Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment on July 8 (Casper) which could possibly have been the same bird.

Wilson's Phalarope: On July 18, fifteen were found in Clark County on mile west of Dorchester where some probably nested although they could not be found later in July when the wetland dried up (Robbins). Other summer observations were in Ashland, Taylor, Marinette, St. Croix, Dunn, Chippewa, Eau Claire, Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Columbia, Dodge and Dane Counties.

Northern Phalarope: On June 6, a pair was noted in Marathon County (Luepkes, Robbins) and a pair was recorded in Fond du Lac County on July 17 (Tessen).

GULLS AND TERNS

Glaucous Gull: A second year bird was identified in Milwaukee Harbor on June 23 (Biss). One was also seen in Manitowoc on June 28, a first year bird (Sontag), and on July 18 (Steffen).

Ring-billed Gull: Continuing to increase statewide with as many as 800 present in Manitowoc on June 19 (Sontag).

Laughing Gull: Found in three locations this summer; observed in Manitowoc where four adults were seen on June 18 (Robbins and Tessen) and up to three observed there on June 15,25 and 28 (Sontag). A second year bird was seen in Oconto County on July 30 (Erdman and Trick) and a bird was noted in Marathon County on June 21 (Lueplkes).

Franklin's Gull: Four observations; six individuals in Manitowoc on June 15 (Sontag), two in LaCrosse on June 4 and July 12 (Lesher) and one in adult plumage on Lake Pepin, Pierce County on June 10 (Epstein).

Bonaparte's Gull: Found in numbers along Lake Michigan and Lake Superior with a maximum reported of 500 in Manitowoc on June 27 (Sontag).

Little Gull: Found by many observers in Milwaukee and Manitowoc Counties. The five or six birds present at Two Rivers apparently did not nest (Erdman).

Forster's Tern: Erdman says that of three colonies, two produced well and one was wiped out by high water (Seiche). About 100 young were flying around the three colonies in late July with a total of about 250 pairs, Brown County. Colonies at Lake Poygan, Big Muskego Lake and Horicon seem to be doing well; nesting platforms at Poygan were a great success (Mossman).

Common Tern: Fifteen were found in Douglas County on June 11 (Mueller) and eight were seen there on June 23 (R. Johnson). Mossman observed 58 pairs in Ashland County which he considers the last remaining colony out in the state. Ashland bird were also seen on June 26 (Robbins) and by Verch. Six were noted in Burnett County on June 7 (Hoefler), in Taylor County June 1 (Robbins), two on Lake Pepin, Pierce County, on June 10 (Epstein), Marinette County where numbers were down from last year (Lindberg), in Shawano County three were seen on July 22 and 23 (Peterson), in Brown County (Ed Cleary and Brother Columban) in Manitowoc there were 30 on June 24 (Sontag) and also noted there by Tessen; A maximum of 22 was present from June 14 to July 19 in Winnebago County (Ziebell); Milwaukee birds were seen by several observers (Thiesse, Casper, Frank, Mueller). Erdman says that of the 75 pairs he observed, less than six young were produced; he considers the species to be in very bad shape.

Caspian Tern: Found in areas bordering the two Great Lakes plus Burnett County where there were eight on July 3 (Hoefler), Buffalo County on July 27 (Polk), LaCrosse County (Lesher), one in Outagamie County on July 2 (Tessen) and two in Winnebago County on July 4 (Ziebell).

Black Tern: Most observers found populations to be similar to or increased over 1980. Largest number reported was 256 in Winnebago County on June 11 (Ziebell).

DOVES, CUCKOOS, OWLS

Ringed Turtle Dove: One at a feeder three miles south of Gilman, Taylor County, is presumed to be an escaped bird (Robbins).

Barn Owl: None reported.

Screech Owl: Reported in Iron, Barron, Marinette, Brown, Winnebago, Jefferson, Ozaukee and Grant Counties.

Snowy Owl: Three unusual summer observations with speculation that all three may have been the same bird. One was in Clark County from early May to June 15 (Luepkes); one was in Marathon County near Spencer on June 6 and was quite probably the same individual. The third sitting was in Langlade County near Antigo on June 17 (Hal Roberts). See **By the Wayside).**

Long-eared Owl: Three were present in Marathon County on June 6 (Luepkes). Also noted i Manitowoc County (Steffen).

Short-eared Owl: One at UW-GB on June 20 was "the first I've seen here in summer" (Erdman. One was noted in Eau Claire County on July 9 (Polk). A pair and five fledged young were present in late July in Taylor County. Two of the young were road kills in early July and two adults and two young remained by July 7 (Robbins). Also seen in Marathon County on June 6 (Robbins) and seven there on July 26 (Luepkes).

Saw-whet Owl: Noted in Barron County (Humphrey). A nest was discovered in Juneau County (Follen, fide Erdman). A juvenile hit a window near Chilton (C. Rudy, fide Erdman) and a juvenile was found dead, adults and other young were seen near Campbellsport, Fond du Lac County (Steffen, fide Erdman).

WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: Found in a remarkable five locations! A pair was noted in Bayfield County on June 25 (Chasson), adults and one young at a nest in Ashland County on July 27 (Larry Gregg), one observed in Forest County near Scott and Shelp Lakes on June 24 (Tessen) an adult male feeding young on Nune 4 near Island Lake, Washburn County (Vicki Black) and the remains of one in a Red-shouldered Hawk's nest near Snow Falls Creek, Oconto County, in the first week of June (Erdman).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Surprisingly far south are the observations on June 6 in Sauk County (Tessen) and in Milwaukee (Winnie Woodmansee). Otherwise, the farthest south was in Taylor County on July 7 (Robbins).

Acadian Flycatcher: Found in Monroe County on June 7 (Epstein); one in Manitowoc on June 26 and 27 (Sontag); in Sauk County (Peterson, Polk, Tessen, Thiessen) and Grant County on June 16 (Polk).

Western Pewee: The one noted in Bayfield County on June 7 must be considered hypothetical in the absence of specimen or photo. The observation is accepted by the WSO Records Committee. See **By the Wayside.**

Olive-sided Flycatcher: This little fellow was calling for his three beers in Iron County on June 6 (Butterbrodt), Forest and Oneida Counties (Vanderschaegen), Door County (Lukes) and Manitowoc County (Ken Lange).

JAYS, CHICKADEES, TITMOUSE, NUTHATCHES

Gray Jay: Found in Ashland (Robbins), Vilas (Spahn), Sawyer and Taylor (Polk) Counties.

Northern Raven: Southernmost was one on June 19 in Monroe County (Tessen).

Boreal Chickadee: Only two lucky people found these: one in Lincoln County on June 23 (Robbins) and two in Vilas County on July 2 (Spahn).

Tufted Titmouse: Observations in Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties (Polk). As expected, found in Grant County (Polk) and Rock County (Gyda Mahlum).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Farther south than most was the one in Milwaukee on July 29 (Woodmansee).

WRENS, MIMICS, THRUSHES

Winter Wren: Farthest south were the reports from Fond du Lac County where two birds were seen on June 8 (Lange) and from Outagamie County (Anderson).

Swainson's Thrush: A migrant lingered in Taylor County until June 1 (Robbins). Summer residents were found on July 1 in Sawyer County (Polk), July 4 in Vilas County (Spahn), July 24 in Forest County (Tessen) and, surprisingly, July 29 and 30 in Milwaukee (Woodmansee).

GNATCATCHER, KINGLETS, SHRIKES, VIREOS

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Only three observations were reported: Iron County (Butterbrodt), Vilas County on July 2 (Spahn), Sawyer County on June 1 (Chasson).

Loggerhead Shrike: In two west central locations; Eau Claire County (Polk) and at Chippewa-Eau Claire County line on July 30 (Tessen).

White-eyed Vireo: One was seen and heard singing at Estabrook Park, Milwaukee, on June 2 (Gustafson).

Solitary Vireo: Found in northern counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Oneida, Barron, and as far south as Chippewa County on July 26 (Robbins) and Jackson County on June 4 (Epstein.

Bell's Vireo: In Dane County on June 6 (Gustafson, Tessen) and Grant County on June 16 (Polk).

WARBLERS

Prothonotary Warbler: In Outagamie County, both male and female were observed carrying food to a cavity about six feet off the ground in a sapling at Mosquito Hill Nature Center (Anderson). Outagamie birds were also seen by Tessen.

Worm-eating Warbler: A good number of observations, all from Hemlock Draw or Baxter's Hollow in Sauk County. Dates and observers are as follows: June 4 (Polk), June 6 (Gustafson, Tessen) June 13 (Robbins), June 15 (Peterson), June 16 (Polk) and three in Hemlock Draw on June 23 (Lange).

Blue-winged Warbler: Sauk County was the place to go to see this bird (Peterson, Polk, Robbins, Tessen, Thiessen). Also noted in Buffalo County on June 21 (Polk), Clark County on June 11 (Robbins), Monroe County on June 17 (Epstein) and Manitowoc County (Steffen).

Tennessee Warbler: The only observation was on July 31, Chippewa County (Robbins).

Nashville Warbler: Found nesting in the Cedarburg Bog area of Ozaukee County (Noel Cutright) in addition to many other north and central locations.

Northern Parula Warbler: Found in ten northernmost counties.

Cape May Warbler: Sighted in Sawyer County from June 9 to 30 (Chasson), Ashland County on June 26 (Robbins), Vilas County on July 6 (Spahn) and Oneida County on June 3 (Vanderschaegen). The one seen in Taylor County on June 19 was believed to be a summer resident although it was farther south than most summer observations (Robbins).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Located in Iron County from June 15 through the period with two present on July 2 (Butterbrodt).

Cerulean Warbler: Farthest north was the observation in Outagamie County (Tessen).

Blackburnian Warbler: Found in Sauk County on June 13 (Robbins) and at Pine Hollow near Denzer on June 24 (Lange). All others were seen in northernmost areas.

Yellow-throated Warbler: One was identified in Wyalusing Park, Grant County, on June 16 (Polk). See **By the Wayside.**

Chestnut-sided Warbler: The one seen in Milwaukee from June 8 to 21 was unusally far south (Frank). In Iron County, 24 were counted on July 2 (Butterbrodt).

Blackpoll Warbler: One was carefully identified on June 23 in Douglas County (R. Johnson). See **By the Wayside.**

Prairie Warbler: One was found in Fond du Lac County on June 13 (Tessen).

Palm Warbler: Only two observations; to June 23 in Douglas County (R. Johnson) and the same date in Lincoln County, June 23, in open bog habitat north on Tomahawk (Robbins).

Louisiana Waterthrush: A single report was of two seen on July 17 in Pierce County (Epstein).

Kentucky Warbler: After a blank last year, there were four observations, two of which were surprisingly far north. Epstein found two in Pierce County on July 7 and at least one singing male in Monroe County on June 1. Also found at Hemlock Draw, Sauk County, on June 6 (Gustafson) and in Grant County on June 16 (Polk).

Connecticut Warbler: Robbye Johnson found a maximum of six in Douglas County on June 17; five were listed in Vilas County on July 2 (Spahn) and also noted in Oneida County (Vanderschaegen).

Mourning Warbler: Unusually far south were Milwaukee observations on June 4 (Woodmansee) and two males from June 11 to 20 (Frank).

Yellow-breasted Chat: On July 5, one was discovered in an area of Monroe County which had been clear cut in 1978 (Epstein). The **Ned Hollister Flyer** reported that Tom Ellis and Bill Miles located nine nesting sites in the Beloit area of Rock County.

Hooded Warbler: On June 6, one was heard in Hemlock Draw, Sauk County (Tessen). On June 1, one was heard and responded to a recording at Lapham Peak, Waukesha County but was not seen (Casper and Idzikowski).

Wilson's Warbler: A male was present in Milwaukee from June 14 to 21 (Frank).

Canada Warbler: Found in mid-June in Sauk County by three observers (Robbins, Tessen, Thiessen). Other sightings were in northern counties of Ashland, Vilas, Forest, Oneida, Oconto and Lincoln.

BLACKBIRDS, GROSBEAKS, FINCHES

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Found in several new areas. Robbins reports that the dozen pair and numerous young found south of Medford were the first summer birds in Taylor County to his knowledge. They were also resident in two other Tyalor County Locations (Robbins). There was a new colony in Clark County (Robbins) and were noted at a new site in Portage County (Hall and Nancy Roberts).

Orchard Oriole: Four observations in far west central counties: Chippewa County on July 30 (Tessen), Eau Claire County (Polk), Buffalo County on June 21 (Polk) and LaCrosse County on June 19 (Lesher).

Dickcissel: It seems not to have been a big year. Small numbers were reported in fourteen counties mainly southwest and west central with the exception of one in Marinette County (Lindberg).

Evening Grosbeak: Again found in Shawano County where three were noted on July 9 (Peterson). Elsewhere, in ten northern counties.

Purple Finch: Also found in Shawano from June 7 to July 12 (Peterson) and one on June 17 (Tessen). Also south of usual was one in Jackson County on June 20 (Lesher).

Pine Grosbeak: Two were found in Vilas County on July 2 (Spahn). See **By the Wayside.**

Pine Siskin: After no reports in 1980, there were sixteen observations in thirteen counties.

Red Crossbill: The four in Milwaukee on July 22 (Gustafson) are unusually far south. Others were found in Ashland (Robbins, Verch,) Vilas (Spahn), Forest (Tessen) Sawyer and Eau Claire (Polk) Counties.

SPARROWS

LeConte's Sparrow: The one found singing in Clark County on June 11 must be near the southern edge of its nesting range (Robbins).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: Three were identified in Vilas County on July 4 (Spahn). See **By the Wayside.**

Lark Sparrow: On July 7, Epstein found an adult and a nest with four eggs in Pierce County in an abandoned quarry. Others were seen in Eau Claire County (Polk), Jackson County (Robbins) and Sauk County (Gustafson, Tessen).

Northern Junco: The birds in Brown County on June 3 were believed to be late migrants (Cleary and Columban).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Farthest south were those in Sauk County (Gustafson, Thiessen).

White-throated Sparrow: Farthest south were those in Portage County on June 11 (Roberts) and Ozaukee County (Cutright).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Again, farther south than usual was the observation on June 19 in Taylor County (Robbins).

1981 OBSERVERS

Jim Anderson with Mary Goodwin and Larry Prickette at the Mosquito Hill Nature Center, Homer C. Bishop, Richard Biss, Vicki H. Black, Mary Butterbrodt, Gary Casper, David Chasson, Bill Cowart, Ed Cleary and Brother Columban, Noel Cutright, Tom Ellis and Bill

Miles, Paul and Louise Engberg, Eric Epstein, Tom Erdman, Laura Erickson, Jim Frank, Alta Goff, Larry Gregg, Dennis Gustafson, Karen Etter Hale, Maybelle Hardy, Dorothy Harmer, Judy Haseleu, James Hoefler, Janelle Humphrey, David Johnson, Robbye Johnson, Janice Glaubig, Hans and Eleanor Kuhn, Ken Lange, Frederick Lesher, Harold L. Lindberg, Ken and Jan Luepke, Roy and Charlotte Lukes, Gyda Mahlum, Stauffer and Elinor Miller, Mike Mossman, William Mueller, Mark Peterson, Janine Polk, Sam Robbins, Hal and Nancy Roberts, Clark Schultz, Charles Sontag, Robert and Susan Spahn, James Steffen, Daryl Tessen, Steve Thiessen, P. Vanderschaegen, Dick Verch, Melvin Wierzbicki, Winnie Woodmansee, Thomas Ziebell.

By the Wayside...

Little Blue Heron at Mead Wildlife Area

Don Follen, Sr., said he had seen a Little Blue Heron on North Honey Island Flowage while banding Ospreys. The following day, July 11, 1981, Jan and I checked the area. On arriving at the location where the bird had been seen, a medium-sized heron flew up from the brush and cattails and alighted on an old aspen stub approximately 15 feet high. The bird preened and changed position several times before flying farther out into the marsh. The bird was a mixed patchwork of white and bluish purple. It looked mostly white while flying, but was quite dark when perched. The legs were bluish-gray, the bill was flesh-colored with the tip (approximately 1/3) very dark. The heron closely resembled the molting bird in the **Audubon Water Bird Guide.** The bird could not be found at a later date.

Ken and Jan Luepke
Route 2
Spencer, WI 54479

A Louisiana Heron at Horicon Marsh

On July 31, 1981, we saw a small dainty heron-type bird feeding with Great Egrets and Great Blue Herons. At first glance it looked mostly bluish-gray. Closer observation showed a white tuft of feathers on the head, white stripe up the front of the neck, white underneath and an orangey-buf wash color over the back. The dark tip of the bill was also visible.

Judy Haseleu
337 W. State
Hartford, WI 53027

A Bayfield County Observation of Western Pewee

On June 7, 1981, I walked over a 7 mile route in Port Wing that I frequently follow. In the scrubby second-growth vegetation dominated by alders and young aspens that lines a grassy marsh and stream on Quarry Road, I normally can expect to see and hear many Alder Flycatchers, Sedge Wrens, Golden-winged Warblers, Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, Red-winged Blackbirds and Clay-colored and Song Sparrows, in addition to waterfowl and other, less common songbirds. On this occasion, my attention was caught by an unusual song. Although of a somewhat similar quality to an Alder Flycatcher's, this call was a buzzier, uni-syllabic "zhew" or "zhrr" which descended in pitch. Fortunately, seeing the bird was simple: he sat conspicuously near the tops of three small trees, about 6 to 8 feet high, as I watched, singing about 12 to 15 times per minute (which is an estimate over a five minute period as my watch had no second hand). I had no field guide with me, but immediately suspected the bird to be a Western Pewee, a species I'd observed many times in 1979 in Colorado, Wyoming and Washington, so I recorded every detail I could in my field notebook. This bird was slightly, but noticeably, larger than a nearby Alder Flycatcher, but considerably smaller than a nearby Eastern Kingbird, and appeared smaller than Olive-sided Flycatchers. He sat in a typical flycatcher stance, and flew about 7 times to three different perches, flycatching. His lower mandible was yellow, his upper was black. His plumage included dark gray upper parts (darker than Empidonax), wing bars, no eye-ring, white edges of primaries, white belly, lower flanks and throat, and soft gray breast and sides. The color of his legs were not observed. He did not wag his tail. Consulting books and recordings that afternoon confirmed my guess; the bird was a Western Pewee.

Laura Erickson
4831 Peabody St.
Duluth, MN 55804

(Editor's Note: *While the WSO Records Committee has accepted this record, as a bird bander with some experience with this species, I would like to comment. This description is probably accurate - particularly the comments regarding the call. But to quote Wesley Lanyon, Marshall Howe, and Allen Phillips in Bird-Banding, Vol. 37, No. 3, P. 169. "Except for the two forms of Traill's Flycatchers, the Eastern and Western Wood Pewees are easily the most difficult North American birds to distinquish with morphological characters alone..... The distinctions are fine and the similarities great.....adults of the two forms look exactly alike except in spring and early summer, during which time most Westerns are told under exceptionally favorable circumstances (such as direct comparison) by their slightly darker, browner colors....." Interestingly, the authors point out the mandible color, which seems to throw some doubt on the validity of Ms. Erickson's sight record --- "in the Western...the lower mandible usually dark over at least the distal third...the Eastern usually wholly pale except at its very tip." As a bander, I would feel I could not identify a Wood Pewee as Western if it had a conspicuous yellow lower mandible.)*

Yellow-throated Warbler at Wyalusing Park

At about 7:45 a.m. on June 16, 1981, I had just finished scanning the mouth of the Wisconsin River from Sentinel Point at Wyalusing State Park. It was a very cold and windy morning and I was hurrying up the slope to my car when I was stopped dead in my tracks by a song coming from a large oak about 100 feet away. It was the complete, unmistakable song of a Yellow-throated Warbler. As I slowly approached the tree the bird sang the same song two or three more times. When I finally got underneath the tree, the bird had sung for the last time. Despite my best efforts I was unable to spot the bird; about a minute after the singing stopped I saw a small bird (white underneath), which may or may not have been the singer fly from the oak toward Point Lookout to the west. I wandered around the area for almost an hour but did not hear the song again. The song, high-pitched and warbler-like in inflection, could be transcribed (roughly) as a leisurely: tewa tewa tewa tewa tewa tewa tew-tew tweea, descending in pitch until the last syllable which rises. I have seen and heard quite a few Yellow-throated Warblers in Illinois, and I have always found this species to be one of the easier warblers to identify by voice, even at a distance. After I got home I played some recordings of this species which served to confirm my identification. The bird I heard sounded much like the bird on the Peterson record.

Janine Polk
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A Pair of Vilas County Pine Grosbeaks

Wandering through the bog on July 2, 1981, in search of boreal, bog species I heard the yellowlegs whistle of a Pine Grosbeak. Looking up I noted the gray female closely pursued by a highly-colored, pink male, the male calling. The call and flight were Pine Grosbeak, the longish tail was a bonus for added confirmation. The birds were too far and visible too briefly for detailed plumage notes. The male returned, still calling, about 15 minutes later.

Robert G. Spahn
716 High Tower Way
Webster, NY 14580

Fourth-of-July Sharp-tailed Sparrows at Powell Marsh

Returning to the parking lot after an unsuccessful Yellow Rail sortie among the hordes of mosquitos, we paused for a few more tries for the rails and heard Sharp-tailed Sparrows start calling. Having heard one last year and not placed it immediately, not expecting it, this year we were ready and recognition was immediate. The explosive hissing call is very distinctive. After listening a while, at least three separate calling birds could be isolated by timing of the calls, distance from the dike, and direction. One was audible from the first dike gate, nearest the parking lot. It is interesting that they weren't calling in the bright dusk as we left the car, but were in the dark at about 10:30. Last year calling was also heard at about 10:30 PM.

Robert G. Spahn
716 High Tower Way
Webster, NY 14580

Snowy Owl Observations

On June 5, 1981, we received a phone call from Mrs. John Hasserodt saying she had a large white bird sitting on a rock pile in her field. The bird had first been noticed sometime in early May as was very tame, allowing approach to within 20 feed without showing any alarm. When we arrived at the farm three miles north of Spencer nothing could be found except a male Harrier. After talking to Hasserodts for some time and no bird arriving at the rock pile, we started to drive down the road. At this point a white object was spotted in a field about 200 yards to the northeast of their house. We were stunned to see a Snowy Owl against the green grass of June. A look with the spotting scope revealed an apparently adult female, mostly white with scattered gray markings, indicating an older bird, even more surprising then a young bird would have been. The snowy then flew to a hi-line pole along the road. At this point and for several days after we made attempts to trap and band. The apparently well-fed owl made no attempt to take the live bait on any occasion. The owl flew well and was observed by others while taking prey (meadow voles) several times. Any injury that would have prevented migration was not apparent to us. The owl was last seen by us on Monday evening, June 15.

Ken and Jan Luepke
Route 2
Spencer, WI 54479

On June 17, 1981, I first saw the Snowy Owl sitting in an open field with low vegetation (approximately three inches) from a distance of 800 feet. Later, after the bird had flown to a fence post I was able to approach to within 15 feed and took two photos with a small camera. During the two hours of observation, the bird was alert, flew to five different perches. It could fly well, and it appeared to be in good condition. No spots or vermiculations in plumage could be seen, thus was thought to be a male.

Hal Roberts
530 Old Wausau Road
Stevens Point, WI 54481

A White Pelican at Crex Meadows

While driving west along Main Dike Road, Crex Meadows on June 17, 1981, I noticed a large white bird 300 yards south of the road in a marshy area. I immediately suspected it was a pelican because several people had reported seeing a pelican in the area the previous week. My suspicions were confirmed when I viewed the bird with 7x35 binoculars. The large yellow bill was in plain view as the bird loafed and preened itself. The bird was loafing at the edge of a small open water area. I watched the bird for several minutes during which time it made very few movements except for preening its breast feathers.

James E. Hoefler
Rt. 1, Box 379A
Grantsburg, WI 54840

Two Western Grebe Observations

We were near the old landfill on Wisconsin Point observing shorebirds on June 3, 1981, when I noticed some large birds about a half mile off shore. I turned the scope on them and watched for about a minute. The five birds were large grebes with long white necks and white cheeks, large flattish heads, black on top and running down the back of the neck to dark gray bodies. Just as I yelled "Western Grebes" to my husband, two of the birds got up and danced across the surface of the water as I have seen them do many times on film. During the "dance" which lasted about two seconds, they raised their bodies out of the water showing their white bellies, and ran across the water on their feet. We took the scope and hurried down the beach for a closer look and to share them with a group of people who had just walked out on the beach. We observed for almost half an hour. From this spot with the scope at 40 power the birds' yellow bills were visible. They often held their necks on an arched position as if looking into the water before diving. From the back they looked like cobra snakes ready to strike. I didn't see them fly and large, rolling swells breaking on the beach prevented any voice recognition.

Two of the birds appeared again on flat water about a city block off shore from the old landfill on June 26th where they remained all morning. I enjoyed a nice long look through the scope observing at this range even their red eyes. These were my first sightings of Western Grebes.

Robbye Johnson
2523 N. 22nd St.
Superior, WI 54880

I first noticed the birds while driving north on Phantom Lake Road (Crex Meadows Wildlife Area) on June 14, 1981. I stopped and viewed the bird with 7x35 binoculars. The bird was 75 to 100 yards distant swimming in the open water of a large flowage (Phantom Lake). There was a very distinct contrast in the colors of the long slender neck. The front portion appearing bright white and the back portion almost black. The neck appeared to be as long as the body. After watching for a few minutes, I set up a Bausch and Lomb 15x60 - 60 mm telescope and viewed at 40x. I could clearly see the red eyes and slender, yellow bill. Fifteen students from the Clam Lake Summer Camp and I viewed the bird for 45 minutes as it swam and dove in the extreme southern end of the flowage.

James E. Hoefler
Rt. 1, Box 397A
Grantsburg, WI 54840

Eared Grebes in Green Lake County

One day in late June, 1981, while moving about Lake Maria in a boat, I noticed a group of about ten grebes. I turned the boat toward the birds and moved closer to them. Jean Beau and I observed the grebes with binoculars. The most distinguishing features were a black neck and black crest. I had seen a Horned Grebe earlier that spring in Vilas County and these birds did not look the same. I observed them again over a period of about a week. At

one point I was able to photograph them using a Minolta camera with a 500 mm lens. I showed the slides to D. John Kaspar, Anita Carpenter and Tom Ziebell in December and they conformed that they were Eared Grebes.

Bruce A. Eichhorst
1516 Evans St.
Oshkosh, WI 54901

An Adult Female Black Scoter with Brood in Door County

On July 6, 1981, my wife and I were hiking along the shore of Lake Michigan, having started at the Newport Park picnic area. By the time we reached Duck Bay we had seen several broods of Red-breasted Mergansers. Just past the south point of Duck Bay we flushed another merganser brood from an area of wet, but not flooded, limestone pavement partially overgrown with sedges and forbs. As this brood swam out from shore, my attention was called by an intense, wheezy, nasal, all-on-one-pitch call repeated 6 or 7 times. This note turned out to orginiate from a dark female duck with five Class 1 downy ducklings in tow which moved out from the shoreline ahead of us toward the aforementioned merganser brood. The dark duck was in a threat posture with neck and head extended at water level and wing tips elevated slightly above her back. Upon sighting us, the female broke off her display at the mergansers and resumed a more normal alert posture in the water. Her brood broke away and swam back behind some shoreline vegetation out of sight. In the meantime, the merganser hen and brood continued swimming out into the lake. After about two minutes the dark female swam slowly toward where her brood was apparently hiding and called them out to her, although we heard no audible call note. She and her brood then turned and swam directly away from shore toward the open water of the lake. This was in the general direction of Spider Island. We watched them retreat from shore until they were at least 200 yards out. This was a chunky, all-dark, mallard-sized duck with no wing patches, head spots or bill markings. The cheeks and chin were noticeably lighter colored than the rest of the head, neck and body. The whole tone of the bird was unmarked black except for the gray part of the head. The ducklings were also dark gray and nearly black, but with lighter gray chins and throats contrasting with the dark body. They were much darker and less contrasty in pattern than the Red-breasted Merganser broods we were seeing. The mergansers nest regularly on Spider Island, which was about a mile away at this point of observation, but leave with their broods for the mainland immediately after hatching, apparently to minimize predation on ducklings by the Herring Gulls which also nest on the island. It would seem logical that the scoter would behave in a like manner. After returning home later on in this day, consultation with Peterson indicates the hen and brood in question had to be a Black Scoter because of the all-black color and lack of any contrasting marks.

James B. Hale
5401 Raymond Road
Madison, WI 53711

Blackpoll Warbler at Superior

On June 23, 1981, I was just finishing a breeding bird survey on Wisconsin Point when I heard a very high, thin warbler song - many separate notes, all monotone, much louder in the middle. I thought this was an odd time of year for a Blackpoll Warbler, but began searching the trees and brush immediately. I spotted a warbler quite high in the trees with a pure white belly and throat, grayish wings with wing bars, and black streaking on his sides. A black and white head was visible but the view was broken by leaves. I watched for about a minute. Finally he tipped his head showing pure white cheeks with a black whisker and solid black crown. I watched him for about five minutes. During this time his song was frequent and he gave me an excellent full view. This was indeed a very, very late male Blackpoll Warbler. I was back on the Point on June 26th but could not find him again.

Robbye Johnson
2523 N. 22nd St.
Superior, WI 54880

NOTICE

The Inland Bird Banding Association is proud to announce the Willetta Lueshen Student Membership Awards. These awards will consist of a one-year free membership in the Inland Bird Banding Association and will be awarded to several high school, undergraduate, or graduate students who have demonstrated a sincere interest in bird banding and who show potential for making contributions to our knowledge of North American birds through the use of bird banding.

The awards have been named for Willetta Lueshen in recognition of her continuing enthusiasm and zeal in recruting new members for the organization. Send nominations for student membership awards to:

Noel J. Cutright
Treasurer, Inland Bird Banding Assoc.
3352 Knollwood
West Bend, WI 53095

Inland Bird Banding Association is an organization for banders and others interested in the serious study of birds, their conservation and ecology. A referred quarterly scientific journal and quarterly newsletter are published. Articles and notes, not published in other journals, containing significant knowledge about bird banding or studies incorporating bird banding as part of project will be considered for publication in **North American Bird Bander;** authors should contact Dr. Jerome Jackson, Dept. Biological Sciences, P.O. Box Z, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

For more information about the Association or about bird banding, write to:

IBBA
Route 2, Box 26
Wisner, NE 68791

William S. Feeney
1905 - 1982

William S. Feeney, a charter member of WSO and one of Wisconsin's most capable naturalists, died at his home on May 25, 1982. His wife is now located at the Spooner Nursing Home (Spooner, WI 54801), where she receives special attention because she is technically blind.

Born June 17, 1905 in Chicago, Bill became active in Wisconsin as one of the state's first wildlife research project leaders. He was in charge of Deer Research when Wisconsin's Pittman-Robertson program was started under my supervision in 1940. While Aldo Leopold was leading research at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum, Bill was one of his assistants. Feeney became a member of the Kumlien Bird Club in April 1939 and he presented his movie on "Hawks, Eagles and Falcons of Wisconsin" at the initial WSO meeting at Madison, May 7, 1939 in Kennedy Manor. He continued with unusual reports like a nesting Cooper's Hawk at the U.W. Arboretum. During his years in Wisconsin, Feeney had a Falconry Permit and his records reflect this continued interest in birds of prey and game birds.

One of his outstanding accomplishments was his capture by hand snare in the Argonne Forest spruce-cedar swamp (Forest County) of two pair of Spruce Grouse in my presence on March 21, 1941. The birds were given to Bert Barger of the State Experimental Game and Fur Farm, who was able to breed them and raise one of the chicks for 16 days and to successfully keep these birds in captivity. This could be accomplished again with birds taken in Canada if need be. Other wildlife researchers who began their work for Wisconsin at this early date were: Fred Zimmerman on waterfowl, Wallace Grange on grouse, Irven O. Buss on pheasants, and Dr. G.B. Rossbach on food analysis.

Burton L. Dahlberg of Ladysmith, who wrote "The White-tailed Deer in Wisconsin" (WCD-1956) **Tech. Wildlife Bull. No. 14,** paid special tribute in acknowledgement to William S. Feeney, who initiated the Deer Research Project in 1940 and continued through 1947 "for much valuable field experience, training, and especially for the new avenues of thought that many hours of association brought forth."

Walter E. Scott

Letter to the Editor

CORRECTION

Dear Dr. Kemper:

Please note that the report of Bell's Vireo, August 7, 1981 **Burnett Co.** (Autumn Field Notes Section, Pass. Pig. Vol. 43, No. 4) actually occurred in wet shrub habitat near the confluence of the Trempealeau and Mississippi Rivers on the **Trempealeau-Buffalo County Line.** Two birds were present, one of which was singing.

Thank you,
Eric Epstein
Route 2, Box 100
Norwalk, WI 54648

Minutes of Annual Meeting
May 23, 1981

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. at Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin. Sixty-three people were in attendance.

The minutes of the 1980 annual meeting which had been printed in the **Passenger Pigeon** were accepted.

The treasurer's report was also accepted.

Committee Reports

Membership Chairman Alex Kailing reported that we now have 1,092 members, including seven honorary and 48 exchange, both of which are non-paying.

Education. Steve Lang reported that 75 to 80 slide-cassette sets of Wisconsin Birds have been sold. Laura Erickson is working on a second script for the slides - one for grade school children.

WSO Lands. Chuck Gilmore reported that our building and grounds at Honey Creek are in good shape. A good work weekend recently produced new fencing and other needed repairs.

Field Trips. Ed Peartree said that over 80 people attended the May Walk-up-the-Valley at Honey Creek and he reminded the members about the June 18-20 summer camp out.

Publicity. Penny Theissen sent a report stating that 247 letters had been sent notifying newspapers and nature centers about WSO field trips and the convention. She said too that she cannot continue as publicity chairman and asked the board to find a replacement for her.

Steenbock Committee: Fran Hamerstrom sent a written report stating that the Steenbock Scholarship winner was Jamie Tomasek. Runners up were Wendell Johnson and John Bielefelt.

Supply Department: Chuck Gilmore's financial report was included with the treasurer's report. Chuck announced that Ralph Buckstaff left WSO a collection of books valued at $650.00. These are to be sold with WSO members given first choice.

Passenger Pigeon Editor, Charles Kemper, announced that Don Tiede will compile an index of the **Passenger Pigeon** printed since the last index. Ken Lange was appointed the new Winter Field notes editor.

Badger Birder. Mary Donald has produced ten issues this past year. She asked that local bird clubs send her news of their clubs and that clubs which publish a newsletter include her on their mailing list. There was a request from the floor that sometime an index of local bird clubs in the state be published and be mailed out with the **Birder.**

Old Business: None

New Business:
Harold Mathiak said that he is glad that the grackle is off the protected list.

Sam Robbins reported that he now has 15 years data from the Breeding Bird Survey. He is hoping to get all 70 Transects run this year. Sam explained the procedure for taking the survey thanking those that participated and stated that Wisconsin does much better than most states.

Nominating Committee Chairman, Alex Kailing, put forth the following slate of officers in nomination:

President - Tom Erdman, Green Bay
President-Elect - Dick Verch, Ashland
Treasurer - Linda Safir, Brookfield
Secretary - Carl Hayssen, North Lake
Editor - Charles Kemper, Chippewa Falls

There being no nominations from the floor, the slate was unanimously elected.

There followed an introduction of the officers, after which our new president greeted the membership. And an applause of thanks was given our retiring president, Chuck Gilmore.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carl G. Hayssen

Special thanks are due Linda Safir, who in the absence of the secretary, took notes of the meeting from which these minutes were written.

1982 WSO Convention Membership Report
La Crosse, WI, May 8, 1982

I. Membership status:
All members who have not paid 1982 dues as of 5/1/82 have been dropped. (two renewal notices were sent - Jan. & March) If delinquent dues are paid by 7/1/82 all publications missed will be sent. After 7/1/82 payment will be considered as a new membership and any missed publications will not be sent unless paid for.

Current Membership as of 5/1/82

Senior	40
Regular	528
Family	289
Sustaining	34
1/4 Life	7 - 1 new in 1982
Life	48 - 1 new in 1982
Library	62 - none new since 1981
Honorary	7 - none new since 1974
Patron	10 - none new since 1974
Exchange	51 - 2 new in 1982
Total	1076(Down approximately 20 from previous years)

Non Renewed Members as of 5/1/82

Deceased	3		
Library	4		
Non Renewed	136	Members since 1981	36
		1980	18
		76-79	32
		70-75	27
		66-69	9
		60-65	5
		50-59	4
		1948	2

II Membership Postage Increase (1981 to 1982)

	1981	1982
A. Dues Notices 1150/year	206	230
B. New Member Mailing 107/year	32	59
C. 3rd Class Permit (Birder)	40	40
D. Birder Mailing 10500/year	381	620
E. Address Corrections 45/year	24	36
F. Pigeon Mailing 4500/year	270	422
G. Misc. Mailing	105	140
Total per year	$1058	$1547
Cost per Member per year	$0.99	$1.45

Submitted by A. Kailing

VICE PRESIDENT:
My major efforts have involved convention planning. The 1983 convention will be in Door County (May 20, 21, and 22). The site of the 1984 convention has not been determined at this time. I am still making inquiries and am open to suggestions.

Dick Verch

CONSERVATION:
The WSO Conservation Committee actively supported the following legislative items on the national and/or state level by correspondence, telephone calls, and in some instances personal appearances at public hearings and visits to legislators:

- National nongame wildlife and endangered species legislation,
- Retention of Wildlife and Fisheries Coop Units in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service budget.
- Income "tax checkoff" legislation for nongame in Wisconsin,
- Wiscosin wetland legislation,
- Captive wildlife legislation in Wisconsin,
- Supported the National Wildlife Disease Laboratory in Madison.
- Responded to Wisconsin DNR questionnaire on proposed 1982 Rule changes.

Ray Anderson

FILE KEEPER:
Summer season bird records (by species and county), through 1980, have been computerized, printed, and stored at the College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point.

Ray Anderson

STEENBOCK COMMITTEE:
This committee held a special meeting on April 8 and after much deliberation selected the following for awards or scholarships:

- Systematics and evolution of the cranes -- James Ingold
  STEENBOCK AWARD $100.00
- Banding as an educational tool at nature centers -- Christine Lindemann
  STEENBOCK AWARD $200.00
- Food habit study of the Northern Harrier -- Greg Sulik
  STEENBOCK AWARD $200.00
- An evaluation of duck nesting in switchgrass on the Eldorado Wildlife Area -- Bruce Eichhorst, WSO SCHOLARSHIP $200.00
- Goshawk population study in NE Wisconsin -- Tom Erdman
  IVY BALSOM SCHOLARSHIP $200.00

Frances Hamerstrom

LANDS COMMITTEE:
Following is a short report on behalf of the Lands Committee:

- Research tax status (property tax) for WSO board,
- Rebuilt major stretches of fence at Honey Creek.
- Had volunteers complete more of the stonework at the base of the lodge at Honey Creek

We still need to post signs "Hike at your own risk", rebuild additional fence and complete the stonework on the lodge.

Jim Severance

RECORDS COMMITTEE:
The committee voted on 53 rare bird reports during the past year. About 60% of the records were accepted, and a few await the annual meeting of the committee for a final decision. Persons who had their sightings rejected were sent, or will be sent, copies of the committee member's reasons for rejection. Notices were not sent to persons whose records were accepted, since it was assumed that they would be published in the **Passenger Pigeon.**

In January, Bill Foster, an original committee member, replaced Daryl Tessen on the committee. One committee member's term expires in July of each year as follows: Hilsenhoff 1982, Hickey 1983, Robbins 1984, Bielefeldt 1985, and Foster 1986. It is assumed that committee members may serve more than one 5-year term if they are willing to do so. Fred Lesher has agreed to replace Bill Hilsenhoff in July of 1982.

The process of reviewing reports is improving, but a better system of communicaton among committee members would be desirable. The committee was unable to meet last summer, but an annual meeting is essential and we will make every effort to arrange a meeting for early this summer. More frequent meetings of the committee would be desirable, but are probably not necessary or possible. The unavailability of photographs for circulation to committee members at the time the reports are reviewed has delayed many decisions. Even more frustrating has been the reluctance of some observers to supply adequate documentation for rarities. The committee has been especially unhappy with observers who find a rarity and make no effort to find other observers who would be able to verify their identifications.

William Hilsenhoff

Wis. Society for Ornithology -- Treasurer's Report
May 8, 1982

Below is a summary of the Society's finances for 1981. Following this is a report for 1982 so far.

Post Closing Trial Balance, Jan. 1, 1982 (permanent asset accounts).

Gen. Sav. (Passbook)	$15,764.13		
Gen. Sav. (certif. of dep.)	10,000.00		
Steenbock Sav. (passbook)	153.91		
Steenbock certificate acct.	5,927.47		
Endowment certificate acct.	18,387.72		
Scholarship cerfit. acct.	5,000.00		
Books & Supplies Inventory	8,638.55	Endowment	$19,004.80
Cox Mem. Bldg. (materials	8,127.88		
Equipment	1,459.63		
Land (purchase value)	22,346.52	Net Worth	76,801.01
	$95,805.81		$95,805.81

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS - summary of transactions, 1981:

Receipts:		
Sale of slide programs	$ 1,215.00	
Sale of Bird Haunts & supplements	799.88	
Life memberships	300.00	
Memorials	160.00	
Keland gift	500.00	
Mary Donald "can money"	50.00	
Sale of Buckstaff books	839.25	
Sale of Paulsen print	30.00	
Wis. River Power Co. grant (specific)	1,500.00	
Bonus for opening new certif. acct.	20.00	
Prairie Chicken land lease - from Wis.	264.68	
Gen. Sav. - passbook interest	608.37	
Gen. Sav. C.D. interest	1,459.08	
Steenbock-passbook interest	8.35	Total interest on
Endowment certificate interest	2,106.10	savings: $5,488.10
Scholarship fund certificate interest	618.61	
Steenbock certificate interest	687.59	
TOTAL	11,166.91	
Disbursements:		
Prairie Chicken Land Tax	264.68	
To Follen for Petenwell work (WRPC $)	1,500.00	
Publications Chrmn. expenses	99.90	
Scholarships	600.00	
Project Loon Watch contribution	100.00	
TOTAL	$2,564.58	

INCOME STATEMENT (checking acct.)

Income:		Expenses:	
Checking acct. int.	80.91		
Cox bldg. reserve	29.00	(Operating expenses, such as Passenger	
Educ. comm. reserve (from sav.)	533.38	Pigeon, membership, insurance, land tax,	
Membership	8,836.00	postage)	
Dividends	396.00	Total:	$9,710.38
		checkbook final:	155.91
TOTAL	$9,875.29	TOTAL	$9,875.29

TRIAL BALANCE, APRIL 30, 1982

Cash on hand (checking)	918.39	Checking acct. int.	10.12
Gen. Sav. - passbook	14,151.59		
Steenbock Sav. certificate	5,764.00		
Gen. Sav. certif. of dep.	10,000.00	Educ. comm. reserve	876.60
Endowment fund certif. acct.	18,947.61		
Scholarship fund cerfit. acct.	5,000.00		
Books & Supplies inventory	8,638.55	Membership income	7,183.60
Equipment	1,459.63		
Land	22,346.52		
Cos Mem. Bldg.	8,127.88	Dividends	99.00

Expenses:			
Badger Birder	201.63		
Cox Bldg. (elec.)	20.19	Endowment Fund	19,564.69
Honey Creek (Taxes)	1,575.16		
Education committee	185.06		
Insurance: fire (on books)	95.00		
Insurance: liability (on lands)	223.00		
Membership Chairman	761.80	Net Worth	74,871.09
Miscellaneous	49.00		
Passenger Pigeon (2 issues)	4,120.09		
Treasurer	20.00		
TOTAL	$102,605.10	TOTAL	$102,605.10

INCOME STATEMENT (CHECKBOOK)

Income:		Expenses:	
Checking acct. interest	$ 10.12		
Educ. Comm. Reserve (from sav.)	876.60		
Membership	7,183.60	(listed above)	
Dividends	99.00	Total:	$7,250.93
		Bal. in checkbook	918.39
TOTAL:	$8,169.32	TOTAL	$8,169.32

SAVINGS ACCOUNT TRANSACTIONS:

Receipts:		Disbursements:	
Interest - certif. of dep.	328.12	To bookstore	550.00
Gen. Sav. interest	174.70	Convention '82	300.00
Steenbock passbook interest	2.13	Honey Creek fencing	50.00
Steenbock certif. interest	180.49	Ed. Comm. (to cash)	876.60
Endowment certif. interest	559.89	WSO scholarship	200.00
Sale of slides	235.00	Steenbock scholarship	500.00
Don Follen contribution	400.00	Follen Research	400.00

EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S SLIDE/CASSETTE PROGRAM

Total costs so far:	$3,700.74	Total sales rec'd (by treasurer)	$3,085.50

Respectfully submitted:

Linda Safir, Treasurer

Wisconsin Society for Ornithology
Book Store Report for 1981

$ 8,638.55	Inventory Jan. 1, 1981	
5,983.67	Sales	
178.62	Accounts Receivable	
$14,800.84		
Expenses		
$ 2,983.70	Books purchased	
247.35	Postage and Stamps	
17.27	Refunds	
363.92	Printing & Supplies	
	The following amounts were turned over to the Treasurer	
389.00	Bird Haunts and Supplements	5/30/81
759.25	Buckstaff Books	5/30/81
120.00	Slides and Casettes	5/30/81
410.00	Bird Haunts & Supplements	12/31/81
80.00	Buckstaff Books	12/31/81
30.00	Paulson Prints	12/31/81
13.50	Lukes Prints	12/31/81
550.00	Balance in checking	12/31/81
$ 5,964.67		

Inventory Dec. 31/81 $7,214.26

A total of $1,802.63 was turned over to the WSO treasurer of which $839.25 was for the Buckstaff books.

Chuck Gilmore

W.S.O. OFFICERS & COMMITTEES — 1982-1983

President: Dick Verch,*
Biology Dept. Northland College, Ashland, WI 54806 (715—682-4531, Ext. 335)
(715—682-5453)

Vice President: Fred Lesher,*
English Dept. U.W.-LaCrosse, LaCrosse, WI 54601 (608—788-1149)

Secretary: Carl G. Hayssen, Jr.,*
6917 No. Hy. 83, Hartland, WI 53029 (Home 414—966-2839)
(Office 414—261-3671)

Treasurer: Linda L. Safir,*
18925 Lothmoor Dr. Lower, Brookfield, WI 53005 (414—782-0805)

Membership: Alex F. Kailing*,
W. 330 N. 8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029 (414—966-1072)

Publications and Awards: Howard Young*,
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Conservation: Ray Anderson,*
College of Natural Resources, Univ. of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, WI 54481
(Home 715—824-2866) (Office 715—346-3665)

Education and Loan of Slides: Stephen J. Lang*
1661 Delaware Blvd., Madison, WI 53704 (608—249-5684)

W.S.O. Lands: Gordon F. Cox
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Legal Counsel: Robert W. Lutz,*
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Research: Stan Temple,*
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Supply Department Manager: Chuck Gilmore,*
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