



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The passenger pigeon. Vol. 59, No. 4 Winter 1997

Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Winter 1997

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

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

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

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



T H E *PASSENGER* *PIGEON*

Vol. 59 No. 4

Winter 1997

JOURNAL OF THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY



**T
H
E** **PASSENGER**
PIGEON Vol. 59 No. 4
Winter 1997

EDITOR

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

ASSOCIATE EDITOR (Field Notes)

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

ASSISTANT EDITOR (Art)

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

FIELD-NOTE COMPILER (Spring)

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

FIELD-NOTE COMPILER (Summer)

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

FIELD-NOTE COMPILER (Autumn)

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

FIELD-NOTE COMPILER (Winter)

Kenneth I. Lange
1530 East Street
Baraboo, WI 53913
(608-356-3658)

The *Passenger Pigeon* (ISSN 0031-2703) is published quarterly (Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter) by The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, W330 N8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029. Subscription rates are: Individual, \$20 per year; Family, \$25 per year; Sustaining, \$50 per year; Library, \$18 per year; Life (Single), \$400; Life (Couple), \$500; and Patron, \$750. Back issues may be obtained for \$5.00 each. Send back issue and change of address requests to Memberships, W330 N8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029.

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

Copyright© 1997 by The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc. Except for purposes of review, material contained herein may not be reproduced without written consent.

Let's Give Them a Chance

I am very fortunate. I grew up on a wildlife refuge known as Horicon Marsh. Well not literally, but we only lived two miles away in the City of Waupun. There was a frequent ritual: Gas only cost \$.13 cents per gallon back in the 50's so Sunday drives were a way of life for many folks. Mom and Dad would pack us into the Chevy and head out across the marsh. In those days the old dike road was open to vehicular traffic and the public was welcome. Visitors were warned to "proceed at your own risk" as they travelled east-west on a pothole ridden gravel double track across the marsh.

Dad never failed to successfully negotiate this route in our search for the abundant animal life that was prevalent on the marsh. He crept up on every pond tucked along the dike and together we predicted what waterfowl might be waiting around the next clump of emergent vegetation. I can still remember him periodically stopping the car, jumping out and returning with critters in hand for all to see. Late spring or early summer were the best times for this activity. The land was rejuvenated and so was the animal supply.

One of my most vivid memories is when he returned with a couple of chicks he called rice hens. Black fluffy down covered their bodies. Their faces or beaks were bright red and the eyebrows were bluish . . . almost clown-like. To this day I don't know if they were American coots or common moorhens; it really doesn't matter. It was my introduction to ornithology and I was hooked for life.

I was most fortunate to have parents who enjoyed birds and birding before it was a "sport." My grandparents were equally supportive. When I visited them in Berlin, Wis., they would take me to the White River Marsh with the hopes of spotting birds in this Green Lake County habitat. I was constantly surrounded by many who encouraged me to enjoy birds.

But this column isn't intended to be about me, my family or the Horicon Marsh. It's about you and what you can do for the future of ornithology.

Today, too few youngsters are treated to the wealth of birdlife in our state. The pace of life in the 90's has taken its toll on leisure time. Kids are growing up with parents who haven't realized that time spent in the field may be more important than money in the bank, the square footage of a house or a sport utility vehicle in the garage.

Some experts argue that television, computers and sports have consumed youngsters who no longer consider nature study fun. I don't believe it. These kids love getting out. The reality is they just aren't offered many opportunities. They are growing up in homes where the parents just don't have enough time, expertise or both to devote to weekly or monthly birdwatching sessions.

In my twenty-five plus years of teaching kids about birds, I have always been rewarded with their infectious desire to discover and an uninhibited jubilation

after spotting an unanticipated species. Each year, I am invited to McKinley Elementary School in Appleton, Wis. to help the students celebrate Earth Week. I choose to lead fifth and sixth graders on morning and afternoon urban bird walks. During our two hour classes, the first thing we learn is to properly adjust binoculars for individual eyes.

We then strike out from the school yard to wander along busy streets through neighborhoods familiar to these kids. We even visit some of their homes to check backyard trees or feeders. Bird hike participants who spot a "cool" or "awesome" bird often do high fives and upon returning to school, immediately run to share results with their teachers. Don't tell me kids don't enjoy birdwatching . . . they just need a chance to get out.

Here is where you come in. If you have children or grandchildren, take them into the field as often as you can. If you don't have relatives with which to share your knowledge and enthusiasm, ask the parents of a child in the neighborhood who might enjoy your hobby and company.

Bird clubs can sponsor a monthly bird walk just for kids or for kids and their parents. Host these walks throughout the year so momentum isn't lost over periods of idle time. These gatherings may not be well attended at first but don't be surprised when one leader can no longer handle the number of kids showing up for the outing. Clubs should consider donating binoculars to area schools so students have easy access to the basic equipment. Set up a feeding station at a school and teach the kids how to maintain it. Suggest they can sell cookies, tee shirts or aluminum cans to pay for seed.

If you are a teacher, incorporate birding activities into your curriculum. Remember, cutting out paper bird silhouettes or watching a video doesn't hold a candle to getting out with binoculars. I know of one elementary school Principal who holds a weekly noon hour bird walk for interested students. Leave your classroom behind and venture beyond the playground. The kids will respond favorably and make your extra effort with them worth every. You can also appeal to your local bird club for a donation of binoculars for use at school. Field guides should be next on your wish list.

WSO has established the Fledgling Fund to provide funds for student scholarships to camps, conventions and other bird related activities. Our Youth Education Coordinator, Steve Kupcho, will be happy to supply teachers with the WSO Grant Application. In addition, he has vast experience teaching kids about birds and can supply birding activities that will be effective with the children in your lives. (Steve's address appears inside the back cover of this *Pigeon*.)

Laura Erickson, WSO's spring seasonal compiler, is another expert to contact when looking for direction. Her book *Sharing the Wonder of Birds With Kids* is the perfect resource for your use. (Contact Alex Kailing, our membership chair to obtain Laura's address.)

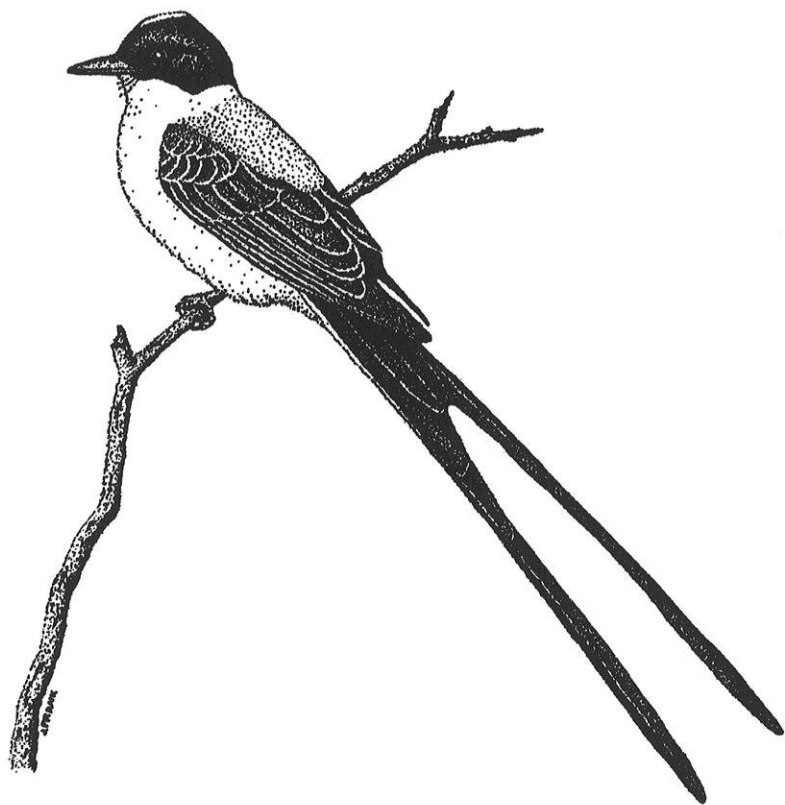
Not too long ago, I invited Pete Dunne, Director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, to visit Appleton, Wis. Pete and his presentation were introduced by Andy Kimball, a bird-crazed twelve year old who eloquently told how he got his start in birdwatching. His perfectly mastered story brought tears of joy to my eyes. He challenged the audience to do for other youngsters what his parents,

grandparents, relatives, friends and Pete Dunne had done to foster his love for birds.

We need more young birders like Andy . . . hundreds and hundreds more. They are the future of WSO and birding as you and I know it. WSO can encourage the study of birds but you are the key to our plan. Take a kid birding. You will find that each and every species, even the common ones, take on new meaning when a budding birder sees them for the first time.

A handwritten signature in black ink. The first part is a stylized 'Jim' with a long horizontal underline. The second part is 'ANDERSON' in all caps, written in a bold, slightly irregular, blocky font.

President



Scissor-tail Flycatcher *by Jim Frank*

Relationship of Birds to Various Age Aspen Stands

We studied bird species diversity and numbers of breeding birds, post-breeding birds, and winter birds relative to density and structure of vegetation in ground layer, shrub layer, and canopy of 8 aspen stands aged 1 to 45 years. Bird species diversity correlated with number of bird species/ha, percent cover of shrub layer, and average height of shrub layer. Bird species diversity was high in 28- and 45-year aspen stands. In general, 1-year, 2-year, 28-year, and 45-year stands had highest numbers of breeding birds/ha with about the same density. But 1-year and 2-year stands had fewer species, with 1 dominant species (Song Sparrow) comprising about half of the breeders. Continued use of 4- to 12-ha shearings or commercial clearcut harvests of aspen on a 40- to 60-year rotation should accomplish management goals for most game and non-game wildlife associated with edge effect.

by Jerry H. Smith and Neil F. Payne

Quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) has the widest natural range of all North American tree species (Harlow et al. 1979). Most habitat management is directed toward maintaining the quaking aspen and bigtooth aspen (*P. grandidentata*) type through shearcutting and commercial clearcutting, usually on a 40- to 60-year rotation. The importance of aspen has been recognized for white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), moose (*Alces*

alces), beaver (*Castor canadensis*), snowshoe hares (*Lepus americanus*), ruffed grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*), woodcock (*Philohela minor*), songbirds, and associated predators. Back (1979), DeByle (1981), Scott and Crouch (1988), Yahner (1991), and Probst et al. (1992) determined bird species diversity and numbers of breeding birds and winter birds in various age aspen stands without measuring vegetation density. Fouchi and Gullion (1984) compared

numbers of breeding birds with vegetation density and plot size in 2- to 8-year-old aspen and mature aspen (control). Probst et al. (1992) compared numbers of breeding birds with various heights of aspen stands. Westworth and Telfer (1993) compared summer and winter bird populations with habitat structure in 5 age classes of aspen in Alberta. Steffen (1985) compared bird species diversity of breeding birds and postbreeding birds to habitat structure of 6 age classes of northern hardwoods in Wisconsin. We report the relationship of bird species diversity, and numbers of breeding birds, postbreeding birds, and winter birds with density and structure of vegetation in the ground layer, shrub layer, and canopy of 8 aspen stands aged 1–45 years.

STUDY AREA

Study areas were located on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Sandhill Wildlife Area and Wood County Public Hunting Grounds in southwestern Wood County in central Wisconsin. Aspen, lowland brush, and marsh sedge (*Carex* spp.) were the predominant vegetation types (Kubisiak 1985). Isolated red pine (*Pinus resinosa*), white pine (*P. strobus*), and jack pine (*P. banksiana*), with scattered Hill's oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*) and white oak (*Q. alba*), cover the few low ridges.

METHODS

From reconnaissance maps we identified 8 aspen stands of 2.4–7.3 ha aged 1 year, 2 years, 8 years, 18 years, 28 years, 45 years, 45-year offsite, and 45-year oak-aspen. We analyzed vegetation according to Ohmann and Ream

(1971). We sampled trees (>10 cm dbh) and saplings (2.5–10 cm dbh) by the point-center quarter method (Cottam and Curtis 1956). We sampled shrubs >0.3 m high by recording the number of each species in a milacre plot. We measured ground cover by a 1-m² quadrat (Oosting 1958). We visually estimated the percent ground cover each species occupied within the quadrat. We measured the percent shrub cover and average height of the shrub layer with a density board (de Vos and Mosby 1970).

We used spot-mapping or singing male technique (Williams 1936, International Bird Census Committee 1970) for breeding bird censuses in 1975 and 1976. Although 3 repetitions should account for ≥90% of breeding birds on an area (Kendeigh 1944, Enemar 1959), we made 5 repetitions in 1975 and 8 in 1976 to compensate for the delayed return of some species to their breeding grounds due to cold weather in May. We supplemented estimates with mistnetting in each stand, beginning mid-May. We placed nets 12 m long along transect lines and checked for 5 hours after sunrise for 3 days in 1975 and 1976 in each stand. We counted a male and a female of a species as a breeding pair; we calculated density as with the spot-mapping method. Thus, we had 2 sets of data in each of the 8 stands from 1975 and 1976. We used the Shannon-Weaver Function (MacArthur and MacArthur 1961, Karr 1968). To calculate bird species diversity from the breeding bird census results for each type and year. We used linear regression to compare bird species diversity with various habitat variables. We determined relative abundance (Kendeigh 1944) for postbreeding and winter populations

by spending 1 hr/mo in each of the 8 stands during early morning and recording species, numbers of individuals, time, and weather conditions for 2 mo during postbreeding and 4 mo during winter.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Breeding Birds—Bird species diversity range was 1.27–2.36 for 1975 and 1.19–2.35 for 1976 (Table 1). Bird species diversity correlated with percent cover of shrub layer ($P > 0.01$, $r = 0.64$, $n = 8$), and average height of shrub layer ($P > 0.01$, $r = 0.74$, $n = 8$). Percent cover and average height of shrub layer also correlated ($P > 0.01$, $r = 0.94$, $n = 8$).

Immediately after clearcutting aspen and for 4–6 years thereafter, bird species composition changed, as Steffen (1985) found. With removal of trees, birds which frequent more open habitats were present in higher numbers (Table 2), as Back (1979) and Westworth and Telfer (1993) reported. High bird species diversity occurred in the 28- and 45-year aspen stands. In Alberta bird species diversity and density were highest in 14-year-old stands [Westworth and Telfer (1993)]. We found little variation in density by age of stand, as did Scott and Crouch (1988) in 6- to 10-year-old aspen. Yahner (1991) found higher densities of breeding birds in 6- to 8-year-old aspen than in younger or older aspen in Pennsylvania.

Good habitat diversity in all 3 vegetative layers of 28- and 45-year aspen stands probably was the main attractor to birds. Succession was pre-climax, and good understory cover, predominantly beaked hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*) in the shrub layer, along with ov-

erstory trees, made these stands excellent habitat for forest-dwelling species of birds. Species presence of birds overlapped in the 3 vegetative layers in these 2 age classes. Veerys (*Hylocichla fuscescens*), Gray Catbirds (*Dumetilla carolinensis*), Ovenbirds (*Seiurus aurocapillus*), Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*), and American Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) were the main species in upland areas. In lower areas, Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia*) and Least Flycatchers (*Empidonax minimus*) appeared most common.

In the intermediate age habitat type, the understory was undeveloped because the canopy was closed. Shrub layer development was <50% and the understory sparse. Blackberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*), dewberry (*R. flagellaris*), and meadowsweet (*Spiraea alba*) occurred under open canopy. Black cherry (*Prunus serotina*) and some Hill's oak were found in the understory under closed canopy. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Veerys used closed canopy as singing areas. Veerys appeared to be the most common species in these age classes. Song Sparrows and catbirds frequented the areas where shrub cover was present.

Aspen regeneration was the principle vegetative cover in the youngest age classes and was considered part of the shrub layer. Aspen, shrubs, and remaining slash piles improved habitat for breeding birds. Remaining trees and shrubs were important as singing perches during territorial display, dead snags as nesting and feeding areas for woodpeckers, and grassy areas (logging trails) as feeding areas for species from adjacent woodlands, such as robin, Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) and Veery.

Habitat structure is the main factor

Table 1. Vegetation characteristics and songbirds within various age aspen stands in central Wisconsin, 1975 and 1976.

Age (yrs)	Stand	Shrub layer				Stems/ha				Groundlayer		Breeding bird pairs/ha		Bird sp. diversity		Birds observed			
		Cover		Height		No.	Tree		Shrub	% cover	No. sp.	1976	1975	1975	1976	Postbreeding		Winter	
		%	SD	m	SD	sp.		sp.								No./ha	Sp./ha	No./ha	Sp./ha
0-1		35	19	2.2	0.48	20	59	57	103,050	115	32	13.0	19.0	1.49	1.19	1.6	0.9	0.5	0.2
2-3		53	17	2.6	0.38	18	82	79	82,800	145	35	18.0	18.0	1.93	1.66	2.9	1.7	1.0	0.3
8-9		50	9	2.2	0.40	17	279	1747	71,650	65	21	9.5	9.5	1.94	1.67	3.9	2.7	1.8	0.7
18-19		40	24	2.0	0.73	19	363	1947	74,500	108	28	7.0	9.0	1.27	1.43	7.1	3.5	2.2	0.8
28-29		52	20	2.6	0.35	15	939	783	62,650	81	25	17.0	19.0	2.36	2.21	5.0	2.2	1.8	0.8
45-46		65	26	2.9	0.20	16	927	460	57,450	48	21	13.5	18.0	2.11	2.35	2.3	1.4	1.0	0.6
45-46 ^c		32	29	1.9	0.82	14	699	264	61,750	66	17	9.0	12.0	1.73	1.82	2.9	1.6	1.6	0.5
45-46 ^d		27	18	1.7	0.67	8	252	185	96,000	86	19	11.5	10.5	1.36	1.33	2.7	1.7	0.8	0.7

^aTrees were > 10 cm dbh, saplings 2.5-10 cm dbh.^bGround cover can exceed 100% because species overlapped.^cMixed oak-aspen.^dOffsite aspen.

Table 2. Number of pairs of breeding birds/ha from spot mapping in various aged aspen stands in central Wisconsin, 1975 and 1976.

Species	Stand age (years)															
	0-1		2-3		8-9		18-19		28-29		45-46		45-46		45-46	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
American Goldfinch	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
American Redstart	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black-and-white Warbler	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black-billed Cuckoo	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black-capped Chickadee	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	+	1.0	2.0	+	0.0	1.0
Blue Jay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	+	+	+	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Brown Creeper	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brown Thrasher	1.5	0.0	+	+	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brown-winged Cowbird	0.5	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chestnut-sided Warbler	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chipping Sparrow	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Northern Flicker	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Common Yellowthroat	0.0	4.0	2.5	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	2.0
Downy Woodpecker	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0
Eastern Bluebird	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eastern Kingbird	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eastern Wood-Pewee	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Golden-winged Warbler	0.0	+	1.0	+	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gray Catbird	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	3.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	+	1.0
Great-crested Flycatcher	+	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	1.0	0.0	+	0.0	1.0	0.0
Green Heron	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hairy Woodpecker	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hermit Thrush	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
House Wren	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	+
Indigo Bunting	0.0	+	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Least Flycatcher	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	3.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mourning Warbler	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Northern Oriole	+	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	1.0	+
Northern Waterthrush	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ovenbird	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
Red-eyed Vireo	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	+	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0
American Robin	+	0.0	+	+	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.5	1.0	+	1.0	0.0	+
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	+	1.0	1.0	2.0	+	1.0	1.0	+	0.0	+
Ruffed Grouse	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eastern Towhee	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Scarlet Tanager	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	+	1.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
Song Sparrow	7.0	11.0	7.0	8.0	3.0	+	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.5
Veery	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	4.0	+	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	+
Whip-poor-will	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	+	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
White-breasted Nuthatch	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	+	+	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
American Woodcock	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yellow Warbler	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	+	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	13.0	19.0	18.0	18.0	9.5	9.5	7.0	9.0	17.0	19.0	13.5	18.0	9.0	12.0	11.5	10.5

^aMixed oak-aspen.
^bOffsite aspen.
+ = species observed, breeding status undetermined.

influencing bird diversity (MacArthur and MacArthur 1961, Hooper et al. 1973, Willson 1974, Anderson 1979, DesGranges 1980, Westworth and Telfer 1993). Similarly in our study, where the percent cover and average height

of the shrub layer were high, bird species diversity also was high. Fouchi and Gullion (1984) reported similar results for the predominantly early aged stands they studied. In Alberta, 3 habitat components explained 83% of the

variance in bird use: canopy cover, occurrence of conifers, and shrub density (Westworth and Telfer 1993). Species diversity also is related to size of aspen area censused, with smaller areas having fewer birds (Fouchi and Gullion 1984, Johns 1993), and to insect abundance for food and *Fomes* fungus infection of aspen for nestholes (Winternitz 1980).

All 8 stands combined had 36 species of breeding birds present each year (Table 2). In 1975, number of pairs/ha ranged from 7.0 in the 18-year stand to 18.0 in the 2-year stand; in 1976 the range was 9.0 in the 18-year stand to 19.0 in the 0–1-year and 28-year stands (Table 1). The 1-year, 2-year, 28-year, and 45-year stands had high numbers of breeding birds/ha with about the same density. But 1-year and 2-year stands had fewer species, with 1 dominant species (Song Sparrow) comprising 45% (14) of the breeders in 1975 and 51% (19) in 1976. We mistnetted and banded 230 birds in 1975 and 177 in 1976—a 23% decrease; we recaptured 8% in 1976. In general, the number of birds mistnetted/stand supported the spot-mapping results.

Postbreeding Birds—Numbers/ha and species/ha of birds observed/month throughout the post-breeding period (August and September) were low in the 1-year stand and high in the 18-year stand (Table 1, 3). During the post-breeding period, we observed 32 species; Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*) and Black-capped Chickadees (*Parus atricapillus*) seemed most common. Most species observed were transients resting and foraging during migration.

Winter Birds—Numbers/ha and species/ha of birds observed during winter (November to March) were low in

the 1-year stand and high in the 18-year stand (Tables 1, 3). In Alberta, the greatest winter bird density was in 30-year-old aspen (Westworth and Telfer 1993). Our relative abundance was mainly from several common winter residents, including Blue Jays, White-breasted Nuthatches (*Sitta carolinensis*), Hairy Woodpeckers (*Dendrocopos villosus*), and Downy Woodpeckers (*D. pubescens*), or from winter transients such as Common Redpolls (*Acanthis flammea*) and Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*). During winter we observed 15 species; Blue Jays, Black-capped Chickadees, and White-breasted Nuthatches seemed most common.

Most observations during winter were of common winter residents: Blue Jays, Black-capped Chickadees, and White-breasted Nuthatches. Observations of winter transients were restricted to species such as Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin foraging on catkins and then moving to other areas.

Oak-aspen and Offsite Aspen—Both stands had low numbers of pairs/ha and bird species diversity during the breeding season due to poor understory development. These 2 stands had the lowest percent cover and average height of the shrub layer of the 8 stands.

The mixed oak-aspen shrub layer consisted mainly of clumps of beaked hazelnut scattered throughout; the main cover in this habitat was from saplings and trees. The Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*), Northern Oriole (*Icterus galbula*), and Rose-breasted Grosbeak were present in the canopy. The Veery, Ovenbird, Black-capped Chickadee, and robin appeared most common in the shrub layer.

Table 3. Number and species of postbreeding and winter populations of birds observed in various age aspen stands in central Wisconsin, 1975–1976.

	Stand age (years)															
	0–1		2–3		8–9		18–19		28–29		45–46		45–46*		45–46*	
	No.	Sp.	No.	Sp.	No.	Sp.	No.	Sp.	No.	Sp.	No.	Sp.	No.	Sp.	No.	Sp.
Postbreeding																
Aug	12	6	13	6	12	7	20	10	20	11	12	7	12	7	7	4
Sep	12	6	11	8	13	10	14	7	16	5	10	6	14	7	6	4
\bar{X}	12	6.5	12	7	12.5	8.5	17	8.5	18	8	11	6.5	13	7	6.5	4
Winter																
Nov	7	4	13	1	4	2	3	2	11	4	8	4	7	2	3	2
Dec	0	0	0	0	9	2	16	3	5	2	2	2	7	1	3	2
Jan	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	5	1	4	3	6	2	2	2
Feb	9	1	3	2	6	3	3	2	6	4	4	3	7	3	2	2
Mar	0	0	2	2	7	2	2	2	5	3	5	3	8	4	0	0
\bar{X}	3.4	1.2	4	1.4	5.6	2.2	5.2	2.0	6.4	2.8	4.6	3.0	7	2.5	2	1.6
Overall \bar{X}	6	2.7	6	3	8	4	9	3.8	10	4.3	6	4	9	3.7	3	2.3

*Mixed oak-aspen.

*Offsite aspen.

The offsite stand had poor shrub development due to wet site conditions. We found Northern Orioles and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks in the canopy of aspen, and Song Sparrows and Common Yellowthroats (*Geothlypis trichas*) in heavy ground cover of bluejoint reed-grass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*).

CONCLUSIONS

Our study supports the continued use of 40- to 60-year rotations to manage aspen stands for bird diversity. Such management will continue to benefit the 2 target species of white-tailed deer and Ruffed Grouse (Kubisiak 1985), and also provide suitable habitat for songbirds. Continued use of small (4- to 12-ha) shearings or commercial clearcut harvests should accomplish management goals for most game and non-game wildlife associated with edge effect. Back (1979) provided additional management guidelines.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

F. M. Baumgartner and R. K. Anderson helped conceive the study. L. E.

Nauman helped finance capture equipment, and V. A. Heig helped with banding permits and records. D. O. Trainer helped finance travel expenses. Personnel of the Wis. Dep. Nat. Resour. Sandhill Wildlife Area assisted and encouraged, especially J. C. Haug, J. F. Kubisiak, and A. C. Bernhardt.

LITERATURE CITED

- Anderson, S. H. 1979. Habitat structure, succession, and bird communities. Pp. 9–21 in R. M. DeGraaf and K. E. Evans, ed. Management of north central and northeastern forests for non-game birds. U.S. For. Serv. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-51.
- Back, G. N. 1979. Avian communities and management guidelines of the aspen-birch forest. Pp. 67–79 in R. M. DeGraaf and K. E. Evans, ed. Management of north central and northeastern forests for nongame birds. U.S. For. Serv. Gen. Tech. Rep. NC-51.
- Cottam, G. and J. T. Curtis. 1956. The use of distance measures in phyto-sociological sampling. *Ecology* 36:451–460.
- DeByle, N. V. 1981. Songbird populations and clearcut harvesting of aspen in northern Utah. U.S. For. Serv. Res. Note INT-302. 7pp.
- DesGranges, J. L. 1980. Avian community structure of six forest stands in LaMauricie National Park, Quebec. *Can. Wildl. Serv. Occas. Pap.* 41. 34pp.
- DeVos, A. and H. S. Mosby. 1970. Habitat analysis

- and evaluation. Pp. 135–172 in R. H. Giles, ed. *Wildlife management techniques*. 3rd edit. The Wildl. Soc., Washington.
- Enemar, A. 1959. On the determination of the size and comparison of a passerine bird population during the breeding season—a methodological study. *Var Fagelvarld*. (Suppl.) 2:1–104.
- Fouchi, C. M. and G. W. Gullion. 1984. Nongame bird response to aspen regeneration. Pp. 218–229 in W. C. McComb, ed. *Proceedings of the workshop on management of nongame species and ecological communities*. Dep. For., Coll. Agric., Univ. Kentucky, Lexington.
- Harlow, W. M., E. S. Harrar, and F. M. White. 1979. *Textbook of dendrology*. McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York. 510pp.
- Hooper, R. G., H. S. Crawford, and R. F. Harlow. 1973. Bird density and diversity as related to vegetation in forest recreational areas. *J. For.* 71:766–769.
- International Bird Census Committee. 1970. An international standard for a mapping method in bird census work recommended by the International Bird Census Committee. *Audubon Field Notes* 24:722–726.
- Johns, B. W. 1993. The influence of grove size on bird species richness in aspen parklands. *Wilson Bull.* 105:256–264.
- Karr, J. R. 1968. Habitat and avian diversity in strip-mined land in eastcentral Illinois. *Condor* 70:348–357.
- Kendeigh, S. C. 1944. Measurement of bird populations. *Ecol. Monogr.* 14:67–106.
- Kubisiak, J. F. 1985. Ruffed grouse habitat relationships in aspen and oak forests of central Wisconsin. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Technical Bulletin 151. 22pp.
- MacArthur, R. H. and J. H. MacArthur. 1961. On bird species diversity. *Ecology* 42:594–598.
- Ohmann, L. F. and R. R. Ream. 1971. Wilderness ecology: a method of sampling and summarizing data for plant community classification. U.S. For. Serv. Res. Rep. NC-49. 14pp.
- Oosting, H. J. 1958. The study of plant communities. 2nd edition. W. H. Freeman and Co., San Francisco. 440pp.
- Probst, J. R., D. S. Rakstad, and D. J. Rugg. 1992. Breeding bird communities in regenerating and mature broadleaf forests in the USA Lake States. *For. Ecol. Manage.* 49:43–60.
- Robbins, C. S., B. Brunn, and H. S. Zim. 1966. *Birds of North America*. Golden Press, New York. 340pp.
- Scott, V. E. and G. L. Crouch. 1988. Breeding birds in uncut aspen and 6- to 10-year-old clearcuts in southwestern Colorado. U.S. For. Serv. Res. Note RM-485. 5pp.
- Steffen, J. F. 1985. Some effects of clearcutting on songbird populations in the northern hardwood forest. *Trans. Wisconsin Acad. Sci., Arts and Letters* 73:123–132.
- Westworth, D. A. and E. S. Telfer. 1993. Summer and winter bird populations associated with five age-classes of aspen forest in Alberta. *Can. J. For. Res.* 23:1830–1836.
- Williams, A. B. 1936. The composition and dynamics of a beech-maple climax community. *Ecol. Monogr.* 6:317–406.
- Willson, M. F. 1974. Avian community organization and habitat structure. *Ecology* 55:1017–1029.
- Winternitz, B. L. 1980. Birds in aspen. Pp. 247–257 in R. M. DeGraaf and N. G. Tilghman, ed. *Management of western forests and grasslands for nongame birds*. U.S. For. Serv. Gen. Tech. Rep. INT-86.
- Yahner, R. H. 1991. Avian nesting ecology in small even-aged aspen stands. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 55:155–159.
- Jerry H. Smith
College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin-Stevens
Point
Stevens Point, WI 54481
(Present address: U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Suite 211, Old Fort Square
211 N. Broadway
Green Bay, WI 54303)
- Neil F. Payne
College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin-Stevens
Point
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Observations of Great Gray Owls (*Strix nebulosa*) Within the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore and Surrounding Area, Bayfield and Ashland Counties

Recent spring and summer sightings of Great Gray Owls in the Apostle Islands region suggest that the species may be nesting there.

by Theodore J. Gostomski

The Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) is a large, boreal owl known to occur in the Canadian provinces. However, the southern boundary of its range does cross into the northern tier of the United States where the species inhabits forests other than the boreal type (Duncan and Hayward 1994). In the United States, the Great Gray exhibits an uneven distribution with populations occurring in central and northwestern Washington south to northeastern and central Oregon, east-central California, and west-central Nevada, and east to northern and central Idaho, western Montana, northwestern Wyoming, and portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. In the Upper Midwest, a survey of U.S. Forest Service lands revealed breeding by Great Grays only in the Superior National Forest in Minnesota (Verner 1994), but a number of authors have reported summer observations of

Great Gray Owls in northern Wisconsin, including a probable breeding record in Douglas County near the Minnesota border (Bacon 1993; Follen 1979, 1985; Meyer 1993; Semo 1993).

In Bayfield County, and specifically within the boundaries of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore (hereafter referred to as the Lakeshore), observations of Great Gray Owls have been reported to Resource Management personnel sporadically since 1972 (unpublished data, National Park Service). Observations were most frequent during the early to mid-1980s and in the early 1990s and include the report of an adult Great Gray on a nest on Stockton Island in 1991 (unpublished data, National Park Service). The majority of observations were reported in 1996 when at least one individual was seen repeatedly along Highway 13 between the junction with County K and the town of Cornucopia. Though these ob-

servations occurred outside the boundaries of the Lakeshore's mainland unit, others were observed within the mainland boundaries near Little Sand Bay and on South Twin Island (Walters 1997).

Great Grays were again observed during the spring and summer of 1997, but most were seen within the park boundaries both on the mainland and on the islands. Three observations in June were reported within 10 days of each other and are likely separate individuals given the distance between the observation sites. The first owl was observed by a researcher on 10 June on Devils Island (Bayfield County). The bird was perched in a snag and was observed for five minutes before it flew off into a spruce (*Picea*) bog. The second owl was seen by an NPS volunteer on 16 June on Outer Island (Ashland County, approximately 14 miles east of Devils Island) in an old growth hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) stand. This bird was observed for about 10 minutes before it flew away. I observed the third owl while conducting a breeding bird survey on 19 June along the park's Mainland Trail in Bayfield County (approximately 17 miles southwest of the Devils Island site and 29.5 miles southeast of the Outer Island site). This single adult was approximately 150 feet into the forest from the edge of a clear cut. It flushed from the ground and perched in a snag for approximately three minutes. It then occupied two other perches before I left the area. Each perch was approximately 90 degrees from the other, leading me to believe that the bird had some interest in remaining in that general location.

Unconfirmed observations were also received from an NPS volunteer who reportedly saw a Great Gray in the

clearing around the Outer Island Lighthouse on two different nights in July. Another unconfirmed report came from a park visitor who saw a "very large owl [with] visible facial disks and white coloration beneath beak to left and right" on the north side of Oak Island on 20 July (Ashland County, 8.5 miles from the nearest owl observation site on Devils Island).

Outside the Lakeshore boundaries, a Great Gray Owl was observed along Highway 13 near the Lost Creek Sloughs (approximately 10 miles from the Mainland Trail site) on multiple occasions in May and June. The bird was seen leaving the roadside and flying north into the sloughs on at least one occasion, but attempts to locate signs of nesting were unsuccessful (Phyllis Johnson, Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas volunteer, personal communication). A photograph of this bird was submitted to the Bayfield County Coordinator of the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas.

The home range of a Great Gray Owl tends to be less than three square miles (Duncan and Hayward 1994), so it is probably safe to assume that these are observations of five separate individuals. Also, given that the species' breeding season runs from approximately mid-to-late April through early June, with the young leaving the nest in June and July (Duncan and Hayward 1994), the presence of these birds in northern Wisconsin during the spring and summer months suggests that breeding is taking place. Breeding activity by Great Gray Owls has been reported in neighboring Douglas County in the past (Follen 1979, 1985), and other observers have recorded them in Bayfield County through the breeding season (Watermolen 1996). Wisconsin's only

confirmed nesting was near Clam Lake in Ashland County in 1988 (Merkel 1989).

The frequency of the observations, the possibility of multiple individuals as suggested by the distance between observation sites, and the close proximity of the mainland observations to the Lakeshore boundary has created an increased interest among Resource Management staff to document the presence of Great Gray Owls and to determine their reproductive status within the Lakeshore. Though no formal monitoring efforts have been established, we have made Park Rangers and volunteers aware of this situation and requested their support in helping to report all observations as quickly as possible.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Information regarding some of the observations discussed was provided by Walt Loope (U.S. Geological Survey, Munising, Michigan), Bill Kinjorski (NPS Volunteer on Outer Island), and Phyllis Johnson, and I thank each of them for sharing their exciting finds with me.

LITERATURE CITED

Bacon, B. R. 1993. Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*): 2 June 1992, Douglas County. *Passenger Pigeon* 55:96-97.

- Duncan, J. R. and P. H. Hayward. 1994. Review of technical knowledge: Great Gray Owls. In G. D. Hayward and J. Verner, eds., *Flammulated, Boreal, and Great Gray Owls in the United States: A technical conservation assessment*. USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. RM-253. USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Fort Collins, CO.
- Follen, D. G., Sr. 1979. A probable breeding record of Great Gray Owls in Wisconsin. *Passenger Pigeon* 41:53-57.
- Follen, D. G., Sr. 1985. Great Gray Owl update. *Passenger Pigeon* 47:133-134.
- Merkel, K. J. 1989. Wisconsin's first documented nesting of Great Gray Owls. *Passenger Pigeon* 51:133-143.
- Meyer, T. 1993. Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*): 7 July 1992, Forest County. *Passenger Pigeon* 55:97.
- Semo, L. 1993. Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*): 14 July 1992, Douglas County. *Passenger Pigeon* 55:97.
- Verner, J. 1994. Current management situation: Great Gray Owls. In G. D. Hayward and J. Verner, eds., *Flammulated, Boreal, and Great Gray Owls in the United States: A technical conservation assessment*. USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. RM-253. USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Fort Collins, CO.
- Walters, C. 1997. By the wayside: Great Gray Owl. *Passenger Pigeon* 59:77.
- Watermolen, D. J. 1996. Great Gray Owls in Wisconsin, spring 1996. *Passenger Pigeon* 58:448.

Theodore J. Gostomski
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
Rt. 1, Box 4
Bayfield, WI 54814



Canada Goose *by Scott Mulcahy*

Wisconsin Big Day Counts: 1997 “Smashing the 200 Species Barrier”

by *Jim Frank*

The 31 Big Day Counts for 1997 maintain 1996's rebound up (31 counts) in activity from 1995's 14 counts, and the usual 21–28 counts of recent years. The number of counts experiencing below freezing temperatures (6) outnumbered the Big Days experiencing 70 degree temperatures (5)! Twenty of the 31 counts started at temperatures below 40! This persistent cold weather pushed many migrants back into late May. In particular, flycatchers and vireos were low in number on many Big Day efforts. It seems incomprehensible in southeastern Wisconsin on May 22 to compile a list of 153 species (a solid list suggesting significant time in the field), but to *not* find an Eastern Wood-Pewee or a Red-eyed Vireo. Only two counts surpassed 170 species (as opposed to 7 in 1992, 3 in 1993, 1 in 1994, 2 in 1995, and 4 counts in 1996), but they were record setting events. Both of these Big Days surpassed 190 species, a total only achieved once before in Wisconsin. A May 22nd count in the south central portion of the state by Jeff Baughman, Scott Baughman, Tom Schultz, Daryl Tessen, and Chris Wood tallied a re-

markable 191 species including 18 shorebirds, 29 warblers, 13 sparrows, and 4 rails. By 6:20 A.M. they had reached 100 species, at 9:00 A.M. they had seen 127 species, and at noon 160 species!

That excellent count was overshadowed by an astonishing day Randy Hoffman and Al Shea experienced on May 17th. Big Day birders in the state had long dreamed of reaching 200 species, but I doubt anyone thought it could happen in such resounding fashion. Their list of **208** species was made even more incomprehensible by the abandonment of a seemingly universally accepted Big Day axiom in Wisconsin—a count needs to be planned to incorporate stops on one of the Great Lakes for gulls, terns, and diving ducks. By choosing a fair weather day instead of a usually desired frontal passage day, they also broke a bit with tradition. They achieved their success by visiting all of the habitats in southern Wisconsin and finding the birds on their territories instead of relying as heavily on migrant waves. Of course a good variety of migrants, and as always some luck, all fell into place on their

day. Their list included 9 hawks, 7 gallinaceous birds, 15 sparrows, 21 shorebirds, and a seemingly impossible 32 warblers! All Big Day birders, no matter how successful their day, lament over what they missed. Hoffman and Shea were no different. They even went so far as to match their list with other birders out that day and their scouting efforts on the previous day to determine that within 5 miles of the stops on their routes, 224 species were seen. Among the "missed" birds were Cedar Waxwing, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Hooded Merganser, and Caspian Tern. What can we expect from them when they get the kinks worked out of this new route? (For an "eyewitness account" of their Big Day, see the separate article in this issue.)

If examined in a broader context, the Hoffman and Shea Big Day total gains even more luster. Through 1996, there were 12 other states and one Canadian province that had recorded 200+ Big Days (Alabama, California, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Manitoba). The only states with higher Big Day records are California (231), New Jersey (221), Texas (212), Oregon (212) and Virginia (212), with Missouri tying (208). In essence, this ties the inland North American Big Day record (pending publication of other 1997 efforts around the country)!

The average date for 25 counts in 1992 was May 19; for 28 counts in 1993 it was May 14; for 21 counts in 1994 the average was May 18; in 1995, the 14 count average was May 20; in 1996, 31 counts averaged to May 18. This year, the average was again May 18.

Combining all of the Big Day Counts, an amazing list of 272 species

was recorded. In comparison, 1996 counts found 266 species, 1995 only 239 species, 1994 counts had 252 species, 1993 had 256 species and 1992 listed 262 species. The most noteworthy of numerous special sightings over the years included Red-throated Loon, Eared Grebe, Little Blue Heron, Greater White-fronted Goose, Brant, Black Scoter, Surf Scoter, and White-winged Scoter, Merlin, Yellow Rail, Red-necked Phalarope, Great Black-backed Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Thayer's Gull, Iceland Gull, and Glaucous Gull, Saw-whet Owl, Black-backed Woodpecker, White-eyed Vireo, Worm-eating Warbler, Summer Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Henslow's Sparrow, Harris' Sparrow, and Rusty Blackbird.

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

- 1) Count must be taken between May 1–31.

- 2) Count must be taken within a 24 hour calendar day (midnight to midnight).

- 3) Count must be taken within the state boundaries, but it may cover as many parts of Wisconsin as birders can reach in the time limit.

- 4) All participants must be within direct conversational contact at all times during the birding and traveling periods. This excludes meal and rest stops if birding is not conducted during these times. This limits the number of parties involved to **ONE** and participants to that number safely and comfortably contained in one vehicle (1–6?).

- 5) Areas can be revisited during the day.

- 6) Counting individuals is *optional*.

- 7) The same areas may be covered on **different** Big Day Counts.

8) No fees are involved in conducting the counts.

9) An official Bog Day Count Form (available from the associate editor—D. Tessen) should be filled out for each count. It is critical that all unusual species—whether they be late sightings or rare species—be completely documented. Capitalized species on the form may be documented on the back of the form. New additions to the form should be documented on the traditional WSO Exceptional Record Documentation Form with probable review by the Records Committee.

10) Having fun is mandatory. Keeping your sanity is optional.

Details of the 1997 Big Day Counts follow; italicized species were unique to the 1997 Big Day Counts; italicized groups were the largest number of that group seen on this year's counts. Sharpen your birding skills and try a Big Day Count next year. As is apparent from this year's accounts, some birders drive like crazy on their counts, other restrict themselves to a yard, a nature center, or a county. They are all interesting.

NORTHEASTERN REGION

Nussbaum, Petznick, Tessen, 5/12/97, 156 species.—Birding Rat River Wildlife Area, Black Otter Lake, Mosquito Hill Nature Center, Outagamie Wildlife Area, Bischoff Road-Shiocton area, Pulaski, Sensiba Wildlife Area, Atkinson Marsh, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, Two Rivers, Woodland Dunes, Manitowoc, Cleveland, Horicon Marsh, AW Ponds, Beaver Dam, Fox Lake, Lake Maria, and Custer Road Pond, they located Red-necked Grebe, White Pelican, Cattle Egret, Mute Swan, Snow Goose, Canvasback, Common Golden-

eye, Merlin, King Rail, Willet, Marbled Godwit, White-rumped Sandpiper, Glaucous Gull, Loggerhead Shrike, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Summer Tanager, Dark-eyed Junco, Lapland Longspur, 2 grebes, 5 herons, *19 ducks*, 9 hawks, 3 rails, 18 shorebirds, 4 gulls, 4 terns, 5 woodpeckers, 3 flycatchers, 5 thrushes, 1 vireo, 17 warblers, 8 sparrows, 7 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Hewitt, H. Peterson, 5/26/97, 156 species.—They visited Caroline, Stockbridge Reservation, Navarino Wildlife Area, Green Bay, and Lake Michigan. Interesting sightings included White Pelican, Cattle Egret, Common Merganser, Peregrine, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Le Conte's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, *7 herons*, 11 ducks, 6 hawks, 10 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 4 terns, 6 woodpeckers, 5 flycatchers, *4 wrens*, *7 thrushes*, 4 vireos, 26 warblers, 10 sparrows, 8 blackbirds, and 3 finches.

Tessen, 5/18/97, 135 species.—Starting at the Manitowoc Impoundment, he continued on to Two Rivers, Alverno Pond, Silver Lake Park, and Two Creeks Ponds. The best for their day included White Pelican, Snow Goose, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, Alder Flycatcher, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Orchard Oriole, 1 heron, 9 ducks, 3 hawks, 13 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 4 terns, 4 woodpeckers, 7 flycatchers, 6 thrushes, 4 vireos, 23 warblers, 10 sparrows, and 8 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Tessen, 5/30/97, 126 species.—His Big Day consisted of stops at Heckrodt Swamp, Rat River Wildlife Area, the 29 ponds, Crex Meadows Wildlife Area, and Fish Lake Wildlife Area. The noteworthy birds were Trumpeter Swan, Sharp-tailed Grouse, *Red-necked Phala-*

Table 1. Wisconsin Big Days—1997

Species	Observers	Date	Area	Time	Temp	Wind	Sky	Miles Car	Miles Ft.
208	Hoffman, Shea	5/17/97	SC	0:00–20:30	39–68	N 5	P.CL.	428	2
191	Baughman, Wood, Baughman, Schultz, Tessen	5/22/97	SC	0:00–20:45	34–69	SE 8	P.CL.	568	2
166	Tessen	5/31/97	NW	2:00–20:30	38–84	Var. 5	P.CL.	380	2
164	Hoffman, Peterson	5/25/97	NW	0:30–22:30	42–61	NE30	P.CL.	478	1
156	Nussbaum, Tessen, Petznick	5/12/97	NE	4:00–20:30	36–52	NW30	P.CL.	350	3
156	Hewitt, H. Peterson	5/26/97	NE	4:30–?	?–60	E?	?	554	5
155	Tessen	5/10/97	SC	5:00–20:00	28–65	NW 5	P.CL.	450	2
153	Frank	5/22/97	SE	3:30–19:30	40–58	SE 5	Clear	267	4
150	Diehl, Frank	5/18/97	SE	3:45–20:00	40–57	NE10	Clo.	260	2
144	Domagalski	5/14/97	SE	5:00–20:00	40–50	W 10	Rain	210	2
141	Domagalski, O'Connor	5/17/97	SE	5:00–20:00	36–48	E 10	Clo.	244	2
140	Domagalski	5/11/97	SE	5:00–20:00	50–70	SW20	P.CL.	238	2
138	Diehl	5/25/97	SE	5:27–20:04	36–55	N 20	Clo.	202	2
135	Tessen	5/18/97	NE	5:00–20:30	46–69	NE10	P.CL.	180	2
134	Frank, Tessen	5/15/97	SE	3:00–17:45	36–48	NW15	Clo.	253	2
128	Frank	5/10/97	SE	3:30–21:00	39–57	NW10	Clear	179	5
127	Korducki	5/18/97	SE	4:30–15:15	47–58	Var. 8	Clo.	47	6
126	Peterson	5/24/97	NW	5:00–20:38	?	?	?	465	2
126	Tessen	5/30/97	NE	5:30–21:30	49–76	S 5	P.CL.	330	3
124	Belter, Tamminen	5/19/97	NC	5:30–18:00	35–50	NW15	Clo.	172	4
124	Brouchoud, Rudy	5/20/97	NE	4:40–21:00	55–71	NW 8	Clear	24	9
124	Woodcock, Erickson	5/26/97	NE	4:00–21:30	34–59	N 15	P.CL.	268	5
122	Peterson, Tessen	5/29/97	SW	5:30–17:00	54–64	S 8	Clo.	?	1
120	Peterson	5/10/97	SC	3:30–20:30	32–60	SW?	Clear	505	4
119	Peterson	5/16/97	NE	4:00–20:00	25–50	SW?	Clo.	379	3
119	Peterson	5/20/97	SW	3:00–20:00	32–60	NW20	P.CL.	380	3
111	Tessen	5/02/97	NE	5:30–17:00	32–52	SE 5	Clo.	190	1
109	Bruce	5/28/97	NE	7:00–16:30	?	?	Clo.	?	?
104	Peterson	5/07/97	SE	3:30–20:30	35–60	SW?	Clear	448	3
103	Tessen	5/05/97	SE	5:30–19:00	42–73	SW30	P.CL.	320	2
100	Tessen	5/01/97	NE	6:00–17:00	30–59	NW25	P.CL.	140	2

rope, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Connecticut Warbler, Lark Sparrow, Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, 2 herons, 7 ducks, 7 hawks, 5 shorebirds, 2 gulls, 5 woodpeckers, 8 flycatchers, 3 wrens, 4 thrushes, 3 vireos, 16 warblers, 9 sparrows, 9 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Brouchoud, Rudy, 5/20/97, 124 species.—Their usual Big Day was conducted only in Woodland Dunes in Manitowoc Co. Of note were Alder Flycatcher, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, *Prairie Warbler*, Cerulean Warbler, 4 herons, 3 ducks, 3 hawks, 3 galliformes, 4 shore-

birds, 2 gulls, 3 woodpeckers, 6 flycatchers, 4 wrens, 5 thrushes, 3 vireos, 27 warblers, 9 sparrows, 7 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Woodcock, Erickson, 5/26/97, 124 species.—During their trip through Star Lake (Oconto Co.), Jones Springs, Cathedral Pines, Oconto Marsh, Ken Euers Trail, Collins Marsh, and the Manitowoc Impoundment, they saw White Pelican, Common Goldeneye, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Pine Siskin, 3 herons, 7 ducks, 6 hawks, 5 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 6 woodpeckers, 5 flycatchers, 4 wrens, 5 thrushes, 4 vireos, 20 warblers, 7 sparrows, 7 blackbirds, and 5 finches.

Peterson, 5/16/97, 119 species.—This Big Day hit Rat River Marsh, Theresa Marsh, the Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment, Estabrook Park, Virmond Park, Cleveland, Woodland Dunes, Green Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, and Navarino Marsh with sightings of White Pelican, Marbled Godwit, White-rumped Sandpiper, Glaucous Gull, Orange-crowned Warbler, 5 herons, 13 ducks, 2 hawks, 13 shorebirds, 4 gulls, 3 woodpeckers, 2 flycatchers, 3 wrens, 4 thrushes, 0 vireos, 19 warblers, 6 sparrows, 7 blackbirds and 2 finches.

Bruce, 5/28/97, 119 species.—Birding western Winnebago Co., Rat River, northwestern Oshkosh, Waukau, and Uihlein Marsh, he founded Red-necked Grebe, Red Knot, Connecticut Warbler, 3 herons, 7 ducks, 3 hawks, 4 shorebirds, 5 woodpeckers, 6 flycatchers, 5 thrushes, 3 vireos, 18 warblers, 5 sparrows, 7 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Tessen, 5/2/97, 111 species.—This early Big Day covered Marx Pond, Collins Marsh, Kingfisher Farms, Fisher Creek Park, Cleveland, and Sheboygan. Noteworthy birds included Red-throated Loon, Horned Grebe, *Oldsquaw*, Surf Scoter, Rough-legged Hawk, King Rail, Willet, Glaucous Gull, *Thayer's Gull*, *Lesser Black-backed Gull*, Dark-eyed Junco, *Rusty Blackbird*, 2 loons, 2 herons, 17 ducks, 10 hawks, 3 rails, 7 shorebirds, 7 gulls, 2 owls, 4 woodpeckers, 1 flycatcher, 4 thrushes, 0 vireos, 2 warblers, 10 sparrows, and 7 blackbirds.

Tessen, 5/1/97, 100 species.—Another early Big Day covered Mack Wildlife Area, Shiocton, Hortonville Swamp, Black Otter Lake, Rat River Marsh, Stroebe's Island, Appleton parks, Heckrodt Swamp, Menasha and Neenah. During this day he located Horned Grebe, Red-necked Grebe, *Tundra Swan*, Canvasback, Common

Goldeneye, Common Merganser, Dark-eyed Junco, Lapland Longspur, 3 grebes, 2 herons, 19 ducks, 8 hawks, 3 gulls, 4 woodpeckers, 1 flycatcher, 2 thrushes, 3 warblers, 6 sparrows, 6 blackbirds, and 3 finches.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Belter, Tamminen, 5/19/97, 124 species.—This Big Day started at Buena Vista Marsh, and proceeded to Mead Wildlife Area, 9-Mile County Forest, Iverson Park, Blue Gill Bay Co. Park, and Lake Wausau. Along the way, they saw Trumpeter Swan, Mute Swan, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Le Conte's Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, 2 herons, 2 swans, 7 ducks, 6 hawks, 7 shorebirds, 2 gulls, 4 woodpeckers, 5 flycatchers, 6 thrushes, 4 vireos, 21 warblers, 11 sparrows, 9 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

NORTHWESTERN REGION

Tessen, 5/31/97, 166 species.—This late Big Day was well timed with this year's late migration. He birded Crex Meadows, Stone's Bridge, Winneboujou Bridge, Solon Springs, Gordon Wildlife Area, Three Lakes Marsh, Rat River Marsh, and Heckrodt Swamp. On his list were Red-throated Loon, Trumpeter Swan, Common Goldeneye, Sharp-tailed Grouse, American Golden Plover, *Whimbrel*, Red Knot, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, Glaucous Gull, Saw-whet Owl, *Black-backed Woodpecker*, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Connecticut Warbler, Lark Sparrow, Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Red Crossbill, 2 loons, 4 herons, 8 ducks, 6 hawks, 16 shorebirds, 4 gulls, 4 terns, 3

owls, 8 woodpeckers, 8 flycatchers, 5 thrushes, 4 wrens, 4 vireos, 21 warblers, 11 sparrows, 9 blackbirds, and 5 finches.

Hoffman, Peterson, 5/25/97, 164 species.—Starting at Lyman Lake Bog, they moved on to Crex Meadows, Fish Lake Wildlife Area, St. Croix Bottoms, County A Bogs, Wisconsin Point, Gordon Wildlife Area, Saronia Ponds, Old Elk Lake, Meridean, Tiffany Bottoms, Buffalo River, and Trempealeau NWR. Among their sightings were Red-necked Grebe, Trumpeter Swan, Mute Swan, Peregrine, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Red Knot, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Saw-whet Owl, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Bell's Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Pine Siskin, 2 grebes, 3 herons, 2 swans, 7 ducks, 8 hawks, 15 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 4 terns, 2 owls, 5 woodpeckers, 7 flycatchers, 3 wrens, 5 thrushes, 2 kinglets, 7 vireos, 25 warblers, 12 sparrows, 9 blackbirds, and 5 finches.

Peterson, 5/24/97, 126 species.—Birding Pepin County, Crex Meadows, Fish Lake Wildlife Area, Lyman Lake Bog, and Shawano Co., he found Trumpeter Swan, Rough-legged Hawk, White-rumped Sandpiper, Saw-whet Owl, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Henslow's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, 3 herons, 5 ducks, 7 hawks, 12 shorebirds, 3 terns, 6 woodpeckers, 7 flycatchers, 5 thrushes, 3 vireos, 19 warblers, 8 sparrows, 9 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

SOUTHWESTERN REGION

Tessen, 5/29/97, 122 species.—This late Big Day covered La Riverie Park,

Wyalusing State Park, Spring Green Prairie, Mazomanie Wildlife Area, Arlington Ponds, Fox Lake, Lake Maria, Horicon NWR, and Fond du Lac Co. C Pond. The list of interesting sightings included Eared Grebe, Canvasback, White-rumped Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Acadian Flycatcher, Tufted Titmouse, Bell's Vireo, Cerulean Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Lark Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, 2 grebes, 3 herons, 11 ducks, 3 hawks, 3 galliformes, 9 shorebirds, 2 gulls, 7 woodpeckers, 7 flycatchers, 4 thrushes, 4 vireos, 11 warblers, 8 sparrows, 10 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Peterson, 5/20/97, 119 species.—His day included birding at Honey Creek, Spring Green Prairie, Governor Dodge State Park, Wyalusing State Park, and the Columbia Co. Ponds. Among his best were Hudsonian Godwit, Tufted Titmouse, White-eyed Vireo, Bell's Vireo, Cerulean Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Lark Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, 2 herons, 6 ducks, 3 hawks, 3 galliformes, 10 shorebirds, 6 woodpeckers, 6 flycatchers, 4 thrushes, 6 vireos, 17 warblers, 9 sparrows, 10 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Hoffman, Shea, 5/17/97, 208 species.—This phenomenal Big Day started at Mud Lake, with stops in Grand River Marsh, Buena Vista Marsh, Wood Co. Wildlife Area, Bear Bluff, Necedah NWR, Yellow River, Devil's Lake, Mazomanie Bottoms, Arlington Ponds, and Horicon NWR. The long list of good birds included Horned Grebe, Red-necked Grebe, Cattle Egret, Red-shouldered Hawk, Gray Partridge, Greater Prairie-Chicken,

Sharp-tailed Grouse, Northern Bobwhite, Yellow Rail, King Rail, Hudsonian Godwit, Marbled Godwit, *Western Sandpiper*, White-rumped Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Eastern Screech-Owl, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Acadian Flycatcher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, American Pipit, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Lark Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Le Conte's Sparrow, Harris' Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeak, 3 grebes, 6 herons, 14 ducks, 9 hawks, 7 galliformes, 4 rails, 21 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 3 terns, 1 cuckoo, 3 owls, 7 woodpeckers, 9 flycatchers, 4 wrens, 2 kinglets, 7 thrushes, 5 vireos, 32 warblers, 15 sparrows, 10 blackbirds, and 3 finches.

Baughman, Baughman, Schultz, Tessen, and Wood, 5/22/97, 191 species.—On this record breaking day for them, they visited Rat River Marsh, White River Marsh, Comstock Bog, Horicon NWR, Kettle Moraine State Forest, Fond du Lac, Lake Puckaway, Grand River Marsh, Lake Maria, Fox Lake, Arlington Ponds, AW Ponds, Horicon NWR, Shiocton, Sheboygan, Maywood Park, County Highway LS, Cleveland, Manitowoc Harbor, Two Rivers, and Atkinson Marsh. Their unusual sightings were Red-necked Grebe, Horned Grebe, White Pelican, Mute Swan, Greater White-fronted Goose, Peregrine, Yellow Rail, King Rail, White-rumped Sandpiper, Red Knot, Sand-erling, Long-billed Dowitcher, Eastern Screech-Owl, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Louisiana Wa-

terthrush, Connecticut Warbler, Henslow's Sparrow, Le Conte's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, 3 grebes, 6 herons, 15 ducks, 6 hawks, 4 rails, 18 shorebirds, 29 warblers, 13 sparrows, and 9 blackbirds.

Tessen, 5/10/97, 155 species.—Birding Rat River Marsh, Rush Lake, AW Ponds, UW Arboretum, County PF Prairie, Arlington Ponds, Mud Lake Wildlife Area, Grassy Lake, Neenah, Menasha, Shiocton, and Atkinson Marsh, he listed Red-necked Grebe, White Pelican, Cattle Egret, Canvasback, Common Goldeneye, Peregrine, Northern Bobwhite, King Rail, American Golden-Plover, White-rumped Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Tufted Titmouse, Loggerhead Shrike, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Summer Tanager, Harris' Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, 5 herons, 17 ducks, 8 hawks, 3 rails, 18 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 4 terns, 2 owls, 6 woodpeckers, 2 flycatchers, 4 wrens, 4 thrushes, 1 vireo, 18 warblers, 12 sparrows, 9 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Peterson, 5/10/97, 120 species.—Areas visited included AW Ponds, Baxter's Hollow, Sauk Co., Columbia Co., and Laws Bottoms. Of interest were Marbled Godwit, White-rumped Sandpiper, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Summer Tanager, Lark Sparrow, 3 herons, 11 ducks, 4 hawks, 14 shorebirds, 2 gulls, 4 woodpeckers, 4 flycatchers, 4 wrens, 3 thrushes, 1 vireo, 15 warblers, 11 sparrows, 7 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

SOUTHEASTERN REGION

Frank, 5/22/97, 153 species.—His day began at Cedarburg Bog, with subsequent stops at Blue Goose Road, Ehlers

Park, Hawthorne Hills County Park, Waubedonia Park, Belgium Pond, KK Pond, LL Pond, Harrington Beach State Park, Kletzsch Park, Lincoln Park, Estabrook Park, Shorewood Nature Preserve, Milwaukee Harbor, Virmond Park, Concordia College, Ulao Parkway, Stonecroft Pond, Riveredge Nature Center, Theresa Marsh, Horicon NWR, and the AW Ponds. Of interest were Cattle Egret, Peregrine, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Orange-crowned Warbler, *Yellow-breasted Chat*, Henslow's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, 5 herons, 13 ducks, 6 hawks, 13 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 4 terns, 2 owls, 4 woodpeckers, 5 flycatchers, 6 thrushes, 2 vireos, 25 warblers, 12 sparrows, 10 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Diehl, Frank, 5/18/97, 150 species.—Starting at Cedarburg Bog, they moved on to Blue Goose Road, Waubedonia Park, KK Pond, Belgium Pond, LL Pond, Harrington Beach State Park, Kletzsch Park, Port Washington Harbor, Ulao Parkway, Virmond Park, Covered Bridge Park, Friess Lake, Pike Lake State Park, Horicon NWR, AW Ponds, and the Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment. Unusual birds included Peregrine, Hudsonian Godwit, Orange-crowned Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Henslow's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, 5 herons, 14 ducks, 5 hawks, 12 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 4 terns, 1 owl, 4 woodpeckers, 5 flycatchers, 3 wrens, 6 thrushes, 3 vireos, 22 warblers, 12 sparrows, 10 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Domagalski, 5/14/97, 144 species.—He began his Big Day at Loews Lake and made stops at Zinn Bog, Pike Lake State Park, Virmond Park, the Milwaukee River parks, Shorewood Nature Preserve, the Milwaukee Coast Guard

Impoundment, Stonecroft Pond, Horicon NWR, and the AW Ponds. Of note were Red-necked Grebe, Mute Swan, Surf Scoter, Peregrine, Marbled Godwit, Orange-crowned Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, 2 grebes, 4 herons, 14 ducks, 6 hawks, 13 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 3 terns, 2 owls, 4 woodpeckers, 4 flycatchers, 3 wrens, 6 thrushes, 3 vireos, 24 warblers, 8 sparrows, 7 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Domagalski, O'Connor, 5/17/97, 141 species.—Again starting at Loews Lake, he proceeded to Zinn Bog, Pike Lake State Park, Lake Park, Shorewood Nature Preserve, Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment, Virmond Park, Stonecroft Pond, Port Washington, LL Pond, Horicon NWR, and AW Ponds. Birds worth mentioning were Horned Grebe, Mute Swan, Surf Scoter, Common Goldeneye, Peregrine, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Orange-crowned Warbler, Summer Tanager, 2 grebes, 5 herons, 16 ducks, 5 hawks, 11 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 4 terns, 2 owls, 5 woodpeckers, 4 flycatchers, 5 thrushes, 1 vireo, 21 warblers, 9 sparrows, 7 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Domagalski, 5/11/97, 140 species.—As before he made stops at Loews Lake, Zinn Bog, Pike Lake State Park, Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment, Shorewood Nature Preserve, Milwaukee River parks, Virmond Park, Concordia College, Stonecroft Pond, Port Washington, Harrington Beach State Park, Horicon NWR, and the AW Ponds. Of note were Cattle Egret, Mute Swan, Canvasback, Merlin, Great Black-backed Gull, Orange-crowned Warbler, 4 herons, 15 ducks, 7 hawks, 13 shorebirds, 4 gulls, 4 terns, 2 owls, 4 woodpeckers, 4 flycatchers, 4

thrushes, 2 vireos, 20 warblers, 9 sparrows, 7 blackbirds and 2 finches.

Diehl, 5/25/97, 138 species.—Starting at Cedarburg Bog, he also birded Riveredge Nature Center, Fredonia, Harrington Beach State Park, Port Washington Harbor, Ulao Parkway, Estabrook Park, the Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment, Pike Lake State Park, and Horicon NWR. His best were Mute Swan, Peregrine, Northern Bobwhite, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Orchard Oriole, 5 herons, 13 ducks, 6 hawks, 6 shorebirds, 2 gulls, 4 terns, 4 woodpeckers, 8 flycatchers, 5 thrushes, 3 vireos, 22 warblers, 8 sparrows, 10 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Frank, Tessen, 5/15/97, 134 species.—This cold Big Day started at Cedarburg Bog, with additional stops at Waubedonia Park, KK Pond, Belgium Pond, LL Pond, Harrington Beach State Park, Kletzsch Park, Lincoln Park, Shorewood Nature Preserve, Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment, Schlitz Audubon Center, Virmond Park, Covered Bridge Park, Ulao Parkway, Port Washington, Horicon NWR and AW Ponds. They located Horned Grebe, Hudsonian Godwit, Orange-crowned Warbler, 2 grebes, 3 herons, 14 ducks, 5 hawks, 12 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 4 terns, 4 woodpeckers, 4 flycatchers, 5 thrushes, 3 vireos, 20 warblers, 9 sparrows, 9 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Frank, 5/10/97, 128 species.—This Ozaukee County-only Big Day in conjunction with the North American Migration Count involved birding at Cedarburg Bog, Hawthorne Hills County Park, Waubedonia Park, Belgium Pond, LL Pond, Harrington Beach

State Park, Riveredge Nature Center, Port Washington, Ulao Parkway, Virmond Park, and Wausaukee Road. Of interest were Horned Grebe, Black Scoter, Surf Scoter, Common Goldeneye, King Rail, Willet, 2 grebes, 2 herons, 16 ducks, 5 hawks, 3 rails, 9 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 2 owls, 5 woodpeckers, 3 flycatchers, 7 thrushes, 1 vireo, 11 warblers, 11 sparrows, 8 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Korducki, 5/18/97, 127 species.—This Milwaukee County-only Big Day found Sanderling, Great Black-backed Gull, Eastern Screech-Owl, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, 3 herons, 11 ducks, 4 hawks, 8 shorebirds, 4 gulls, 4 terns, 2 owls, 3 woodpeckers, 4 flycatchers, 2 wrens, 6 thrushes, 3 vireos, 26 warblers, 8 sparrows, and 6 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Peterson, 5/07/97, 104 species.—This Big Day involved birding at Pike Lake State Park, Green Bay, and Theresa Marsh. The interesting birds included Horned Grebe, Red-necked Grebe, White Pelican, Mute Swan, Surf Scoter, Common Goldeneye, Peregrine, Willet, Sanderling, American Pipit, *Rusty Blackbird*, 3 grebes, 4 herons, 15 ducks, 6 hawks, 10 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 3 terns, 3 woodpeckers, 1 flycatcher, 6 warblers, 6 sparrows, 6 blackbirds, and 2 finches.

Tessen, 5/05/97, 103 species.—This early unplanned Big Day covered Fond du lac Co. C Pond, KK Pond, AW Pond, Beaver Dam Ponds, Horicon Marsh, Theresa Marsh, Pike Lake State Park, Erin Pond, Milwaukee Coast Guard Impoundment, Estabrook Park, Racine, Virmond Park, Concordia College, KK Pond, Harrington Beach State Park, LL Pond, Sheboygan, Cleveland, Manitowoc, Two Rivers, and Marx Pond.

Listings included Horned Grebe, Little Blue Heron, Brant, Tundra Swan, Black Scoter, Surf Scoter, *White-winged Scoter*, Willet, Marbled Godwit, Orange-crowned Warbler, 4 herons, 18 ducks, 8 hawks, 13 shorebirds, 3 gulls, 2 wood-peckers, 0 flycatchers, 1 thrush, 1 vireo, 8 warblers, 6 sparrows, and 6 black-birds.

Jim Frank

4339 W. Laverna Ave.

Mequon, Wisconsin 53092

A 200 + Big Day

The authors recount their strategy and describe the sightings that led to their record breaking Wisconsin Big Day count of 208 species.

by Randy Hoffman and Al Shea

When we left Al's house, just north of Sun Prairie, at 11:50 P.M. to reach our first stop at midnight, little did we know we were embarking on an incredible day of birding that we will never forget.

Big days are always a challenge. Are the weather conditions right? How is the migration progressing? Is it early or late? These questions need to be coupled with knowledge of habitat preferences, locations of rare species, and life history information about each possible species. Consideration of all these bits of information forms the basis for selecting a route. Of course, a big day alternative is to explore new areas by picking an area, making random stops and permitting nature to determine the results. This final process is basically how part of this year's route evolved. On May 15, 1996, Randy and Mark Peterson had just completed a Big Day route using a time honored route in southern Wisconsin. This Big Day was a bust. Cold weather and windy conditions kept the count down to 150 species, whereas two years previous they had 178 species. Somewhat de-

jected over those results, Randy decided to explore a new route one full day later on May 17, 1996. An incredible migration occurred that day with 188 species recorded from 3:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

During the winter of 1996-97, Randy and Al discussed the results of this new route several times over coffee, and decided to give it a try in May 1997 about the same time period. In mid-April we met and set a tentative time for the Big Day of May 16, 17 or 18. This would give us flexibility if one or two days were extremely cold or windy. As the Big Day approached, we communicated on weather and scouting. Friday's forecast was well below freezing over night with a low pressure system moving rapidly through. Saturday's forecast was for high pressure, light northwest winds, possible fog and light afternoon winds under sunny skies. Sunday's forecast had another low pressure system moving through with southerly overnight winds and a chance for severe thunderstorms. We decided on Saturday to optimize viewing conditions, although traditionally

we would have picked Friday's or Sunday's low pressure conditions.

On Friday, May 16, we scouted portions of the route. Randy did a first run of the night portion and scouted the stops between in Jackson, Juneau and Wood Counties. Al scouted the late morning and afternoon portions in Sauk, Dane and Columbia counties. We then retired early to arise at 11:00 P.M.

The Big Day started in fine fashion with a Eastern Screech-Owl at 12:01 A.M. The night sky was clear, moon three-quarters and 46 degrees Fahrenheit, a light 2-5 mph northwest wind. We headed north to the east end of Mud Lake for our second stop. Between the time we opened and closed the van doors, our second bird, a King Rail, called. We played a tape of Least Bittern calls with no success; a miss that would come back to haunt us. However, when we played the King Rail calls, both Sora and Virginia Rails responded, along with three more King Rails. A Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard and Swamp Sparrow rounded out the site.

Onward, we drove to the south side of Grand River Marsh. A stop near the grassy areas produced Henslow's and Savannah Sparrows. We whistled for Upland Sandpiper and Whip-Poor-Will with no success, although calls of Barred and Great Horned Owls were heard. The sky was still very clear.

However, by the time we reached our next site, Comstock Bog, the wind had picked up and low clouds and higher humidity rolled in. The night before at Comstock, 7 or 8 Yellow Rails called vociferously (their calls blended too much to get an accurate count). When we jumped out of the vehicle in anticipation, we were greeted with si-

lence. A Sedge Wren called, then a few migrant chips. The tape was imperative tonight. A few seconds of tape produced a Yellow Rail. We listened for other birds, recording only Song Sparrow, but 2 or 3 more Yellow Rails called.

Our next stop was Buena Vista. The drive gave us time to reflect on the birds so far, what was missed and where we could get them. The night before Whip-Poor-Wills were calling at Grand River and Comstock. We had one more chance in the morning—west of Buena Vista—but this could throw us off schedule. Within moments, a flash of red eyes and a few flaps in front of the car and we had our bird. Little did we know at the time, this serendipity would be the norm for the day.

Several target birds were at Buena Vista. We had scheduled a full hour of stops. At the first stop on County Highway F, a lot of noise was heard; unfortunately, it was power lines. They were making loud chattering noises due to the high moisture content of the air. All but one of the five stops on County Highway F had power lines making noise. On the one stop that did not, we heard a Greater Prairie-Chicken. This was only one of the target birds. We again whistled for Upland Sandpipers, squawked for Short-eared Owls and played tapes without success, although we added Western Meadowlark and Killdeer to the list.

From Buena Vista the route swung west through Nekoosa. Arriving about 4:10 A.M., we checked off American Robin and Chipping Sparrow in town on our way to the Cranmoor cranberry bogs.

A stop was made where an American Woodcock sky-danced the night before—it was listed without leaving the

vehicle. The value of scouting paid dividends. The Cranmoor area is mostly in active cranberry production with virtually no bird life directly associated with the production beds. However, the water retention ponds contain good habitat. Another major complication occurred and again it was noise. With the temperature at 39 degrees Fahrenheit, many growers were spraying their beds to prevent frost damage. The sounds of high powered diesel engines made listening difficult.

This was a crucial area, occurring at the earliest part of dawn when marsh activity peaks. Several common birds were tallied off in rapid succession: Pied-billed Grebe, American Bittern, Blue-winged Teal, American Coot, Ring-billed Gull, Sandhill Crane, Common Snipe, Eastern Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Marsh Wren, Gray Catbird, Common Yellowthroat, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, and Brown-headed Cowbird. The target birds were harder to get. Another tape session failed to produce Least Bittern. A LeConte's Sparrow was difficult to discern against the drone of diesel engines, but we did pick one out. Quite unexpectedly, a Common Loon tremoloed in the distance.

The route now took us west to the Bear Bluff area with several stops in between. The first was a flood plain area along Hemlock Creek where a Prothonotary Warbler and a Wood Duck obliged us. Traveling west through the Sandhill Wildlife Area, Randy shouted, "Swan." A hurried stop produced an excellent bulrush reflection of a swan shape. While Randy was grovelling over the misidentification of a plant for a bird, Al was on top of the van scanning the pond and discovered a Red-necked Grebe. This was a sure stakeout bird

later in the day that required a twenty mile side trip. The fortunate sighting saved us time later in the day. The stop also produced a Common Flicker. From here the route took us directly west through the Wood County Wildlife Area. The focus of this stop is a remnant population of Sharp-tailed Grouse. A low lying area with abundant water, Wood County Wildlife Area has only a few areas where the grouse live. A stop at the favored lekking area produced the grouse in minutes. In addition, we recorded Bobolink, Northern Harrier, Least Flycatcher, Nashville Warbler and Yellow Warbler.

Our next stop was eerie and bizarre. The west end of the wildlife area contains flat open bog with scattered tamarack and black spruce. The temperature hovered around 40 degrees Fahrenheit and low clouds closed the sky. The previous morning Hermit Thrushes were singing and that was our focus. Attentive listening did not produce the thrush, but a combination of other songs made the setting surreal. First, a Golden-crowned Kinglet sang, then a White-throated Sparrow, followed closely by an Orange-crowned Warbler, then at very close range, a Harris' Sparrow burst into song. Were we in Wisconsin or northern Manitoba? A slow drive to Bear Bluff added Black-capped Chickadee, Belted Kingfisher, Cliff Swallow, American Crow and American Goldfinch.

A right turn out of the bogs brought us into upland oak forest and after two miles we entered agricultural land. Species added were Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brewer's Blackbird, Horned Lark, Barn Swallow, and Blue Jay. Another important portion of the route began after leaving this area. The plan

was to drive slowly and add heard resident birds or stop for any wave of migrants. During the next eight miles to Mather we stopped for four different waves of migrants and added the following: Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Double-crested Cormorant, Mourning Dove, Brown Creeper, Great Crested Flycatcher, House Wren, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, Veery, Solitary Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Golden-winged Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Pine Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Eastern Towhee, and Baltimore Oriole.

Stops at three different feeders in Mather recorded Purple Finch, House Finch, Clay-colored Sparrow, House Sparrow, and a Chimney Swift overhead before birding Necedah National Wildlife Refuge. The next 1.5 hours took us slowly in and around Sprague Mather flowage. Three more waves of warblers were seen and extensive scoping of the flowage produced Green-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Ring-necked Duck, Bald Eagle, Spotted Sandpiper, Rough-winged Swallow, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Northern Parula, European Starling, Rock Dove, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, and Northern Waterthrush. A swing through an open barrens restoration area added Common Raven, Connecticut Warbler, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Meadowlark, Field Sparrow and Vesper Sparrow. Closely following the exit from Necedah, several feeders in Sprague were observed. After viewing several regular species such as Downy Wood-

pecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Indigo Bunting, and White-crowned Sparrow, the bird of the day appeared. We were looking at several tightly packed feeders containing numerous Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, when Al excitedly pointed out a different looking bird. We both focused on a female grosbeak with buffy throat and chest and light flank streak. The head marks were much more contrasting to the neck—a first state Black-headed Grosbeak for both of us.

After this stop our traditional 9:00 A.M. count commenced. We traditionally count the species seen at 9, noon and 3 to assess how we are doing. We also look at the remaining potential species to modify our route if necessary. At 9:00 A.M., we had recorded 122 species. This was okay especially since the morning up to this point was 40 degrees with low clouds and moderate northwest winds. However, the weather began to change rapidly and so did the bird activity.

The route was to circle a five mile reach of the Yellow River. A few more waves of migrants ticked off Philadelphia Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Blue-winged Warbler. The important event revolved around the residents as they became active. Displaying and loudly calling Red-shouldered and Red-tailed Hawks dominated the sky, and Pileated Woodpeckers called from the woods. At one feeder a Ruby-throated Hummingbird appeared and a singing Cerulean Warbler was in the adjacent woods.

The route proceeded through City of Necedah where we saw a Bank Swallow, to the upper reaches of Castle Rock Flowage where a quick stop produced a nesting Osprey. Farther down the flowage at the causeway a Broad-

winged Hawk was circling, a Herring Gull was lounging on a water soaked log, and a Red-breasted Merganser was foraging in the bay (this bird saved another twenty minute trip later in the day). A few miles down the road a circling Cooper's Hawk and a foraging Eastern Kingbird were seen.

Onward to the Baraboo Hills! Approaching Devil's Lake from the north we saw the obligatory Turkey Vulture, making our noon total 139. On the way, we scoured the list for misses. Thirty species of non-water birds were regular enough to be considered possibilities before 3:00 P.M. We birded the south shore looking for and finding a Winter Wren. We also had a Blackburnian Warbler singing from the pines. The south shore was quiet with little song but as we were ready to leave a single bird emerged from the rocks—a Lincoln's Sparrow (totally out of expected habitat). Next, a quick drive to the springs on the east end produced a Louisiana Waterthrush within seconds.

Returning to the beaver pond area, several previously seen birds were tallied in addition to an Olive-sided Flycatcher that was foraging over the pond. We headed up the hill to Burma Road. More migrant waves contained many previously seen species plus Scarlet Tanager, Mourning Warbler, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Cardinal, Canada Warbler and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Surprising to us were two singing Kentucky Warblers and a Worm-eating Warbler.

Although we had not planned on it, we made a trip into Baxter's Hollow. Since we missed Acadian Flycatcher at Devil's Lake, this was our only chance. Past experiences made us conscious

that we could waste a lot of time looking so we gave ourselves fifteen minutes. Near the entrance a quick stop produced a Wilson's Warbler almost instantly. Conversely, it took nearly fourteen of our fifteen minutes, but we landed an Acadian Flycatcher mid-way up the valley.

South through the sandy farm land brought us to Schluckebier Prairie for two target birds. A farmer working his fields directly south of the prairie conveniently flushed a covey of Northern Bobwhite for us. The second was a chipping Grasshopper Sparrow at the same location Al pinpointed the day before. We continued west a few miles to the PF dump for Lark Sparrow. Fortunately, we stopped at a small barrens one-half mile east of the dump and flushed a Lark Sparrow, before the car stopped; at another barrens area we saw a Palm Warbler.

Our next target was the Mazomanie Barrens and Bottoms area. We noticed we were missing Purple Martin and proceeded for a former colony area. The house that we knew contained martins was now a House Sparrow condo, but maybe another existed. Our hunch paid off notching this increasingly hard to find species.

The next stop was the Mazomanie Barrens area where Randy had Yellow-bellied Chats two years previous. An excellent wave of migrants was present but no chats, so this was our first stop with no new species. One mile down the road at the canoe landing we heard an Orchard Oriole.

The final stop before we changed our focus to water birds was Mazomanie Bottoms. As we approached the road's end, a hoard of beach users had the parking area overflowing. We found one spot open in front of the

gate and proceeded to the dike. A Black-billed Cuckoo called to our right, then a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker to our left, although, for the most part, the trees were very quiet with little song. Al considered leaving, but Randy insisted flycatchers were regular at the first corner. On the way, we picked up a Common Moorhen cackling in the marsh, and then proceeded to the flycatcher spot and soon had a calling Willow Flycatcher. Several Least Flycatchers began "singing" although one sounded different. We keyed in on the different one and it turned out to be a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. Now it was time to leave. Migrants were not encountered until nearly out the woods when one warbler sang out—a Black-throated Blue; the only non-rare warbler we needed. In addition, we also picked up a Red-headed Woodpecker and had recorded 29 of the 30 species considered possible, missing only Cedar Waxwing.

Our route would now focus on water birds. With 168 species at 3:00 P.M., the day's success depended on this group. The weather had improved dramatically, clear skies, upper sixties, and no wind set the stage for the next three hours. Buoyed by our prospects, we headed east towards Fish and Crystal Lakes. The first stop was a mudflat where Al had a Franklin's Gull the day before. The gull was gone, but Short-billed Dowitcher, Semipalmated Sandpiper and Least Sandpiper were there. The lakes gave us Forster's Tern, Common Tern, Ruddy Duck, and two bonus Horned Grebes. Migrant warblers were seen in high numbers along the shore of Crystal Lake, although no new species were added.

A pond on Madigan Road was very productive with American Widgeon,

Northern Pintail, Semipalmated Plover, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper and Water Pipit. A mudflat off Schumacker Road produced Long-billed Dowitcher, Dunlin, White-rumped Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, and a Western Sandpiper with the most distinctively drooping bill tip we could recall. The always productive pond on County Highway V had Bonaparte's Gull, Bufflehead, Lesser Scaup, Black Tern, Gadwall, and Yellow-headed Blackbird. Stops at County Highway "I" pond had a Greater Yellowlegs, but the other "I" ponds contained nothing new.

Our next stop was a huge mudflat near County Highway DM and Harvey Road, and it was loaded with shore birds. Hundreds of peeps and dunlins, and perhaps 100 Lesser Yellowlegs and dowitchers were present; in addition, Lapland Longspurs and more pipits were observed. As we were scoping the pond from different vantage points, we both requested the other to look at a browner bird. We switched scopes and amazingly found we had both focused on the same Stilt Sandpiper. The east end of pond was even more spectacular with Black-bellied Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, and Marbled Godwit. The previous two hours were phenomenal, bringing our total to 198 as we headed to Goose Pond.

Pulling into the drive we were pumped. Randy began glassing the pond. Al looked at the uplands, then he shouted, "Kestrel." A male was perched on the pole above the nest box—#199 was recorded. Within seconds a Ring-necked Pheasant crowed—#200. We approached each other for a high five. The slap and excitement must have been the cause for a covey of Gray Partridge to flush—

#201, and only the second time ever for this species on any of our Big Days. We then birded the mudflats by the east pond pulling a Wilson's Phalarope out of the grass—#202.

A decision had to be made whether we should go west to Jamieson Park for a Tufted Titmouse or head to Horicon. More opportunities were at Horicon, so the decision was easy. The forty mile trip was unlike any we have ever experienced. Usually on Big Days this is panic time—so many birds, so little time. This year it was euphoria time.

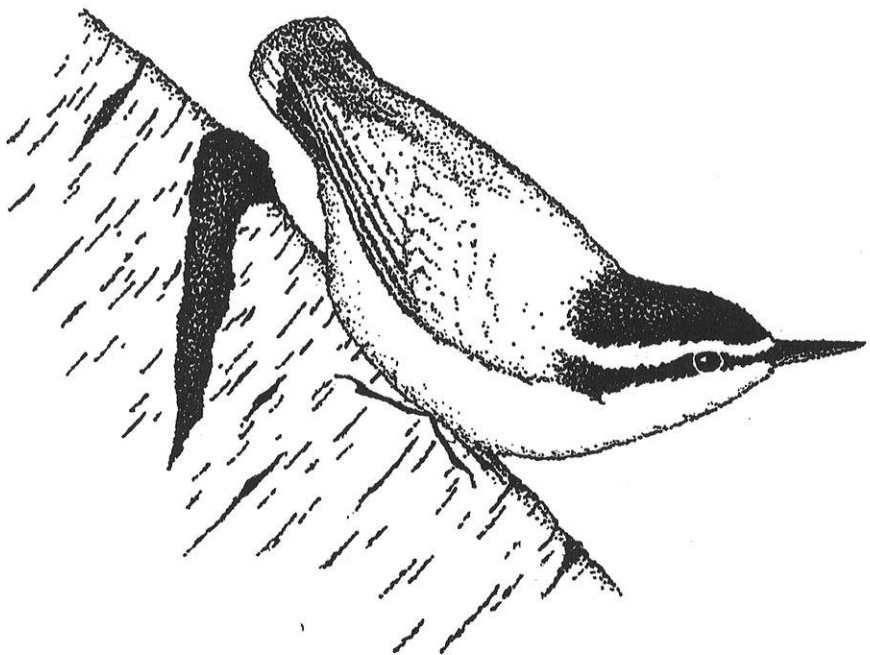
Our effervescence could not be contained. We were laughing, reflecting and smiling a lot. All weariness from the long day was gone. Things had fallen in place for the improbable. Everything past 8:00 A.M. clicked. Why stop now? A Green Heron flew alongside the van (#203), and we saw a Common Nighthawk perched on a roadside post (#204). Reaching Horicon, the Great Egret (#205) and Redhead (#206) were almost instant. Another flock of Hudsonian Godwits added luster. The final stop was the end of the main dike. While driving out, two Black-crowned Night-Herons flew by (#207). Upon reaching the road's end, and as the sun was setting, a flock of five Cattle Egrets flew north along the ditch (#208). We weren't done. Several more attempts at adding Least Bittern failed. We concluded at 8:30 P.M. for a well deserved celebration.

Our return trip home was jubilant. We recaptured many of the day's events. In total, we travelled 428 miles by van and two on foot visiting all of the known habitats in southern and central Wisconsin. The keys were the resident birds and lingering early migrants. Though it does not seem possible, an even larger total could have

been achieved. Counting the birds we discovered the day before in scouting and birds known to have been seen by others on Saturday within five miles of the route, we determined that 224 species were possible that day. Missed were pre-big day birds Mute Swan, American Black Duck, Hooded Merganser, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Franklin's Gull (also seen by others at one of our Saturday stops), and Caspian Tern. Other birders observed Eared Grebe, Least Bittern, Canvasback, American Golden-Plover, Pectoral Sandpiper, Upland Sandpiper, Alder Flycatcher, Cedar Waxwing, and Tufted Titmouse on the same day within five miles of the route.

Hindsight can add clarity or lead to more questions. In our case, we believe the latter is closer to the truth. The success of this 208 species Big Day was probably the result of several factors. The more northerly route probably added several species such as Common Raven, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Common Loon, and Hermit Thrush. The migration was late which helped with species such as Bufflehead, Greater Yellowlegs, and Orange-crowned Warbler. However, migration on the Big Day seemed relatively poor compared with the days before and after. Conversely, most of the expected migrants were tallied, including late species such as Connecticut Warbler, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers. One group that seems to stand out is the resident birds, especially raptors and gallinaceous birds. Were the more favorable afternoon viewing conditions critical in the day's success? Several more Big Days on this route may answer the questions.

Randy Hoffman
Al Shea



Red-breasted Nuthatch *by Jim Frank*

Wisconsin May Day Counts: 1997

by Jim Frank

The 17 May Day Counts in 1997 is the lowest number of counts during the past 9 years. Reflecting the persistent cold temperatures of the entire month of May, only 2 counts saw 70 degrees, but 14 of the 17 counts started birding at temperatures of 40 degrees or lower, 4 of those at below freezing. Leading the way in participation were Marathon with 34 observers, Winnebago with 27, and Oxbo/Fifield with 22.

Five counts exceeded 160 species with Marathon leading the way with 168 species, followed by Ozaukee/Milwaukee at 167 species, Oconto with 165 species, Winnebago at 161 species, and Racine/Kenosha with 160 species. Three of the top four count totals were achieved on an early date of May 10. Only 3 counts were conducted in conjunction with the North American Migration Count.

The 246 species this year is average for the past 9 years. Previous totals ranged from 240 to 253. Of note were the unexpected numbers of late migrants, due to the early dates for many of the counts coupled with a very late spring. Snowy Owl, White-winged

Crossbill, Oldsquaw, Black Scoter, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter, and Snow Goose seemed more indicative of Christmas Counts than May Counts. Southern wanderers included a Yellow-throated Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Northern Mockingbird, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Acadian Flycatcher. Western wanderers were Western Tanager and Harris' Sparrow (3 counts). Hard to find northern residents included the Saw-whet Owl, Boreal Chickadee, Gray Jay, and Spruce Grouse. Other migrants of note included Hudsonian Godwit, Marbled Godwit, Willet, Red Knot, Little Gull, Great Black-backed Gull (2 counts), American Pipit (2 counts), and White Pelicans (3 counts). Merlins on 7 counts, Peregrines on 4 counts, King Rails on 1 count, Le Conte's Sparrows on 6 counts, and Henslow's Sparrows on 4 counts round out the long list of noteworthy species.

The late nature of the migration was reflected in the low number of counts finding Yellow-throated (5), Warbling (10), and Red-eyed Vireos (6) as well as Great Crested Flycatchers (11), Eastern Wood-Pewee (9), Scarlet Tanager

(4), and Indigo Bunting (10). Acadian, Alder, Willow, and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers appeared on only one count each. Totally absent from all of the May Counts were both Yellow-billed and Black-billed Cuckoos. Two other birds of unexplained and continued diminished representation were the Western Meadowlark (3 counts) and Red-shouldered Hawk (1 count).

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

- 1) Count period is May 1–31.
- 2) Count must be taken within a 24 hour calendar day.
- 3) Count must cover a **set** area, ideally a circle consisting of a predetermined distance diameter (10, 15, 20 miles??) **or** a county.
- 4) The number of parties and observers involved may vary.
- 5) Count areas may be revisited as often as desired during the count day, unless individuals are being tallied.
- 6) The counting of individuals is **optional**.
- 7) Do not initiate a May Day Count within an area where one is already

conducted. Instead join the existing count or establish one in a new area.

8) There are no count fees.

9) Be sure to fill out an official May Day Count form. Completely document unusual species, whether they be late or rare. Send the completed form with documentation to associate editor by June 10.

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

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

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

Jim Frank

4339 W. Laverna Ave.

Mequon, Wisconsin 53092

Table 1. 1997 Wisconsin May Day Counts

Count	Date	Time	Sky	Wind	Temp	Observ.	Party	Species
Ashland/Bayfield	5/21	04:00–16:00	Clear	NE 5	32–56	21	5	140
Burnett	5/16	04:00–21:00	Clear	? 15	44–70	2	1	113
Oxbo/Fifield	5/24	07:00–19:00	Clo.	?	40–60	22	16	91
Vilas	5/25	00:20–20:20	P.Cl.	E 15	36–52	2	1	124
Pierce	5/17	07:00–?	Clear	?	40–70	3	1	79
Marathon	5/10	03:00–21:30	P.Cl.	SW 5	29–67	34	17	168
Portage	5/10	05:00–20:00	P.Cl.	NW10	25–68	14	4	113
Oconto	5/24	02:30–22:00	P.Cl.	S 10	46–67	8	5	165
Bubolz Nat. Pres.	5/26	05:30–10:30	Clo.	NE 1	34–53	1	1	87
Mosquito Hill	5/24	06:45–12:00	Rain	S 5	55–59	10	1	79
Winnebago	5/10	04:45–21:00	Clear	NW 9	36–67	27	14	161
Sheboygan	5/10	04:00–17:00	Clear	NW10	35–60	16	8	123
Oconomowoc	5/11	04:00–20:00	P.Cl.	SW15	40–58	11	5	115
Waukesha	5/10	06:00–16:00	Clear	NW10	37–62	21	8	129
Ozaukee/Milw.	5/10	03:00–18:00	Clear	W 10	39–57	11	9	167
Racine/Kenosha	5/17	03:00–21:00	Clo.	NE15	37–55	10	6	160
Kenosha	5/04	05:00–17:00	Clear	W 15	32–66	2	1	118

[illegible]

(continued)

Table 2. Continued

Species	Ashland/ Bayfield	Burnett	Oxbo/ Fifield	Vilas	Pierce	Mara- thon	Portage	Oconto	Bubolz Nat. Pres.	Mosquito Hill	Winne- bago	Sheboy- gan	Ocono- mowoc	Waukesha	Ozaukee/ Milwaukee	Racine/ Kenosha	Kenosha
Spruce Grouse				x													
Ruffed Grouse	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x		
Greater Prairie- Chicken						x	x										
Sharp-tailed Grouse		x															
Wild Turkey Northern			x		x	x		x			x	x	x	x		x	x
Bobwhite																	
Yellow Rail																	
King Rail																	
Virginia Rail				x		x		x			x	x	x		x	x	x
Sora	x	x		x		x		x			x	x	x		x	x	x
Common Moorhen																	
American Coot																	
Sandhill Crane		x				x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Black-bellied Plover		x		x		x		x			x	x	x		x	x	x
American Golden- Plover																	
Semipalmated Plover				x		x								x		x	
Killdeer	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
American Avocet																	
Greater Yellowlegs	x					x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Lesser Yellowlegs		x				x		x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Solitary Sandpiper	x				x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Willet	x																
Spotted Sandpiper	x	x	x	x		x		x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Upland Sandpiper	x	x		x			x				x	x					

[illegible]

(continued)

Table 2. Continued

Species	Ashland/ Bayfield	Oxbo/ Fifield	Vilas	Pierce	Mara- thon	Portage	Oconto	Bubolz Nat. Pres.	Mosquito Hill	Winne- bago	Sheboy- gan	Ocono- mowoc	Waukesha	Ozaukee/ Milwaukee	Racine/ Kenosha	Kenosha
Eastern Screech- Owl										x				x		
Great Horned Owl	x		x		x		x			x	x	x		x	x	x
Snowy Owl					x											
Barred Owl		x			x				x				x			
Great Gray Owl																
Long-eared Owl																
Short-eared Owl																
Northern Saw- whet Owl			x													
Common Nighthawk				x			x		x				x		x	
Whip-poor-will					x		x			x	x	x			x	x
Chimney Swift	x		x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x		x	x	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x		x	x	
Belted Kingfisher	x	x		x	x		x			x	x	x		x	x	
Red-headed Woodpecker	x			x	x		x			x	x	x		x	x	
Red-bellied Woodpecker				x	x		x		x		x	x		x	x	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	x	x	x	x	x		x			x	x			x		x
Downy Woodpecker	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x			x	x	
Hairy Woodpecker		x	x		x		x		x		x			x	x	
Black-backed Woodpecker																
Northern Flicker	x	x	x		x		x		x		x			x		x
Pileated	x	x			x		x									
Woodpecker																
Olive-sided Flycatcher					x				x							

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Table 3. Wisconsin May Day Count species totals by year.

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Common Loon	9	11	8	7	9	9	5	8	11
Pied-billed Grebe	13	19	14	17	17	20	13	16	15
Horned Grebe	5	6							
Red-necked Grebe	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	4	1
American White Pelican	3	3	1			1			
Double-crested Cormorant	11	17	14	14	14	12	12	8	11
American Bittern	10	13	11	10	16	17	13	15	16
Least Bittern	3	5	2	4	5	5	4	4	3
Great Blue Heron	17	23	19	22	24	24	21	22	22
Great Egret	5	9	5	7	11	10	7	10	11
Snowy Egret		1	1	1			1		
Cattle Egret	1	2	2	1	4	1		2	1
Green Heron	8	19	13	16	20	20	21	19	21
Black-crowned Night-Heron	2	5	6	7	7	6	7	8	8
Tundra Swan	1	5	2	1		3		2	4
Trumpeter Swan	5	3	2	2	3	1	1	1	
Mute Swan	6	7	3	7	5	5	3	4	7
Snow Goose	2	1	1	3				2	1
Canada Goose	17	23	19	20	23	22	20	21	19
Wood Duck	15	21	18	21	22	24	20	22	21
Green-winged Teal	10	12	9	10	13	13	10	11	10
American Black Duck	4	7	5	8	7	9	7	6	5
Mallard	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	21	22
Northern Pintail	3	7	3	4	7	7	6	5	
Blue-winged Teal	15	22	18	20	22	23	21	22	20
Northern Shoveler	10	15	10	11	14	14	14	14	10
Gadwall	5	10	7	6	8	8	4	7	9
American Wigeon	7	11	7	8	8	6	8	8	11
Canvasback	5	6	3	2	2	5	1	4	3
Redhead	7	10	6	4	6	7	5	5	9
Ring-necked Duck	11	17	8	11	10	10	7	8	9
Greater Scaup	6	8	2		6	6	1	2	1
Lesser Scaup	8	13	10	6	9	9	9	12	8
Oldsquaw	1	1	1		1				
Black Scoter	1								
Surf Scoter	1								
White-winged Scoter	1								
Common Goldeneye	5	6	3	2	3	5	1	3	5
Bufflehead	12	13	2	6	7	5	3	7	6
Hooded Merganser	12	12	9	9	9	9	7	7	8
Common Merganser	6	9	7	6	6	5	4	3	4
Red-breasted Merganser	7	10	5	7	7	4	2	5	5
Ruddy Duck	6	6	6	8	7	9	7	10	10
Turkey Vulture	14	17	14	14	16	19	15	11	16
Osprey	11	16	10	6	15	13	8	7	11
Bald Eagle	10	10	11	9	11	10	8	7	5
Northern Harrier	13	20	18	19	21	18	12	15	14
Sharp-shinned Hawk	10	16	8	10	14	17	7	9	10
Cooper's Hawk	7	16	8	12	11	9	7	9	12
Northern Goshawk	1	3	3	2	2	3	2	1	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	8	4	6	2	5	5	5	5
Broad-winged Hawk	11	15	11	14	17	18	11	11	13
Red-tailed Hawk	16	21	17	22	22	24	21	20	21
Rough-legged Hawk	3	7	4	2	1	3	3	6	1
American Kestrel	13	19	19	18	24	24	22	21	21

(continued)

Table 3. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Merlin	7	6	3	2	2	2	2	3	3
Peregrine Falcon	4	4	1	3	3		2	1	
Gray Partridge		1							
Ring-necked Pheasant	14	15	13	15	17	13	13	15	13
Spruce Grouse	1								
Ruffed Grouse	10	14	13	14	14	14	14	14	16
Greater Prairie-Chicken	2	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	4
Sharp-tailed Grouse	1	2	1	2	2	3	2	2	2
Wild Turkey	10	14	9	9	9	7	5	4	3
Northern Bobwhite	3	2	1	4	2	2	2	2	
Yellow Rail		2							
King Rail	1	2	4	2	2	1	1	2	2
Virginia Rail	8	12	8	12	10	8	5	7	8
Sora	13	18	14	17	18	23	15	20	15
Common Moorhen	3	6	3	5	6	4	4	4	4
American Coot	11	18	9	12	15	16	13	17	15
Sandhill Crane	14	21	14	19	22	23	18	18	18
Black-bellied Plover	2	4	3	5	3	4	1	4	5
American Golden-Plover	2	1	1	2		1			1
Semipalmated Plover	4	2	5	12	8	13	7	6	11
Killdeer	17	22	19	22	24	24	21	21	21
American Avocet		1							
Greater Yellowlegs	9	14	12	10	9	13	8	13	10
Lesser Yellowlegs	9	13	12	9	14	12	7	14	13
Solitary Sandpiper	10	12	6	12	13	10	10	13	9
Willet	2								
Spotted Sandpiper	12	19	18	19	21	21	18	18	19
Upland Sandpiper	7	6	3	5	6	6	6	6	8
Hudsonian Godwit	1								
Marbled Godwit	1								
Ruddy Turnstone	5	7	4	6	4	3	3	2	6
Red Knot	1								
Sanderling	1	3	2	2	2	3	1	3	2
Semipalmated Sandpiper	4	5	6	12	2	9	6	6	8
Least Sandpiper	8	8	11	14	14	16	9	12	13
White-rumped Sandpiper		3	4	3	1	2	3		2
Baird's Sandpiper		1	2	4	2	2	1	1	2
Pectoral Sandpiper	4	5	2	7	3	6	4	9	7
Dunlin	6	7	11	11	7	9	9	4	8
Short-billed Dowitcher	4	6	6	6	5	8	6	5	6
Common Snipe	12	16	15	17	19	18	15	19	17
American Woodcock	12	18	14	15	21	17	10	18	11
Wilson's Phalarope	2	2	3	6	5	4	6	10	4
Red-necked Phalarope		1							
Little Gull	1	1	2					1	2
Bonaparte's Gull	6	11	8	10	10	8	7	7	7
Ring-billed Gull	9	16	14	16	19	17	19	14	14
Herring Gull	10	12	13	15	16	9	7	9	10
Glaucous Gull	2	1	1		1	1		1	
Great Black-backed Gull	2								
Caspian Tern	6	10	5	9	9	6	5	7	7
Common Tern	8	12	8	11	12	9	7	10	10
Forster's Tern	6	10	7	12	9	9	10	14	7
Black Tern	10	13	13	15	17	19	16	16	17
Rock Dove	16	23	19	21	24	23	22	21	22

(continued)

Table 3. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Mourning Dove	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Black-billed Cuckoo		3	2	7	10	11	10	8	14
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		2	1	2			3	3	6
Eastern Screech-Owl	3	6	3	8	6	3	3	5	5
Great Horned Owl	12	17	14	14	17	19	11	16	15
Snowy Owl	1								
Barred Owl	8	12	12	10	12	14	6	12	10
Great Gray Owl		1							
Long-eared Owl		1							
Short-eared Owl			1	1	1	1	2		
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1		1	1	2	2	1		1
Common Nighthawk	7	12	8	11	14	9	13	9	16
Whip-poor-will	7	12	9	8	13	7	8	8	12
Chimney Swift	14	19	19	21	22	22	20	20	22
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	14	14	14	16	18	16	15	13	14
Belted Kingfisher	14	20	16	17	21	23	17	18	21
Red-headed Woodpecker	11	13	12	16	21	20	17	19	21
Red-bellied Woodpecker	13	20	15	16	18	19	16	17	20
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	11	11	12	12	12	11	8	10	10
Downy Woodpecker	17	23	18	19	23	23	22	21	23
Hairy Woodpecker	15	20	17	22	23	22	19	21	21
Black-backed Woodpecker		1	2	1	1	1		1	
Northern Flicker	16	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	22
Pileated Woodpecker	6	12	10	10	9	11	9	10	9
Olive-sided Flycatcher	3	3	3	5	5	4	4	9	3
Eastern Wood-Pewee	9	15	8	14	19	10	13	13	16
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	7	3	5	3	3	1	1	3
Acadian Flycatcher	1	2							
Alder Flycatcher	1	2	6	6	5	2	2	1	8
Willow Flycatcher	1	3	7	5	2	2	5	5	9
Least Flycatcher	14	17	14	20	19	21	18	20	19
Eastern Phoebe	16	23	17	21	21	23	19	20	19
Great Crested Flycatcher	11	14	18	20	22	24	20	21	21
Eastern Kingbird	14	23	18	20	23	23	22	21	21
Horned Lark	12	15	16	19	21	21	17	18	19
Purple Martin	13	16	14	19	20	23	19	19	21
Tree Swallow	16	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	21
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	12	19	18	17	21	24	17	20	21
Bank Swallow	9	16	16	17	19	20	16	14	16
Cliff Swallow	15	19	17	20	21	16	13	16	16
Barn Swallow	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	21	22
Gray Jay	2	2	2	2	1	2		1	1
Blue Jay	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
American Crow	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Northern Raven	7	9	10	9	8	8	8	5	8
Black-capped Chickadee	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Boreal Chickadee	1	1	1		1	1			
Tufted Titmouse		1	1	1	2	2	2	4	2
Red-breasted Nuthatch	10	21	9	17	14	12	7	15	10
White-breasted Nuthatch	16	22	18	21	24	24	22	21	23
Brown Creeper	10	13	9	6	10	8	6		13
House Wren	16	22	18	22	24	24	22	21	23
Winter Wren	6	13	10	11	12	10	7	5	9
Sedge Wren	8	14	11	14	16	17	13	16	10
Marsh Wren	7	11	12	17	15	16	11	14	7

(continued)

Table 3. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4	10	6	5	10	3	4	6	6
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	14	20	10	14	16	15	7	14	15
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	11	13	12	15	14	15	14	14	15
Eastern Bluebird	17	22	18	22	23	24	21	22	21
Veery	13	19	17	19	18	18	15	20	17
Gray-cheeked Thrush	8	12	8	5	9	8	7	10	4
Swainson's Thrush	14	18	12	14	17	14	13	14	11
Hermit Thrush	15	14	11	15	14	14	10	12	13
Wood Thrush	15	19	17	18	21	21	19	19	19
American Robin	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Gray Catbird	17	22	18	22	24	23	22	21	23
Northern Mockingbird		1							
Brown Thrasher	15	21	19	21	24	23	21	20	21
American Pipit	2	4							
Cedar Waxwing	10	12	14	15	15	16	14	13	15
Northern Shrike		1							
European Starling	17	23	18	22	24	23	22	22	23
White-eyed Vireo		1							
Solitary Vireo	10	12	10	15	13	9	6	9	9
Yellow-throated Vireo	5	9	14	15	18	13	14	12	16
Warbling Vireo	10	11	16	18	21	22	20	19	16
Philadelphia Vireo	2	4	5	7	7	4	8	6	7
Red-eyed Vireo	6	10	14	19	22	19	21	17	19
Blue-winged Warbler	5	9	8	15	11	11	12	13	10
Golden-winged Warbler	6	10	13	18	14	14	9	13	16
Tennessee Warbler	10	8	14	18	18	18	16	15	17
Orange-crowned Warbler	3	8	2	6	8	3	4	7	9
Nashville Warbler	16	15	15	18	19	20	16	18	18
Northern Parula	9	13	9	10	10	12	4	9	10
Yellow Warbler	17	20	19	22	24	24	20	21	22
Chestnut-sided Warbler	11	16	17	21	24	20	18	17	18
Magnolia Warbler	15	13	16	17	19	17	16	19	16
Cape May Warbler	8	15	11	16	16	14	12	10	13
Black-throated Blue Warbler	7	10	8	9	6	7	4	2	7
Yellow-rumped Warbler	17	23	18	22	23	22	18	22	20
Black-throated Green Warbler	14	19	15	19	19	19	16	17	18
Blackburnian Warbler	11	14	15	20	19	19	14	16	13
Yellow-throated Warbler	1	1							
Pine Warbler	6	13	12	12	9	6	8	6	9
Palm Warbler	14	21	13	15	21	22	12	19	17
Bay-breasted Warbler	7	10	11	14	15	13	12	13	14
Blackpoll Warbler	7	10	10	13	11	9	14	10	11
Cerulean Warbler	4	7	3	3	6	7	7	3	8
Black-and-white Warbler	17	21	18	21	19	19	16	20	21
American Redstart	15	18	18	20	22	21	18	19	20
Prothonotary Warbler		4	3	2	6	1		3	7
Worm-eating Warbler	1		1	1				1	
Ovenbird	17	21	18	21	23	22	19	20	21
Northern Waterthrush	13	18	13	18	20	19	11	16	12
Louisiana Waterthrush	1	4	3	3	1	2	3	4	5
Kentucky Warbler		3	1		1	3	1		
Connecticut Warbler	5	7	4	5	5	6	5	3	2
Mourning Warbler	6	9	8	11	14	8	11	8	11
Common Yellowthroat	16	17	17	21	22	24	20	21	22
Hooded Warbler	2	1							

(continued)

Table 3. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
Wilson's Warbler	12	12	10	14	12	14	10	15	12
Canada Warbler	10	10	11	13	15	14	13	7	9
Yellow-breasted Chat	2								
Summer Tanager		1							
Scarlet Tanager	4	12	14	19	23	17	17	16	17
Western Tanager	1								
Northern Cardinal	15	22	16	17	22	23	20	20	22
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	17	22	19	21	23	24	22	22	23
Indigo Bunting	10	19	17	19	19	20	20	18	19
Dickcissel		3							
Rufous-sided Towhee	15	21	12	18	20	19	18	18	17
American Tree Sparrow	3	6	4	3	1	1		1	2
Chipping Sparrow	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	21
Clay-colored Sparrow	10	12	12	14	15	12	11	10	12
Field Sparrow	13	17	15	18	17	18	17	18	19
Vesper Sparrow	11	17	14	14	17	17	15	16	15
Savannah Sparrow	14	21	16	19	22	21	19	21	19
Grasshopper Sparrow	5	8	7	10	10	9	8	6	7
Henslow's Sparrow	4	5	2	3	1		1	3	4
Le Conte's Sparrow	6	3	3	3	4		4	4	2
Fox Sparrow	5	8	1	2	4	3	4	7	7
Song Sparrow	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	20	23
Lincoln's Sparrow	9	8	8	8	10	12	5	5	12
Swamp Sparrow	13	19	18	20	21	21	19	20	23
White-throated Sparrow	17	23	16	21	22	23	15	21	18
White-crowned Sparrow	13	20	14	14	16	21	13	19	15
Harris' Sparrow	3	3	3			2	2	5	
Dark-eyed Junco	4	12	4	6	9	5	3	6	7
Lapland Longspur		2	1	2	1	3	2	2	
Bobolink	14	21	18	19	21	22	20	19	19
Red-winged Blackbird	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Eastern Meadowlark	13	20	18	21	22	22	22	19	18
Western Meadowlark	3	9	8	10	11	15	11	16	12
Yellow-headed Blackbird	9	12	13	14	15	19	15	16	17
Rusty Blackbird	1	2	1	1			1		
Brewer's Blackbird	9	14	13	13	13	14	12	14	16
Common Grackle	16	23	19	22	24	24	22	21	23
Brown-headed Cowbird	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	21	23
Orchard Oriole	2	3	1	3	7	3	4	4	3
Northern Oriole	15	21	17	22	23	24	22	21	22
Purple Finch	10	17	12	17	17	17	13	13	9
House Finch	14	23	18	22	22	19	16	12	11
Red Crossbill	3	2	2	1	1		1	2	1
White-winged Crossbill	2	1							
Pine Siskin	6	17	5	11	11	10	6	18	4
American Goldfinch	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Evening Grosbeak	5	9	5	7	6	7	3	4	4
House Sparrow	16	21	19	21	24	24	21	22	23
Number of Counts	17	23	19	22	24	24	22	22	23
Total Species	246	254	240	247	244	245	242	244	245

North American Migration Count 1997— Wisconsin

by *Jim Frank*

The sixth North American Migration Count took place on May 10, 1997 in numerous states and counties across the country. This count differs from Wisconsin's traditional May Day Counts in that it attempts to count the *individual numbers* of each species (as do Christmas Counts) and the *number of party hours* is reported (again as do Christmas Counts). It differs from Christmas Counts in that the count area is an entire county, *not* a 15 mile diameter circle. In addition, this count is taken on *the same day* across the country to in essence take a "snapshot" of the spring migration in North America. The premise is that *numbers* of birds will create useful comparative data for the future, something the mere "ticking" off species doesn't generate.

The count is held on the second Saturday in May, a time when some of the northern states haven't reached their peak of migration, but still have early lingering migrants. The southern states may be past their peak, but late migrants may still be present in these areas. Because spring migration is so dynamic, counts have to be held on the

same day to avoid repetitive counting. Obviously nothing is foolproof, we all are aware of how far birds can fly in a day's time, if they are "on the move."

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

In examining the counts from the last 5 years, note should be made of improved coverage of northern counties in the state, with appropriate species increases. Coverage in the southern portion of the state has been inconsistent, this year being an "off year." In evaluating 1993's count, its early date of May 8 versus May 14, 1994; May 13, 1995; and May 11, 1996 should be taken into consideration. That 5 day interval allows a significant wave or two of neotropical migrants to enter the state in many instances. Party hours for 1994 and 1995 were roughly 10%

higher than in 1993 allowing fairly reasonable comparison of many species not restricted to the northern counties. The 33% increase in number of counties submitting data in 1996 and the consequent increase in party hours necessitate careful comparison of this year's data with past years. With the drop in party hours in 1997, comparative data should be expected with 1993–1995.

It should be recorded that count day was, again this year, a cold one across the state. The highest temperatures on the counts were generally in the 50's, a few reached the low 60's. Early morning lows ranged from the upper 20's in the north to upper 30's in the south. When noting species numbers, it should become fairly apparent that spring migration was lagging behind during the second week of May in Wisconsin. Species generally considered late April migrants such as White-throated Sparrow, Hermit Thrush, Eastern Phoebe, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet were recorded in record numbers. Many of the warblers, tanagers, orioles, grosbeaks, bobolinks, and flycatchers were recorded at only 10% to 20% of previous Migration Count totals. As might be expected, waterfowl and gull numbers were higher as they were "stacked up" waiting for winter to break farther north. Large concentrations of Red-breasted Mergansers and Horned Grebes were found in Lake Michigan off southern Ozaukee Co. For some reason, shorebird numbers weren't as affected, except of both yellowleg species and Solitary Sandpipers (tending to be late April migrants) which were present in higher than usual numbers.

In spite of the late migration, count

species totals were very similar to previous years; the total of all counts was 223 species. Of note were White Pelicans in Marathon Co., Surf and Black Scoters from Ozaukee Co., Spruce Grouse in Vilas Co., King Rails in Ozaukee and Kenosha Cos., Snowy Owl in Marathon Co., and Worm-eating Warbler in Kenosha Co.

In addition, one count from 1994 (Waukesha), from 1995 (Dodge), from 1996 (Dodge), and from 1997 (Marathon) were separated from the main body of data for computation of individuals/hour because party hours were not submitted for these counts.

Hopefully numbers of each species will be fascinating, making one want to speculate as to the actual numbers we could document across the state (and country) with dramatically improved coverage. At a national level, somebody must have been looking at "our" May migrants in unexpected numbers on their Migration Counts. The best species totals were Marathon County with 168 species followed by Winnebago County with 161 species.

The 1998 North American Migration Count is to be held May 8, 1998. Compilers of the 1997 North American Migration Counts are listed below. If you are interested in joining one of the counts, contact the compiler. If you want to initiate a count in a previously uncovered county, please contact Jim Frank, 4339 W. Laverna Ave., Mequon, Wisconsin 53092. Even if you count alone, the data is valuable since it is analyzed per party hour.

Douglas Co.—Burnett Hojnacki, 140 Greenwood La., Duluth, MN 55803–2049.

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

Ashland Co.—Dick Verch, 906 Ellis Ave., Ashland, WI 54806.

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

Oneida Co.—Rosemary Boxrucker, 4413 Highlander Rd., Rhineland, WI 54501.

Florence Co.—Jean Strelka, 19315 Kil-larney Way, Brookfield, WI 53045.

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

Taylor Co.—Greg Scott, N3566 Grauer Dr., Withee, WI 54498.

Winnebago Co.—Tom Ziebell, 1322 Ceape Rd., Oshkosh, WI 54901.

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

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

Kenosha Co.—Ron Hoffman, Box 886, Kenosha, WI 53141.

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

Table 1. Numbers of individuals of each species observed on Migration Day Counts in Wisconsin, 1997.

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Ashland	Vilas	Oneida	Florence	Marathon	Taylor	Winnebago	Ozaukee	Milwaukee	Kenosha
Common Loon	1	5	1	20	3	1	3	2		7		9
Pied-billed Grebe							41	2	46	5	1	4
Horned Grebe		6							2	426		2
Red-necked Grebe									16			
American White Pelican							3					
Double-crested Cormorant		199	40				256		180	135		73
American Bittern		5	1	3			17	2	13			5
Least Bittern									2			2
Great Blue Heron	3	5	1	3	4		62	8	55	5	2	44
Great Egret									2	3		2
Snowy Egret												
Cattle Egret									12			2
Green Heron							5	1	9			5
Black-crowned Night-Heron									27			1
Tundra Swan		4					6					2
Trumpeter Swan		2	2				3					5
Mute Swan	4	2	2				3					1
swan (sp.)		7										2
Snow Goose							3		1			
Canada Goose		29	7	6	4	8	200	18	142	75	64	100
Wood Duck		15	10	12	2	1	30	3	40	4	6	9
Green-winged Teal		2					187	3	22	3		
American Black Duck							2		3			2
Mallard	7	23	4	36	17	9	438	39	502	53	16	100
Northern Pintail		1					40		3			4
Blue-winged Teal		17	3	2			310		148	38	6	20
Northern Shoveler		6					6		55	13		10
Gadwall			1				11		45	8		1
American Wigeon		5	7				33		19	6		3
Canvasback							2		4			2
Redhead							1		116	5		6

Ring-necked Duck		2	1	1	409	3	98		4
Greater Scaup							6		50
Lesser Scaup		16	2		40		31		11
scaup (sp.)	30						400		100
Black Scoter								3	
Surf Scoter								3	
Common Goldeneye		1			25		1		
Bufflehead		2	18	2	32		4		8
Hooded Merganser		2	3		9		2		
Common Merganser		21	5	2			2		
Red-breasted Merganser		33	3				12		
merganser (sp.)	1							1427	100
Ruddy Duck									
Turkey Vulture		2		2	2		88	2	2
Osprey					15		10		2
Bald Eagle		7	1	1	17		4	1	1
Northern Harrier	1		10		12	2	1		
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1			32	2	16	4	2
Cooper's Hawk	2	2	1	1	4			1	5
Northern Goshawk		2	2	1	6	1	10		2
accipiter (sp.)									
Red-shouldered Hawk				1					1
Broad-winged Hawk		15	1	1	19	2	4		1
Red-tailed Hawk	1	3	2	1	62	1	62	8	14
Rough-legged Hawk		1			1				
American Kestrel		12	1	1	25		25	4	10
Merlin		2	2		1		1		
Peregrine Falcon					1				
hawk (sp.)									
Gray Partridge									
Ring-necked Pheasant					5	4	26	6	16
Spruce Grouse			1						
Ruffed Grouse		26	12	3	40	5			
Greater Prairie-Chicken			23		2				
Sharp-tailed Grouse	4			2		8			

(continued)

Table 1. Continued

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Ashland	Vilas	Oneida	Florence	Marathon	Taylor	Winnebago	Ozaukee	Milwaukee	Kenosha
Wild Turkey							6		4	4		18
Northern Bobwhite												5
Yellow Rail												
King Rail			1	2			3	1	8	1		1
Virginia Rail			2	1			16		58	13		7
Sora						1			7	31		4
Common Moorhen												1
American Coot						1	116	1	557	97	1	100
Sandhill Crane		1	3	3			135	5	201	6		4
Black-bellied Plover												208
American Golden-Plover												116
Semipalmated Plover												
Killdeer							5					
Greater Yellowlegs	9		1	12	4	2	127	6	176	17		18
Lesser Yellowlegs	9						29		37	6		1
Solitary Sandpiper	4			32			21		98	8		
Willet				2			119		13	2	1	
Spotted Sandpiper	5			1		1	11		21	1	2	3
Upland Sandpiper									1	2		1
Hudsonian Godwit												
Marbled Godwit												
Ruddy Turnstone												
Sanderling												
Semipalmated Sandpiper							1		7			16
Least Sandpiper							21		2			22
White-rumped Sandpiper									65			
Pectoral Sandpiper							3		1			
Dunlin									2			11
peep (sp.)												
Short-billed Dowitcher				3								
dowitcher (sp.)					1					1		

Common Snipe	9	6	1	42	2	7	2	4
American Woodcock	1	1	1	26		4	26	12
Red-necked Phalarope								
Wilson's Phalarope								
Franklin's Gull								
Little Gull								
Bonaparte's Gull	88			1		63	890	1186
Ring-billed Gull	290	50		44		11089	146	4000
Herring Gull						94	104	2000
Glaucous Gull								
gull (sp.)							1100	8000
Caspian Tern						1	4	8
Common Tern						13	1	126
Forster's Tern						74	25	4
tern—Sterna (sp.)						14		1000
Black Tern						11		6
Rock Dove	4	6	1	3	9	427	33	200
Mourning Dove	25	3	12	429	3	477	43	100
Black-billed Cuckoo								
Yellow-billed Cuckoo								
Eastern Screech-Owl								
Great Horned Owl		1		4		1		1
Snowy Owl				1		2	2	2
Barred Owl	4			1		1	1	
Great Gray Owl								
Short-eared Owl								
Northern Saw-whet Owl								
Common Nighthawk								
Whip-poor-will								
Chimney Swift								
Ruby-throated Hummingbird								
Belted Kingfisher	1	9	1	1	1	19	5	7
Red-headed Woodpecker						6	1	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker						20	5	4
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	25	5	1	119	5	2		7

(continued)

Table 1. Continued

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Ashland	Vilas	Oneida	Florence	Marathon	Taylor	Winnebago	Ozaukee	Milwaukee	Kenosha
Downy Woodpecker	1	9	1	12	1	3	74	7	92	13	8	8
Hairy Woodpecker	2	6	2	13	3	2	32		14	2	2	2
Northern Flicker	1	28	1	14	5	5	52	2	74	3		11
Pileated Woodpecker		3	1	8	1	1	7	1				
Olive-sided Flycatcher							1					
Eastern Wood-Pewee							9					
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher												2
Acadian Flycatcher												
Alder Flycatcher												
Willow Flycatcher												
Least Flycatcher							33	1	2	1		
empidonax (sp.)												
Eastern Phoebe	5	14	2	7	2	2	88	6	21	4	1	6
Great Crested Flycatcher		2					2			2		2
Eastern Kingbird							8		2			3
Horned Lark				2			9		12	8		7
Purple Martin	4			6	1		10		81	6		19
Tree Swallow	40	107	40	89		16	795	27	1193	109	17	100
Northern Rough-winged Swallow		1		4			51	2	15	11	8	20
Bank Swallow				1			65	1	248	33		50
Cliff Swallow	6	35		95	17		369		94	1	6	6
Barn Swallow	3	18		18		2	272		576	22	6	100
Gray Jay				1								
Blue Jay	11	51	3	39	12	6	216	1	172	27	20	10
American Crow	21	160	6	60	46	9	693	18	284	47	15	50
Common Raven	3	22	5	21		6	9	1				
Black-capped Chickadee												
Boreal Chickadee	1	152	19	117	28	16	300	7	95	24	14	50
Tufted Titmouse				3					3			
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	25	3	28	2	4	20	1				1
White-breasted Nuthatch		7		9	1	1	50	1	29	6	3	4

Brown Creeper	8	1	2	3	6	1	1	8
House Wren					48	122	14	3
Winter Wren	16		4	1	9	2		
Sedge Wren	1		2		45	63		
Marsh Wren	1				5	381	1	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2		2		3			
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	15	3	2	20	72	8	20
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			6		4	39	6	1
Eastern Bluebird	5		6	3	52	26	1	5
Veery				1	1	6	4	6
Gray-cheeked Thrush							3	2
Swainson's Thrush					4	20	4	4
Hermit Thrush	3	10	12	6	20	9	2	2
Wood Thrush	1		15		3		5	8
American Robin	11	139	14	15	1146	32	135	100
Gray Catbird			90		5		5	8
Northern Mockingbird								
Brown Thrasher	2	2	2	2	39	1	7	9
American Pipit	7				35			
Cedar Waxwing							1	16
Northern Shrike								
European Starling	80	10	18	69	750	17	146	1000
Solitary Vireo	1	1			1		1	
Yellow-throated Vireo	1							
Warbling Vireo					5			
Philadelphia Vireo								
Red-eyed Vireo	2					2	1	1
Blue-winged Warbler								
Golden-winged Warbler					2			
Tennessee Warbler								
Orange-crowned Warbler	3							
Nashville Warbler	2	1			14	3	2	
Northern Parula						1	1	
Yellow Warbler		1	2		19		3	14

(continued)

Eastern Towhee	2		4	21	2	1	6	1	1
American Tree Sparrow									
Clay-colored Sparrow		3	2	115	5	3	4		
Chipping Sparrow	23	89	2	442	4	375	57	3	12
Field Sparrow			1	75		5	16		6
Vesper Sparrow	1	1	8	6		9	1		1
Savannah Sparrow	2	31	15	213		349	50		3
Grasshopper Sparrow			1	4			2		
Henslow's Sparrow				5					
Le Conte's Sparrow		1		13					
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow									
Fox Sparrow				5		1			2
Song Sparrow	2	76	17	405	8	548	74	9	6
Lincoln's Sparrow			2			3	1	4	
Swamp Sparrow		29	8	158	6	203	8	1	9
White-throated Sparrow	2	80	23	348	3	793	36	26	184
White-crowned Sparrow		15		28		19	3		12
Harris' Sparrow									
Dark-eyed Junco		2	8	4					
Lapland Longspur			1						
Snow Bunting									
Bobolink				14		24	12		8
Red-winged Blackbird	25	308	54	256	91	4595	292	27	1000
Eastern Meadowlark		5	2	82	3	33	19	1	7
Western Meadowlark				2		5	1		
Yellow-headed Blackbird				35		668			2
Rusty Blackbird									
Brewer's Blackbird		62	20	78	7	20	9		
Common Grackle	5	67	6	591	18	1781	138	26	100
Brown-headed Cowbird	43	180	16	731	16	580	19	5	66
blackbird (sp.)				24					
Orchard Oriole									1
Baltimore Oriole	1	79	7	46	5	14	1	11	6
Purple Finch			6			1			1

(continued)

Table 1. Continued

Species	Douglas	Bayfield	Ashland	Vilas	Oneida	Florence	Marathon	Taylor	Winnebago	Ozaukee	Milwaukee	Kenosha
House Finch		2		1			192		495	22	1	11
Red Crossbill	9			17			4					
White-winged Crossbill				67		3						
Common Redpoll					5							
Pine Siskin		40	8	78	7	13			390		24	80
American Goldfinch	4	60	12	91	2	9	491	4		34		
Evening Grosbeak	1	42	4	31	6		14	2				
House Sparrow		2		1	2	2	748	3	2109	98		100
SPECIES	43	105	76	94	52	63	168	69	161	128	60	155
INDIVIDUALS	276	3193	556	1737	391	355	17507	509	36990	6626	566	21482
# Counties												
Parties	1	8	3	6	4	1	17	1	13	1	2	1
Observers	2	33	15	6	8	1	34	2	25	1	5	1
Total Hours	9	69	31	34	18	12		7	127.5	13.5	6	14
Hours—Foot	0	7	21	15	6	7		2	34	3	6	5
Hours—Car	9	37	10	16	8	5		5	93.5	10.5		6
Miles—Foot	0	6	3	7	6	9		1	24	5	3.5	3
Miles—Car	71	322	126	280	92	53		65	834	151		150
Individuals/Hour	31	46	18	51	22	30		73	290	491	94	1534

Table 2. Migration Day Count totals for Wisconsin by years.

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Common Loon	52	56	55	32	9
Pied-billed Grebe	99	237	69	36	68
Horned Grebe	436	17			
Red-necked Grebe	16	6	3	10	22
American White Pelican	3	24	8		
Double-crested Cormorant	883	1117	377	219	587
American Bittern	46	44	29	35	33
Least Bittern	4	5	15	5	7
Great Blue Heron	192	415	283	261	195
Great Egret	7	95	73	8	92
Snowy Egret		2	1		
Cattle Egret	14	3	3		
Green Heron	20	41	33	80	61
Black-crowned Night-Heron	27	39	46	36	11
Tundra Swan	12	23	3		
Trumpeter Swan	7	4	1	2	4
Mute Swan	11	14	17	1	2
swan (sp.)	7				
Snow Goose	3		1	2	
Canada Goose	660	1202	1924	906	436
Wood Duck	142	190	205	184	139
Green-winged Teal	217	145	36	36	12
American Black Duck	7	29	12	42	7
Mallard	1154	1777	1526	1981	942
Northern Pintail	48	7	4	30	12
Blue-winged Teal	544	663	421	342	396
Northern Shoveler	90	93	33	31	65
Gadwall	66	43	40	32	27
American Wigeon	73	44	34	7	20
Canvasback	8	21	1	8	2
Redhead	128	94	78	48	101
Ring-necked Duck	518	526	93	14	101
Greater Scaup	76	162	4	5	11
Lesser Scaup	134	128	223	22	46
scaup (sp.)	100	477	10	11	67
Black Scoter	3	2			
Surf Scoter	3				
Common Goldeneye	29	104	4	1	19
Bufflehead	139	261	13	10	39
Hooded Merganser	16	61	26	14	6
Common Merganser	38	159	22	23	9
Red-breasted Merganser	1576	696	10	25	202
merganser (sp.)		2	2		
Ruddy Duck	94	47	42	85	116
Turkey Vulture	31	114	34	29	33
Osprey	25	30	10	14	18
Bald Eagle	41	49	37	26	19
Northern Harrier	57	168	90	82	113
Sharp-shinned Hawk	16	32	11	7	8
Cooper's Hawk	24	24	13	10	14
Northern Goshawk	2	4	2	2	
accipiter (sp.)		1	1		
Red-shouldered Hawk	2	1	2		
Broad-winged Hawk	45	41	27	14	29
Red-tailed Hawk	154	251	96	137	142

(continued)

Table 2. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Rough-legged Hawk	2	6	1		
American Kestrel	78	175	104	88	121
Merlin	6	4		3	
Peregrine Falcon	1	3		2	
hawk (sp.)		4		2	4
Gray Partridge		3		2	2
Ring-necked Pheasant	57	59	66	77	120
Spruce Grouse	1	2		6	
Ruffed Grouse	111	74	64	36	11
Greater Prairie-Chicken	2	8	16	18	11
Sharp-tailed Grouse	12	15	6	4	
Wild Turkey	32	56	10	19	4
Northern Bobwhite	5	7		9	3
Yellow Rail				2	7
King Rail	2	3	3	1	1
Virginia Rail	35	21	30	19	16
Sora	113	195	157	76	165
Common Moorhen	8	21	7	11	9
American Coot	873	1463	179	259	361
Sandhill Crane	358	509	432	532	347
Black-bellied Plover	208	52	4	97	
American Golden-Plover	116	79	20	68	1
Semipalmated Plover	5		6	13	1
Killdeer	372	451	494	622	516
Greater Yellowlegs	82	203	8	22	21
Lesser Yellowlegs	159	219	22	64	67
Solitary Sandpiper	141	69	5	13	13
Willet		20			
Spotted Sandpiper	47	77	90	55	34
Upland Sandpiper	2	9	3	14	5
Hudsonian Godwit		1		4	
Marbled Godwit				1	
Ruddy Turnstone	23	119	118	336	26
Sanderling	22	41	16	14	30
Semipalmated Sandpiper	3	4	16	27	
Least Sandpiper	86	36	49	74	18
White-rumped Sandpiper		1	1		
Pectoral Sandpiper	4	23	8	5	47
Dunlin	13	74	75	33	2
peep (sp.)		41		71	21
Short-billed Dowitcher	4	4	10	15	6
dowitcher (sp.)	1			2	9
Common Snipe	73	109	77	67	65
American Woodcock	83	58	40	34	50
Red-necked Phalarope		2			
Wilson's Phalarope		9		17	7
Franklin's Gull		1			
Little Gull			2		
Bonaparte's Gull		10824	280	316	1056
Ring-billed Gull	15364	9187	6261	4310	4363
Herring Gull	2532	1134	385	872	2817
Glaucous Gull		6			
gull (sp.)	1900	2010	2354	8425	2151
Caspian Tern	13	84		149	45
Common Tern	140	1407	398	586	102

(continued)

Table 2. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Forster's Tern	103	100	157	119	127
tern—Sterna (sp.)	1014	506	1223	13082	171
Black Tern	20	146	332	123	88
Rock Dove	1127	2245	1549	1710	1664
Mourning Dove	1008	1566	1340	1050	1226
Black-billed Cuckoo			1	3	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo				1	
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	7	2	5	
Great Horned Owl	11	61	26	19	14
Snowy Owl	1				
Barred Owl	15	24	20	8	8
Great Gray Owl		1			
Short-eared Owl			1		
Northern Saw-whet Owl		1	1	2	
Common Nighthawk	4	4	10	14	52
Whip-poor-will	3	3	24	4	14
Chimney Swift	154	238	337	565	430
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	6	9	15	35	15
Belted Kingfisher	73	107	37	36	45
Red-headed Woodpecker	13	9	13	37	46
Red-bellied Woodpecker	46	82	32	46	36
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	191	61	69	39	17
Downy Woodpecker	229	264	159	149	101
Hairy Woodpecker	78	109	95	71	39
Northern Flicker	196	399	447	287	233
Pileated Woodpecker	22	21	25	19	7
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	2			
Eastern Wood-Pewee	11	13	6	26	8
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		2		1	2
Acadian Flycatcher		1		1	
Alder Flycatcher		2		8	1
Willow Flycatcher		1	2	5	2
Least Flycatcher	37	30	59	181	165
empidonax (sp.)	7	33	9	8	15
Eastern Phoebe	153	149	103	126	92
Great Crested Flycatcher	9	14	56	158	96
Eastern Kingbird	22	53	96	241	192
Horned Lark	38	151	102	62	184
Purple Martin	127	107	179	269	341
Tree Swallow	2513	4836	6822	3921	2129
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	112	351	579	385	97
Bank Swallow	408	142	457	566	629
Cliff Swallow	623	288	1313	1704	1138
Barn Swallow	1017	1715	2264	1768	1146
Gray Jay	1	9	8	8	
Blue Jay	568	906	798	751	919
American Crow	1409	1792	1544	1431	907
Common Raven	67	91	80	36	11
Black-capped Chickadee	823	987	820	628	568
Boreal Chickadee		3			
Tufted Titmouse				1	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	86	139	85	60	6
White-breasted Nuthatch	111	250	140	116	99
Brown Creeper	30	50	12	11	8
House Wren	187	59	277	384	278

(continued)

Table 2. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Winter Wren	32	36	22	16	8
Sedge Wren	111	29	109	403	260
Marsh Wren	388	155	508	585	342
Golden-crowned Kinglet	7	37	18	7	12
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	183	432	45	46	67
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	58	30	61	59	54
Eastern Bluebird	102	135	94	152	100
Veery	21	136	40	50	22
Gray-cheeked Thrush	12	65	9	8	16
Swainson's Thrush	34	196	44	43	30
Hermit Thrush	104	102	39	60	16
Wood Thrush	22	53	89	119	80
American Robin	3235	3933	4210	3577	3050
Gray Catbird	45	101	275	550	368
Northern Mockingbird				1	
Brown Thrasher	98	152	115	138	132
American Pipit	35			3	10
Cedar Waxwing	41	35	96	148	101
Northern Shrike		1		1	
European Starling	4029	4040	3795	3589	3403
Solitary Vireo	5	15	13	15	7
Yellow-throated Vireo	1	3	15	29	27
Warbling Vireo	5	4	83	134	94
Philadelphia Vireo	2	1	2	3	2
Red-eyed Vireo	2	1	17	84	13
Blue-winged Warbler	2	4	9	25	14
Golden-winged Warbler	2	2	37	81	46
Tennessee Warbler	5	2	52	127	42
Orange-crowned Warbler	4	4	1	7	11
Nashville Warbler	36	100	174	292	170
Northern Parula	3	46	10	27	7
Yellow Warbler	89	250	604	771	457
Chestnut-sided Warbler	3	22	77	228	116
Magnolia Warbler	6	48	82	188	91
Cape May Warbler	5	25	75	89	87
Black-throated Blue Warbler	3	17	15	7	6
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1339	2364	977	1018	691
Black-throated Green Warbler	26	126	83	104	53
Blackburnian Warbler	4	29	46	74	38
Pine Warbler	18	181	6	34	26
Palm Warbler	219	698	270	185	155
Bay-breasted Warbler		2	12	89	25
Blackpoll Warbler	1	5	9	34	21
Cerulean Warbler	2	3	2	8	2
Black-and-white Warbler	50	264	117	115	134
American Redstart	44	49	142	237	122
Prothonotary Warbler	1	4	3	2	
Worm-eating Warbler	1	1	1	1	1
Ovenbird	102	396	738	611	509
Northern Waterthrush	55	166	37	38	52
Louisiana Waterthrush		1	1		
Kentucky Warbler		1			
Connecticut Warbler		5	6	4	
Mourning Warbler	1	1	5	7	1
Common Yellowthroat	42	78	309	626	472

(continued)

Table 2. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Hooded Warbler				1	
Wilson's Warbler	3	7	3	31	9
Canada Warbler	12	6	18	25	5
Summer Tanager				1	
Scarlet Tanager	1	3	37	84	48
Northern Cardinal	330	425	330	355	305
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	65	168	418	604	295
Indigo Bunting	7	13	42	132	51
Dickcissel					
Eastern Towhee	38	88	76	115	83
American Tree Sparrow		39	36	19	3
Clay-colored Sparrow	133	34	149	61	105
Chipping Sparrow	1063	1211	1288	1306	696
Field Sparrow	103	143	95	76	80
Vesper Sparrow	27	29	36	37	28
Savannah Sparrow	676	639	828	892	1006
Grasshopper Sparrow	6	5	2	17	5
Henslow's Sparrow	6	6	8		
Le Conte's Sparrow	14	9	3	2	2
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow		1			
Fox Sparrow	5	8	4	2	4
Song Sparrow	1176	2060	1782	1579	1579
Lincoln's Sparrow	18	17	12	15	7
Swamp Sparrow	442	593	751	264	486
White-throated Sparrow	1570	1025	295	253	264
White-crowned Sparrow	78	144	96	51	38
Harris' Sparrow			1		
Dark-eyed Junco	22	121	27	29	3
Lapland Longspur		40	205	300	30
Snow Bunting		4			
Bobolink	58	1645	261	301	361
Red-winged Blackbird	6787	15698	13282	10878	8762
Eastern Meadowlark	154	487	323	287	389
Western Meadowlark	3	5	15	12	29
meadowlark (sp.)	7	14		3	19
Yellow-headed Blackbird	705	571	420	601	742
Rusty Blackbird		9	2		
Brewer's Blackbird	227	433	253	395	201
Common Grackle	2804	5223	3633	3150	3461
Brown-headed Cowbird	1703	2917	1245	1138	1009
blackbird (sp.)	36	1050	116	100	100
Orchard Oriole	1		3	1	15
Baltimore Oriole	32	78	227	474	350
Purple Finch	188	240	155	132	30
House Finch	724	980	523	499	340
Red Crossbill	30		4	1	
White-winged Crossbill	70	12			
Common Redpoll	5	106			
Pine Siskin	146	261	296	62	5
American Goldfinch	1201	1047	1784	1777	1295
Evening Grosbeak	100	219	121	120	
House Sparrow	3065	2811	3014	3276	3978
SPECIES	223	244	226	229	222
INDIVIDUALS	72024	113404	83165	87395	66071
	-17507	-3039	-4133	-15376	

(continued)

Table 2. Continued

Species	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
# Counties	12	18	14	12	9
Parties	58	72	66	68	50
Observers	133	184	141	127	90
Total Hours	341	720	541	530	490
Hours—Foot	106	176	124.75		
Hours—Car	190	454	401.25		
Miles—Foot	68	138	92.5		
Miles—Car	2144	5039	4634		
Individuals/Hour	166	153	128	136	135

The Spring Season: 1997

by Daryl D. Tessen (substitute spring editor)

For the second consecutive year the calendar showed it was spring but the weather indicated the contrary. Overall it was a cold, cloudy, dry and absurdly windy season. For example birders taking Big Day Counts indicated it felt more like a Christmas Count due to the aforementioned weather. Several counts even contended with wind chills.

March commenced with some leftover, mild February weather. This brought a quick burst of early migrants, i.e., blackbirds, robins, etc. However, the remainder of the month, while somewhat variable, remained cold, dry and windy. This delayed the waterfowl flight but when it came it was impressive. April entered like March with mild temperatures. In fact, various communities had record highs. Milwaukee recorded 79°(F) on the 4th. But any thoughts of a normal spring were quickly dashed with record lows by 8 April (10° to 20°). The remainder of the month was cold and dry. Any warm fronts were actually high pressure systems from Canada while there was an absence of critical gulf low pressure systems. This resulted in migrants

barely trickling through, making for an increasingly delayed flight. By late April everyone was asking "What is a warbler?" Almost no Yellow-rumped Warblers were to be found.

If we thought April was bad, enter May. It was unbelievably cold and windy with almost no precipitation. Unfortunately often what little fell came as snow. Consequently, plant growth and leaf development were several weeks behind schedule. May migrants trickled in until mid-month. A localized burst occurred 10–14 May but the main push commenced 16–18 May. Apparently despite the miserable weather the migrants decided to "tough it out." On the 18th the "bird dam" broke, producing a flood of warblers, tanagers, orioles, grosbeaks, buntings etc. It proved to be a riot of color as most fed at or near the ground for the next two weeks. Some observers felt it was the best concentration in years. However not all family groups were swept into this migrant tidal wave. This proved especially true for thrushes, flycatchers and vireos. Substantial numbers of migrants were still moving north well into June. For ev-

everyone who stopped birding at the end of May an uncharacteristically good flight during the first half of June was missed.

Observer comments characterized group flights as follows: Waterfowl—late but present in good numbers, especially geese and swans. Hawks—fair migration. Shorebirds—despite good habitat it was late with only a fair movement. Flycatchers—extremely late. Thrushes—late plus poor numbers. Vireos—A repeat of the flycatcher flight—absurdly late. Warblers—very late but for many observers memorable when it finally came. Indicated to be the best in years, especially due to the lack of foliage. Sparrows—fair flight.

Despite the springless weather the season provided an impressive total of 308 species plus two hybrids. This was only five fewer than last year. There was good coverage this spring with about 90 reports processed.

REPORTS (1 MARCH–31 MAY 1997)

Red-throated Loon.—First observed 29 March in Manitowoc (Sontag) with additional intermittent sightings thru 6 May (Peterson, Belter, Tessen, T. Wood) with numbers ranging to 10. Also found in Sheboygan with four on 26 April (Tessen); 5 May Ozaukee (Domagalski); intermittently at Wisconsin Point, Superior between 29 April (R. Johnson) and 31 May (6, Tessen).

Common Loon.—Arrived 27 March in Milwaukee (Frank) and Winnebago (Ziebell). Thirty in Manitowoc 2 May (Tessen). Birds were still present in Milwaukee 30 May (Bontly).

Pied-billed Grebe.—Wintered at Fremont (Tessen). First spring migrant 17 March in Milwaukee (Korducki).

Horned Grebe.—Observed between 20 March in Ozaukee (Uttech) and 24 May in Dane (Robbins). Frank counted an impressive 426 on 10 May in Ozaukee.

Red-necked Grebe.—First found 30 March at Rush Lake, Winnebago (Ziebell) with a maximum of 16. Also found at the traditional nesting sites of Lake Maria (Green Lake), Crex Meadows WA (Burnett), Grassy Lake (Columbia) plus migrants in Marathon, Ozaukee, Portage and Dane.

Eared Grebe.—This western migrant was found by Uttech 15 May in Ozaukee. Tom Wood had one 17 May while Peterson and Tessen had one on 29 May at Goose Pond, Columbia.

American White Pelican.—First seen 21 April in Pierce (Carlsen). It was found in nine additional counties with maximum numbers of 100 at Green Bay (where it nests) and 80 at the Trempealeau NWR (Leshner).

Double-crested Cormorant.—First recorded at Milwaukee 22 March (Jeff Baughman).

Anhinga.—Two sightings of this rarely recorded species: 4 May in flight over Oshkosh (Ziebell); two in flight 17 May over southern Racine (DeBoer). Accepted by the records committee.

American Bittern.—First was in Marathon 21 April (Belter).

Least Bittern.—Ziebell recorded the first migrant 10 May in Winnebago.

Great Blue Heron.—Hale saw the first 20 March in Jefferson.

Great Egret.—Arrived 8 April in Fond du Lac (Jeff Baughman).

Snowy Egret.—Only found at Green Bay.

Little Blue Heron.—Domagalski discovered an adult in Dodge County 3 May. The bird lingered thru the 6th (Belter, Diehl, Tessen et al., photos).

Cattle Egret.—Ziebell found the first individuals 3 May in Winnebago with nesting at Green Bay (30+) and Oshkosh (24, new site).

Green Heron.—4 May in Sheboygan was the first (Jeff Baughman).

Black-crowned Night-Heron.—Boldt and Korducki had the first on 26 April in Milwaukee.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron.—Only report on 28 April in Milwaukee (Boldt).

Ibis sp.—Three birds were found this spring, all accepted by the records committee as *Plegadis*: 6 May Prairie du Chien (Kirschbaum), 16 May at Horicon NWR, Fond du Lac (Betchkal et al.) and 24 May in Door (Stover).

Tundra Swan.—Early for this spring were three in Dane 6 March (Evanson). Most spring migrants commenced about 22 March. Peak numbers included 5000+ on 2 April in the Shiocton area (Outagamie), 2000 in Portage, 1500 in Dodge and 1000 in Winnebago. Most had left by early May.

Trumpeter Swan.—Observed in eleven counties.

Mute Swan.—Reported from about ten counties.

Greater White-fronted Goose.—This species experienced an excellent migration with twelve reporting counties. The observation period extended between 7 March Dodge (Domagalski) and 22 May Horicon NWR (Jeff Baughman). Numbers included many flocks ranging between 10–33.

Snow Goose.—The observation period occurred between 8 March in Dodge (Domagalski) and 14 May in Burnett (Hoefler).

Ross' Goose.—A banner migration, easily the best ever recorded for the state. There were 10 different sightings that included: Milwaukee 2–8 March (Boldt, Korducki, Gustafson, T. Wood); Dodge 7 March (Domagalski) with two 12 March and three 7 April (Tessen); Columbia two 12 March (Tessen); Dane 17 March (Robbins), four 29 March (Harriman, Peterson) thru 2 April (Gustafson, Tessen); Outagamie six 3 April (Tessen); and Ashland/Bayfield 7 May (Verch). Accepted by the records committee.

Brant.—Two were present in Racine between 28 April–4 May (Korducki, Gustafson et al.). Accepted by the records committee.

Canada Goose.—Arrived in early March although thousands had to return south due to too much ice and snow and too little exposed food. The major exodus for their nesting grounds occurred during late April.

Wood Duck.—Wintered at Fremont (Wau-paca). Spring migrants appeared 17 March in Milwaukee (Bontly) and Winnebago (Ziebell).

Green-winged Teal.—First on 6 March in Dane (Evanson).

Mallard.—1500+ were noted by Decker 12 April in Clark.

Northern Pintail.—Ziebell found the first migrants 5 March in Winnebago.

Blue-winged Teal.—Evanson also had the first migrants 6 March in Dane.

Northern Shoveler.—Wintered in Dane with the first migrants noted mid-March.

Gadwall.—Likewise wintered in Dane with the first migrants early to mid-March.

Eurasian Wigeon.—Three reports: 29 March–1 April in Calumet (Barbarich, Tessen et al.); 5 April in Chippewa (Polk); 25–26 April in Dunn (Polk). Accepted by the records committee.

American Wigeon.—First in Milwaukee 2 March (Boldt).

Canvasback.—First in Dane 6 March (Evanson). Still present 29 May in Dodge (Tessen).

Redhead.—First in Dane 6 March (Evanson).

Ring-necked Duck.—Wintered at Fremont. First migrant in Dane 6 March (Evanson).

Greater Scaup.—Thousands were found in Manitowoc between 22–30 March (Sontag, Tessen) with a similar number in Sheboygan 22 March. Inland reports included Portage (Ber-

ner) and Winnebago (Bruce). Individuals were present into June in Milwaukee (Korducki).

Lesser Scaup.—Wintered in Dane and at Fremont. Migrants arrived during early March. Present into June in Washington, Dunn, Ashland, Milwaukee, Green Lake and Manitowoc.

Harlequin Duck.—Wintering birds remained until 22 March in Milwaukee (Gustafson et al.) and 20 May in Sheboygan (Brasser et al.).

Oldsquaw.—Impressive numbers included 2000 22 March in Sheboygan (Tessen) and 800 15 April in Door (Regan). One-two lingered well into June in Door (Regan).

Black Scoter.—Found in Manitowoc and Sheboygan between 18 March–10 May with a maximum of five.

Surf Scoter.—Found in Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Ozaukee and Milwaukee between 22 March–17 May with a maximum of five.

White-winged Scoter.—Reported from Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Manitowoc between 8 March–5 May.

Common Goldeneye.—Present into June at Manitowoc (Sontag).

Barrow's Goldeneye.—The male was relocated at Virmond Park between 14–16 April (Uttech, Tessen).

Bufflehead.—Present at the end of the period in Washington (Domagalski) and Manitowoc (Sontag).

Hooded Merganser.—Arrived 6 March in Dane (Evanson) with 200 in this county 27 March (Tessen).

Red-breasted Merganser.—Peak numbers included 2000 26 April in Sheboygan and 2700 2 May in Manitowoc (Tessen). Lingered into June along Lake Michigan.

Ruddy Duck.—Ashman had the first migrants 9 March in Dane.

Turkey Vulture.—Arrived 17 March in Outagamie (Tessen).

Osprey.—Belter had the first in Portage 5 April.

Bald Eagle.—Hudick had an impressive 118 on 14 April on Lotus Lake, Polk.

Northern Harrier.—First migrant 8 March in Dane (Ashman).

Red-shouldered Hawk.—First migrants 10 March in Dane (Ashman) and Polk (Hudick).

Broad-winged Hawk.—Jeff Baughman found the first migrants 6 April in Sheboygan.

Rough-legged Hawk.—Last migrant was noted 16 May in Burnett (Hoefer).

Golden Eagle.—Present into March in several western and west-central counties.

Merlin.—First 8 March in Dane 9 (Ashman).

Peregrine Falcon.—Already present at several nesting sites at the beginning of the period. Migrants commenced appearing during mid-April.

Spruce Grouse.—Found in Langlade 11 March (Tessen), three 13 April in Sawyer (Gregg) and several in Vilas between 10–25 May (Jeff and Jim Baughman).

Yellow Rail.—Found at the Comstock Bog, Marquette from 5 May well into June (Schultz et al.). What made this especially noteworthy was that 15–20 birds could easily be heard, a remarkable concentration for the state.

King Rail.—First 2 May at Collins Marsh, Manitowoc (Tessen). Also found in Ozaukee and Winnebago.

Virginia Rail.—25 April in Dane (Ashman) was the first.

Sora.—Jeff Baughman observed birds 14 April in Fond du Lac.

Common Moorhen.—9 May in Dane (Burcar).

Sandhill Crane.—Numerous March arrivals that were overshadowed by birds in Jefferson 22 February (fide Hale).

Black-bellied Plover.—Found between 7 May in Ozaukee (Uttech) and 31 May at Wisconsin Point, Douglas (Tessen).

American Golden Plover.—The observation period was between 9 April in Ozaukee (Uttech) and 31 May at Wisconsin Point (Tessen).

Semipalmated Plover.—First in Shawano 20 April (Peterson). Ashman had 43 22 May in Dane. Still present 31 May at Wisconsin Point (Tessen).

Piping Plover.—Regan had the only two sightings: 1 May Door and 11 May Kewaunee.

Killdeer.—Hale recorded the first migrant in Jefferson 7 March.

American Avocet.—Three reports: five 28 April in Dane (Ashman), four 3 May in Milwaukee (Boldt, Gustafson, Korducki), sixteen 14 May in Sheboygan (C. Wood).

Greater Yellowlegs.—The observation period extended between 5 April in Columbia (Jeff Baughman) and 31 March at Wisconsin Point (Tessen).

Lesser Yellowlegs.—Observed between 5 April in Fond du Lac (Jeff Baughman) and 31 May in Jackson (Otto).

Solitary Sandpiper.—Observed between 30 April in Ozaukee (Uttech) and 23 May in Marathon (Belter).

Willet.—An outstanding migration this spring. There were sightings in eleven counties with a total of about 150 for the season. Most impressive was a flock of 60 watched by Domagalski in Ozaukee 4 May trying to land along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The observation period extended between 27 April (Chippewa, Polk) and 21 May (Milwaukee, Diehl; Ashland, Verch; Manitowoc, Sontag).

Spotted Sandpiper.—27 April in Rock was the first (Hess).

Upland Sandpiper.—Berner recorded the first 16 April in Portage.

Whimbrel.—Only three sightings: three 19 May in Columbia (Peterson) represented an unusual inland sighting; thirty 26 May in Door (Lukes); and three 31 May at Wisconsin Point (Tessen).

Hudsonian Godwit.—An excellent migration with at least 65–75 recorded in eight counties. The observation period was between 30 April in Eau Claire (Polk) and 26 May in Dane (Robbins) with Belter noting a flock of 22 on 20 May in Columbia.

Marbled Godwit.—Found in six counties between 13 April Manitowoc (Sontag) and 21 May Ashland/Bayfield (Verch). Maximum was six 1 May at Manitowoc (Sontag).

Ruddy Turnstone.—First noted in Milwaukee 4 May (Korducki) with a peak of 450 19 May at Manitowoc (Sontag). Still present at the latter site in June.

Red Knot.—Found in seven counties with the first 17 May at Manitowoc (Sontag) where individuals lingered into June.

Sanderling.—The observation period was 15 May in Milwaukee (Gustafson) into June in Winnebago, Ashland/Bayfield and Douglas.

Semipalmated Sandpiper.—Found 2 May in Milwaukee (Korducki) into June in Dane (Ashman), Manitowoc (Sontag), Douglas and Marathon (Tessen).

Least Sandpiper.—Arrived 28 April in Dane (Ashman) with the last noted 23 May in Marathon (Belter). Ashman counted 175 in Dane on 7 May.

White-rumped Sandpiper.—Between 11 May in Marathon (Belter) into early June in Dane (Burcar) and Marathon (Tessen).

Baird's Sandpiper.—Burcar had individuals in Dane from 21 May into June.

Pectoral Sandpiper.—Ashman had birds between 31 March and early June in Dane. A peak of 100 was likewise noted by Ashman on 15 May.

Dunlin.—Arrived 25 April in Dane (Ashman). A peak of 1000 in Dodge 22 May (Tessen). Present at the end of the period in Milwaukee (Bontly), Manitowoc (Sontag) and Douglas (Tessen).

Stilt Sandpiper.—All reports: 28 April Rock (Cedarstrom); 15 May (Columbia (Ashman)); 20 May Columbia (Belter); 22–23 May Dane (Ashman, Gustafson); 23 May Ozaukee (Uttech).

Short-billed Dowitcher.—Found 10 May in Columbia (Tessen) with birds present into June at Manitowoc (Sontag). Ashman had a peak of 38 on 19 May in Dane.

Long-billed Dowitcher.—Only 22 May in Brown (Jeff Baughman et al.).

Common Snipe.—Ashman had the first on 31 March in Dane.

American Woodcock.—Boldt had the first in Milwaukee on 20 March.

Wilson's Phalarope.—First reported in Dane 9 May (Ashman).

Red-necked Phalarope.—All reports: ten were found 18 May in Manitowoc (Sontag, Peterson et al.). Singles also seen 22 May in Dane (Ashman) and 30 May in Clark (Tessen).

Pomarine Jaeger.—The Swengels had the first spring sighting at Wisconsin Point, Superior (Douglas) on 22 May when an adult was watched harassing gulls.

Laughing Gull.—None this spring.

Franklin's Gull.—Only three reports: 2 May in Ozaukee (Uttech); 14 May at Milwaukee (Diehl); and 17 May in Columbia (Ashman, T. Wood).

Little Gull.—Only report: two 11–15 May at Milwaukee (Korducki).

Bonaparte's Gull.—While the first individuals were seen at Milwaukee 22 March (Jeff Baughman) the main migration occurred inland as evidenced by the following peaks: 1200 27 April Columbia (Ashman), 1400 29 April Dodge (Tessen) and 1300 4 May combined for Dane and Columbia (Hilsenhoff).

Thayer's Gull.—A total of eleven sightings from Ozaukee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc and Kewaunee. Last found 2 May at Sheboygan (Tessen).

Iceland Gull.—Found along Lake Michigan at Kewaunee and Manitowoc and in Brown during March. However Diehl had one 14 May in Ozaukee.

Lesser Black-backed Gull.—Five reports: intermittently during March in the Madison/Middleton area (s ob); 18 March at Manitowoc (Tessen); 26 April in Dodge (T. Wood); 28 May in Ozaukee (Uttech); and at Sheboygan from 21 April into June (Brasser, Jeff Baughman et al.).

Glaucous-winged Gull.—A first year bird was discovered at Two Rivers by Uttech and Domagalski et al. on 9 March. Alerting other birders who rushed to the site the group was treated to a leisurely study of the bird as it fed on fish along the dock with various other gulls (photographed and videotaped). This is the third state record, all within 1+ year. Accepted by the records committee.

Glaucous Gull.—Found at various harbors along Lakes Michigan and Superior with birds lingering into June at Manitowoc, Ozaukee and Douglas.

Great Black-backed Gull.—A maximum of 12 at Two Rivers/Manitowoc 18 March (Tessen). Found inland on 22 March at Oshkosh (Ziebell). Present at the end of the period at Sheboygan (Brasser, Jeff Baughman) and Port Washington (Uttech).

Caspian Tern.—Arrived 19 April at Sheboygan (Brasser). Boldt counted 510 at Milwaukee 13 May.

Common Tern.—Likewise first seen at Sheboygan on 23 April (Jeff Baughman). Korducki had 500+ at Milwaukee 11 May.

Forster's Tern.—Record early was on individual observed by Frank on 3 April in Ozaukee.

Black Tern.—Arrived 11 May in Milwaukee (Gustafson).

Black-billed Cuckoo.—Arrived 22 May in Fond du Lac (Jeff Baughman).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo.—Arrived 22 May in Dodge (Jeff Baughman).

Snowy Owl.—After the good winter performance it was not surprising to have birds lingering well into spring. Beyond the March sightings there were the following: until 5 April at Milwaukee (Korducki), until 18 April at Manitowoc (Sontag); until 19 April at Ashland (Verch); and between 11–23 May in Marathon (Belter).

Northern Hawk-Owl.—After the record tying eight seen during the winter one of them lingered at Superior until 24 March (R. Johnson).

Great Gray Owl.—Adding to the winter sightings were reports from about 15 counties during the spring totaling 25+ birds. This brought the year's total (autumn 96–spring 97) to about 80, easily surpassing the previous year's record. The latest observations occurred in early April in Dunn (Polk), 9 April in Clark (Decker), 21 April in Door (Lukes, photos) and into June in Bayfield (P. Johnson).

Long-eared Owl.—Found during early March in Milwaukee (Boldt, Bontly, Korducki) and in Dane (Hansen).

Short-eared Owl.—These reports: 2 March Calumet (Tessen), 3 March Fond du Lac (C. Wood), until 6 March Dane (Burcar), 22 March Milwaukee (Frank), until 30 April Ozaukee (Uttech) and three 12 April–26 May in Portage (Berner).

Boreal Owl.—Three reports to close out a record year (about 60). Hudick had one in his yard 16 March, Polk. Dead individuals were found 18 March in Green Lake (Schultz) and 29 March in St. Croix (Roettger).

Common Nighthawk.—Arrived 10 May in Milwaukee (Diehl).

Whip-poor-will.—Arrived 10 May in Dane (Burcar).

Chimney Swift.—Arrived 26 April in Jefferson (Hale).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird.—Found 10 May in Dane (Burcar) and Ozaukee (Uttech).

Belted Kingfisher.—Migrants were appearing during late March/early April.

Red-headed Woodpecker.—Wintered in several areas with migrants appearing during late April/early May.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.—First in Marathon 28 March (Belter).

Three-toed Woodpecker.—Yanda had a rare sighting of this species in Potawatomi State Park on 9 April, Door. Accepted by the records committee.

Black-backed Woodpecker.—Found in Oneida and Douglas.

Northern Flicker.—First migrants appeared during late March/early April.

Olive-sided Flycatcher.—Late arriving as evidenced by 17 May in Dane (Ashman). Individuals were still migrating at the end of the period in southern sites, i.e., Washington (Domagalski).

Eastern Wood-Pewee.—Arrived 12 May in Dane (Ashman).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.—Late this year with various observers indicating movement well into June. First in Dane 18 May (Ashman).

Acadian Flycatcher.—Arrived late with first individuals noted during late May.

Alder Flycatcher.—21 May in Portage (Belter) was the first.

Willow Flycatcher.—Arrived 6 May in Milwaukee (Gustafson).

Eastern Phoebe.—Anderson had the first migrant in Outagamie on 26 March.

Great Crested Flycatcher.—Arrived 6 May in Portage (Bernier).

Eastern Kingbird.—Arrived 7 May in Dunn (Gamache).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.—Roy Lukes was lucky to watch and photograph one along the beach in eastern Door 20 May. Accepted by the records committee.

Purple Martin.—Arrived 25 April Dane (Ashman).

Tree Swallow.—Arrived 29 March Portage (Bernier).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow.—Arrived 19 April Dane (Hilsenhoff).

Bank Swallow.—Arrived 27 April Milwaukee (Korducki).

Cliff Swallow.—First in Portage 11 April (Bernier) where 600 were present 20 May.

Barn Swallow.—Arrived 11 April Ozaukee (Uttech).

Gray Jay.—Found in various northern counties.

Common Raven.—Found in the northern half of the state, as far south as Jackson, Juneau and Outagamie.

Boreal Chickadee.—Found in various northern counties.

Red-breasted Nuthatch.—Present in various southern counties, in addition to the usual northern counties.

Brown Creeper.—Migrants joined the wintering birds during mid to late March.

Carolina Wren.—Only at Pike Lake State Park (Washington) when Domagalski observed one between 3–5 May.

House Wren.—Arrived 13 April Door (Lukes).

Winter Wren.—Arrived 27 March Portage (Bernier).

Sedge Wren.—Arrived 5 May Milwaukee (Domagalski).

Marsh Wren.—Arrived 11 May in Washington (Domagalski) and Ozaukee (Uttech).

Golden-crowned Kinglet.—Spring migrants were first noted in Dane on 10 March (Ashman).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet.—Arrived 31 March Dane (Ashman).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.—21 April in Dane (Hilsenhoff).

Eastern Bluebird.—Arrived 10 March in Dane (Ashman) and Ozaukee (Uttech).

Mountain Bluebird.—For the second consecutive spring the Bubolz Nature Center near Appleton had one. This year Zimmer watched a male on 29 April during the early morning. Diligent searching less than an hour later failed to relocate it. Accepted by the records committee.

Veery.—8 May in Milwaukee (Bontly) was the first.

Gray-cheeked Thrush.—Arrived 8 May in Milwaukee (Gustafson), Manitowoc (Sontag) and Outagamie (Tessen).

Swainson's Thrush.—Uttech had the first on 28 April in Ozaukee. Still migrating at various sites at the end of the period including Grant (Leshner), Fond du Lac (Jeff Baughman) and Washington (Domagalski).

Hermit Thrush.—Belter had the first in Marathon 31 March.

Wood Thrush.—Considering this spring, Strelka's 21 April sighting—Waukesha—was remarkable.

American Robin.—Arrived during early to mid-March.

Varied Thrush.—Until early March in Dunn (Polk) and between 13–23 April in Bayfield (Verch et al.).

Gray Catbird.—6 May in Dane (Burcar).

Northern Mockingbird.—The Milwaukee bird remained thru 5 April (Korducki et al.) with a migrant in the county 19 May (Korducki). Also found at Denker's feeder in Bayfield 26 May.

Brown Thrasher.—15 April in Ozaukee (Uttech).

American Pipit.—Only a week from tying the arrival date was a 21 March sighting in Dane by Hansen. Remarkable considering this spring.

Bohemian Waxwing.—15 were in Door 9 April (Lukes).

Cedar Waxwing.—Movement into the state during April, accelerating during May.

Northern Shrike.—Last seen by Verch in Ashland 12 April.

Loggerhead Shrike.—This species has become unbelievably scarce during the past years. Further evidence of this disheartening decline is evidenced by only one nesting pair in the state, that in Shawano (s ob) with a lone migrant in Manitowoc 17 May (s ob).

White-eyed Vireo.—Two reports: 19 May in Dane (Robbins, C. Wood) and 1–2 pairs on territory in Governor Dodge State Park, Iowa, commencing 20 May (Burcar, Peterson).

Bell's Vireo.—On territory at Governor Dodge State Park 20+ May (Burcar, Peterson), two pairs 21+ May in Dunn (Gamache) and 28+ May at Wyalusing State Park, Grant (Tessen, Leshner).

Solitary Vireo (Blue-headed).—Sontag had the first sighting in Manitowoc 30 April.

Yellow-throated Vireo.—Arrived 7 May in Dane (Ashman).

Warbling Vireo.—Arrived 3 May in Dane (Hilsenhoff).

Philadelphia Vireo.—Burcar had the first 9 May in Dane. Still present in Fond du Lac 31 May (Jeff Baughman).

Red-eyed Vireo.—Jim Baughman had the first in Vilas on 2 May.

Blue-winged Warbler.—8 May in Milwaukee (Bontly) was the first sighting.

Golden-winged Warbler.—Likewise 8 May but in Dane (Burcar).

Brewster's Warbler.—This hybrid was found by Leshner in LaCrosse 21 May and Bontly and Korducki in Milwaukee 24 May.

Lawrence's Warbler.—This rare hybrid was seen by Tessen in Appleton (Outagamie) 13 May while Anderson had one at Mosquito Hill Nature Center, also Outagamie, 31 May.

Tennessee Warbler.—Observed between 6 May (Dane, Burcar) and 30 May (Door, Stover).

Orange-crowned Warbler.—The observation period extended between 26 April in Marathon (Belter) and 30 May in Manitowoc (Sontag).

Nashville Warbler.—Arrived 23 April in Polk (Hudick).

Northern Parula.—Arrived 23 April in Door (Lukes). Still present at the end of the period in Manitowoc (Sontag).

Yellow Warbler.—Arrived 28 April in Door (Lukes).

Chestnut-sided Warbler.—Arrived 6 May in Milwaukee (Bontly).

Magnolia Warbler.—Arrived 3 May in Door (Lukes) with it still present 31 May in Jefferson (Hale).

Cape May Warbler.—Arrived 8 May in Fond du Lac (Jeff Baughman).

Black-throated Blue Warbler.—Arrived 8 May in Milwaukee (Domagalski) where one was still migrating 28 May (Bontly).

Yellow-rumped Warbler.—Arrived 4 April in Portage (Berner), Walworth (Parsons) and Shawano (Peterson). Schultz counted 200 11 May in Green lake. Still migrating 26 May in Columbia (Robbins).

Black-throated Green Warbler.—First in Milwaukee 30 April (Bontly).

Blackburnian Warbler.—Arrived 6 May in Dane (Hilsenhoff) and Portage (Berner). Sontag had migrants in Manitowoc on 31 May.

Yellow-throated Warbler.—Unique was an individual that came to O'Conner's feeder 15–16 May in Milwaukee (s ob). It was back on territory at Wyalusing State Park, Grant by 28 + May (Peterson, Tessen, Leshner).

Pine Warbler.—Arrived 20 April in Fond du Lac (Jeff Baughman).

Prairie Warbler.—Only report: 24 May in Walworth (Parsons et al.).

Palm Warbler.—Domagalski had the first migrants 27 April in Washington. Bontly still found migrants in Milwaukee 27 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler.—Arrived 14 May in Dane (Ashman) with end of the period migrants in Jefferson (Hale), Portage (Berner) and Milwaukee (Bontly).

Blackpoll Warbler.—Arrived 8 May in Dane (Burcar) with end of the season sightings in Milwaukee (Bontly) and Dane (Ashman).

Cerulean Warbler.—Arrived 5 May in Ozaukee (Domagalski).

Black-and-white Warbler.—Domagalski also had the first migrant in Ozaukee on April 22.

American Redstart.—First in Dane on 8 May (Burcar).

Prothonotary Warbler.—Arrived 6 May in Milwaukee (Korducki).

Worm-eating Warbler.—Apparently on territory at two different Sauk sites, Hemlock Draw 10 + May (Peterson, T. Wood) and Baxter's Hollow 23 May (Gustafson).

Ovenbird.—Arrived 2 May in Milwaukee (Bontly).

Northern Waterthrush.—Arrived 20 April in Jefferson (Hale).

Louisiana Waterthrush.—Burcar had the first on 23 April in Baxter's Hollow, Sauk.

Kentucky Warbler.—First noted 12 May in Fond du Lac (Jeff Baughman) and between 13–19 May in Dane (Ashman, Hansen, Burcar). Back on territory at various southern sties (i.e., Wyalusing State Park) later in the month.

Connecticut Warbler.—Robbins had the first in Dane 18 May.

Mourning Warbler.—Berner saw the first in Portage 14 May.

Common Yellowthroat.—Arrived 6 May in Dane (Burcar).

Hooded Warbler.—There were many sightings of this impressive wood warbler with the first occurring in Milwaukee on 10 May (Korducki, Gustafson).

Wilson's Warbler.—Hilsenhoff had the first migrant 5 May in Dane. Still present at the end of the period in Milwaukee (Korducki), Jefferson (Hale) and Ashland (Verch).

Canada Warbler.—Arrived 13 May in Dane (Ashman).

Yellow-breasted Chat.—Two reports: 24 May in Portage (Berner); 31+ May in Dane (Ashman).

Summer Tanager.—A good spring for this species. All reports: present 9–13 May at Bartholmai's feeder near Beaver Dam, Dodge (photos); 13–14 May in Ozaukee (C. Wood, T. Wood, Korducki); 15–17 May in Washington (Domagalski); 19 May in Milwaukee (Korducki); and 21 May at Tessen's feeder in Appleton.

Scarlet Tanager.—Arrived 10 May in Dane with 25 in Winnebago on 19 May (Tessen).

Western Tanager.—An excellent spring for this species with no less than four sightings: 6–7 May in Eau Claire (Polk et al.); 13 May in Crawford (Kirschbaum, photo); 14–18 May in Elmwood, Pierce (Carlsen); and 25 May at Denker's feeder in Bayfield.

Northern Cardinal.—Present at Robbye Johnson's feeder in Superior 8 May. In addition it was indicated a pair apparently was nesting in southern Superior.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak.—Arrived 17 April in Rock (Hess).

Black-headed Grosbeak.—Hoffman and Shea watched a female feeding with numerous Rose-breasted at a Sprague feeder on their Big Day Count 17 May. Accepted by the records committee.

Blue Grosbeak.—The Yeomans were able to photograph a male at their feeder in Door on 28 April. Accepted by the records committee.

Indigo Bunting.—Arrived 6 May in Milwaukee (Gustafson).

Dickcissel.—Only 23 May in Walworth (Parsons) and 28 May in Dane (Tessen).

Eastern Towhee.—Arrived 27 March in Walworth (Parsons).

American Tree Sparrow.—Last reported on 21 May in Ashland (Verch).

Chipping Sparrow.—Arrived 29 March in Door (Lukes) which is early.

Clay-colored Sparrow.—Arrived 6 May in Portage (Berner).

Field Sparrow.—Arrived 28 March in Green Lake (Schultz).

Vesper Sparrow.—Likewise first found by Schultz in Green Lake on 26 March.

Lark Sparrow.—Reported in Sauk and Dane counties commencing 10 May.

Savannah Sparrow.—Arrived 29 March in Green lake (Schultz).

Grasshopper Sparrow.—Frank found the first 10 May in Ozaukee.

Henslow's Sparrow.—Reported from seven counties with the first in Marathon 26 April (Belter).

LeConte's Sparrow.—Reported from five counties with the first in Douglas 6 May (R. Johnson).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow.—Only report: Crex Meadows WA, Burnett on 30 May (Tessen).

Fox Sparrow.—The observation period extended between 17 March in LaCrosse (Leshner) to 27 April in Portage (Berner).

Song Sparrow.—Arrived during the third week of March.

Lincoln's Sparrow.—Uttech had the first in Ozaukee on 1 May.

Swamp Sparrow.—Arrived 5 April in Dane (Ashman).

White-throated Sparrow.—Wintered at various sites with spring migrants appearing during mid-April.

White-crowned Sparrow.—Evanston had one in Dane 22 March. This probably was a wintering individual from the southern part of the state. General arrival was late April/early May with all gone by late May.

Harris's Sparrow.—The wintering bird at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum—Madison was last seen 8 March (Burcar). There was a good spring migration with 25–30 birds reported from nine counties. The observation period was 10–31 May with the latter sighting by Burcar in Columbia. Peak number was nine in Burnett on 16 May (Hoefer).

Dark-eyed Junco.—Departed southern locales during early to mid-May.

Lapland Longspur.—A peak of 1000+ in Calumet 26 April (Tessen). Last reported 13 May in Portage (Berner).

Snow Bunting.—Last found on 31 April in Winnebago (Bruce).

Bobolink.—Arrived 10 May in Marathon (Belter).

Red-winged Blackbird.—Wintered at Horicon Marsh (Domagalski). First spring migrants were appearing at the beginning of the season.

Eastern Meadowlark.—Arrived 17 March in Columbia (Burcar).

Western Meadowlark.—Arrived 10 March in Dane (Ashman).

Yellow-headed Blackbird.—Jeff Baughman had the first migrants in Outagamie 19 April.

Rusty Blackbird.—The observation period was between 12 March (Dane, Tessen) and 4 May (Ashland, Verch).

Brewer's Blackbird.—Wintered at Horicon Marsh (Domagalski). First migrants were in Outagamie 14 March (Tessen).

Common Grackle.—Wintered at Horicon Marsh. Arrived 2 March in Columbia (Burcar).

Brown-headed Cowbird.—Also wintered at Horicon Marsh. First migrants 17 March in Columbia (Burcar).

Orchard Oriole.—An excellent migration with sightings in 15–20 counties, commencing during early May.

Baltimore Oriole.—Appeared 7 May in Milwaukee (Bontly) and Oconto (Smith).

Pine Grosbeak.—After the disappointing winter Robbye Johnson found several singing in Douglas 12 April.

Purple Finch.—Reports from various counties scattered round the state, but no good numbers.

Red Crossbill.—Excellent numbers found at the beginning of the period, especially in the northern counties. Present in several of these northern locales into June.

White-winged Crossbill.—Outstanding numbers present at the beginning of the season, especially in the northern counties. Still present into June at several/many northern sites with an excellent possibility of nesting occurring (unconfirmed at the season's conclusion).

Common Redpoll.—None, as expected after the past winter.

Pine Siskin.—Small numbers scattered around the state.

Evening Grosbeak.—Fair numbers scattered in the northern third of the state.

CONTRIBUTORS

Jim Anderson, Philip Ashman, Jack and Holly Bartholmai, Sylvia Barbarich, Jeff Baughman, Jim Baughman, Dan Belter, Murray Berner, Steve Betchkal, Kathy Bibby, Brian Boldt, Marilyn Bontly, David and Margaret Brasser, Paul Bruce, Kay Burcar, Nathan Carlsen, David Cedarstrom, Gerry DeBoer, Connie Decker, Peggy

Denker, Scott Diehl, Bob Domagalski, Martin Evanson, Jim Frank, Scott Franke, Alan Gamache, Joan Grant, Larry Gregg, Dennis Gustafson, Karen Etter Hale, Ellen Hansen, Bettie Hariman, Katy Amorose-Hess, Bill Hilsenhoff, Jim Hoefler, Randy Hoffman, Joe Hudick, Phyllis Johnson, Robbye Johnson, Dennis Kirschbaum, Mark Kordecki, Fred Leshner, Roy and Charlotte Lukes, Mickey O'Conner, James Otto, Patricia Parsons, Mark Peterson, Jan-

ine Polk, John Regan, Sam Robbins, Ronald Roettger, Tom Schultz, Al Shea, Jerry and Karen Smith, Charles Sontag, Barbara Stover, Jean Strelka, Scott and Ann Swengel, Daryl Tessen, Tom Uttech, Richard Verch, Chris Wood, Tom Wood, Keith Yanda, Charlotte Yeomans, Tom Ziebell, Robert Zimmer.

Daryl D. Tessen
3118 N. Oneida St.
Appleton, WI 54911

50 Years Ago in *The Passenger Pigeon*

Alvin Peterson reported on the tree used by Baltimore Orioles for nesting in the LaCrosse and Onalaska region. Of the 104 nests located during the wintertime, 60 were in American elms, 19 in cottonwoods, 10 in soft maples, 6 in hackberry, 4 in box elder, 3 in hickory, and one each in burr oak and cherry.

Walter Scott listed the following known locations of Wisconsin *Passenger Pigeon* specimens. I wonder how many of these specimens still exist.

Public Museum, Milwaukee—17

Neville Public Museum, Green Bay—6

Public Museum, New London; UW-Madison; and Public Museum, Oshkosh—3 each

Beloit College Museum; Hoy Museum, Racine; State Historical Museum, Madison; Conservation Dept. Museum, Poynette; Concordia College, Milwaukee; Lawrence College, Appleton; Public Library, Black River Falls; and Baraboo High School—2 each

Ripon College Museum; State Teachers College, Whitewater; State Teachers College, Milwaukee; Potosi High School; and Viterbo College, LaCrosse—1 each. (Excerpts from Volume 9(4), 1947)



Eastern Bluebird *by Barbara Herrera*

“By the Wayside”

Despite the prolonged wintery weather spring 1997 was also memorable for a good variety of birds. Highlights include sightings of Anhinga, Little Blue Heron, Plegadis Ibis, Ross' Goose, Brant, Eurasian Wigeon, Pomarine Jaeger, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Great Gray Owl, Boreal Owl, Three-toed Woodpecker, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Mountain Bluebird, Varied Thrush, Yellow-throated Warbler, Western Tanager, Summer Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak and Blue Grosbeak

ANHINGA (*Anhinga anhinga*)

4 May 1997, Oshkosh—While watching gulls soaring on thermals I was startled to see an Anhinga also soaring above me. The cormorant-like bird soared in large circles. The bird only flapped its wings 3 times. It was a very slender, graceful, all dark bird. The head and neck were long and slender. The tail was noticeably long and slightly fanned. After about four minutes it stopped circling and glided north out of sight.—*Thomas Ziebell, 1322 Ceape Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54901.*

17 May 1997, Racine County—While I was driving north along Hwy 32 in southern Racine County I observed two soaring birds. Pulling into a driveway I discovered that they apparently were circling in a thermal. When viewed with binoculars they were dark birds with long necks and long tails.

One bird had an entirely blackish neck, the other a brown neck. The tail was very long and roundish to wedge shaped, depending on which bird I looked at, and the spread of the tail. The length of the tail represented nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total length. The neck was long, slender and kinked upward. The head was also quite slender, barely wider than the neck. The bill was long, slender and pointed. The birds mostly soared but when they did flap their wings it was an obviously slower wing-beat than one would observe in a cormorant. At one point the darker bird banked, showing silvery white feathering on the back and upper wings.

After riding the thermal, they eventually headed straight south, one following the other in a long glide. Driving south hoping for a longer look at them proved unsuccessful.—*Gerald DeBoer, 15935 Two Mile Rd., Franksville, WI 53126.*

LITTLE BLUE HERON
(*Egretta caerulea*)

5 May 1997, Dodge County—The adult Little Blue Heron was found 5 May 1997 along Erin Road in Dodge County. It was stalking among cattails, occasionally jabbing out to catch prey in its bill. Three times the bird flushed when noisy trucks or farm equipment passed by on the road next to the small marsh; the bird circled the marsh each time it was flushed, the last time landing on the edge of an adjacent plowed farm field where it was readily viewed in the open for 10+ minutes.

This medium-sized heron was all dark: there was no white or other very light color seen on it anywhere. It was larger than a Green Heron, about the size of a Black-cr. Night Heron. Overall it was a slate bluish-gray; the belly was perhaps very slightly lighter than the

back, wings, breast and sides. The neck and head however were warm purplish. Wispy plumes were present on the crown, lower neck and back. The bird's green heron-like sharp, tapered bill was black on the distal 2/3rds and light gray on the proximal 1/3rd. Featherless pale blue-gray skin around the eye formed a mask, touching the base of the upper bill. Its legs appeared dark gray overall.—*Scott Diehl, 1320 Friess Lake Rd., Hubertus, WI 53033.*

(*Plegadis*) (Ibis) species

24 May 1997, Door County—I was driving on Isle View Road which intersects the marsh. This marsh is very near our home in northern Door County and it is my habit to slow down and usually stop. This time I immediately noticed a very unusual "heron-like" bird perched on top of a tall dead snag in



Figure 1. Little Blue Heron. Dodge County. *Photo by Jack Bartholmai.*

the marsh. My first thought was Green Heron because of the dark color but it was considerably larger. By the time I stopped the car and got my binoculars up, the bird flew. I was able to get a very good look at the body and legs as it flew into the flooded woods on the far side of the marsh. The body appeared all dark and I was unable to see any pattern or distinguish marks. The most striking part was the long trailing red legs. I did not see the head but the neck was outstretched as it flew off.

I returned to the marsh three times later in the day with the third time revealing it wading in the flooded area where it had previously flown. (This was about 5 P.M.). At this time I was able to see the long thin decurved bill. There was also the appearance of a white line on the face but the lighting and distance made this area very vague. I watched it as it probed and waded and then lost it behind the trees.—*Barbara Stover, 10616 N. Magnolia Dr., Mequon, WI 53092.*

ROSS' GEESE (*Chen rossii*)

3 April 1997, Outagamie County—What proved to be the last of 18 Ross' Geese seen this spring were six feeding with Canadas in an uncut cornfield west of Shiocton on 3 April, 1997. They were so small and the corn so high that it took some time before they emerged enough to verify that they were Ross'. Then the problem became how many? Eventually they moved out where all six could be seen. They were very small sized, all white body with black on the wings, short bill and no grin patch. What a show of Ross' this spring.—*Daryl Tessen, 3118 N. Oneida St., Appleton, WI 54911.*

7 May 1997, Bayfield County—As I scanned the slough, a small white goose was observed swimming with several Canadas. My first thought was that it was a small Snow Goose. It was white with black wing tips. As I observed it I looked for the grinning patch typical of Snows. Not seeing any I set up the Questar scope and looked carefully at it. This confirmed there was no grin patch. Along with its small size it confirmed the bird as a Ross' Goose. We (my class and I) watched it for 45 minutes.—*Dick Verch, 906 Ellis Ave., Ashland, WI 54806.*

BRANT (*Branta bernicla*)

28 April 1997, Racine County—Following a call by Jerry DeBoer to the hotline, I drove to Racine after work to look for the Brant. I immediately located the two birds on the edge of the pond. They were about the size of a Ross' Goose with a stubby, black bill. Overall coloration was similar to a Canada except the black of the neck extended further onto the chest. Unlike the white face patch of a Canada, the Brant had black faces. Thin white lines formed a necklace around the front 2/3rds of the neck, just below the head. The pale belly identified these as the eastern subspecies hrota. On a few occasions one Brant uttered a multisyllabic call of a trumpet-like quality very unlike the Canadas.—*Mark Korducki, 2955 N. 77th St., Milwaukee, WI 53222.*

4 May 1997, Racine County—On my second visit to locate the Brant, my wife and I saw the geese almost immediately, swimming in the middle of a pond. My wife commented how much they looked like Canadas, but I pointed out the much smaller size, similar, but

darker brownish body color, very small black bill, much smaller white mark on the throat extending back on the neck (not up onto the cheek), and that the black on the head and neck extended all the way onto the breast. The dark tail was surrounded by white upper and under tail coverts and the feet were also black. No vocalizations were given.—*Dennis Gustafson, 15440 Linfield Lane, New Berlin, WI 53151.*

EURASIAN WIGEON (*Anas penelope*)

29 March–1 April 1997, Calumet County—Having just returned home from leading a field trip for the Fox Valley Bird Club I discovered a message on my machine from Sylvia Barbarich. They had found a male Eurasian Wigeon, possibly a pair, on a flooded field southwest of Forest Junction.

Throwing all my bird equipment back into the car I raced over to the area. It was an extensive flooded section on both sides of Marx Road, extending east to Hwy 57. An excellent variety and number of waterfowl were present including many American Wigeons. A quick scan revealed the male Eurasian that accompanied a female (possible Eurasian too) at all times. The rusty head, cream crown and gray sides made him most striking. They fed and rested together during the ensuing hour. I called other birders to alert them, many which were able to see it (them) during the next several days.—*Daryl Tessen, 3118 N. Oneida St., Appleton, WI 54911.*

25 April 1997, Dunn County—While scanning the far east end of the Hwy B pond I noticed a male Eurasian Wigeon bobbing around among the

many other dabbling ducks. It was very much like nearby American Wigeons in size, shape, bill and some plumage characteristics (white wing patches, black feathering under the tail adjacent to white flank patches), but it had a striking orange-red head with a pale yellowish forehead patch from the bill over the crown, and its back and sides were gray, contrasting with the pale reddish chest. The Eurasian fed actively with the other ducks; at one point they all flew into a nearby plowed field to feed. This was probably the same bird seen by Bob Neagle on 5 April at the Truax prairie just northwest of Eau Claire (Chippewa County).—*Janine Polk, 1407 Frederic, Eau Claire, WI 54701.*

POMARINE JAEGER (*Stercorarius pomarinus*)

22 May 1997, Douglas County—While walking on Wisconsin Point near the breakwater Ann and I spotted a dark-backed gull-like bird 80–85% as long as a Herring Gull, chasing a Herring relentlessly right at the opening between the breakwaters entering Lake Superior. The gull did evasive tactics but the jaeger kept right behind it nipping at its tail. It then broke off and flew low with a slashing flight until it crossed the east breakwater. I scoped it for a while at 200–300 m. distance. Ann also scoped it. We walked to the east breakwater and relocated the jaeger two times. Both times it was flying primarily low over the water with alternating slashing flight and up and down swoops. I finally lost it while I was scoping when it swooped into a deep wave trough. It was a little bigger bodied than a Ring-billed Gull but longer, with diamond-shaped wide dark tail and two

inch central tail plumes projecting behind. The plume tips were distinctly rounded. The underside was light with yellow throat and cheek. The cap was dark, slightly darker than the slate-gray back and upperwings and upper tail. The underside of the tail was dark. The wings were slightly thinner and more pointed than a Ring-billed, like a Caspian Tern. The dark cap extended behind the eye. What we were observing was an adult Pomarine Jaeger.—*Scott Swengel, 909 Birch St., Baraboo, WI 53913.*

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus fuscus*)

26 April 1997, Dodge County—I was scanning a flooded field along CTH AW, looking for early shorebirds. Only a few yellowlegs and Dunlins were present, but among many Bonaparte's Gulls and a few Ring-billed Gulls was a much darker backed gull. The back and wings were a dark gray, but not as dark as the black wingtips. Only tiny white dots were discernible on the primary tips.

The tail, head, breast and belly were a clean, unmarked white. Although first seen floating on the water, eventually the bird flew and landed on the field about 35 yards from my car. This allowed an excellent look at the yellow legs, and a closer look at the yellow bill which had a red spot on the lower mandible. In front of this red spot was a vertical black line crossing both mandibles. I have had much experience observing California Gulls on the west coast, and knew this bird was too dark to be that species, and the yellow eye definitely eliminated California.

In size the Lesser was only slightly larger than the Ring-billeds. The bill

was much less massive and angular than that of Great Black-backed, and the yellow legs and small size eliminated Western and Slaty-backed Gulls.—*Tom Wood, W166 N9162 Grand Ave. #7, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051.*

GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL (*Larus glaucescens*)

9 March 1997, Two Rivers—At the urging of Daryl Tessen, who had received a call from Mark Korducki via Tom Uttech, I rushed up to the Susie O Fish Market on the East Twin River of Two Rivers. Although a cold rain was setting the mood, the "white-winged" gull was immediately found feeding on a dock about 20 feet from where the car was parked. The gull continued to feed throughout the observation time interacting with the Herring Gulls as they shared the spoils left by the fishermen. Tom Uttech and friends, Daryl, Jim and Aaron Holschbach and Mary Ellen Fitzmaurice all eventually appeared and shared observations and thoughts on the bird's identity. The appearance immediately suggested a light colored, first winter Glaucous-winged Gull. The head was large and chisel shaped, continuous with a large dark bill which was light only at its base. The bill sported a full culmen and prominent gonys giving the bill a slightly drooped look. The iris was dark and the fleshy eyelid/eyering was a light pink/buff almost indistinguishable from the feathering in the head area around the eye. The rest of the head was very light with a slightly darker grayish-tan crown and earmark. The wearing of the juvenile plumage resulted in a general light mottle appearance throughout the bird. The primaries were buffy above



Figure 2. Glaucous-winged Gull. Two Rivers. Photo by Charles Sontag.

and below and lighter on their edges. The tail area was rather plain appearing and very lightly marbled tan with the rump and other upper tail coverts appearing mottled and the rectrices were a light tan but did not necessarily give a uniform appearance. While photographing the bird the group discussed it. After considerable discussion it was felt to be a first year Glaucous-winged Gull. Fortunately the bird was most cooperative enabling us to observe and photograph it for over two hours.—Charles Sontag, 801 N. Fourth St., Manitowoc, WI 54220.

GREAT GRAY OWL (*Strix nebulosa*)

8 March 1997, Door County—Rolf Olson called to tell of seeing a Great Gray Owl yesterday at 5 P.M. along Hwy A about ½ mile south of Junction Road. He said he got to within 15 feet of the

bird and took photos. When we arrived it was sitting on top of a power pole. It had a large round head, and a longer tail than any owl we have seen before. It kept watching the ground and periodically turned its head. Feathers were a soft gray speckled with white. Its face had a distinct circular pattern around the eyes with concentric rings and a darker outer edge. The eyes were yellow and appeared small for the size of the head with white feathers between the eyes and below like a short white mustache. It flew to an arborvitae tree and watched again, then on to a 10 foot shrub where Roy took many photos, and got to within 15–18 feet.—Charlotte and Roy Lukes, 3962 Hillside Rd., Egg Harbor, WI 54209.

10 March 1997, Shawano County—I was going to work and was about halfway between Caroline and Tigerton

when a large gray bird flew up from the road and landed in a nearby tree. It was too dark to see this bird well and my binoculars and scope fogged up before I could make a positive identification. The bird then flew about 200 feet away but it was still too dark. Since I had to be to work in about 20 minutes I left. A surprise snow arrived in late afternoon so I was not too optimistic when I returned to the area about 5 P.M. with my wife and son. My son spotted the bird almost immediately sitting on a fence post about 150 feet away. After dropping to the ground briefly it flew to a fence post about 50 feet away. It was almost two feet long, mostly gray in color. Its large rounded head had concentric circles around small yellow eyes. A white x-shape was noted between the eyes and it had a white bow-tie shape below the circles. The breast had vertical streaks. It eventually flew

to other posts, looking like a big gray moth in flight. When we left it was sitting on a road sign.—*Mark Peterson, Box 53, Caroline, WI 54928.*

BOREAL OWL (*Aegolius funereus*)

16 March 1997, Polk County—At about 7:00 A.M. on Sunday, 16 March 1997 as I settled down with coffee and the morning paper, I heard a racket in my front yard. I opened the door and there 30 feet away were Blue Jays, chickadees, nuthatches, juncos and House Finches raising a ruckus in my spruce tree. I walked to the tree and started peeking inside. Three feet away sat a Boreal Owl.

The bird stayed all day, moving around the tree following the warm sun. I was able to shoot a whole roll of film from as close as 10 feet. (Photos are enclosed.) It was not present the



Figure 4. Boreal Owl. Polk County. *Photo by Joe Hudick.*

following day.—*Joe Hudick, 522 Eric Dr., Osceola, WI 54020.*

THREE-TOED WOODPECKER
(*Picoides tridactylus*)

9 April 1997, Door County—While eating lunch along the edge of an old quarry south of Potawatomi State Park we noticed a different woodpecker working the nearby trees. The bird was 7–8 in. long and was stout or chubby looking. It was a typical woodpecker otherwise. It was black and white only so I believed it was a female. It had a black and white checked or broken horizontal stripped pattern across both the front and back. There was a small white stripe by the eye and a large white stripe below the eye. The wings had white stripes similar to the back and chest. The eyes were dark. It flew from tree stem to tree stem and worked its way up inspecting the dead wood. We had an uninterrupted ten minute

view of this female Three-toed Woodpecker.—*Keith Yanda, 628 N. Fulton Pl., Sturgeon Bay, WI.*

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER
(*Tyrannus forficatus*)

20 May 1997, Door County—I received a call from Arthur Sonneland of a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher he had found earlier that day. Upon arriving at the spot I discovered it perched on the beach along Lake Michigan catching midges and other small insects—flying upward short distances, then flying to a nearby stub and perching until it would sally forth again. Occasionally it flew over the lake to catch insects.

The bird's light gray underparts and long black tail that opened and closed while the bird was in flight immediately said "Scissor-tailed Flycatcher." At times when the bird flew and turned in mid-air directly overhead I could clearly make out its bright pink/or-



Figure 3. Adult male Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. *Photo by Roy Lukes.*

ange underwing surface. The white tail edges were clearly visible when it was in flight. I remained for 30 minutes watching and photographing it.—*Roy Lukes, 3962 Hillside Rd., Egg Harbor, WI 54209.*

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia currucoides*)

29 April 1997, Outagamie County—While birding along the trails at the Bubolz Nature Center near Appleton I was viewing a pair of Eastern Bluebirds when suddenly a male Mountain Bluebird flew at the Eastern male, skirmished briefly, then the two flew off in opposite directions. The Mountain perched in a short tree just off the trail for about 10 minutes, facing in all directions allowing good views. The shade of blue was bright-sky blue compared to the deep blue of the Eastern. There was no rusty shading at all on the breast; rather it was light blue to white towards the rear. There was a uniform blue on the head, back, tail and sides. I was able to observe all three birds simultaneously so the differences in color were obvious. Eventually the Mountain flew back into the adjacent woods and was not seen again.—*Robert Zimmer, 108 Ricker's Bay Dr., Neenah, WI 54956.*

VARIED THRUSH (*Ixoreus naevius*)

13 April 1997, Bayfield County—Harry Vanselow called and indicated a Varied Thrush was coming to his feeder. On 13 April 1997 my son and I met Harry near his drive. We looked for the bird but could not locate it. After about 15 minutes, a larger bird flew into a nearby birch tree. We could immediately see it was a male Varied Thrush.

It was almost the size of a robin and its orangish breast and dark breast band were easily seen. The bird stayed in the birch tree or flew to other open trees and we were able to get other details. Its crown and back were a blue-gray color, the orange eyebrow and wing bars were easily seen. The blackish face patch was also evident. We watched it for close to an hour as it moved from tree to tree. It remained at his feeder thru 23 April.—*Dick Verch, 906 Ellis Ave., Ashland, WI 54806.*

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Dendroica dominica*)

15 May 1997, Milwaukee County—The Yellow-throated Warbler appeared at Mickey O'Conner's feeder on 15 May, 1997. She called me so that I could see it the following day. The adult bird visited the orange halves and the sunflower hearts feeders only 20 feet from the house. Identifying marks included the upper parts were unstreaked dark gray; two bold white bars on white wings; bright yellow throat and upper breast with the rest of the underbelly white with black streaking along the sides. The black face had a bold white eyebrow line and a white patch on its side of the head behind the black facial area. The legs were dark colored. It was only seen these two days.—*Bob Domagalski, W140 N8508 Lilly Rd., Menomonie Falls, WI 53051.*

16 May 1997, Milwaukee County—I received a call from Mickey that the Yellow-throated Warbler was still present 16 May 1997. After waiting only a few minutes it came to the feeders. It was a handsome bird with bluish gray back, thin black bill, white eye stripe and wing bars, black facial pattern and a bright yellow throat, contrasting

sharply from the white breast and belly. It was slightly smaller than the House Finches. During the 10 minutes I observed it, the warbler fed continuously on sunflower hearts. Only at one point did it take to the treetops and behave like a "typical" Yellow-throated Warbler.—*Mark Korducki, 2955 N. 77th St., Milwaukee, WI 53222.*

WESTERN Tanager
(*Piranga ludoviciana*)

6–7 May 1997, Eau Claire County—I sat down at Sharon Shoemaker's kitchen table and waited about 30 minutes for the bird to show up at the sunflower feeder. It finally appeared on a branch near the feeder and allowed me a brief look before disappearing. It was in the oriole-tanager size range, and was bright yellow (including underparts, rump, neck and most of the head) except for a black tail, black back, black wings with pale wing bars (upper wing bar thicker and yellow), and a small amount of orange-red feathering on the head/face. The bill was thicker than an oriole's and pale grayish in color. Sharon later told me that the tanager came until about noon of the following day.—*Janine Polk, 1407 Frederick, Eau Claire, WI 54701.*

14–18 May, Pierce County—I called the Webers to see if friends had shown up to see the Orchard Orioles at their feeders. They had, and they also had watched a Western Tanager. Upon my arrival the next day there was no possible confusion in identifying this bird. It was large (similar to the Orchard Oriole), with a yellow body, black wings with wing bars, black tail and red head. From a great distance it looked

like a large goldfinch with an orange head since at that distance the red and yellow seemed to blend. Visitors before I arrived were treated to quite a view from inside the house. On the window sill of the living room window, in a feeder basket, were seen (photos) the Orchard Oriole and this Western Tanager at the same time.—*Nathan Carlsen, W301 N. Second St., Spring Valley, WI 54767.*

25 May 1997, Bayfield County—Memorial Day weekend of 1997 will long be remembered by eight birdwatching members of our family. The two oldest sons had been out throughout much of Bayfield County for most of Sunday, May 25 amassing quite a list. Now, while the steaks cooked on the grill, Mike Denker, was idly scanning the landscape and said, "What's that? It looks like a big finch with a red head." Since the bird had discovered an orange on the feeder we all had a fine view of its black tail and wings, white wing bars, yellow underparts and rump patch, and most noticeably, its bright red head with a pale, blunt bill.

Obviously, and unexpectedly, on the shore of Bark Bay, Lake Superior, was a Western Tanager. It seemed to be truly enjoying the orange, eventually moving to the suet feeder. Soon it flew into a small cherry tree, and stayed there for over one-half hour. We phoned Phyllis Johnson who left her spaghetti simmering and rushed over. Fortunately the bird remained, allowing her to see it and all of us to get photos. The excitement of his appearance made the arrival of a N. Mockingbird the next day seem almost ordinary. Our home is located at the westernmost point on Bark Bay, at the edge of the Bark Bay Slough, between Cornu-

copia and Herbster.—*Dick and Peggy Denker, HC62, Box 82, Herbster, WI 54844.*

SUMMER TANAGER (*Piranga rubra*)

9 May 1997, Dodge County—An unfamiliar harsh sound coming from a small mountain ash tree at the edge of our oak-hickory woods caught our attention about noon on 9 May 1997. There sat a bird slightly smaller than an oriole that appeared to be yellow to yellow-green with a fairly stout light colored beak. Jack and I looked at it through our binoculars. The bird had no wing bars, its back, top of tail, and wings seemed uniformly colored yellow-green, while the underside of the neck, breast and body were yellow. I searched our bird guides to see what this unfamiliar bird could be. Having had Scarlet Tanagers migrate through

the woods in years past, and seeing some resemblance, I turned to the tanager pages. This bird, unlike the Scarlet female did not have gray or black on her wings. The description of the Summer Tanager fit her best. She was now investigating our bird feeder nearest the house from which hung a hummingbird nectar feeder. She sat atop that feeder and pecked at its cap and glass side. Jack grabbed the camera to get some photos. She flew off to our woods feeder located at the edge of our lawn and seemed unconcerned with his presence some 30 feet away. I began to cut up a kiwi that had gone soft and mixed up a batch of peanut butter and corn meal. When the bird flew off into the woods, I placed the mixture on some limestone rocks at the base of the feeder. Within minutes it was on the rocks sampling the peanut butter. She could retreat to an adjacent



Figure 5. Summer Tanager. Dodge County. Photo by Jack Bartholmai.

pine and then return to the rocks to feed. The kiwi became her favorite over the next four days.—*Jack and Holly Bartholmai, N7229 Hickory Spring Dr., Beaver Dam, WI 53916.*

BLACK-BACKED GROSBEAK
(*Pheucticus melanocephalus*)

17 May 1997, Juneau County—On 17 May 1997 among 10–15 Rose-br. Grosbeaks at a Sprague feeder, one bird stood out. This female was significantly different than the others. First noticed was the breast. It was very buffy throughout extending to the belly and the throat. It was mostly unstreaked with very fine streaked markings on the flanks. The same white was on the throat, most obvious at the base of the bill. The contrast between the head markings and the neck and throat gave the bird a much more helmeted appearance than the Rose-breasteds. A broad dark shield behind the eye was topped with a distinctive buffy eyeline. The crown appeared to have more of a buffy infusion than the adjacent RBG's. The wing bars appeared to be similar in placement and size with the two species. The back was similar in streaking patterns with RBGs, but then again the buffiness was obvious espe-

cially towards the rump.—*Randy Hoffman, 305 Fifth St., Waunakee, WI 53597.*

BLUE GROSBEAK
(*Cyanocompsa parillina*)

28 April 1997, Door County—On Monday, 28 April 1997 at about 7:30 A.M., my husband and I, while at breakfast, looked out at our bird feeding area. We were surprised to see a strange blue colored bird feeding on the cracked corn that had been scattered on the ground. From the size of its beak we realized it must be a grosbeak. We soon found its picture and description in the Peterson book.

The bird had a large, thick light colored bill and an overall blue coloration together with the prominent, broad rusty brown wing bars. The wings and tail were darker. The blue was somewhat duller than that of the Indigo Bunting. Its size was larger than the Indigo but smaller than the Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

It fed for about ten minutes, then flew to an overhanging tree branch. Later it drank at the bird bath. It remained around our home until about 4:00 P.M. when it disappeared.—*Charlotte Yeomans, 630 State Road 42, Ellison Bay, WI 54210.*

WSO Records Committee Report—Spring 1997

Fifty-one documentations were reviewed by the WSO Records Committee for the Spring of 1997, with an additional look at four records from the spring season of the previous year. These accounts covered the identification of 24 species. Forty-three records were accepted. Of particular note was Wisconsin's second accepted record of a Glaucous-winged Gull. Observers were notified of the committee decisions by postcard in the case of accepted records and by personal letter in the case of records not accepted.

by Jim Frank

ACCEPTED

Anhinga—

#97-019 *Winnebago Co.*, 4 May 1997, Ziebell.

#97-020 *Kenosha Co.*, 17 May 1997, De Boer.

One bird was observed in the Winnebago Co. sighting, two individuals in the Kenosha Co. report. These birds were reported to be dark cormorant-like birds seen soaring. The tails were longer and more wedge-shaped than

the shorter, blunter tail of a cormorant. The head was slender and similar in size to the neck, instead of thicker and blunter. The bills were longer and more pointed than those of a cormorant. On one of the Kenosha Co. birds, the silvery back and upper wing streaking was seen as it banked.

Observers should be extremely careful when assuming a soaring cormorant-like bird to be an Anhinga. In spite of the general conception, cormorants do soar. Careful observation of these birds is necessary to determine the tail length and shape as well as the head shape and bill shape. Most soaring cormorant-like birds in Wisconsin are, in fact, cormorants.

Ross' Goose—

#97-024 *Milwaukee Co.*, 2-7 March 1997, Korducki, 8 March 1997, Wood; (1 bird)

#97-025 *Dodge Co.*, 7 March 1997, Domagalski; (1 bird)

#97-072 *Dodge Co.*, 12 March 1997, Tessen; (2 birds)

#97-026 *Dodge Co.*, 7 April 1997, Tessen; (3 birds)

#97-027 *Columbia Co.*, 12 March 1997, Tessen; (2 birds)

#97-028 *Dane Co.*, 29 March 1997, Hariman; 2 April 1997, Tessen; (4 birds)

#97-029 *Outagamie Co.*, 3 April 1997, Tessen; (6 birds)

#97-030 *Ashland Co.*, 7 May 1997, Verch. (1 bird)

These 20 individuals were described as white geese, as small as adjacent Mallards, with black wing tips. The tops of the heads were more rounded than those of the larger Canada Geese. The bills were stubby and pink, lacking the so-called dark "grin patch" of a Snow Goose. This number of sightings is unprecedented in Wisconsin.

Brant—

#97-031 *Racine Co.*, 28 April 1997, Korducki; 29 April 1997, Tessen; 4 May 1997, Gustafson.

Two geese, much smaller than adjacent Canada Geese were noted. They had black heads, necks, bills and upper breasts, the black extending farther down than on the Canadas. The side of the neck had white lines on the side of the upper neck, not the all-white patch extending up onto the face that Canadas have. The pale lower breast and belly suggest the eastern subspecies.

Eurasian Wigeon—

#97-032 *Calumet Co.*, 29, 30 March, 1 April 1997, Tessen;

#97-033 *Dunn Co.*, 25 April 1997, Polk.

Though it appeared to be the same size and shape as an American Wigeon, this bird stood out because of its orange-red head. In addition, the forehead was light yellowish rather than white, the flanks were gray instead of pink-brown. As also noted in the American Wigeon, the back was gray, the

breast salmon-pink, the caudal flank had a white crescent in front of the black tail, and the bill was light blue-gray.

Pomarine Jaeger—

#97-060 *Douglas Co.*, 22 May 1997, Swengel.

A dark-backed, gull-like bird was observed to be a bit smaller than the Herring Gull it was relentlessly pursuing. Its flight was described as "slashing" alternating with up and down swoops. The tail was diamond-shaped with what were felt to be 2 inch long projections of the central retrices that had distinctly rounded tips and a twisted appearance to them. The lighter underbody was accented by a yellow throat and cheek. The cap was darker than the slate-gray back, upper wings, and tail and this cap extended down to and behind the eye. The wings seemed narrower and more pointed than a Ring-billed Gull's. This species is very unusual in Wisconsin, particularly in adult plumage.

Iceland Gull—

#97-036 *Ozaukee Co.*, 14 May 1997, Diehl.

This individual was seen in comparison to Ring-billed Gulls, and felt to be slightly larger. The creamy-white head and body also exhibited smudgings of light brown. The extended wings revealed all-white primaries and secondaries. It also lacked any evidence of a tail band. The bill was all black, the eye dark, and the legs pink. At rest the wing tips barely extended past the tail tip.

Lesser Black-backed Gull—

#97-038 *Sheboygan Co.*, 23 April 1997, Baughman.

#97-040 *Ozaukee Co.*, 28 May 1997, Uttech.

These third year birds had a dark gray, but not a black mantle, which contrasted with the black primary tips. Overall the size was approximately that of the Herring Gulls present, much larger than the Ring-billed Gulls. The yellow bill was not bulky and had a dark smudge near the tip. The legs were yellow-gray, the eye yellowish. Toward the tip of the tail a dark subterminal band was evident. This and the brown feathering in the secondaries suggested the 3rd year plumage.

#97-039 *Dodge Co.*, 26 April 1997, Wood.

This gull was slightly larger than the adjacent Ring-billed Gulls. The very dark gray mantle contrasted slightly with the black primary wingtips. The legs were yellow, and the bill was also yellow with a red spot on the lower mandible and a black line across both mandible tips. Also reported was a yellow eye.

Glaucous-winged Gull (first year)—

#97-041 *Manitowoc Co.*, 9 March 1997, Uttech, Sontag (photos), Holschbach (video).

This bird was seen at close range for an extended period, seemingly non-interactive with any of the other gulls in the immediate area. It was at best slightly larger than adjacent first year Herring Gulls, with a larger, heavier, all black bill, and a more angular head than a Thayer's Gull. The very base of the bill seemed to begin to pale in color. The overall plumage was whitish with smudgings of very pale tan/buff on the head, neck, and mantle. This tan smudging became more of a pale tannish checkering on the wing cov-

erts. At rest the primary tips were pale tannish (the same or slightly lighter than the mantle) with white edgings. In flight, the wings were uniformly pale white with a tannish smudging, there was no darker color to the secondaries relative to the primaries. The tail was whiter proximally with tan smudgings. Noted on the distal tail was the same pale tannish color of the primary tips, but not a terminal band. The outer tail retrices were white edged. The primary tips extended a short distance beyond the tail. The legs were pink, the eye dark.

The overall size of this bird, the angular shape of its head, and the large size of the beak appear to eliminate the smaller pale-winged gulls, Iceland and Thayer's. The lack of a terminal tail band and lack of darker secondaries than primaries in flight are also inconsistent with a Thayer's Gull.

Though the size of this bird seems intermediate between a Glaucous and a Herring Gull, perhaps closer to a Herring, females tend to be smaller than males so this could still fit the size of a female Glaucous Gull. More importantly the black coloring is sharply restricted to the tip of the bill in a Glaucous Gull, this bird having an all dark bill. The entire primary wing tip is pale in a Glaucous Gull, not uniformly pale tan with white edges as on this bird.

Any identification of an out of range Glaucous-winged Gull seems to be clouded by the apparently relatively common hybridization with other gull species, but there does not seem to be any darker pigmentation anywhere to suggest a Western or Herring influence. The angular head and large beak do not seem to reflect any of the diminutive head or beak of Thayer's or Iceland Gulls. The primary tips seem

to hold too much uniform pale tan pigment and the beak seems too dark overall to suggest a Glaucous influence.

This appears to be Wisconsin's second record of a Glaucous-winged Gull. Further input on the photos will likely be forthcoming from more experienced western gull observers.

Great Gray Owl—

#97-042 *Door Co.*, 8 March 1997, C. Lukes;

#97-043 *Shawano Co.*, 10 March 1997, Peterson;

#97-044 *Kewaunee Co.*, 11-17 March 1997, Lowe.

In each case a large gray owl, lacking ear tufts, but having yellow eyes, large facial disks, and white moustache marks was reported. With the report of the Kewaunee Co. bird, a video was also supplied to support the identification.

Boreal Owl—

#97-045 *Polk Co.*, 16 March 1997, Huddick (photo).

A small brown owl was seen at close range. The gray facial disks had a black border. The brown forehead and back had white spots. The breast had brown and white vertical streaking. Also reported were yellow eyes and a gray bill.

Three-toed Woodpecker—

#97-046 *Door Co.*, 9 April 1997, Yanada.

This black and white, medium-sized woodpecker had black horizontal barring on the breast and back. A white stripe was noted by the eye and below the eye.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher—

#97-047 *Door Co.*, 20 May 1997, C. Lukes (photo).

Described as a light gray bird with black wings and a long, black tail, this individual was seen perched and flying out to catch nearby insects. The long, forked shape of the tail, the white outer edge to the tail, and the pink-orange underwing area were apparent.

Mountain Bluebird—

#97-048 *Outagamie Co.*, 29 April 1997, Zimmer.

A bluebird-sized individual was reported, the dark blue back and head faded to lighter blue on the breast, and ultimately to white on the belly. No orange coloration was seen. The bill and legs were black. This individual was seen interacting with a pair of Eastern Bluebirds. This is the second consecutive spring report of this species at the Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve.

Summer Tanager—

#97-057 *Dodge Co.*, 9-13 May 1997, Bartholmai (photo).

This photo of a female tanager demonstrates the olive brown overall color of a Summer Tanager rather than the olive green of the female Scarlet Tanager. There is a yellow-orange hint to the upper breast and cap of this bird. Also apparent in the photo is the longer bill of a Summer Tanager relative to a Scarlet Tanager. Finally, the lores are darker than the surrounding facial feathering, rather than yellow as in a Scarlet Tanager. The position of the photographed bird did not allow a good look at the expected light edgings to the wing coverts that a Summer Tanager demonstrates, but a Scarlet does not. In addition, the anticipated similar color to the back and wings could not be evaluated due to the angle of the photo. The wings are nor-

mally darker than the back on a Scarlet Tanager.

Western Tanager—

#97-050 *Eau Claire Co.*, 6 May 1997, Polk.

#97-051 *Crawford Co.*, 13 May 1997, Kirschbaum (photo).

#97-052 *Pierce Co.*, 15 May 1997, Carlson.

#97-053 *Bayfield Co.*, 25 May 1997, Denker (photo), P. Johnson (photo).

An oriole-sized, yellow bird was reported to have a black back, wings, and tail. A large upper wing bar and smaller lower wing bar were also mentioned as was a heavier bill than an oriole. Of course, the most striking feature was the red head. These reports bring the recent spring records for Wisconsin bird feeders to 2 in 1994, 4 in 1995, 5 in 1996, and 4 in 1997.

Black-headed Grosbeak—

#97-055 *Juneau Co.*, 17 May 1997, Hoffman.

This individual was noted among at least 10 other grosbeaks at a feeder. Though similar in general pattern to the female Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, the buffy breast was noticeably different than the whiter breast of the Rose-breasted females. The Black-headed Grosbeak had white restricted to the throat immediately adjacent to the base of the bill. Instead of heavy streaks throughout, the streaks on the breast of this bird were restricted to fine ones only along the flanks. The buffy coloration was also evident in the eyeline, the crown and rump.

Blue Grosbeak—

#97-059 *Door Co.*, 28 April 1997, Yeomans (photo).

Noted at a feeder, this dark blue bird was noticeably larger than an Indigo Bunting, but smaller than Rose-breasted or Evening Grosbeaks. The bill was larger than a bunting's and light gray in color. There were also blackened areas around the eyes. Of diagnostic importance were the rusty wingbars. A very distant photo was supplied with the documentation, but even at the distance, the overall size and shape was noticeably different than that of an Indigo Bunting. The upper rusty wingbar was evident on the photo as well.

NOT ACCEPTED

Glossy Ibis—

#97-021 *Crawford Co.*, 6 May 1997.

A dark red-brown to bronze plumage with greenish wings was reported. It had longer legs and a longer, down-curved bill than a Green Heron. The legs reported as a greenish-gray color and the lack of a white facial border is consistent with either a Glossy Ibis or a non-breeding plumage White-faced Ibis. The observer reported seeing a noticeably red eye when viewing through a scope. This is only consistent with a non-breeding plumage adult White-faced Ibis. There were slides submitted with this report, but the distance was too great to clearly see the eye. This individual is accepted as a *Plegadis ibis* (species?), but seems to most likely be a White-faced Ibis. (For further information on Ibis differentiation, see Kaufman's *Advanced Birding*, p.40-42).

Glossy Ibis—

#97-022 *Dodge Co.*, 16 May 1997.

Initially seen in flight, the all dark color with an extended neck and legs

and a long decurved bill were noted. The wingbeats were more rapid than a heron's. At rest, the iridescent "purple-maroon" plumage was seen, with the wings blackish, not dark greenish. The legs were very dark or blackish. The examination for a facial border stripe could only detect the faintest white outline above the lores and below the eye. A specific mention of eye color or facial skin color was not made in the report. As mentioned in conjunction with the previous ibis report, the virtual lack of a white facial border and the dark legs could be consistent with a Glossy Ibis or a non-breeding plumage White-faced Ibis. This report is also accepted as *Plegadis ibis* (species?), though the specific location of the thin, white facial border is intriguingly like a Glossy Ibis.

White-faced Ibis—

#97-023 *Door Co.*, 24 May 1997.

In yet a third ibis report from the spring season, the dark "heron-like bird" was initially seen perched on a dead snag. It was felt to be larger than a Green Heron, but by the time the observer could stop the car to look at it, the bird had taken flight. All that could be seen was the overall dark color, but trailing red legs were noted. The head and bill were not seen well due to the flight angle, but the neck was outstretched. Later that day, in poorer light, the bird was seen wading allowing observation of the decurved bill and a thin, vague, white line around the face. Though the red legs were consistent with a breeding plumage White-faced Ibis, the facial skin color and eye would be anticipated to be reddish in breeding plumage as well. The poorer light might not have allowed this to be detected. Since the bird was

not identifiable as an ibis during the first observation, it seems safest to leave the identification of this individual also as a *Plegadis ibis* (species?), though it was probably a White-faced. The two ibis species are obviously difficult to identify unless seen in breeding plumage and at reasonably close range.

Wilson's Plover—

#97-035 *Outagamie Co.*, 10 May 1997.

Observed at a distance of 10 feet for 20 minutes. Activity and proximity to other shorebirds was not mentioned in the report. The description listed a single black breast band, a white throat, a white forehead, and a white band above the eyes. The black bill was felt to be long relative to other plovers. The legs were fleshy grey in color. There was not a specific size mentioned in the report. Though the long, black bill seems to eliminate all plovers except the Wilson's and the Killdeer, and the single breast band seems to eliminate a Killdeer, several other points are worth noting. The description of a white forehead and an apparently separate white line above the eye is more consistent with a Killdeer than a Wilson's Plover. The extent of white above and behind the eye of a Wilson's Plover is extremely limited if detectable at all. Also of interest is the extremely close observation distance for such a prolonged period of time, a rather unlikely scenario for most any wild bird except perhaps a juvenile. Without any size reference to go by, it seems plausible that this individual could have been an early hatch young Killdeer. This would explain the single breast band and apparent tameness of the bird.

Long-tailed Jaeger—

#97-061 *Douglas Co.*, 22 May 1997.

This bird was briefly described as a small, dark jaeger with six inch tail plumes. There was no comparative size description and the short observation precluded any plumage details from being noted. There was a mention that the tail plumages had "twists" in them. Upon reaching the spot it was seen to fly toward, a Pomarine Jaeger was observed. Given the brevity of the viewing and description, the identification seems a bit speculative. An all dark Long-tailed Jaeger would be very unusual. The report suggests long central tail feathers and thus a close to mature bird, negating a possibility of a juvenile bird in which the plumage may be darker. Also adding to the difficulty of identification is the variability reported within each jaeger species regarding the length of the central retrices. The "twist" in the central retrices is also unsettling given that a Pomarine Jaeger is more usually noted to have this characteristic. The shape of the tip of the retrices was not described, so we don't have further delineation from that source. Finally, a Pomarine Jaeger was found after this sighting leading to further uncertainty as to whether this could even have been the same bird.

Lesser Black-backed Gull—

#97-037 *Dane Co.*, 27 March 1997.

The description of this gull was limited to a Ring-billed Gull-sized individual that had a dark gray mantle, not as dark as a Great Black-backed Gull. The head was white, the bill yellow with a red spot, the legs yellowish. This individual is very likely a Lesser Black-backed, but the brevity of description did not eliminate a California Gull which has a darker gray mantle than

the Ring-billed, but not as dark as this mantle was presumed to be. The legs would also be light, but generally greener than the yellow described here. The eye, not described in this report, would be dark on a California Gull, light on a Lesser Black-backed Gull. This is probably an accurate identification, but a report lost to the extreme brevity of description.

Glaucous-winged Gull—

#97-041 *Manitowoc Co.*, 9 March 1997.

Though obviously the gull in question, the documentation did not contribute details regarding the primary and secondary color, mantle and covert patterns, and tail color and patterns. It was limited to the size of the bird, bill size and color, and overall blond plumage. A species such as this in an immature plumage is difficult to describe, but details are essential in this instance.

Great Gray Owl—

#97-058 *Bayfield Co.*, 20 May 1997.

This photo only report shows an apparently large owl flying away at enough of a distance to preclude positive identification. Though this is most likely a Great Gray Owl, a written description would have been more supportive of the identification in this case.

Painted Redstart—

#97-049 *Winnebago Co.*, 19 May 1997.

The description of this bird was limited to a warbler-sized individual that was black, red, and white. The pattern or locations of any of these colors was not described. Without a more complete description, a case could be made for Slate-throated Redstart, Red-faced Warbler, a Painted Redstart, and per-

haps even a Bay-breasted Warbler. Obviously a Painted Redstart is a striking bird, but without supporting details, records like this are lost from the ornithological record.

Blue Grosbeak—

#97-055 *Milwaukee Co.*, 20 May, 4 June 1997.

The description was limited to a bird that was darker blue than expected, had a heavier, but lighter colored beak than an Indigo Bunting. In one part of the report “rusty” wingbars were reported, but later the wingbars were listed as “dusty” (having crossed out the word “rusty”). A photograph was submitted of the bird in question. The general size of the bird and the beak shape were not readily apparent; however, the overall shape of the body and head were bunting-like. The wing was clearly seen in the photo, but no evidence of any rusty wingbars was detected. The wing had the typical dusty gray-black look to it in contrast to the deep blue body color.

#97-056 *Door Co.*, 22, 24 May, 9 June 1997.

Again a written description and a photograph were supplied for this report. The bird was felt to be a little larger than a goldfinch, overall blue, but exhibiting brown areas on the side of the neck and on the back, brownish wings and lighter brownish wingbars. The photographs show the small size of an Indigo Bunting, as well as the small beak, and an absence of any evidence of *rusty* wingbars. The wings are dingy brownish-gray, again contrasting with the blue body color.

Observers should remember that the plumage of Indigo Buntings can vary a bit, especially in spring. They may ex-

hibit some brownish areas until they complete their moult into full breeding plumage. In addition, there is more of a size difference than might be expected at first glance. Though the field guides suggest a 1 to 1.5 inch difference in length between Indigo Buntings and Blue Grosbeaks, this 25% increase in length compounds when the overall “volume” of the birds are compared. An Indigo Bunting is very close to goldfinch-sized; a Blue Grosbeak is more bluebird-sized. In that context, their size difference seems much harder to confuse. The heavier beak of a grosbeak should be significantly different than a bunting beak. Finally, the brown of the wingbars is distinctly rusty-orange and confined to the wingbars. The dingy brown of the wings on the Indigo Buntings of these reports is an overall color of the wing. The edges of the wing coverts can have a hint of lighter brown, but not the *broad, rusty* wingbar of the Blue Grosbeak.

Also of note in these two reports is the difficulty interpreting written documentations without photographic evidence to support it. In both instances the written reports were very suggestive of Blue Grosbeaks, but fortunately each of these reports was carefully written, with accurate color notations that rightfully left suspicions that these were not Blue Grosbeaks. Both observers were unfamiliar with Blue Grosbeaks, so when presented with slightly atypical Indigo Bunting plumages they made an incorrect assumption. The careful, accurate descriptions of these sightings should be commended though. The effort to supply photographs with the reports to confirm the committee’s interpretations is also greatly appreciated. It allows us the

best opportunity to maintain the accuracy of the state's ornithological record.

ACCEPTED 1996 SIGHTINGS

Black-necked Stilt—

#96-036 *Fond du Lac Co.*, 19 May 1996,
Baughman.

#96-120 *Dodge Co.*, 25 May 1996, Boldt.

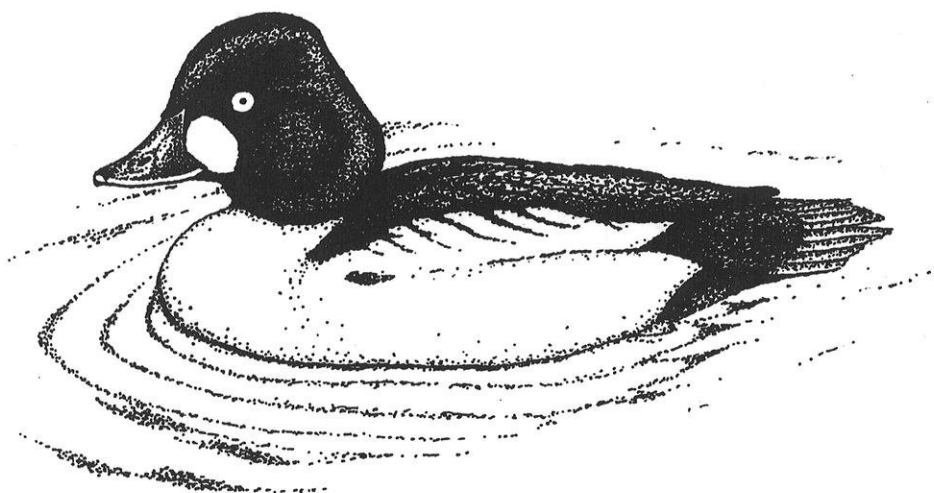
Western Tanager—

#96-121 *Oneida Co.*, 14, 16 May 1996,
Hamilton.

#96-122 *Clark Co.*, early May 1996,
Kuhl.

Jim Frank

WSO Records Committee Chair



Common Goldeneye *by Jim Frank*

ABOUT THE AUTHORS AND ARTISTS

James S. Anderson has directed the operation of Mosquito Hill Nature Center in New London for nearly two and one half decades. Birds and habitat preservation play essential roles in his environmental teachings. When away from his 430-acre office and "The Hill," Jim enjoys birding, hiking, nature photography, canoeing and other outdoor endeavors.

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

Theodore J. Gostomski has been a Biological Technician for the National Park Service at Isle Royale National Park, Michigan, and Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Wisconsin. He is currently the Loon Watch Coordinator at the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute of Northland College in Ashland and is Bayfield County Coordinator for the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas Project.

Randy Hoffman is a biologist with the Wisconsin DNR's Bureau of Endan-

gered Resources where he is in charge of managing the lands in the State Natural Area program.

Roy Lukes managed the Ridges Sanctuary at Baileys Harbor, WI, for 27 years, retired from that job in 1990, and now he and his wife, Charlotte, are teaching their own Nature-Wise classes. Roy continues to write books and weekly nature stories for three area newspapers. His latest book, *Toft Point: A Legacy of People and Pines*, was published in June, 1998. lukes@mail.wisenet.net

Neil F. Payne is professor of wildlife at UW-SP's College of Natural Resources (CNR). He continues to publish books and articles as retirement looms in August. He has authored or co-authored more than 60 publications and has peer reviewed approximately 50 other manuscripts. As retirement nears, he has 13 publications and an additional five manuscripts submitted to scholarly journals. Originally from Sheboygan Falls, he has a B.A. in zoology from UW-Madison, an M.S. in wildlife and forestry from VPI & SU, and a Ph.D. in wildlife science from Utah State. Prior to UW-SP, he was an assistant research professor of wildlife at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Al Shea is one of the state's most avid birders. He is the Director of the Bu-

reau of Watershed Management of the Wisconsin DNR.

Jerry H. Smith is a wildlife biologist/wetland ecologist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Green Bay field office. He received a B.S. in Wildlife Management in 1974 and did graduate work until 1977. When not doing wetland regulatory work, he is involved in numerous ornithological activities, including conducting six BBS routes annually and operating one of three MAPS banding stations in Wisconsin. He monitors seasonal avian activities in Oconto County and pursues

birds around the state. He also has been conducting long-term research on Northern Saw-whet Owls at his residence as well as monitoring fall songbird migration at the Little Suamico Ornithological Station.

Daryl D. Tessen remains one of Wisconsin's most active birders, despite living out of state. He has been the longtime Associate Editor of *The Passenger Pigeon* and recently edited the 3rd Edition of *Wisconsin's Favorite Bird Haunts*. He is a recipient of WSO's Silver Passenger Pigeon Award.

Notices and Advertisements

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING 17 MAY 1997

President Bettie Harriman called the 58th annual business meeting of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (WSO) to order at 1:10 P.M., 17 May 1997, at Fox Hills Resort and Convention Center, in Mishicot.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved by a committee (Jim Otto, Jim and Doris Gorton, and Daryl Tessen) appointed at the 1996 WSO annual meeting (copies are available in the 1997 WSO Convention handout; the minutes were printed in the Fall 1996 issue of the *Passenger Pigeon*). The president appointed a reading committee (David and Margaret Brasser, Barbara Duerksen, and Christine Reel) to review and correct the minutes of the 1997 business meeting. Duplicated minutes, when approved, will be available in the *Passenger Pigeon* and at the 1998 WSO annual convention.

Financial report—Alex Kailing had nothing to add to the WSO Treasurer's 1997 Convention Report. Hearing no questions, he observed that this year WSO is dealing with more dollars than usual because of the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas (WBBA).

BOARD MEMBER ANNUAL REPORTS, JUNE 1996–MAY 1997

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President's Report—**Bettie Harriman**—Retiring WSO president, Bettie Harri-

man, thanked you, the members of WSO, for the opportunity to serve you and the support you provided. She cited activities that involved all WSO members in the president's section of "Annual Reports, June 1996–May 1997"; at this meeting Bettie highlighted the WSO grassland birds panel dedicated (during a snow storm) at an education kiosk in the Buena Vista Marsh, the second biennial bird symposium, featuring (neotropical migratory) forest songbirds, held (also during a snow storm) at UW-Green Bay, and WSO membership on the Policy Committee of the American Bird Conservancy (ABC) with Stanley Temple as representative. Harriman repeated the announcement of field trips and ceremony honoring the 50th anniversary of the Passenger Pigeon monument at Wyalusing State Park, 31 May–1 June 1997.

Vice President—**Jim Anderson**—Jim Anderson moved to hold the 1998 WSO Annual Convention, sponsored by Beaver Creek Reserve and Chipewewa Wildlife Society, in the Eau Claire area, over Memorial Day weekend, 21–23 May 1998. The motion was seconded and approved.

Editor—**Becky Isenring**—WSO members were reminded that the summer issue of the *Passenger Pigeon*, vol. 58, had recently appeared and the fall issue would soon be available. Publication had been delayed because of health difficulties in the Isenring fam-

ily. The *Passenger Pigeon* editor's report is included in "Annual Reports, June 1996–May 1997."

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Associate Editor—Daryl Tessen—Daryl Tessen's summary, also included among the annual reports, mentioned the considerable number of seasonal sightings received during 1996–97. Although Spring was later than usual this year, he requested that WSO members send in seasonal reports to let us know there are warblers, vireos, shorebirds, and the like out there.

Awards—Mary Donald—The Bronze Passenger Pigeon award was presented this evening to Bernie Brouhard; the Silver Passenger Pigeon award was given to Fred Leshner.

Badger Birder—Jennifer Nieland—Jennifer Nieland summarized that the 1996–97 year had brought several changes for the *Badger Birder* in the way of equipment, format, content, and responsibilities. She emphasized that she is always looking forward to comments and contributions from WSO members.

Bookstore—Don and Christine Reel—The Reels had nothing to add to their written statement. They have enjoyed assuming managership of the WSO Bookstore, have continued to offer bookstore services (adding to and searching for publications), have offered special items of interest at events such as the forest birds symposium, and have printed business-been-done cards for WSO members to distribute as consumers when birding. They wel-

come all questions, suggestions, and comments.

Conservation—Noel Cutright—Cutright reiterated the importance of commenting on as well as becoming part of the process of information gathering by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He praised WSO's becoming a voting member of the Policy Committee of ABC and thereby attaining a voice on both national and international birding issues. He called special attention to the Important Bird Area (IBA) program, which identifies birding sites of state or national importance, as a tool to help manage wildlife in Wisconsin. Noel reported that the Honey Creek Birdathon had identified 80 species, 30 of which were banded.

WSO member Ginny Evans suggested that a synopsis of the USFWS reports be printed in the *Badger Birder*, called members' attention to the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair at Portage County Fairgrounds in June 1997, and asked for signature contributions to a petition for a moratorium on mining in the State of Wisconsin.

Education—Laura Erickson—Laura Erickson asked for help with the Education Committee's project to produce a video on birds of Wisconsin. She asked for donations of good footage on both birds and habitat in Wisconsin and for assistance from WSO members with video experience.

Field Trips—Tom Schultz and Jeff Baughman—On 17 May 1997, both Tom Schultz and Jeff Baughman were in Fond du Lac County doing May Day counts. They had conducted several field trips, had more coming up, and appreciate hotline feedback.

Membership—Alex Kailing—Kailing commented that WSO membership is down slightly perhaps due to a lack of major recruiting campaigns. The only way the Society gets new members is by the referrals of old members or by the circulation of WSO brochures. Alex asked for help from WSO members to solicit sponsors of brochure distribution.

Eleanor Kratzat suggested that WSO send copy-ready notices of WSO activities—that is, notices that are ready to reproduce in newsletters—to each individual chapter of nature organizations in the state.

Publicity—Bettie Harriman—In addition to a written report of WSO publicity via press releases, conference exhibitions, and WBBA, Bettie presented an unofficial WSO public relations award to Sam Robbins for his column in *Country Today* and for his time on the radio—always pushing WSO.

Records—Jim Frank—The WSO Records Committee was very busy this year with reviewing documentation records for 228 bird sightings, of which 186 were accepted as State of Wisconsin records.

Research—Bob Howe—Bob Howe had not much to add to his written report. For WSO members involved in local bird censusing activities, he proposed using a specific, standardized methodology for sampling birds, calling attention to an article to be published in the *Passenger Pigeon*; he volunteered to send out pre-publication copies of the article, which he co-authored with Gerald Niemi, Dan Welsh, and Steve Lewis.

WBBA activities were reported more

completely after the WSO business meeting.

Scholarship and Grants—Janine Polk—In 1997, WSO supported three different studies—Sandra Gillum, on impacts of shoreline development on breeding bird populations at northern Wisconsin lakes; Alex Lindsay, on geographic and individual variation in Common Loon vocalization; and John Jacobs and Eugene Jacobs, on Wisconsin Red-shouldered Hawk nesting in northeastern and central Wisconsin—with a total of \$2,000 in grants and awards.

Youth Education—Steve Kupcho—Expanding on the Youth Education report, Steve Kupcho noted that the special WSO youth education focus had begun 2 years ago because of concern about the next generation of birders. He thought that word was getting out that WSO is promoting young birders, for he continues to receive requests for financial assistance [last year WSO sent Andy Kimball, a 10-year-old birder, to the American Birding Association (ABA) convention in Utah; this year WSO was asked by Aaron Boone, of South Beloit, for financial support for his attending Camp Chan Chich (Victor Emanuel Nature Tours) in Belize, and by B.J. Westfahl, an Eagle Scout, for help meeting expenses for a Peregrine Falcon nest box].

Kupcho observed that WSO already has special funds for Honey Creek, the Atlas, and scholarships. He proposed the regular addition of a Fledgling Fund to the WSO annual budget in order to deal with requests from young birders on a fair and timely basis. He received an informal ok from the gathering of WSO members.

NEW BUSINESS

Karen Etter Hale thanked Christine Reel and Larry Michael for their help on the WSO nominating committee. She announced the nominations: for president, Jim Anderson; vice-president, Sumner Matteson; Secretary, Jane Dennis; Treasurer, Alex Kailing; Editor, Becky Isenring. The nominees were unanimously approved in response to a motion by Carl Hayssen.

Bettie Harriman turned the WSO chair over to her 25-year friend, Jim Anderson.

Jim Anderson asked WSO members for additional new business.

He announced that Pete Dunne was coming to Appleton—and Mosquito Hill Nature Center—in October 1997 and that the latest issue of *Wisconsin Trails* featured Harold Kruse's testimony on Honey Creek.

The next WSO business meeting was scheduled for 23 May 1998, 1:00 p.m., in Eau Claire.

A motion to adjourn the 1997 WSO annual business meeting was approved at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane A. Dennis
Secretary

INDEX TO VOLUME 59

A

Acadian Flycatcher, 68, 142, 284, 285, 293, 297, 305, 312, 322, 329, 339
 Alder Flycatcher, 27, 39, 68, 123, 142, 192, 281–283, 295, 305, 312, 322, 329, 339
 Allez, George, see Mueller, Helmut C., Nancy S. Mueller, Daniel D. Berger, George Allez, William R. Robichaud, and John L. Kaspar
 American Avocet, 56, 62, 66, 132, 138, 302, 311, 337
 American Bittern, 39, 62, 120, 122–124, 129, 133, 192, 291, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
 American Black Duck, 10–15, 18, 39, 62, 63, 134, 192, 223, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327
 American Coot, 16, 66, 123, 137, 192, 225, 263, 291, 302, 311, 320, 328
 American Crow, 10–15, 19, 27, 28, 39, 73, 74, 143, 192, 222, 291, 305, 312, 322, 329
 American Golden Plover, 66, 137, 283, 337
 American Goldfinch, 10–15, 27, 39, 124, 149, 192, 230, 271, 291, 309, 314, 326, 331
 American Kestrel, 10–15, 18, 46, 93, 95, 110, 112, 137, 192, 221, 225, 301, 310, 319, 328
 American Pipit, 69, 144, 285, 287, 297, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 American Redstart, 27, 33, 39, 146, 192, 271, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 American Robin, 10–15, 27, 39, 144, 192, 221, 228, 269, 271, 290, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 American Tree Sparrow, 10–15, 147, 229, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 American White Pelican, 3, 16, 62, 64, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
 American Wigeon, 16, 18, 56, 64, 135, 192, 223, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335, 350, 360
 American Woodcock, 27, 28, 39, 139, 192, 271, 290, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338
 Anderson, Jim, WSO Conventions, 87–88; Are we really ready?, 179–181; Let's Give Them a Chance, 263–265
 Anderson, Nick, "By the Wayside," 239
 Anhinga, 334, 347, 359
 Arctic Tern, 82
 Ashman, Philip, "By the Wayside," 151

B

Baird's Sandpiper, 58, 67, 138, 284, 285, 294, 303, 311, 337
 Bald Eagle, 10–15, 18, 27, 28, 39, 47, 51, 65, 89–95, 101, 103, 104, 115, 136, 181, 192, 212, 222, 224, 292, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336
 Baltimore Oriole, 148, 192, 230, 292, 309, 325, 331, 344
 Bank Swallow, 39, 143, 292, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
 Barbarich, Sylvia, "By the Wayside," 154
 Barn Swallow, 39, 63, 143, 192, 291, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
 Barred Owl, 10–15, 27, 28, 39, 141, 161, 170, 192, 219, 222, 239, 244, 304, 312, 321, 329
 Barrow's Goldeneye, 54, 60, 132, 135, 151, 152, 167, 224, 235, 242, 336
 Bartholmai, Jack and Holly, "By the Wayside," 357–358

Bay-breasted Warbler, 70, 146, 192, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342, 366
 Bell's Vireo, 57, 69, 133, 144, 284, 341
 Belted Kingfisher, 10–15, 18, 27, 28, 39, 63, 141, 192, 221, 227, 291, 304, 312, 321, 329, 339
 Belter, Dan, "By the Wayside," 163, 238–239
 Berger, Daniel D., see Mueller, Helmut C., Nancy S. Mueller, Daniel D. Berger, George Allez, William R. Robichaud, and John L. Kaspar; see Mueller, Helmut C., Daniel D. Berger, John L. Kaspar, Cathy B. Kaspar
 Black-and-white Warbler, 27, 39, 70, 146, 192, 271, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Black-backed Grosbeak, 358
 Black-backed Woodpecker, 17, 19, 55, 62, 68, 132, 142, 227, 280, 283, 304, 312, 339
 Black-bellied Plover, 66, 137, 294, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Black-billed Cuckoo, 27, 28, 33, 39, 140, 192, 271, 294, 295, 298, 303, 312, 321, 329, 339
 Black-capped Chickadee, 10–15, 27, 33, 39, 143, 192, 222, 271, 272, 291, 305, 312, 322, 329
 Black-chinned Hummingbird, 60, 62, 68, 75, 77, 82, 257
 Black-crowned Night-Heron, 64, 128, 134, 192, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
 Black-headed Grosbeak, 280, 285, 292, 343, 347, 363
 Black-legged Kittiwake, 56, 131, 132, 140, 151, 158, 170
 Black-necked Stilt, 57, 367
 Black Rail, 120
 Black Scoter, 3, 16, 18, 55, 135, 223, 280, 287, 288, 297, 301, 310, 316, 319, 327, 336
 Black Tern, 63, 122, 123, 129, 140, 192, 294, 303, 311, 321, 329, 339
 Black-throated Blue Warbler, 59, 70, 145, 192, 233, 281, 282, 285, 287, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Black-throated Green Warbler, 27, 33, 34, 39, 70, 146, 192, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Black Vulture, 3, 59, 60, 131, 132, 136, 151, 152, 153, 168, 172, 208, 224, 243
 Blackburnian Warbler, 27, 33, 39, 70, 146, 192, 293, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Blackpoll Warbler, 70, 146, 192, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 69, 123, 144, 293, 306, 313, 323, 330, 340
 Blue Grosbeak, 343, 347, 358, 363, 366
 Blue Jay, 10–15, 27, 39, 74, 143, 164, 172, 192, 222, 271, 272, 291, 305, 312, 322, 329, 353
 Blue-winged Teal, 39, 123, 135, 192, 291, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
 Blue-winged Warbler, 70, 145, 192, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Bobolink, 123, 148, 192, 291, 309, 314, 316, 325, 331, 344
 Bohemian Waxwing, 17, 19, 144, 229, 341
 Boldt, Brian, "By the Wayside," 156–157
 Bonaparte's Gull, 16, 18, 67, 76, 139, 159–161, 237, 242, 294, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338, 351
 Bontly, Marilyn, "By the Wayside," 237
 Boreal Chickadee, 17, 19, 55, 69, 143, 192, 228, 297, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340

Boreal Owl, 3, 17, 18, 55, 132, 141, 151, 162, 170, 219, 221, 227, 235, 239, 243, 244, 275, 339, 347, 353, 362
 Brant, 280, 288, 335, 347, 349, 360
 Brasser, David and Margaret, "By the Wayside," 159
 Bratley, David A., "By the Wayside," 239
 Brewer's Blackbird, 17, 20, 148, 192, 229, 230, 291, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Brewster's Warbler, 69, 341
 Broad-winged Hawk, 27, 28, 39, 65, 89, 93, 94, 95, 101, 109, 110, 136, 192, 212, 293, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336
 Brown Creeper, 10–15, 19, 27, 39, 62, 143, 192, 228, 271, 292, 305, 312, 323, 329, 340
 Brown-headed Cowbird, 17, 20, 27, 34, 36, 39, 124, 148, 192, 230, 271, 291, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Brown Thrasher, 17, 19, 123, 144, 192, 229, 271, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Buff-breasted Sandpiper, 58, 83, 132, 139
 Bufflehead, 16, 65, 135, 224, 294, 295, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336
 Bullock's Oriole, 257

C

California Gull, 60, 244, 351, 365
 Canada Goose, 10–15, 17, 39, 64, 123, 134, 151, 192, 221, 223, 290, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335, 360
 Canada Warbler, 27, 33, 39, 71, 146, 192, 293, 308, 314, 324, 331, 342
 Canvasback, 16, 65, 135, 221, 223, 236, 281, 283–286, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
 Cape May Warbler, 70, 145, 192, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Carlsen, Nathan, "By the Wayside," 356
 Carolina Wren, 17, 19, 56, 62, 69, 228, 340
 Caspian Tern, 68, 140, 156, 280, 295, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338, 351
 Cattle Egret, 56, 64, 134, 281, 284–286, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
 Cedar Waxwing, 10–15, 19, 27, 39, 54, 144, 192, 221, 229, 280, 294, 295, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Cerulean Warbler, 70, 192, 282, 284, 285, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Chestnut-sided Warbler, 27, 33, 34, 39, 123, 145, 193, 271, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 341
 Chimney Swift, 39, 63, 141, 193, 292, 304, 312, 321, 329, 339
 Chipping Sparrow, 17, 19, 27, 28, 39, 147, 193, 271, 290, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Chuck-will's-widow, 58, 173
 Clay-colored Sparrow, 147, 193, 292, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Cliff Swallow, 39, 143, 193, 291, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
 Common Eider, 83, 236, 241, 242, 243
 Common Goldeneye, 10–15, 18, 65, 135, 167, 193, 221, 223, 242, 281–283, 285, 286, 287, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336
 Common Grackle, 10–15, 19, 39, 124, 148, 193, 221, 229, 291, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Common Loon, 18, 39, 63, 133, 193, 195–199, 202, 204, 205, 235, 241, 258, 291, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334, 373
 Common Merganser, 10–15, 18, 39, 65, 136, 193, 221, 224, 235, 241, 281, 283, 301, 310, 319, 327
 Common Moorhen, 66, 137, 263, 294, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Common Nighthawk, 63, 141, 193, 295, 304, 312, 321, 329, 339
 Common Raven, 10–15, 19, 27, 39, 68, 143, 193, 228, 292, 295, 322, 329, 340
 Common Redpoll, 10–15, 20, 55, 149, 230, 272, 326, 331, 344

Common Snipe, 16, 18, 27, 28, 39, 62, 123, 139, 193, 225, 291, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338
 Common Tern, 68, 82, 140, 294, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338
 Common Yellowthroat, 27, 39, 122, 123, 128, 146, 193, 271, 291, 308, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Connecticut Warbler, 57, 71, 146, 193, 281–283, 285, 292, 295, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Cooper's Hawk, 10–15, 93, 95, 107, 108, 114, 115, 136, 162, 193, 210, 215, 217, 221, 224, 293, 301, 310, 319, 327
 Curlew Sandpiper, 59, 172, 173

D

Dankert, Jeff, "By the Wayside," 153
 Dark-eyed Junco, 10–15, 19, 72, 148, 229, 281, 283, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Daulton, Terry, Michael W. Meyer, and Paul W. Rasmussen, The 1995 Status of the Common Loon in Wisconsin, 195–205
 DeBoer, Gerald, "By the Wayside," 347
 Denker, Dick and Peggy, "By the Wayside," 356–357
 Dickissel, 71, 130, 147, 193, 308, 314, 324, 331, 343
 Diehl, Scott, "By the Wayside," 233, 348
 Domagalski, Robert C., "By the Wayside," 75, 155, 159–160, 235–236, 355
 Double-crested Cormorant, 16, 39, 62, 123, 133, 193, 222, 292, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
 Downy Woodpecker, 10–15, 19, 27, 39, 123, 141, 193, 222, 271, 272, 292, 304, 312, 322, 329
 Dring, Peter, "By the Wayside," 237–238
 Dunlin, 59, 67, 139, 154, 168, 172, 173, 294, 303, 311, 320, 328, 338, 351
 Dusky Flycatcher, 133, 142, 151, 164, 171, 257

E

Eared Grebe, 56, 57, 62, 64, 132, 133, 280, 284, 295, 334
 Eastern Bluebird, 17, 19, 63, 144, 193, 228, 271, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 340, 355, 362
 Eastern Kingbird, 27, 28, 39, 63, 123, 142, 193, 271, 293, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
 Eastern Meadowlark, 148, 193, 292, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Eastern Phoebe, 27, 28, 39, 63, 142, 193, 228, 291, 305, 312, 316, 322, 329, 340
 Eastern Screech-Owl, 10–15, 18, 68, 140, 193, 227, 285, 287, 290, 304, 312, 321, 329
 Eastern Towhee, 17, 19, 54, 147, 229, 243, 271, 292, 308, 325, 331, 343
 Eastern Wood-Pewee, 27, 33, 39, 63, 142, 163, 164, 171, 193, 271, 279, 293, 297, 305, 312, 322, 329, 339
 Elias, Joan E., Avian Species Richness and Abundance Levels in Different Habitats Along the Bad River Corridor, Northern Wisconsin, 21–44
 Erdman, Thomas, "By the Wayside," 163–164, 164
 Eurasian Wigeon, 56, 335, 347, 350, 360
 European Starling, 10–15, 20, 144, 193, 221, 229, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330
 Evening Grosbeak, 10–15, 20, 27, 28, 39, 62, 149, 193, 219, 230, 309, 314, 326, 331, 344, 363

F

Field Sparrow, 17, 71, 147, 193, 292, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Fieldfare, 84
 Forster's Tern, 68, 122, 123, 128, 129, 140, 294, 303, 311, 321, 329, 339
 Fox Sparrow, 17, 147, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Frank, Jim, WSO Records Committee Report—Summer 1996, 81–84; WSO Records Committee Report—Fall

- 1996, 167–174; WSO Records Committee Report—Winter 1996–1997, 241–244; Wisconsin Big Day Counts: 1997 “Smashing the 200 Species Barrier”, 279–288; Wisconsin May Day Counts: 1997, 297–314; North American Migration Count 1997—Wisconsin, 315–332; WSO Records Committee Report—Spring 1997, 359–367; “By the Wayside,” 153–154, 159–160, 237
- Franklin’s Gull, 57, 67, 76, 77, 81, 82, 139, 157, 159, 170, 294, 295, 321, 328, 338
- ## G
- Gadwall, 16, 62, 123, 135, 221, 223, 294, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
- Glaucous Gull, 16, 18, 54–56, 60, 67, 140, 157, 158, 226, 280, 281, 283, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338, 361
- Glaucous-winged Gull, 53, 54, 257, 338, 347, 351, 352, 359, 361, 362, 365
- Glossy Ibis, 76, 363, 364
- Golden-crowned Kinglet, 10–15, 19, 69, 143, 188, 193, 228, 284, 285, 291, 305, 313, 323, 330, 340
- Golden Eagle, 16, 18, 55, 59, 93, 95, 104, 105, 116, 132, 136, 212, 224, 336
- Golden-winged Warbler, 27, 33, 39, 62, 145, 193, 271, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
- Gostomski, Theodore J., Observations of Great Gray Owls (*Strix nebulosa*) Within the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore and Surrounding Area, Bayfield and Ashland Counties, 275–277
- Graetz, Jennifer L., Sumner W. Matteson, Jennifer Skoloda, and Christine Ribic, Status and Distribution of Marsh and Sedge Meadow Birds at Horicon, Nece-dah, and Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuges in 1995, 119–130
- Grasshopper Sparrow, 63, 71, 147, 193, 293, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
- Gray Catbird, 17, 19, 27, 39, 63, 123, 144, 193, 228, 269, 271, 291, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
- Gray-cheeked Thrush, 69, 144, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 340
- Gray Jay, 17, 19, 55, 68, 143, 165, 193, 228, 297, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
- Gray Partridge, 16, 65, 225, 284, 294, 301, 311, 319, 328
- Great Black-backed Gull, 3, 16, 18, 54–56, 60, 62, 67, 132, 140, 158, 226, 280, 286, 287, 297, 303, 311, 338, 365
- Great Blue Heron, 10–15, 18, 27, 28, 39, 63, 75, 81, 123, 128, 129, 133, 193, 222, 290, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
- Great Crested Flycatcher, 142, 292, 297, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
- Great Egret, 62, 75, 123, 128, 129, 133, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
- Great Gray Owl, 55, 62, 68, 75, 77, 82, 132, 141, 161, 170, 219, 220, 227, 233, 235, 238, 239, 242, 244, 275–277, 304, 312, 321, 329, 339, 347, 352, 354, 362, 365
- Great Horned Owl, 10–15, 18, 161, 62, 140, 161, 193, 222, 244, 290, 304, 312, 321, 329
- Greater Prairie-Chicken, 16, 18, 55, 66, 137, 225, 251, 257, 283, 284, 290, 302, 311, 319, 328
- Greater Scaup, 16, 65, 135, 223, 301, 310, 319, 327, 335
- Greater White-fronted Goose, 55, 132, 134, 280, 285, 335
- Greater Yellowlegs, 66, 138, 294, 295, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337
- Green-backed Heron, 193
- Green Heron, 134, 271, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334, 348, 349, 363, 364
- Green-winged Teal, 16, 17, 64, 134, 192, 221, 223, 292, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
- Gustafson, Dennis, “By the Wayside,” 79–80, 152, 236, 349–350
- Gyr Falcon, 59, 172, 215
- ## H
- Hairy Woodpecker, 10–15, 27, 39, 141, 193, 222, 271, 272, 292, 304, 312, 322, 329
- Harlequin Duck, 16, 18, 59, 62, 65, 132, 135, 223, 336
- Harriman, Bettie, Lest We Forget, 1–2
- Harris’ Sparrow, 54, 133, 148, 229, 280, 285, 291, 297, 309, 314, 325, 331
- Henslow’s Sparrow, 63, 71, 133, 147, 280, 283–286, 297, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
- Hermit Thrush, 17, 27, 39, 54, 69, 144, 193, 228, 271, 292, 295, 306, 313, 316, 323, 330, 340
- Herring Gull, 10–15, 18, 39, 60, 62, 123, 140, 155, 157, 158, 169, 173, 193, 221, 225, 235, 236, 243, 244, 293, 303, 311, 321, 328, 350, 351, 360, 361
- Hilsenhoff, William L., The 1996 Wisconsin Christmas Bird Counts, 3–20
- Hoffman, Randy and Al Shea, A 200+ Big Day, 289–295; “By the Wayside,” 358
- Hoffman, Steve, Snowy Owl Predation on Ring-necked Pheasant, 73
- Hooded Merganser, 16, 39, 62, 136, 193, 224, 280, 295, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336
- Hooded Warbler, 57, 71, 133, 146, 297, 308, 313, 324, 331, 342
- Horned Grebe, 63, 133, 283–288, 294, 300, 310, 316, 318, 327, 334
- Horned Lark, 10–15, 19, 54, 142, 193, 219, 221, 228, 291, 305, 312, 322, 329
- House Finch, 3, 10–15, 20, 72, 149, 193, 230, 292, 309, 314, 326, 331
- House Sparrow, 10–15, 20, 92, 149, 193, 230, 292, 293, 309, 314, 326, 331
- House Wren, 27, 28, 39, 63, 79, 123, 143, 193, 271, 292, 305, 312, 323, 329, 340
- Howe, Robert W., Gerald J. Niemi, Stephen J. Lewis, and Daniel A. Welsh, A Standard Method for Monitoring Songbird Populations in the Great Lakes Region, 183–194
- Hudick, Joe, “By the Wayside,” 353–354
- Hudsonian Godwit, 56, 132, 138, 284–287, 294, 295, 297, 303, 311, 320, 328, 337
- ## I
- Iceland Gull, 55–57, 60, 132, 140, 151, 157, 169, 226, 243, 280, 338, 360, 361
- Indigo Bunting, 27, 28, 33, 39, 147, 193, 271, 292, 298, 308, 314, 324, 331, 343, 358, 363, 366
- ## J
- Johnson, Robbye, “By the Wayside,” 161–162, 237
- ## K
- Kaspar, Cathy B., see Mueller, Helmut C., Daniel D. Berger, John L. Kaspar, Cathy B. Kaspar
- Kaspar, John L., see Mueller, Helmut C., Nancy S. Mueller, Daniel D. Berger, George Allez, William R. Robichaud, and John L. Kaspar; see Mueller, Helmut C., Daniel D. Berger, John L. Kaspar, Cathy B. Kaspar
- Kentucky Warbler, 57, 71, 133, 146, 284–286, 293, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
- Killdeer, 16, 18, 27, 28, 40, 123, 138, 193, 290, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337, 364
- King Eider, 55, 83, 223, 235, 236, 241, 243
- King Rail, 56, 57, 62, 66, 120, 122, 123, 124, 132, 137,

- 281, 283, 285, 287, 290, 297, 302, 311, 316, 320, 328, 336
 Kinziger, Andrew, Winter Roost Habitat and Diet of Short-eared Owls (*Asio flammeus*) in Door County, Wisconsin, 45–52
 Kirtland's Warbler, 58, 62, 70, 75, 78, 79, 83
 Korducki, Mark, "By the Wayside," 79, 236, 349, 355–356

L

- Lange, Kenneth I., The Winter Season: 1996–97, 219–231
 Lapland Longspur, 17, 19, 54, 148, 229, 281, 283, 294, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Lark Sparrow, 56, 71, 282–285, 293, 343
 Laughing Gull, 57, 67, 75–77, 81, 132, 139, 151, 156, 157, 169, 338
 LaValley, Steve, "By the Wayside," 238
 Lawrence's Warbler, 145, 341
 Le Conte's Sparrow, 57, 71, 147, 193, 281–285, 291, 297, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Least Bittern, 62, 120, 122, 123, 124, 128, 129, 133, 193, 290, 291, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
 Least Flycatcher, 27, 40, 63, 123, 142, 193, 269, 271, 291, 294, 305, 312, 322, 329
 Least Sandpiper, 67, 138, 294, 303, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 56, 59, 132, 140, 151, 158, 169, 173, 280, 283, 338, 347, 351, 360, 365
 Lesser Scaup, 16, 62, 135, 193, 221, 223, 294, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336
 Lesser Yellowlegs, 58, 66, 138, 294, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Lewis, Stephen J., see Howe, Robert W., Gerald J. Niemi, Stephen J. Lewis, and Daniel A. Welsh
 Lincoln's Sparrow, 72, 147, 193, 293, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Little Blue Heron, 56, 58, 62, 64, 132, 134, 280, 288, 334, 347, 348
 Little Gull, 62, 67, 132, 139, 158, 170, 297, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338
 Loggerhead Shrike, 57, 69, 133, 144, 281, 285, 341
 Long-billed Dowitcher, 67, 139, 285, 294, 338
 Long-eared Owl, 17, 18, 51, 141, 193, 227, 304, 312, 339
 Long-tailed Jaeger, 132, 139, 151, 155, 156, 168, 169, 365
 Louisiana Waterthrush, 71, 281, 285–287, 293, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Lukes, Charlotte and Roy, "By the Wayside," 352
 Lukes, Roy, "By the Wayside," 354–355

M

- Magnolia Warbler, 27, 28, 33, 40, 70, 145, 193, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Mallard, 10–15, 27, 28, 40, 123, 134, 151, 167, 193, 223, 236, 290, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335, 360
 Mandernack, Brett A. and Kelly J. McKay, Fall Raptor Migration Count at Eagle Valley Nature Preserve in Southwest Wisconsin, 1995, 89–117
 Marbled Godwit, 56, 132, 138, 281, 283, 285, 286, 288, 294, 297, 303, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Marsh Wren, 3, 17, 19, 40, 63, 69, 122, 123, 143, 193, 228, 291, 305, 312, 323, 330, 340
 Matteson, Sumner W., see Graetz, Jennifer L., Sumner W. Matteson, Jennifer Skoloda, and Christine Ribic McKay, Kelly J., see Mandernack, Brett A. and Kelly J. McKay
 Merlin, 16, 18, 59, 65, 93, 95, 112, 113, 115, 137, 193, 215, 225, 280, 281, 286, 297, 301, 311, 319, 328, 336
 Meyer, Michael W., see Daulton, Terry, Michael W. Meyer, and Paul W. Rasmussen

- Michelsen, Teresa, see Parnell, Larry and Teresa Michelsen
 Mississippi Kite, 208
 Mountain Bluebird, 340, 347, 355, 362
 Mourning Dove, 10–15, 18, 27, 28, 40, 63, 123, 140, 193, 227, 292, 303, 312, 321, 329
 Mourning Warbler, 27, 33, 40, 71, 146, 193, 271, 293, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342
 Mueller, Helmut C., Nancy S. Mueller, Daniel D. Berger, George Allez, William R. Robichaud, and John L. Kaspar, The Phenology of Autumnal Hawk Migration at Cedar Grove, Wisconsin, 207–218; Mueller, Helmut C., Daniel D. Berger, John L. Kaspar, Cathy B. Kaspar, "By the Wayside," 151
 Mueller, Nancy S., see Mueller, Helmut C., Nancy S. Mueller, Daniel D. Berger, George Allez, William R. Robichaud, and John L. Kaspar
 Mute Swan, 16, 64, 134, 222, 281, 283–287, 295, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335

N

- Nashville Warbler, 27, 33, 34, 40, 70, 145, 193, 291, 307, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Nicholls, Thomas, "By the Wayside," 165
 Niemi, Gerald J., see Howe, Robert W., Gerald J. Niemi, Stephen J. Lewis, and Daniel A. Welsh
 Niemuth, Neal D., "By the Wayside," 233–234
 Northern Bobwhite, 16, 18, 66, 225, 285, 287, 293, 302, 311, 320, 328
 Northern Cardinal, 10–15, 19, 71, 147, 193, 229, 293, 308, 314, 324, 331, 343
 Northern Flicker, 10–15, 18, 27, 40, 63, 142, 228, 271, 304, 312, 322, 329, 339
 Northern Goshawk, 16, 18, 65, 93, 95, 107, 136, 193, 210, 224, 255, 301, 310, 319, 327
 Northern Harrier, 10–15, 40, 46, 51, 93, 95, 105, 106, 115, 122, 123, 136, 193, 208, 210, 221, 224, 291, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336
 Northern Hawk-Owl, 54, 219, 227, 235, 237, 242, 339
 Northern Mockingbird, 17, 19, 62, 69, 228, 297, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Northern Oriole, 27, 40, 123, 271, 272, 314
 Northern Parula, 27, 40, 62, 145, 193, 292, 307, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Northern Pintail, 16, 17, 64, 134, 221, 223, 294, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
 Northern Raven, 305, 312
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow, 143, 193, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
 Northern Saw-whet Owl, 17, 18, 68, 141, 193, 227, 239, 304, 312, 321, 329
 Northern Shoveler, 16, 62, 135, 221, 223, 292, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
 Northern Shrike, 10–15, 19, 144, 229, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Northern Waterthrush, 27, 40, 62, 79, 83, 123, 146, 193, 271, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342

O

- O'Brien, John, "By the Wayside," 75–76, 158, 161
 Oldsquaw, 16, 135, 223, 283, 297, 301, 310, 336
 Olive-sided Flycatcher, 27, 28, 33, 40, 68, 142, 193, 281–287, 293, 304, 312, 322, 329, 339
 Orange-crowned Warbler, 145, 281–288, 291, 295, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Orchard Oriole, 57, 72, 80, 281, 282, 284–287, 293, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344, 356
 Osprey, 62, 63, 93, 95, 101, 102, 136, 193, 212, 292, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336

Ott, Lynn, "By the Wayside," 77–78, 238
 Ovenbird, 27, 33, 34, 40, 79, 146, 193, 269, 271, 272,
 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 342

P

Pacific Loon, 60, 152, 219, 222, 235, 241
 Painted Redstart, 365, 366
 Palm Warbler, 70, 79, 146, 193, 194, 293, 307, 313, 324,
 330, 342
 Parasitic Jaeger, 58, 132, 139, 169
 Parnell, Larry and Teresa Michelsen, "By the Wayside,"
 164–165
 Parsons, Patricia, "By the Wayside," 162–163
 Payne, Neil F., see Smith, Jerry H. and Neil F. Payne
 Pectoral Sandpiper, 67, 83, 139, 173, 295, 303, 311, 320,
 328, 338
 Peregrine Falcon, 3, 16, 54, 55, 59, 65, 93, 95, 112, 113,
 137, 153, 215, 225, 301, 311, 319, 328, 336, 373
 Peterson, Mark S., The Fall Season: 1996, 131–149; "By
 the Wayside," 154–155, 236–237, 352–353
 Phainopepla, 49
 Philadelphia Vireo, 69, 145, 193, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330,
 341
 Pied-billed Grebe, 16, 18, 62, 123, 133, 193, 222, 291,
 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
 Pileated Woodpecker, 10–15, 18, 27, 28, 40, 142, 193,
 222, 292, 304, 312, 322, 329
 Pine Grosbeak, 17, 20, 148, 230, 344
 Pine Siskin, 10–15, 20, 72, 149, 193, 230, 272, 282, 284,
 309, 314, 326, 331, 344
 Pine Warbler, 27, 35, 40, 51, 70, 146, 193, 292, 307, 313,
 324, 330, 342
 Piping Plover, 58, 132, 137, 337
 Plegadis Ibis, 132, 134, 151, 347, 363, 364
 Polk, Janine, "By the Wayside," 152–153, 350, 356
 Pomarine Jaeger, 59, 132, 151, 155, 168, 173, 338, 347,
 350, 351, 360, 365
 Prairie Falcon, 93, 95, 131, 132, 137, 151, 153, 168, 215
 Prairie Warbler, 57, 70, 282, 342
 Prothonotary Warbler, 71, 284–286, 291, 307, 313, 324,
 330, 342
 Purple Finch, 10–15, 20, 27, 40, 62, 149, 193, 230, 292,
 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Purple Martin, 63, 142, 193, 293, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
 Purple Sandpiper, 60, 131, 132, 139, 151, 153, 154, 168

R

Rasmussen, Paul W., see Daulton, Terry, Michael W.
 Meyer, and Paul W. Rasmussen
 Red-bellied Woodpecker, 10–15, 68, 141, 193, 227, 293,
 304, 312, 321, 329
 Red-breasted Merganser, 16, 65, 136, 224, 293, 301, 310,
 316, 319, 327, 336
 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 10–15, 19, 27, 40, 69, 143, 193,
 228, 292, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
 Red Crossbill, 5, 17, 20, 72, 149, 193, 230, 283, 309, 314,
 326, 331, 344
 Red-eyed Vireo, 27, 33, 40, 145, 193, 269, 271, 279, 292,
 297, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Red-headed Woodpecker, 10–15, 18, 141, 193, 227, 294,
 304, 312, 321, 329, 339
 Red Knot, 57, 58, 138, 283–286, 297, 303, 311, 337
 Red-necked Grebe, 56, 64, 132, 133, 222, 281, 283–287,
 291, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
 Red-necked Phalarope, 57, 58, 67, 132, 139, 237, 242,
 280, 281, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338
 Red Phalarope, 60, 219, 225, 235–237, 242
 Red-shouldered Hawk, 16, 18, 59, 65, 93, 95, 110, 111,

114, 136, 193, 212, 215, 221, 224, 258, 284, 298, 301,
 310, 319, 327, 336, 373
 Red-tailed Hawk, 10–15, 18, 27, 28, 40, 59, 76, 89, 93,
 94, 95, 101, 107, 108, 114, 116, 136, 193, 210, 212, 224,
 238, 244, 292, 301, 310, 319, 327
 Red-throated Loon, 56, 62, 63, 132, 133, 235, 241, 280,
 283, 334
 Red-winged Blackbird, 17, 20, 27, 40, 122, 123, 148, 193,
 221, 229, 291, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Redhead, 16, 17, 65, 135, 223, 236, 295, 301, 310, 318,
 327, 335
 Reeve, 83, 173
 Ribic, Christine, see Graetz, Jennifer L., Sumner W.
 Matteson, Jennifer Skoloda, and Christine Ribic
 Ring-billed Gull, 10–15, 18, 40, 76, 77, 81, 140, 155–161,
 168, 169, 170, 173, 221, 225, 291, 303, 311, 321, 328,
 350, 351, 360, 361, 365
 Ring-necked Duck, 16, 17, 62, 135, 193, 221, 223, 292,
 301, 310, 319, 327, 335
 Ring-necked Pheasant, 10–15, 18, 73, 137, 193, 225, 294,
 301, 311, 319, 328
 Robbins, Sam, In Memoriam: Norval R. Barger, 245–246
 Robichaud, William R., see Mueller, Helmut C., Nancy
 S. Mueller, Daniel D. Berger, George Allez, William
 R. Robichaud, and John L. Kaspar
 Rock Dove, 10–15, 18, 92, 140, 227, 292, 303, 311, 321,
 329
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 3, 17, 19, 27, 33, 40, 63, 147,
 193, 269, 271, 272, 292, 308, 314, 324, 331, 343, 358,
 363
 Ross' Goose, 55, 132, 134, 151, 167, 335, 347, 349, 359
 Rough-legged Hawk, 10–15, 46, 57, 62, 65, 75, 76, 93,
 95, 110, 111, 116, 136, 210, 224, 244, 283, 284, 301,
 310, 319, 328, 336
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 17, 19, 69, 144, 193, 292, 305,
 313, 316, 323, 330, 340
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 27, 40, 63, 77, 82, 141,
 171, 193, 292, 304, 312, 321, 329, 339
 Ruddy Duck, 16, 65, 123, 136, 221, 224, 294, 301, 310,
 319, 327, 336
 Ruddy Turnstone, 57, 66, 138, 168, 303, 311, 320, 328,
 337
 Ruff, 56
 Ruffed Grouse, 10–15, 18, 27, 40, 63, 65, 137, 193, 222,
 267, 271, 273, 274, 291, 302, 311, 319, 328
 Rufous Hummingbird, 59, 131, 132, 141, 151, 162, 163,
 171
 Rufous-sided Towhee, 124, 193, 314
 Rusty Blackbird, 17, 20, 27, 28, 40, 148, 280, 283, 287,
 309, 314, 325, 331, 344

S

Sabine's Gull, 59, 131, 132, 140, 151, 158–161, 170
 Sanderling, 66, 138, 281, 283–285, 287, 303, 311, 320,
 328, 337
 Sandhill Crane, 3, 16, 40, 123, 137, 179–181, 193, 221,
 225, 291, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Savannah Sparrow, 147, 193, 229, 290, 308, 314, 325,
 331, 343
 Scarlet Tanager, 27, 33, 40, 63, 146, 162, 193, 271, 272,
 293, 297, 308, 314, 324, 331, 343, 357, 362, 363
 Schultz, Thomas, "By the Wayside," 78–79, 160–161
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, 56, 60, 131, 133, 142, 151, 164,
 165, 172, 340, 347, 354, 362
 Scott's Oriole, 53, 54, 257
 Sedge Wren, 27, 40, 122, 123, 128, 143, 193, 290, 305,
 312, 323, 330, 340
 Semipalmated Plover, 66, 137, 294, 302, 311, 320, 328,
 337

Semipalmated Sandpiper, 66, 138, 294, 303, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Sharp-shinned Hawk, 10–15, 65, 89, 93, 94, 95, 101, 105, 106, 114, 115, 117, 136, 193, 210, 218, 221, 224, 280, 295, 301, 310, 319, 327
 Sharp-tailed Grouse, 16, 18, 57, 66, 137, 225, 281, 283–285, 291, 295, 302, 311, 319, 328
 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, 83, 84
 Sharp-tailed Sparrow, 57, 62, 72, 133, 147, 282–284, 325, 331, 343
 Shea, Al, see Hoffman, Randy and Al Shea
 Short-billed Dowitcher, 139, 294, 303, 311, 320, 328, 338
 Short-eared Owl, 17, 18, 45–52, 54, 141, 227, 290, 304, 312, 321, 329, 339
 Skoloda, Jennifer, see Graetz, Jennifer L., Sumner W. Matteson, Jennifer Skoloda, and Christine Ribic
 Smith, Jerry H. and Neil F. Payne, Relationship of Birds to Various Age Aspen Stands, 267–274
 Snow Bunting, 3, 10–15, 19, 54, 148, 219, 229, 325, 331, 344
 Snow Goose, 16, 62, 64, 134, 151, 167, 221, 222, 281, 297, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335, 349, 360
 Snowy Egret, 56, 62, 64, 132, 133, 300, 310, 318, 327, 334
 Snowy Owl, 17, 18, 73, 141, 219, 227, 297, 304, 312, 316, 321, 329, 339
 Solitary Sandpiper, 66, 138, 193, 294, 302, 311, 316, 320, 328, 337
 Solitary Vireo, 27, 40, 69, 145, 193, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Song Sparrow, 10–15, 19, 27, 40, 124, 147, 193, 221, 222, 229, 267, 269, 271, 272, 290, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Sontag, Charles, “By the Wayside,” 351–352
 Sora, 120, 123, 124, 137, 194, 219–221, 225, 226, 290, 302, 311, 320, 328, 336
 Soulen, Thomas K., The Summer Season: 1996, 61–72; “By the Wayside,” 76
 Spahn, Robert G., “By the Wayside,” 78
 Spotted Sandpiper, 40, 138, 194, 292, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Spotted Towhee, 54, 243, 257
 Spruce Grouse, 55, 62, 65, 297, 302, 311, 316, 319, 328, 336
 Stilt Sandpiper, 56, 58, 67, 139, 173, 284, 285, 294, 338
 Stover, Barbara, “By the Wayside,” 348–349
 Summer Tanager, 60, 280, 281, 285, 286, 308, 314, 324, 331, 343, 347, 357, 362
 Surf Scoter, 59, 135, 223, 280, 283, 286–288, 297, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336
 Svingen, Peder, “By the Wayside,” 157–158
 Swainson's Hawk, 59, 92, 93, 95, 132, 136, 212
 Swainson's Thrush, 69, 144, 194, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 340
 Swamp Sparrow, 17, 19, 27, 40, 63, 122, 124, 148, 194, 290, 309, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Swengel, Scott, “By the Wayside,” 350–351

T

Tennessee Warbler, 70, 145, 194, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Tessen, Daryl, 1996—A Memorable Year, 53–60; The Spring Season: 1997, 333–345; “By the Wayside,” 158, 162, 349, 350
 Thayer's Gull, 16, 18, 54, 55, 56, 132, 140, 157, 158, 169, 225, 244, 280, 283, 338, 361
 Three-toed Woodpecker, 339, 347, 354, 362
 Townsend's Solitaire, 54, 133, 144, 151, 165, 172
 Tree Swallow, 27, 28, 40, 123, 142, 194, 291, 305, 312, 322, 329, 340
 Tricolored Heron, 58, 62, 64, 75, 81, 132, 134
 Triebensee, Bob, “By the Wayside,” 155–156

Trumpeter Swan, 3, 16, 57, 64, 132, 134, 194, 222, 281, 283, 284, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
 Tufted Titmouse, 10–15, 69, 143, 228, 284, 285, 295, 305, 312, 322, 329
 Tundra Swan, 16, 56, 64, 134, 221, 222, 283, 288, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
 Turkey Vulture, 40, 63, 65, 93, 95, 101, 102, 115, 136, 152, 153, 168, 172, 194, 208, 243, 244, 293, 301, 310, 319, 327, 336

U

Upland Sandpiper, 62, 138, 194, 290, 295, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Uttech, Tom, “By the Wayside,” 151–152

V

Varied Thrush, 54, 228, 341, 347, 355
 Veery, 27, 33, 34, 40, 69, 144, 194, 269, 271, 272, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 340
 Verch, Dick, “By the Wayside,” 349, 355
 Vesper Sparrow, 147, 194, 292, 308, 314, 325, 331, 343
 Virginia Rail, 16, 18, 27, 28, 40, 62, 120, 123, 124, 137, 194, 225, 290, 302, 311, 320, 328, 336

W

Walters, Catherin, “By the Wayside,” 77
 Warbling Vireo, 63, 123, 145, 194, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Water Pipit, 294
 Watermolen, Dreux J., American Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) Eating Sand, 73–74
 Welsh, Daniel A., see Howe, Robert W., Gerald J. Niemi, Stephen J. Lewis, and Daniel A. Welsh
 Western Grebe, 57, 132, 133, 222
 Western Gull, 173, 362
 Western Kingbird, 57, 194
 Western Meadowlark, 63, 148, 221, 229, 290, 298, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Western Sandpiper, 58, 62, 67, 132, 138, 285, 294
 Western Tanager, 60, 297, 308, 314, 343, 347, 356, 363, 367
 Western Wood-Pewee, 133, 142, 151, 163, 164, 171, 257
 Whimbrel, 57, 58, 62, 66, 132, 138, 283, 337
 Whip-poor-will, 58, 141, 173, 194, 271, 290, 304, 312, 321, 329, 339
 White-breasted Nuthatch, 10–15, 27, 33, 40, 143, 194, 228, 271, 272, 291, 305, 312, 322, 329
 White-crowned Sparrow, 17, 19, 148, 292, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 White-eyed Vireo, 57, 62, 69, 133, 144, 280, 284, 306, 313, 341
 White-faced Ibis, 62, 64, 75, 76, 81, 151, 363, 364
 White Pelican, 3, 16, 62, 64, 132, 133, 219, 222, 281–283, 285, 287, 297, 300, 310, 316, 318, 327, 334
 White-rumped Sandpiper, 58, 67, 138, 281, 283–285, 294, 303, 311, 320, 328, 337
 White-throated Sparrow, 10–15, 19, 27, 40, 54, 62, 148, 194, 229, 291, 309, 314, 316, 325, 331, 343
 White-winged Crossbill, 17, 20, 72, 149, 194, 222, 230, 297, 309, 314, 326, 331, 344
 White-winged Scoter, 135, 223, 236, 280, 288, 297, 301, 310, 336
 Wild Turkey, 10–15, 18, 63, 66, 137, 194, 225, 291, 302, 311, 320, 328
 Willet, 56, 62, 66, 132, 138, 281, 283, 287, 288, 297, 302, 311, 320, 328, 337
 Williamson's Sapsucker, 173
 Willow Flycatcher, 68, 123, 142, 194, 294, 305, 312, 322, 329, 339

Wilson's Phalarope, 67, 139, 295, 303, 311, 321, 328, 338
 Wilson's Plover, 364
 Wilson's Warbler, 71, 146, 194, 293, 308, 314, 324, 331, 342
 Winter Wren, 17, 19, 27, 40, 69, 143, 194, 228, 293, 305, 312, 323, 330, 340
 Wood Duck, 16, 27, 28, 40, 123, 134, 194, 221, 223, 291, 300, 310, 318, 327, 335
 Wood, Thomas C., "By the Wayside," 75, 76–77, 351
 Wood Thrush, 27, 33, 40, 144, 194, 219, 228, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Worm-eating Warbler, 56, 62, 71, 280, 285, 293, 297, 307, 313, 316, 324, 330, 342

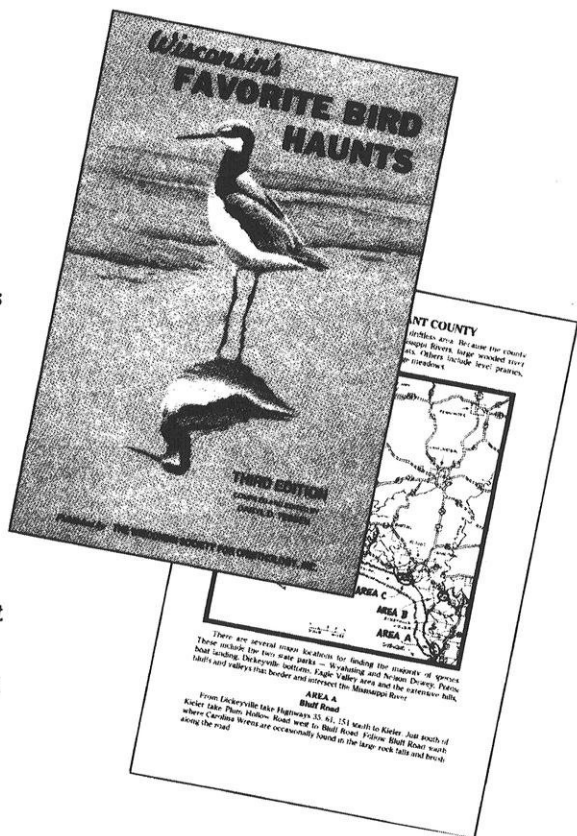
Y

Yanada, Keith, "By the Wayside," 354
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, 27, 33, 40, 68, 142, 194, 282–287, 294, 295, 298, 305, 312, 322, 329, 339
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 17, 19, 27, 40, 141, 174, 194, 271, 294, 304, 312, 316, 321, 329, 339

Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 68, 140, 194, 303, 312, 321, 329, 339
 Yellow-breasted Chat, 57, 71, 194, 286, 297, 308, 314, 343
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, 56, 64, 122, 123, 128, 132, 134, 335
 Yellow-headed Blackbird, 17, 20, 63, 72, 122, 123, 148, 194, 294, 309, 314, 325, 331, 344
 Yellow Rail, 56, 57, 62, 66, 120, 194, 280, 285, 290, 302, 311, 320, 328, 336
 Yellow-rumped Warbler, 17, 19, 27, 28, 40, 56, 70, 145, 146, 164, 292, 307, 313, 324, 330, 333, 342
 Yellow-throated Vireo, 27, 33, 40, 69, 145, 194, 292, 306, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Yellow-throated Warbler, 57, 70, 82, 246, 271, 297, 307, 313, 342, 347, 355, 356
 Yellow Warbler, 27, 28, 40, 123, 145, 194, 291, 307, 313, 323, 330, 341
 Yeomans, Charlotte, "By the Wayside," 358

Z

Ziebell, Thomas, "By the Wayside," 238, 347
 Zimmer, Robert, "By the Wayside," 355



THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY

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

OFFICERS (1997-98)

President*: James S. Anderson, Mosquito Hill Nature Center, N3880 Rogers Road, New London, WI 54961 (h. 920-982-4257, w. 920-779-6433)

Vice President*: Sumner W. Matteson, 509 Olin Ave, Madison, WI 53715 (608-256-6772)

Secretary*: Jane A. Dennis, 138 S. Franklin Avenue, Madison, WI 53705-5248 (608-231-1741)

Treasurer*: Alex F. Kailing, W330 N8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029-9732 (414-966-1072)

Editor*: Rebecca S. Isenring, 6869 Taylor Road, Sauk City, WI 53583-9560 (608-643-6906)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (1996-97)

Annual Convention (1998): Rick Koziel, Beaver Creek Reserve, Route 2 Box 94, Fall Creek, WI 54742 (715-877-2212)

Associate Editor*: Daryl D. Tessen, 3118 North Oneida St., Appleton, WI 54911-1118 (920-735-9903)

Awards*: Mary F. Donald, 6918 North Belmont Lane, Milwaukee, WI 53217-3611 (414-352-8940)

Badger Birder*: Jennifer Nieland, 1066 Harwood Ave. #2, Green Bay, WI 54313 (920-434-1229)

Book Store*: Donald and Christine Reel, 2022 Sherryl Lane, Waukesha, WI 53188-3142 (414-547-6128)

Conservation*: Noel J. Cutright, 3352 Knollwood Road, West Bend, WI 53095-9414 (414-675-2443)

Education*: Laura L. Erickson, 4831 Peabody Street, Duluth, MN 55804-2438 (218-525-4729)

Field Trips*: Thomas R. Schultz, N6104 Honeysuckle Lane, Green Lake, WI 54941-9609 (920-294-3021) and Jeffrey L. Baughman, W8985 County Hwy SS, Adell, WI 53001-9760 (414-626-4713)

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

Honey Creek: Rebecca S. Isenring, 6869 Taylor Road, Sauk City, WI 53583-9560 (608-643-6906)

Hotline (414-352-3857): Brian Boldt, 1533 E. Royal Pl. #14, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414-225-2543) and Mark Korducki, 2955 N. 77th St., Milwaukee, WI 53222 (414-476-8049)

Legal Counsel*: David L. Kinnamon, 9507 N. Wakefield Ct., Milwaukee, WI 53217-1245 (414-277-5000)

Loan of Slides: Stephen J. Lang, 5613 Commanche Way, Madison, WI 53704-1027 (608-249-5684)

Membership*: Alex F. Kailing, W330 N8275 West Shore Drive, Hartland, WI 53029-9732 (414-966-1072)

Publicity*: Bettie R. Harriman, 5188 Bittersweet Lane, Oshkosh, WI 54901-9753 (414-233-1973)

Records*: Jim Frank, 4339 W. Laverna Ave. 116N, Mequon, WI 53092-2144 (414-242-2443)

Records Committee Archivist: John Idzikowski, 2558 S. Delaware Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53207-1908 (414-744-4818)

Research*: Robert W. Howe, Department of Natural and Applied Sciences, UW-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI 54311-7001 (920-465-2272)

Scholarships and Grants*: Janine Polk, 1407 Frederic, Eau Claire, WI 54701-4902 (715-839-9265)

Web Site Coordinator*: Jennifer Davis, 1051 Abrams St., Green Bay, WI 54302-2326 (920-465-0679)

Youth Education Coordinator*: Stephen J. Kupcho, 9344 West Goodrich Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53224-2730 (414-354-0948)

*Members of the Board of Directors

CONTENTS

Volume 59	Winter 1997	Number 4
<hr/>		
Cover Artwork (Great Gray Owl) <i>Roy Lukes</i>		
President's Statement <i>James S. Anderson</i>		263
Relationship of Birds to Various Age Aspen Stands <i>Jerry H. Smith and Neil F. Payne</i>		267
Observations of Great Gray Owls (<i>Strix nebulosa</i>) Within the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore and Surrounding Area, Bayfield and Ashland Counties <i>Theodore J. Gostomski</i>		275
Wisconsin Big Day Counts: 1997 "Smashing the 200 Species Barrier" <i>Jim Frank</i>		279
A 200+ Big Day <i>Randy Hoffman and Al Shea</i>		289
Wisconsin May Day Counts: 1997 <i>Jim Frank</i>		297
North American Migration Count 1997—Wisconsin <i>Jim Frank</i>		315
The Spring Season: 1997 <i>Daryl D. Tessen</i>		333
"By the Wayside" <i>Anhinga, Little Blue Heron, Plegadis Ibis, Ross' Goose, Brant, Eurasian Wigeon, Pomarine Jaeger, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Great Gray Owl, Boreal Owl, Three-toed Woodpecker, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Mountain Bluebird, Varied Thrush, Yellow-throated Warbler, Western Tanager, Summer Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak and Blue Grosbeak</i>		347
WSO Records Committee Report—Spring 1997 <i>Jim Frank</i>		359
About the Authors and Artists		369
Notices and Advertisements		371
Index to Volume 59		375
