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RAVEN Photo by Derek Washington

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Volume 34, No. 3

Comparison of Breeding Bird Populations Of the Lower Kinnickinnic River Valley

By STEVE GODDARD

For the last two years, a study of the breeding birds has been conducted in the lower Kinnickinnic River Valley. This has been part of a larger study by four faculty members of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on the faunal, floral, geological, scenic and other resources of this area. These individuals are also involved in aiding the community and other interested individuals in preserving this unique area.

During the last five years, 166 species of birds have been observed in this area along with over 80 species of breeding birds. This two-year study was an attempt to determine: 1) total population of breeding birds; 2) species composition of breeding birds; 3) density of breeding birds; and 4) changes in the total population, composition and density from one year to the next.

The 1,100-acre area under study included the 7.3 miles of the river valley and adjacent bluffs from Glen Park in River Falls, Wisconsin, downstream to the bridge on County Highway F. A more detailed description of this area was reported earlier (Goddard, 1970).

Using aerial photos, fourteen rectangularly shaped (220 yards x 440 yards) sample plots containing 20 acres were established at one-half mile intervals beginning at the lower dam within the city of River Falls. The plots were set up so that they included not only the river valley, but also the bluff tops on each side of the river. A modification of the King strip census (Giles, 1969) was used. Equidistant transect lines were established within each plot (Figure 1). Censuses were initiated and the equidistant transect lines through the sample plot were walked in the way indicated by the arrows. All of the birds heard singing or observed within 20 yards of the line were recorded. Care was taken to avoid counting birds more

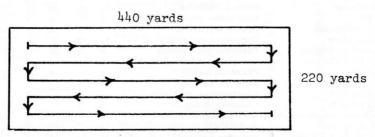


Figure 1. Sketch showing modified equadistant transect technique for a sample plot.

than once. The lower counts the second year may have been due to the observer being more knowledgeable of the plot boundaries and thus being able to decide whether or not a bird was in the plot. A census required from three to four hours to complete, depending on the roughness of the terrain. Censuses were also conducted when weather conditions were suitable for this type of work.

Data on the population composition and density were summarized and the total for the 280 acres censused obtained. The density per 100 acres and the estimate for each species for the 1,100 acre area was then calculated. Additional trips were made to the study area in the late evenings and at night in an attempt to ascertain the presence of any crepuscular or nocturnal birds. The census work was conducted from 10 June to 15 July in 1970 and from 7 June to 4 July in 1971.

Population estimates for the two years were 8,116 in 1970 and 7,242 in 1971 (Table 1. This was a decline of only 7.1 percent over the two-year period which indicated a relatively stable population. In each year, 72 species of breeding birds were recorded in the sample plots. A total of 78 species were noted for the two years. In addition, four other species were known to be breeding in the area, but were not observed in a sample plot. These were: Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura); American Kestrel (Falco spaverius); Ring-necked Pheasant (Phasianuas colchicus); and Nighthawk (Caprimulgus vociferus). A pair of Canada Geese (Branta canadensis) were observed on a beaver pond along the river below the study area, but it was not determined whether they were breeders or sub-adults.

TABLE I SUMMARY OF THE SPECIES, AREA FREQUENCY, AND AREA POPULATION ESTIMATE 1970 AND 1971

Species	Scientific Name	Owhich Species	197 Opserved		Opserved	1970 Estimate	1971 1971
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	10	10	15	10	59	
Green Heron	Butorides virescens	3	4	6	6	24	39
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	1	1	1	2	4	24
Wood Duck	Aix sponsa	6	2	9	10	36	39
Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis	3	2	6	3	24	12
Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii	_	1	_	2	44	8
Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	14	12	40	47	159	185
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	2	4	3	7	12	28
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularia	5	6	9	8	36	31
Mourning Dove	Zenaidura macroura	12	12	32	31	127	122
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus	9	5	23	10	91	39
Black-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus erythropthalmus	3	9	6	19	24	75
Woodcock	Philohola minor	1	_	3		12	_
Great Horned Owl	Bubo virginianus	1	1	2	2	8	8
Whip-poor-will	Caprimulgus vociferus	_	1	_	2	_	8
Chimney Swift	Chaetura pelagica	4	1	9	1	36	4
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	5	3	8	4	32	16
Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	12	11	21	15	83	59
Yellow-shafted Flicker	Colaptes auratus	12	14	51	42	202	165
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	2	2	3	4	12	16
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Centurus carolinus	10	6	26	11	103	43
Hairy Woodpecker	Dendrocopos villosus	8	4	12	7	48	28
Red-headed Woodpecker	Melanerpes erythrocephalus	2	2	6	4	24	16
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	6	9	18	19	71	75
Downy Woodpecker	Dendrocopos pubescens	11	8	21	16	83	63
Eastern Kingbird	Tyrannus tyrannus	-	1	-	1	_	8
Crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus crinitus	12	14	60	62	238	244
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	11	8	29	22	115	86

Species	Scientific Name	o Which Species	paragrama 179 Opserved	1970 Number	Opserved		to Ferminate for Area
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax virescens	1	_	2		8	
Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	8	6	27	17	111	67
Eastern Wood Pewee	Contopus virens	14	14	75	78	296	306
Tree Swallow	Iridoprocne bicolor	8	4	26	6	103	24
Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx ruficollis	14	14	93	55	368	216
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	1	2	2	3	- 8	12
Bank Swallow	Riparia riparia	1	3	2	6	8	24
Bluejay	Cyanocitta cristata	13	13	60	68	238	267
Purple Martin	Progne subis	_	1	_	1	_	4
Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	12	14	38	36	150	141
Black-capped Chickadee	Parus atricapillus	10	9	40	44	159	
White-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta carolinensis	13	12	39	43	155	
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon	14	13	110	91	436	
Catbird	Dumetella carolinensis	14	14	122	151	483	
Brown Thrasher	Toxostoma rufum	7	5	24	12	95	47
Robin	Turdus migratorius	11	13	51	52	202	10.000
Eastern Bluebird	Sialia sialis	1	1	2	2	8	8
Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina	2	3	4	8	16	31
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Polioptila caerulea	2	1	8	2	32	8
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	10	7	32	22	127	86
Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	5	6	14	9	41	975500
Yellow-throated Vireo	Vireo flavifrons	4	3	10	6	40	24
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	12	12	70	71	278	279
Warbling Vireo	Vireo gilvus	1	_	2	_	8	_
Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia	6	4	11	8	44	31
Yellowthroat Warbler	Geothlypis trichas	5	4	12	8	48	31
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapillus	9	11	44	68	174	267
Northern Waterthrush American Redstart	Seiurus noveboracensis	1	5	10	12	16 40	47
Bobolink	Setophaga ruticilla	5	1	5	1	20	4
Western Meadowlark	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	2	3	3	6	12	24
Red-winged Blackbird	Sturnella neglecta	6	2	10	5	40	20
Baltimore Oriole	Agelaius phoeniceus Icterus galbula	13	12	47	58	186	228
Louisiana Waterthrush	Seiurus motacilla		1		2		8
American Bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus		1		1		4
Brown-headed Cowbird	Molothrus ater	13	13	67	58	265	
Bronzed Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	11	3	21	4	83	16
Scarlet Tanager	Piranga olivacea	6	6	13	12	52	47
Cardinal	Richmondena cardinalis	11	13	47	42	186	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus	14	14	99	75	392	
Indigo Bunting	Passerina cyanea	12	13	44	78	174	306
Dickcissel	Spiza americana	1		2	_	8	_
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	13	14	95	86	392	338
Rufous-sided Towhee	Pipilo erythrophthalmus	11	14	52	56	206	220
Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	2	1	4	2	16	8
Grasshopper Sparrow	Ammodramus savannarum	2		2		16	_
Vesper Sparrow	Pooecetes gramineus	2	2	4	4	16	16
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	14	15	114	111	451	436
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	7	6	42	20	166	78
Field Sparrow	Spizella pusilla	7	8	20	23	80	90
Total					8	8116	7494

Birds observed in study area but not in a census plot.
Ring-necked Pheasant
Turkey Vulture
Sparrow Hawk
Nighthawk

Total number and distribution patterns (based on number of plots in which the species were observed) recorded for 50 species were similar for the two years. However, wide fluctuations in populations and distribution were found in 16 species. Eleven species were significantly (at the 0.05 level) lower the second year. These were: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Chimney Swift, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Least Flycatcher, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Brown Thrasher, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Grackle, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Chipping Sparrow. The five species with significantly higher populations were: Killdeer, Black-billed Cuckoo, Catbird, Ovenbird, and Indigo Bunting.

The twelve most numerous species based on average population estimates were: Catbird (538); Song Sparrow (444); House Wren (397); American Goldfinch (365); Rose-breasted Grosbeak (344); Eastern Wood Pewee (301); Rough-winged Swallow (292); Red-eyed Vireo (278); Bluejay (253); Brown-headed Cowbird (246); Crested Flycatcher (241) and Indigo Bunting (240).

In 1970, the number of species observed in a sample plot varied from 31 to 41 (Table 2). The second year the number varied from 29 to 41. The number of individuals observed in any plot ranged from 125 to 174 the first year and from 104 to 173 in 1971. In terms of density, this would be from 625 to 870 birds per 100 acres and from 520 to 865 birds per 100 acres in 1970 and 1971 respectively.

The average numbers per sample plot were 37 species and 147 individuals in 1970 and 35 species and 135 individuals in 1971. Five species were observed in every sample plot each year.

TABLE II
SUMMARY OF SPECIES-INDIVIDUALS, AND DENSITY
FOR EACH OF THE 14 CENSUS AREAS

Area	Species C	bserved	Individual	s Observed	Density Bird	s/100 Acres
	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971
1	40	34	155	139	775	695
2	41	31	142	126	705	630
3	38	35	149	125	745	625
4	36	35	131	137	655	685
5	35	36	126	161	630	805
6	41	41	145	134	725	670
7	38	38	125	.104	625	520
8	34	35	170	133	850	665
9	39	32	141	133	705	665
10	39	36	163	136	802	680
11	35	37	144	154	720	770
12	31	29	149	131	745	655
13	41	38	174	173	870	865
14	32	30	144	122	720	610

The significant fluctuations in the populations of several species may have been due to the small number of individuals observed. This would be true for six of the sixteen species. If only one more Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Least Flycatcher, or one less Killdeer had been observed the

differences would not have been significant. For Brown Thrashers, Chimnew Swifts and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, the population would not have been significantly different if an additional three, four or five birds respectively had been recorded.

Since Leopold (1933) and Grange (1949) have indicated that weather conditions can influence the results of a bird census and may produce lower population estimates, this possibility was explored.

There was no observable relationship between the number of species and individuals observed and weather conditions. The only case where a large difference was noted was in plot 8 where 170 and 133 birds were recorded in 1970 and 1971 respectively. The second year it began to rain shortly after the count was initiated. However, numbers of eight species observed both years were almost identical. Since these eight species have songs that are loud and readily identifiable, the fluctuation was probably due to an actual population change.

In the other three instances where significant differences occurred between the two years, other factors were important. The difference in plot three was due to lower populations of Mourning Doves and Red-eyed Vireos observed in 1971. For plot 5, the differences may be attributed to the census being conducted three weeks later in 1971, thus making it more likely to include immatures in the later census. The same reason may have been important in plot 10, where the census was carried out 19 days earlier the first year. Another influence could have been the time the observer walked the lines along the river valley. This was due to the fact that all of the most numerous species were aggregated along the river. Few individuals were observed over 60 yards from the river. It was surprising that so few birds were recorded along the bluff tops because of the large amount of edge present. Welty (1963) and others have pointed out the importance of edge in relation to the numbers of birds found in an area. Evidently, the river was extremely important as a water source and greatly influenced the distribution of the birds.

In summary, it would appear that the technique used to estimate the populations was sufficiently accurate to detect trends in the numbers of breeding birds, as well as the relative stability of the populations.

In addition, the study pointed out the variety of breeding birds in the area as well as the numbers. Because of this the area would be interesting to the ornithologist as well as to laymen. The area is frequented by numerous species at other times of the year with the middle of May being the best time for bird watching. It is possible to see from 85-90 species in a day-long walk down the valley. The valley also offers other recreational opportunities such as hiking, fishing, canoeing, nature study, etc. It is certainly a unique area and one that is well worth visiting and preserving for future generations.

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WSO's Part in the North American Nest Record Card Program

By AROL EPPLE

The North American Nest Record Card Program was organized in January of 1965 under the auspices of the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University. Volunteer observers from all sections of the United States, Canada and Mexico record their observations on special cards provided by the office of the Nest Record Card Program. The completed cards are sent to the Laboratory of Ornithology headquarters where the information is stored on computer tapes and memory discs from which the information is available to any qualified, professional or amateur making a nesting study. Since the inception of the program over 20,000 cards have been received annually from over 800 contributors. Nearly 100 regional centers throughout the continent help coordinate the distribution and collection of cards. The nesting information requested from field cooperators for each nest observed is shown on the replicas of the nest record card illustrated in Figure 1.

Species:			11	T			15	S SECURIOR S	0/300/50	HE STORY	No.	HISTORY	MIDORISM	0020000	S STREET, STRE	124
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Locality (in relation to ne	arest town) S	TEVE	ENS	PC	NIC	T	Flo	vation				F		itude		
County PORTA	à E									sea lev	vel)	²⁹ 4	_	313	-	33
State or Province WIS	CONSI	٧			34		36	0	8	5		418	9	gitude	443	1
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	DA	TE	Force	Young	P	dit	Bulld-	Adult	COMMENTS
	Month		Eggs	Toung	L	uit	ing	On	Stage of building, if eggs warm, age of young, if banded, etc.
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Unk	nown be	cause	not re	visited	O	ITCO	ME INC	LUDING	CASES WHERE OUTCOME UNKNOWN (circle where appropriate)
	ng seen						deserte		12 Failure due to competition with other species
	ent(s) e							to weathe	
	ent(s) w			r nest				to predat	objects parasition 15 Other (decouple shows)
	t empty							to cowbin	
			(0.5)				SACTOR ALCO	CAN COMPANY	ur Regional Center or to Laboratory of Ornithology, 78 79 80

Side 2

FIGURE 1. Replicas of Nest Record Card. Actual size is 4 x 6 inches.

The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology in cooperation with the Biology Department at the University in Stevens Point, sponsors the regional center for Wisconsin. The Wisconsin nesting data from 1965 through 1971 is now recorded on IBM punch cards and data for studies of birds nesting in Wisconsin are available to qualified professionals or amateurs in the form of punch cards and print-outs. This information may usually be obtained without charge by writing to the state coordinator. As a result of my retirement from the University Professor Vincent Heig has assumed the responsibility of coordinating the program. Requests for information should be directed to him at the Biology Department of the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, 54481.

More than 100 observers from Wisconsin during the seven years of the study have provided records at one time or another. The yearly number of contributors varies between 45 and 55 individuals. During the seven summers the study has been in progress, Wisconsin observers have returned cards with information regarding 14,416 visits to 5224 nests constructed by 158 species of birds. There is sufficient nesting data on at least 40 species of birds to make a number of worthwhile studies. A listing of the birds for which data are available and the number of

nests recorded for each species is provided at the conclusion of this report. In addition, the names of Counties in which nesting observations have been made, and those in which none were made, are identified.

The surprising part of this study has been the number of people willing to take time to look for nests and record their observations. A recent letter from a delightful lady whom I know only through correspondence writes, "I will no doubt retire at the close of this season. Wading through bogs and climbing ladders to inspect nests in trees is somewhat strenuous exercise for a woman 83 years of age. But it's fun!" I wish to express my admiration and thanks to this lady and to the more than 100 others who have enthusiastically cooperated in this program. It must be fun for there is no recognition or glory associated with their efforts — may their numbers increase!

COUNTIES IN WHICH OBSERVATIONS OF NESTING BIRDS HAVE BEEN MADE

ASHLAND	IOWA	MILWAUKEE	SHAWANO
BAYFIELD	IRON	MONROE	TREMPEALEAU
BROWN	JACKSON	OCONTO	VERNON
BURNETT	JEFFERSON	ONEIDA	VILAS
CALUMET	JUNEAU	OZAUKEE	WALWORTH
CHIPPEWA	KENOSHA	PIERCE	WASHBURN
COLUMBIA	KEWAUNEE	POLK	WASHINGTON
CRAWFORD	LA CROSSE	PORTAGE	WAUKESHA
DANE	LANGLADE	PRICE	WAUPACA
DODGE	LINCOLN	RACINE	WAUSHARA
DOOR	MANITOWOC	ROCK	WINNEBAGO
DOUGLAS	MARATHON	ST. CROIX	WOOD
FOND DU LAC	MARINETTE	SAUK	
FOREST	MARQUETTE	SAWYER	

COUNTIES IN WHICH OBSERVATIONS OF NESTING BIRDS HAVE NOT BEEN MADE

RUSK TAYLOR

ADAMS	EAU CLAIRE	LAFAYETTE
BARRON	FLORENCE	MENOMINEE
BUFFALO	GRANT	OUTAGAMIE
CLARK	GREEN	PEPIN
DUNN	GREEN LAKE	RICHLAND

NUMBER OF NESTS AND VISITS TO NESTS, 1965-1971

AOU	Species	Nests	Visits	AOU	Species	Nests	Visits
002	Red-necked Grebe	8	8	365	Barn Owl	2	2
006	Pied-billed Grebe	14	16	366	Long-eared Owl	4	18
007	Common Loon	5	6	368	Barred Owl	3	10
051	Herring Gull	1	3	372	Saw-whet Owl	2	3
069	Forster's Tern	11	17	373	Screech Owl	6	6
077	Black Tern	83	83	375	Great Horned Owl	9	31
130	Red-breasted Mergan	ser 1	1	388	Black-billed Cuckoo	16	43
131	Hooded Merganser	6	46	390	Belted Kingfisher	10	21
132	Mallard	54	135	393	Hairy Woodpecker	7	13
133	Black Duck	1	1	394	Downy Woodpecker	21	45
135	Gadwall	7	7	400	Bl-b 3-toed Woodpecke	r 2	5
139	Green-winged Teal	1	1	402	Yellow-bel. Woodpecke	r 9	18
140	Blue-winged Teal	49	92	405	Pileated Woodpecker	9	28
142	Shoveler	2	2	406	Red-head. Woodpecker	19	48
143	Pintail	3	6	409	Red-bel. Woodpecker	3	11
144	Wood Duck	2	2	412	Yellow-shafted Flicker	85	243
150	Ring-necked Duck	2	2	420	Common Night Hawk	1	2

OU	Species	Nests	Visits	AOU	Species	Nests	Visits
167	Ruddy Duck	2	2	423	Chimney Swift	1	2
172	Canada Goose	10	22	428	Ruby-thr. Hummingb	ird 5	20
190	American Bittern	2	3	444	Eastern Kingbird	39	125
191	Eastern Least Bittern	9	19	447	Western Kingbird	2	2
194	Great Blue Heron	1	1	452	Great-cr. Flycatcher	12	27
201	Eastern Green Heron	10	24	456	Eastern Phoebe	90	120
202	Black-cr. Night Heron	3	3	461	Eastern Wood Pewee		29
203	Yellow-cr. Night Heron	10	60	*464	Western Flycatcher	1	
206	Sandhill Crane	5	27	466	Traill's Flycatcher	4	7
212	Virginia Rail	4	6	467	Least Flycatcher	11	56
214	Sora	12	19	474	Horned Lark	2	6
219	Common Gallinule	6	6	477	Blue Jay	119	
221	American Coot	34	37	488	Common Crow		369
228	American Woodcock					45	107
230		6	11	493	Starling	74	162
261	Common Snipe	4	5	494	Bobolink	3	9
263	Upland Plover	3	5	495	Brown-headed Cowbi		97
	Spotted Sandpiper	4	14	497	Yelheaded Blackbird		216
273	Screech Owl	27	63	498	Red-winged Blackbird	1 518	1244
277	Piping Plover	1	1	501	Eastern Meadowlark	17	38
289	Bobwhite	2	2	501.1	l Western Meadowlark	2	6
307	Lesser Prairie Chicken	1	1	506	Orchard Oriole	6	20
309.1	Ring-neck Pheasant	7	14	507	Baltimore Oriole	79	215
316	Mourning Dove	111	333	510	Brewer's Blackbird	30	44
331	Marsh Hawk	8	20	511	Common Grackle	97	355
333	Cooper's Hawk	1	1		Bronzed Grackle	3	4
334	Goshawk	4	11	514	Evening Grosbeak	4	10
337	Red-tailed Hawk	24	62	517	Purple Finch	1	2
339	Red-shouldered Hawk	3	9	529	American Goldfinch		
343	Broadwinged Hawk	6				52	156
352	Bald Eagle		19	533	Pine Siskin	1	2
360		4	8	540	Vesper Sparrow	26	77
364	Sparrow Hawk	17	35	542	Savannah Sparrow	3	9
	Osprey	4	10	546	Grasshopper Sparrow		7
547	Henslow's Sparrow	1	1	652	Yellow Warbler	43	108
558	White-throated Sparro		3	658	Cerulean Warbler	1	1
559	Tree Sparrow	26	160	659	Chestnut-sided Warbl	er 5	19
560	Chipping Sparrow	82	227	663	Yellow-throated Wark	oler 1	2
561	Clay-colored Sparrow	5	17	673	Prairie Warbler	3	7
63	Field Sparrow	15	32	674	Ovenbird	7	14
581	Song Sparrow	71	205	676	Louisiana Waterthrus	sh 2	3
583	Lincoln's Sparrow	1	3	679	Mourning Warbler	2	2
584	Swamp Sparrow	6	9	681	Yellow Throat	2	5
587	Eastern Towhee	12	37	686	Canada Warbler	2	8
593	Cardinal	54	151	687	American Redstart	11	29
595	Rose-br. Grosbeak	26	89		2 House Sparrow	58	154
598	Indigo Bunting	6	19		Mockingbird	2	
604	Dickcissel	1					6
608			1	704	Catbird	137	455
611	Scarlet Tanager	4	11	705	Brown Thrasher	97	361
	Purple Martin	16	27	721	House Wren	217	708
612	Cliff Swallow	21	47	722	Winter Wren	2	3
613	Barn Swallow	155	476	724	Short-billed Marsh W	ren 5	17
614	Tree Swallow	441	1501	725	Long-billed Marsh Wr	en 38	39
616	Bank Swallow	18	74	727	White-br. Nuthatch	11	27
617	Rough-winged Swallow	11	20	728	Red-br. Nuthatch	1	1
619	Cedar Waxwing	57	184	731	Tufted Titmouse	3	5
622	Loggerhead Shrike	3	9	735	Blcapped Chickadee		73
624	Red-eyed Vireo	20	63	751	Blue Gray Gnatcatch		6
627	Warbling Vireo	5	18	755	Wood Thrush	11	29
628	Yellow-throated Vireo		19	756	Veery	9	27
633	Bell's Vireo	2	11	757	Gray-cheeked Thrush		2
636	Black and White Warbl						
637			4	759	Hermit Thrush	3	8
641	Prothonotary Warbler Blue-winged Warbler	5	9	761	Robin	659	2396
		1	3	766	Eastern Bluebird	389	1323

Tips for Locating Nesting Birds

Compiled by AROL EPPLE

For the past seven years, it has been my good fortune to be the Wisconsin coordinator for the North American Nest Card Record Program. Each fall as nest record cards are received from cooperators, I am amazed at the number of nests they observe and marvel at their skill in locating them. In a recent memo to cooperators, I suggested they write me about their experiences and include some tips for locating nesting birds. Replies were received from the people listed below and their comments follow.

Mrs. Louis Ansorge, Cato
Mr. Philip Ashman, Madison
Mrs. John Brakefield, Evansville
Mrs. Francis Harmer, Black River Falls
Mrs. G. C. Leppla, New Berlin
Mr. Harold Lindberg, Peshtigo
Mrs. Edward Natzke, Neenah
Mr. A. J. Rusch, Madison

Ground Nesting Birds

Ruffed Grouse: "Nests are at the base of a tree or stump or beside a log."

Marsh birds: "When looking for duck nests and other marsh birds, I like to get up early as the adult is almost always on the nest. After flushing, the nest is usually easy to find."

""One of the best methods I have used is to walk along the wooded edge of a marsh. In one case I was walking along the wooded edge of a marsh when I flushed a female Green-winged Teal. I looked over the area from which she flushed and after a careful search I located the nest."

Ovenbird: "I have found the Ovenbird while slowly walking on paths or narrow trails. If on a path the nest is usually to one side. On a logging trail, it will be between the ruts."

Song Sparrow: "The Song Sparrow nests are found along running water; usually in a bank above the creek and under an over-hanging bank of soil."

"On ground at base of low vegetation. Occasionally low in cedars."

"In the spring while walking in an unused pasture, I noticed something wriggling through the grass for about two yards and then fly to a fence post. A Song Sparrow started scolding. My son and I stopped and carefully looked at the area in front of us where I first noticed the movement. Soon we saw a hollow spot which was the entrance. With a stick I tipped the grass a bit and there were the eggs laying on a bed of grass molded to form a nest, just a bit of camouflage."

Vesper Sparrow: "Vesper Sparrows are found on the ground. Usually a small depression filled with a little grass."

Eastern Towhee: "Nest is located on the ground at the base of a bush or other vegetation in rather sunny edges. Nests are difficult to find."

Tree-nesting birds 1-5 feet above ground

Among Branches

Catbird: "Catbirds prefer small trees, spruce, lilac etc. The one I found this summer was about 4 feet from the ground. It consisted of twigs and grasses."

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: "This bird builds its nest low in a shrub or among the tangles of prickly briars."

Goldfinch: "Nests in open grasslands where shrubs abound, especially hawthorne or in swampy edges of willows. Rarely in farm yards. Nest is compact and round and made of thistle and milkweed down."

Brown Thrasher: "This bird builds a nest of many twigs. They usually lose about as much material on the ground as they have in the nest before they get it completed. They nest in shrubs or forks of trees anywhere from ground level to 5 or 6 feet."

Wood Thrush: "This bird nests in a deep moist woods in thin saplings, sometimes in farm yards with brushy areas. Nest in May and June, sometimes a later second hatch."

Yellow Warbler: "Nests in swampy edges of willow and alder. Also in grasslands in small shrubs, especially thorn apple."

Hole or Cavity Nesters

Black-capped Chickadee: "Nests are located in tree cavities or broken off trunks of trees and sometimes in nest boxes — in April and May mostly."

White-breasted Nuthatch: "This bird nests in old hollow fence posts or hollow trees. Eggs are laid on the material found in the cavity about 4 to 5 feet above the ground."

Tree-nesting birds 5 or more feet above ground

Among Branches

Cardinal: "This bird usually nests in small trees or shrubs. The nests I have found have always contained a layer of paper or cellophane or similar material in the base of the nest. They always contain small twigs and grasses for lining. I have found them 5-10 feet from the ground."

Chipping Sparrow: "Nest are formed in trees, perhaps 6-10 feet off fithe ground. The round compact and small nest always contained some hair, either human or horse. They seem to prefer spruce trees in my area and within 20 feet of the house. I recognized the song first and then kept watching the adults."

Crow: "The nest of this bird is in conifers, rarely in decidious trees."

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: "In shrubs among tangled areas of mixed woods during June and July and into August."

Kingbird: "This bird sometimes nests quite high up in decidious trees, also in orchards, home yards and even in a low bush in a sunny grassland and wooded edges of thorn apple."

Wood Pewee: "In decidious trees, attached to the forks or branches. In mixed woods, sometimes in farm yards."

Loggerhead Shrike: "My prize this season was a Loggerhead Shrike nest. Much course material was used — built in layers, compact, round and in a small dead American elm about 7 feet from ground. Out in an open area along a roadside was located in a small dead elm tree about 1½ feet from the ground. The tree was in an open area located beside a road." (Black River Falls area) This nest and colored pictures showing it in its original location were given to the Biology Department of the University at Stevens Point.

Scarlet Tanager: "Nests may be found by watching the male. Nests are usually about 2-4 feet from the tip of an evergreen branch and 10-15 feet above the ground."

Warbling Vireo: "During the 1971 May count, I discovered the Warbling Vireo in the process of building a nest high up in a cotton-wood tree. Twice while following the bird with my binoculars, I saw it in the same spot only moving the head. Then it dawned on me—could it be weaving a nest? Back up there with the binoculars and there was a thin form of a nest with the bird busy threading material. I put out lint from the dryer and saw the vireos take some, making several trips for a couple of days."

Cedar Waxwing: "In cedars at wooded edges, sometimes pines, often in grassland where thorn apple thives. Sometimes birds nest close to each other."

Hole or Cavity Nesters

Flicker: "Nests in cavities of trees, usually quite high up in mixed woods or decidious wood lots."

Crested Flycatcher: "Nests in mixed woods in tree cavities, especially dead trees, occasionally in nest boxes."

Downy Woodpecker: "Nests in decidious or mixed woods. In tree cavities and usually high up."

Dwellings

"The Barn Swallow prefers a rafter or a beam that is 6-10 feet from the floor of a building. The nest is of mud plastered on to a supporting side."

Locating nests can be frustrating as indicated by the following statement from one of the Program's experienced and diligent observers: "I knew the orioles nested close by in our yard. I watched ever so closely in the elm tree they had built in the prior two years. Thought I could hear young but never quite located them. Now that the leaves are gone, I find the nest nicely intact hanging in a forked branch of a cottonwood tree directly above our driveway about 75 feet from this elm tree!" Inexperienced nest observers can take heart from this confession.

General tips for locating nesting birds:

- 1. Check small woods, orchards, fence rows and garden areas.
 - 2. Know the habitat of birds, types of trees and shrubs in which nests are built.
- 3. Look for nesting birds at locations used for nesting during previous years. (Winter observations of nests may provide a clue.)
 - 4. Observe birds collecting food and follow them to the nest.
- 5. Observe birds collecting nesting material and follow them to the nest.
- 6. Observe birds in flight carrying fecal sacs. Note position from which flight originated.
- 7. Look for holes in trees, especially dead trees. Fecal spots are often visible around the holes. Young birds may be heard within the tree.
- 8. Listening is as important as seeing. Hide in an area where a bird or birds are active. One may often hear the young birds.
- 9. Listen for singing males. Nesting females will usually be within hearing range of the male's call.
 - 10. Look in coniferous trees located in or near open spaces.
 - 11. Walk along the edge of a woods.
- 12. Look in mixed woods with tangled vines, prickly ash, raspberry and other briar patches.
- 13. Look in grasslands with brushy patches of dogwood, thorn apple and briars.
- 14. Accidental flushings are frequent. Have patience, take time to locate nest and record observations.

Readers interested in observing nests are urged to participate in the continent-wide scientific nesting study program sponsored by Cornell University. Elsewhere in this issue of the Passenger Pigeon is an article that gives information regarding this program.



By DARYL TESSEN

The Autumn Season

August 16 - November 30, 1971

According to some reporters this autumn season was a highly exciting one, due primarily to the outstanding species that were observed. However other reporters felt the opposite situation prevailed during the period; that is, it was a subpar migration due to the absence of major waves moving through the state. This situation was caused by the unusually hot, humid, even violent weather that prevailed into October. Such an absence of waves resulted in an expectantly low number of many species being noted, eliciting the comment from many people about the considerably less than exciting fall migration for the year.

The period commenced with extremely hot, humid conditions which were interspersed with severe storms followed by a brief cooling spell. On August 22 eight funnel clouds were sighted in Dane county. September saw a return to high temperatures, into the 90's, with high humidity. A tornado struck near Edgerton on Sep. 4. By the middle of the month the weather had cooled considerably, with some light frost occurring in the northern part of the state. However the end of September and beginning of October saw a return to the hot, humid weather. Five tornadoes struck the northeastern part of the state at the end of September (27th and 28th) with extremely heavy lightning, rain and additional severe storms also occurring in various parts of the state. The middle of October returned to more seasonable temperatures but the last third of the month saw a return to unseasonably warm temperatures. Accompanying these high temperatures were unusually strong winds. November started much cooler, with snow flurries occurring over much of the state. The first hard state wide freeze occurred on November 6 and 7. This was followed by a gradual warming trend, reopening all areas by the middle of the month. More winter-like conditions returned by the beginning of the fourth week with a major snowstorm occurring in the northern two-thirds of the state during the Thanksgiving weekend. As a result most areas had one half to a foot of snow on the ground with sleet also occurring in many areas. Overall both September and October had monthly temperatures among the warmest in the last 100 years, with precipitation being highly variable, depending upon whether some of the more violent storms hit a particular area or not. November was also warmer than usual, although not as drastic as the previous two months. Precipitation during the month was above average in most parts of the state.

As previously mentioned spectacular waves were lacking this autumn. Instead, at best, moderate movements occurred during the period. The migration commenced with a small wave occurring in late August. This was followed by four successive waves of medium or above proportion, marking the peak movement through the state this autumn. They occurred on Sep. 4-6, 11-12, 15-18 and 21-22. Of these, the waves on the 11-12 and 21-22 were the largest and included excellent numbers of warblers, vireos, and thrushes. This was followed by a slightly smaller wave between Oct. 2-6. Considerably smaller waves occurred on Oct. 11-15 and 19-21. Two special waves passed through the state during the period. One occurred on Oct. 30-31 and consisted primarily of a waterfowl movement, especially along the extreme eastern and western edges of the state. The second occurred on Nov. 9-10 and consisted of a variety of finches passing through the eastern half of the state in large numbers.

Interesting Species

286 species were recorded in the state this autumn making this the best autumn total ever reported. As would be expected with this record total, some spectacular observations were made in the state. Most outstanding was the first state record of a Curve-billed Thrasher coming regularly to a feeder in Buffalo county; another first state record, this of a Brown-headed Nuthatch coming to a feeder in Milwaukee county commencing in late October; the second and third state records of a Black-headed Grosbeak; the second fall and sixth state record of a Ruff; the sighting of a Glossy Ibis along the Mississippi River; the appearance of a Parasitic Jaeger, Laughing Gull and Black-legged Kittiwake at Loon Bluff; the tenth state record of the Little Gull; the sighting of a Buffbreasted Sandpiper on the Wisconsin River; the observation of Glaucous and Iceland Gulls; the discovery of two nesting rookeries of Cattle Egrets in the state; the appearance of several western visitors, including the White Pelican, Cinnamon Teal, Swainson's Hawk, Golden Eagle, American Avocet and Varied Thrush; and a southern visitor, the Little Blue Heron. Added to this impressive list were the following noteworthy species: Red-necked Grebe, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Harlequin Duck, Surf and Common Scoters, Chukar, Whimbrel, Purple Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits, Northern Phalarope, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker, Bewick's and Carolina Wrens, Mockingbird, Bohemian Waxwing, Worm-eating, Prairie and Kentucky Warblers and Lark Sparrow. Of special note is a possible sighting of the extremely rare, almost extinct Eskimo Curlew at Grand River Marsh. Unfortunately due to the limited substantiating evidence at this time this observation cannot even be considered a hypothetical sighting. However it remains a most intriguing observation.

Species Summary

Herons: There were more observations of the Great Blue and Black-crowned Night than in past years with several good rookeries of the former reported in the southern half of the state during the early part of the period. Again this autumn there were very few reports of Common Egrets from the state with the exceptions being the usual concentrations on its nesting grounds at Horicon Marsh and LaCrosse county. The best autumn ever for the Cattle Egret occurred this year, primarily due

to the discovery of two nesting rookeries in the state. A small one was found at Green Bay, with a much larger one at Grand River Marsh.

Waterfowl: The large concentrations of Whistling Swans were lacking this autumn, with the entire migration being at best, average. The goose migration produced a varying picture this year. Canadas passed through the state in excellent numbers with large concentrations being reported at various refuges throughout the state. Easily the most spectacular concentration occurred at Horicon Marsh where a record 227,770 were present in the immediate area on Nov. 15. According to March the overall Snow/Blue goose migration was average this year. The peak numbers in the state occurred between Nov. 1-15. There were many small groups scattered throughout the state, as witnessed by twenty-five reporting counties this autumn in comparison to the average fifteen. However, there were few large concentrations, which is in direct contrast to last year.

The duck population was slightly above that of 1970. According to March weekly waterfowl census data was available from ten fall concentration areas (Crex, Oak Ridge Lake, Powell, Mead, McMillan, Meadow Valley, Grand River, Collins, Sheboygan, and Green Bay). "This autumn peak duck populations in these ten areas totalled 64,100 birds as compared to 47,740 in 1970, a gain of 34%. However this gain was offset by lower peaks in other areas, resulting in only a slight overall gain. Areas reporting the largest peak populations were: Grand River-20,000 ducks; Mead-19,000; Crex Meadows-5,500; Collins-5,100 and Sheboygan Marsh-4,000." On Sep. 29 there were about 20,000 ducks, mainly Baldpate and Mallard on Horicon National Wildlife Refuge. According to March the most noticeable duck movement occurred on Oct. 6-7 (dabblers and some divers); Oct. 15-24 (Mallards, other dabblers, divers); Oct. 27-31 (divers, Mallards); Nov. 4-7 (all species); and Nov. 15-18 (Mallards, some divers). The greatest duck movements occurred during the last week of October and the first week of November. However there were no major migrations in the state this autumn except along the Mississippi River. Diver concentrations peaked about Oct. 31.

Hawks: An excellent migration occurred this fall, especially along and near Lake Michigan. At Cedar Grove a total of 578 raptors were banded this fall, tying the banding record for Cedar Grove. In Oconto county an excellent movement of various hawks was also observed (Erdman). From these reporters, as well as others, it is apparent that the following species passed through the state in excellent numbers: Sharpshinned, Red-tailed, and Broad-winged. Showing a moderate increase in numbers, as compared to the average autumn, were the following: Goshawk, Marsh, Pigeon and Peregrine Falcon. Experiencing poor flights again this year were the Cooper's, and Red-shouldered.

There were considerably more reports of the Bald Eagle this autumn and there was an excellent movement of both the Golden Eagle and the Osprey through the state during the period.

Shorebirds: There were no large concentrations of any plover species in the state this year with the entire plover migration being poor. However the remaining shorebird picture was considerably better. There

were excellent numbers recorded from various parts of the state, especially in the east and south-central regions. For example Goose Pond had several hundred birds at the beginning of the period, with the number tapering off rapidly due to a decrease in suitable habitat. At Green Bay, 300+ were present likewise at the beginning of the period. This also had rapidly decreased by early September. At both Kaukauna, on the Fox River, and Weyauwega Lake, which had been drained for the summer, 750+ birds were present in late August. There was a gradual decrease in numbers during September. The most consistent shorebird concentration occurred at Horicon Marsh, especially along the southeastern edge where 200-750+ were present into early November. Good migrations were experienced for the Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral, Dunlin, and Stilt Sandpipers and the Northern Phalarope. Interesting species observed in this group included the Whimbrel, Purple and Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits, Ruff and Avocet.

Gulls: Again this fall there was no large movement of the Franklin's into the state. Along Lake Michigan, especially between Milwaukee and Racine, there were very large numbers of Bonaparte's present. Many outstanding species were again observed in this group during the period.

Chickadees-Nuthatches: Black-capped were present in average numbers again this fall. For the second consecutive autumn no Boreals were reported during the period. Red-breasted Nuthatches were present in above average numbers throughout the state with many areas reporting birds present into the winter period. One of the most outstanding observations for this fall came from within this group, a Brown-headed Nuthatch.

Thrushes: While the migration for the entire group this fall was slightly above average, the most encouraging note was the large number of Bluebird sightings, as reported by many observers. In addition many of these reporters indicated flocks of thirty to forty birds being observed.

Warblers: There were a few reporters indicating several good movements in their areas but overall there was almost total agreement on the lack of observed migratory waves as well as a scarcity of numbers for all species. Thus again this fall this group experienced another subpar migration. Interesting species observed included the Worm-eating, Prairie and the Kentucky.

Finches: After an almost total absence of finches last autumn this year was in marked contrast. This most decidedly was a "finch" year with an excellent movement statewide of the Evening and Pine Grosbeaks, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, goldfinch, and White-winged Crossbill. Only the Red Crossbill was hard to find in the state during the period. The Evening, Pine, redpoll, and White-winged commenced entering the state at the beginning of November with numbers increasing rapidly for all of these species well into December. The Purple Finch and Pine Siskin movements commenced slightly earlier, during the latter half of October. Likewise these two were still increasing in numbers well into December. There were 23,000 goldfinches observed on Nov. 10 at Cedar Grove with 9,000+ redpolls/siskins noted on Nov. 19 in Oconto county.

Sparrows: A complete unanimity among observers on the poor flight for the group this year. Many people commented on the unusually low numbers of Harris', White-crowned, White-throated and Lincoln's observed during the period. The only two species that were noted in good numbers were the Tree and the Fox.

The Season Summary

- Common Loon: Twelve reporting counties this fall including Chippewa, Dane, La-Crosse, Oconto, Ozaukee, Racine, Sauk, Sheboygan, Taylor, Vilas, Washington, and Waushara. Numbers observed included 12 on Oct. 31 (Tessen) and 10 on Nov. 6 (Gustafson), both at Loon Bluff (Ozaukee county). Last noted on Nov. 17, Racine county (Gerttenbach); Nov. 20, Dane county (T. Ashman); and Nov. 27, Sauk county (P. Ashman).
- Red-throated Loon: Two reports: one on Oct. 19 near Washington Island, Door county (Klugow), and one on Nov. 20 at Loon Bluff, Ozaukee county (Gustafson).
- Red-necked Grebe: Individuals were present at their nesting colony on Rush Lake into the early portion of the autumn period. Several were also observed in September in Vilas county (Mead).
- Horned Grebe: Reported from nine counties with September observations coming from Taylor, the 1st (Evrard), and Brown, the 23rd (Cleary, Columban), counties. Numbers noted included twelve on Oct. 12, Dane county (P. Ashman), 30 on Oct. 31 (Tessen) and 40 on Nov. 6 (Gustafson) at Loon Bluff (Ozaukee county). Last reported on Nov. 20, Dane county (P. Ashman).
- Pied-billed Grebe: Late November observations from Green and Sauk counties with it still present into December in LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- White Pelican: An individual which was discovered on Grand River Marsh (Green Lake and Marquette counties) in August remained into the autumn period and was observed by a number of people. It was last seen on Sep. 11 (Tessen). Eleven birds were observed in Ashland on Sep. 27 by Roy. Several were photographed with the picture appearing in the local newspaper.
- Double-crested Cormorant: For the first time in the past eight autumns there was an excellent number of observations for this species. Up to thirty summering birds were discovered on several islands in Green Bay by Erdman. A nesting colony was discovered on Green River Marsh during the summer. Over sixty birds were counted there by Gustafson on Sep. 4 with twenty still present on Sep. 11 (Tessen). Other sightings included: Oct. 12-Nov. 4, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); Oct. 31-Nov. 5, Milwaukee (Gustafson); Nov. 4, Ozaukee county (Gustafson); Sep. 22-Nov. 20, LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Great Blue Heron: There were more November sightings this fall than in the past eight years. They included: Nov. 7, Barron county (Goff); Nov. 9, Dane county (P. Ashman); Nov. 10, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Nov. 20, Waukesha county (Johnston); Nov. 28, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); and still present into December in Vernon county (Weber).
- **Green Heron:** Extremely late was the sighting of one individual in Milwaukee county on Nov. 2 by Gustafson.
- **Little Blue Heron:** An immature bird was observed on the main dike at Horicon Marsh on Aug. 28 by Tessen.
- Cattle Egret: Two nesting colonies were discovered during the summer in the state! One small colony was located on one of the islands in Green Bay (Brown county) by Erdman. A larger colony (60+) was located on Grand River Marsh (Green Lake county) with many birds lingering into September as reported by several observers. Also reported from Horicon Marsh where one individual was observed on Oct. 19 (March, Hunt).
- Common Egret: The following reports: late August in Waukesha county; Aug. 29, Brown county (Robbins, Kemper); Aug. 24-Sep. 7, Manitowoc county (Woodcock); ten on Sep. 5, Winnebago county (Greenman); until Sep. 11 on Grand River Marsh (Tessen); until Oct. 19 in LaCrosse county (Rosso); until Oct. 31 at Horicon Marsh (Tessen).

- Black-crowned Night Heron: There were several October sightings with the last individuals noted on Oct. 30 in Milwaukee (Basten) and Nov. 15 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban).
- Yellow-crowned Night Heron: Three reports: an immature on Sep. 4 at Grand River Marsh (Gustafson); three until Sep. 20 in Milwaukee (Basten); Oct. 3 in LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Gadwall: Present at the end of the period in LaCrosse (Rosso) and Outagamie (Tessen) counties.
- Pintail: Migrants arrived at Collins Marsh on Aug. 31 and Grand River Marsh on Sep. 6 (March). Present into December in LaCrosse (Rosso), Outagamie and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.
- Green-winged Teal: November observations from Brown, the 4th (Cleary, Columban), LaCrosse, the 6th (Rosso), and Milwaukee, 13 on the 20th (Strehlow) counties.
- Blue-winged Teal: According to March the majority of birds had left the state by Oct. 15. November sightings included Green, the 7th (Rohde), Milwaukee, the 13th (Gustafson, Strehlow), and Brown, the 24th (Cleary, Columban) counties.
- Cinnamon Teal: An individual was observed in company with some Blue-wings on the Milwaukee River at Hawthorne Hills County Park (Ozaukee county) on Sep. 7 by Bintz. This represents a new fall state arrival record.
- Least Bittern: These reports: Aug. 23, Brown county (Tessen); two on Aug. 31, Oconto county (Erdman); "many" in Horicon Marsh on Sep. 17 (Schmidt); Sep. 27, La Crosse county (Rosso).
- American Bittern: Early October sightings from Brown, LaCrosse, St. Croix and Taylor counties. One bird was noted on Nov. 7 in Barron county (Goff).
- Glossy Ibis: An individual was flushed from the Mississippi River bottoms at Perrott Park (Trempealeau county) on Oct. 7 by March. The bird was observed by Hunt and Hale. This represents the first autumn report in over seven years.
- Whistling Swan: Fourteen reporting counties again this fall with the first sighting coming from Waushara county when 50 were counted on Sep. 26 (Greenman). The major migration occurred this fall in the state between Oct. 31-Nov. 3 according to March. Also the majority of sightings came during this particular period. The only numbers reported included 400+ on Oct. 31 in Oconto county (Erdman) and 150 on Nov. 2 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban). Individuals were lingering into December in LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Canada Goose: Individuals were present at the beginning of the period in Brown (Cleary, Columban) and LaCrosse (Rosso) counties as well as the Grand River Marsh (Tessen). The first migrants arrived in the state on Sep. 9 at Horicon Marsh (March). This was followed by Sep. 11 (Waushara county, March), Sep. 12 (Burnett county, Stone) and Sep. 15 (Forest county, Richter) sightings and then a wave of Sep. 18-22 arrivals from throughout the state. Statewide the major movements occurred on Sep. 20-23, Oct. 2-3, 12-13, 20-23, and 30-31. Major exoduses from the state occurred on Nov. 4-7, and 27-29. The Horicon area peaked at record numbers with 223,570 present on Oct. 20, increasing slightly to 227,770 on Nov. 15 (March). Other peak numbers in the state included: Necedah, 16,900 on Oct. 19; Pine Island, 7,300 on Oct 20; Crex Meadows, 5,750 on Oct. 20; Eldorado Marsh, 4,200 on Nov. 15; Grand River Marsh, 4,000 on Nov. 2; Collins Marsh, 3,100 on Nov. 15; and Mead Wildlife Area, 2,000 on Sep. 23 (March). Erdman in Oconto county observed the following peak movements: 1,475+ on Sep. 29, 900+ on Oct. 5, 3,900+ on Oct. 6, 1,000+ on Oct. 8, and 500+ on Oct. 23. 2,000 giant Canadas were present in Rock county during November (March). Birds were still present into December in LaCrosse county as well as 16,500 (Dec. 13) at Horicon, 300 at Green Bay and 225 at Necedah.
- Snow and Blue Geese; Both species were reported from twenty-five counties this fall with first reports coming from Crex Meadows (Burnett county) on Sep. 23 (Stone) and the next from Horicon on Sep. 25 (Gustafson). The major movements in the state included Sep. 29-30, Oct. 1-7, 12-13, 20-23 and Nov. 4-7 (March). The peak numbers were present in the state between Nov. 1-15. Snow/Blue peaks included: 11,650 (Nov. 2) Crex Meadows; 1,800 Horicon; 1,750 Necedah; 1,700 Brule red clay area; 1,050 Mead; 900 Pine Island; 600 Collins; 600 Grand River; 500 Powell; and 300 Goose Pond (Columbia county). Individuals were present in several state areas at the end of the period.

- Mallard: Peaks included 10,000 Mead, 8000 Grand River, 5,000 Collins, 4,500 Crex Meadows, 4,000 Sheboygan (March) and 1,500 Price county (Vincent).
- American Widgeon: A major movement into Collins, Grand River and Horicon Marshes occurred on Sep. 14 (March). It was present at the end of the period in LaCrosse (Rosso) and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.
- Shoveler: Last reported from Milwaukee county on Nov. 13 (Strehlow).
- Wood Duck: Present into December in Brown county (Cleary, Columban) and Winnebago county (Tessen).
- Redhead: End of the period sightings in LaCrosse (Rosso), Waukesha (Johnston) and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.
- Ring-necked Duck: Reports from nine counties with the first sighting coming in Trempealeau county on Oct. 4 (Lender). 250 were counted in Taylor county on Nov. 2 by Evrard. Present at the end of the period in Dane (P. Ashman) and LaCrosse (Rosso) counties.
- Canvasback: First autumn reports came from St. Croix county (Aug., Grancia), Lake Chetae (Sep. 29, March) and along the Mississippi River (Oct. 7, March). Present into December in LaCrosse county (Rosso) and twelve in Racine county (Erickson).
- Greater Scaup: March reported that the arrival for the species this year occurred between Oct. 1-7 in the state. Over 1,000 were observed migrating at Loon Bluff (Ozaukee county) on Oct. 31 by Tessen. Besides the expected numbers wintering along Lake Michigan there were individuals in LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Lesser Scaup: Arrived in the state this fall on Sep. 29 with sightings in Ozaukee (Bintz) and Trempealeau (Lender) counties. 2,000 were counted in Brown county on Nov. 8 (Cleary, Columban). End of the period reports from Brown (Cleary, Columban), Dane (P. Ashman), LaCrosse (Rosso), Winnebago (Tessen) and Waushara (Chipman) counties.
- Common Goldeneye: Only one October arrival date this fall, the 30th, Taylor county (Evrard).
- **Bufflehead:** Observed on Sep. 29 in Ozaukee county (Bintz). March reports that the majority of state arrivals occurred between Oct. 1-7.
- **Old Squaw:** A new state arrival date occurred this fall with the Sep. 29 sighting in Ozaukee county by Bintz. The next observations did not occur for another full month.
- Harlequin Duck: A female was observed in Racine county (Wind Point) from Nov. 4 on by Gustafson, Donald and Erickson, et. al.
- White-winged Scoter: The following reports: at Loon Bluff, Ozaukee county, Oct. 12 (Bintz); 45 on Oct. 31 (Tessen); 2 to 4 between Nov. 4-27 (Gustafson); 3 on Oct. 31, Racine county (Tessen); Nov. 21, Washburn county (Olson); 2 on Nov. 11 (Lesher); from Nov. 17 into December (Rosso) in LaCrosse county.
- Surf Scoter: Four males were observed at Wind Point in Racine county on Sep. 12 by Tessen. This represents a new state fall arrival date.
- Common Scoter: Two at Loon Bluff, Ozaukee county on Oct. 31 (Tessen).
- Ruddy Duck: Present into December in Brown (Cleary, Columban), Dane (T. Ashman), and LaCrosse (Rosso) counties.
- **Hooded Merganser:** Thirty-three were seen on Nov. 20 in Waukesha county (Johnston). Present at the end of the period in Brown County (Cleary, Columban).
- Common Merganser: First noted on Oct. 25 in Ozaukee county (Tessen). 1,000 were present in Brown county on Nov. 8 (Cleary, Columban) and 115 in Waukesha county on Nov. 25 (Johnston).
- Red-breasted Merganser: First noted on Oct. 5 in Ozaukee county (Bintz) with 700 present there on Nov. 4 (Gustafson).
- Turkey Vulture: Eight reporting counties including: 2 on Aug. 25, Grant (Rhode); Sep. 11, Sauk (Tessen); until Sep. 12, Vernon (Weber); until Sep. 22, LaCrosse (Rosso); a total of seven between Oct. 4-6, Celar Grove (Berger); Oct. 5-9, Chippewa (Robbins); Oct. 8, Barron (Goff); approximately ten birds between Sep. 11 Oct. 22, Oconto (Erdman, Woodcock).

- Goshawk: The following reports: Langlade county (Mosher); Oct. 10-11, Lincoln county (Rusch); Nov. 3, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); a total of eight birds on Oct. 5, Oct. 28-Nov. 8, Cedar Grove (Berger); a total of seventeen birds between Oct. 5-Nov. 20, Oconto county (Erdman).
- Sharp-shinned Hawk: The observation period this fall extended between Aug. 22 and Nov. 30. Reporting counties included Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Milwaukee, Oconto, Outagamie, Ozaukee, St. Croix, Sauk, Sheboygan, Taylor and Waushara. At Cedar Grove the peaks occurred on Oct. 4 (331), 5 (315) and 6 (226) with a total of 1,700+observed for the period (Berger). In Oconto county peaks on Sep. 14 (68), and 23 (73), Oct. 4 (171) and 5 (287) with a total of 1,062 observed for the period (Erdman). The flight was better than that of last year.
- Cooper's Hawk: Again this summer another poor flight occurred for the species. Reporting counties included Brown, Chippewa, Iowa, Juneau, Oconto, Ozaukee, Portage, St. Croix, and Sheboygan. At Cedar Grove only 15 birds were seen for the entire period (Berger). In Oconto county 30 were observed for the entire period (Erdman).
- Red-tailed Hawk: Peaks observed this fall included, at Cedar Grove: 88 Oct. 31; 95 Nov. 3, 93 Nov. 6, and 118 Nov. 7 (Berger); in Oconto county: 74 Nov. 3, and 87 Nov. 7 (Erdman).
- Red-shouldered Hawk: Thirty were observed on Oct. 3 in Wood county (Schenk). A total of 86 were counted at Cedar Grove (Berger).
- Broad-winged Hawk: A more "typical" migration this fall as the majority of sightings occurred near or along Lake Michigan. August sightings were made in Oconto, Sheboygan, Taylor and Trempealeau counties. Additional reporting counties during September and October included Barron, Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Green, Marinette, Milwaukee, Monroe and Ozaukee. Peaks included a heterogenous group of "several hundred" on Sep. 18 in Monroe county (Hebard); 100 on Oct. 3 in Green county (Rohde); 125 on Oct. 5, 236 on Oct. 6 with a total of 441 banded birds at Cedar Grove (Berger); and in Oconto county 305 on Sep. 14, 280 on Sep. 15, 1,566+ on Sep. 17, 2,109+ on Sep. 23, 100+ on Sep. 29, 134 on Oct. 5, 109 on Oct 6 and 100+ on Oct. 9 (Erdman). Last observed in the state on Oct. 26 in Oconto county.
- Swainson's Hawk: One was observed at Cedar Grove on Oct. 11 (Berger).
- Rough-legged Hawk: Fully three weeks ahead of all other reports this autumn were several birds observed in Milwaukee county starting on Sep. 20 (Strehlow, Magulski).
- Golden Eagle: One of the best autumns ever for this species in the state as evidenced by the following reports: Oct. 13, Grand River Marsh (March, Hunt); Oct. 14, Dodge county (March, Hunt); Oct. 18, Horicon Marsh (Johnson); two birds on Nov. 3, one on Nov. 4, Oconto county (Erdman, John); Nov. 5, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); single birds on Nov. 3, 7 and 19 at Cedar Grove (Berger); two birds on Nov. 20, Ozaukee county (Bintz).
- Bald Eagle: Fifteen reporting counties this year which is one of the largest number of counties to report in any autumn. Numbers observed included a total of five during the period at Cedar Grove (Berger), a total of eleven during the period in Oconto county (Erdman), 12 on Oct. 23 at Necedah (Lesher) and 18 on Nov. 24 in LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Marsh Hawk: Peak days at Cedar Grove included 39 on Oct. 4, 112 on Oct. 5, and 32 on Oct. 6 (Berger). Twenty-two were counted on Oct. 5 in Oconto county (Erdman). Observed on Nov. 27 in Milwaukee county (Magulski) and Nov. 28 in Ozaukee county (Bintz).
- Osprey: There was a total of twenty reporting counties this year, representing one of the best numbers in any autumn. The following August observations occurred: the 18th, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); the 26th, Monroe county (Hebard); the 28th, Grand River Marsh (Tessen); and the 29th, Waupaca county (Robbins, Kemper). Thirteen were seen in Oconto county during the period (Erdman). A total of 47 were observed at Cedar Grove with the last on Oct. 28 (Berger). The last state observation this year occurred on Oct. 31, Rock county (Brakefield).

- Peregrine Falcon: A better flight this fall than last year with the following observations occurring: Aug. 24, Waupaca county (Donald, Urdan); 3 on Aug. 29, Columbia county (VanNess, Williams); Sep. 8, Milwaukee county (Woodmansee); Sep. 26, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Oct. 2, Crex Meadows (Stone); a total of 35 between Sep. 20 Oct. 5 at Cedar Grove with peaks of seven on Sep. 26, five on Oct. 3 and six on Oct. 4 (Berger); a total of seven between Sep. 20-Oct. 6, Oconto county (Erdman).
- Pigeon Hawk: The following reports: Langlade county (Mosher); Sep. 18, Chippewa county (Robbins); Sep. 25, Dane county (N. Ashman); Oct. 2, Outagamie county (Bradford); a total of seven between Sep. 44-Oct. 15, Oconto county (Erdman); a total of 71 between Sep. 4-Oct. 28 at Cedar Grove (Berger); and Nov. 6, Ozaukee county (Gustafson).
- Sparrow Hawk: Peaks noted at Cedar Grove this autumn included 41 on Oct. 4 and 46 on Oct. 5 (Berger).
- Spruce Grouse: Observed in Price county (Hardy) and in Sawyer county on Oct. 10 (Stefani).
- Sharp-tailed Grouse: Three reports: Langlade county (Mosher); Aug. 30-Sep. 25, Price county (Hardy); 18 on Sep. 27, Taylor county (Evrard).
- Bobwhite: Reported from Marquette (Schmidt), Outagamie (Bradford) and Rock (Mahlum) counties.
- Chukar: An individual was observed on the Stanley Freistad farm on Sep. 8 by Traxler (Rock county).
- Turkey: Nov. 20, Juneau county (Freitag).
- Sandhill Crane: A complete reversal from last autumn with fourteen reporting counties. In addition excellent numbers were observed this year, including: 29 on Sep. 21, Waushara county (Greenman); 150 on Sep. 29, Outagamie county (Bradford); 41 on Sep. 30, Crex Meadows (Stone); 30 on Oct. 3, Milwaukee county (Magulski); a "major" migration occurred in Green Lake and Marquette counties on Oct. 3 and Horicon Marsh on Oct. 4 (March) with over one hundred present in all three counties as indicated by Harper, Kobey, MacMillan and Mathiak; at Necedah 124 were present in October with the last individuals being seen on Nov. 21 (Brown).
- King Rail: Aug. 25-Sep. 2, Milwaukee county (Strehlow); Sep. 12, LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Virginia Rail: The following reports: Sep. 10, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Sep. 13, Taylor county (Evrard); Sep. 20, Milwaukee county (Strehlow).
- Sora: One October departure date, that on the 19th, in Milwaukee county (Strehlow).
- Common Gallinule: A scarcity of reports this fall with the last observation being made in Milwaukee county when six were counted on Oct. 3 (Gustafson).
- American Coot: 2,500 were seen on Oct. 27 in Taylor county by Evrard. Reported as present into December in Dane (T. Ashman), Washington (Schmidt) and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.
- Semipalmated Plover: Reported from Brown, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, LaCrosse, Milwaukee and Racine counties. Last observed in the state at Horicon Marsh on Oct. 15 (Tessen).
- Killdeer: 200 were present in Outagamie county on Oct. 2 (Tessen). There were November sightings in Green (Rohde), LaCrosse (Rosso), Ozaukee (Bintz), Vernon (Weber), Winnebago (Natzke) and Washington (Schmidt) counties. Two birds were present on Dec. 1 in Dane county (Rusch) and one on Dec. 6 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban).
- Golden Plover: Only six reporting counties including two on Aug. 22, Sep. 18, Waupaca (Tessen); 20 on Sep. 18, Columbia (P. Ashman); Sep. 18, Dodge (Schmidt); seven on Sep. 25, Manitowoc (Woodcock); Sep. 29, Marinette (Lindberg); Sep. 30 (Cleary, Columban) and Oct. 2 (Tessen), Brown.
- Black-bellied Plover: Only seven reporting counties including seven on Aug. 23 and 40 on Oct. 2, Brown (Tessen); Aug. 29, Marathon (Robbins, Kemper); Sep. 3, Milwaukee (Basten, Tessen); Sep. 3 and 18, Horicon (Schmidt, Tessen); Sep. 4, Racine (Lesher); Sep. 29, Marinette (Lindberg); six on Oct. 16, LaCrosse (Rosso).

- **Ruddy Turnstone:** Sep. 18, Outagamie county (Tessen); present at the beginning of the period in Milwaukee with a peak of eight, with the last observation on Oct. 12 (Gustafson, et al.).
- Woodcock: Nov. 20, Barron county (Goff).
- Common Snipe: 50 on Sep. 11, Horicon Marsh (Tessen); 55 on Sep. 22, Taylor county (Evrard); present into December in LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Whimbrel: One was found dead at Green Bay on Sep. 15 (Baumann).
- Eskimo Curlew: See "By The Wayside" for an exciting account of a possible sighting on Oct. 20 at Grand River Marsh.
- Upland Plover: Only reported from St. Croix county (Grancia).
- Spotted Sandpiper: One month later than all other observations this fall was that on Oct. 30 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban).
- Solitary Sandpiper: Fifteen counted on Aug. 17 in Waupaca county (Weyauwega Lake, Tessen). Last on Sep. 25 in Dodge county (Gustafson).
- Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs: On Aug. 23 in Outagamie and Waupaca counties 400 and 325, respectively, Greater/Lesser were counted (Tessen). Two Greater were last observed in Dodge county on Nov. 13 (Barger). Five Lesser were last observed in Dodge county on Oct. 31 (Tessen).
- Knot: In Milwaukee, six were seen on Aug. 26 with observations continuing through Sep. 12 (Gustafson, Tessen). In Kaukauna a single bird was noted on Sep. 18 (Tessen).
- Purrple Sandpiper: Two were recorded at Wind Point, Racine county on Oct. 31 (Tessen).
- Pectoral Sandpiper: 250 were present at Weyauwega Lake (Waupaca county) on Aug. 23 (Tessen). Up to 60 were present during September-October at Horicon Marsh with 12 still present on Oct. 31 (Tessen).
- White-rumped Sandpiper: Three reports: Aug. 22, Weyauwega Lake and two on Aug. 23, Kaukauna (Tessen); Sep. 14-20, Barron county (Goff).
- Baird's Sandpiper: 2 on Aug. 22, Trempealeau county (Lender); 10 on Aug. 22, 2 on Aug. 23 and 4 on Sep. 18, Waupaca county (Tessen); Aug. 28, Grand River Marsh, Green Lake county (Tessen); 3 on Aug. 28, 2 on Sep. 3, Milwaukee (Tessen); Sep. 16, Marinette county (Lindberg); Sep. 14-20, Barron county (Goff); Oct. 2, Brown county (Tessen).
- Least Sandpiper: 150 at Kaukauna on Aug. 23 (Tessen); last reported on Oct. 2 in Brown county (Tessen).
- **Dunlin:** The observation period extended between Aug. 23—Grand River Marsh Tessen, and Nov. 13—Kaukauna, Tessen. At Horicon Marsh numbers increased during the latter half of October until 400 were present on Oct. 31 (Tessen).
- Dowitcher: There were seven reporting counties this fall including: Brown, Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Outagamie, Ozaukee, and Waupaca. Birds identified as Shortbilled included 60 on Aug. 17, decreasing to 30 on Aug. 23 in Waupaca county (Tessen) and 42 on Sep. 11 at Horicon Marsh (Tessen). Birds identified as Longbilled included 2 on Sep. 11 in Green Lake county (Tessen), and at Horicon Marsh 30 were present on Sep. 25, increasing to 90 on Oct. 1 and 120 on Oct. 25, with 85 still present on Oct. 31 (Tessen, Gustafson).
- Stilt Sandpiper: The following observations: Outagamie county, Aug. 17, fifteen on Aug. 23 (Tessen); Waupaca county, 25 on Aug. 17, increasing to 50 on Aug. 23 with six still present on Sep. 18 (Tessen, Gustafson); Brown county, five on Aug. 23 (Tessen); Green Lake county, 20 on Aug. 28, 12 on Sep. 4 and 15 on Sep. 11 (Tessen, Gustafson); a total of nineteen in Brown and Marathon counties on Aug. 29 (Robbins, Kemper); Chippewa county, Sep. 1 (Robbins); and at Horicon Marsh, two on Aug. 28, 30 present between Sep. 3-11, decreasing to seven on Oct. 25 with one still present on Oct. 31 (Tessen, Gustafson). The latter is an extremely late departure date.
- Semipalmated Sandpiper: Five weeks later than all other departures was that of Oct. 25 at Horicon Marsh (Tessen).
- Western Sandpiper: One was observed at Kaukauna on Aug. 23 (Tessen).

- Buff-breasted Sandpiper: On Sep. 3 one individual was watched for one-half hour on an island on the Wisconsin River a mile northwest of Mazomanie by P. Ashman. Read the account in "By The Wayside."
- Marbled Godwit: At Horicon Marsh on a pond along Highway 28 thirty were counted on Aug. 28 with an additional ten observed on the Main Dike. There were forty-five present on Sep. 3 (Tessen).
- Hudsonian Godwit: Five were observed in company with the Marbled on Aug. 28 along Highway 28 by Tessen (Horicon Marsh). One bird was observed in spring plumage on Sep. 3 at the Bong Recreation Area (Kenosha county) in company with some yellowlegs (Tessen).
- Ruff: On Aug. 22 and 23 a male in spring plumage was observed among hundreds with other shorebirds on Weyauwega Lake by Tessen. This represents only the second fall report for the species. Read the details in "By The Wayside."
- Sanderling: The first autumn observation was of fifteen individuals in Milwaukee on Aug. 26 (Basten). Observations occurred along Lake Michigan during the period with the only inland report of ten on the Wisconsin River out of Mazomanie on Sep. 3 (P. Ashman). Last reported in the state on Oct. 31 at Loon Bluff (Tessen).
- American Avocet: Five birds of this western species were observed on Sep. 6 at Goose Pond (Columbia county) by Lesher.
- Wilson's Phalarope: These observations: one on Aug. 17 and 23 with two on Aug. 22 at Weyauwega Lake (Tessen); two on Aug. 28 and one on Sep. 3 at Horicon Marsh (Tessen); Aug. 22, two on Sep. 4-5 at Goose Pond (P. Ashman, T. Ashman, Gustafson).
- Northern Phalarope: An excellent migration occurred during the first half of the period for this species, representing one of the best movements ever. Aug. 23, Brown county (Tessen); Aug. 22 (Tessen), 2 on Aug. 26 (Gustafson), Waupaca county; 2 on Aug. 28 (Tessen), Sep. 4 (Gustafson), Green Lake county; at Horicon Marsh, two between Aug. 28-Sep. 3 with one still present on Sep. 17 (Schmidt, Tessen); at Goose Pond, individuals were observed between Aug. 22-Sep. 25 with a maximum of four present (P. Ashman, T. Ashman, Gustafson, Lesher, Robbins, Tessen).
- Parasitic Jaeger: One was observed on Nov. 2 at Loon Bluff (Ozaukee county) by Donald and Gustafson.
- Glaucous Gull: Three were present in Brown county on Sep. 26 (Cleary) with one observed on Nov. 17 (Klugow). An individual appeared on Nov. 24 in LaCrosse county with it still present into December (Rosso).
- Iceland Gull: One observed on Aug. 24 in Brown county (Cleary); on Pewaukee Lake (Waukesha county) one was present between Nov. 23-27 (Nelson, Bielefeldt, et al.).
- Laughing Gull: One noted at Loon Bluff on Nov. 2 (Donald).
- Franklin's Gull: One on Sep. 18 in Outagamie county (Tessen); in Milwaukee, birds were observed between Aug. 4-Nov. 5 with a peak of twelve on Sep. 5 (Gustafson, et al.).
- Bonaparte's Gull: Present at the beginning of the period in Milwaukee county (Basten) with numbers increasing to "several thousand" by Oct. 25 (Tessen). It first appeared in Racine county on Sep. 4 (Lesher) with individuals present into December (Erickson). It was also reported from Oconto county (Sep. 25, Nov. 8 Erdman); Door county (Sep. 26 Freitag); Chippewa county (25 on Oct. 30 Robbins); and Waukesha county (30 into December Johnston).
- Little Gull: The tenth and eleventh state records occurred this fall when single birds were observed on Sep. 25 in Milwaukee county (Gustafson) and Nov. 5 in Ozaukee county (Sundell).
- Black-legged Kittiwake: An individual was observed at Loon Bluff, Ozaukee county, on Nov. 2 (Donald) and Nov. 5 (Sundell).
- Forster's Tern: A departure date this fall of Oct. 16, Outagamie county (Tessen).
- Common Tern: Last on Oct. 2, Outagamie county (Tessen).

- Caspian Tern: These reports: 23 on Aug. 23 (Tessen) and four on Aug. 29 (Robbins, Kemper), Brown county; Sep. 5, Racine county (Lesher); Sep. 21-29, LaCrosse county (Lesher, Rosso); until Oct. 1, Milwaukee county (Gustafson, et al.); in Outagamie county, a concentration that commenced building up in early August peaked at 65 on Aug. 17, decreasing gradually to nine on Oct. 2 with the last bird noted on Oct. 16 (Tessen).
- Black Tern: Three weeks later than all other departures this autumn was Sep. 30 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban).
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Oct. 14, Vernon county (Weber).
- Black-billed Cuckoo: Oct. 18, LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Screech Owl: Observations occurred in Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Oconto, Rock, Washington and Waukesha counties during the fall.
- Snowy Owl: These reports: Nov. 8, Milwaukee county (Deusing); Nov. 15 and 23, Brown county (Cleary, Columban, Erdman); Nov. 20, Portage county (Hammerstrom); Nov. 25, Ashland county (Roy); Nov. 27, Oconto county (Erdman).
- Long-eared Owl: Six reports: Aug. 27, Grant county (Rohde); Sep. 9, Sheboygan county (Kuhn); Oct. 28, Cedar Grove (Gustafson); Nov. 9, Milwaukee county (Basten); Nov. 13, LaCrosse county (Lesher); and twenty-two between Oct. 3-Nov. 21, Oconto county (Erdman).
- Short-eared Owl: The only fall report was of a single individual at Cedar Grove on Sep. 29 (Berger).
- Saw-whet Owl: Reported from Brown, Langlade, and Racine counties plus 15 netted between Sep. 29-Nov. 7, Oconto county (Erdman) and at Cedar Grove between Oct. 7-Nov. 24 with a peak of fifteen on Nov. 7 (Berger).
- Whip-poor-will: Ten reports during late August and September with the last on Oct. 15 and 16 at Honey Creek, Sauk county (Peartree).
- Nighthawk: No large migrations occurred this fall. There were five October departure dates, the latest being on the 21st, Dane county (P. Ashman).
- Chimney Swift: A late departure date, less than one week short of tying the state record, is that of Oct. 28 in Ozaukee county (Bintz).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Twenty-five were counted at Wind Point (Racine county) on Sep. 12 (Tessen). There were two early October departure dates. However a bird came to the Maier's feeder in Buffalo City during November with it last being seen on Nov. 28 (fide Robbins). This beats the old departure record by almost four weeks.
- Belted Kingfisher: End of the period sightings in Barron (Goff), LaCrosse (Rosso), Vernon (Weber) and Waukesha (Johnston) counties.
- Yellow-shafted Flicker: One hundred were counted in Wood county on Aug. 16 by Schenk. Present into December in Green (Rohde), LaCrosse (Rosso), Outagamie (Tessen) and Vernon (Morse) counties.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker: The first record for Douglas county occurred this fall when an individual was observed on Nov. 11 by Klugow.
- Red-headed Woodpecker: Reported into December in Barron, Green, LaCrosse, Vernon, Waupaca and Winnebago counties.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: There were four late November reports plus two birds present into December in Dane county (Hickey) and also in Racine county (Erickson, Stoffel).
- Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: A female was banded by Wierzbicki on Oct. 14 in Brown county. On Oct. 28 Wierzbicki observed a different female (unbanded), also in Brown county. One was coming to a feeder in Superior in November (Olson).
- Eastern Kingbird: Over 50 were seen in Wood county on Aug. 23 (Schenk). Two weeks later than all other observations this fall was a bird observed in Milwaukee county on Oct. 3 (Sheridan).
- Great-crested Flycatcher: Lacking only two days from tying the departure record is a sighting in Marinette county by Lindberg on Oct. 28.

- Eastern Phoebe: There were twenty October departure dates with two sightings occurring in November. One was made on Nov. 9 in Dane county (N. Ashman) and the second, a very late date, was made on Nov. 17 in Portage county (Bickford).
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: These reports: Aug. 13 (Wierzbicki), Sep. 2-18 (Cleary, Columban), Brown county; Aug. 21-28, Chippewa county (Robbins); Aug. 30, Milwaukee county (Gustafson); Sep. 5, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Aug. 20-Sep. 29, Rock county (Brakefield).
- Acadian Flycatcher: Two reports: Sep. 3, Price county (Hardy); Sep. 4, Rock county (Mahlum).
- Traill's Flycatcher: These reports: Aug. 23, Trempealeau county (Lender); Sep. 2, Milwaukee county (Strehlow); Sep. 6, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Sep. 10, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Schmidt); Sep. 22, Racine county (Erickson).
- Least Flycatcher: There were five October departure dates this fall, the latest being on the 7th, Sheboygan county (Kuhn). This is only three days short of tying the state departure record.
- Eastern Wood Peewee: There were five departures occurring during the first half of October. However a bird was sighted on Oct. 25 in Manitowoc county (Albrecht) which ties the state departure record and another bird was observed in Robbins' yard on Oct. 30 (Chippewa county) making a new departure record.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher: Five reports: Outagamie county (Bradford); Aug. 17 (Basten) and Sep. 5 (Gustafson), Milwaukee county; Sep. 24, Rock county (Brakefield); Oct. 20, Dodge county (Peartree). The latter date is lacking five days from tying the state departure record.
- Tree Swallow: Again this fall there were several large migrations observed in the state. They included: 5,000+ on Grand River Marsh on Aug. 28 (Tessen); 20,000 on Aug. 29 at Green Bay (Kemper, Robbins), decreasing to 2,000 on Sep. 1 (Cleary, Columban); 10,000 at Horicon Marsh on Sep. 25 (Gustafson) decreasing to 4,000 on Oct. 1 (Tessen). There were two November sightings: the 6th, Ozaukee county (Gustafson) and the 18th, Door county (Freitag).

Bank Swallow: Oct. 1, Horicon Marsh (Tessen) is a late date.

Rough-winged Swallow: Sep. 19, LaCrosse county (Bintz).

Barn Swallow: A new state departure record of Nov. 20 in Ozaukee (Bintz) occurred this fall. This surpasses the old date by eight days.

Cliff Swallow: Oct. 4, Ozaukee county (Bintz).

Purple Martin: Sep. 14, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Gray Jay: These reports: from Aug. 27 on in Price county (Hardy, Vincent); in Bayfield (3), Langlade, Lincoln and Oneida (2) counties (Olson, Mosher, Rusch, Schimmels); 3+ on Sep. 3 in Forest county (Richter); 5 on Oct. 10 in Sawyer county (Stefani).

Common Raven: Reported from Brown, Forest, Juneau, Marinette, Oconto, Price, Sawyer, Taylor and Vilas counties.

Boreal Chickadee: For the second consecutive autumn none were observed.

Tufted Titmouse: Reports from the following counties: Chippewa, Dane, Green, Sauk, Trempealeau, Vernon and Waukesha.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Present at the beginning of the period in Price (Vincent) and Oconto (Woodcock) counties. In the latter county it was abundant by the end of the period. It was next observed in Brown county on Aug. 21 (Wierzbicki), then in Dane county on Aug. 25 (T. Ashman) and next in Chippewa county on Aug. 28 (Robbins). Additional reporting counties during the remainder of the autumn included Forest, Manitowoc, Marinette, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Racine, Sauk, Waukesha, Waushara, and Winnebago. Many of these were reporting birds present into December, suggesting a moderate movement into the state for this winter.

Brown-headed Nuthatch: The first state record for the species occurred this fall when one appeared at the feeder of Laurie Otto in Milwaukee county during late October. It was observed by many people with it coming regularly to the feeder well into the winter period.

- Brown Creeper: There were no less than thirteen arrival dates for the southern twothirds of the state during September this fall. The earliest of these observations included Sep. 10, Trempealeau county (Lender); Sep. 11 Milwaukee county (Basten); and Sep. 12, Racine county (Tessen).
- House Wren: Five October departure dates with the latest being on the 19th, Manitowoc county (Albrecht).
- Winter Wren: The observation period extended between Aug. 23 (Ozaukee county, Bintz) and Nov. 29 (Dane county, T. Ashman). Additional reporting counties included Brown, Chippewa, LaCrosse, Marinette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Rock, Sauk, Waukesha, Waushara, and Winnebago.
- Bewick's Wren: Two were observed on Sep. 16 with an additional observation on Oct. 3 by Cleary and Columban in Brown county.
- Carolina Wren: One was observed in Robbin's yard on Nov. 24 and 27 in Chippewa county.
- Long-billed Marsh Wren: There were very few observations this fall with an early departure date of Sep. 25 in Milwaukee county (Sheridan).
- Short-billed Marsh Wren: Likewise there were very few observations this fall with the last report coming from Waukesha county on Oct. 12 (Johnston).
- Mockingbird: A well documented observation of a single bird observed in Waukesha county on Oct. 15 by Johnston. See "By The Wayside."
- Catbird: Nov. 3, Price county (Hardy) and Nov. 7, Ozaukee county (Bintz) were the latest observations this fall.
- Brown Thrasher: Nov. 26 in Racine county (Gustafson) with one in Price (Vincent) and two in Sheboygan (Kuhn) counties into December.
- Curve-billed Thrasher: The first state record for this southwestern species occurred this year with an individual commencing to come to the feeder of Mr. & Mrs. Merton Maier in Buffalo City (Buffalo county) in mid-July and continuing well into the winter period. The bird was observed during late November and confirmed by Lesher, Robbins, Kemper and Gustafson. See Passenger Pigeon, Vol. 34, No. 1, page 47. Still present, October 1972.
- Robin: 300+ were observed on Oct. 8 in Oconto county by Erdman and 200 on Oct. 23 in Trempealeau county by Lender. December observations were made in Brown, Dane, Dodge, LaCrosse, Milwaukee, Price, Rock, Vernon and Waukesha counties.
- Varied Thrush: One coming to the feeder of Mrs. E. D. Fellman in Shawano county at the end of the period.
- Wood Thrush: Oct. 10, Waukesha county (Johnston) and Oct. 11, Dane county (Emlen).

Hermit Thrush: Nov. 7, Dane county (P. Ashman).

- Swainson's Thrush: First on Aug. 7, Outagamie county (Tessen) and Aug. 15, Rock county (Brakefield). Last on Oct. 17, Brown county (Cleary, Columban).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush: The observation period this fall was between Sep. 3 (Outagamie county, Tessen) and Oct. 12 (Ozaukee county, Bintz).

Veery: Oct. 7, Milwaukee county (Sheridan).

- Eastern Bluebird: A more encouraging report this fall with several people commenting on the good numbers that were observed. The last reports were on Nov. 3 in Outagamie (Schwall) and Nov. 9 in Dane (N. Ashman) counties.
- **Blue Gray Gnatcatcher:** Three reports: two on Aug. 27, Grant county (Rohde); three on Sep. 10, Monroe county (Hebard); and one on Sep. 11-12, Sauk county (Peartree, Tessen).
- Golden-crowned Kinglet: Individuals were reported present at the beginning of the period in Dane (P. Ashman) and Oconto (Woodcock) counties. The next observations did not occur until mid-September. It was present into December in Dane, LaCrosse, Oconto, Trempealeau, Waukesha, and Waushara counties.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron (Goff) and Dane (P. Ashman) counties. The next observation occurred on Sep. 2 in Outagamie county (Tessen). It was still present at the end of the period in Waushara county (Chipman).

- Water Pipit: These reports: Sep. 16-28, Marinette county, where it was reported as numerous by Lindbergs; seven on Oct. 24, Columbia county (P. Ashman); Sep. 7 (Mathiak), three between Oct. 15-25 (Tessen) at Horicon Marsh.
- Bohemian Waxwing: Twelve were present from Nov. 26 on in Brown county (M. Olson, Cleary, Columban).
- Cedar Waxwing: End of the period reports from Dane, Milwaukee and Vernon counties.
- Northern Shrike: Another excellent fall for this species with ten reporting counties from Oct. 30, with approximately seven individuals sighted, Oconto county (Erdman); Nov. 5, Cedar Grove (Berger); Nov. 12-13, Milwaukee county (Sheridan, Strehlow, Gustafson); Nov. 13, LaCrosse county (Lesher); two on Nov. 17, Portage county (Baumgartner, Stevenson); Nov. 21, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Nov. 30, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); and also in Barron (Goff) and St. Croix (Grancia) counties.
- Loggerhead Shrike: Two reports: until Sep. 23 in Marinette county (Lindberg); Oct. 26 in Oconto county (Erdman). The latter lacks three days from tying the departure record.
- Bell's Vireo: Only on Sep. 6, LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Yellow-throated Vireo: A new state departure record occurred this fall with a well documented sighting of a single individual on Nov. 28 in Milwaukee county by Barnes. This surpasses the previous date by six weeks!
- Solitary Vireo: The observation period occurred between Aug. 28 (Chippewa county, Robbins) and Oct. 12 (Dane county, Emlen).
- Red-eyed Vireo: This fall there were two record breaking departure observations: Nov. 15, Milwaukee county (Basten) and Nov. 17, Rock county (Mahlum).
- Philadelphia Vireo: From Aug. 5 (Manitowoc county, Albrecht) to Oct. 11 (Rock county, Brakefield) was the observation period this year.
- Warbling Vireo: Oct. 3, Ozaukee county (Bintz).
- Black-&-White Warbler: Oct. 6, Dane county (Emlen).
- Prothonotary Warbler: Two reports: Aug. 20, LaCrosse county (Rosso) and Aug. 25, Grant county (Rohde).
- Worm-eating Warbler: On Oct. 2 an individual was observed twice during the day in the Bintz yard (Ozaukee county). This represents a state departure record.
- Golden-winged Warbler: Ten reporting counties with the last sighting occurring on Sep. 19, LaCrosse county (Lesher).
- Blue-winged Warbler: Four reports: Aug. 20, Vernon county (Weber); Sep. 5, Milwaukee county (Basten); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Tessen); Sep. 29, LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Tennessee Warbler: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron county (Goff). It was next observed on Aug. 21 in Brown (Wierzbicki) and Chippewa (Robbins) counties, Aug. 25 in Dane county (Emlen) and Aug. 29 in Oconto (Woodcock) and Rock (Brakefield) counties. It was last reported from Brown county on Oct. 13 (Cleary, Columban).
- Orange-crowned Warbler: First, Sep. 1, LaCrosse (Rosso) and Milwaukee (Gustafson) counties; last, Oct. 29, Waukesha county (Johnston).
- Nashville Warbler: Oct. 13, Waukesha county (Johnston).
- Parula Warbler: These reports: Sep. 9, Sheboygan county (Kuhn); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Tessen); Sep. 12, Racine county (Tessen); three on Sep. 15, one on Sep. 21, Dane county (Emlen, P. Ashman); Sep. 19, Waushara county (Chipman); Sep. 22, La-Crosse county (Rosso); Sep. 26, Lafayette county (Robbins); and Oct. 2, Marinette county (Lindberg).
- Magnolia Warbler: Interesting were observations on Aug. 10 in Manitowoc county (Albrecht) and thirty counted on Oct. 1 in Milwaukee county (Strehlow). Last on Oct. 25, Sheboygan county (Kuhn).
- Cape May Warbler: Aug. 21, Brown county (Wierzbicki) through Nov. 25, Portage county (Baumgartner) was the observation period this fall. The latter date represents a banded bird and is lacking two days from tying the departure record.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: These reports: Sep. 9, Waukesha county (Johnston); Sep. 10, Dane county (Emlen); Sep. 11, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Sep. 12, Racine county (Tessen); Sep. 7 and 20, Milwaukee county (Basten, Strehlow); Aug. 31 and Sep. 30, Brown county (Wierzbicki).

Myrtle Warbler: It was present at the end of the period in Maier's yard in Buffalo county.

Black-throated Green Warbler: Last observed on Oct. 20, Outagamie county (Tessen).

Cerulean Warbler: Three reports: Aug. 22, Vernon county (Weber); Aug. 28, Chippewa county (Robbins); Sep. 2, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Blackburnian Warbler: Oct. 4, Rock county (Brakefield).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Oct. 1, Brown (Wierzbicki) and Milwaukee (Strehlow) counties.

Bay-breasted Warbler: It was first observed on Aug. 25, Dane county (Emlen). Observations continued until Nov. 6, Racine county (Stoffel). This represents a record departure date, exceeding the previous date by over a week.

Blackpoll Warbler: The observation period extended between Aug. 23 (Brown county, Wierzbicki) and Oct. 2 (Waukesha county, Johnston).

Pine Warbler: Sep. 27, Rock county (Brakefield).

Prairie Warbler: A male was observed on Sep. 20 and Oct. 6 in Sheboygan county by Kuhn.

Palm Warbler: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron county (Goff). The last observation occurred on Oct. 25, Dane county (T. Ashman).

Ovenbird: A record state departure occurred this fall with a sighting on Nov. 15 in Brown county by Cleary and Columban.

Northern Waterthrush: Oct. 11, Racine county (Tessen).

Louisiana Waterthrush: Two reports: Sep. 8, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Tessen).

Kentucky Warbler: Two reports: Sep. 2, Price county (Hardy); and an excellent description of a bird observed in Goff's yard on Sep. 18, Barron county.

Connecticut Warbler: There were nine reports coming from Brown, Dane, Green, LaCrosse, Milwaukee, Price and Vernon counties. The observation period extended between Aug. 28-Sep. 21.

Mourning Warbler: These reports: until Sep. 5 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban, Wierzbicki); until Sep. 9 in Chippewa county (Robbins).

Yellowthroat: Oct. 15, Dane county (T. Ashman).

Wilson's Warbler: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron county (Goff) with observations continuing until Oct. 3, Milwaukee county (Gustafson).

Canada Warbler: Oct. 1, Milwaukee county (Strehlow).

American Redstart: Oct. 7, Dane county (Emlen).

Bobolink: Observed in Barron, Chippewa, Columbia, Green Lake, Kenosha, Oconto, Rock and Vernon counties. The last report was on Oct. 15, Rock county (Brakefield).

Meadowlark (sp.): Individuals were present at the end of the period in Rock (Mahlum) and Winnebago (Natzke) counties with birds identified as Eastern present in Ozaukee county (Bintz) and Western in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Reported from only Brown, Green Lake and St. Croix counties this fall. It was last noted at Grand River Marsh on Sep. 4 (Gustafson).

Redwinged Blackbird: 20,000 were observed in Brown county on Sep. 12 by Cleary and Columban. Birds were present into December in Brown, Dane, LaCrosse, Monroe and Oconto counties.

Baltimore Oriole: An individual was observed three times during November coming to several feeders for suct in Shiocton (Outagamie county, Schwall, et al.). It was last seen on Nov. 21.

- Rusty Blackbird: First reported in the state at Horicon Marsh on Sep. 17 (Tessen). Present at the end of the period in LaCrosse county (Rosso).
- Brewer's Blackbird: 500 were seen on Sep. 14 in Manitowoc county by Albrecht. Last on Nov. 19, Monroe county (Hebard).
- Common Grackle: 6,000 were seen on Sep. 4, Green county (Rohde); 1,000 on Oct. 12, Manitowoc county (Albrecht); 1,000+ on Oct. 17, Trempealeau county (Lender). Individuals were present into December in Barron, Brown, Dane, LaCrosse, Outagamie and Vernon counties.
- Brown-headed Cowbird: End of the period reports from Brown, LaCrosse and Winnebago counties.

Scarlet Tanager: Oct. 20, Outagamie county (Tessen).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Oct. 24, Rock county (Mahlum).

- Black-headed Grosbeak: The second and third state records for this western species occurred this fall with a bird present during the first week of October in Racine county (Joslyn); and a well documented young male coming to the feeder of Marilyn Bowker on Nov. 10-11 in Appleton (fide Mr. & Mrs. Fred Tessen).
- Indigo Bunting: Five October departure dates with the latest on the 13th, Waukesha county (Johnston).
- Dickcissel: Three reports: until Sep. 2, Rock county (Brakefield, Mahlum); Oct. 1, La-Crosse county (Rosso); Oct. 29, Ozaukee county (Bintz).
- Evening Grosbeak: This autumn a very good movement occurred in the state, albeit a late one, with 90% of the reports occurring during November exclusively. There were 21 reporting counties with 29 observers. In Price county, three separate feeders had young being brought to them to be fed in early August (Hardy). There was only one September sighting, with observations commencing in Brown county on Sep. 21 (Cleary, Columban). Initial October sightings included the following: Oct. 4, Cedar Grove (Berger); early Oct., Oneida county (Schimmels); Oct. 18, Oconto county (Richter, Woodcock); Oct. 29, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Oct. 30, Vernon county (Weber); Oct. 31, Chippewa county (Robbins). This was followed with many November sightings, including 50+ flocks, from twelve additional counties. Two large migrations were noted; at Cedar Grove: 1,900 on Nov. 10 (Berger), and in Oconto county: 800+ on Nov. 19 (Erdman). Many counties reported individuals present into December indicating a good winter movement.
- Purple Finch: An excellent movement occurred this fall in the state. Birds were present in Barron (Goff), Chippewa (Robbins), Oconto (Woodcock), and Price (Vincent) counties. This was followed by initial September sightings in the following areas: Sep. 8, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); Sep. 20, Rock county (Brakefield); Sep. 25, Trempealeau county (Robbins). This was followed by October sightings from Dane (T. Ashman), Manitowoc (Albrecht), Milwaukee (Strehlow, Sheridan), Monroe (Hebard), Outagamie (Tessen), Ozaukee (Bintz), Sauk (Peartree), Waukesha (Johnston) and Waushara (Chipman) counties. There were numerous November sightings included 200+ on Nov. 9 and 400+ on Nov. 19 in Oconto county (Erdman). Almost all reporting counties had excellent numbers present well into December indicating an excellent winter movement.
- Pine Grosbeak: The beginning of an excellent winter movement for this species started to develop during November as indicated by reports from the following counties: Barron, Buffalo, Brown, Chippewa, Douglas, Forest, Marinette, Oconto, Oneida, and Price. It was reported as numerous in Douglas county (Klugow).
- Common Redpoll: A similar pattern prevailed for this species as did with the previous one. That is, the beginning of an excellent winter movement commenced developing during November. Reports were received from the following counties: Barron, Brown, Chippewa, Dane, LaCrosse, Milwaukee, Oconto, Oneida, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Price, St. Croix, and Winnebago.

- Pine Siskin: An excellent statewide movement occurred this autumn. There were 19 reporting counties with 27 observers. The first reports came during October: Oct. 5, Dane county (T. Ashman); Oct. 15, Price (Vincent) and Rock (Skelly) counties; Oct. 16, Chippewa county (Robbins); Oct. 22, Oconto county (Woodcock); Oct. 31, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Racine counties (Tessen). This was followed by numerous November sightings including the following major movements: 2,000+ on Nov. 6, Ozaukee county (Gustafson); "hundreds" on Nov. 10-11, Milwaukee county (Basten); 3,000+ on Nov. 9 and a redpoll-siskin group of 9,350+ on Nov. 19, Oconto county (Erdman). It was reported as numerous in Forest and Marinette counties on Nov. 25 (Richter).
- American Goldfinch: 5,000+ on Nov. 9, 1,200+ on Nov. 19 in Oconto county (Erdman); 23,000 on Nov. 10 at Cedar Grove (Berger).
- Red Crossbill: Four reports: Nov. 10, Waushara county (Greenman); Nov. 23, Price county (Hardy); Nov. 28, Forest county (Richter); and in Nov., Oneida county (Schimmels).
- White-winged Crossbill: The beginning of an excellent winter movement commenced during November with reports from the following counties: Chippewa (Robbins), Forest (Richter), Lincoln (Rusch), Marinette (Richter), Oconto (Woodcock), Oneida (Schimmels), Price (Hardy), St. Croix (Granica), and Waukesha (Johnston).
- Rufous-sided Towhee: Three November sightings; the 5th, Price county (Hardy); the 14th, Vernon county (Weber) and the 20th, Racine county (Seymour).
- Savannah Sparrow: Oct. 18, Vernon county (Weber).
- Grasshopper Sparrow: Three reports: Aug., St. Croix county (Granica); Aug. 17, Waupaca county (Tessen); Aug. 18-19, Green county (Rohde).
- Henslow's Sparrow: Three reports: Aug. 17, Waupaca county (Tessen); Oct. 9, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Oct. 13, Brown county (Cleary, Columban).
- Vesper Sparrow: Three November sightings: the 7th, Ozaukee county (Bintz); the 11th, Waukesha county (Johnston); the 13th, Dane county (P. Ashman).
- Lark Sparrow: Three reports: five in Aug., St. Croix county (Granica); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Tessen); Sep. 25, Trempealeau county (Robbins).
- **Slate-colored Junco:** First observed in the state on Sep. 13, Oconto county (Woodcock) and Sep. 15, Outagamie (Tessen) and Ozaukee (Bintz) counties. This was followed by eleven arrival dates during the last half of September.
- Oregon Junco: These observations: Oct. 18. LaCrosse county (Rosso); Oct. 22, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); Oct. 22 on, Outagamie county (Tessen); Nov. 12 (Sheridan) and 13 (Gustafson), Milwaukee county; Nov. 16 (P. Ashman) and 26 (T. Ashman), Dane county; Nov. 22, Rock county (Mahlum); Nov. 23, Waushara county (Greenman); Nov. 24, Racine county (Seymour).
- Tree Sparrow: First on Sep. 21, Vernon county (Weber). This was followed by fourteen October arrival dates.
- Chipping Sparrow: Last on Nov. 9, Jackson county (Harmer) and Nov. 12, Milwaukee county (Sheridan).
- Clay-colored Sparrow: These reports: Aug. 18, Oconto county (Woodcock); Sep. 15, Barron county (Goff); Sep. 26, Trempealeau county (Robbins); Sep. 29, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Oct. 2, Chippewa county (Robbins); Oct. 25, Rock county (Mahlum).
- Field Sparrow: Last on Oct. 27, Rock county (Mahlum).
- Harris' Sparrow: Only nine reporting counties by ten observers, indicating another poor migration: Sep. 23, Chippewa (Robbins); Sep. 28-Oct. 23, LaCrosse (Rosso); Sep. 29, Price (Vincent); Sep. 29, Milwaukee (Basten); Sep. 30, Oconto (Erdman); Oct. 1-16, Barron (Goff); Oct. 6 and 22, Trempealeau (Lender); Oct. 9, Ozaukee (Bintz); Oct. 12, Rock (Mahlum); and Oct. 5-Nov. 2, Price (Hardy).
- White-crowned Sparrow: Fourteen reporting counties by nineteen observers this fall. It was first observed on Sep. 19 in Racine county (Erickson). It was present in late November at the Schwall's feeder in Shiocton (Outagamie county) with three individuals present into December (Erickson).
- White-throated Sparrow: Present at the end of the period in Appleton (Tessen).

Fox Sparrow: First observed in the state this fall on Sep. 15 in Outagamie county (Bradford). Still present on Nov. 25 in Racine county (Hanson) and on Dec. 2-3 in Jackson county (Harmer).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Oct. 28, Dane county (Emlen).

Swamp Sparrow: Nov. 13, Milwaukee county (Strehlow).

Song Sparrow: Present into December in Brown (Cleary, Columban), Dane (T. Ashman), LaCrosse (Rosso), Rock (Brakefield, Mahlum) and Winnebago (Natzke)

Lapland Longspur: Three reports: 20 on Nov. 13, Dodge county (Barger); Nov. 13, Winnebago county (Greenman); late Nov., Outagamie county (Bradford).

Snow Bunting: An excellent fall movement into the state with nineteen reporting counties. Three weeks earlier than all other observations this fall was that on Oct. 1 in Oneida county (Schimmels).

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Help Save

HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE

Mary and Charlie Nelson

By the Wayside ...

Mallard Duck Family Harrassed by Common Loon

The following interaction between a hen Mallard Duck (Anas platy-rhynchos) accompanied by nine ducklings and a Common Loon (Gavia immer) was observed on Boot Lake (Sec. 2, T40N-R9E Vilas Co., Wis.) on June 6, 1972.

I was fishing at the time of the encounter. The sky was clear, the wind calm, and the temperature about 65°. At about 8:15 p.m. I noticed a disturbance in the middle of the lake. With the aid of binoculars I observed a hen Mallard and nine ducklings crossing the lake which at that point is about three-tenths of a mile wide.

The hen and brood were being harrassed by a loon. The loon would dive and emerge in front of them and lunge at the ducklings which were grouped together behind the hen Mallard.

On three separate occasions I observed the hen actually attack the loon, driving it away from the ducklings and then return to the brood and continue leading it toward the shoreline. The loon would come back and the process was repeated.

One duckling was eventually separated from the brood. The loon singled out this lone duckling diving and emerging in front of it and heading it away from the others. Even though it was about 100 yards away, I could hear the terrified peeping of the duckling. When the hen was about 20 yards away from the emergent reeds, she turned back toward the open water and the lone duckling. She uttered some low notes to which the duckling immediately responded by turning in her direction and trying to outrun the loon.

The loon continued diving and emerging in front of the duckling and at one point lunged at the duckling as it attempted to skirt the loon. Eventually the duckling reached the shoreline vegetation and joined the brood. After the ducks reached the shore, the loon proceeded back into the open water where, after a short period of time, about five minutes, it took flight and left the lake. The entire encounter took about 20 minutes.

On June 11th, I observed what seemed to be the same hen and brood of nine ducklings at approximately the same location on the lake. A loon which appeared to be feeding about 1,000 yards away made no attempt to harrass the hen and her brood. — Kenneth C. Anderson, Eagle River, Wis. 54521

Gyrfalcon Sighted Near Poysippi

On January 9th, at about 12:00 noon, we were driving through the northwest edge of the village of Poysippi when I noticed a large bird leaving a tree from the ridge of one of the big hills. The bird flew swiftly, sailing short intervals, and came directly over the road in front of us. It alighted in a tree about 60 feet from the roadway where it remained not more than a half minute. But when I saw that it appeared to be an all white bird I stopped the car, took up my 7 x 35 glass, and as it flew

over the road I could see it was all white underwing and body except for the wing tips which appeared to be black. As he alighted in the tree his long tail showed pure white, his head was white with eyes that seemed very black. His hawk-like beak was not dark, appearing very light, but the sun was bright at the time and this might have had some bearing on the color appearance. He took off away from the road, making short sailing spurts and then with strong wing flaps. He seemed to be the size size of a large crow as he sat in the tree and also as he took flight.

On our return home I phoned Dr. John Kasper giving him the description of the bird and he agreed with me it must have been a Gyrafalcon (Falco rusticolus). It had the falcon type wings. — Eunice V. Fisher (Mrs. Glen), January 10, 1972.

Second Fall Observation of a Ruff (Philomachus pugnax)

On August 22 and 23, 1971, an individual was observed feeding on the drained Wayauwega Lake (Waupaca county) along with a variety of shorebirds including yellowlegs, pectorals and peeps. On the 22nd it was observed between 10:15-11:45 a.m. at a distance of 100 feet under partly cloudy skies with a temperature in the 80's. A 30x scope was used to note the following points: large body, close to the Greater Yellowlegs (Totanus melanolcucos) but due to shorter legs a little larger than the Lesser Yellowlegs (Totanus flavipes); black-brown on breast, almost black; dark brown on back; white chin and part of neck; pure white on back portion of belly and under tail coverts; pure white under wings; white on either side of brown stripe running centrally down the tail. The bird was feeding in the mud and had difficulty in walking as its legs often sank in, so it had to flutter to raise itself out of the mud making it easy to see the tail and underwings. Its feeding area was about 15 feet in diameter. — Dary Tessen, Arlington Heights, Ill.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper (Tryngites subraficollis) on the Wisconsin River

While camping on a small island in the Wisconsin River approximately one mile northwest of Mazomanie on Sep. 3, 1971, I spotted an unusual sandpiper in a mixed flock of Semipalmated Plover (Charadrius semipalmatus), Sanderling (Crocethia alba), Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) and peeps. The bird was approximately the size of a Sanderling but was much slimmer and longer-necked. . . . Upon closer observation I noted: yellowish legs, buffy color all over the body, a short thin bill, a rounded head much like the Upland Plover (Bartramia longicauda) and buffy white under the wings. The bird was seen in flight twice and feeding on the ground for approximately 30 minutes. On one occasion I approached to within five yards of it. — Philip Ashman, Madison, Wis.

Mockingbird Sighted at Hartland

While walking home around 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 15, 1971, a Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) flew right in front of me and landed about 30 feet to my right in the top of a thornapple tree. I knew immediately it was a Mockingbird by the black and white wing pattern it flashed in passing. . . . Other identifying marks included the bill which was not thick and hooked at the tip, and a flight more buoyant than the direct, low flight of a shrike. The bird was slim and shaped like a Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) though larger, gray above and light (dingy whitish) below with an indistinct light stripe above the eye and white tail edges, white wing bars and white patches in the wings which were conspicuous in flight both coming and going to and from the thornapple. The light was good for observing and the day was clear. In about five minutes it flew off in a northwesterly direction. — Stuart Johnston, Hartland, Wis.

A Unique, Highly Hypothetical Sighting

On Oct. 20, 1971 while duck hunting at the Grand River Marsh Wildlife Area I heard a large shorebird repeatedly giving the following call, plee-a-lee, a clear whistle suggestive of a bluebird and phonetically of a pewee. The call, which at first sounded as if someone were attempting to attract my attention, was mistaken for another hunter. Shortly, however, the bird flew overhead in the morning darkness and although I tried to pick out bill shape it was too dark for that. The wing beat was slow and the flight course was not direct, similar to a slow moving Greater Yellowlegs (Totanus melanoleucos). The bird disappeared from earshot and returned faintly and briefly about 10-15 minutes later. In all the call was heard about 30-40 times, often enough to form a clear mental image of it. Later attempts to idenify the call revealed that it most closely resembled that of an Eskimo Curlew (Numenius borealis). The first syllable started clearly with a more expressive or harder consonant than did the third syllable. The "a" or second syllable was soft and lower and I suspect would not be noticed in a distant or faint call. I am continuing to investigate calls of Eurasian shorebirds and the only one found so far with a similar call is the Eurasian Curlew (Numenius arquata). However, the first syllable of this bird's call is clearly not an "ee" sound.

As this report seems to be so improbable I am happy to report that three other Department of Natural Resources employees also heard the call: James Hale, Richard Hunt, and James March. Mr. Hale also saw the bird overhead. — Alan Rusch, Madison, Wis.

Seasonal Editor's Note: Because this species is almost extinct, for a long while actually being considered extinct until several sightings in Texas during the late 1960's, and because considerable identifying points are lacking in the observation this can be taken only as an interesting potential sighting. This cannot even be considered on the hypothetical list. Nevertheless it does remain a fascinating "sighting."

Black Terns Nest in Door County

For several years I observed Black Terns (Chlidonias niger) flying around North Bay, just across the peninsula from Ephraim, Door County, Wis. North Bay is a large shallow bay, a third of which is covered with large areas of grass, reeds and sedges.

I had a suspicion the Black Terns might be nesting nearby but never had the time to make a determined effort to search for the nests. In 1968 I had occasion to spend more time to learn if these terns were strays or actually nested there.

I rowed around the reed beds and when several terns began to dive at me, knew that somewhere nearby there must be nests or young. With hip boots I waded around to a ridge of floating debris that had washed together to form a windrow among the grass. On July 20th I found two nests with three eggs in each. The nests could hardly be called "nests."

Five days later I returned to find two eggs in one nest, and two birds hatching and one egg in the second nest. I photographed them and the last day of July visited the area again. I found two young which I banded. As far as I know this is the first nesting record in Door County; also the first Black Tern banded here.

I visited the area several times after that but never found any more young. Later in August immature terns with adults flew around the bay over the reed areas. September 15th was the last day I observed one young tern scouting the bay for food.

This season there were again several Black Terns in the bay but higher water in Lake Michigan necessitated a change in their nesting area and I failed to locate any nests. - Harold C. Wilson, Ephraim, Wis. 54211

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book reviews

SIX CAME FLYING. Author: Marquis MacSwiney of Mashanaglass. Publisher: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., New York, N. Y. 1972. Price \$6.95

This gentle, witty book was written by an unpretentious amateur about swans — part-wild, part-free — on the ponds of his estate in Germany. Some of the terminology is anthropomorphic: The old male is "arrogant" in defending his territory. Arrogant is a word best applied only to people and indeed only to some people. But one forgives the author when he produces exquisite sentences like, "Being bitten by a swan is no more serious and somewhat less painful than being pinched by a nice girl."

In the course of the book the author becomes an even keener observer of bird behavior and his absence of silly sentimentality is refreshing. Be sure to read **Six Came Flying** if you have a pond and plan to introduce waterfowl. It gives a good idea of what you are in for. The marquis is one of the top twelve fashion designers in England and his nature descriptions pulsate with the colors any woman would like to wear.

The real value of this book is that the gap between man and nature is narrowed — and by an amateur. — Frances Hamerstrom.

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA by L. Irby Davis. Color Plates by F. B. Bonnett, Jr. Publisher—The University of Texas Press. 282 pp. Price \$6.50.

This work is the end product of thirty-five years of field work in Middle America by the author. A distinguished list of ornithologists, including Frank Chapman, Ludlow Griscom, Alex Wetmore, John Aldrich, Ernst Mayer and Eugene Eisenmann have served as consultants. Donald Boror, Arthur Allen, and Paul Kellog were among a number who contributed tape recordings and acoustical data. A great deal of emphasis is placed on voice structure and behavior traits in this book.

Like South America, Central America possesses a great many vague areas, incompletely explored, and there are still great gaps of ornithological knowledge, taxonomic, ethological, and ecological to be filled in.

This book is intended to serve bird students who make occasional trips to this area. Only those species not found in United States field guides are illustrated.

The illustrations are quite acceptable. They are grouped together in the center of the book. To one used to American field guides, the illustrations will seem small, a little overcrowded, and one may yearn for the diagnostic Peterson-type lines illustrating key field marks. However, the avifauna of this area is so rich that it is easy to see why thirty-five years were required to finish the book.

Unfortunately there is some difference in the nomenclature between various books. For example, typical of many — in Land's book, Birds of Guatemala — Thraupis episcopus in the Blue Tanager. In this book Thraupis cana is the Blue Tanager. Icterus wagleri is referred to as Wagler's Oriole whereas in Land's book it is the Black-vented Oriole. To me the illustrations do not look like the same bird in the two books.

While this book is a welcome aid to the touring bird watcher, I have the feeling that even with this in hand, identifying birds in Mexico and Central America will be very difficult if not overwhelming. And one had better learn the scientific name as well as the common name so he can know if the Sulfur-rumped Myobius is the same as the Sulfur-rumped Flycatcher, etc. — C. A. Kemper

HOW TO TALK TO BIRDS (and other uncommon ways of enjoying nature the year around) by Richard C. Davids. Published by Albert A. Knopf, Inc., New York, N. Y. 242 pp. Price \$6.95

The "credo" of Richard C. Davids: "There is only one way of prolonging the fragile and beautiful moments in life and that is to participate in them." He writes with wit and humor urging people not to stand on the sidelines, but to discover the world; to take seeing trips, listening trips, to investigate. He proceeds with enthusiasm to recount interesting observations of his own, and of those whose observations he respects. Anecdote follows anecdote, written in a folksy, conversational style that that makes the book easy to read aloud, as well as to read alone, but the reader will want to share the stories and to talk about how to put his advice in practice.

Mr. Davids covers migration, calling birds with a battery-operated tape recorder, the world of insects, plants, and of animals in their tracks. His book will appeal to both the sophisticated student of nature and to the uninitiated. His advice is to "get hooked," to enrich your life, and to find out as much as you can by personal observation concerning the ways of the world of nature. — Lisa Decker

Change of Associate Editor

With this issue, Mr. Norval Barger has served his last term as Associate Editor of the Passenger Pigeon. Mr. Barger has resigned after serving more than a quarter of a century for the WSO in one editorial capacity or another. His efforts on our behalf as both an excellent field ornithologist and as a conscientious editor have been a major contribution to the creation and growth of our organization. We owe him much.

Mr. Daryl Tessen has kindly offered to take on this responsibility. We are fortunate. He brings excellent credentials and a cheerful enthusiasm to this task. Daryl has served as Fall Field Notes editor for a number of years and is recognized as one of Wisconsin's keenest and most reliable bird observers.

Silver Passenger Pigeon Award

This is the 33rd Aniversary of founding for the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology — and also of Murl Deusing's first showing of a wildlife film at the annual banquet. During these three decades and three years, he has presented such programs without charge about ten times, making him the organization's most popular lecturer.

Back in 1939 at our first banquet in Madison's Kennedy Manor, Murl showed his "Nesting Birds of Lake Koshkonong" which he had filmed the previous summer with help from Peter Stieb and Carl Kinzel. It was a beautiful movie which heralded his future greatness. This was quality based on much hard work — also symbolic of the reason for more success in future years. In fact, the pictures taken of two Florida Gallinule nests required 26 hours of observation from their blinds!

One of the greatest values of WSO is the opportunity it presents for making new friends and acquaintances among fellow bird students. I consider it an honor to be given the opportunity to present the Silver Passenger Pigeon Award to my friend Murl Deusing tonight. Although this recognition is primarily for services rendered to the Society, it could as well also be for his many contributions to ornithology and the public's understanding and appreciation of wildlife and natural wonders throughout the world. But first, a brief summary of his background in Wisconsin and with WSO:



MURL DEUSING AND WIFE MILDRED

Murl was born in 1908 at West Allis and graduated from the old Milwaukee State Teachers College (now University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee) in 1933. He immediately secured a position with the Milwaukee Public Museum as a Curator in their Education Department and subsequently became Curator of Education. In this capacity he served for 28 years, helping the museum become a model for progressive programs in public education. One of the first projects he started in 1935 was a series of early morning bird hikes which led to formation of the Milwaukee Bird Club in 1937. These hikes were so successful that they tallied up to 1,300 people a year on the field trips and one morning in April 1938, thirty die-hards came out in a pouring rain!

When WSO was organized in 1939, Murl Deusing was a serious ornithologist with a collector's permit for study of non-game birds and a note in Auk on "The Atlantic Kittiwake in Wisconsin" to his credit. He also was doing extensive work in bird field trips and photography. Two of his major contributions to the literature were made that year on "Nesting Habits of the Pied-billed Grebe" (Auk) and "The Herring Gulls of Hat Island, Wisconsin" (Wilson Bulletin). It is no wonder that his name appears on 21 pages of the first volume of our Passenger Pigeon publication — or that he became the first Secretary of WSO (1939-40) and its second President in 1941-42. His continued interest is shown in the fact that he now is a Director of the Milwaukee Audubon Society.

Over the years — but especially in that early fledgling period — Murl assisted our group in many ways. Back in 1940 he summarized the ornithological history of Milwaukee County and the same year he accepted responsibility for summarizing WSO surveys on specific species. These resulted in range and population reports on the Bald Eagle and Purple Martin, as well as one on the spread of the Cardinal through Wisconsin, written with help from Howard Young and Bruce Stollberg. He was a Director-at-Large in 1942-43 and in the early days his bird notes from the field were frequent — just 33 years ago this week he reported Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows in the Milwaukee area.

During our 25th Anniversary year in 1964, Murl Deusing, a charter member of WSO, was recognized as one of those who were "Lifeblood of the Society." Tonight's award is a belated citation for one who has contributed much to Wisconsin's ornithological knowledge and to our group, both personally and through the many others he helped to educate and stimulate toward a more serious interest in this field.

This citation already is over-long and the more recent developments of Murl Deusing's life must be telescoped in the interest of time. Perhaps you noticed that Murl was presented last year with the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee "Distinguished Alumnus Award" for many accomplishments. After leaving the Milwaukee Public Museum in 1959, he was selected as Director of the Academy of Science in St. Louis, Missouri. In that capacity he developed two science museums there before he started producing television programs for the National Educational Television and Radio Center in New York in 1961. These television programs are now showing in 68 cities in the United States. In addition, Murl has been free lancing as a professional lecturer for over 30 years.

The "Murl Deusing Safari" has been televised over WTM J-TV since September 15, 1963, and has been shown in many other cities. His work has been featured in several of Walt Disney's true life adventure series such as "Beaver Valley" and "Vanishing Prairie." He has taken expeditions to the Rockies, the Everglades, Canada, Africa and Central America and this coming summer he is planning a trip to Nova Scotia. In fact, he has become a specialist in wilderness adventure just at the time when the public is beginning to realize the values inherent in our vanishing wilderness. Without question, he helped create this awareness and the people's desire to preserve some of this heritage.

Through all of these trials and opportunities Murl has had constant loving support and assistance from his wife Mildred, a West Allis girl whom he married in 1928. She was born in Racine, and even followed Murl on one of his trips to Africa. But probably the most memorable trip may be the one to the Door County island when he broke his leg while studying birds - and the boat wouldn't return to pick him up for several days. Who do you think was there with him to help care for his needs? — Mildred!

Murl, it is an honor to present this Silver Passenger Pigeon Award to you for WSO tonight - and I'm sure we all wish you and Mildred a wonderful and happy 44th Wedding Anniversary on the 25th of this month.

Walter E. Scott May 20, 1972

Revisions and Additions to Extreme Arrival and Departure Dates

Passenger Pigeon, Vol. 32, No. 3

Cinnamon Teal — p. 91, col. Fall Arrival, delete Oct. 9, 1891, insert Sept. 7, 1971, Tom and Carol Bintz. In Exceptional Dates column, add Oct. 9, 1891, Thure Kumlien. Actually the species record is rare, rather than the date.

Old Squaw — p. 93, col. Fall Arrival, insert Sept. 29, 1971, Tom and Carol Bintz, delete Sept. 30, 1957, Ed Thomsen.

- 3. Surf Scoter p. 95, col. Fall Arrival, delete Oct. 9, 1964, Mary Donald, insert Sept. 12, 1971, Daryl Tessen.
- 4. Ruby-throated Hummingbird p. 113, in Exceptional Dates column, insert Nov. 25, 1971, Mr. and Mrs. Merton Maier.
- Eastern Wood Pewee p. 115, under Fall Departure column, delete Oct. 25, 1962, Verlene Weber, insert Oct. 30, Sam Robbins.
- Barn Swallow p. 117, delete Nov. 12, 1969, Oscar Hemke under Fall Departure column, insert Nov. 20, 1971, Tom and Carol Bintz.
 Red-breasted Nuthatch. On p. 119 under Fall Arrival, put late September, 1971, Lorrie Otto; under Exceptional Dates column put "remained until mid-January, 1972",
- Curve-billed Thrasher p. 119, insert this new state species below Brown Thrasher; in Exceptional Dates column on p. 119, insert "one accidental species first seen summer 1971, remained all year, built 3 nests, laid infertile eggs, still present Oct., 1972."
- 9. Yellow-throated Vireo p. 123, under Exceptional Dates, insert Nov. 28, 1971, Jim Barnes.
- Red-eyed Vireo p. 123, under Fall Departure column, delete Nov. 5, 1952, insert Nov. 17, 1971, Mrs. Joseph Mahlum.
- Worm-eating Warbler On p. 123, delete under Fall Departure column, Sept. 26, 1920, Walter Mueller, insert Oct. 2, 1971, Tom and Carol Bintz.
- Bay-breasted Warbler p. 127, delete under Fall Departure column, Oct. 27, 1961, and insert Nov. 6, 1971, Martie Stoffel.
- Ovenbird p. 127, under Fall Departure Column, delete Nov. 1, 1962, Bill Weber, insert Nov. 15, 1971, Ed Cleary and Brother Columban.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY, INC.

Institute, Wisconsin, May 20, 1972

The meeting was called to order at 3:55 p.m. by Pres. Rockne Knuth with about 130 present. Minutes of the previous Business Meeting were accepted as printed in the Passenger Pigeon, Vol. 33, No. 4.

TREASURER - Mrs. A. O. Holz presented	the following report:
Cash on hand\$ 3,003.32	Endowment Fund\$ 2,000.00
Steenbock Account 2,299.65	Advertising Income 200.00
**General Savings 3,853.59	Membership Income 4,520.00
Astro Savings 5,810.75	
Books and Supplies Inventory 5,100.00	
Equipment	WSO Net Worth 31,794.03
Land Values 15,865.12	
Passenger Pigeon (1 issue) 953.52	
Operational Expenses 763.16	
\$38,514.03	\$38,514.03
**List of Accounts in General Savings	
General Savings\$ 655.77	Education Fund\$ 38.32
Honey Creek Memorials 363.00	Prairie Chicken Fund 224.19
David Cox Memorials	Research Fund 50.00
Publication Fund 581.21	Conservation Fund 403.94
General Fund (Current) 1,042.01	"Outside" Contr. Fund 100.00
Convention Fund 50.00	Predator Protection Fund 10.00
	TOTAL SAVINGS ACCT\$3,853.59

She also said that WSO's tax-exempt status is full established and a report filed.

RESEARCH — Charles Sindelar's five-year study of Wisconsin Ospreys was published in the **Passenger Pigeon** in 1971 (Charles Sindelar, Jr. "Wisconsin Osprey Survey". (33-2) 1971: 79188). Sindelar has done an excellent piece of work and WSO can be proud of its part in supporting the research. The same issue of the **Pigeon** carried Stan Beske's and John Champion's Short-eared Owl study — "Prolific Nesting of the Short-eared Owls on Buena Vista Marsh" (pp. 99-103), another Research Committee project.

Frederick and Frances Hamerstrom, Co-Chairmen

EDITOR – PASSENGER PIGEON – I have had excellent cooperation from the several Field Notes Editors and contributors. There is a backlog of copy for several future issues. I would continue to encourage artists and photographers to send in contributions. The new Spring Editor is Rockne Knuth, replacing Dennis Gustafson. Hearty thanks to the associate editors, to seasonal editors and to contributors who work on our magazine.

Charles A. Kemper, Editor

PUBLICITY — Donald Hendrick stated that releases of news items regarding the Society were of two kinds, local and statewide. Statewide releases were limited to reports of Christmas Counts and to news of the Annual Convention.

FIELD TRIPS — Chairman Edward Peartree spoke briefly of the two Campouts and the several well-attended field trips held during the past year and announced that the 1972 Spring Campout would be held at Castle Mound State Park near Black River Falls, June 17-18. The Fall Campout is to be at Honey Creek with a Dedication ceremony September 10 for the new David J. Cox Memorial Nature Center.

CONSERVATION — The Conservation Committee and many other WSO members played an active role in a number of administrative matters that have a decided impact upon bird life. Although we were unsuccessful in achieving our objectives in several cases, we believe that our action will eventually bring about satisfactory resolutions.

WSO was on record in opposition to the proposed dam on the Kickapoo River. Although the dam will be built, strong opposition will make it more difficult to construct such dams in the future.

WSO appealed to the Bureau of Sport Fish and Wildlife to disallow the use of the Horicon Refuge by automobiles. The Bureau wisely decided against such use.

George Becker led the opposition to the use of fish toxins on the Tomorrow-Waupaca Rivers. The courts decided to permit the DNR to carry out this project but the Department of Natural Resources has agreed to conduct more exhausive ecological studies before similar projects are initiated.

Robert Lutz was instrumental in the introduction of a bill that would stop the granting of permits to trap predatory birds in Wisconsin. This legislation had a Committee hearing but was not brought to the floor for a vote.

Several WSO members played an active role in backing legislation that would require the posting of all badly polluted waters against boating and swimming. This bill also had a Committee hearing but was not voted on.

The proposal to permit the construction of a private road that would alter the drainage pattern at the Ridges was vigorously opposed by many WSO members. Roy Lukes arroused so much opposition that the request was denied.

F. N. Baumgartner, Chairman

EDUCATION — More than 100 letters were written to persons asking questions about birds, bird books, bird records and the use of slides during the last year. WSO slide programs were presented to over 20 groups including school classes, church camp programs for youth and by various other groups. A student at the UW-Oshkosh asked for help in writing up a paper on the breeding habits of the Common Gallinule; an article in the Passenger Pigeon was sent to him and he said it was just what he needed and he would give credit, both to author Murl Deusing, and to the publication for his source of information. Membership blanks were sent to the letter writers whenever it seemed they were not mmbers of WSO.

Clara Hussong, Chairman

STEENBOCK AWARD — A \$100.00 Steenbock Award was given to Thomas R. Staupe, Superior, Wis. to help him acquire necessary equipment for the 3rd season of his research project concerning the daily and seasonal distribution of Ruffed Grouse display activity.

MEMBERSHIP — Paid — Life 21, Honorary 9, Patron 5, Sustaining 66, Family 230, Single or Active 790, Library 56. New members after May 30, 1971 — 102. Badger Birders mailed in April, 1021. Statements are mailed Dec. 26, dues are payable at that time. Prompt payment is appreciated. Address plates of persons remaining unpaid May 30 will be removed. I wish to thank everyone who has sent address changes or helped in any way during the past year.

Norma Schmidt, Membership Chmn. & Addressograph

BADGER BIRDER — Eleven issues of the Badger Birder were put out in the past year. Thanks to all who sent in the news that makes the news letter possible and I hope that more members will contribute. All letters are read with interest but there is limited space involved and only the most interesting or current news is used. Any suggestions which would make the Birder more interesting would be welcome. News about some new birding spots?

Mary Donald, Editor

LEGAL COUNSEL — WSO started a suit against the Dept. of Natural Resources to stop it from illegally authorizing the pole-trapping of birds of prey. After the suit was started the DNR demurred and it was found that the Conservation Code had been changed and the law suit went to no avail. We proceeded then to introduce a bill in the State Legislature absolutely prohibiting pole-trapping in the State of Wisconsin. At the Assembly hearing a representative of DNR indicated that the DNR had no objection to the bill. The bill would have passed except that at the short session of the Legislature only a few bills were passed—but we do anticipate submitting the same bill next session with the hope for its ultimate success.

Robert W. Lutz, Legal Counsel

BLUEBIRD TRAILS — Paul Romig praised the excellent work done by Vincent Bauldry; the interest in this project keeps building up, over 600 Bluebird Trails Guides have been sent out, other states are increasing their participation and WSO should be proud of their long-time sponsorship of this most worthwhile helping hand to one of our most beautiful and useful native birds.

(END OF COMMITTEE REPORTS)

OLD BUSINESS - A Committee was authorized at the last Annual Meeting (1971) to look into the matter of promoting the affiliation of local Bird Groups with the State Organization. Ed Prins, Chmn., and Hal Liebherr, Secretary, presented a well-thought out, workable program. Advantages of this project, clearly brought out in the report, were two-fold: (1) For Local Clubs - Assistance in arranging programs by furnishing a list of available speakers on various phases of interest; by providing slide shows of bird groupings, hopefully accompanied by synchronized narration, etc., and a place to turn to for help in developing meaningful programs. This should lead to a desirable sense of solidarity with other like-minded persons all over the state. (2) The Society would benefit by extending its sphere of influence, its aims and achievements would become more widely known and understood and its reputation as an active, dynamic, forward-looking organization be enhanced. The discussion was a proposed motion to implement this program brought out also the disadvantages - the difficulty of getting dedicated persons to act as Co-ordinators, to collect, house and send out the slide shows; to keep in touch with speakers or to take care of the proposed financial set-up. These did not outweigh the generally favorable reception given the proposal, small group spokesmen were especially interested. An amnded motion - "That WSO organize and impltment a program in which local bird clubs can, if they so desire, affiliate with the State organization - that the WSO Board of Directors appoint responsible members to operate this program and that these actions be taken without undue delay" was seconded and carried. The Committee was congratulated on their painstaking work.

George Becker spoke of water pollution problems and offered the following — Be It Resolved —

- (1) WHEREAS Four-Mile Island in Horicon Marsh is a large and important nesting area for the Great Blue Heron, the Black-crowned Night Heron and the American Egret. and
- (2) WHEREAS the American Egret is a unique avian resource and the heron colony one of the few remaining colonies in the State of Wisconsin; and
- (3) WHEREAS these unusual birds are dependent upon aquatic organisms provided by the waters of Horicon Marsh; and
- (4) WHEREAS the proposed poisoning of the waters of the Rock River and Horicon Marsh pose a threat to the food supply of these unique birds;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc., opposes the treatment with fish poisons of these waters until a thorough study is made and all measures are taken to assure that this unique avian resource will in no way be jeopardized;

ALSO LET IT BE RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be directed to the (a) Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, (b) the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, (c) the United States Department of the Interior, and (d) the President's Committee on Environmental Quality.

The question was raised regarding the possible danger of this action to the Society's tax-exempt status; this will be referred to the WSO Legal Counsel and subject to his approval, the Resolution was adopted.

Sam Robbins said that the book was coming along, no definite date as yet but progressing. He would like more information — unusual concentrations of species and results of breeding bird surveys.

NEW BUSINESS – Arol Epple has retired and the Cornell nesting bird data should now be sent to Vincent Heig, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point.

Invitations to host the coming WSO Conventions were received -1973 from the Oshkosh Bird Club and 1974 from the Chippewa Falls Wildlife Society. These were enthusiastically accepted.

The Nominating Committee — Edward Peartree, Norma Schmidt and Harold Kruse presented the following slate of officers for the coming year:

President — Robert McCabe, Madison Vice-President — Walter Gilles, Fond du Lac Treasurer — Phyllis Holz, Green Bay Secretary — Carl Hayssen, Hartland Editor — Charles Kemper, Chippewa Falls.

There being no nominations from the floor the nominations were declared closed and the Secretary instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the proposed slate. This was done. Fran Hamerstrom proposed a rising vote of thanks to retiring Secretary Hazel Cox. This was tearfully and gratefully appreciated. Dr. Kemper asked for a vote of thanks to the local people who had provided such gracious hospitality. This was heartily given. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Hazel Cox, Retiring Secretary

Request for Information on Flightless Duck, Coot, and Gallinule Broods in Wisconsin

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources — Bureau of Research Wetland Game Research is currently completing an evaluation of duck production in Wisconsin. These studies include an updating of county broods for the various duck species, coot and gallinules. The last request for this information within the Department of Natural Resources was circulated in 1964. Some additional records should now be available.

To furnish a more adequate summary of potential brood records, all DNR personnel, Wisconsin Society for Ornithology members, and universities are being asked to participate in this request. Birds recorded since 1960 are of primary interest.

Species for which county brood records are needed are listed below. Gaps in county records are presented in two ways: 1) for the common breeding species, e.g., Mallards, Blue-winged Teal, and Wood Ducks, counties for which current brood records **WERE NOT AVAILABLE** are listed; and 2) for the less common species, e.g., Ringnecks, Green-winged Teal, and Redheads, counties for which recent records of one or more broods **WERE AVAILABLE** are listed. For the latter species group, include only records from counties not listed.

Please check the lists of counties to determine if you can contribute new county records for any species. As mentioned above, only those records since 1960 are of particular interest for most species. However, any records of broods of Canvasback, Scaup, Goldeneye, Bufflehead, or Gallinules will be quite valuable.

Only records of positive species identification should be submitted. If possible, brood sightings should be located by town, range, and section within a county. The use of named lakes within a county would also be satisfactory. State wildlife areas, named rivers, etc., might also be sufficient site documentation, unless they lie across county lines. Information on date(s) of sighting(s), number of ducklings, age, habitat, and observer is required whenever possible.

Please send any records to Mr. James R. March, Project Leader, Wetland Game Research, DNR, Box D, Horicon, Wisconsin 53032. Writing deadlines require that all usable records be received by July 15, 1972. All new county records, together with those already on file will be published as public information at a later date.

Species brood records ARE NOT AVAILABLE in the following counties:

MALLARD

Pierce (Inland or Miss. R. bottoms); Pepin (no record from Miss. R. bottoms); Buffalo, La Crosse, Vernon, Crawford, and Grant (no inland records)

BLUE-WINGED TEAL

Iron; Florence; Pierce and Crawford (Inland or Miss. R. bottoms); Pepin (no record from Miss. R. bottoms); Buffalo, Trempealeau, La Crosse, and Grant (no inland records)

WOOD DUCK

Waushara; Ozaukee; Kenosha; Pierce (Miss. R. bottoms, no record); Buffalo, Trempealeau, La Crosse, Vernon, Crawford, and Grant (no inland records)

BLACK DUCK

Outagamie; Waushara; Adams; Calumet; Fond du Lac; Washington; Ozaukee; Milwaukee; Waukesha; Kenosha; Racine; Walworth; Rock; Green; Lafayette; Sauk; Richland; Grant; and Crawford (no inland records)

Species brood records ARE AVAILABLE only in the following counties:

RING-NECKED DUCK

Douglas; Bayfield; Iron; Vilas; Burnett; Washburn; Sawyer; Rusk; Price; Oneida; Lincoln; Langlade; Forest; Marinette; Oconto; Marathon; Shawano; Wood; Juneau; Polk; St. Croix; Dodge; and Dane.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL

Burnett; Barron; Price; Vilas; Taylor; Marathon; Wood; Outagamie; Juneau; Marquette: Fond du Lac; Columbia; Dodge; and Washington

HOODED MERGANSER

Douglas; Bayfield; Ashland; Iron; Vilas; Burnett; Washburn; Sawyer; Price; Oneida; Forest; Lincoln; Langlade; Marinette; Menominee; Polk; Barron; Rusk; St. Croix; Dunn; Chippewa; Pierce; Eau Claire; Marathon; Shawano; Wood; Dodge; Washington; Waukesha; Buffalo; Trempealeau; La Crosse; Vernon; and Crawford (reported in Miss. R. bottoms only; no inland reports)

Burnett; St. Croix; Marathon; Vilas; Wood; Juneau; Door; Brown; Manitowoc; Winnebago; Marquette; Green Lake; Dodge; Columbia; Monroe; Jackson; La Crosse; and Crawford (reported in Miss. R. bottoms only; no inland records)

Burnett; St. Croix; Dunn; Marathon; Marquette; Winnebago; Fond du Lac; Manitowoc; Washington; Dodge; Columbia; Dane

AMERICAN WIDGEON (BALDPATE)

Burnett; Marathon; Wood; Dodge; Brown; and Rusk

GADWALL

Dunn; Dodge; Brown; and Door

Winnebago; Manitowoc; Kenosha; Rock; Dodge; Fond du Lac; and Green Lake

Dane: Dodge: Columbia; Fond du Lac; Green Lake; Winnebago; Waupaca; Manitowoc; Brown; Dunn; St. Croix; and Polk

AMERICAN (COMMON) MERGANSER

Douglas; Iron; Vilas; Sawyer; Price; Forest; and Door

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER

Douglas; Sawyer; Oneida; Lincoln; Marathon; Florence; and Vilas

Burnett; Polk; St. Croix; Dunn; Chippewa; Eau Claire; Jackson; Marathon; Marinette; Oconto Waupaca; Outagamie; Brown; Winnebago; Calumet; Manitowoc; Fond du Lac; Columbia; Dodge; Washington; Jefferson; Waukesha; Walworth; Green; Lafayette; Crawford; Vernon; La Crosse; Trempealeau; Buffalo; Sheboygan

FLORIDA GALLINULE

Brown; Fond du Lac; Dodge; Trempealeau; Buffalo; and Winnebago

NEW RECORDS: (Please return to James R. March, Wis. DNR, Box D, Horicon, Wis. 53032 by 7/15/72)

Letters to the Editor

Dear Dr. Kemper:

There was an error in crediting the cover photo of the summer, 1972, issue of the Passenger Pigeon as being taken by myself. As much as I would like to take credit for such an excellent photograph, credit must go to Mr. Donald Cornelius of the National Park Service in Juneau, Alaska. Mr. Cornelius heard of my research endeavors and was kind enough to send me some of his transparencies of which the cover photo was one.

Your assistance in publishing my undergraduate research project entitled: Migration and Nesting Patterns of the Common Loon in Wisconsin, 1970, has been greatly appreciated. Your kindness and consideration will long be remembered, as well as the assistance of all those who participated in the survey.

Very sincerely yours, Michael E. Kohel

Dr. Charles A. Kemper 733 Maple St. Chippewa Falls, Wis. Dear Charles:

11 April 1972

This letter is in response to an alleged observation of a dark Ferruginous Hawk at the Bong Recreation Area by various observers in the winter of 1970-71.

After at least two unsuccessful attempts at locating this bird which had been reported to us, we finally found an individual that fit the reported descriptions at 1300 hours on March 22nd. We found it within one quarter mile of the spot where it had often been seen.

At first we scoped it at a distance of some 400 yards with a 15-60x zoom scope as it perched in a tree. One of us then approached the bird with a bal-chatri in an attempt to trap it, while the other continued scoping from the road. At a distance of about 200 yards the bird flushed and we determined that the head, neck, body and wing linings were dark brown. The underside of the remiges were a light gray, and the tail was gray on the underside and darkly barred above. The tarsi were not feathered.

Unquestionably, the bird was a melanistic, immature red tail. It flew about 300 yards and perched in an oak. Another attempt was made to set a trap for it, but again it flushed prematurely. As it flushed we clearly observed the bare tarsi again. During the next hour we continued our attempts to trap it, but we were unsuccessful, and eventually it flew out of sight and were were unable to relocate it. However, we learned that Dennis Gustafson reported seeing the bird that he identified as a Ferruginous Hawk about an hour after we left.

In all respects the behavior and flight characteristics of the bird we observed were those of a red tail, and we are convinced of the authenticity of our identification. We have talked to or corresponded with six individuals who reported seeing the Ferruginous Hawk. At least some of them agreed that it was likely that we had seen the bird in question. None of those with whom we had talked or corresponded with were able to say whether the bird's legs were feathered or not, nor has anyone else reported the melanistic red tail that we saw. We therefore strongly feel that the bird reported as a Ferruginous was actually an immature, melanistic red tail. In the unlikely event that the bird that we saw was a different individual, and considering the foregoing and the rarity of the species here, we still feel that there is insufficient evidence to warrant its identification as a Ferruginous Hawk.

Sincerely, Daniel D. Berger and Thomas C. Erdman

Notes

Silver Passenger Pigeon Award

Your long and dedicated service to the Society began eleven years ago when you accepted the very important duty of W.S.O. File Keeper.

This tedious task of recording on file cards the arrival and departure dates for each bird specie for each listed county in the state demands an unbelievable amount of time and patience. It also includes countless nesting records, all of which are gleaned from stacks of field note forms, cards, and letters sent to you from the Field Note Editors. Ordinarily, this would be job enough, but, in addition to this, you brought the files up to date — they were nine years behind schedule when you began your work.

Further service to the Socity is your willingness to put in long hours, whenever necessary, on "work days" for developing the Honey Creek area.



LUCY AND ARTHUR GAUERKE

It is with sincere gratitude and appreciation that The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc., presents to Lucy and Arthur Gauerke the Silver Passenger Pigeon Award for Distinguished Service to the Society. We are deeply indebted to you.

The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc. 20 May 1972

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