



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The passenger pigeon. Vol. XXIV, No.1 Spring 1962

Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Spring 1962

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

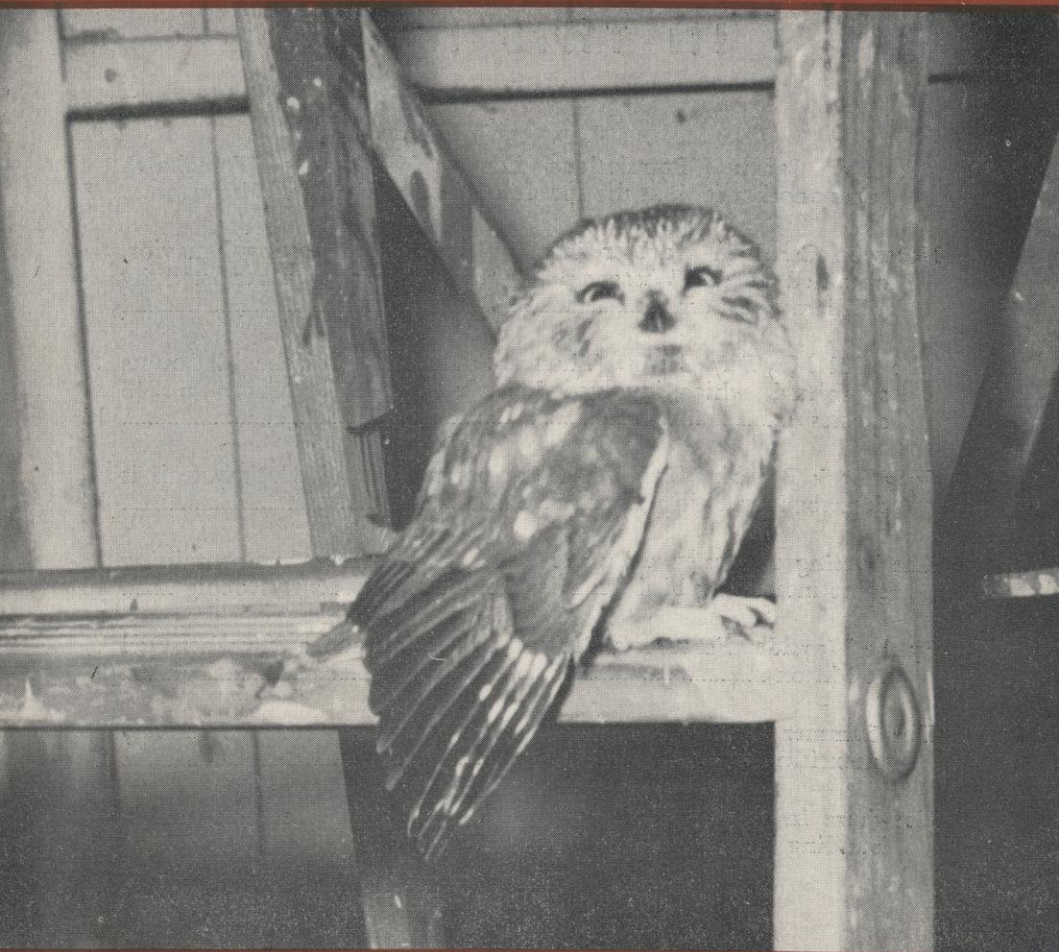
<http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/InC/1.0/>

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

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

SAW-WHET OWL

PHOTO BY
HOWARD PHOTO SHOP, MILTON



The PASSENGER PIGEON

A Magazine of Wisconsin Bird Study

Published Quarterly By

THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY
FOR ORNITHOLOGY, INC.



SPRING ISSUE
VOL. XXIV NO. 1

IN THIS ISSUE

Page

Wisconsin Cardinal Populations. Donald Hendrick of Tomahawk takes another look at the spread of the Cardinal in Wisconsin	3
Notes on Cerulean Warbler Life Cycle. Data on nesting behavior, obtained at the Wisconsin Audubon Camp, and reported by William Southern	9
The 1961 May-Day Count. Thomas Soulen analyzes the 14 Counts submitted, which involved 126 observers and turned up 243 species	13
Gray Rock Bluebird Trail. The success of his Polk County trail is described by Philip Hummel	16
The Passing of Honey, a Purple Finch. A sad story, but containing some interesting bird behavior, told by Mrs. Henry Koenig	18
By the Wayside. Features a Dickcissel in Beloit and a Saw-whet Owl at Milton	20
The Summer Season. Martha and Roy Lound describe a relatively unexciting summer	21
Elsewhere in this Issue. Field Trip News, two Corrections, and a Banding Report from Milton.	



Volume XXIV, Number 1

Spring (January-March) 1962

THE PASSENGER PIGEON, official publication of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc.; is published quarterly at 101 Roby Road, Madison 5, Wisconsin. Classes of membership and annual dues: Active \$3.00 (Students under 18 years \$2.00). Husband-and-Wife \$4.00. Sustaining \$5.00. Life \$75.00. Patron \$100 or more. Library \$2.00. At least \$1.75 of each annual membership (\$1.50 in the case of student membership and Wisconsin library subscriptions) is set aside to cover subscription to The Passenger Pigeon. Send membership dues to the treasurer, Mrs. Alfred O. Holz, 125 E. Kolb St., Green Bay, Wisconsin. Send change of address to Mrs. Raymond Roark, 101 Roby Road, Madison 5, Wisconsin. Send manuscripts to the editor, Eugene M. Roark, 513 N. Franklin Ave., Madison 5, Wisconsin.

Second class postage paid at Madison, Wisconsin.



WISCONSIN CONSERVATION DEPT.

WISCONSIN CARDINAL POPULATIONS

By DONALD J. HENDRICK

The spread of the Cardinal (*Richmondena cardinalis*) has been noted by many, but little work has been done to determine the spread of this bird in Wisconsin, except for papers by Young, et al. (1941) and Young (1946). The following data may therefore be of general interest.

Scope and Method of Study

The purpose of this study is to determine if the Cardinal has stabilized its populations in the areas which it has invaded within the state. Also, it is the purpose of this study to determine any fluctuations which might exist in the Cardinal population within the state. The information used herein was gathered, for the most part, from the Christmas Bird Counts as published each year in *The Passenger Pigeon*. All censuses from 1945 through 1960 were considered.

The information gained from the counts were broken down into density indices. Since, by the rules of the Christmas Bird Count, all counts are taken at approximately the same time, all counts include an area within a circle of $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles radius, and all counts should be made within a seven-hour duration, these data were considered constants and were, therefore, disregarded in this study.

The index was then determined by the number of birds reported from each station as compared to the number of observers taking part in the count. All indices referred to in the present article, charts, and graphs will indicate Cardinals per observer. The average indices for each station (see Table 1) were determined by totalling all the Cardinals observed through the entire period as compared with the total number of observers for that same period, and the average indices for each individual year were also determined in the same manner. For the period 1945 through 1960, there were a total of 87 stations reporting at least once in the Christmas Bird Count. Thirty of these stations were selected as the basis for comparison. These were chosen because they had reported at least five or more times throughout this period. The chart used in this

study to indicate the counts, observers and averages was not included here for reasons of space conservation.

Northward Distribution In Wisconsin

For purposes of this comparison, the state was divided into four sections, west to east: (1) the Mississippi River Valley, (2) the Wisconsin River Valley, (3) the Lake Michigan Shoreline and (4) an area in mid-

	Adams	Green Bay	Kenosha	Madison	Mazomanie	Milwaukee	Monroe	Racine	Waukesha	Wausau	Average (Yearly)
1945	....	....	....	1.6	....	1.2	....	....	....	....	1.8
1946	....	....	....	2.5	....	2.8	....	....	0.4	....	2.2
1947	....	....	....	2.8	....	8.5	....	....	....	....	3.8
1948	....	....	....	....	2.0	1.8	....	....	0.4	....	1.6
1949	....	1.0	0.7	....	4.0	1.9	3.5	....	....	0.1	2.3
1950	....	....	1.0	2.1	....	7.0	1.6	....	0.1	....	1.7
1951	....	0.3	....	1.9	....	2.8	2.3	....	....	....	2.5
1952	7.0	1.5	0.7	3.4	9.0	1.7	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.3	1.6
1953	6.0	1.0	1.7	2.1	10.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.4	1.8	1.3
1954	3.0	0.8	0.5	2.7	17.3	2.3	2.0	0.3	0.8	0.8	1.9
1955	3.9	0.7	....	3.9	5.8	0.8	5.3	3.5	1.1	0.3	2.5
1956	4.8	0.7	0.5	3.4	7.8	2.1	0.4	1.3	1.9	0.5	2.3
1957	3.2	1.0	0.8	4.2	18.0	1.3	2.8	0.6	1.6	0.6	2.3
1958	1.3	0.4	0.2	3.1	12.4	2.4	....	1.1	2.6	0.5	2.7
1959	3.5	0.3	0.3	4.6	16.6	1.5	0.9	2.6	0.7	0.3	2.5
1960	2.0	0.2	....	2.5	15.9	1.6	0.2	0.9	....	0.6	2.2
Average (Station)	3.2	0.6	0.7	3.9	11.3	1.9	1.6	1.5	0.9	0.5	2.2

Table 1

Number of Cardinals Reported Per Observer

eastern Wisconsin between the Wisconsin River Valley and the Lake Michigan Shoreline for comparison (see Figure 1).

Average indices were next plotted against distance from the southern boundary of the state for representative cities located within these regions, as illustrated in Figure 2. It should be noted that this graph verifies the observations of Young and others that the northward spread of the Cardinal has been along the main river valleys with the least movement in the areas away from the rivers.

The area along the Lake Michigan shoreline shows a deviation from the pattern for the rest of the state. No attempt is made at this time to offer an explanation for this very obvious deviation.

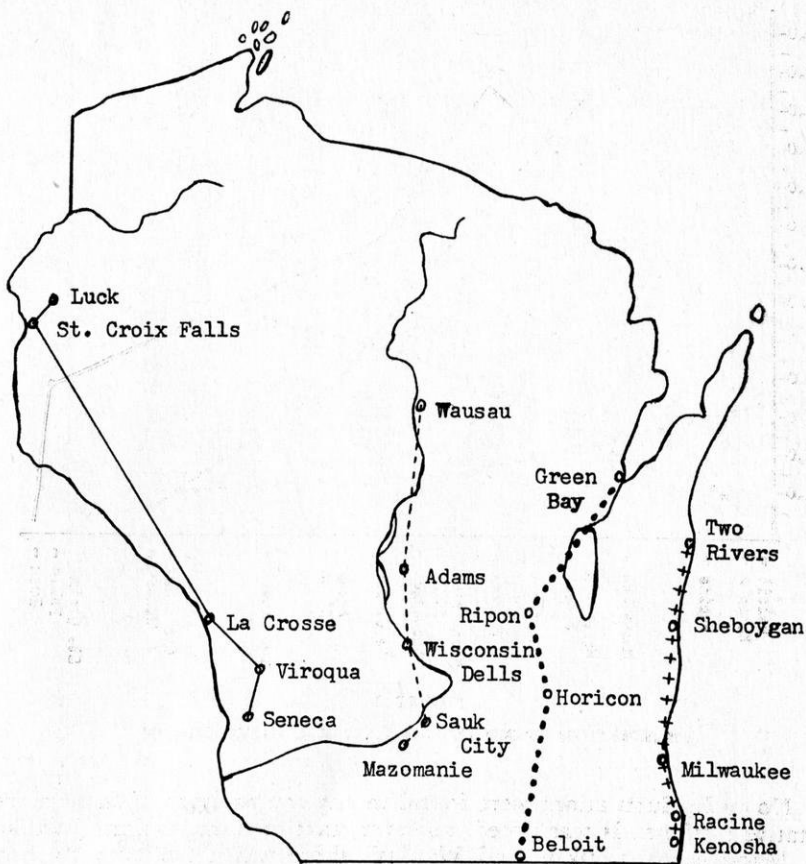


FIGURE 1

REGIONS OF COMPARISON

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY —————

WISCONSIN VALLEY - - - - -

EAST-CENTRAL WISCONSIN

LAKE MICHIGAN SHORELINE + + + + +

Stabilization and Fluctuation of Population

Ten stations were selected for the purpose of studying stabilization and fluctuation of population. The particular stations selected were chosen for three major reasons: (1) these stations have submitted reports for at least nine consecutive years, (2) a survey of the reports during the past decade shows them to be the most accurate reports of the 16-year period covered in this study, and (3) these stations were representative of the area of the state (the southern one-half) where this trend might better be illustrated. It should also be noted that there is an unfortunately low number of reports from the northern one-half of the state.

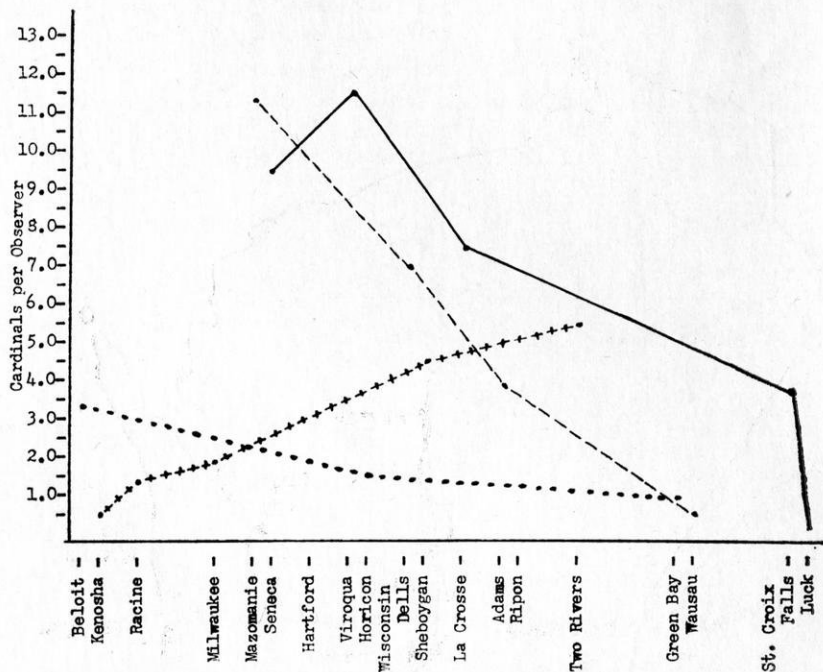


FIGURE 2
DISTRIBUTION TREND OF THE CARDINAL IN WISCONSIN

No cyclic fluctuations were found in any comparisons of these representative stations. It was noted, however, that at some stations (Waukesha, Madison, Milwaukee, and Wausau) there was a tendency to show an even up-and-down trend that might indicate that such a cycle does exist. When these stations are compared against one another, however, the fluctuations occur in different years even for such closely associated cities as Waukesha and Milwaukee. Likewise, there are stations in the southernmost section of the state that show erratic fluctuations. These stations have had the Cardinal established long enough so that if any cycle did exist it would seem this would be where it might first occur. According to Young (1946), Cardinals were first reported in Milwaukee County in 1889, Racine County in 1847, and Kenosha County in 1931.

In Figure 3, the average yearly indices of Cardinals per observer for the entire state were plotted against each year. The result indicates a trend toward stabilization of the population throughout the state. The graph provides support for the statement that the Cardinal is fairly well established within the state. Minor variations, such as those seen in 1947 and 1953, might well be explained by the variability of local weather conditions, zeal and ability of the observer, type of habitat observed and even food supply in that particular year. This seems reasonable since Cardinals, according to Lincoln (1939), are apparently non-migratory and may round out their entire period of existence without going more

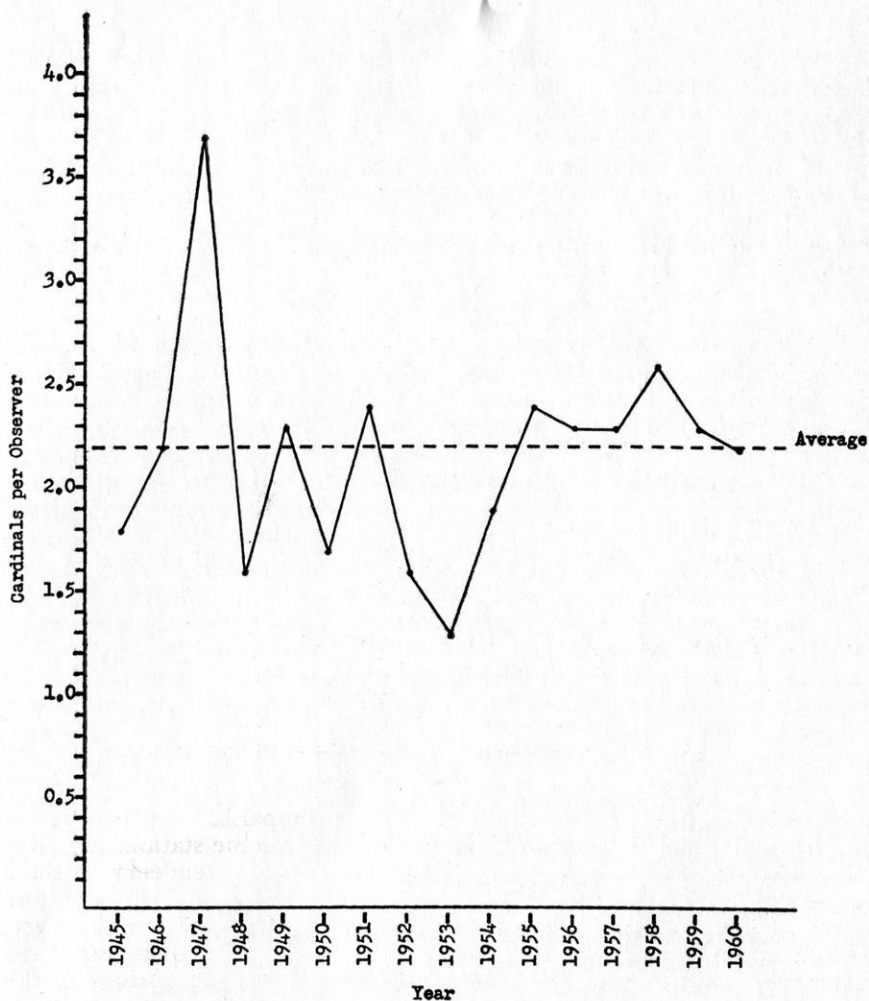


FIGURE 3
STABILIZATION OF CARDINAL POPULATIONS IN WISCONSIN

than ten miles from the location of the nest where they hatched. To verify this Lincoln cites several banding recoveries, one of which is of particular interest. A Cardinal, Number 356325, banded at La Crosse, Wisconsin, on April 23, 1926, was found injured at the same place on January 23, 1935.

In the checklist of Wisconsin birds, Barger, et al. (1960), the status of the Cardinal in Wisconsin is described as "Common Permanent Resident south, central and north." In view of the evidence brought to light above, it would seem reasonable to suggest that the species be reclassified as "CPR," to better indicate its permanency throughout the state.

Summary

1. The greatest concentration and northward distribution of the Cardinal in Wisconsin is along the major river valleys (Mississippi and Wisconsin), with the least concentration in the regions away from these river valleys.

2. Available evidence is insufficient to indicate a cyclic fluctuation of the Cardinal, yet in some instances it does show a trend toward such a population cycle.

3. Cardinal populations seem to be quite well stabilized throughout the state.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement is made to Dr. Joseph J. Hickey for his honest and critical analysis of this paper and for his helpful suggestions for changes in its organization; also, to Mrs. Catherine Crocker of the Biology Library at the University of Wisconsin for her assistance in locating journals referred to in this study. Many people on the staff of the Memorial Union Library were also very kind in helping to obtain literature. And a special acknowledgement must be made to my wife Janiece and my four children for their patience and understanding in allowing me to take the time from my family while gathering and processing the data for this paper.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Barger, et al., 1960. Wisconsin Birds. The Wisconsin Society for Ornithology.
Christmas Bird Counts, 1945 through 1960. The Passenger Pigeon: Vol. VII-XXII.
Forbush, Edward H., 1939. Natural History of the Birds of Eastern and Central North America. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
Lincoln, Frederick C., 1939. The Migration of American Birds. Doubleday Doran and Co., Inc., New York.
Young, et al., 1941. The Spread of the Cardinal through Wisconsin. The Passenger Pigeon: Vol. III, No. 1.
Young, Howard, 1946. Further Studies on the Cardinal. The Passenger Pigeon: Vol. VIII, No. 4.

228 East Somo Avenue
Tomahawk, Wisconsin

NEWS . . .

W.S.O. members interested in nature and outdoor subjects are missing some unusually good radio listening if they do not tune in regularly to the State Broadcasting System stations. For instance, "Wisconsin Outdoors," the 15-minute Conservation Department program, is on each Saturday at 10:45 a. m. (AM only). Monday mornings at 9:30, "Wonderful World of Nature" is on the "School of the Air" series. Edwin Way Teale's book **The Strange Lives of Familiar Insects** will be discussed on the "Homemakers Program" at 10:00 a. m. January 25. The same program will feature "When Birds Return," with Joel Carl Welty, on February 26. And on January 29, at 7:30 p. m., there will be a taped

visit to a Swedish banding station on the "Visitors in Europe" program. Complete schedules may be obtained from the State Broadcasting Services, Radio Hall, Madison 6.

"As of November 5, a total of 30 Whooping Cranes had been spotted in the vicinity of the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas . . . it appeared that the rare Cranes may have had a poor nesting season because no immature birds had been seen among those which had returned from their Canadian breeding grounds. A total of 38 Whooping Cranes left the refuge for their northern flight last spring. Past records indicate that late arrivals can be expected during the next few weeks." Quoted from National Wildlife Federation's **Conservation News**.

Notes On Cerulean Warbler Life Cycle

By WILLIAM E. SOUTHERN

Relatively little information regarding the life cycle of the Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) has been published. It appears that Bent (1953 *U. S. National Museum Bull.* No. 203:239-337) cited most of the information known for this species. Examination of his data indicated that much is still to be learned. The data herein presented, although scant, represents an attempt to increase our knowledge of the species.

On June 17, 1960, Nicholas L. Cuthbert and I found a Cerulean Warbler's nest at the Audubon Camp of Wisconsin (Sarona, Washburn County). I can find no other record of a nest of this species in Wisconsin. Schorger, in his revision of Kumlien and Hollister's *The Birds of Wisconsin*, states that "there is no satisfactory account of a nest being found."

The Audubon Camp is situated in a stand of climax maple-basswood (*Acer-Tilia*) forest. The availability of suitable maple-basswood habitat probably accounts in part for the presence of the Cerulean Warblers, as well as two other species of birds normally ranging north only to southern Wisconsin. The Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) was considered fairly common in the vicinity. The Cerulean Warbler ranked second in abundance of the three, with about six singing males recorded during the summer of 1960. The Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Centurus carolinus*) was least common, and although it was not observed during 1960, one or two individuals were found during each of the previous two or three summers (see Southern, 1960 *Passenger Pigeon* 59-66).

Description of Nest

The nest Cuthbert and I located was about 15 feet from the ground in a white oak (*Quercus alba*) situated at the edge of a clearing. The nest was on the side of the tree overlooking the clearing. This site was on a dry hilltop some 75 yards from Twin Lakes. The statant nest was on a horizontal limb and placed so that about one-third of its projected beyond the junction of a fork.* The nest was composed primarily of fine grasses and the outer portion was almost completely covered with lichens.

I spent about 15 hours observing the warbler's behavior at the nest. The nest contained four eggs when found and the young hatched within a few hours during the afternoon of June 17. This observation indicated that incubation probably began with the laying of the last egg. A covering of sparse gray natal down was evident upon the dorsal tracts of the nestlings. Their gapes were a bright yellow. By the third day of nest-life the beaks of the nestlings were occasionally visible above the rim of

*"Statant" nests are cupped nests, specifically adapted to arboreal (tree) situations. They have definite structure, the materials compacted together and forming a cup with the rims standing firmly upright.

the nest. On the following day it was sometimes possible to see an entire head protruding above the nest rim while the young begged for food.

At no time during my observations did the male settle on the nest. The male's role appeared to be solely that of feeding the young. Although both parents fed the nestlings, the male provided about three



NEST OF CERULEAN WARBLER

PHOTO BY W. E. SOUTHERN

times more food than the female. Besides feeding the young more often, he usually brought more, or larger, food items per trip. Most of the food appeared to be insect larvae. Food was brought on the average of 2.25 times per hour.

The female spent most of her time brooding the young and seldom left the nest unless the male arrived with food. Sometimes she returned within a minute or so and settled on the nest without feeding the young. When

the female was away from the nest the male usually remained nearby until she returned. Occasionally he remained even longer.

Behavior at the Nest

The female's behavior at the nest consisted of preening and almost habitual probing into the nest. The male usually sang before coming to the nest and the female answered, on many occasions, with several sharp chips. Two songs were used by the male, one being shorter than the other. After feeding the young he often sang while near the nest. Both parents ate the fecal sacs and on no occasion were they carried away. Occasionally the female remained on the nest when the male brought food or she happened to return before he fed the young; in both instances she took the food from the male and either ate it herself or fed it to the young.

Both adults actively defended the nest and young. I checked the contents of the nest by use of a mirror attached to a long pole. Both adults hopped about close to the nest and called in alarm. The female appeared to be the most aggressive and came within a few inches of the mirror. Her feathers were fluffed, wings drooped, tail spread, and she constantly chipped while darting back and forth at the mirror. After I removed the mirror she immediately settled on the nest.

The young were brooded as much during the last days of nest-life as they were during the first days. Often the young poked their heads out from under the female and panted.

The young developed rapidly and left the nest on the ninth day after hatching. On the following day at least one young was still in the

nest tree. Only three young fledged. One apparently died on about the third day after hatching.

Department of Biological Sciences
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois

Editor's Note: In correspondence received since this paper was written, Prof. Southern reports: "I might add that last summer (1961) I found a second nest at the Audubon Camp. It was also in an oak, about 35 feet from the ground. I attempted to get pictures of both nests but none are satisfactory. The light conditions were very bad. I have enclosed one of these prints which shows the birds near the nest, if you look real hard!"

RAYMOND P. HUSSONG

On November 14, 1962, Raymond P. Hussong, known so well by all of us as Ray, died after suffering a stroke the previous day.

Ray was born in Seymour, Wisconsin, November 24, 1900; after spending his early life in Wabeno, Wisconsin, he moved to Milwaukee where he married the former Clara Heisel.

Ray and Clara moved to Green Bay in 1933, and, because of this, this date marks the beginning of the interest in not only birds but all forms of nature study to the people of this area. It was through their efforts in March, 1935, that the Green Bay Bird Club was formed, and Ray can surely be considered one of its most ardent and helpful members. He will always be remembered for his great generosity, his wonderful patience, and his untiring efforts in developing the organization to be one of the most active in the state. He was president of the group several times and was always ready to be a field trip leader, a duty that he performed countless numbers of times. To ride with Ray on a field trip, or at any other time for that matter, was a unique experience, for no feathered creature was too common to slow up for or to make a complete stop for. Every ride down any road was a study in ornithology. Roads weren't always necessary for Ray's car, for, if the area was flat and open and if no fence formed a barrier, the passengers would find themselves bumping through a field to gain better observation of a distant bird. It is because of these things that Ray will live forever in the hearts of the host of friends he acquired in his lifetime.



Ray was interested in many civic affairs. He was a member of the Brown County Historical Society and he served for several years on its board of directors; he was a member of the Neville Public Museum Corporation; the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters; Theodore Roosevelt Lodge F & AM; the Green Bay Shrine Club; and the First Baptist Church.

Ray became a member of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology in 1945, and very soon thereafter, his devotion to the organization became apparent. He served as vice-president in 1957-1958 and as president in 1958-1959. While fulfilling the office of vice-president, he planned and executed the finest convention held in Green Bay. As president, Ray worked diligently and accomplished a great deal to further the growth and progress of W.S.O.

Throughout this area he was known as an excellent nature photographer, and countless groups enjoyed his fine movie-illustrated lectures. Clara and Ray traveled extensively throughout the United States and visited practically every state in the Union, recording on film the glory and beauty that is Nature.

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of this devoted friend of all of us in W.S.O. It is to persons like Ray that we give the honor of having made a better world because they have lived in it. His devotion, responsibility, and accomplishments might well be a memorable guide for all of us. We owe him much for establishing a wonderful Addressograph system and progressive file for W.S.O. members. It was while using this equipment to address a set of W.S.O. envelopes that Ray Hussong was stricken with the illness which he failed to survive.
—A. O. Holz

NEWS FROM "INLAND" . . .

At the annual meeting of the Inland Bird Banding Association, on November 3 and 4 at the University of Omaha, Edward W. Peartree of Oconomowoc was re-elected president of that organization. Other W.S.O. members who are officers in "Inland" are Dr. Charles Kemper, Chippewa Falls, re-elected vice-president, and Terrence N. Ingram, of Platteville State College and Apple River, Illinois, chosen as editor of the I.B.B.A. News.

This meeting was attended by banders from Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Kansas, Iowa, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, and Colorado. An unusual feature was Tele-lecture, pioneered by the University of Omaha and Bell Telephone. Tele-lecture uses slides and a 30-minute lecture and question session by telephone. The lecturers, via this medium, included Dr. Oliver Austin, Jr., of Gainesville, Florida; Dr. O. S. Pettingill, Jr., of Ithaca, New York; and Chandler Robbins, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland. Also in attendance was Dr. Allan J. Duvall, chief of the Bird-banding Laboratory at Patuxent, who lent much to the discussions and workshop sessions.

THE 1961 MAY-DAY COUNT

By THOMAS SOULEN

The 1961 May-Day Count period covered the days of most extensive migration in the state, the wave of May 12-15. On the 14 counts which were submitted, representing the organized efforts of at least 126 Wisconsin ornithologists, a total of 223 species was recorded, about average for the last five-year period. There were reported by miscellaneous observers an additional 20 species during the May 13-21 span of counts, bringing the total to 243. What figures one actually accepts may be immaterial, since the dates on which counts are taken—and indeed, in some areas, whether counts are taken—frequently depends on who is available on a suitable weekend. The date selected may of necessity be one which is very poor for birding. Thus this massive force of Wisconsin birders may not be shooting for their big lists on optimum days weather-wise, but as long as most counts continue to be taken on weekends (nine out of this year's 14), they take their chances. This year, of course, at least some of the counts *did* happen to take place on good migration days.

Two High Counts

That the peak of the wave was probably past when most groups took their counts, however, is shown by the somewhat low totals recorded by some of the larger groups. Green Bay was an exception, recording 166 species for one of their higher totals. Sam Robbins showed that St. Croix County has a goodly number of migrants by his 152 species total. Several of the smaller and younger groups reported close to their best counts this year.

A number of rarities inevitably turn up during the May-Day Count period. There is a tendency for some people to fail to document these rare records—probably due more than anything else to the difficulties of assembling everybody's records from the counts. An attempt was made this year to get supporting details for at least some of the records submitted; the size of some of the lists has been consequently reduced slightly. Eyebrows may still rise at some of the things reported, but in the future everyone can help by appending to May-Day Counts some substantiating details for any very late stragglers or very rare species.

Noteworthy Species

With this as introduction, here are some of the noteworthy species seen during the count period: Rough-legged Hawks in four areas; Ferruginous Hawk at Racine; Sandhill Crane at Waukesha; both Godwits at Green Bay, along with Northern Phalarope; Gray Jay and Common Raven at Antigo; White-eyed Vireo at Milwaukee; Prairie and Hooded Warblers at Green Bay; lingering Rusty Blackbirds at Antigo; Golden-crowned Kinglets, Brown Creepers, Slate-colored Juncoes, Tree and Fox Sparrows at several places. Isolated reports of other rarities during the count period may be found in the Field Notes for the spring season.

Equally interesting is the scarcity of reports of some supposedly common—or at least regular—species. There are but one or two reports of these: Least Bittern, Virginia Rail, American Woodcock, Barred and Screech Owls.

Finally, a word of commendation to the compilers, who prepared the reports in such a manner that they could be recorded and analyzed easily. There were four of the groups who provided especially valuable details in the form of complete weather information and a listing of the **numbers** of individuals of all species: Antigo, Birnamwood, Vernon County, and Wausau.

Summary of the Counts

GREEN BAY: 166 species. 45 members of the Green Bay Bird Club took part from 4:30 a. m. to 6:00 p. m. on May 14. Seen were Rough-legged Hawk, Marbled Godwit, Hudsonian Godwit, Northern Phalarope, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Cerulean Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Hooded Warbler. 28 warbler species. Reported by Edwin D. Cleary.

ST. CROIX COUNTY: 152 species. Sam Robbins spent from 4:30 to 10:30 a. m. and 4:30-8:30 p. m. on May 16 investigating the Houlton, Hudson, and Roberts areas under partly cloudy skies, 5-10 m. p. h. northerly winds, and 36-55° temperatures. Gray Partridge, White-rumped and Baird's Sandpipers, Saw-whet Owl, Red Crossbill, Harris' Sparrow, and Lapland Longspur were encountered. 24 warbler species.

BELOIT: 141 species. May 14. Of interest were Bobwhite, Long-eared Owl, Bell's Vireo, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Dickcissel, Lark Sparrow, and Fox Sparrow. 25 warbler species. Reported by David Stocking.

MILWAUKEE: 136 species. Three observers covered various parks in Milwaukee, ponds north of the city, and the Cedarburg swamp in Ozaukee County, from 5:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. on May 20. Seen were Sanderling, Barn Owl, White-eyed Vireo, Hooded Warbler, and Red Crossbill. 26 warbler species. Mary Donald reporting.

APPLETON: 129 species. Two observers spent from 6:00 a. m. to 7:30 p. m., May 14, traveling 98 miles by car and four on foot, all within a 7½ mile radius of Appleton. Temperature 54-77°, wind 6-14 m. p. h., sky partly cloudy, clearing for part of afternoon, clouding over by early evening. Of interest were Rough-legged Hawk, Hermit Thrush, and Louisiana Waterthrush. 23 warbler species. Reported by Daryl Tessen.

RACINE: 129 species. 25 observers in the field 6:00 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. on May 13 within a 15 mile radius of Racine. Rough-legged Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, both Cuckoos, Bewick's Wren, Orchard Oriole, and Fox Sparrow were noted. 20 warbler species. Reported by Dorothy Joslyn.

OCONOMOWOC: 128 species. The S. Paul Jones Bird Club covered the Oconomowoc area from 5:00 a. m. to 6:00 p. m. May 14. Temperature 60-78°; clear to begin with, then wind and rain. Seen were Rough-legged Hawk, Sandhill Crane, Baird's Sandpiper, Tree Sparrow, and Fox Sparrow. 22 warbler species. Reported by Ed Peartree.

WAUSAU: 125 species. 29 people from the Wausau Bird Club put in 136 man-hours in searching areas within 15 miles of Wausau. The eight parties spent this May 14 50% in woodland, 30% in fields, 18% in urban areas, and 2% near water. 4936 individuals counted. 55 miles walked, 198 miles driven. Morning cool with strong NE wind, which died down. Partly cloudy, thunderstorms in afternoon. Canvasback, Turkey Vulture, Bonaparte's Gull, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creep-

er, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Red Crossbill, Slate-colored Junco, and Tree Sparrow were of interest. 18 warbler species. Reported by Tom Uttech.

ANTIGO: 92 species. 13 observers from the Antigo Audubon Club ringed Antigo with a 7½ mile radius circle on May 14, from 6:00 a. m. to 6:00 p. m. Temperature 50-65°; wind NE, cloudy. 760 individuals observed. Noted were Gray Jay, Common Raven, Brown Creeper, Rusty Blackbird, and Tree Sparrow. 17 warbler species. No reporter indicated.

PLYMOUTH: 82 species. One observer traveled two miles on foot and 52 miles by car within 7½ miles of Plymouth on May 14, from 5:00 to 11:00 a. m. Temperature 55-64°, wind 0-5 m. p. h., mostly cloudy. Barred Owl and Prothonotary Warbler were noted. 18 warbler species. Reported by Harold Koopmann.

VERNON COUNTY: 66 species. One observer on May 16 spent from 7:00 a. m. until 12:30 p. m. covering the fields, orchards, woods, hills, valley and creek areas on a 240 acre farm. Temperature 49-75°, light north wind. 320 individuals seen, plus "innumerable House Sparrows and four Starlings." Of interest was a late Slate-colored Junco. 13 warbler species. Reported by Viratine Weber.

BIRNAMWOOD: 46 species. One observer spent about five hours finding 130 individuals near Birnamwood on May 15. One of the few Harris' Sparrows seen in the state this spring was seen on this count. Eight warbler species. Reported by Mary H. Staeger.

Other Counts Reported

Several other very local counts were received from Mrs. Henry Koenig of Sauk City and Mrs. Russell Rill of Clintonville. Yet another type of count was taken shortly after the count period by Keith Brown of Madison, who began a 24-hour marathon in Madison in mid-afternoon May 24, visited the Pine Bluff-Mazomanie-Tower Hill areas before journeying to Cedar Grove in the evening. A cold front which had held up the birds along the Lake Michigan shore moved down in mid-morning May 25 shortly after he had witnessed a rather massive concentration of birds at Cedar Grove. After a visit to the Port Washington harbor, he returned to Madison via Horicon Marsh, Goose Pond, and neighboring areas, finishing by mid-afternoon. He totaled 157 species, including 25 warblers and also Oldsquaw, Bobwhite, Golden Plover, Knot, White-rumped Sandpiper, Northern Phalarope, Bell's Vireo, Kentucky Warbler, and Yellow-breasted Chat. The scientific merits of a trip like this are perhaps debatable, but it does represent a definite contribution to our knowledge of what birds are in the state at May-Day Count time, even if that contribution is spread a little thin.

MORE NEWS . . .

Membership in the National Audubon Society has reached 41,036, an increase of 24% from 1961. This figure doesn't include members of 234 local and state societies, nor does it include 179,000 junior members throughout the country.

If you have any data on Red-bellied Woodpecker abundance in your part of the state, and especially the dates and years when they first were seen in the area, the W.S.O. Research Committee wants to hear from you. A questionnaire indicating what information is needed appeared in the last issue. Fred and Fran Hamerstrom, at Plainfield, are co-chairmen of the Committee.

Gray Rock Bluebird Trail...

By PHILIP J. HUMMEL

This story of the Gray Rock Bluebird Trail project is in response to a suggestion from Arol Epple and Mrs. Romig with whom I have been corresponding. It is their opinion that the record of the 12 seasons of experience here may be of general interest.

Gray Rock is the name of our home place located in Polk County, between the towns of St. Croix Falls and Dresser. It consists of about 114 acres of land of which more than half is rocky and rugged woodland but with enough open fields to provide locations for Bluebird boxes.



GRAY ROCK BLUEBIRD HOUSES, UNLIKE THE USUAL DESIGN, ARE TOP-OPENING AND THE FRONT IS OF BARK-COVERED SLAB WOOD. THE BIRDS SEEM TO FIND THIS EASIER TO CLING TO.

PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR

Only about 18 acres are tillable and used as farm land, cared for by a neighbor; no part of the place has been pastured for some 20 years and we have recently posted the entire place as a wildlife refuge. Deer are common here as well as all the smaller animals found in western Wisconsin, and in the past ten years we have identified 112 varieties of birds on or flying over this place. We have found Gray Rock to be an ideal retirement home.

Our Bluebird Trail here was established in the spring of 1951 at the suggestion and with the help of the St. Paul Audubon Society, of which Mrs. Hummel and I were and still are members. In April of that year the first 12 boxes were put up and the project was successful from the start, producing five or six broods the first year. A conservative estimate of results during the early years of the trail would be seven broods raised to maturity annually from 1951 to 1958 inclusive, or a total of 56 broods. If only three birds per brood reached maturity that would mean 168 Bluebirds raised on this place during that period.

Since 1958 more boxes have been added each year until now there are 24 boxes of which 16 were designed and placed for Bluebirds. Of course each year many of the boxes are occupied by wrens or other birds.

Beginning in 1959 an accurate record has been maintained for all the boxes based on a minimum of three check-up visits during the nesting season. The record since then is as follows:

	Bluebirds	Wrens	Tree Swallows	Other (Crested Flycatcher)
1959	11	10	1	1
1960	7	11	1	0
1961	8	15	1	0
1962	13	21	2	0
Total	39	57	5	1

Note than in 1960 and 1961 the number of Bluebird broods produced dropped from the previous high which is in keeping with reports from elsewhere in the nation. So it was indeed gratifying during this season of 1962 to see the results up to at least two broods above any previous season. True, there are a few more boxes, but it is our opinion that we have always had sufficient housing.

Now if we add to our previous total the 39 broods produced from 1959 to 1962 we have a grand total of 95 broods since the project was begun. And using the same conservative estimate of three birds per brood raised to maturity, that would mean 285 Bluebirds produced here at Gray Rock since 1951.

What Do the Figures Mean?

Does the 1962 figure indicate a recovery in Bluebird populations? It is true that they seem plentiful in this locality this fall. As late as the third week of October we heard their calls or saw several of them nearly every time we stepped out of doors. But in view of national reports earlier in the year, nearly all of them discouraging, we are forced to the opinion that our local increase in population is either a freak situation, or that our Bluebirds have been using a safer migration route.

In **Audubon Field Notes**, June 1962 issue, the lead-off article by Douglas James of the University of Arkansas indicates continued low numbers of Bluebirds. He includes with his article two charts showing the abundance of the Eastern Bluebird in December, 1957, compared with December, 1961, throughout their wintering area of the southern and southeastern states from Texas to Maryland. His figure for 1957 shows heavy concentrations in four broad areas, the largest being the gulf states from eastern Louisiana to northern Florida. The figure for December, 1961, shows only one of these heavy concentrations remaining, mostly in eastern Texas and southeastern Oklahoma.

More Unanswered Questions

Without getting into any discussion as to why this last named area escaped the population losses of the others, I am led to wonder if there could be a relationship between our comparative abundance of Bluebirds in Polk County, Wisconsin, and the high December count in the Texas-Oklahoma wintering area? Is it possible that our Bluebirds fly a safer migration route and that they winter in that district? Has there been any study of banding records which would shed any light on the matter? We are merely amateurs asking questions. Perhaps some of our more learned members may come up with some answers. And while they are at it they might explain the population explosion of our wrens.

Gray Rock, South Star Route
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin

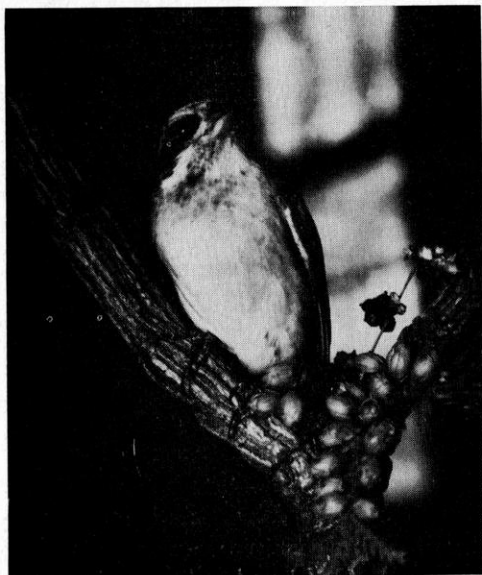
THE PASSING OF HONEY, A PURPLE FINCH

By MRS. HENRY KOENIG

It is with a feeling of deep sadness that I report the death of Honey Finch to the readers of **The Passenger Pigeon**. It occurred at 12:30 a. m., February 27, 1962.

How I regret that circumstances prevented my being with him on February 26, the last day of his short life. Honey seemed well when we left that morning and upon our return in the later afternoon he had already retired to the curtain rod, one of his favorite perches.

As always after having been gone, my first concern was the birds and so I went to the bird room to see him and say goodnight to Honey. Many of you know that this room is also our bedroom. Shortly before



HONEY, A PURPLE FINCH

PHOTO BY THE KOENIGS

12:30 a. m. something awakened me. Then I heard Honey on the table to which he had fallen for he seemed unable to keep his balance. I didn't want to frighten him but I hesitatingly picked him up, touching him for the first time since he came to us almost three years ago. When I saw that Honey was gasping I feared his departure from this earth was near. I was shivering with the cold and fright and expected to take him to bed with me but life had already flown. I was numb with shock for I could hardly believe that our precious Honey was gone. I dozed a bit at times and whenever I awakened I felt it must be only a terrible nightmare. I had had hopes of his living for many years but this was not to be.

Our Purple Finch had always been fond of arbor vitae seeds and so in late summer we gathered clusters of them to put into the freezer to be gotten as needed. Whenever I held a cluster of seeds out to him he came to eat them from a perch in the tree. Five days before his death I had the thrill of a lifetime when Honey showed complete trust in me. When I held some sunflower seeds out to him he hopped on my hand to eat and later he did the same with arbor vitae seeds. The next day a greater thrill was in store for me. Upon offering the Finch some muskmelon seeds which I then discovered he did not care for, he hopped up my sweater-covered arm to sit on my shoulder. How I wished for a picture of him there. Perhaps Honey would have eaten on my hand

sooner if I had not been so busy feeding a Robin in the kitchen. Could it be that Honey gathered courage and became so friendly because he had many times with his one little eye observed Robbie in similar positions on my person?

Every day thereafter Honey seemed to watch and wait for me to come into the room and whenever I did so he left whatever he was doing and hopped toward me in the tree or on the table. He was unable to fly. He then came on my hand to eat and I always rewarded him with a special treat. A feeder furnished a constant supply of sunflower seeds and hemp which he favored. I have wondered if the hemp was too fattening since he got little exercise, and caused his heart to give out. The blow of losing him so suddenly was all the greater because of his recent extreme tameness. But he had never really shown much fear of me.

At night we hadn't turned on the light in our bedroom, and spoke in whispers when we retired because of Honey. Later the room seemed empty and lonely without him.

Now all but one of Honey's trees are on the enclosed front porch where a female Evening Grosbeak has lived since February 2, 1962. It had a badly broken wing and at this writing, September 2, 1962, is still unable to fly but can hop in the trees at great speed. A male Evening Grosbeak with a broken wing was brought from Baraboo February 23, recovered and was released April 19. It stayed around here until May 30, when it undoubtedly went north. The tree remaining in our bedroom is now Robbie's perch—Robbie who has taken over our hearts and our home.

But to return to the memory of Honey. We have many pictures and slides of Honey Finch and tape recordings of his sweet song for both spring and fall. At present it seems as if I shall never cease to miss this little bird and he will live forever in my heart.

215 Jackson Street
Sauk City, Wisconsin

CORRECTIONS

In Volume XXIII, Number 4, pp. 159-164, the location of May 7, 1961 observations for the Bewick's Wren, Yellow-throated Vireo and Lark Sparrow was inadvertently given as Waukesha County. Earl Sauer and the Arthur Gauerkes, in company with Edward Peartree, saw these birds in Adams County.

In the same issue of **The Passenger Pigeon**, Harold Bauers reported that a Varied Thrush seen on the 1961 Chippewa Falls Christmas Count was the first sight record for this species for the state. The Varied Thrush is listed in the **Wisconsin Birds** checklist as a "very rare winter visitant," and one such visitation has been brought to our attention by Mrs. W. J. Allan, of Janesville, who recalls that "On February 12, 1946, one fed in our back yard for several days. We took pictures of it and showed them at a meeting in Madison. An article about it was in the April, 1946, issue of **The Passenger Pigeon** (Volume VII, Number 2)." The Chippewa Falls bird was, however, the first Varied Thrush to turn up on a Wisconsin Christmas Count. The Editor.

By The Wayside . . .

Saw-whet Owl Banded at Milton. On October 1, 1961, it was cold (40°) and windy. I had a Saw-whet Owl in one of the nets at 7:30 a. m.—the first I had ever seen. It was caught in a mist net, as had been a Cooper's Hawk, a Sharp-shin, and 540 warblers of 22 species. I was quite thrilled!

I took the owl into town for Chet Skelley, another bander, to see, and more than 40 people observed it. After I phoned the Ned Hollister Bird Club members at Beloit, five of them came to see it. Also five people from Janesville and four from Milton Junction, so it was well observed. I kept it overnight and took it to town again to have some pictures taken (See cover; Editor), then released it in the small pine woods where I hoped it had a mate. I have never heard their call that I know of so I do not know if they are nesting here or if it was in migration.

The owl was an adult in beautiful plumage, exactly as Peterson's **Field Guide** shows.—Mrs. Melva Maxson, Milton.

(Subsequent correspondence from Mrs. Maxson included this report: "I guess this is my lucky year! I banded another Saw-whet on November 4, 1961. This one was smaller than the first and much cuter, and I did so want a picture but couldn't find anyone to take it." Editor's note.)

Dickcissel at Beloit during 1961 Christmas Count Period. A female Dickcissel appeared at our feeder, about 30 feet from the window, on the morning of December 23, 1961. She was in with a flock of about 20 House Sparrows, and behaved like them in every respect. Before identifying the bird, we put the 20x Balscope on it, and made a careful color drawing, together with detailed notes as follows:

Deeply forked tail

Conspicuously flat head

Yellow eye stripe and malar region

Whitish throat, edged with black line

Yellow breast, with fine black pencilings

Rufous wing coverts

Stripes on head and back

Grayish-white belly

Legs and beak medium-dark (about like House Sparrow)

A bit of penciling on flanks

It came and went from the feeder with the sparrows, flying off to the pines beside the house between feedings. About noon it re-appeared when David and Hazel Cox were at the house, and they confirmed the identification. The only way it differed from the sparrows in behavior was in the little "snarl" it gave at the birds that crowded it too much on the feeder. It occasionally dropped to the ground below the feeder and fed on spilled grain. We did not see it on December 24, but it appeared once on the 25th and again once on the 26th. We have not seen it since.—David and Marion Stocking, Beloit.



FIELD NOTES

By MARTHA and ROY LOUND

Summer Season

June 1-August 15, 1961

The summer of 1961 produced fewer noteworthy observations than any of the six summers for which we have been editing records. The dearth of unusual records is probably directly correlated with the absence of field work by some of the old stand-bys: Bill Hilsenhoff was busy moving into his new home, Tom Soulen was fully occupied in obtaining his master's degree from the University of Wisconsin, and Dr. Kemper failed to submit any reports. Our usual sojourn in northern Wisconsin was cancelled, since we spent most of June and July in Alaska and northern Canada where we did add a considerable number of birds to our life list. Only the indefatigable Sam Robbins sent in his usual quota of records.

Robbins Records

Topping the list of the Reverend Robbins' records was his discovery of the nesting of the Western Kingbird at Hudson. One bird was seen on June 6 and again on June 17; on July 17 the nest was discovered in an elm tree and the parents observed carrying food to the young; by July 30 three young were out of the nest.

Of his new home in St. Croix County, he says: "I hardly expected to find the Bewick's Wren and Yellow-breasted Chat here. The presence of these birds, together with such species as the Tufted Titmouse, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Blue-winged and Cerulean Warblers, clearly relates this county much more closely with southern Wisconsin than with the northern part of the state."

A drive on June 3 along the backwaters of the Chippewa River in Buffalo County produced the first mature Little Blue Heron which he has ever seen in Wisconsin, and the only record for the season. There are only two previous June records—one each in 1941 and 1955.

Of special interest was a canoe trip down the Brule River in Douglas County on June 29, of which Sam writes: "Two Tennessee Warblers were heard singing in a wilderness area near the river, increasing the probability that this species will eventually be found to breed in the state. The same may be true of the Ruby-crowned Kinglet, heard singing in two locations."

Interesting Observations

Mrs. F. L. Larkin reported the scarcity of birds at her home in the Fox Point area, Milwaukee County, as follows: "In our own area here,

taking in about 60 blocks, I found one pair of Robins (one young), but south of us we know some people who had a pair raise three young (younger and fewer elms in that area). About six Blue Jays came regularly to our feeders, and finally we counted about six young. No wrens, Orioles, Catbirds, Thrashers, etc."

Mary Donald, in commenting on Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties, said: "I was aware of more Short-billed Marsh Wrens and Henslow's Sparrows around here generally, but few Grasshopper Sparrows. Dickcissels were plentiful in Waukesha County. Robins and Bluebirds were seen in greater numbers. Bobolinks seemed fewer than usual."

Alfred Bradford said: "Unless my observations are very faulty in both Outagamie and Vilas Counties, the Bluebirds are in a bad way. I have not seen a single one in either place, nor in any of my driving around the state."

Mrs. Paul Hoffman wrote from Oconomowoc: "Bluebirds, Tree Swallows and wrens made good use of our bird boxes this year. The Bluebirds seem to have made a good comeback since 1955 and 1958, at least at our place. Seven broods were brought out in 1955 and five in 1958; there were only three last year but six this year."

N. R. Barger noted: "A fine variety of shorebirds in migration on July 16 in Horicon Marsh. Nearly all common species were represented."

Melva Maxson had this to say about the Milton area: "Many Robins here in the woods (none in town where they sprayed for Dutch elm disease)."

Summer birds in 1961—scarce or plentiful? The following detailed summary may help you draw your own conclusions.

Common Loon: A pair with young seen on Seventeen Flowage, Jackson County, on June 12—the first breeding record for the man-made ponds in the Black River State Forest (George Hartman); also reported from Bayfield, Burnett, Forest, Oneida, Vilas and Washburn Counties.

Double-crested Cormorant: Reported only from Adams County on July 21 (Sam Robbins) and from Crex Meadows, Burnett County, during July and August (W. E. Southern).

Little Blue Heron: An adult bird seen along the backwaters of the Chippewa River, Buffalo County, on June 3, together with some Great Blue and Green Herons. The light was good, and it was studied at 75 yards through a 30X Balscope (Robbins and Howard Winkler).

Common Egret: Reported from Buffalo, Dodge, Outagamie, Pierce, Vernon and Waukesha Counties.

Whistling Swan: Two pairs of immature birds, about three miles apart, present in the Peshtigo Marsh, Marinette County. One of the first pair was found dead on July 30, and it is believed that one of the second pair also died as only one bird was present on August 5 and 12. Quite a number of dead herons and gulls were found in the area (H. L. Lindberg). (The probable cause of waterfowl deaths in Green Bay marsh areas was determined by the Conservation Department to be an outbreak of botulism. Editor.)

Canada Goose: A pair with two young at Goose Pond, Columbia County on June 4 (Wm. Hilsenhoff); nine broods totaling 46 young in Crex Meadows on June 9, and a bird identified as the Richardson's subspecies (*Branta canadensis Hutchinsi*) banded on August 11 (Norman Stone).

White-fronted Goose: Two birds at Crex Meadows on June 2 (Stone).

Snow and Blue Geese: Five Snows on June 2 and one Blue on July 7 at Crex Meadows (Stone).

Gadwall: Two birds at Goose Pond on June 4 (Hilsenhoff), and noted at Crex Meadows on June 25-28 (Southern) and in St. Croix County on July 1 (Robbins).

Pintail: A nesting pair in Winnebago County and two nesting pairs in Outagamie County (Daryl Tessen); also reported from Burnett, Columbia, Dodge and St. Croix Counties.

Green-winged Teal: Reported from Barron, Burnett, Columbia, Dodge, Marinette, Outagamie and St. Croix Counties.

American Widgeon: Eight at Goose Pond, June 4 (Hilsenhoff); seen in St. Croix County, June 6 (Robbins); two males in Winnebago County, June 14 (Tessen).

Shoveler: Recorded in St. Croix County on June 3 (Robbins), Columbia County on June 4 (Hilsenhoff), Winnebago County on June 14 (Tessen) and Crex Meadows on June 18-20 (Southern).

Wood Duck: Several encouraging reports: "a good comeback in Horison Marsh" (Dixie Larkin); "very successful nesting season in Outagamie County (A. S. Bradford); "common, with many nesting in Winnebago County" (Tessen). Also reported from Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Milwaukee, Pierce, St. Croix, Washburn and Waukesha Counties.

Redhead: Reported only from Goose Pond on June 4 (Hilsenhoff) and St. Croix County on June 2 (Robbins).

Ring-necked Duck: Present in Washburn County, and several broods at Crex Meadows (Southern); five birds in Waukesha County on June 18 (Charles and Spencer Nelson).

Lesser Scaup: Present in St. Croix County, June 4 (Robbins); two birds in Door County, June 17 (Charlotte McCombe); observed at Crex Meadows, June 18 (Southern).

Common Goldeneye: One female seen in Outagamie County July 28 to August 10 (Tessen).

Ruddy Duck: Only reports were from Columbia, Dodge, St. Croix and Winnebago Counties.

Hooded Merganser: Present in Burnett, Douglas and St. Croix Counties (Robbins); several broods along the Namekagon River in Washburn County (Southern).

Common Merganser: A female in Sheboygan County, June 21 (Harold Koopman); present in Vilas County (Bradford).

Red-breasted Merganser: Two birds seen in Milwaukee County, June 23 (John Kraupa, Roy Lukes, Harry Wilsmann).

Turkey Vulture: Noted in Douglas, Milwaukee, Vernon, Washburn and Waukesha Counties.

Goshawk: Reported only from Bayfield County (Robbins) and Washburn County (Southern).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Nested in Washburn County (Southern); present in Bayfield County (Robbins) and Vilas County (Bradford).

Cooper's Hawk: Reported from Milwaukee County (Mary Donald), St. Croix County (Robbins) and Waukesha County (John Bielefeldt).

Red-shouldered Hawk: A pair nested in a tree in our yard in Madison and raised three young (Roy Lound).

Broad-winged Hawk: A nest near the Audubon Camp, Washburn County (Southern); present in Dane County (Hilsenhoff) and Vilas County (Bradford).

Bald Eagle: Reported from Burnett and Washburn Counties (Southern), Forest County (C. J. Irish) and Vilas County (Bradford).

Osprey: Present in Washburn County, with a nest at the Audubon Camp (Southern); observed in Forest County (Winkler) and Vilas County (Bradford).

Sharp-tailed Grouse: A brood of 11 seen on June 30 in Burnett County (Stone).

Gray Partridge: "Making a comeback in Outagamie County after being almost exterminated in the 1958-59 and 1959-60 winters" (Bradford); also reported from Milwaukee, Rock, St. Croix and Waukesha Counties.

King Rail: A pair with five young in Manitowoc County, July 18 (Kraupa); a downy young bird found dead during July in Portage County (Fran Hamerstrom); present in Columbia County (Winkler) and Outagamie County (Bradford).

Semipalmated Plover: Spring migrants seen on June 4 at Goose Pond (Hilsenhoff) and in St. Croix County (Robbins). Noted in Waukesha County on July 4—probably very early returnees (Bielefeldt).

American Golden Plover: One bird seen at Goose Pond on June 4 (Hilsenhoff).

Black-bellied Plover: Last spring departure date, June 4, Marinette County (Lindberg); first return date, July 31, Dodge County (Donald).

Ruddy Turnstone: Still present in Marinette County on June 10 (Lindberg).

Solitary Sandpiper: First fall migrants recorded in St. Croix County on July 7 (Robbins) and Waukesha County on July 9 (Bielefeldt).

Greater Yellowlegs: Fall migrants recorded in Waukesha County on July 17 (Bielefeldt), followed by July 18 reports from Barron, Burnett, Outagamie and Rock Counties.

Lesser Yellowlegs: Spring migrants at Goose Pond on June 4 (Hilsenhoff) and in Door County on June 11 (Larkin). Returnees first noted on July 12 in Barron and Burnett Counties (Southern) and on July 13 in Waukesha County (Bielefeldt). In Outagamie County fall returnees were first noted on July 16, with peak concentrations on July 28 and August 7 (Tessen).

Knot: A bird in spring plumage in Outagamie County on August 3 (Tessen); one bird on the lakeshore, Milwaukee County, on August 15 (Larkin).

Pectoral Sandpiper: Elmer Strehlow's report of two birds in Milwaukee County on June 27 and on July 6 must be regarded as hypothetical inasmuch as it was supported by no corroborating data. There appear to be no previous records for the period between June 3 and July 8.

White-rumped Sandpiper: 18 birds at Goose Pond on June 4 (Hilsenhoff); departed from St. Croix County on June 6 (Robbins).

Baird's Sandpiper: Last departure date, June 4, St. Croix County, and first return date, August 9, Bayfield County (Robbins).

Least Sandpiper: Last spring migrants in St. Croix County on June 2 (Robbins); returnees noted in Barron County on July 13 (Southern).

Dunlin: Spring migrants still present on June 4 in Columbia, Marinette and St. Croix Counties.

Short-billed Dowitcher: Two spring migrants at Goose Pond on June 4 (Hilsenhoff); seven returning birds, identified by call note, in St. Croix County on August 15 (Robbins).

Stilt Sandpiper: Recorded in Dodge County on July 16 (N. R. Barger) and St. Croix County on August 15 (Robbins).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Spring migrants present on June 6 in Outagamie County (Tessen) and St. Croix County (Robbins); fall migrants noted on July 8 in Waukesha County (Bielefeldt).

Western Sandpiper: Fall migrants seen in Milwaukee County during August (Donald).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Recorded in Washburn County on August 15 (Southern).

Sanderling: Fall migrants on August 9 in Bayfield County (Robbins) and August 15 in Milwaukee County (Larkin).

Wilson's Phalarope: Present at Crex Meadows, with immature birds seen (Southern); also reported from Door, Marinette, Outagamie, Rusk and St. Croix Counties.

Franklin's Gull: One bird seen in Milwaukee on August 14 (Donald).

Bonaparte's Gull: Present in Marinette County all season (Lindberg); noted in Bayfield County on August 8 (Robbins) and Milwaukee County on August 15 (Larkin).

Forster's Tern: Observed in Dane County, June 2 (Eugene Roark), and in Green Lake County, June 18-22, and Adams County, July 21 (Robbins).

Common Tern: Observed in Washburn County on June 24 (Southern); reported present all season in Douglas and Winnebago Counties; August reports from several counties.

Caspian Tern: One bird in Pepin County on June 3 and two birds in Douglas County on June 29 (Robbins); reported from Outagamie and Sheboygan Counties during August.

Barn Owl: A mature bird seen in Rock County on August 1 (David and Marion Stocking); two birds in Milwaukee County on June 22 (Donald).

Long-eared Owl: "Flushed three or four birds on June 20 in Waukesha County—the roost was surrounded by pellets and jay feathers, with a crumbling nest of sticks nearby" (Bielefeldt).

Western Kingbird: A nest with young found near Hudson, St. Croix County, on July 17, and three young out of the nest being fed by parents on July 30; two birds seen in area on August 12 (Robbins).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Late spring migrants in Dane County on June 8 (Jim Zimmerman); present in Forest County on June 11 (Winkler).

Acadian Flycatcher: Present in Dane County (Hilsenhoff); noted on the summer bird counts at Leland, Sauk County, on June 25 (Harold Kruse) and at Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, on June 23 (Kraupa, Lukes, Wilsmann).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Observed in Milwaukee County, June 1 (Harold Bauers); recorded at the Audubon Camp, August 8-15 (Southern); a summer resident in Douglas County (Robbins) and Forest County (Winkler).

Bank Swallow: On ten days during June and July 765 birds were banded at ten locations in the Milwaukee area. 1,075 birds have been banded in the past three years, and it was surmised from the low percentage of recaptures that there is a high mortality rate among older birds or that there is some intermixing between colonies from year to year (Wallace MacBriar).

Gray Jay: Found in Forest County, June 8-11 (Winkler) and in Sawyer County, June 16 (Irene Edmond, Katherine Fuller).

Common Raven: One bird seen in Waupaca County on June 29 (Harold Steinke); all other reports were from northern counties.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: One banded on July 10 in Rock County (Melva Maxson); present at the Wisconsin Audubon Camp after July 24 (Southern); fall migrants noted in Milwaukee County on August 4 (Donald). Also reported from Bayfield, Douglas and Forest Counties where it is regular breeder.

Brown Creeper: Reported from Door County on June 2 (Charlotte McCombe); a summer resident in Douglas and Forest Counties (Robbins).

Winter Wren: Reported only from Bayfield, Douglas and Forest Counties, where it is a summer resident.

Bewick's Wren: Reported only from St. Croix County, where it was noted on June 17 and August 12 (Robbins).

Carolina Wren: The only report was of one singing in Door County on June 11 (Larkin).

Wood Thrush: Reports from Douglas, Forest and Rusk Counties suggest a northward extension of range.

Hermit Thrush: Reported only from far northern counties where it is a regular breeder.

Swainson's Thrush: Spring migrants still present in Dane, Milwaukee and Rock Counties on June 4 and in Marathon and Outagamie Counties on June 6. An early fall migrant banded on August 5 in Rock County (Maxson). Reported present all season in Bayfield, Douglas, Forest and Vilas Counties.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: One was banded on June 4 in Rock County (Stocking).

Eastern Bluebird: Present in most areas, but generally considered to be scarce.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Reported only from Bayfield and Douglas Counties (Robbins).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Still present in Dane County on June 3 (Zimmerman); two singing birds in Douglas County on June 29 (Robbins).

White-eyed Vireo: The only report was from Dane County on June 7 (Tom Ashman).

Bell's Vireo: At least four pairs present in the University Arboretum, Madison (Hilsenhoff); observed and believed to be nesting in Columbia County (Winkler).

Solitary Vireo: Present in Bayfield and Douglas Counties (Robbins) and in Washburn County (Southern).

Philadelphia Vireo: Observed at the Wisconsin Audubon Camp on August 12 (Southern).

Prothonotary Warbler: At least eight singing birds in Buffalo County and also noted in Pierce County on June 3 (Robbins); no other reports.

Golden-winged Warbler: Reports from Bayfield, Douglas, Forest, Rusk, Sawyer and Washburn Counties suggest a northward extension of range.

Blue-winged Warbler: Most northerly reports were from Buffalo, Pierce and St. Croix Counties (Robbins).

Brewster's Warbler: One noted in the company of several Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers in Sauk County on August 12 (R. E. Ohm).

Tennessee Warbler: Two singing birds in Douglas County on June 29 (Robbins). Early fall migrants recorded on July 24 in Dane County (Robbins) and on July 31 in Waukesha County (Bielefeldt).

Nashville Warbler: Reported only from Bayfield, Douglas, Forest and St. Croix Counties (Robbins) and from Washburn County after August 13 (Southern).

Parula Warbler: Present in Bayfield and Douglas Counties (Robbins), Forest County (Winkler) and Vilas County (Bradford); noted in Barron County on July 12 (Southern).

Magnolia Warbler: Observed in Bayfield and Douglas Counties (Robbins) and Forest County (Winkler).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Found in Bayfield County on August 9 (Robbins).

Myrtle Warbler: Recorded in Bayfield, Douglas and Forest Counties (Robbins).

Cerulean Warbler: Reported from Barron, Door, Pepin and Washburn Counties, indicating a gradual northward extension of its range.

Blackburnian Warbler: A singing male in Green Lake County, June 18-24—the first summer record in ten annual visits to that area (Robbins); also reported from Bayfield, Douglas, Forest, Vilas and Washburn Counties.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Only one singing bird in the Madison School Forest, Dane County, this year compared to several the previous year (Zimmerman); present in Outagamie County (Tessen); other reports were all from northern counties.

Blackpoll Warbler: Spring migrants still present on June 3 in Pierce County (Robbins) and Rock County (Mrs. Joseph Mahlum), June 4 in Dane County (Hilsenhoff), and June 8-11 in Forest County (Winkler).

Pine Warbler: Reported only from Washburn County on June 26 (Southern) and Douglas County on June 29 (Robbins).

Northern Waterthrush: One banded on June 3 in Rock County (Stocking); fall migrants first noted on July 27 in Waukesha County (Bielefeldt); reported present throughout season in Douglas, Outagamie, Vilas and Washburn Counties.

Kentucky Warbler: Reported to be nesting in the University Arboretum, Madison (Ashman); present in Vernon County (Earl and Viratine Weber).

Connecticut Warbler: Noted in Dane County on June 3 (Hilsenhoff); one banded in Rock County on June 4 (Stocking); recorded in Bayfield County on August 9 (Robbins).

Mourning Warbler: Recorded in Dane County on June 3 (Hilsenhoff); reported from Vernon County on June 21 (Weber); present all season in Outagamie County (Tessen) and several northern counties.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Singing individuals on June 3 in Buffalo County and June 17 in St. Croix County (Robbins); no other reports.

Hooded Warbler: One heard singing on June 3 in Waukesha County (Bielefeldt); observed on June 14 in the University Arboretum, Madison (Ashman).

Canada Warbler: Reported from Outagamie County on June 3 (Tessen), Waukesha County on June 4 (Bielefeldt), Milwaukee County on June 12 (Larkin), and one singing in Sauk County on June 21 (Zimmerman); all other reports were from far northern counties.

Evening Grosbeak: Recorded on August 9 in Bayfield County (Robbins); one female at feeder at Wisconsin Audubon Camp on August 11-12 (Southern).

Purple Finch: Still present in Milwaukee County on June 10 (Larkin), and noted in St. Croix County on August 4 (Robbins); also reported from Bayfield, Douglas, Forest and Price Counties where it is a summer resident.

Pine Siskin: Reported from Bayfield and Douglas Counties (Robbins) and Forest County (Winkler).

Red Crossbill: One bird in Dane County on June 2 (Tom Soulen); present in Forest County, June 8-11 (Winkler).

Le Conte's Sparrow: Recorded at Crex Meadows on July 27 (Southern).

Slate-colored Junco: Recorded on June 18 and July 6 in Washburn County (Southern); present in Vilas County (Bradford).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Reported from Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Pierce, St. Croix and Washburn Counties.

White-throated Sparrow: Reported only from the following northern counties: Bayfield, Douglas, Forest, Vilas and Washburn.

Lincoln's Sparrow: The only report was of a bird northeast of Spooner, Washburn County, on July 3 (Southern).



BANDING REPORT FROM MILTON

My banding records for the period from January 1, 1961, through October 11, 1961, show 1460 birds of 86 species banded here. Nearly all the birds were taken in mist nets. High species included Tennessee Warbler (143), Redstart and Bay-breasted Warbler (110 each), and Swainson's Thrush (100). Other highlights include 76 Red-breasted Nuthatches, two Hummingbirds, one Worm-eating Warbler, 11 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, one Common Gallinule, single Red-tailed and Cooper's Hawks and Screech and Long-eared Owls, and two Sharp-shinned Hawks. Warblers are represented by 22 species and 551 individuals.

I've had many groups this summer to observe banding and hike in the woods. One group consisted of 364 and was hard to manage! Many were of 20 to 60 people.—Mrs. Melva Maxson, Milton.

FIELD TRIP NOTES

1962 FALL CAMPOUT

The Fall Campout was held on September 8 and 9 at the W.S.O. Honey Creek Nature Preserve, with groups coming from Madison, Mt. Horeb, Sheboygan, Milwaukee, Beloit, Loganville, Manitowoc, La Crosse, Oconomowoc, New Lisbon, Wausau, Ixonia, and Merrimac. Many enjoyed their first view of the W.S.O. property.

The Saturday morning trip was a 2½ mile hike down a side valley to the W.S.O. tract, led by Ed Peartree. The afternoon trip, on the new 40-acre bluff area, was led by Harold Kruse. A small wave of warblers was seen by some hikers, and many plants were identified.



CARL AND DOROTHY FRISTER WITH GRANDCHILDREN AT 1962
SUMMER CAMPOUT, LAKE DU BAY

PHOTO BY THE EDITOR

Sunday morning, Jim Zimmerman led a trip to the Leopold Memorial Woods near Denzer. This was a particularly rewarding trip for learning about the many plants in the area. On the return trip, a side jaunt gave participants a look at excavations of Indian sites. The explanations given by the landowner were very enjoyable, and showed that he was well-versed on the subject.

Mist nets were in operation on Saturday and Sunday, and many species of birds were observed in the hand. Included were Green Heron, Lincoln's Sparrow, Scarlet Tanager, Blue-winged Warbler, and others. Another highlight was the fine show of Fringed Gentians in the W.S.O. bog.

Most of the campers made camp at the David Cox farmhouse just south of the W.S.O. bog. The rain on Saturday afternoon and evening failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the 61 people who participated, but forced the cancellation of the bonfire. A slide program on Honey Creek birds, flowers and campouts was presented by Harold Kruse and Ed Peartree. Group singing and a declamation by Hazel Cox were enjoyed by all. The traditional popcorn was prepared as usual by Eva Brown and Claire Peartree.

CEDAR GROVE HAWK TRIP

On Sunday, September 30, 52 people from Madison; Milwaukee, Wauwatosa, Oconomowoc, Sussex, Plymouth, Sheboygan Falls, Hales Corners, and Delafield, as well as Chicago, Lake Forest, Normal, and Apple River, Illinois, attended. This was the most disappointing trip we have ever had to this area. Songbirds were at a premium and the only hawk seen was a Redtail caught by Gordon Hammel on the way to Cedar Grove and banded and released there. A bright spot was the blooming Bottled Gentian along the path to the lake.

PETENWELL EAGLE TRIP

On Sunday, January 27, a trip to view the wintering Bald Eagles in the Petenwell Dam area will be led by members of the S. Paul Jones Bird Club of Oconomowoc. Participants will meet at the Highway 21



THE DARK ROOM

COMPLETE

PHOTOGRAPHIC Equipment & Supplies

**COMPLETE LINE OF NAME BRAND BINOCULARS
AND TELEPHOTO LENSES FOR
MOVIE AND STILL CAMERAS**

We Buy—Sell—Trade Cameras

TRAINED TECHNICIANS AT YOUR SERVICE

722 N. Milwaukee Street
529 E. Silver Spring Drive
8841 W. North Avenue

BR oadway 2-1151
WO odruff 2-7080
BL uemound 8-9770

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

bridge over the Wisconsin River, in the shadow of Petenwell Rock, at 10:30 a. m. After an early lunch the group will proceed to the Necedah and Mather areas. There, wild Turkey have been seen the past two years, and chances of seeing Pileated Woodpeckers, Sharp-tailed and Ruffed Grouse, and Pine Grosbeaks are very good.

MILWAUKEE LAKE FRONT TRIP

The annual trip to the Milwaukee lake shore to see wintering waterfowl and songbirds will be held on Sunday, March 3. The meeting place will be McKinley Beach parking area, and the time will be 8:00 a. m. The course of the trip will be southward, ending at Grant Park. We don't expect that the weather can be any worse than last year, and we know that all who participated in that trip survived and even enjoyed it!

OPERATION SNOWY OWL

"Operation Snowy Owl" is still under way, and any reports of these invaders from the north should be forwarded immediately to Fran Hamstrom at Plainfield. Note any odd color in the owl's plumage, as some of the birds color-marked last winter may return to Wisconsin. Prompt reporting is essential, as it may enable Fran or the other participants to re-trap one of last year's birds.

**FIND THIS BIRD
ONLY IN
RACINE**



**14 complete
GASOLINE STATIONS**

**W. H. PUGH OIL CO.
Racine, Wisconsin**

W. S. O. OFFICERS & COMMITTEES — 1962-63

President: Alfred O. Holz,* 125 Kolb Street, Green Bay
Vice-President: Howard F. Young,* 1482 Apple Orchard Lane, La Crosse
Secretary: Mrs. David J. Cox,* 1905 Cottage Avenue, Beloit
Treasurer: Mrs. Alfred O. Holz,* 125 Kolb Street, Green Bay
Memberships: Mrs. LeRoy Mattern,* Box 322B, Route 4, Wausau
Conservation: Arol C. Epple,* Box 325, Route 1, Stevens Point
Education: Mrs. R. P. Hussong,* 332 Beaupre Avenue, Green Bay
Publicity: Nils Dahlstrand,* 814 Birch Street, Rhinelander
Endowments & Advertisements: Stanley L. Polacheck,* 3914 N. Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee 11
Legal Counsel: H. Lowell Hall,* 143 E. Chateau Place, Milwaukee 17
Field Trips: Edward W. Peartree, Grasshopper Hill, 36516 Lisbon Road, Oconomowoc
Custodian: Walter E. Scott, 1721 Hickory Drive, Madison 5

Research Committee

Chairmen: Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Hamerstrom, Jr.,* Plainfield

Supply Department

Manager: Harold G. Kruse,* Hickory Hill Farm, Loganville
 Handles orders for books, stationery, etc. Catalog available.
 10% discount to WSO members for ornithological supplies.
Assistants: Edward W. Peartree, 36516 Lisbon Road, Oconomowoc (Records)
 Mrs. C. P. Frister, 2956A N. 38th Street, Milwaukee
 David J. Cox, 1905 Cottage Avenue, Beloit
 Roy J. Lukes, Box 58, Cottage Grove

Editorial Staff

Editor: Eugene Roark,* 513 N. Franklin Avenue, Madison 5
Circulation Manager: Mrs. Raymond J. Roark, 101 Roby Road, Madison 5
Associate Editor: Rev. Samuel D. Robbins,* Roberts
Seasonal Editors:

(spring) Thomas Soulen, 603 Eagle Heights Apts., Madison 5
 (summer) Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Lound, 2520 Balden Street, Madison 13
 (autumn) Dr. Charles A. Kemper, 727 Maple Street, Chippewa Falls
 (winter) Harold A. Bauers, 2321 N. 32nd Street, Milwaukee 10

File Keeper: Mrs. Arthur Gauerke, Route 2, Box 164, Oconomowoc

*Member Board of Directors



FOR CATALOG AND PRICE
LIST CONTACT:

HAROLD G. KRUSE
 HICKORY HILL FARM
 LOGANVILLE, WIS.

FOLBOT—The Perfect Boat for

Fun Afloat In All Types of Water.

- SAFE—EXTREMELY STABLE
- LIGHT—17' 2-SEATER WEIGHS ONLY 74 LBS.
- STRONG, DURABLE AND LONG LASTING
- COLLAPSES AND STORES IN 2 COMPACT BAGS FOR EASY TRANSPORTATION

IDEAL FOR BIRDING AND FOR GENERAL WILD
LIFE OBSERVATION OR PHOTOGRAPHY