



# LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## **The passenger pigeon. Volume 26, Number 3 Autumn 1964**

Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Autumn 1964

<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.

1939



25<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary 1964

# The Passenger Pigeon

A Magazine of Wisconsin Bird Study

CARL WELTY

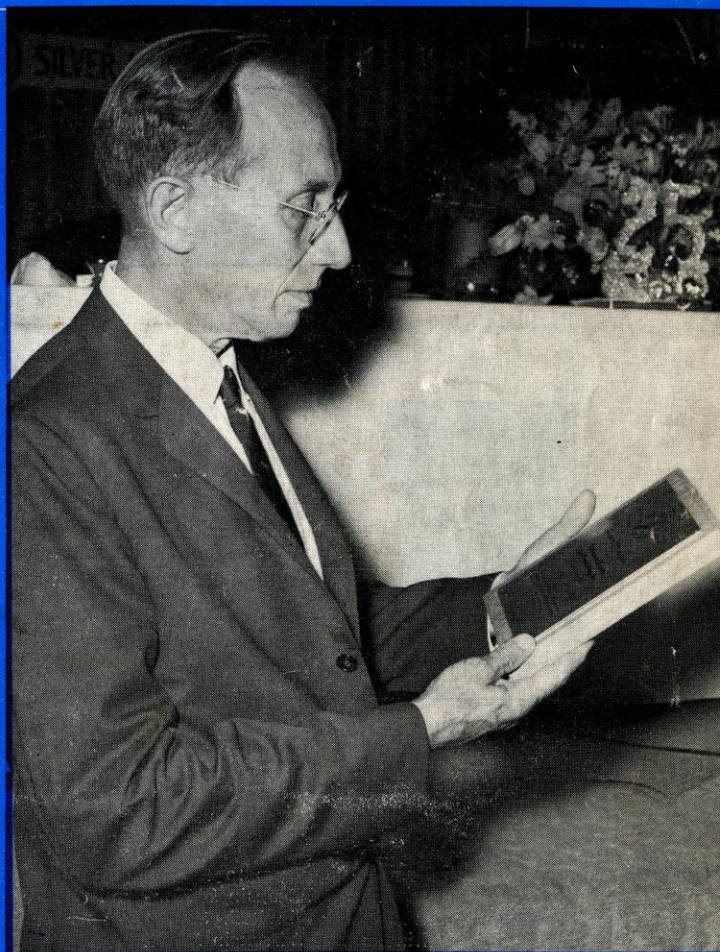
WSO

HONORARY

LIFE

MEMBER

WISCONSIN CONSERVATION  
DEPARTMENT PHOTO



VOLUME 26

NUMBER 3

AUTUMN

1964

PUBLISHED  
QUARTERLY  
BY

THE WISCONSIN SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY, INC.

# IN THIS ISSUE

The 1964 Convention .....	107
By Nils P. Dahlstrand	
The 1964 Business Meeting .....	115
By Mrs. David Cox	
The 1963 Christmas Bird Count .....	118
By Harold A. Bauers	
Book Reviews .....	138
BIRDS OVER AMERICA by Roger Tory Peterson. Reviewed by Gertrude M. Scott.	
JOURNEY IN GREEN PLACES by Virginia S. Eifert. Review by Clara Hussong.	
An Invitation to WSO Members .....	139
By the Wayside .....	141
Field Notes: The Winter Season .....	143
By Harold A. Bauers	



COVER PHOTO: The Society's newest honorary life member is Carl Welty, professor of ornithology at Beloit College. His book, **The Life of Birds**, published in 1962, has been acclaimed as an outstanding ornithological contribution. Mrs. Welty assisted her husband in many ways in creating **The Life of Birds**.

Volume XXVI, Number 3

Autumn (July-September) 1964

**THE PASSENGER PIGEON**, official publication of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Inc., is published quarterly at 101 Roby Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53705. Classes of membership and annual dues: Active \$3.00 (Students \$2.00). Husband-and-Wife \$4.00. Sustaining \$5.00 or more. Life \$75.00. Patron \$100 or more. Library \$2.00. At least \$1.75 of each annual membership (\$1.50 in case of a student membership and Wisconsin Library subscriptions) is set aside to cover subscription to *The Passenger Pigeon*. Send membership dues to the membership chairman, Mrs. LeRoy Mattern, 404 Fern Lane, Wausau, Wisconsin 54401. Send change of address to the membership chairman. Manuscripts are invited. Send them to the editor, Nils P. Dahlstrand, 814 Birch Street, Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501.

Second class postage paid at Madison, Wisconsin.



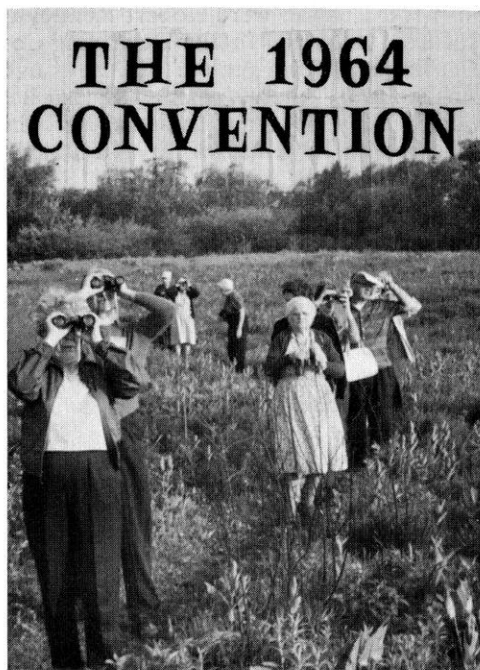
By NILS P. DAHLSTRAND

There is no doubt that the 1964 convention at Madison will be remembered longer and by more people than any other convention in the history of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology. A silver anniversary is a memorable event, and the committee on convention arrangements made certain that this one will linger long in members' memories as an eventful experience that they will relish for years to come.

The silver anniversary convention was held in the Wisconsin Center and Memorial Union of the University of Wisconsin on May 22-24, 1964. Activities began on Friday evening at the Wisconsin Center with a reception sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society. Members and guests had the unusual opportunity of having their books autographed by such well-known ornithologists and writers as Carl Welty, Owen J. Gromme, Roger Tory Peterson, A. W. Schorger, Herbert L. Stoddard, Sr., and Clara Hussong. These authors were kept busy when you consider that 400 people attended this reception.

At the time that the autograph party was going on in the main lounge, other activities were also in full swing. The Book Store, always a popular gathering place at any convention, did a brisk business. The "white elephant" sale, handled ably by N. R. Barger, attracted much attention. In the auditorium people squeezed in to participate in the demonstrations and discussions that took place from 6:30 to 10:00 p. m. It was "standing room only" at these presentations, with many folks sitting on the floor at the rear of the auditorium when their legs tired. Others watched the proceedings in the main lounge via closed circuit TV.

Jens von Sivers demonstrated how birds are sketched in water color and pencil from 6:30 to 8:00 p. m. During this demonstration L. Wayne Brown played bird song recordings. Following this demonstration Richard A. Shilbauer of the Mueller Engraving Co. discussed "how to produce a bird book, color correct, economically from 35 mm transparencies or oil and water color paintings." (The Mueller Engraving Co. made the engravings for Owen Gromme's **Birds of Wisconsin**). Also participating



FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

THOMAS NICHOLLS PHOTO



in this discussion were Robert Remley of the North American Press and Julius Mueller of Mueller Engraving Co. Last on the program were Murl Deusing and John Emlen. Mr. Deusing narrated his film, "Birds of Lake Koshkonong," the very same one that he presented at WSO's first convention in May, 1939 at Madison. Dr. Emlen closed the formal session of the evening by illustrating with slides his presentation on the birds of Newfoundland.

Convention-goers showed great interest in the exhibits that were on display at the Wisconsin Center and Memorial Library. These included an historical background of WSO arranged by Helen Northup and Walter E. Scott, original paintings by Owen Gromme and engravings done by the Mueller Engraving Co., a pair of Passenger Pigeons owned by W. J. P. Aberg, rare bird books, Bluebird Trails project by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Romig, and a display by the Wisconsin Conservation Department.

At 5:30 a. m. on Saturday a goodly number of bird watchers participated in the planned field trips. Two choice spots in Madison were selected: the University of Wisconsin Arboretum and the University Picnic Point area. Leaders for these field trips were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lound, Tom Soulen, Tom Nicholls, Sam Robbins, William Hilsenhoff and John T. Emlen.

### The Paper Session

By the time the Saturday morning paper session began in the auditorium most of the 507 registrants were already on hand. Again, closed circuit TV carried the program to the overflow crowd in the two lounges at the Wisconsin Center. John T. Emlen presided at the morning session.

Edward W. Peartree, WSO's field trip chairman and one of Wisconsin's avid bird banders, spoke on "The WSO Natural Area." He illustrated his presentation of the Society's Sauk county nature area with excellent color bird slides and scenic views. Over 500 species of plants have been identified and 102 species of birds nest on or near the WSO Natural Area.

"Land for Learning" was the subject chosen by James H. Zimmerman, forest naturalist of the Madison public schools. He pointed out the importance of the Madison school forest in teaching children the wonders of the out-of-doors.

Frederick N. Hamerstrom, Plainfield, discussed "The Changing Status of Wisconsin Prairie Chickens." Wisconsin's Prairie Chicken population is concentrated now on the Buena Vista and Leola marshes in central Wisconsin. Dr. Hamerstrom listed three causes of the chickens' demise in other areas of Wisconsin, and pointed out that they are still at work in the birds' last stronghold. These causes are—intensive cultivation (often abetted by drainage), grazing and mowing, and conversion of grasslands to brush or woods through natural invasion or tree planting. Land purchased by a number of organizations (including WSO) and managed for Prairie Chickens by the Wisconsin Conservation Department is turning the tide, but more is needed. Dr. Hamerstrom said, "However, there is now solid reason to believe that the Prairie Chicken will be preserved on Wisconsin's one last and best area."

Arol Epple, Stevens Point, Dr. Charles Kemper, Chippewa Falls, and Rev. Samuel D. Robbins, Roberts, teamed up to present "The Ornithological Flood of September 19-20, 1963." These three gentlemen described the most observable and remarkable migration phenomena ever recorded in Wisconsin. By long distance telephone they recruited a corps of night migrant bird watchers (or rather, listeners) across the state



FRED AND FRAN HAMERSTROM'S BIRDS OF PREY ATTRACTED MUCH ATTENTION.

WISCONSIN CONSERVATION DEPT. PHOTO

that documented a tremendous flood of birds through Wisconsin. Unfortunately, time ran out on these men (as it sometimes does at a gathering such as this), so they were not able to fully present their subject. However, their interesting paper will be published in a future issue of **The Passenger Pigeon**.

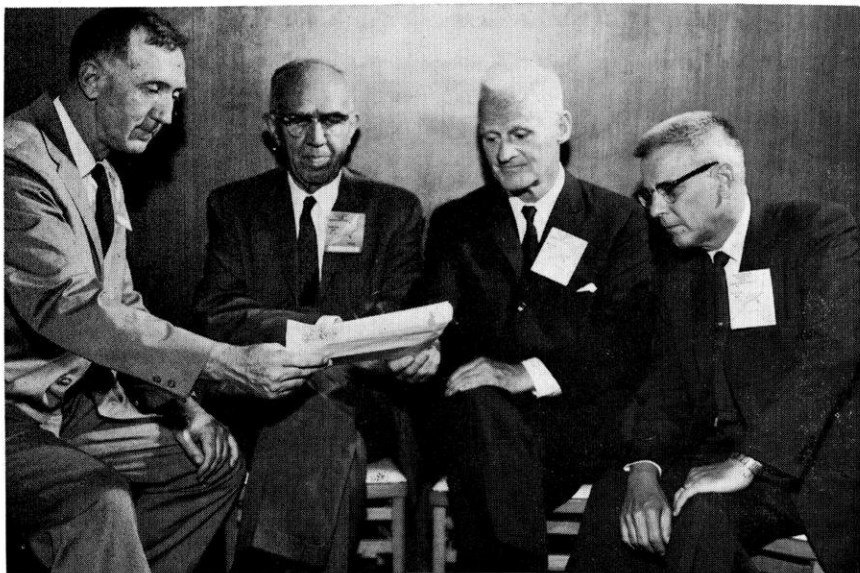
The last paper of the morning session was "The Status of the Burrowing Owl in Southwestern Wisconsin" by Terrence N. Ingram, Platteville. From his studies in Grant county he concluded that the recorded status of the Burrowing Owl in Wisconsin is very erroneous. According to conservation wardens in that area, these owls were as common as pheasants 12 to 14 years ago. However, they have been declining. No proof has been gathered that these owls have ever nested in Wisconsin.

Following the formal morning session, members and guests of the Society gathered for a group photograph on the steps of the Memorial Library. All told, 225 people and three birds posed for this memorable photograph.

Following the noon luncheon at the Wisconsin Center at which 236 people were served, Robert A. McCabe called the afternoon paper session to order in the auditorium. Paul Romig, Green Bay, described "Bluebirds—State and Nationwide." He reported that WSO's Bluebird Trails project is increasing in popularity. While Bluebird numbers have

(Continued on page 113)

# WSO Citations Presented to Conservation Leaders



(L. TO R.) ROBERT A. MCCABE, WILLIAM J. P. ABERG, WILLIS G. SULLIVAN AND PAUL J. OLSON.

WCD PHOTO

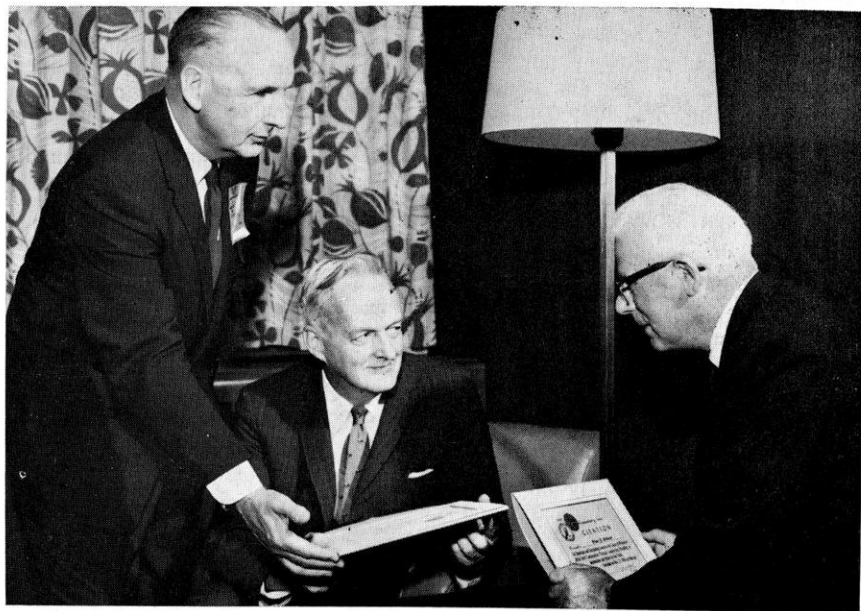
**WILLIAM J. P. ABERG** (Madison Attorney): Wisconsin Conservation Commissioner for 12 years (1939-1951) and former Chairman; one of the authors of the Conservation Act of 1927 establishing the nonpolitical Conservation Commission and a leader in legislative efforts giving that body rule-making power and in preserving its integrity; Past Chairman of the National Executive Board and Past President of Wisconsin Divisions, Izaak Walton League of American; first midwestern Director for the organization formed by "Ding" Darling which became the National Wildlife Federation; previously a Director of Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and at present Treasurer of the Gordon MacQuarrie Foundation. He has always worked for bird preservation and sound management and played a major role in the restoration of Horicon Marsh, establishment of the Wisconsin National Forests and in development of pioneer policies of the Wisconsin Conservation Commission.

**WILLIAM G. SULLIVAN** (Milwaukee Business Executive): Board Chairman of the Krause Milling Company; organizer of the unique and rapidly growing group of people dedicated to preservation of Wisconsin's prairie grouse, and especially of the Prairie Chicken, under the scientific name of that bird—Society of *Tympanuchus Cupido Pinnatus*. With a corporate structure designed to intrigue and amuse the members in addition to stimulation for a worthy purpose, this Society already has enlisted the support of 529 members and collected over \$120,000 of which more than \$100,000 has gone into land acquisition on the Buena Vista Marsh in Portage county. Here is a man who created an organization which literally will flourish or disappear depending on the success of that organization to preserve the Wisconsin habitat of *Tympanuchus cupido pinnatus*.

**PAUL J. OLSON** (Madison Educator): Wisconsin Conservation Commissioner and member of the commissioner's Land Committee for several years; leader in aggressive pioneering for conservation education techniques such as summer school conservation projects for high school students which he started in 1953 and establishment of the



Madison School Forest; President of the Wisconsin Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, long-time worker in the Dane County Conservation League which established a committee early in 1959, later to be known as the "Prairie Chicken Foundation." He was responsible, more than anyone else, for implementation of the Hamerstrom Plan for preservation of the Wisconsin Prairie Chicken in the vicinity of Buena Vista Marsh and this group now controls approximately 2,800 acres of land costing over \$106,000 which they have purchased and dedicated to this worthy cause.



(L. TO R.) REV. HOWARD L. ORIAN, ROGER TORY  
PETERSON AND OWEN J. GROMME. WCD PHOTO

**ROGER TORY PETERSON** (Old Lyme, Connecticut, Ornithologist): Author, conservationist, lecturer and a painter of birds; pioneer and leader in ornithological work throughout the world and distinguished scientist and interpreter of bird-lore for better understanding of people everywhere; author of the text of "The Birds" in Life Magazine's new nature library series and of many other books of which the many field guides using the "Peterson System" of identification are most famous. He has been awarded the Brewster Medal of the American Ornithologists Union and many other honors from scientific institutions and conservation organizations. His close association with and leadership in the Natural Audubon Society has been a significant force for conservation of birds and their habitat throughout the world.

**OWEN J. GROMME** (Milwaukee Museum Curator): Veteran museum curator and artist of the Milwaukee Public Museum; militant conservationist through many organizations such as the Milwaukee County Conservation Alliance and the Citizens Natural Resources Association of Wisconsin; President and one of the founders of Wetlands for Wildlife, a group incorporated to encourage national support for preservation of wetland habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife. He already is an honorary member of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, but is cited here specifically for his outstanding recent book, "Birds of Wisconsin," which already is being republished in a second edition. This represents the achievement of a lifetime of concentrated work dedicated to the loving understanding and appreciation of Wisconsin birds in their natural environments, and through public support will better assure their preservation into the future.

## SILVER PASSENGER PIGEONS AWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE SOCIETY



REV. SAMUEL D. ROBBINS AND  
WSO PRESIDENT HOWARD F. YOUNG.

REV. SAMUEL D. ROBBINS (Minister at Roberts, Wis.): For distinguished service to the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology through innumerable projects, many of which were created and developed completely by himself. In addition to being one of the state's outstanding field ornithologists, Sam Robbins was a prime mover in preparation and revision of the field card bird list and check list with migration charts. In addition, he organized the Society's permanent bird note file and is seeing that it is kept up-to-date. He also was responsible for preparation of the series of articles on "Wisconsin's Favorite Bird Haunts," organized a summer bird count project and stimulated increased Christmas bird count activity. A past president of the Society and editor or associate editor of *The Passenger Pigeon* for 16 years, Rev. Sam Robbins is most deserving of this recognition.



MRS. HARRY STEENBOCK AND  
AND WALTER SCOTT.

DR. HARRY STEENBOCK (Madison Scientist): For distinguished service to the

Wisconsin Society for Ornithology through generous and timely gifts of funds to assist its program. In addition to a deep and abiding interest in the out-of-doors and preservation of wildlife which he shares with his wife, Dr. Steenbock presented the WSO silver anniversary committee with a \$1,000 check to help defray expenses of the meeting. To this amount he today has added the gift of 100 shares of North American Aviation stock worth approximately \$4,500 for use as the Society board of directors deems advisable. This means that at least \$5,000 should be available for some permanent and worthy project to preserve wildlife habitat or some natural area in danger of destruction. Dr. Steenbock recently was elected a life member of the Society and indeed is its good friend and patron of Wisconsin birds.



HAROLD AND CARLA KRUSE.  
WCD PHOTOS

CARLA AND HAROLD KRUSE (Farmers and Conservationists of Loganville): For distinguished service to the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology through faithful and painstaking work managing the Sup-

ply Department for the past nine years and improving this operation through discounts to members and publication of an annual catalogue so that many people have benefited from contact with new publications and educational materials as they became available. Working as a team, they are not only leaders in the Citizens Natural Resources Association of Wisconsin, but also recommended plans for purchase of the Honey Creek Natural Area in

Sauk county by the Society and have managed this 125 acres of diversified bird, mammal and plant habitat for the past four years. This project now has mushroomed into the new Baraboo Hills Natural Areas System and will benefit the people of Wisconsin many years into the future. Where in all the state is there a family of farmers who are more ardent conservationists or more deserving of recognition?

---

not increased during the past three years (occupancy of houses still hovers around 15%), one of the important results of this project is the exposure of our young people (and also some who aren't so young) to the benefits of conservation and an understanding of the importance of all creatures to man's survival.

"On Hawks and Owls" was the subject chosen by Frances Hamerstrom, Plainfield, who spends many hours afield studying netting and banding birds of prey. She reported a deep concern about the effects of pesticides on hawk populations and how these chemicals bring about infertility and slow death to hawks and owls.

John A. Weins, University of Wisconsin, Madison, spoke on "Aggression Between Red-winged Blackbirds and Common Grackles." He reported on his studies of these two species in the Lake Wingra area marshes near Madison.

### Tree Swallow Study

Elon E. Case, Antigo, discussed "Homing of Adult and Juvenile Tree Swallows." He found in his studies at the UW Arboretum at Madison that many more males returned to the same or adjacent nest box each year than did females, indicating that the male is the nest side selector.

The last paper of the afternoon session was "The Presence of DDT, DDE, and DDD in Lake Michigan Gulls" by J. A. Keith, Madison. In his paper, Mr. Keith reported on tissue analyses of Herring and Ring-billed Gulls obtained from colonies near the cherry growing areas of Door and Kewaunee counties where large quantities of chemicals are used for insect control. Presence of DDT was found in the eggs and tissues of these birds, but further study is needed to properly evaluate the results.

At the annual business meeting (reported in detail on page 115) the Society formally accepted Dr. Harry Steenbock's generous gift of 100 shares of North American Aviation stock. Officers elected for the 1964-65 term were: Howard F. Young, La Crosse, president; Arol C. Epple, Stevens Point, vice president; Mrs. David J. Cox, Beloit, secretary; Mrs. Alfred O. Holz, Green Bay, treasurer; and Nils P. Dahlstrand, Rhineland, editor.

At 6:00 p. m., 518 people gathered for the silver anniversary banquet in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union.

And what an event it was!



Charles E. Nelson, Jr., Waukesha, served as toastmaster. He introduced charter members, past presidents, newly elected officers and honored guests.

Joel Carl Welty, Beloit, author of **The Life of Birds**, received an honorary life membership to the Society for his outstanding contributions to the Society and the broad field of ornithology. This presentation was made by retiring president Alfred O. Holz.

Charles E. Nelson presented Silver Passenger Pigeon recognition plaques to the three founders of the Society—Mrs. R. A. Walker, N. R. Barger and Walter E. Scott.

Silver Passenger Pigeon awards for outstanding service to the Society were presented to Samuel D. Robbins, Roberts, Harold and Carla Kruse, Loganville, and Dr. Harry Steenbock, Madison. Mrs. Steenbock accepted the plaque for her husband who was unable to attend because of illness. Newly elected president Howard F. Young made these presentations.

WSO citations for outstanding contributions in the broad field of conservation were given to W. J. Aberg, Paul Olson and Willis G. Sullivan. Robert A. McCabe presented these citations.

Roger Tory Peterson and Owen J. Gromme received citations for their exceptional contributions in the field of ornithology. Rev. Howard L. Orians presented these citations.

### **Roger Tory Peterson Speaks**

Following the banquet, about 1,200 people congregated in the plush Memorial Union Theatre for Roger Tory Peterson's illustrated address on African wildlife. After John T. Emlen's introduction, Mr. Peterson told of his ornithological experiences in America and in far off lands. His film, "Bwana Fisi," featured the wild beasts of Africa, their habits, trials and tribulations. For two hours this large throng was carried away by the words and pictures of a master naturalist—an experience they will long remember.

The last planned activities of the convention were the Sunday morning field trips. Two trips were on tap: the Madison School Forest near Verona, and the Honey Creek Natural Area near Leland in Sauk county.

This writer has tried to give a factual account of this 25th annual convention. If only one word could be used to describe it, it would have to be "terrific."

An event like this just doesn't happen.—Long hours and hard work made this memorable event possible. Credit for the success of this gathering—the largest in WSO's history—goes to the local committee on arrangements. Everyone should know who they are, so let me present these loyal and dedicated people to you: Howard Orians, Mrs. Roy Lound, N. R. Barger, Mrs. N. R. Barger, Robert Ellarson, John Emlen, Frank King, Robert McCabe, Helen Northrup, Eugene Roark, Walter E. Scott, Mrs. Walter E. Scott, Mrs. R. A. Walker, and F. R. Zimmerman.

A tip of the hat to all for a job well done.

814 Birch Street  
Rhineland, Wisconsin 54501

# The 1964 Business Meeting

By MRS. DAVID COX

The 25th annual business meeting of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology was called to order by president Holz at 3:35 p. m., May 23, 1964. About 75 were present. After ascertaining that those present had read the published minutes of the previous meeting and hearing no additions or corrections, a motion to accept same was made, seconded and carried.

Before calling for reports, Mr. Holz gave a brief resume of the year's work and thanked the members and the board of directors for their cooperation. Meetings of the board of directors during the year were held at Stevens Point, and the Sentry Insurance Co. there was presented with a pair of beautifully framed Audubon prints in appreciation of their courtesy in providing a meeting place.

**Treasurer.** Mrs. Holz reported cash on hand, \$2,592.29; savings account, \$1,336.76; government bonds, \$2,000; book inventory, \$8,430; book trailer, \$280.10; addressograph, \$181.41; land, \$6,891.39. Total assets, \$21,711.95.

Mr. Scott spoke of the \$1,000 gift from Dr. Steenbock, but convention reports cannot be completed until later. Moved, seconded and carried to accept these reports.

**First Vice President.** No report.

**Second Vice President.** Rev. Orians praised the fine work done by the convention committee and the many who had worked very hard to make this occasion memorable. The group expressed their thanks and appreciation for such a successful accomplishment.

**Editor.** Mr. Dahlstrand named his assistants without whose loyal cooperation the "Pigeon" could not have been brought up to date. Six issues have been sent out during the past year. Associate editor Robbins said that success depended mainly on (1) the editor-in-chief and (2) the field notes cooperators. He again stressed the importance of the summer bird count, hoping it will bring more quantitative analysis.

**Research.** The owl project has interesting developments. Dr. Hamerstrom thanked the many who had reported and hoped to hear immediately from any others who might be helpful.

**Supply Department.** Harold Kruse said the over 700 mail orders this past year would have been almost impossible to handle had they not had the trailer in which the stock is compactly and conveniently arranged. They welcome visitors.

Business is flourishing here at the Book Store, but the room must be vacated by 5:30 p. m. and he asked for volunteers to help pack.

The Honey Creek project is in good order and will be visited on tomorrow's field trip. Thanking the Kruses for the tremendous work they are doing, president Holz called for a motion to accept these reports. It was so moved, seconded and carried.

**Membership.** Mrs. Mattern reported 69 new members and a total membership of 871.

**Education.** Mrs. Hussong said that the increased use of the slides provided by this department shows a need for some type of accompanying narration. Mr. Holz explained that the projected division of the state into sections was planned to help cope with this problem, providing a list of speakers in each area. The idea of a taped commentary if no speaker were available met with approval.

**Field Trips.** Mr. Peartree said the 1964 summer campout would be held at Toland Park near Hartford, June 20-21, and the fall campout would be at Honey Creek, September 12-13. Field trips would be announced in **The Badger Birder**.

**Conservation.** Mr. Epple reported the satisfactory development of the Bluebird Trails project under Mrs. Romig which was the major project of the year, though some side issues were given attention.

**The Badger Birder.** Mr. Liebherr told of having put out 11 issues totaling about 9,000 copies; of using paper with a new printed masthead since January; of transfer of the addressograph and mailing permit to Mrs. Earl Schmidt, Hartford, facilitating the work of the editors. He thanked contributors whose items are so vital to the success of the bulletin. Due to involvement in a national curriculum project which takes an increasing amount of his time, he felt it necessary to submit his resignation. This was accepted with regret and with sincere thanks for a job well done. Acceptance of this report was moved, seconded and carried.

**Publicity.** Dr. Kemper said the division of the state into sections was proceeding in an orderly manner. Mrs. Erickson, Mrs. Hussong and himself will act as leaders in their respective areas, but more leaders are needed. He thanked those who are cooperating in this project.

**Legal Counsel.** No report.

At this time Mr. Scott asked to make an announcement. The convention committee's expression of appreciation to Dr. Steenbock for his generous gift, he said, and their endeavor to save a part for use in wildlife preservation projects resulted in the additional gift of 100 shares of North American Aviation stock with approximate value of \$4,500. The momentarily stunned group responded with enthusiastic appreciation of his generosity and to Mr. Scott for his part in the matter.

Rev. Orians moved that the secretary be instructed to convey the appreciation of the Society in a special letter to Dr. Steenbock, seconded and carried.

Mr. Scott's suggestion that the board of directors consider using the money for wildlife habitat preservation met with approval. A short discussion, however, resulted in a motion by Owen Gromme that the board of directors be empowered to use their discretion in the use of this money for some worthy project. This motion was seconded and carried.

**New Business.** Judge Simpson thanked the officers, the convention committee, the members and friends attending—all who had made this 25th anniversary such an outstanding occasion. He deplored the idea of "making money" on conventions and thought it should be eliminated. He moved to raise the amount delegated to next year's convention to



\$250 from the general fund. After an explanation of the proceedings followed in this matter, he added "or as much as needed" and this motion was so seconded and carried.

President Holz made the following announcements:

1. The duties of the membership chairman have been enlarged to include receiving of dues and transmitting same to the treasurer.

2. The board of directors presents the name of Dr. Carl Welty of Beloit College as a candidate for honorary life membership in recognition of his valuable addition to ornithological literature with his book, **The Life of Birds**. A motion to confer this honor upon him was made, seconded and unanimously carried.

3. Calling attention to the outstanding service for WSO performed by some individuals, he explained how the board of directors, desiring to make public recognition of such services, had authorized the presentation of a citation and award—the Silver Passenger Pigeon Award for distinguished service to the Society—to be accompanied by a proclamation. This proclamation was read, and a motion approving these presentations was made, seconded and carried.

A discussion of the failure of the bounty system in predator control was led by Mr. Von Jarchow. The Wisconsin Conservation Department's proposal for disposition of allocated funds was explained by Mr. Scott and the membership urged to ask their legislators to pass such a bill. The amount of political participation which the Society might sponsor without endangering its tax-exempt status was discussed. A motion for a resolution approving this bill to be sent to the press was made by Mr. Hall. This motion was seconded, carried, and the membership urged to work as individuals for its passage.

Terrence Ingram read a proposed recommendation to the Wisconsin Conservation Department in regard to state regulation of bird banding in Wisconsin. Since federal regulations give most adequate coverage, it is recommended that they be used without additional proposed restrictive changes. By a motion made, seconded and carried the Society went on record in favor of such recommendation.

Mr. Peartree, chairman of the nominating committee, read the proposed slate of officers presented by himself, Dr. Charles Kemper and Mrs. Nils Dahlstrand. Names placed in nomination were: President, Howard F. Young; Vice President, Arol C. Epple; Secretary, Mrs. David J. Cox; Treasurer, Mrs. Alfred O. Holz; and Editor, Nils P. Dahlstrand. Rev. Orians moved that the nominations be closed and the secretary instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the said slate; seconded and carried.

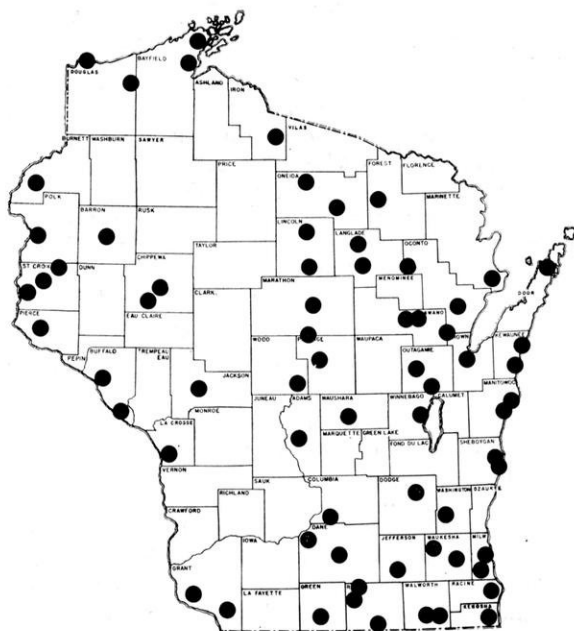
Mr. Holz, with a polished little speech, handed the gavel over to Mr. Young who asked for a brief meeting of the officers following the evening program.

Mr. Epple moved an expression of appreciation for Mr. Holz for his fine work, the inclusion of other members of the board of directors was added, and generous applause was followed by adjournment at 5:00 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hazel Cox, Secretary

# THE 1963 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

By  
HAROLD A. BAUERS



Surely, the accusation made in some quarters that the American people are becoming soft cannot be valid when applied to Wisconsin ornithologists. The 1963 Christmas bird count period from December 19, 1963, to January 1, 1964, was one of the most frigid holiday seasons on record, yet we find that more Wisconsin birders spent more time afield in more places than ever before. This mid-winter project continues to show a most remarkable and gratifying growth.

Sixty-eight areas were censused in 1963, an increase of 15 over the previous year, and a record 118 species of birds were tabulated. Four uncommon species were also noted during the count period but not on any count day. The number of observers rose from 466 in 1962 to 587 in 1963 and the number of persons participating increased from 428 a year ago to not less than 533 for this census. Forty enthusiasts, also a record number, took part in more than one effort; 14 of these participating in three counts. No one had the fortitude or time this season to go out more than three times, the holidays and frost penetration probably being the limiting factors.

Many areas had more observers in the field or at feeders than in past years. The most noteworthy turnouts occurred at Manitowoc, where Bernard Brouchoud enlisted the help of 55 observers for the area, and at Black River Falls where Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Putnam organized 18 interested birders into a new count area.

We welcome 13 new names among the counts this year. The status of these as new counts, however, must be broken into several categories. Black River Falls, Deer Park, Ephraim, Mercer, Pulaski, Shawano and Superior most nearly represent efforts by new Christmas count ob-

servers in new areas. Second and even third count efforts by observers from established areas are represented at Algoma, Bayfield, Beetown, Shawano #2, and Oconto Falls. Renaming because of slight adjustment of territory in areas reported in 1962 is indicated at Cornelia, called Platteville a year ago, and Washburn, an enlargement of the census at Ashland. Especially welcome, too, are renewed efforts in areas which have been missed in recent years: Fort Atkinson, where Tom and Lil Belzer have covered an area previously reported in 1952 and 1960 by other observers; Hartford, which has been sorely missed since 1960; Kenosha, which has a fine record of participating up to 1959; La Crosse, last heard from in 1958; Lodi, missed in 1962 after several excellent counts had been made; Oshkosh, an area not heard from since 1953; and Sheboygan, missed since 1957.

Inevitably, when a large number of counts are made, some duplication of area will occur. Observers at Shawano, Sheboygan, Manitowoc-Two Rivers, Algoma-Kewaunee and Lake Geneva-Williams Bay will want to consider either uniting their efforts or negotiating a division of their territories to avoid overcounting and improve coverage. We believe that most birders who have taken part in a group survey of an area will agree that the evening's informal gathering with fellow enthusiasts at some central point to compare notes and experiences of the day is a most pleasant part of the Christmas count experience and should be planned wherever more than one party is in the field.

Ornithologists generally agree that the most useful information about birds will be drawn from areas which have been censused regularly year after year. It may be interesting to note at this point that we now have 14 counts which have been taken for 10 or more consecutive years, eight which already have a longevity of seven or eight years, seven which have been in existence for five years, and 11 which have made a good start at three years.

### Highlights

Two species are recorded in 1963 for the first time in Christmas count literature. The Lincoln's Sparrow, a native of northern tamarack and spruce bogs, was first noted by Roy Lukes at the feeder of Dr. and Mrs. Neseman several days before the count was to be taken at Kewaunee. Once spotted, the bird was found to be a regular visitor to the feeding area and appeared there on the day of the Kewaunee census. Roy's own account of his first observation of this unusual and not easily identified winter visitor appears in "By the Wayside." On January 1, several days after the Oconomowoc count had been made, a white-phase Gyrfalcon was seen in this area by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gauerke, Mrs. Langer, and Edward Peartree. At first mistaken for a gull, the bird was watched carefully as it circled a small lake under the critical eyes of this small company of experienced hawk banders. Because the record of both these "firsts" is based upon sight observations only, they must necessarily be considered hypothetical at this time.

Several more species found this year are worthy of special mention. A Varied Thrush, a species which made its Christmas census debut only



two years ago at Chippewa Falls, was present at feeders in the village of Grantsburg through much of December. A Golden Eagle, seen on Christmas counts only in 1962 (when three were found) and in 1955, was also observed at Grantsburg. A few Myrtle Warblers have been noted every year since 1957, but one as far north as Stevens Point at the feeder of Prof. E. F. Pierson, is without precedent. The Lesser Snow Goose and the Blue Goose wintering at Green Bay have been recorded on only three and five previous counts, respectively. While the Black-crowned Night Heron has been reported on eight earlier counts, only once has one been found as far north as Appleton—and this year we have three at this location.

Besides the Gyrfalcon, three other unusual species were seen during the period but not on a count day. Several close observations were made of a Mockingbird at Kewaunee feeding on bittersweet vines in the yard of the senior Mr. Lukes. A Common Loon was spotted swimming in a small patch of open water by one of Donald Hendrick's pupils while the boy and his father were ice fishing on Lake Nokomis in northern Lincoln county. The Killdeer found at Cooksville has appeared on only six previous Christmas counts.

# **FIND THIS BIRD ONLY IN RACINE**



**15 complete  
GASOLINE STATIONS**

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

## Weather

For the third successive year the month of November was abnormally warm and dry, raising the prospect of many birds lingering on into the winter. December's temperature, however, was much below normal and by the close of the month even the southern counties had endured a record 13 days of sub-zero weather. This year's count period opened with mostly below zero temperatures, which moderated somewhat toward the close of the period.

Statistically, 37 counts experienced below zero temperatures; of these, 10 had sub-zero temperatures for the entire day. The mean high for the 27 counts having some above zero hours was only 9°. Twenty-eight counts, most of them taken after December 27, had zero degrees or warmer; of these, only 11 had temperatures in excess of 10° for the whole day. Only Hudson, Sheboygan South, and Wisconsin Rapids basked luxuriously in temperatures as high as 40° for part of the day.

Precipitation during December was enough to provide moderate snow cover over most of the state ranging from two or three inches in the southern counties to six or eight inches in the north. Lake Superior and Lake Michigan were open, but the harbors, inland lakes, rivers and streams were mostly frozen over except below dams, at spring holes, or where kept open by swift currents. Most census areas reported clear or partly cloudy skies; and six claimed overcast or cloudy conditions for the entire day. Adams, encountering freezing rain, perhaps had the poorest weather of the period.

## Birding Success as Viewed by Compilers

Tom Soulen, commenting on his two northern efforts at Hiles and Summit Lake writes, "I have not seen the north woods so desolate since my first trips up there about 10 years ago. I'm sure that part of the reason for this was the frigid weather. In nearly all the normally very productive pure spruce bogs there was virtually nothing to be seen or heard, except an occasional Gray Jay. Most of the Boreal Chickadees were in more upland conifer habitat, as they frequently are during migration. Cold as it was, I still enjoyed the count. However, a day like this makes one appreciate the exciting count days we have had up there in recent years." Tom found only 9 species in his areas of the Hiles count, while the Roy Lounds, plagued with a balky car and an injury to Roy when he broke through the ice, came up with only 6 species for the day's work. High temperature for the day at Hiles was -10°.

"We were much disappointed—it was one of those almost birdless days," writes Clara Husong in referring to the extra count made by Green Bay Bird Club members at Oconto Falls. "We found only one good spot, an open woods and field around it, where we saw the Crows, Partridge, Tree Sparrows and many Starlings. Next year we may do better as we will know more about the country."

The Wautoma count last year was taken under such poor conditions that this year the birders in the area decided to wait for weather

An asterisk (\*) in the tables on pages 122-127 indicates that the species was seen during the count period, but not on the count day.—Editor.

(Continued on page 128)

	Adams A.	Algoma New.	Alma Butt.	Antigo Lang.	Appleton Lang.	Baron B.	Bayfield B.	Beetown Beetown	Beloit Beetown	Black River Falls Beetown	Brule Beetown	Chippewa Falls Beetown	Cooksville Rock	Cornelia Beetown	Dancy Mant.	Deer Park Mant.	Ellsworth Mant.	Epworth Mant.	Evansville Rock	Fort Atkinson Beetown	Fountain City Butt.	Grantsburg Beetown	Green Bay Brown
Horned Grebe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pied-billed Grebe	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Blue Heron	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bl-cr. Night Heron	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canada Goose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	400
Snow Goose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Blue Goose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Mallard	282	..	2	1	122	..	..	199	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	24	..	..	..	..	400
Black Duck	135	..	..	..	511	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	4000	
Gadwall	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pintail	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blue-winged Teal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Amer. Widgeon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shoveler	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wood Duck	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Redhead	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canvasback	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Scaup Duck	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Com. Goldeneye	85	45	150	..	202	..	28	13	1501	..	23	750	..	..	..	..	167	..	..	..	..	*	18
Bufflehead	..	2	..	..	*	..	1	..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oldsquaw	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
White-w. Scoter	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ruddy Duck	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Hooded Merganser	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Common Merganser	186	20	..	..	5	..	5	..	..	..	*	..	1	..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	*	4
Red-br. Merganser	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Goshawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Sharp-sh. Hawk	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	15	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cooper's Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	8	11	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	3	9	..	1
Red-tailed Hawk	1	..	6	..	18	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Red-should. Hawk	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1
Rough-legged Hawk	..	..	1	..	9	..	..	3	..	..	*	1	*	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Golden Eagle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	..
Bald Eagle	22	..	23	..	..	..	158	..	..	*	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Marsh Hawk	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sparrow Hawk	..	..	1	..	4	..	..	5	..	..	2	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ruffed Grouse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	*	..	1	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	2	1
Prairie Chicken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sharp-tailed Grouse	135	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	..
Bobwhite	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ring-n. Pheasant	..	9	..	..	24	..	..	..	11	1	1	*	46	..	1	..	5	1	1	..	..	7	40
Gray Partridge	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Coot	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Common Snipe	7	..	..	..	..	..	1280	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	86	..	..	..	..	13
Herring Gull	..	10	..	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Ring-billed Gull	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mourning Dove	..	..	..	..	108	..	1	..	47	..	..	7	4	7	..	..	..	..	*	..	1	..	1
Screech Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	*
Great Horned Owl	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	*
Snowy Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Barred Owl	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	*	..	1
Long-eared Owl	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Short-eared Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Saw-whet Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belted Kingfisher	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

[illegible]

	Hales Corners Mil.	Hartford Wash.	Hiles Forest	Horicon Dodge	Hudson St. C.	Jim Falls St. C.	Kenosha K.	Kewaunee K.	LaCrosse K.	Lake Geneva Walw.	Langlade L.	Lodi Col.	Madison Dane	Manitowoc M.	Mazomanie Tow.	Mercer Tow.	Merrill Lin.	Milwaukee Mil.	Minocqua Oved.	Monroe Oved.	New Richmond St. C.	Oconomowoc Mil.	Oconto Falls St. C.
Horned Grebe	1									2			1										
Pied-billed Grebe													1										
Great Blue Heron																							
Bl-cr. Night Heron																							
Canada Goose				5						4													
Snow Goose																							
Blue Goose																							
Mallard	146				4					35		200+	786	1			99	433				206	
Black Duck	110						4			20			13	10			3	378				17	
Gadwall													3								2		
Pintail													1					2			4		
Blue-winged Teal																							
Amer. Widgeon													1					3					
Shoveler													1										
Wood Duck																							
Redhead	1																						
Canvasback	13									11			1										
Scaup Duck	90						1			2			1	1				45					
Com. Goldeneye	3050				40	8	116	125		300			34	29	66		1	414			17	3	
Bufflehead	45							*										47					
Oldsquaw	250						1081	18						300+				4					
White-w. Scoter										1							*						
Ruddy Duck																						1	
Hooded Merganser										15			1										
Common Merganser	1						31	6		1			15	8	8			16					
Red-br. Merganser	1						10			2				2				10					
Goshawk							2										1						
Sharp-sh. Hawk								1					1		1						1	1	1
Cooper's Hawk	1			1									1	1	5								
Red-tailed Hawk	8	2		3	1		11	*	*	5			31		20			9			*	40	
Red-should. Hawk	2				1													1			1	2	
Rough-legged Hawk				4			8	*		1			1	3	4			1				5	
Golden Eagle																							
Bald Eagle					2						1												
Marsh Hawk															34	1							
Sparrow Hawk	3	1					4	*					2	2	5			2				*	
Ruffed Grouse					*			1						12	6						1	2	
Prairie Chicken																	4						
Sharp-tailed Grouse																							
Bobwhite															6								
Ring-n. Pheasant	14	4		1	1		46	1		8			18	32	30		5	157		24	*	9	
Gray Partridge		26						14						28				6					10
Coot													12										
Common Snipe										30			1	*	4								
Herring Gull	2050+	1					234	350		15				302				317				3	
Ring-billed Gull	2550+						1			5				1				226					
Mourning Dove	15	4			1		59	3		10		*	110	118	229			112			13	21	
Screech Owl		*					*	*						*	1							*	
Great Horned Owl					2		*	*					5	1	3			1			1		
Snowy Owl								*						3				*					
Barred Owl													2		3								
Long-eared Owl							1			1			2										
Short-eared Owl				4																			
Saw-whet Owl													1										
Belted Kingfisher													1										





	Oshkosh Kennebago	Peshigo Mavin	Pulaski Ocon	Racine R.	Rhineland oneb.	St. Croix Falls	Shawano 1 St.	Shawano 2 S.	Sheboygan South	Sheboygan West	Shiocton out	Stevens Point	Summit Lake	Superior Long.	Tomahawk Linc.	Two Rivers men	Washburn Bay	Waukesha W.	Wausau mar	Wautoma houshark	Williams Bay	Wisconsin Rapid	Wood.
Horned Grebe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pied-billed Grebe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Heron	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bl-cr. Night Heron	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canada Goose	..	..	..	69	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	3	..	..
Snow Goose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blue Goose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mallard	..	4	823	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Black Duck	..	10	66	..	..	..	..	..	25	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	4	1	354	12	7	1	..
Gadwall	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50+	..	..	..	..
Pintail	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blue-winged Teal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Amer. Widgeon	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shoveler	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wood Duck	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Redhead	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canvasback	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scaup Duck	..	..	..	38	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Com. Goldeneye	..	6	1721	..	..	..	..	..	4	15	..	26	..	..	3	51	4	..	1	..	5	1	..
Bufflehead	..	..	233	..	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5	1	..
Oldsquaw	..	..	1470	..	..	..	..	..	..	105	..	..	..	..	..	2000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
White-w. Scoter	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ruddy Duck	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hooded Merganser	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Common Merganser	..	2	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Red-br. Merganser	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Goshawk	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sharp-sh. Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Cooper's Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..
Red-tailed Hawk	2	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	18	..	..	1	3	..	..
Red-should. Hawk	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rough-legged Hawk	*	..	3	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Golden Eagle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bald Eagle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marsh Hawk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sparrow Hawk	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ruffed Grouse	..	..	..	2	2	..	4	*	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	40	..	3	..
Prairie Chicken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sharp-tailed Grouse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bobwhite	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	..	..	..
Ring-n. Pheasant	14	1	193	..	..	*	..	*	..	21	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	13	..	10	..	..	..
Gray Partridge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Coot	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	..	..
Common Snipe	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	*	..	..	..
Herring Gull	1	..	543	..	..	..	..	..	200+	105	..	..	125	..	..	149	104	1	..	..	4	..	..
Ring-billed Gull	..	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mourning Dove	2	3	20	..	..	..	6	..	1	18	4	..	..	..	..	72	..	56	22	17	*	*	..
Screech Owl	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	*	..	..	..	..
Great Horned Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Snowy Owl	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Barred Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Long-eared Owl	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Short-eared Owl	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Saw-whet Owl	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belted Kingfisher	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..



and wind to cooperate. They were not entirely successful, however. "Birds just were not moving," explains Mrs. Merwood Chipman. "Counts were down at feeders, too. Late in the afternoon the field parties got a little action, but the best count was made by Richard Anderson while he was rabbit hunting. He got down into the swamps where the birds were hiding."

Cedric Vig, in his column "Woodsmoke" in the **Rhineland Daily News** of January 10 writes, "The bottom has dropped out of the local bird population. That's the conclusion that can be drawn from the Audubon bird count taken by members of the Oneida Wildlife Society here. Last year these bird enthusiasts tallied 1,400 individual birds—this year the count plummeted down to 400. It is no wonder everyone is asking, 'What's happened to the birds this winter?' " While the number of individuals at Rhineland was way down, the tally of species rose from 18 a year ago to 21 this year.

A number of compilers stated their case very briefly and succinctly. "We succeeded in arousing little bird life," writes Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Bly from Sheboygan. "Not impressive, but it's a start," says the compiler of the renewed census at Oshkosh. "Coldest count in 11 years," writes Dr. Charles Kemper from Chippewa Falls. "Sparrows, woodpeckers, chickadees, and Blue Jays sharply down here."

Fortunately, not all areas had disappointing results. "An excellent variety of birds remained in our area this year," comments Daryl Tessen from Appleton. "Field trips indicated this fact already in mid-November. The variety of species that stayed on was surprising considering the extreme cold weather that set in during early December. The birds were generally concentrated into small areas as a result of the sub-zero temperatures on all three counts we made." Ed Peartree avers that "Oconomowoc had the best count ever, both in species and individuals."

### Two Duplicated Counts

We have this year the interesting circumstance of having two areas which have been censused twice in the period, each a week apart. One of these duplications was intentional, the other unintentional. At Tomahawk, Donald Hendrick made two surveys of his area to gain data toward testing the extent to which Christmas counts can yield valid information about population fluctuations. Hendrick's first count, made on December 28, was repeated as exactly as possible on January 4. To reduce the variables of census taking to a minimum the same observer made the same stops in the same way and at the same time of day as on the first count. Even weather conditions turned out to be similar, although the second day averaged 15° higher than the first. Hendricks found a total of 17 species for the two days, the first count yielding 12 species and 118 individuals and the second 13 species and 142 individuals. Eight species were found on both days and 9 species on one day but not the other. Hendrick concludes that the uncontrollable and unexplainable factor of circumstance or luck is a most significant factor in bird finding even when other variables are at a minimum. "The three Goldeneyes just happened to be on the river where a pair of Mallards had been the two consecutive years before

and just happened to be absent a week later. The Goshawks just happened to be sitting in a tall tree a quarter mile directly behind the elders that were being scanned for the flock of Redpolls they had contained the week before. The Goldfinches just happened to be feeding on weed seeds in a field at the time it was scanned during the second count, but not during the first count. The Snow Buntings just happened to be feeding on newly spread manure that wasn't present the week before," he says. (The details of Donald Hendrick's two counts will be published in a future issue—Editor).

At Green Bay the Bird Club made its census of the area on December 22 finding 46 species. On December 29, members of the Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon Society canvassed the same area finding 41 species, seven of which had not been seen by the Bird Club group. The factors of area covered, observers afield, time afield, weather, etc. were not controlled in these counts and are unknown for comparison, but again it seems evident that circumstance, happenstance, luck, or whatever you wish to call it is a most important factor in bird finding.

**Waterbirds:** Strangely enough, Horned Grebes went unreported on Christmas counts until 1952 but have been found seven times since then, this year at Hales Corners and Lake Geneva. With closer scrutiny this species could probably be found every year along the southern border of the state. The Castle Rock area drew its concentration of 6 Great Blue Herons, but one seen in the far north at Brule is really unusual. George Annis reports heron tracks in the snow northeast of Antigo on January 5, but the bird was not seen. Only Green Bay reported its usual wintering Canada Geese; both Lake Geneva and Williams Bay recorded only 3 or 4 where more are generally expected. The Green Bay refuge holds its usual attraction for wintering waterfowl, including the puddle ducks. The only Wood Duck of the period, however, was an immature found on the only bit of open water in the Shiocton area.

**Raptors:** The big news here is a concentration of 158 Bald Eagles in the Cassville area. Alma also found more than a year ago, but counts in other areas were lower. Goshawks were seen mostly on the northern counts, but at least three appeared to be in the Racine-Kenosha area. Most compilers considered the numbers of accipiters and buteos good to average; Sharp-shinned Hawks definitely were seen more commonly than usual. Marsh Hawks were somewhat below average. Snowy Owls increased markedly over last year, 5 being reported from Green Bay, and most others were noted during the period but not on a count. Donald Hendrick found a dead Barred Owl on the day of the Tomahawk count—the fourth dead Barred Owl found in the area since September.

**Grouse and Snipe:** The Bobwhite is in sorry case indeed if the few reported are any indication. Only Wautoma with 54 in prime quail territory, and Mazomanie with 6 reported any at all. Our census methods are probably at fault for the relatively poor showing of the gallinaceous species we produce; we just too often do not get down where the birds are skulking. Someone, however, knows the haunts of the Ruffed Grouse in Waushara county for 40 are reported there. A sharp in-



crease is claimed for the species in the county and the word from Mrs. Chipman is that the birds have withstood heavy hunting pressure well. Common Snipe were found wintering at many southern locations. The most northerly ones were seen in a creek at Shiocton, in a shallow spring in Springwater township, Waushara county, and again at Manitowoc. Mourning Doves appear in good numbers on half the counts.

**Woodpeckers:** The showing of woodpeckers in general is good at this period, although Dr. Kemper considers them very low at Chippewa Falls. Two compilers take opposite views with respect to abundance of Red-headed Woodpeckers in their areas. Mrs. Putnam thinks it unusual at Black River Falls not to see any Red-heads in winter and blames the Starlings taking their nesting holes for the decline. Mrs. Chipman, however, claims an increase for the species around Wautoma. "I presume the reason is that there is an abundance of food and shelter. In this modern age of gas and fuel oil heating, most woodlots are left intact and many big hollow oaks are left standing to provide nesting places." The Red-bellied Woodpecker was being seen well up into the north-eastern corner of the state at Green Bay, Pulaski and Ephraim.

**Titmice and Jays:** Tom Soulen again provided most observations of the Gray Jay from his efforts at Hiles and Summit Lake. One Gray Jay appeared at a feeder on the Isaac Walton League grounds to provide a highlight for birders at Stevens Point. Several northern compilers commented on a decline in the numbers of Blue Jays and the postulation was set forth that a failure of the mast production in the northern oak forests was the reason for this decline. Blue Jay counts are best this year in the central, sandy, jack pine counties and south through Madison and Mazomanie. The compiler at Wautoma comments, "Blue Jays have increased almost to the point where they are becoming a pest not only at the feeders but in the farm yards. One farmer claims he has about 100 Blue Jays coming every day to feed at an open crib on his farm. The local hatch was large last summer and to these have been added a large migration of Jays into the area. The large local hatch is no doubt due to the many pine plantations now becoming more mature. For a time almost every landowner went in for reforestation in this formerly sandy, unproductive soil." Hendrick thinks that Ravens are becoming more common in the north country as they have taken to feeding in the garbage areas in back of the large restaurants and resorts. Brule again reported the largest number of Ravens.

**Blackbirds:** A few Rusty Blackbirds have been seen ever since 1949. This year we find more than usual well distributed through the southern portions of the state and one as far north as Shiocton. Harold Mathiak made close observation of 10 Brewer's Blackbirds at Horicon and a few more appeared at Cooksville and Oconomowoc. This species has been reported on only six previous Christmas counts. John Wilde considers the Meadowlark much more common around Cooksville than it has been for several years and many more are noted this year from Appleton to Hudson and southward. Jack Kasper identified three at Oshkosh as being the Western race.

**Finches and Sparrows:** The mild fall and availability of weed seeds due to moderate snow cover may have been factors in the strong showing

of most sparrows and finches. Juncos and Tree Sparrows were abundant except in the northern quarter. Pine Grosbeaks outnumbered the Evening Grosbeaks in the north, but the latter were well represented in the central portions of the state. Several compilers commented that Evening Grosbeaks were numerous at some feeders in an area but entirely absent at others. Purple Finches were well scattered but not especially abundant. An albino Purple Finch is reported among them at Appleton. "It is all white except for a little gray on both wings and a slight rose tinge to the upper head, back and rump," writes Tessen. Snow Buntings were seen in good numbers in half the areas. Mrs. Herbert Sell writes that the Ben Mitlernicks of Mercer have lured Snow Buntings to their feeder by the hundreds. This should be worth seeing.

### Details of the Sixty-eight Counts

**Adams:** December 26. 7:30 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Sky overcast, some freezing rain. Wind NW, 5 to 10 m.p.h. Temperature 25° to 35°. 4 inches snow on ground. Open water near dams and in some streams. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered one mile south of Dellwood. 7 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 13½, 6½ on foot, 7 by car. Total party miles 160, 12 on foot, 148 by car. Total species 35, individuals 2,343. Observers: Tom Ashman, W. D. Brown, Steven G. Curtis (compiler), Harriett Irwin, Frances Jordan, Josephine Walker, Mrs. R. A. Walker.

**Algoma:** December 21. 7:30 to 10:30 a. m. Cloudy, thick mist over Lake Michigan. Wind NW, 15 m.p.h. Temperature: 0° to 10°. 3 inches snow on ground. Lake Michigan open. Area: Algoma harbor, south through open farmland to Kewaunee harbor and ferry port. 2 observers in one party. Total party hours 3 by car. Total party miles 45 by car. Total species 17, individuals 237. Observers: Tom Erdman, Gary Henkelmann.

**Alma:** December 29. 5:00 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 5 m.p.h. Temperature -10° to -5°. 2 inches snow on ground. Water open only at springs and below the dam. Area: 7½-mile radius semi-circle centered at Alma post office, including the Mississippi River, Buffalo Creek, and the villages of Nelson, Cochrane, and Buffalo City. 5 observers in one party. Total party hours 10, 2 on foot, 8 by car. Total party miles 117, 5 on foot, 112 by car. Total species 19, individuals 1,777. Observers: Kathryn Hillery, Kathleen Karlsrud, Dr. Charles Kemper, Clarence Kube, Marsha Wiley.

**Antigo:** December 31. 6:00 a. m. to 6:00 p. m. Cloudy. Wind N, 15 m.p.h. Temperature: -10° to 0°. 4 inches snow on ground. Springs open on Woods Flowage. Area: Selected points in and around Antigo. 20 observers. Total species 17, individuals 823. Observers: George Annis, Mrs. Tony Edelman, Ann C. Braun, John Benishek, Mrs. Gerald Dobrinski, Mr. and Mrs. Earle Holman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lehman, Mr. and Mrs. Myron Wandrey, Mrs. Eugene McKenna, Mr. and Mrs. Charles McClean, Miss Thelma Moss, Mrs. Willard Hull, Mary Hull, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Spurgeon, Miss Althea Waite.

**Appleton:** December 21. 5:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Clear. Calm. Temperature: -4° to 14°. 2 inches snow on ground. A few small areas of open water on Little Lake Butte des Morts and the Fox River. Lake Winnebago frozen over. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered at Appleton; including Greenville, Neenah, Kaukauna. 12 observers in 3 parties, plus 9 feeding stations. Total party hours 41, 12 on foot, 29 by car. Total party miles 176, 9 on foot, 167 by car. Total species 44, individuals 2,471. Observers: Mrs. C. Defferding, Mr. H. Gardner, Mr. and Mrs. J. Green, Mrs. V. Lipske, Mrs. W. McGraw, Mrs. G. Seeliger, Mr. J. Strange, Mr. Daryl Tessen (compiler), Mr. and Mrs. F. Tessen, Mr. K. Ward.

**Barron:** December 29. 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 10 to 20 m.p.h. Temperature: -14° to -5°. 6 to 8 inches snow on ground. Area: City of Barron and adjacent farmlands, woodlands, and marshlands, including country and city feeding stations. 20 observers in 2 parties, plus feeding stations. Total party hours 9, 3 on foot, 6 by car. Total party miles 44, 2 on foot, 42 by car. Total species 21, individuals 839. Observers not listed.

**Bayfield:** December 19. 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p. m. Partly cloudy to cloudy, with snow squalls. Wind NW, 8 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature: 0° to 5°. 12 to 24 inches snow on ground. Lake Superior open. Area: City of Bayfield, adjacent woodlands and Lake Superior shoreline. 4 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 7, 1 on foot, 6 by car. Total party miles 90, 1 on foot, 89 by car. Total species 16, individuals 1,478. Observers: John Degerman, Bernard Klugow, Jack Pickert, William Volavka.

**Beetown:** December 22. 7:30 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. Clear. Wind, calm to NW, 2 m.p.h. Temperature: -12° to 6°. 7 inches snow on ground. Water open only at swift currents and below power plant at Cassville. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered at Beetown; 80% open fields and pasture, 10% deciduous woods, 10% Mississippi River bottom. 2 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 10, ½ on foot, 9½ by car. Total party miles 170, 1 on foot, 169 by car. Total species 24, individuals 6,016. Observers: Terrence N. Ingram (compiler), Judith Ann Klinger.

**Beloit:** December 29. 7:00 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Clear. Wind W, 10 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-5^{\circ}$  to  $15^{\circ}$ . 2 to 6 inches snow on ground. Some open water on Rock River near Big Hill Park. Area:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius circle centered at bridge on Walters Road north of Big Hill Park. 30 observers in 9 parties. Total party hours 57, 12 on foot, 45 by car. Total party miles 416, 16 on foot, 400 by car. Total species 46, individuals 24,837. Party leaders: Robert Behrens, Darrel Cox, Raymond Ellefs, Frances Glenn, Al Hepler, Gyda Mahlum, Ruth Mezger, Ralph Morse, Rudy Ohm.

**Black River Falls:** December 31. 9:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear. Wind SW, 10 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-14^{\circ}$  to  $15^{\circ}$ . 4 inches snow on ground. Some open water on Black River. Area: selected areas in and near Black River Falls. 18 observers in 1 party (2 observers) plus 15 feeders. Field party hours 6, 3 on foot, 3 by car. Field party miles 33, 3 on foot, 30 by car. Total species 27, individuals 1,871. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. Richard Faldet, Alvin Hagen, Mrs. H. C. Hagen, Mrs. Robert Jones, Miss Carol Kinley, Mrs. Maurice Keefe, Mrs. Gene Krohn, Mrs. Robert Krohn, Mrs. C. L. McDonald, Mrs. George Ness, Clarence Olson, Mrs. Frances Perry, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Putnam (compilers), Mrs. Theodore Stenulson, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Whittet.

**Brule:** December 21. 5:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind NW, 7 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-11^{\circ}$  to  $4^{\circ}$ . 8 inches snow on ground. Open water on Brule River in fast water only. Area:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius circle centered three miles south of Brule, including Lake Nebagamon and Maple. 5 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 8, 2 on foot, 6 by car. Total party miles 53, 3 on foot, 50 by car. Total species 25, individuals 757. Observers: Mark Baillie, John Degerman, Gary Jondreau, Bernard F. Klugow, Kenneth Magnuson.

**Chippewa Falls:** December 22. 6:15 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Cloudy until 9 a. m., then clear. Wind WSW, 5 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-19^{\circ}$  to  $-1^{\circ}$ . 5 inches snow on ground. Some open water below dams, on creeks and at springs. Area: same as in past years. 8 observers in 4 parties. Total party hours 20, 2 on foot, 18 by car. Total party miles 240, 2 on foot, 238 by car. Total species 25, individuals 2,090. Observers: Paul Blanchard, Roger Halmstad, Kathy Karlsrud, Dr. Charles Kemper (compiler), Jon Kemper, Clarence Kube, Florence Lunde, Neva Reifenauer (Chippewa Wildlife Society).

**Cooksville:** January 1. 7:00 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Clear at sunrise, becoming partly cloudy after 9:00 a. m. Wind S 5 m.p.h., changing to SW and increasing to 15 to 20 m.p.h. in the afternoon. Temperature:  $6^{\circ}$  to  $25^{\circ}$ . 2 to 4 inches old snow on ground. Badfish and Yahara Rivers mostly frozen; a few open spring holes. Area:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius circle centered at Cooksville; open agricultural land 80%, woodlots and marshland 20%. 3 observers in 1 party. Party hours  $9\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  on foot, 5 by car. Party miles 70, 6 on foot, 64 by car. Total species 28, individuals 2,045. Observers: Olga Porter, Jonathan Wilde, John Wilde (compiler).

**Cornelia:** December 27. 7:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Cloudy first hour, then clear. Wind NW, 5 to 10 m.p.h. Temperature:  $15^{\circ}$  to  $30^{\circ}$ . 6 inches snow on ground. Most water frozen except for fast currents. Area: 30% deciduous forests, 65% open fields and pastures, 5% river bottom. 5 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 14, 1 on foot, 13 by car. Total party miles  $342\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  on foot, 340 by car. Total species 31, individuals 3,860. Observers: Nancy Broughton, Terrence Ingram (compiler), Mary Ipsen, Paul Ipsen, Judith Ann Klinger.

**Dancy:** December 28. 7:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 5-10 m.p.h. 3 to 4 inches snow on ground. Temperature:  $-10^{\circ}$  to  $10^{\circ}$ . Very little open water. Area: same as in previous years. 12 observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 24, 4 on foot, 20 by car. Total party miles 375, 4 on foot, 371 by car. Total species 22, individuals 1,708. Observers: D. Anderson, G. Carter, G. Cummings, L. Ernst, J. Gall, D. Helgeson (compiler), D. Hoehn, J. Howard, H. Hustedt, D. Loomis, G. Ritter, D. Rudie.

**Deer Park:** December 30. 8:00 a. m. to 3:00 p. m. Clear. Wind SE, 15 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-20^{\circ}$  to  $4^{\circ}$ . 7 inches snow on ground. Open water on Apple River. Area: Village of Deer Park, secondary roads through nearby farmland, a short distance along the Apple River, and observation at several feeders. Total hours, 3 by car. Total miles, 28 by car. Total species 15, individuals 237. Observer: Mildred Jerdee.

**Ellsworth:** December 28. 6:45 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Cloudy in a. m., clearing in p. m. Wind NW. 8-20 m.p.h. Temperature:  $9^{\circ}$  to  $0^{\circ}$ . 3 inches snow on ground. Mississippi River frozen; creeks partly open. Area: Circle of 15-mile diameter centered three miles south of Ellsworth, including the Mississippi River from Diamond Bluff to Bay City. 2 observers in 1 party. Total party hours  $8\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 on foot,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  by car. Total party miles 65, 1 on foot, 64 by car. Total species 30, individuals 2,312. Observers: Jerrol Conley, Sam Robbins.

**Ephraim:** December 27. 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind NW, 0-10 m.p.h. Temperature:  $20^{\circ}$  to  $25^{\circ}$ . Lake Michigan open; Green Bay generally ice covered, with some open areas between ice floes. Area: North Jacksonport, Bailey's Harbor, and north along Lake Michigan to Ephraim on Green Bay, Fish Creek, Peninsula State Park, and north through Sister Bay and Ellison Bay. 6 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 7, 2 on foot, 5 by car. Total party miles 96, 3 on foot, 93 by car. Total species 26, individuals 807. Observers: Charlotte Haring, Ted Hoepfner, Roy Lukes, Emma Toft, Harold C. Wilson, Mrs. Max. Wilson.

**Evansville:** December 29. 4:00 p. m. to 6:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 5 m.p.h. Temperature:  $0^{\circ}$  to  $5^{\circ}$ . 2 to 3 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: Evansville Wildlife Area and surrounding territory. 5 observers in 1 party. Total hours, 2 by car. Total species 16, individuals 314. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. John Brakefield, Jane Brakefield, Anne Livengood, Ruth Livengood.

**Fort Atkinson:** December 31. 2:00 p. m. to 3:30 p. m. Clear. Wind NE, 5 to 10 m.p.h. Temperature:  $10^{\circ}$  to  $15^{\circ}$ . 3 to 4 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: Selected woods and marsh areas four miles south of Fort Atkinson. 2 observers

in 1 party. Total hours  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$  on foot,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  by car. Total miles  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  on foot, 10 by car. Total species 9, individuals 564. Observers: Lil and Tom Belzer.

**Fountain City:** December 29. 7:30 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 5 to 10 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-8^{\circ}$  to  $2^{\circ}$ . 3 to 4 inches snow on ground. Open water only at spring holes. Area: Parts of Trempealeau and Upper Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge, the Delta Fish and Fur Farm, Bokris' and Peiper's Valley. 12 observers in 4 parties. Total party hours 10,  $\frac{1}{2}$  on foot,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  by car. Total party miles 106, 2 on foot, 104 by car. Total species 18, individuals 1,021. Observers: John Allenbecker, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Baab, Marie Collins, F. Gerald Daley, Florence Hollingsworth, Ken Krumm, Gerald Tindal, Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Tyler, Mrs. Fran Voelker (compiler), Pauline Wershofen.

**Grantsburg:** December 28. 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Heavy overcast to clear. Wind W, 5-10 m.p.h. Temperature:  $3^{\circ}$  to  $0^{\circ}$ . 4 inches snow on ground. Some open water below dam on Wood River. Area:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius circle centered at Grantsburg, including residential and farm lands, bird feeders, deciduous, coniferous woods, open water on Woods River, and a portion of Crex Meadows. 12 observers in 6 parties. Total party hours  $56\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  on foot, 41 by car. Total party miles  $132\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  on foot, 122 by car. Total species 29, individuals 1,701. Observers: Ray and Helen Caldwell, Fred and Gertrude Hammergren, Madeline Huth, Gene Fornell, Helen Northam, Norman and Evelyn Stone, Russell Stone, Clarence and Harriett Wagman.

**Green Bay:** December 22. 6:00 a. m. to 6:00 p. m. Clear. Wind SW, very light. Temperature:  $-6^{\circ}$  to  $15^{\circ}$ . One inch snow on ground. River and creeks frozen over. Area: same as in previous years. 8 observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 28, 20 on foot, 8 by car. Total party miles 183, 13 on foot, 170 by car. Total species 46, individuals 7,140. Observers: Edwin S. Cleary (compiler), Tom Erdman, Mrs. Haywood Hunter, Gary Henkelmann, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Paulson, Elmer Strehlow, William Talen.

**Hales Corners:** December 22. 7:45 a. m. to 4:45 p. m. Clear to partly cloudy. Wind W, 6 to 12 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-3^{\circ}$  to  $15^{\circ}$ . 5 inches old snow on the ground. Area: 15-mile diameter circle centered at U. S. Highway 41 and Puetz Road in southern Milwaukee county. Lake Michigan shore 10%, parks and residential 40%, open fields 30%, shrubby fields 15%, marsh 5%. Open water only on Lake Michigan. 4 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 9, 3 on foot, 6 by car. Total party miles 136, 5 on foot, 131 by car. Total species 43, individuals 21,502. Observers: Ivy Balsom, Mary Donald (compiler), Nila O'Hearn, Karl Priebe.

**Hartford:** December 30. 8:00 a. m. to 3:00 p. m. Clear, calm. Temperature:  $-10^{\circ}$  to  $-15^{\circ}$ . 4 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: environs of Hartford and Pine Lake, Washington county. 4 observers in 1 party; 2 feeders. Total party hours, 7 by car. Total party miles, 63 by car. Total species 21, individuals 617. Observers: Irene Kohls, Ollie Reese, Earl and Norma Schmidt.

**Hiles:** December 29. 7:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 10 to 25 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-10^{\circ}$  to  $-25^{\circ}$ . 6 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: All points within a 15-mile diameter circle centered 9 miles north of Hiles at Pine River bridge on Road 2182 in Nicolet National Forest, Forest county; deciduous woods 20%, pine and hemlock woods 35%, spruce and cedar swamp 40%, open fields 5%. 3 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 12, 8 on foot, 4 by car. Total party miles 95, 6 on foot, 89 by car. Total species 10, individuals 94. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lound, Thomas K. Soulen.

**Horicon:** December 20. 7:15 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Clear. Wind W, 5 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-15^{\circ}$  to  $0^{\circ}$ . 3 inches snow on the ground. No open water. Area: State portion of Horicon Marsh and roads immediately adjacent. 1 observer. Total hours  $9\frac{1}{4}$ , 3 on foot,  $6\frac{1}{4}$  by car. Total miles 63, 3 on foot, 60 by car. Total species 24, individuals 595. Observer: Harold A. Mathiak.

**Hudson:** January 1. 6:30 a. m. to 4:45 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind SW changing to WNW, 10 to 25 m.p.h. Temperature:  $19^{\circ}$  to  $40^{\circ}$ . 4 inches snow on ground. One small patch of open water in St. Croix River below mouth of Kinnickinnic River; small patch in Willow River. Area: Semi-circle  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius centered at south end of Lake St. Croix. 4 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 12, 3 on foot, 9 by car. Total party miles 101, 3 on foot, 98 by car. Total species 29, individuals 1,538. Observers: Martin Laakso, Alice and Carl Pemble, Sam Robbins.

**Jim Falls:** December 30. 6:30 a. m. to 5:15 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 5 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-14^{\circ}$  to  $-4^{\circ}$ . 4 inches snow on ground. Open water below dams and in spring fed creeks. Area: All points within a 15-mile diameter circle centered on the bridge over Bob Creek on Highway 178. 1 observer. Total hours  $10\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 on foot,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  by car. Total miles 51, 3 on foot, 48 by car. Total species 13, individuals 123. Observer: Clarence Kube.

**Kenosha:** December 30. 6:30 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Clear. Wind W, 10 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-7^{\circ}$  to  $5^{\circ}$ . 1 inch snow on ground; up to 18 inches in drifts. Only Lake Michigan open. Area: Eastern half of Kenosha county. 6 observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 24, 4 on foot, 20 by car. Total party miles 185, 6 on foot, 179 by car. Total species 40, individuals 4,896. Observers: Mrs. Louise Erickson (compiler), Mrs. Eva Fenner, Bob Fiehweg, Mark Madsen, John Saetveit, Bill Weber.

**Kewaunee:** December 29. 7:30 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Clear. Wind W, 15 to 20 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-8^{\circ}$  to  $-2^{\circ}$ . 4 inches snow on ground. Lake Michigan open, but too foggy for observation. Area:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius circle centered 3 miles west of Kewaunee. Woodland 25%, farmland and open country 50%, river bottoms and lake front 25%. 5 observers in 1 party. Total party hours  $9\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 on foot,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  by car. Total party miles 82, 2 on foot, 80 by car. Total species 26, individuals 1,231. Observers: Field party: Elmer Decramer, Millie Decramer, Haywood Hunter, Helen Hunter, Roy Lukes (compiler). At feeder stations: Enos Campbell, Dr. Neseman, Lloyd Trotmann, Paul Wolske.

**La Crosse:** December 19. 1:00 p. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NNW, 5 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-3^{\circ}$  to  $-2^{\circ}$ . 4 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: La Crosse city parks and cemeteries; Goose Island. Open fields 20%, upland hardwoods 30%, river bottom woodland 50%. 1 observer. Total hours 3,  $\frac{1}{2}$  on foot,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  by car. Total miles 51, 1 on foot, 50 by car. Total species 7, individuals 95. Observer: Howard Young.

**Lake Geneva:** December 29. 7:15 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 10 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-6^{\circ}$  to  $-2^{\circ}$ . 8 to 12 inches snow on ground. About 10% of Lake Geneva open at western end. Area: All points within 15-mile diameter circle centered at Williams Bay. Around entire lake by car with stops at suitable locations; includes lake front, deciduous woodlands, marsh, pasture, tamarack bogs, and towns. 6 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 28, 20 on foot, 8 by car. Total party miles 114, 14 on foot, 100 by car. Total species 43, individuals 1,036. Observers: Earl Anderson, Karl Bartel, Lewis Cooper, Clarence Palmquist (compiler), Paul Schultz, Helen Wilson.

**Langlade:** December 22. 7:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Mostly clear. Wind SW, changing to N; velocity low all day. Temperature:  $-11^{\circ}$  to  $20^{\circ}$ . 2 inches snow on ground. Open water only at springs and rapidly flowing streams. Area:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius circle centered at junction of Oconto County Highway T and Nicolet National Forest Road 2117. Second growth woodland 90%, farmland 10%, including the communities of Langlade, Lakewood, Mountain, Townsend, and White Lake. 3 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 8, 3 on foot, 5 by car. Total party miles 142, 6 on foot, 136 by car. Total species 12, individuals 87. Observers: Archie, John and Paul Woodcock.

**Lodi:** December 29. 7:30 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 5 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-2^{\circ}$  to  $2^{\circ}$ . 3 inches snow on ground. Creek within city limits open. Area: All points within 7-mile radius of Lodi, including Park Hill, Crystal Lake and the Wisconsin River. 2 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 8, 2 on foot, 6 by car. Total miles 22, 2 on foot, 20 by car. Total species 16, individuals 718. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Thompson.

**Madison:** December 21. 6:30 a. m. to 4:45 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 5 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-10^{\circ}$  to  $9^{\circ}$ . 5 inches snow on ground. Streams and lakes mostly frozen. Area:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius circle centered at the State Capitol. 25 observers in 10 parties, plus 4 feeders. Total party hours 66, 31 on foot, 35 by car. Total party miles 585, 41 on foot, 544 by car. Total species 62, individuals 12,307. Observers: Tom Ashman, Fern Bell, Ruby Bere, W. D. Brown, Steve Curtis, Robert Ellarson, John Emlen, William Hilsenhoff, Harriett Irwin, Frances Jordan, William Kilgore, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lound, James Neis, Tom Nicholls, Howard Orians, Eleanor Peterson, Martha Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Shepherd, Tom Soulen, Josephine Walker, Mrs. R. A. Walker, Dave Willard, Oliver Wynn.

**Manitowoc:** December 29. 7:00 a. m. to 7:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 10 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-14^{\circ}$  to  $2^{\circ}$ . 2 to 4 inches snow on ground. Only open water on Lake Michigan. Area: Circle  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius centered 3 miles south of Mishicot, including Manitowoc, Two Rivers, and Mishicot. 55 observers in 14 parties, plus observers at 23 feeders. Total party hours 110, 40 on foot, 70 by car. Total party miles 100, 30 on foot, 70 by car. Total species 48, individuals 3,686. Observers: Mrs. C. Altmann, Mr. and Mrs. A. Asplund, Mr. and Mrs. John Bayless, Kent Beaman, Bernard N. Brouchoud, Jr. (compiler), Dick Burger, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Crane, the R. Chezek family, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Elfner, Bill Foreyt, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Halesy, Vic Jansky, Don King, the R. Kloiber family, Edwin A. Konitz, Donald Knuth, Helen Krentz, Ray Kronforst, Jr., John Meyer, L. E. Olson, David Petska, Merle Pickett, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Rahr, Dr. and Mrs. Reese, R. J. Rensink, the Frank Sherman family, Winifred Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stangel, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Tess, Tom Vnuk, Paul Wilsman, the M. Wisniewski family, the A. Woodcock family, the R. Wordell family, Lloyd Zich, the R. Zielke family.

**Mazomanie:** January 1. 6:15 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. Mostly clear in morning, partly cloudy to heavy overcast in afternoon. Wind SW, 15 m.p.h. Temperature:  $7^{\circ}$  to  $27^{\circ}$ . 5 inches snow on ground. Water open 9 miles downstream from dam at Prairie du Sac, also one-half mile on Honey Creek. Area:  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -mile radius circle centered  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles southeast of Witwen. 14 observers in 5 parties. Total party hours 40, 10 on foot, 30 by car. Total party miles 310, 18 on foot, 292 by car. Total species 49, individuals 10,772. Observers: Tom Ashman, W. D. Brown, Mary Lou Cory, Steve Curtis, Harriett Irwin, Rev. H. W. Jewkes, Francis Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ko enig, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kruse, Thomas H. Nicholls, Josephine Walker, Mrs. R. A. Walker.

**Mercer:** January 6. 9:00 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Cloudy in morning, clear in afternoon. Wind W, light. Temperature:  $20^{\circ}$  to  $30^{\circ}$ . No open water. Area: Village of Mercer and roads to Winchester and Manitowish. 1 observer. Total hours 6, 1 on foot, 5 by car. Total miles 75, 1 on foot, 74 by car. Total species 15, individuals 127. Observer: Mrs. Herbert Sell.

**Merrill:** December 26. 7:00 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Freezing drizzle at start changing to light snow flurries; later partly cloudy becoming overcast after 2:30 p. m. 6 inches snow on ground. Water open on Wisconsin River below dams. Area: City streets and parks, Council Grounds State Forest, farm land north and west of Merrill. 1 observer. Total hours 9, 3 on foot, 6 by car. Total miles 109, 3 on foot, 106 by car. Total species 17, individuals 590. Observer: Alan J. Rusch.

**Milwaukee:** December 29. 6:45 a. m. to 4:45 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 10 to 22 m.p.h. Temperature:  $-7^{\circ}$  to  $6^{\circ}$ . 3 inches old snow on ground. Milwaukee River and harbor frozen; Lake Michigan open, but steam fog present all day. Area: All points within 15-mile diameter circle centered at Hampton Ave. and Port Washington Road. 24 observers in 7 parties. Total party hours 54, 19 on foot, 35 by car. Total party miles 318, 28 on foot, 290 by car. Total species 54, individuals 9,948. Observers: Marion Allen, Ivy Balsom, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Basten, Harold Bauers, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Bromm,



Mr. and Mrs. John Campbell, Rosemary Carlson, Lisa Decker, Mary Donald (compiler), Mr. and Mrs. Carl Frister, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Hall, Dr. Anna Hehn, Billie Logan, Lillian Logeman, Mr. and Mrs. V. Lynagh, Karl Priebe, Joseph Schneider, Amelia Simmons, Marian Urdan.

**Minocqua:** January 1. 7:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Overcast. Wind NW, 0 to 7 m.p.h. Temperature: 12° to 22°. 8 inches snow on ground. Wisconsin River open below Rainbow Flowage. Area: 15-mile diameter circle centered 1 mile east of Minocqua, including Wisconsin River below the flowage. 3 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 8, 1 on foot, 7 by car. Total party miles 94, 1 on foot, 93 by car. Total species 12, individuals 354. Observers: Nils Dahlstrand, Paul Dahlstrand, Francis Ratliff (compiler). (Oneida Wildlife Society).

**Monroe:** January 1. 7:30 to 11:30 a. m. Overcast. Wind S, 10 m.p.h. Temperature: 0° to 15°. 4 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: Environs of Monroe to 5 miles east and 6 miles west, including Zander's Pond. 7 observers in 1 party. Total hours 4. Total miles 41, 3 on foot, 38 by car. Total species 17, individuals 363. Observers: Dr. Herzberger, Henry Herzberger, Jack Oostdick, Dr. Weir, Donald, Tim and Glen Weir.

**New Richmond:** December 27. 6:45 a. m. to 4:45 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 15 to 25 m.p.h. Temperature: 3° to -1°. 4 inches snow on ground. One small stretch of Apple River open; all other water frozen. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered 1½ miles east of Boardman, including New Richmond, Somerset, Burkhardt and Roberts. 2 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 9, 1 on foot, 8 by car. Total party miles 103, 1 on foot, 102 by car. Total species 28, individuals 1,637. Observers: Sam Robbins, Ed Shern.

**Oconomowoc:** December 29. 7:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 5 to 10 m.p.h. Temperature: -10° to 2°. 3 to 4 inches snow on ground. Oconomowoc River open in spots; one pond at Pabst condensery open. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered on highway 67, 2 miles north of Oconomowoc. 23 observers in 5 parties, plus 3 at feeders. Total party hours 45, 3 on foot, 42 by car. Total party miles 455, 6 on foot, 449 by car. Total species 46, individuals 7,624. Observers: Irene Blair, Edna Fuller, James Fuller, Lucy Gauerke, Art Gauerke, Gordon Hammel, Dorothy Harthun, Margaret James (feeder), Hortense Langer, Kay Peartree, Ed Peartree, Bess Ritchey, Tom Sharp, Dick Sharp, Mary Sharp, Mabel Sharp, Robert Sharp, Norma Schmidt, Earl Schmidt, Gladys Sauer, Nellis Smith (feeder), Harvey Tenpas (feeder), Walter Wellman.

**Oconto Falls:** December 22. 8:30 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. Clear. Wind SW, light. Temperature: 0° to 15°. One inch snow on ground. No open water. Area: City of Oconto Falls and surrounding wooded and farm lands. 6 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 5, 2 on foot, 3 by car. Total party miles 39, 1 on foot, 38 by car. Total species 15, individuals 831. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. Myron Duquaine, W. E. Goddard, Clara Hussong, Margaret Olson, Mildred Van Vonderen.

**Oshkosh:** December 24. 9:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Clear. Wind W, calm. Temperature: 8° to 41°. 1 to 2 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: 6-mile radius circle centered in downtown Oshkosh. 8 observers in 4 parties. Total party hours 8, 3 on foot, 5 by car. Total party miles 23, 3 on foot, 20 by car. Total species 22, individuals 543. Observers: Jack Kasper, Dot Lewis, the Robert Peterson family, Helen Spencer.

**Peshtigo:** December 28. 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind W, 8 to 12 m.p.h. Temperature: -2° to 5°. 1 to 4 inches snow on ground. Peshtigo River open for one half mile below dam; few small openings on the Menominee River. Area: Selected areas in and around Peshtigo. 2 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 8, 1 on foot, 7 by car. Total party miles 116, 2 on foot, 114 by car. Total species 19, individuals 372. Observers: Harold Lindberg, Gary Thompson.

**Pulaski:** December 29. 8:00 a. m. to 12 noon. Clear. Wind WNW, 15 m.p.h. Temperature: -12° to 3°. One inch snow on ground. No open water. Area: Village of Pulaski and 10 miles northwest to Little Suamico; bird feeders, deciduous and coniferous woodland. 2 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 4, 3 on foot, 1 by car. Total party miles 15, 5 on foot, 10 by car. Total species 12, individuals 309. Observers: Brother Daniel, Brother Jude.

**Racine:** December 28. 6:00 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Clear to light cloudiness. Wind W, 5 to 10 m.p.h. Temperature: 5° to 15°. 3 inches old snow on ground; many bare areas. Open water on Lake Michigan, at river rapids, and on pond with circulating water. Area: Eastern Racine county, between north and south county lines and from Lake Michigan 9 miles west to Highway 41; includes city, lake shore, an open pond, county parks, open fields and hardwood lots. 20 observers in 8 parties. Total party hours 49. Total party miles 215, 30 on foot, 185 by car. Total species 56, individuals 10,368. Observers: Anne Carlson, Laura Du Four, Mrs. Robert Erickson, Billy Erickson, Bob Fiehweg, Dorothy Joslyn, Joy Joslyn, Mrs. Frank Kranick, Edward Prins, Mrs. John Rohan, Marsha Rohan, John Saetveit, Mrs. Arthur Schacht, Mrs. E. R. Smale, Mrs. Arthur Stoffel, Mary E. Whalen, Bill Weber, Ida Whitten, Barbara von Jarchow, Dr. B. L. von Jarchow.

**Rhineland:** December 28. 6:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, calm to 5 m.p.h. Temperature: -2° to 7°. 6 inches snow on ground. Open water only on Wisconsin River below Ripco dam. Area: 15-mile diameter circle centered in Rhineland. 10 observers in 2 parties. Total party hours 17, 7 on foot, 10 by car. Total party miles 160, 5 on foot, 155 by car. Total species 21, individuals 400. Observers: David Dahlstrand, Lois Dahlstrand, Nils Dahlstrand, Paul Dahlstrand, Donald Kemmeter,

Francis Ratliff (compiler), Evelyn Ratliff, Ruth Ratliff, Julian Rheame, Cedric Vig. (Oneida Wildlife Society).

**St. Croix Falls:** December 28. 7:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Cloudy with showers until after 1 p. m.; afternoon cloudy and windy. Wind NW, 10 m.p.h. increasing in afternoon. Temperature: 12° to -1°. 6 inches snow on ground. Small spring, creeks and St. Croix River partly open. Area: Interstate Park; woodlands, small springs, marshes, wooded pastures, farm fringe areas, and three feeding stations. 6 observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 18, 16 on foot, 2 by car. Total party miles 27, 6 on foot, 21 by car. Total species 15, individuals 262. Observers: Mrs. Margaret LaRue, Mrs. Irene McCourt, Mr. and Mrs. John McKenney, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Seed.

**Shawano 1:** December 30. 7:45 a. m. to 4:15 p. m. Clear. Wind W, 7 m.p.h. Temperature: -16° to 6°. 4 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered near Shawano, including area around Shawano Lake. 5 observers in 2 parties, plus 1 feeding station. Total party hours 13, 2 on foot, 11 by car. Total party miles 102, 1 on foot, 101 by car. Total species 25, individuals 711. Observers: Mrs. C. Defferding, Mrs. A. Lemke, Daryl Tessen (compiler), Mr. and Mrs. F. Tessen.

**Shawano 2:** January 1. 7:30 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear, calm. Temperature: 20° to 35°. Approximately 2 inches snow on ground. No open water. Area: City of Shawano and townships of Richmond, Herman and Wescott. 14 observers in 1 party, plus 3 feeders. Total party hours 8½. Total party miles 50, 2 on foot, 48 by car. Total species 17, individuals 1,297. Observers: Rev. Reinhold Link, O.F.M., Rev. Paul Dent, S.J., Brother Jodocus, C.F.A., Mr. Hack, Fred and Allen Hack, Jerry Koeppel, Peter Koeppel, James Matchama, Fred Miller, John Parote, Gerald Smith, Joseph Smith, Tom Tourtillott.

**Sheboygan (south):** January 3. 10:00 a. m. to 2:00 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind WNW, 10 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature: 36° to 40°. 2 inches snow on ground. Lake Michigan open. Area: Evergreen Park and nearby feeding stations, several miles along Lake Michigan on Lakeshore Drive, and Terry Andrae State Park. 2 observers in 1 party. Total party hours, 4 by car. Total party miles, 20 by car. Total species 12, individuals 201. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Bly.

**Sheboygan (west):** January 1. 9:00 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind W, 10 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature: 15° to 35°. 2 inches snow on ground. Lake Michigan open, harbor partly frozen, rivers and streams frozen. Area: Sheboygan, including Greendale Woods, Black River area, and Lake Michigan shore. 2 observers in 1 party. Total hours 4½, 2½ on foot, 2 by car. Total miles 22, 2 on foot, 20 by car. Total species 25, individuals 553. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Fisher.

**Shiocton:** December 23. 7:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Clear. Wind calm to W, 7 m.p.h. Temperature: -7° to 15°. 2 inches snow on ground. A very small amount of Stephensville Creek open. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered on Shiocton, and including Stephensville. 7 observers in 2 parties, plus 3 feeding stations. Total party hours 21, 11 on foot and watching feeders, 10 by car. Total party miles 122, 1 on foot, 121 by car. Total species 30, individuals 1,270. Observers: Mrs. C. Defferding, Mrs. Holly, Mrs. H. Komp, Mrs. L. Schwall, Daryl Tessen (compiler), Mr. and Mrs. F. Tessen.

**Stevens Point:** December 28. 7:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind NW, 4 m.p.h. Temperature: 4° to 12°. 3 inches snow on ground. Open water below dams on Wisconsin River and along Little Plover River. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered on State College campus, as in previous years. 27 observers in 7 parties. Total party hours 56, 12 on foot, 44 by car. Total party miles 428, 16 on foot, 412 by car. Total species 33, individuals 2,465. Observers: Henry Allen, Dr. Henry Anderson, John Barnes, Tom Barnes, George Becker, Robert Bickford, Jane Bickford, Col. Paul Drake, Arol Epple, Barbara Epple, Doris Epple, William C. Hansen, Nellis Kampenga, Gilbert Newman, James Newman, Jane Peterson, Bill Peterson, E. F. Pierson, Orville Rice, John Simonis, Gary Stout, Cheryl Walker, Tom Walker, Robert Whitmire, Bernard Wieve, Carla Yambert, Paul Yambert.

**Summit Lake:** December 28. 6:45 a. m. to 3:15 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind WNW, 0 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature: 0° to 5°. 7 inches snow on ground. Open water limited to a few rapidly flowing streams and portions of the Wolf River. Area: 15-mile diameter circle centered 4 miles east of the village of Summit Lake, Langlade county; coniferous swamps 30%, deciduous woods 20%, hardwoods with conifers 15%, open farmlands 15%, mixed upland conifers 10%, village 10%. One observer. Total hours 8½, 5 on foot, 3½ by car. Total miles 86, 1 on foot, 85 by car. Total species 13, individuals 528. Observer: Tom Soulen.

**Superior:** December 31. 8:00 a. m. to 2:00 p. m. Cloudy. Wind WSW, 10 to 25 m.p.h. Temperature: 5° to 15°. One inch snow on the ground. Only Lake Superior open. Area: 7½-mile radius circle centered 3 miles southwest of South Superior. 3 observers in 1 party. Total hours 6, 1 on foot, 5 by car. Total miles 89, about 2 on foot, 87 by car. Total species 15, individuals 665. Observers: Richard F. Bernard, Paul Gregory, George LaBar.

**Tomahawk:** December 28. 7:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Cloudy to clear. Wind NNW, 6 to 8 m.p.h. Temperature: 5° to 13°. 6 inches snow on ground. Rivers open only below dams. Area: City of Tomahawk and surrounding areas in northern Lincoln county. One observer. Total hours 8, 1 on foot, 7 by car. Total miles 86, 2 on foot, 84 by car. Total species 11, individuals 108. Observer: Donald J. Hendrick.

**Two Rivers:** January 1. 7:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear in morning; cloudy in afternoon. Wind E, 5 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature: 10° to 30°. 5 inches snow on ground.

Only Lake Michigan open. Area: Northeastern Manitowoc county, Lake Michigan shoreline, open farmland, deciduous and coniferous woods. 3 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 18, 2 on foot, 16 by car. Total party miles 88, 2 on foot, 86 by car. Total species 27, individuals 2,690. Observers: Brian Belonger, John Kraupa, Roger Tess.

**Washburn:** December 31. 9:00 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. Overcast, with intermittent snow flurries. Wind SSW, 17 to 20 m.p.h. Temperature: 10° to 19°. 12 inches snow on ground. Only open water a very small area in Prentice Park and one small stream near Fisher's Corners. Area: Town of Washburn, Town of Ashland, Ashland Airport, Prentice Park, 4 miles of County Highway C, Highway 13 to 5 miles north of Washburn, the Washburn and Barksdale dumps. 4 observers in 1 party. Total party hours 4½, ½ on foot, 4 by car. Total party miles 73, 1 on foot, 72 by car. Total species 17, individuals 849. Observers: Mrs. Dorothy Brady, Colleen Brady, Maureen Brady, Mrs. Janet L. Kozlowski.

**Waukesha:** December 29. 7:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Clear. Wind NW, 15 m.p.h. Temperature: -8° to -5°. 4 inches snow on ground. Open water only at discharge of dams. Area: All points within 15-mile diameter circle centered at junction of County Highways ZZ and D to include Vernon Marsh, north end of South Kettle Moraine State Forest, Mukwonago, Delafield, Dousman and Waukesha. 27 observers in 8 parties. Total party hours 61, 16½ on foot, 44½ by car. Total party miles 506½, 38½ on foot, 468 by car. Total species 50, individuals 8,476. Observers: Robert Adams, Clarence Anthes, James Babcock, Robert Barndt, Harlow Bielefeldt, John Bielefeldt, Helen Brown, Peter Christianson, Olive Compton, Walter Elmer, Mike Emerson, Harold Graser, Clarence Henricks, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hoffmann, Joyce Jais, David Kanter, Charlotte McCombe, James McCombe, Janet Klug, Walter Klug, G. Mcrton, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Nelson, Jr., Lydia Schartz, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Rutenber. (Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club).

**Wausau:** December 29. 7:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Clear. Wind WNW, 5 to 15 m.p.h. Temperature: -15° to 0°. 5 inches snow on ground. About 2% of water area open. Area: 7-mile radius circle centered in central Wausau. 27 observers in 13 parties. Total party hours, 88½. Total party miles 245, 17 on foot, 228 by car. Total species 29, individuals 2,555. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Andrews, Mrs. Pauline Barnard, Mr. and Mrs. David Bierbrauer, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Buerger, Miss Fay Crow, Nora Englin, Florence Hensey, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Hyde, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kann, Dorothea Krause, Mrs. Kemp, Ruth Lave, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Mattern, Adair Meeks, Bertha Pearson, Mrs. R. Pueckner, Tom Utecht, Olive Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Williams, Mrs. Zillman.

**Wautoma:** January 1. 7:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Partly cloudy. Wind SW, 10 m.p.h. Temperature: 20° to 30°. 2 inches snow on ground. Lakes frozen; creeks and rivers partly frozen; springs open. Area: All points within a 15-mile diameter circle centered in village of Mount Morris, Waushara county. 5 observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 30, 13 on foot, 17 by car. Total party miles 133, 18 on foot, 115 by car. Total species 28, individuals 2,640. Observers: Mrs. Oliver Anderson, Richard Anderson, William Boose, Merwood Chipman, Mrs. Merwood Chipman (compiler).

**Williams Bay:** December 28. 7:30 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Cloudy to sunny to cloudy, with very light snow flurries. Wind NW, 5 to 8 m.p.h. Temperature: -10° to -6°. 2 inches snow on ground. West end of Lake Geneva open. Area: Selected points at Williams Bay, Fontana, and along the Lake Geneva shoreline, including feeding stations and Yerkes Observatory grounds. 8 observers in 4 parties. Total party hours 28. Total party miles 60, 3 on foot, 57 by car. Observers: Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Belland, Jean, Jorine, Robin and Leroy Friestad (compiler).

**Wisconsin Rapids:** December 24. 7:30 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. Overcast. Wind N, 5 to 10 m.p.h. Temperature: 20° to 40°. 2 inches snow on ground. Water open below dams and in fast flowing creeks. Area: 4-mile radius circle centered 6 miles south of Wisconsin Rapids, at junction of Highways 13 and 73. One observer. Total hours 5, 2 on foot, 3 by car. Total miles 53, 3 on foot, 50 by car. Total species 14, individuals 278. Observer: Gary Stout.

2321 N. 32nd Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53210



# BOOK REVIEWS

**BIRDS OVER AMERICA.** By Roger Tory Peterson. Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, 1964 (new and revised edition). xiii + 342 pp., 80 pp. photographs. \$7.50.

At the present rate of increase, bird watchers will outnumber bird hunters before long. And perhaps that's just as well for the birds, considering the rate of expansion in human population and consequent loss of habitat for wildlife. The author observes that "The appeal of birds seems to be greater the more life is restrained." Bird watching has become a well-loved hobby of millions in the United States and Roger Tory Peterson, a product of the generation which saw its phenomenal rise, is one of its foremost advocates. The first edition of **Birds Over America** won the John Burroughs Award and the book is filled with his own experiences in finding and studying birds. As an extension of his personality, the book brings us his ideas and opinions concerning some ethics of the hobby as well as his belief that "one inevitably becomes a fervent conservationist." However, he explains in the Foreword: "As worthy of our contemplation as the birds themselves are the men who follow them, and who play the game of 'birding' for all it is worth. With most of them it is a diversion—a sport, if you will—and it is my belief that this aspect should be put on record."

Thus, in these pages are recounted tales of famous and interesting persons who have found the art of bird watching so fascinating. Introductions such as these are apt to inspire the reader to hope for similar experiences and lead one on to a hobby which may ultimately contribute to science. Should that be impossible, the stories provide a vicarious enjoyment of the world of birds, and many of us now must be satisfied with finding our adventures between the bright covers of books or on the motion picture screen. Still, one's imagination can help one's spirit soar when reading a passage such as this: "Once, as we came down the cloud-shrouded slopes of Rainier . . . a sudden storm swept in from the low peaks to the west. There was no shelter where we were, so we hurried the last few hundred yards to a ranger's cabin at timber line. As we waited on the porch for the black clouds to break, a chorus of varied thrushes, the robins of the rain forest, made cathedral music with their eery harmonic whistles in the dark firs below. When the first big drops fell one thrush hopped from its shelter in the shadows, and as the downpour increased in tempo, flew from branch to branch until it perched on the tip of the tallest tree. There it sang, as I have seldom heard a bird sing, while the rain pelted down. Never have I seen a bird express such oneness with the elements, nor in such a setting, for to face the fresh breeze on Rainier is to blow the cobwebs from one's soul."

Chapters on "Bird Cities in the Wilderness" and "Birds Among the Skyscrapers" tell of widely divergent places to follow this hobby, and one can derive secret pleasure from mischief-making described in "Deceiving the Experts." He writes of "Billions of Birds," yet cites

the rapid decline of some species due to human "progress." An example of the updating mentioned in the Foreword occurs when the figure of 100 cities on the Audubon Society Tours in 1948 with audiences estimated at half a million increases to 200 cities in the 1964 edition with attendance of nearly a million. Statistics on bird populations are corrected and present tense changed to past when speaking of persons who have died, but essentially, the book has been changed as little as possible. Birders will find the old familiar and the exciting rarities in the text and also on the 80 pages of photographs. While the pictures lose detail in this reprinted edition, they still are beautiful and distinctive.

The book is well bound and easy to read. In **Birds Over America** one meets the birds—and Mr. Peterson.—Gertrude M. Scott.



## An Invitation to WSO Members



The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union invites all members of WSO and readers of **The Passenger Pigeon** to become members of MOU. Our respective state organizations need the support of the people of Wisconsin and Minnesota. We have mutual problems and interests, our treasuries need money and most of all we can share our bird watching experiences with each other through **The Loon** and **The Passenger Pigeon**. Minnesotans are being urged to join the WSO and we hope many Wisconsinites will join MOU. **The Loon** is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. Classes of membership and annual dues are: Active, \$3.00; Sustaining, \$5.00; Life, \$50.00; and Patron, \$100.00 or more. Dues should be sent to the treasurer, Mrs. Gloria Peleaux, 5222 Minnaqua Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55422.



**JOURNEYS IN GREEN PLACES.** By Virginia S. Eifert. Dodd-Mead and Co., New York, 1963. Illustrated with photographs and drawings by the author. xv + 222 pp. \$4.50.

Although birds form only a minor part of Mrs. Eifert's book, subtitled "The Shores and Woods of Wisconsin's Door Peninsula," state bird students will enjoy and benefit by her descriptions of the setting of the book: the ridges, dunes, hardwoods, conifer forests, and even the cherry orchards of Door county.

The author not only describes and pictures them as they are today, but explains how they came about. By telling what happened here after the last great ice age, she makes the whole story significant and understandable.

"It is a small place in which to tell so grand a story," the author says.

Readers of the book may find that they have shared many of Mrs. Eifert's experiences on visits to The Ridges at Baileys Harbor and other parts of Door county, such as listening to the beautiful song of the winter wren; watching an ant lion dig his little pit in the sand; and finding such rare bog plants as sundew, bladderwort, buckbean and pink moccasin flower.

Mrs. Eifert is editor of "The Living Museum," published monthly by the Illinois State Museum at Springfield. For several years she has been teaching spring and fall classes in nature study at "The Clearing," Jens Jensen's former school at Ellison Bay, now operated by the Wisconsin Farmer Bureau. Previously published books by Mrs. Eifert include "Land of the Snowshoe Hare," "River World," and "Men, Birds and Adventure."—Clara Hussong.



# ANSWER TO CONSERVATION CROSSWORDS



# By the Wayside...

**Wintering Lincoln's Sparrow Found at Kewaunee:** Several days before our 1963 Christmas count was to be made at Kewaunee I visited those who I hoped could count birds at their feeders. At the home of Dr. Neseman, Mrs. Neseman was most enthusiastic about helping and invited me to see the beautiful feeding set-up in their back yard. Below their feeders were a few ornamental evergreen shrubs where Mrs. Neseman scatters scratch feed, grain, and cracked corn, mostly to get the House Sparrows away from the other feeders. I had been watching for some time when, all of a sudden, a little sparrow flew in to the feed on the ground, all by itself, and began feeding. I trained my Balscope on it and began to pin-point it. Soon it became evident that this bird had a very distinct buffy band across its breast and down its flanks and had the characteristic finely penciled streaks of the Lincoln's Sparrow on its flanks and sides. It had no wing bars and no white in its tail. I went to my car to get T. S. Roberts' Manual and my Audubon Field Guide. After checking these and Peterson's Guide and carefully observing the bird for fully 30 minutes, I was convinced it was, indeed, a Lincoln's Sparrow. I had banded 8 Lincoln's Sparrows this spring, along with many Savannah and Song Sparrows, and noted their markings carefully. The distinct buffy breast and flanks and fine pencil streaks convinced me of this species.—Roy Lukes, Kewaunee.

**White Phase Gyrfalcon at Oconomowoc:** On January 1 at about 2:30 in the afternoon Hortense Langer, Lucy and Art Gauerke and I saw a white bird which we first thought was a gull. The bird passed in front of the car at about 40 feet and then was viewed in flight around a small lake for about 5 minutes. It was white with black wing tips and had an odd flight. We noted the falcon shaped wings and long

## A Word About Dues

Starting in 1965, there will be a change in the payment of your WSO membership dues. They will no longer be sent to the treasurer, but instead to the membership chairman. This change was ordered by the board of directors because of the increased demands placed on the treasurer due to the growth in size and scope of the Society.

Early in 1965 you will be receiving a bill for your membership dues. Remember to send your remittance to:

Mrs. LeRoy Mattern, Membership Chairman,  
404 Fern Lane,  
Wausau, Wisconsin 54401

tail and feel certain that this was a white phase Gyrfalcon.—Edward Peartree, Oconomowoc.

**Wintering American Bittern.** While tramping about a mud lake adjoining Lake Koshkonong on January 12, 1964, looking for Snowy Owls reported in the area, I flushed an American Bittern twice and was able to observe the bird well. The long thin neck, the medium dark, blue-gray flight feathers, the finely shaped brown and tawny plumage were easily noted. His tracks were abundant in a tangle of berry filled nightshade growing among the marsh grasses. The long toes, including the long hind toe seen in the tracks, indicated that it was this bird that had moved about through the berry laden tangle.—John Schaeffer, Milwaukee.

**Rusty Blackbird Winter Fashion Show.** On December 13, 1964, about 9:30 in the morning, I was pleasantly surprised when from my kitchen window I saw a Rusty Blackbird feeding with the Juncos, Tree Sparrows and House Sparrows. This bird had a yellow-tan and reddish-brown tinge on its feathers and, of course, the yellow eye. It appeared again on December 21. Then on January 2 one appeared having a more barred effect—more like the autumn immature pictured in the bird guides—a truly handsome bird when you have it in close observation. Two Rusties came to my yard on January 9 and 10, and then, on January 11 five flew in with an immature Redwing in their company. In this group of Rusties there seemed to be three color variations. Some were, no doubt, females and others, adult winter males. As I watched these sitting in our oak tree facing the light, their breasts seemed to glow golden-yellow. They were most stunning when they flew from the tree through the bright sunlight. With my binoculars I was able to make an accurate study of these birds. They were most accommodating in sitting for me.

I did not see the Redwing after January 16, and the last group of five Rusties came on January 25 and the last lone Rusty on January 31.—Mrs. Joseph Mahlum, Beloit.

**A Brown White-breasted Nuthatch.** Two White-breasted Nuthatches have been coming to my feeders almost every day since late last fall. One is a regularly-colored one, and the other I've named "Brownie" for its odd color. It's the same size as the "regular" one, but it has a coffee-brown head and wing markings, tan back, light brown wings, and dirty white underparts. Because of its larger size and the way the head is marked—the brown beginning a distance above the eyes, as in the White-breasted—I know it is not the more southern brown-headed species. Both fill up on sunflower seeds and suet, and then cache bits away in the bark of their own trees. Regular's tree is the elm under which the feeding table stands, just a few feet from the corner of the house. Brownie's tree is in the neighbor's yard. Now in late winter and early spring of 1964, they are harvesting their cached-away food. Brownie sometimes comes earlier than Regular and steals Regular's food and tucks it in the bark of "her" tree. When he catches her at it, Regular "buzzes" her—tail spread out, wings out and trembling—the way they both scare the sparrows away from the feeder. The Al Holz's, who live only a few blocks away as the crow flies, have also seen Brownie at their

feeder, and a woman who lives still closer to Green Bay reported seeing it also.—Clara Hussong, Green Bay.

**Great Black-backed Gull Sighted Near Ashland.** On Friday, January 31, 1964, at about 3:00 p. m. I was out on the ice on the bay of Lake Superior about 2 miles northeast of the city of Ashland. I was talking to a man from Ashland who was fishing there. The only birds I could see when we started to visit were 4 Herring Gulls. About 10 minutes after I had started to talk to the fisherman, I noticed a large bird flying towards us from the northeast. I called this to the attention of the fisherman and he looked and opined that maybe it is an eagle. I replied, "It sure is big, but it flies like a gull." As the bird flew closer to us I noticed that it was a gull and that the back was very dark. In comparison to the other gulls it was much larger. I informed the fisherman that he was looking at a very rare bird, but all he said was that it looked real big to him—and went on fishing.

The gull came past us, flew to the south, made a circle to the west, and then flew back to the northeast. The only time I could not see the true color of the bird is when it was directly into the low sun. There was open water northeast of where we were standing. This water would be near Bayfield. On the morning of February 1, I went back to the same location taking food with me to attract the gulls, but I did not see the strange gull. I called Dr. Richard Bernard about this and at a later date we made a special trip to the Bayfield area in search of the gull but found only Herring Gulls.—Bernard F. Klugow, Brule.



By HAROLD A. BAUERS

Winter Season

December, 1963—February, 1964

Many Wisconsin observers, remembering a paucity of birds in the fields or at their feeders during much of the winter of 1963-1964, will be slow to accept the assertion that the winter could have been other than a very dull one. Yet, when we gather all the data together, we find the season to have been not only a highly individual one, but one well punctuated with exciting highlights.

To get the full story we must review the months preceding our winter period. September, October and November had been among the

warmest and driest fall months on record. Ornithologically these months had been characterized by an extremely protracted general migration, during which many late migration records were set, and a very early southward movement of five boreal species: the Evening Grosbeak, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Pine Siskin, Red Crossbill and White-winged Crossbill. From **Audubon Field Notes** Vol. 18, No. 1, covering the fall migration, we learn that these species had already penetrated well into the southern states before our winter period began, leaving little more than remnants of their eruption within our state. In addition, the Snowy Owl was already being seen at points south of Wisconsin, and there was evidence in the eastern states, and to a lesser degree in Minnesota and Michigan, of a migration of the Black-capped Chickadee.

### Shorebirds at Racine

December was characterized by only moderate snowfall and progressively more frigid temperatures, which reached a bitter cold climax in the period from December 13 to 23. The many procrastinating migrants became fewer in species and individuals as the month advanced and the cold intensified. Common Loons had remained on the Madison lakes until December 1 and many more than the usual waterfowl were to be found on most southern lakes through the first week of the month. A smattering of Horned Grebes and small flocks of Hooded Mergansers, Canvasbacks, Red-heads, Widgeon, Gadwalls, Buffleheads and Scaups were reported on inland lakes at least through December 9. The Scaups, Common and Red-breasted Mergansers were numerous at all Lake Superior and Lake Michigan ports, the Lesser Scaup outnumbering its more northern relative in Milwaukee and Racine at this time. Brown Thrashers, Catbirds, Grackles, Snipe and an above average list of sparrows were also being seen in greater numbers than is usual for early December.

The outstanding pageant of the early winter, however, took place at Racine, where small flocks of Black-bellied Plovers, Dunlins and Semipalmated Sandpipers lingered on the beach, gradually becoming reduced in numbers until the last disappeared after December 10, exceeding by two weeks the previous late dates for these species. The Pine Grosbeak was beginning to invade the northern counties in small numbers and the phrase 'wide-spread but nowhere numerous' could be applied at this time to a number of species, among them the Purple Finch, Evening Grosbeak, Bohemian Waxwing, Redpoll and Snow Bunting.

The more noteworthy finds of the late December period, highlighted by the alert and careful observations of a Lincoln's Sparrow at Kewaunee are (we hope) adequately set forth in the Christmas count report in another part of this issue.

January and February, in contrast to December, were both unusually mild. The old snow from December tended to melt and disappear, and new snow came mostly in the form of flurries. Waters became more generally open than in recent winters. Unlike the previous winter in which Lakes Michigan and Superior froze over, these bodies of water remained entirely open. Many months of below normal precipitation within its watershed, coupled with excessive diversion of its waters, resulted in

Lake Michigan receding to an all-time low level. During an especially warm period in mid-January, when midday temperatures approached 50° in much of the state, a Cardinal was heard whistling at Wausau by Mrs. Spencer Doty, and Goldeneyes were observed in courtship behavior at Milwaukee by John Schaeffer.

Availability of food out in the countryside caused birds to be less drawn to feeders than in more difficult winters and, according to many observers, they became less conspicuous in the fields and forests as well. Reverend Fred Babcock declared of this period that "This has been an unusual winter in Vilas county because of the few birds we see"; Dr. Richard Bernard writes from Superior "The over-all picture is that birds are scarce. Bluejays are entirely lacking and winter finches are few or nearly non-existent. The Snowy Owl is the exception here; 13 have been seen in Superior this winter." Norval Barger says, "Birds are not at all concentrated. We see very few anywhere, and few northern visitors." Sam Robbins thought birds "less than abundant" even in December.

The general lack of birds notwithstanding, noteworthy observations got off to a good start with the "once in a lifetime" sighting of a white Gyrfalcon at Oconomowoc on January 1, followed by the flushing of an American Bittern near Lake Koshkonong on the 12th, the finding of a Hoary Redpoll in a large flock of Common Redpolls in Clark county on the 18th, and the surprise appearance of a Great Black-backed Gull at Chequamegon Bay on the 31st. Meanwhile, several common summer residents were found wintering in extraordinary places: two Black-crowned Night Herons remained near Menasha through the winter; a Kingfisher stayed at Brule; a Catbird in Ashland; a Common Snipe at Spooner; the Cardinal extended its range into Iron county at Mercer.

### Bald Eagle Observations

Individuals of western species occur in the state in the winter months with increasing regularity it seems, and this winter was no exception. Six species were reported: a Townsend's Solitaire was trapped and banded at Manitowoc on November 30; two Western Grebes were found on Oconomowoc Lake on December 7 and 8; a Varied Thrush put in an appearance at various feeders in Grantsburg at Christmas time; a Clarke's Nutcracker spent a week in early January at Rhinelander; Golden Eagles were seen in mid-January along the Mississippi River in both Burnett and Grant counties; Oregon Juncos were noted from many areas throughout the winter.

Of special interest this winter is a fascinating report from Terrence N. Ingram, faculty assistant at Wisconsin State College, Platteville, containing the daily notes and summary of a Bald Eagle project conducted by Mr. Ingram and his associates in the Cassville, Wisconsin, and Savanna, Illinois, areas. A few facts from the report may well be brought out here, though it is hoped that the researcher's work can be covered more fully in **The Passenger Pigeon** at a later date. The first four eagles of the winter were seen by William Bair, Upper Mississippi Wildlife Refuge manager, near Cassville on November 19. On December 10, Oliver Valley, Cassville game warden, noted 12 birds in the area; numbers rose steeply



then until December 21, when Ingram counted 120 Bald Eagles, most of them concentrated around the little open water at the Nelson Dewey power plant, where dead or injured fish from the plant screens were available in the river. Numbers of birds in the area fluctuated thereafter depending on the weather, though on January 5 Mr. Bair counted 167 eagles on an air-boat survey through the Cassville-Acherman's Cut area. By February 9, with much open water available, the eagles had dispersed widely in groups of 2 to 4 birds. The first gulls came northward on the river on March 1 and within the next week there was much additional dispersion of eagles with immatures becoming more numerous. By April 16 many Turkey Vultures were seen, but no more eagles were to be found.

Here is a summary of the season's records by species:

### **GREBES, HERONS AND GEESE**

**Common Loon:** Found in Dane county until December 1 (Thomas Ashman); one reported from Lake Nokomis in northern Lincoln county on December 28 by a student of Donald Hendrick, Tomahawk.

**Horned Grebe:** A late fall migrant at Milwaukee on December 22 (Mary Donald); two late birds at Lake Geneva on December 29 (C. O. Palmquist).

**Western Grebe:** Two were observed on Oconomowoc Lake in Waukesha county on December 7-8 (Ed Peartree et al.).

**Pied-billed Grebe:** Noted at Milwaukee December 9 (Donald); one wintered at Madison (William Hilsenhoff-Ashman).

**Great Blue Heron:** One far north in Douglas county on December 19 (Bernard Klugow); one in Trempealeau county late in December (Fran Voelker); six counted in Adams county on December 26 (Steve Curtis) where the bird is found every winter.

**Black-crowned Night Heron:** Three immature birds were first observed on December 21 at Menasha in Winnebago county, roosting in trees near the only open water in the area. On January 2 only two were present, but these successfully wintered over, being still present in mid-March (Daryl Tessen).

**American Bittern:** One was flushed from a swamp adjoining Lake Koshkonong in Jefferson county on January 12 (John Schaeffer).

**Canada Goose:** More than 2,000 wintered in the Turtle Creek-Lake Koshkonong areas of Rock and Jefferson counties (Melva Maxson), about 400 wintered at Green Bay (Ed Cleary), 90 in Racine county (Louise Erickson), an unspecified number at Mecan Springs in Waushara county (Tom Guyant), 6 at Wausau (Emily Bierbrauer). Migrants were noted at Milwaukee February 29 (Donald), at Horicon Marsh on March 2 (W. D. Carter) and at Crex Meadows in Burnett county by March 15 (Norman Stone).

**Snow Goose:** Four were found on the Green Bay Christmas count.

**Blue Goose:** Five on the Green Bay Christmas count.

### **DUCKS**

**Mallard:** Reported in about the usual numbers in Brown, Dane, Milwaukee, Outagamie and Waukesha counties. Harold Lindberg noted an increase of wintering birds in Marinette county; Mrs. S. W. Doty found them "innumerable" below the power dam at Wausau. In the far north a few were found all season in Douglas county (Richard Bernard) and four stayed at Ashland (Mrs. Janet Kozlowski). None were noted in Lincoln county where they had wintered the two previous years (Hendrick). Migrants arrived on February 25 in Grant county (Mary Ipsen) and in Rock county (Maxson).

**Black Duck:** As usual, wintered in the same waters with Mallard, generally outnumbering Mallard in the north but forming a minority in the south. The greatest tally from any one area was 4,000 at Green Bay.

**Black-x-Mallard cross:** At least two noted several times during the winter at Racine. One had the green head and a black body, the other a green crown and nape with a body darker than Mallard (Louise Erickson-Edward Prins).

**Gadwall:** Wintered for sure only at Madison. Thirty were seen in University Bay, Madison, December 7 (Tom Soulen), 5 were still found there on the Christmas count

and 2 were noted February 8 (Hilsenhoff). Four appeared on the Adams Christmas count, but were not again reported. Two occurred at Oconomowoc on January 1 (Peatree). A single bird appeared in Rock county beginning January 28 (Maxson).

**Pintail:** Few reports. Found on the Christmas counts at Madison, Milwaukee, and Oconomowoc. Last noted in Waukesha county on January 5 (Peatree).

**Blue-winged Teal:** Two were present at Green Bay in early December (Edwin Cleary), but only one found there on the Christmas count.

**American Widgeon:** One or two found through the winter at Racine (Erickson-Bill Weber). Last noted at Madison December 7 (Soulen), Milwaukee December 29 (Donald), in Rock county December 30 (Maxson).

**Shoveler:** The end of December found single birds at Bay Beach Sanctuary, Green Bay (Ed Paulson-Elmer Strehlow) and at Madison and Racine.

**Wood Duck:** Two found at Hansche's Pond, Racine, on November 29 apparently stayed in that area all winter (various observers). One immature was observed December 23 on the only open water in the Shiocton area (Tessen). Two appeared in Rock county February 29 (Bernice Adreus et al.).

**Redhead:** A few present at Milwaukee all winter (Donald) but not seen in Waukesha county after December 8 (Peatree). Early migrants appeared at Racine February 22 (Prins).

**Ring-necked Duck:** The only report for the species is from Oconomowoc Lake, Waukesha county, on December 9 (Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hoffmann).

**Canvasback:** As many as 40 were to be found in the Milwaukee harbor all winter (Donald) and up to 7 at Racine (many observers). Found in Waukesha county until December 9 (the Hoffmanns); later reported inland only on the Lake Geneva and Madison Christmas counts.

**Greater Scaup:** Common along the Lake Michigan shoreline until the first week of December after which their numbers decreased greatly. Individuals, however, were reported at the end of December even from northern Lake Michigan and Lake Superior harbors.

**Lesser Scaup:** Outnumbered the Greater Scaup in the Racine harbor on December 3 but largely disappeared from the area soon thereafter (Erickson). Some remained in the Milwaukee harbor all winter (Donald). Reported inland in Waukesha county December 9 (the Hoffmanns), Dane county December 15 (Ashman) and on the Lake Geneva and Madison Christmas counts. The only late winter inland report is from Rock county on February 29 (Andrews et al.).

**Common Goldeneye:** At least 350 were present on Chequamegon Bay near Ashland until December 11 when ice formed on the bay; the number then became reduced to about 50 for the rest of the winter (Mrs. Kozlowski). They were also noted in Douglas county the entire period (Bernard). At one inland point, Tomahawk, three birds reported from December 28 to January 4 were the first mid-winter observation for this species in the area (Hendrick). Racine had a peak population of 2,760 on December 28—of these, at least 1,500 remained through the season.

**Bufflehead:** Peak populations of this species reached Green Bay on December 2 (Paulson) and Racine on December 8 (Weber). Many late migrants were seen on University Bay, Madison, December 7 (Soulen) and on Oconomowoc Lake, Waukesha county, December 9 (the Hoffmanns). End of the month reports show one at Bayfield and a few at Algoma and Kewaunee. All other reports are from Green Bay and the southeastern Lake Michigan ports.

**Oldsquaw:** Only two observations are away from the Lake Michigan shoreline: December 7 in Dane county (Ashman) and January 1 in Winnebago county (Tessen).

**White-winged Scoter:** A dead scoter found at Wind Point, Racine, by Ed Prins on December 7 was the only one of the winter in this area where the species is frequently recorded, especially during February and March. One was reported inland on the Lake Geneva Christmas count; a few were to be found in the Milwaukee area all winter (Donald).

**Ruddy Duck:** Very few reports. Two wintered at Green Bay (Paulson-Strehlow), one sighted at Racine December 4 (Erickson), seen in Dane county December 15 (Ashman) and single birds recorded on the Oconomowoc and Appleton Christmas counts.

**Hooded Merganser:** Reports are all in the month of December. Present at Green Bay until December 2 (Paulson). Fifteen lingered in Dane county until December 1

(Ashman) and 2 were still to be seen at Madison December 7 (Soulen)—one of these stayed on to the end of the month. More than 25 were seen in Waukesha county December 7-9 (Peartree-the Hoffmanns). At Christmas time 15 were found on Lake Geneva and single birds were noted at Adams, Milwaukee, and one northern point, Wausau.

**Common Merganser:** Found wintering on Lake Michigan north to Door and Marinette counties. A fine flock of 186 was tallied at the end of December in Adams county and small numbers were seen on Lake Geneva, the Madison lakes, the Wisconsin River in Dane county and on the Mississippi River in Burnett county.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** Present all winter along the Lake Michigan shoreline. A few noted inland at Madison and Lake Geneva. The only northern report is of 3 on the Bayfield Christmas count. A peak of 720 birds was reached February 27 at Racine (Erickson).

## HAWKS AND GROUSE

**Goshawk:** Decidedly more numerous than usual. At least 22 individuals reported from 12 counties during the winter: Ashland, Barron, Buffalo, Burnett, Douglas, Lincoln, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha. More thorough coverage no doubt would have brought this species to light in many other areas.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** A surprising number of December reports coming from Barron, Jackson, St. Croix, Pierce, Kewaunee, Dane, Waukesha and Rock counties. One January 18 observation in Brown county (Paulson). A bird wintering in the vicinity of a feeder at Waupaca, was seen to take only one Junco during the period. Two appeared at the feeder on February 25 (Florence Peterson).

**Cooper's Hawk:** Reported as present all winter only in Manitowoc county (John Kraupa). An average number of December reports originating in Shawano, Waushara, Marquette, Barron, Dane, Dodge, Waukesha, Milwaukee, Racine and Rock counties dwindled down to only two January and February sightings: January 4 at the UW Arboretum (Thomas Nicholls) and February 22 at Racine (Prins).

**Red-tailed Hawk:** An average to strong wintering population is indicated from St. Croix (Sam Robbins) to Outagamie county (Tessen) southward. Carter considered them abundant in Dodge county and Bernard found a few even in Douglas county. Mary Ipsen detected a northward movement of the species in Grant county beginning February 17.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** One or two individuals were found on 8 Christmas counts in Grant, Pierce, St. Croix, Outagamie, Milwaukee, Waukesha and Racine counties. The last report of the winter was of two in Grant county on January 4 (Terrence Ingram).

**Rough-legged Hawk:** Well distributed in good numbers throughout the state during December, becoming less common the latter half of the winter except in Outagamie county where Alfred Bradford noted them frequently, and at Horicon Marsh where W. D. Carter found them abundant at all times. John Wilde considered these less common than usual in Green county.

**Golden Eagle:** An immature was found on Crex Meadows in Burnett county on December 28 and again on January 16 (Stone). One was seen by Terrence Ingram on January 18 in a Bald Eagle roosting valley near Cassville.

**Bald Eagle:** Bird surveys, if made in successive years with as many constants as possible, serve well as an index to population fluctuations, but whether they actually ever succeed in counting all the birds, even as conspicuous and concentrated a species as the wintering Bald Eagle, is open to question.

The Wisconsin Conservation Department, reporting on a count of eagles made in January by federal and state observers, listed 155 Bald Eagles as wintering in Wisconsin. Of these, 135 were adults and 20 juveniles. The largest number, 103, was found on the Mississippi River along Pool 11, which stretches from Cassville southward to Dubuque. Another 18 were counted from Trempealeau to Nelson. The Petenwell and Castle Rock flowages hosted 28, and 6 were seen along the river in Dane county.

The total of WSO member observations of the Bald Eagle for the winter seems to suggest, even when allowing for some shifting of populations because of weather and other factors, that the Conservation Department figures may have been too modest. On a trip through northern Wisconsin on December 19 and 20 William Hilsenhoff found birds in Buffalo, Eau Claire and Ashland counties. The Wisconsin Christmas counts list 253 Eagles in 12 areas, Ingram finding 158 in the Cassville area alone. The

Mazomanie section of the Wisconsin River yielded 34 more, with Alma listing 23, Adams 22, and Langlade, Portage, St. Croix, Pierce, Wood and Jackson counties each noting a few. Other observations show wintering birds in Burett (Stone) and Douglas (Bernard) counties.

On January 1, 25 adults and 6 immatures were seen at one time from the Prairie du Sac dam by Tom Nicholls, Steve Curtis and Mary Lou Cory; on January 5, William Bair, manager of the Upper Mississippi Wildlife Refuge, estimated a total of at least 167 eagles in the Cassville area. An unusual southeastern observation was made January 26 of a bird flying over Evans Park, Racine (Prins). The first spring migrant returned to the King's Dam area of Lincoln county by February 29, the earliest in 9 years (Hendrick) and the spring exodus from Grant county was under way by March 1 (Ipsen).

**Marsh Hawk:** Wintered very uncommonly. Not more than 30 observations were made during the winter from Wood and Outagamie counties southward. Most unusual was the sighting of a possible early migrant in Marinette county on February 16 (Lindberg). In contrast, the first report of the season in Racine county does not come until February 29 (Weber).

**Pigeon Hawk:** One observed at close range at Hansche's Pond, Racine, on December 7 by Bill Weber.

**Sparrow Hawk:** Again reported as far north as St. Croix and Chippewa counties on the west to Shawano and Kewaunee counties on the east. Observations after mid-winter, however, are scanty except in Rock, Dane, Waukesha and Grant counties. "Seems to be wintering in increasing numbers in Outagamie County," writes Alfred Bradford. One pair in Oconomowoc was found roosting in a martin house through the month of January.

**Gyrfalcon:** One in the white phase was seen on January 1 near Oconomowoc by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gauerke, Mrs. Hortense Langer and Ed Peartree.

**Prairie Chicken:** The open winter and lack of crusted snow and ice helped this species on the Buena Vista Marsh. It is reported to have made its second increase in numbers in the past three years. One was seen on the Christmas count at Stevens Point.

**Sharp-tailed Grouse:** Donald Hendrick made a first sighting of this species in Lincoln county on January 4; also noted on Christmas censuses in Burnett and Douglas counties.

**Bobwhite:** The steady decline of this species in the state over a period of many years which was accelerated in 1961 and 1962 by very severe winters was, hopefully, halted by the present mild winter. Christmas counts turned up birds in only Dane and Waushara counties.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** The ideal harvesting conditions of fall gave farmers the opportunity to harvest their corn more completely than in past winters, leaving little standing grain to help the pheasants through the winter. In spite of his handicap, pheasants survived the winter well, the only cold period of late December not being protracted enough to hurt them.

**Gray Partridge:** Reported in improved numbers from the eastern and southern tiers of counties from Oconto county on the north to Grant county in the southwest and in-state in Outagamie, Winnebago, Washington and Waukesha counties. From Don L. Johnson, **Milwaukee Sentinel** outdoor writer, we learn of a Conservation Department plan to send Alan J. Rusch, Department biologist, to Saskatchewan to trap hardy Canadian stock for introduction into the "gamebird poor" central Wisconsin area of Clark and Marathon counties.

## COOTS, SHOREBIRDS AND GULLS

**American Coot:** A few were to be found in Dane county all winter (Hilsenhoff); other reports are exclusively for the month of December. Oconomowoc Lake held 150 up to December 9 (the Hoffmanns) and Lake Geneva 12 until December 30, with an occasional individual noted meanwhile in Racine, Rock and Milwaukee counties.

**Killdeer:** Late fall migrants were still to be seen at Racine on December 10 (Bob Fiehweg); one lingered in Rock county into late December (John Wilde); one was seen at Milwaukee up to January 11 (Donald, Erickson); spring migrants were noted in Racine by March 6 (Erickson).

**Black-bellied Plover:** One procrastinated at Racine until December 10 (Fiehweg), two weeks later than the previous state departure record.

**Common Snipe:** The Christmas period revealed the presence of at least 23 of these in 9 areas as far north as Waushara, Outagamie and Manitowoc counties. More unusual is a bird found at the fish hatchery in Spooner on January 14 (Klugow).

**Dunlin:** Two remained at Wind Point, Racine, until December 10 (Fiehweg) exceeding the previous state departure record for the species by two weeks.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** In view of the fact that the previous state departure record for this species was October 18, it seems fantastic that birds lingered well into December at Racine this winter; 11 were counted at Wind Point on December 7 (Prins) with 2 still present on December 10 (Fiehweg).

**Great Black-backed Gull:** One was observed out on the ice on Chequamegon Bay north of Ashland by Bernard Klugow on January 31. A first hand report appears in "By the Wayside."

**Herring Gull:** Generally well distributed along the entire Lake Michigan and Lake Superior shorelines the whole winter; however, departed from Chequamegon Bay after January 15 (Kozlowski). Found inland along the Rock River and Lake Geneva through December; remained all winter on Lake Winnebago (Tessen). Reappeared along the lower Mississippi River beginning February 25 (Ipsen) and March 1 (Ingram).

**Ring-billed Gull:** The end of the year found this species still present in small numbers at most Lake Michigan ports and at least 2 were seen at Bayfield; also noted inland on Lake Geneva and along the Wisconsin River. Remained all winter at Milwaukee and Racine (various observers); several sightings were made during the season in Brown (Paulson) and Rock (Andrews et al.) counties.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** Last seen in the state on December 13 at Racine (Weber) and Milwaukee (Donald).

## DOVES, OWLS AND WOODPECKERS

**Mourning Dove:** Wintered in greater numbers than usual with 100 or more at Appleton (Bradford, Tessen) and 6 as far north as Burnett county on February 10 (Stone). Mr. and Mrs. Percy Menning, living on the Fox River outside Appleton, reported a late winter build-up near their home which had reached 40 to 50 birds by February 20 and 100 by the end of the month.

**Screech Owl:** Mrs. Arthur Schacht of Racine had one under observation in trees near her home much of the winter. Few Wisconsin birders were that fortunate, judging by the scanty reports for the species. Known to be present all season in Rock (Mrs. John Brakefield), Waukesha (Mrs. Earl Sauer) and Grant (Ipsen) counties, with a few other reports ranging as far north as Outagamie (Bradford) and Washburn (Beatrice Bailey) counties.

**Great Horned Owl:** The reports indicate an average wintering population. Ed Peatree succeeded in banding one on January 29 in Waukesha county.

**Snowy Owl:** The good flight that blanketed the state already in November persisted through the winter, the reports gradually becoming less frequent as the winter wore on. As usual, the birds tended to concentrate along the Great Lakes shorelines, but were also reported from virtually all sections of the state. Thirteen were seen at Superior between December 5 and February 22 (Bernard), 3 or 4 were to be found in the Green Bay area (Strehlow), several ranged the harbor at Milwaukee beginning January 2 (Donald) and at least 3 were noted at Racine from November 11 through February (Mrs. Frank Kranich, Mrs. Erickson, Weber, Fiehweg, Prins).

**Barred Owl:** About the average of reports from all sections of the state.

**Long-eared Owl:** Wintering records for this species are becoming less frequent than in former years. The only area reporting more than one or two was Racine, where up to nine were noted at times. Milwaukee had only two at Whitnall Park from January 5 to February 23 (Strehlow). One or two were found on Christmas counts at Adams, Chippewa Falls, Lake Geneva and Waukesha.

**Short-eared Owl:** Few reports. Two December observations in Rock county; one to six birds were to be found at Johnson Park, Racine, from December 24 to February 22, usually roosting in spruce trees near the Long-eared Owls (Prins et al.). Common during the winter on Horicon Marsh (Carter).

**Saw-whet Owl:** One again seen in the University of Wisconsin Arboretum at Madison on December 21 by Tom Nicholls, Steve Curtis, and William Hilsenhoff.

**Belted Kingfisher:** To be found at Racine and Waukesha through December; noted in Dane county until January 12 (Ashman); wintered in Grant county (Ipsen) and on the Fox River in Appleton and at Stephenville in Outagamie county (Tessen); noted January 19 in Vernon county (Veratine Weber). Most remarkable is a bird reported from December 11 through the period at Superior (Bernard).

**Yellow-shafted Flicker:** The close of the intense cold period of December left a scanty but well scattered population in the state as far north as St. Croix, Shawano and Kewaunee counties. Several persisted through the winter in Grant, Rock, Milwaukee and Outagamie counties. One that appeared at a feeder in Waupaca on December 21 and remained through the season was seen to feed on the berries of high-bush cranberry, carrion-flower, wild grape and solomon seal (Peterson). Also noted January 1 in Pierce county (Robbins) and February 1 in Racine county (Dr. Bruno von Jarchow).

**Pileated Woodpecker:** Reported from every county from which reports were received except those in the southeastern quarter of the state.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** This species, slow to invade Door county, has been seen during November and December at feeders near Ephraim (Harold Wilson). Occurred as a winter resident again as far north as St. Croix, Chippewa, Marathon, Waupaca and Outagamie counties. Recorded also in Burnett county December 28 (Stone), Oconto county December 29 (Brother Daniel, Brother Jude) and Shawano county February 15 (Mrs. Rill).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Fewer wintered than usual. Veratine Weber had none at her feeder in Vernon county for the first time and saw none in the area. The many observers in the Racine area came up with only two reports for the winter. Two northern observers, however, recorded unusual occurrences of the species: one bird remained at a Lincoln county feeder all winter (Hendrick) and another stayed through February at Sarona (Beatrice Bailey).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** Several early December reports for Madison (N. R. Barger-Nicholls). Found on Christmas counts in Grant, Dane, Walworth, Racine, Milwaukee, Waukesha and Brown counties.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** The Reifenausers noted fewer at their feeder in Chippewa Falls this winter, but on the other hand, Mrs. Peterson was pleased to have as many as 12 at one time about her feeder in Waupaca. Bernard considered that they were returning to Douglas county by February 22.

**Horned Lark:** Abundant, with wintering birds remaining farther north in the state than usual. Hendrick found them wintering in northern Lincoln county for the first time in his experience; a few wintered in St. Croix county (Robbins). Also noted January 7 in Waupaca county (Peterson), January 21 in Marathon county (Mrs. Doty), January 30 in Washburn county (Bailey), February 1 in Marinette county (Carl Richter) and February 2 in Burnett county (Stone). Hilsenhoff found them throughout Forest, Florence and Marinette counties by February 20. Peak migration waves came later passing through Sheboygan (Harold Koopmann), Racine (Prins) and Outagamie (Bradford) counties on or about February 22.

## JAYS, TITMICE AND NUTHATCHES

**Gray Jay:** One spent the season unusually far south, at a feeder on the grounds of the Isaac Walton League in Stevens Point (Arol Epple). Other observations were made in Ashland county December 20 (Hilsenhoff), 6 in Langlade county December 28, and 5 in Forest county December 29 (Soulen) 2 in Oneida county on the Rhinelander Christmas count, in Lincoln county January 4 (Hendrick), and Marinette county February 20 (Hilsenhoff).

**Blue Jay:** Scarce throughout most of the northern counties, but wintered abundantly in the central and southcentral counties. Wisconsin Conservation Department foresters suggested that the late frosts of the previous spring and the dry summer had resulted in a poor mast crop in the northern counties, probably influencing the winter distribution of the species.

**Common Raven:** The finding of a roost in the jack pine country south of Brule resulted in the phenomenal count of 476 of these on the Christmas Count in that area. Distribution for the season was very northerly, reports coming from Ashland, Bayfield,



Burnett, Douglas, Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln and Sawyer counties. Only one more southerly observation was made on January 18 near Fairchild in Clark county (Robbins).

**Crow:** Missed only on 13 of the most northerly Christmas counts. Tom Soulen, however, found 2 in Langlade county December 28, farther north than he has ever seen them before in winter. Norman Stone noted them on the same date in Burnett county. Small numbers of migrants arrived in Lincoln county on February 12 (Hendrick) and an influx was noted in the Ashland area during the last week of the month (Kozlowski).

**Clarke's Nutcracker:** One was present on the west side of the city of Rhineland from January 1 to 10 (Cedric Vig-Rhineland *Daily News*).

**Black-capped Chickadee:** Many northern and central state observers commented on the marked increase in numbers of this species this winter. In some cases this may indicate a return to normal after the very low populations experienced the previous winter; in others it may denote a migration of the species into these areas from other parts of the range, as was experienced in sections of Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana and reported in *Audubon Field Notes* Vol. 18.

**Boreal Chickadee:** Eight observed in Langlade county on December 28 were more than has been reported from this area before; 12 found in Forest county December 29 equaled the count of Black-capped Chickadees seen there on that day (Soulen). Hendrick reported at least one pair at a feeder outside of Tomahawk all winter; Rev. Fred Babcock noted several occurrences of single birds in Vilas county during the winter.

**Tufted Titmouse:** Reported north along the St. Croix River as far as Burnett county and mid-state on a line through Portage and Brown counties in somewhat lesser numbers generally than a year ago. Unaccountably disappeared from some feeders where they had been seen regularly in past years.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** This is one of the species which had penetrated well into the southern states before December, leaving only a small winter population in Wisconsin. One bird which Tom Nicholls had first color banded on November 16 returned to his station on December 1 and remained in the area until January 9.

**Brown Creeper:** Small numbers were found even into the northern tier of counties during December, but were reported as wintering only from St. Coix, Outagamie, Dane, Waukesha and Rock counties.

**Winter Wren:** The Christmas census at Beloit provided the only report of the winter. This species has been seen in 15 of the 25 years in which WSO has taken Christmas counties.

## THRUSHES AND WAXWINGS

**Mockingbird:** One was observed feeding on bittersweet fruits at Kewaunee on December 24 and 25 (Roy Lukes).

**Catbird:** One wintered in far northern Ashland at the feeder of Mrs. Maurice Olson (Kozlowski).

**Brown Thrasher:** An injured bird came to the Enos Campbell feeder in Kewaunee throughout December (Lukes); December records also from Dane, Racine, Sheboygan and Waukesha counties; one wintered in Appleton (Tessen).

**Robin:** Many stragglers were still found at the end of December as far north as St. Croix, Marathon and Oconto counties, but they were noted throughout the winter only in Waukesha (Peartree), Outagamie (Tessen) and Milwaukee (Donald) counties. A most unusual report is that of 12 seen at Ashland the last week in February (Mrs. Bayliss).

**Varied Thrush:** One was a daily visitor to several feeders in the village of Grantsburg during December and was seen by many observers (Stone).

**Hermit Thrush:** One appeared regularly at a Milwaukee feeder through the month of December (Donald).

**Townsend's Solitaire:** One of these casual stragglers from the west was banded in Manitowoc county November 30 (Bernard Brouchoud, Jr.), and though it was not seen again after that date, must be presumed to still have been in the state at the beginning of December. This species is frequently reported by *Audubon Field Notes* as penetrating into the eastern states in winter, but has not been seen often in Wisconsin.

Tom Soulen and party saw one at Cedar Grove on December 29, 1955, and Alan Rusch collected one on December 6, 1952, in Dodge county for previous winter records.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** A sprinkling of these were well distributed through the state in December but then disappeared, leaving only a few to be seen at Milwaukee the rest of the winter.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** The only report is of one on the Christmas count at Oconomowoc.

**Bohemian Waxwing:** Reported from 13 northern, northeastern and southeastern counties during December and early January, indicating at least a modest influx in the first half of the winter. Only two late winter reports were forthcoming: January 30 in Brown county (Paulson); February 22 in Bayfield county (Bernard).

**Cedar Waxwing:** Rather sparingly distributed over the southern half of the state. The largest flock noted was one of 100 birds in the University Arboretum on December 8 (Nicholls); by the end of December was seen in only 14 of the 68 Christmas census areas in flocks of 45 or less, and only as far north as St. Croix, southern Langlade and Portage counties. Most northerly report during January and February was from Sheboygan, February 20 (Koopman).

## SHRIKES, WARBLERS AND BLACKBIRDS

**Northern Shrike:** Scattered thinly over the northern half of the state in less than usual numbers. There were only two southern reports: December 1 in Dane county (Ashman) and December 28 in Racine county (Ida Whitten).

**Starling:** Missed only on the Christmas count at Hiles, in Forest county. Donald Hendrick calls them more abundant in Lincoln county than heretofore: "Either we have a tremendous influx of this species in the past year or their reproduction rate increased over previous years. There have always been Starlings around but never in any large numbers. This winter I have seen regularly flocks of not less than 8 or 10 and often flocks of 20 or more." Hendrick also comments on seeing Starlings sitting on a chimney in frigid weather, tail in over a flue, obviously warming themselves.

**Myrtle Warbler:** One appeared at the feeder of Professor E. F. Pierson in Stevens Point on December 28.

**Meadowlark:** Considered to be more numerous than in recent winters by most observers in the southern half of the state. Carter calls them common on Horicon Marsh in December, but uncommon through January and February. Bradford felt that the general trend to more Meadowlarks was reversed in Outagamie county and that fewer were wintering there than normally. Norval Barger heard two of the Western race in song near Verona on February 22.

**Redwing:** Widespread, but with no really large concentrations reported. Carter saw them only rarely on Horicon Marsh during the winter. Sam Robbins noted 100+ in Pierce county on December 30, but other observations this far north were mostly of single birds at feeders: one in Chippewa Falls until taken by a Sharp-shinned hawk (the Reifenauers), one near Deer Park in St. Croix county (Mildred Jerdee), several in Winnebago county (Tessen), one at Green Bay December 22 (Cleary). A flock of 250 early migrants was noted February 17 in Dane county (Hilsenhoff); first arrivals for Milwaukee were seen February 29 (Donald).

**Rusty Blackbird:** Enough reports to indicate that one or more birds were attempting to winter in each of four counties: Dane, Rock, Racine and Outagamie. Mrs. Joseph Mahlum had from one to five under observation on various dates from December 13 to January 31 in Rock county.

**Brewer's Blackbird:** Reported on three Christmas counts: 10 at Horicon (Harold Mathiak), 2 at Cooksville (John Wilde), one at Oconomowoc.

**Common Grackle:** Rather more than usual noted until the end of December as far north as Pierce, Portage and Manitowoc counties. January and February reports are exclusively from Milwaukee, Waukesha and Racine counties. The first spring arrivals were seen in Grant county on March 10 (Ipsen).

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** A handful of reports for December claiming 9 birds or less and originating in Manitowoc, Dodge, Dane, Waukesha and Rock counties. The last observation of the winter is of 48 in Rock county on January 1 (Maxson).

## FINCHES, REDPOLLS AND CROSSBILLS

**Cardinal:** A range extension into one of the few areas of the state where this species had not previously been found is indicated by 5 birds found wintering in Mercer, Iron county (Mrs. Herbert Sell). In other far northern occurrences it is noted that one pair wintered at Sarona in southern Washburn county (Bailey) and a bird was seen in Spooner on February 3 (Klugow). John Kraupa reported fewer Cardinals in Manitowoc county this winter than usual, but the Reifenausers in Chippewa Falls were pleased to find twice as many at their feeders as in former years.

**Evening Grosbeak:** The December flight of this species was both heavy and widespread, continuing the pattern set through October and November. From **Audubon Field Notes** we learn that the vanguard of this movement had penetrated well into the southern states by the end of November. Numbers were nowhere as great as in the winters of 1957-58 or 1961-62 and the movement was being referred to generally as a migration of the species rather than an invasion.

Birds were recorded in Wisconsin from 53 of the 68 Christmas census areas; Grantsburg with 718 hosted the largest number, while Manitowoc tallied 411 and Wautoma 263. Six other points counted more than 100. During the remainder of the winter the flight dwindled considerably, but reports in reduced numbers continued from all parts of the state.

**Purple Finch:** Widespread in the southern counties, generally in moderate or low numbers, and almost entirely absent from the northern counties. The Henry Koenigs succeeded in banding 163 by December at Sauk City, but Peartree could attain only 56 through the winter and early spring at Oconomowoc. Increasing numbers were noted in Vernon (V. Weber), Waupaca (Peterson) and Milwaukee counties (Donald) at the end of the period.

**Pine Grosbeak:** A minor invasion of this species reached the northern counties in mid-December, extending itself southward only to Burnett, Portage, Waupaca, Outagamie and Manitowoc counties, and had largely receded by the end of February. Carl Richter found these birds numerous in Oconto county during January, the numbers tapering off gradually until February 23 when the last one was seen. Hilsenhoff's observations in Oneida, Marinette and Forest counties all fell between December 17 and February 20.

**Hoary Redpoll:** Charles Kemper and Sam Robbins picked out one of these in a flock of 100 or more Common Redpolls; the paler coloration and unstreaked rump were detected in flight at close range in good light.

**Common Redpoll:** No huge flocks were reported, as in really big years, but reports were numerous and widespread, covering all but the southwestern corner of the state.

**Pine Siskin:** In late December there were still a few birds present in southern counties, and a very few in the northern counties. None were seen all winter in Lincoln county (Hendrick), the Rhinelander area (Vig) or Madison where Nicholls had banded 200 the winter previous. The only late winter reports are for a few in Bayfield county February 1 (Kozlowski), in Portage county February 19 (Hilsenhoff) and at a Milwaukee feeder during the final weeks of the period (Donald).

**Goldfinch:** Occurred in moderate to good numbers in all areas of the state through the entire winter.

**Red Crossbill:** Twelve well scattered reports through the winter, showing no particular pattern: 5 in Mercer about December 20 (Mrs. Sell); found on 5 Christmas counts in Dane, Marathon, Manitowoc, Oneida and Marinette counties, the 21 a Rhinelander being the largest number seen; noted January 18 in Brown county (Paulson); small flocks appeared in Vilas county on January 23 and February 20 (Babcock); several frequented a River Hills feeder north of Milwaukee beginning February 22 (Donald); noted February 29 in Lincoln county (Hendrick).

**White-winged Crossbill:** The early, swift migration of this species hit the state in mid-August, reached its peak by mid-November and completely subsided before December. There were only two sightings made during the winter months: December 1 in the University Arboretum (Nicholls, Curtis); December 28 in southern Marathon county (Don Helgeson et al.).

**Rufous-sided Towhee:** At least 3 were still with us at the end of December in Columbia county (Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Thompson), Racine county (Mr. Ettendorf) and Sheboygan county (Mrs. Fisher).

## **SPARROWS, SNOW BUNTING**

**Savannah Sparrow:** One was seen again at Beloit on the Christmas count.

**Vesper Sparrow:** Single birds appeared on the Christmas counts at Madison and Waukesha. This species has been seen on half the Christmas counts taken since 1952.

**Slate-colored Junco:** Common to abundant all winter, except in the northern counties, where it withdrew after December.

**Oregon Junco:** More than 30 reported in the state at the end of December in eleven counties. It may or may not be significant that all counties reporting the species, except Dane and Rock, were either in the Mississippi River valley or along the Lake Michigan shore. This seems to suggest that these bold geographic features tend to arrest or channel the eastward movement of these western wanderers.

**Tree Sparrow:** Like the Junco, was common to abundant in December all over the state, but apparently withdrew even farther southward than the Junco during the latter part of the winter.

**Field Sparrow:** At least 20 were noted through December in six counties, as far north as southern Marathon county. Here 2 were carefully observed at close range on the Dancy Christmas count (Helgersen et al.). The last report of the winter was for January 4 at Oconomowoc, where Ed Peartree recaptured a bird previously banded on December 1. One was also banded at Milton, Rock county, on December 21 (Maxson).

**White-crowned Sparrow:** The Christmas Bird counts found at least 15 in the state, the most northerly occurring at Wautoma (Mrs. Chipman). Three are known to have wintered successfully near Racine (Fiehweg).

**White-throated Sparrow:** The Christmas counts revealed the presence of at least 30 in the state, some as far north as Shawano county. The only followup report is from Green Bay, where one was seen through the winter (Paulson).

**Fox Sparrow:** One was noted several times during December at Racine (Mrs. B. Jensen-Bob Fiehweg); an apparently healthy individual appeared at an Appleton feeder beginning December 10 (Tessen) and stayed through the month; one was seen at Milwaukee until January 5 (Donald); others were found on Christmas counts at Beloit, Kenosha, Madison, Mazomanie and Wautoma.

**Lincoln Sparrow:** Careful observation by Roy Lukes revealed this inconspicuous northern bog sparrow to be present at the feeder of Dr. and Mrs. Neseman in Kewau-nee at the end of December to establish a winter record for this species.

**Swamp Sparrow:** At last 20, a rather good representation, were found in the state at the end of December: 7 at Lake Geneva, 4 at Racine and one or two at such points as Appleton, Milwaukee, Oshkosh, Madison, Mazomanie, Kenosha and Waukesha.

**Song Sparrow:** A greater number than usual remained through the opening month of the period as far north as Adams, Outagamie and Brown counties; known to have wintered in Outagamie, Brown, Dane, Milwaukee and the southern tier of counties. One was seen off and on at Wausau (Mrs. Doty). Birds were heard singing on warm days at Racine, February 4 (Fiehweg), and Madison February 22 (Hilsenhoff).

**Lapland Longspur:** Flocks of from 100 to 1,000 were seen during December at many points in the southern parts of the state, the most northerly reports coming at Christmas time from Winnebago and Manitowoc counties. The only area reporting them all through the winter was Waukesha county (Mrs. Sauer).

**Snow Bunting:** The movement of this species was early and widespread. Winter reports indicate fairly frequent observations of small flocks in the southern half of the state and very infrequent sightings of larger flocks in the north.



## W. S. O. OFFICERS & COMMITTEES—1964-65

**President:** Howard F. Young,\* Wisconsin State University, La Crosse 54602  
**Vice President:** Arol C. Epple,\* Wisconsin State University, Stevens Point 54481  
**Secretary:** Mrs. David J. Cox,\* 1105 Cottage Avenue, Beloit 53511  
**Treasurer:** Mrs. Alfred O. Holz,\* 125 Kolb Street, Green Bay 54301  
**Memberships:** Mrs. LeRoy Mattern,\* 404 Fern Lane, Wausau 54401  
**Conservation:** George Becker,\* Wisconsin State University, Stevens Point 54481  
**Publications:** Alfred O. Holz,\* 125 Kolb Street, Green Bay 54301  
**Education:** Mrs. R. P. Hussong,\* 332 Beaupre Avenue, Green Bay 54301  
**Publicity:** Dr. Charles A. Kemper,\* 733 Maple Street, Chippewa Falls 54729  
**Endowments & Advertisements:** Vacant  
**Legal Counsel:** H. Lowell Hall,\* 1620 E. Dean Road, Milwaukee 53217  
**Field Trips:** Edward W. Peartree,\* 36516 Lisbon Road, Oconomowoc 53066  
**Custodian:** Walter E. Scott, 1721 Hickory Drive, Madison 53705

### Research Committee

**Chairmen:** Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Hamerstrom, Jr.,\* Plainfield 54966

### Supply Department

**Manager:** Harold G. Kruse,\* Hickory Hill Farm, Loganville 53943  
Handles orders for books, stationery, etc. Catalog available.  
10% discount to WSO members for ornithological supplies.  
**Assistants:** Edward W. Peartree, 36516 Lisbon Road, Oconomowoc 53066 (Records)  
Mrs. C. P. Frister, 2156A N. 38th Street, Milwaukee 53208  
David J. Cox, 1905 Cottage Avenue, Beloit 53511  
Roy L. Lukes, 621 Wisconsin Avenue, Kewaunee 54216

### Editorial Staff

**Editor:** Nils P. Dahlstrand,\* 814 Birch Street, Rhinelander 54501  
**Circulation Manager:** Mrs. Raymond J. Roark, 101 Roby Road, Madison 53705  
**Associate Editor:** Rev. Samuel D. Robbins, Roberts 54023  
**The Badger Birder Editor:** Mary Donald,\* 6918 N. Belmont Lane, Milwaukee 53217

### Seasonal Editors:

(spring) Thomas Soulen, 2297 Standish, Apt. 11, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108  
(summer) Mr. and Mrs. Harold Roberts, 818 Clark Street, Stevens Point 54481  
(autumn) Dr. Charles A. Kemper, 733 Maple Street, Chippewa Falls 54729  
(winter) Harold A. Bauers, 2321 N. 32nd Street, Milwaukee 53210  
**File Keeper:** Mrs. Arthur Gauerke, 37783 Division Street, Oconomowoc 53066  
**Addressograph:** Mrs. Earl R. Schmidt, 450 Seventh Street, Hartford 53027

\*Member Board of Directors

## SILVER ANNIVERSARY YEAR SPECIAL

A \$2.80 value for only \$2.00 net

One—"Wisconsin's Favorite Bird Haunts" (\$1.75 value)

Ten—"Birds of Wisconsin" field checklist cards (25c value)

Two—"Wisconsin Birds" checklist with migration charts  
(70c value)

One—WSO Memo Pad (10c value)

Order your \$2.00 Silver Anniversary Year Special from:  
**WSO SUPPLY DEPARTMENT**

**Hickory Hill Farm  
Loganville, Wisconsin**