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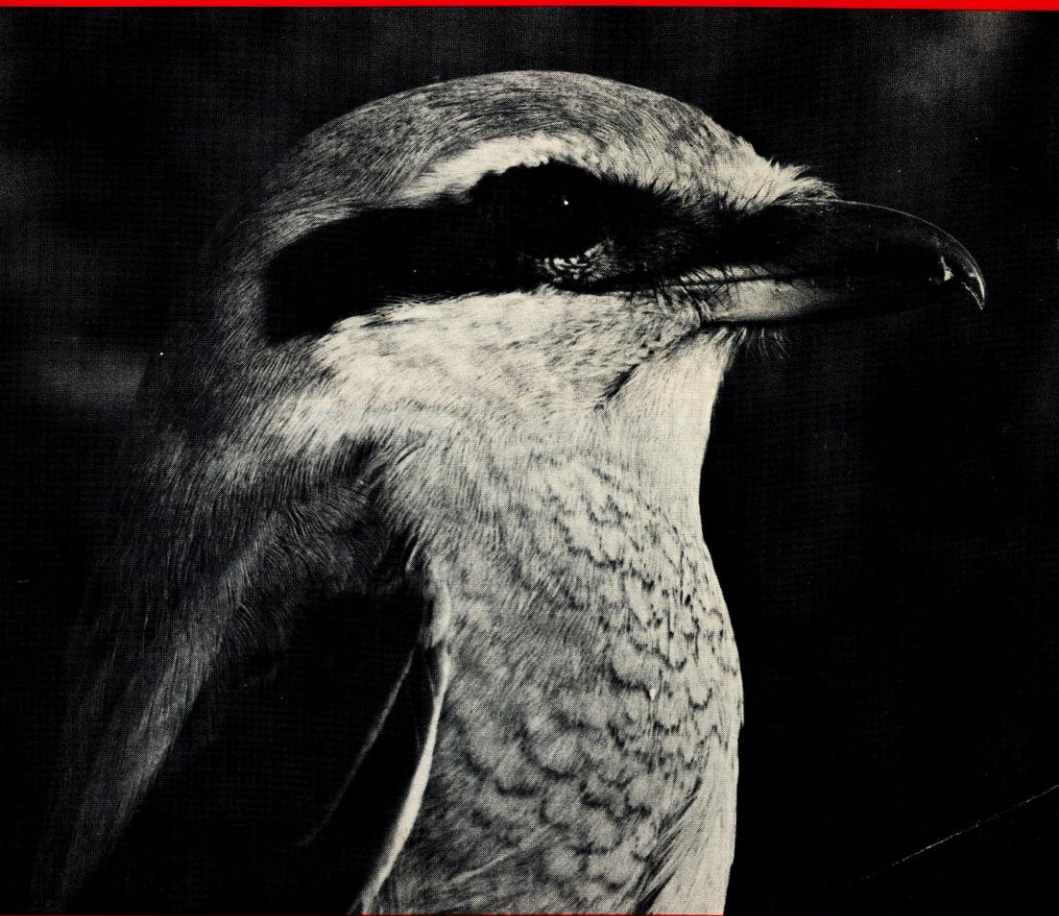
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The Passenger Pigeon

Winter 1981
Volume 43, No. 4



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IN THIS ISSUE

	Page
Wisconsin Breeding and Breeding Period Records of Saw-whet Owls	113
By Don G. Follen, Sr.	
Cliff Swallows	116
By Harvey H. Halvorsen	
Field Notes (The Autumn Season)	120
By Thomas Erdman	
By the Wayside (Autumn)	140
Field Notes (The Winter Season)	148
By Kenneth I. Lange	
By the Wayside (Winter)	160
Letters to the Editor	165

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Front Cover Photo: Northern Shrike by Roy Lukes

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Wisconsin Breeding and Breeding Period Records of Saw-whet Owls

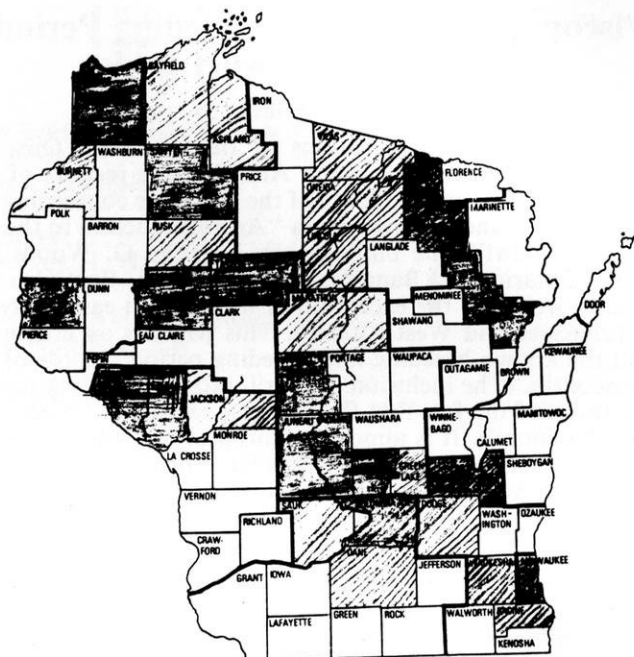
By Don G. Follen, Sr.

While the literature and observations of the Saw-whet Owl, (*Aegolius acadicus*) come from all across North America, the records of the actual breeding range is more limited. Some of the literature concerning nesting of this species can be found in reference in "An Introduction to the Literature on the Saw-whet Owl", the bibliography by John G. Woods which appeared in the Ontario Bird Banding Journal, 8:8-23. Bent also covers the breeding range well with the exception of more south-easterly records, for example, Tennessee and West Virginia. This paper is an attempt to bring together all the known breeding and breeding period records of Saw-whet Owls in Wisconsin. (The inclusion of April into the breeding period of this species is a result of the fact that five of these records are positive breeding records for this month. It is almost certain that many Saw-whet Owls are still in migration during and mostly through April. This is not to assume that any Saw-whet seen during April is a breeding bird. The purpose of this paper is to gather all known breeding and breeding period records of Saw-whet Owls in Wisconsin.)

Previously scattered and fragmented records existed on this species and nowhere could the author find a complete set of records. An attempt was also made to collect reliable and unpublished accounts of observations and breeding through the media and through requests for information in the Passenger Pigeon and Badger Birder. All produced a very limited response but I thank those who did respond and thereby added to our knowledge. Listed below are records provided by all sources.



Baby Saw-whet Owls - Photograph by Don Follen



Breeding Record



Obs. Breeding Period - April-August

Dates	County	No.eggs/yg.	Observer	Source	Via
7/25/03	Milwaukee	1 immature	C. Brandler	Mil.Pub. Mus.	NEK/MPM
4/13/15	Wood	4 eggs	J. Steirle	MPM	NEK/MPM
7/23/29	Fond du Lac	1 immature	F. Hopkins	MPM	NEK/MPM
6/?/36	Waukesha	Unknown	W.J. Mueller	Auk 53:447	K&H/SR
4/24/39	Racine	Unknown	Unknown	P.P.1:76	NEK/MPM
4/26/39	Forest	4 eggs	Unknown	MPM	NEK/MPM
7/13/43	Milwaukee	Unknown	O.J. Gromme	MPM	NEK/MPM
5/2/44	Sawyer	3 young	F.Zirrer	P.P.6:62-65	SR
6/24/45	Sauk	Unknown	A.Derleth	P.P.8:85	MPM/SR
7/7/46	Sauk	Unknown	A.Derleth	P.P.9:106	MPM/SR
5/13/47	Milwaukee	Unknown	H. Stoddard	MPM	NEK/MPM
4/19/51	Milwaukee	Unknown	R. Frey	P.P.13:111	MPM/SR
7/5/53	Dodge	Unknown	H. Bauers	P.P.15:64	MPM/SR
7/11-27/53	Milwaukee	4-5 eggs	Schwendener	P.P.15:178	RA/SR
8/4/53	Columbia	1 immature	I. Balsom	P.P.16:38	MPM/SR
			M.Donald		
			K. Priebe		
4/20/54	Oconto	5 eggs	C.H. Richter	Sam Robbins	P.Com.
5/15/56	Adams	Unknown	D. Larkin	P.P.18:133	MPM/SR
			S.P. Jones		

6/10/56	Taylor	4 young	R. Wendt	P.P.18:181	SR
6/19/58	Chippewa	4 young	C.A. Kemper	P.P.21:40	SR
5/3-25/59	Adams	Unknown	S.Robbins	P.P.21:162	MPM/SR
5/2/59	Rusk	Unknown	K. Parejco	P.P.21:162	MPM/SR
5/2/60	Dane	Unknown	Unknown	P.P.22	NEK/MPM
8/8-12/60	Vilas	Unknown	J.Wilde	P.P.23:17	RA/SR
6/27/63	Green Lake	Unknown	S. Robbins	P.P.26:66	RA/SR
7/20/65	Bayfield	Unknown	R. Bernard	P.P.28:81	RA/SR
4/24/66	Marquette	1 young	O.J. Gromme	P.P.29:44	SR
5/26/66	Buffalo	5 young	W. Drazkowski	Pers. Com	DF
4/24/69	Oconto	5 eggs	C.H. Richter	Sam Robbins	P.Com.
5/ /69	Douglas	"nested"	B.F. Klugow	P.P.31:25	SR
6/21/69	Vilas	Unknown	Bratley	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
6/30/69	Lincoln	Unknown	S. Robbins	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
5/29/70	Marquette	4 young	F.Z. Leshner	P.P.33:24	SR
7/31/74	Oneida	Unknown	P.Vanderschaegen	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
7/22/75	Forest	Unknown	D. Tessen	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
6/10/77	Douglas	Unknown	S. Robbins	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
6/22/77	Burnett	Unknown	C. Faanes	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
6/24/77	Juneau	5 young	D.G. Follen	P.P.39:271	SR
6/24/77	Jackson	Unknown	F.Z. Leshner	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
2/13/79	Douglas	Unknown	Idzikowski	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
6/10/79	Douglas	"nested"	R. Perala	Pers.Obs.	D. Follen
7/1-30/79	St. Croix	3 young	J. Haasch	Pers. Com.	D. Follen
5/27/80	Douglas	3 young	R. Perala	Pers. Obs.	D. Follen
6/16/80	Ashland	Unknown	S. Robbins	WSO Rec.UWSPRA	
7/1-30/80	St. Croix	3 young	J. Haasch	Pers. Com.	D. Follen
4/9-5/1/80	Marathon	Unknown	K. Luepke	Pers. Com.	D. Follen
4/19/81	Trempeleau	4 young	W. Drazkowski	Pers. Com.	D. Follen
5/8/81	Wood	2 young	Follen,Haug	P.P.43:47-8	DF
7/1-30/81	St. Croix	3 young	J. Haasch	Pers. Com.	D. Follen
7/18/81	Adams	1 immature	D. Follen	Unpub. yet.	DF
7/28/81	Vilas	Unknown	R.C. Foster	Pers.Com.	D. Follen

Abbreviations:

NEK - Nathan E. Kraucunas, assistant curator-birds and mammals, MPM
 K&H - L. Kumlien and H. Hollister, 1951 with revisions by A.W. Schorger
 SR - Sam Robbins
 MPM - Milwaukee Public Museum
 RA - Ray Anderson, file keeper, WSO records, UWSP
 UWSP - University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Wisconsin
 Pers. Com. - Personal communications between individuals
 DF - Don Follen, Sr.
 WSO Rec. - Wisconsin Society for Ornithology records at UWSP

Consequently we have fifty breeding or breeding period records for the state of Wisconsin.

Vanderschaegen's article in the Passenger Pigeon, "Where are the Saw-whet Owls?", Vol. 43:49-9, is certainly commendable for its description of the birds' songs and sounds plus the habitat in which he has found singing birds in the spring. It is this author's opinion that it is reasonable to assume that at least some percentage of these birds are breeding successfully. Ron Perala of Brule, who lives at the mouth of the Brule River, Douglas County,

has heard as many as fifteen of these birds calling in a few miles of driving on a single night, and has had them nesting in a poplar tree a short distance from his house, (pers. com. and obs. DF) for the past few years.

Due to the diminutive size of the species and the multitude of entrance holes two inches in diameter and over which make potential nesting sites, it is certainly easy to understand how this remarkable little owl escapes detection.

The map shows which counties have had records of Saw-whet Owls during the breeding or breeding period. Those with a positive breeding record are blacked out solid and those with observations during the breeding period are cross hatched diagonally. It is immediately noticed that this takes up a major portion of the state. Again, theoretically it is reasonable to assume that those counties showing no record at all just reflect a lack of discovery rather than the scarcity of the owls.

To quote Mr. Vanderschaegens' article, "Perhaps with a little bit of effort on the part of Wisconsin birders we can better determine the status and distribution of this unique little owl". This is a start and can be updated easily. Anyone having further observations or knowledge of nesting is encouraged to contribute.

Acknowledgements

Ray Anderson and the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology records department and the U. of Wis. at Stevens Point; Sam Robbins for his records and his help, Ron Perala and Ken Luepke for their observations; the Wisconsin DNR, especially the Sandhill and Wisconsin Rapids area crews, Tom Erdman, Judith Haasch, and above all, my family for their tolerance.

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Cliff Swallows

By Harvey H. Halvorsen

On May 27, 1980, Fawn Bauer and I decided to tally the number of Cliff Swallow nests on the Route 10 bridge over the Wisconsin River in Stevens Point. With life preservers on and paddles in hand, we boarded our canoe and paddled to the east end of the bridge. As we approached to within 100 feet of the structure, we were mobbed by hundreds (300+) of Cliff Swallows. We positioned the canoe under the north side of the east end of the bridge where we could observe numerous Cliff Swallows in nests that were attached to the concrete support buttresses. We proceeded across the river directly under the north side of the bridge, then back along the south side, keeping the clustered nests overhead for easy counting.

We counted all wet mud rings, indicating active nest construction, as well as all nests that appeared recently completed and without sign of decay. Nests on both the north and south sides of the bridge, approximately 900 feet long, were counted in about 45 minutes.

A total of 1590 apparently active nests were present on the bridge, 936 on the south side and 654 on the north. Since bridge construction is almost identical on both sides, it was apparent that the Cliff Swallows preferred a southern exposure for nest construction. Site selection may have been influenced by prevailing northwesterly winds, lighting as provided by sunlight reflecting off the water, or insect availability. Although not documented, earlier morning insect activity may have been greater on the south side of the bridge, where sunlight would have heated the bridge, thus warming insects and allowing earlier insect thermoregulation and flight.

Also noted was that the height of the bridge above water seemed to affect Cliff Swallow nesting density. The bottom of the bridge where the birds nested was gently arched and at its apex measured approximately 10 feet above water. We observed that the highest nest density occurred at about 6 feet above the water, and generally decreased with both decreasing and increasing height above water.

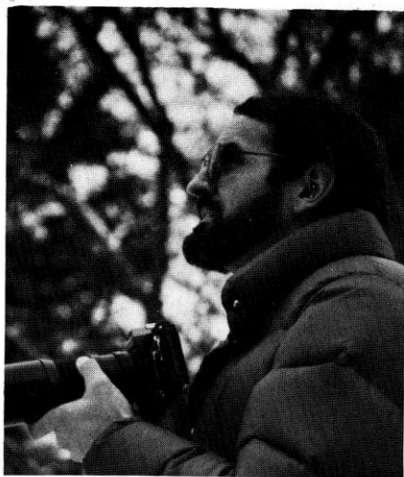
Our observations also revealed two bats roosting on the mud nests, as well as two Barn Swallow nests in the support girders directly under the bridge. No Barn Swallows were observed using partially crumbled Cliff Swallow nests, although they were plentiful.

Obviously the Cliff Swallows are both a biological and aesthetic resource to the Stevens Point waterfront community, consuming myriads of winged insects and providing acrobatic displays to interested birders.

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FIELD

NOTES



The Autumn Season

August 1 - November 30, 1980

By Thomas Erdman

This fall's migration was one of contrast from start to finish. This was due mostly to the abrupt weather change midway through the season. What started as a rather damp and dismal migration in August turned out to be quite spectacular both in terms of numbers and an amazing array of rarities. Included in this fall's list of 295 species were such unusual ones as Western Grebe, Anhinga, Brant, Harlequin Duck, Black Vulture, Swainson's Hawk, Parasitic Jaeger, Laughing Gull, Little Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Thayer's Gull, Wisconsin's first record for the Lesser Black-backed Gull, Arctic Tern, Rufous Hummingbird, Western Kingbird, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Yellow-breasted Chat, White-eyed Vireo, Varied Thrush, Townsend's Solitaire, and Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Despite a rather poor shorebird migration exceptional numbers of Buff-breasted Sandpipers were recorded. All three scoters were observed by the hundreds along Lake Michigan in October and November. At the end of August, it appeared that both the shorebird and passerine migration was ahead of schedule. Yet in contrast we found many species lingering late into October and November, long past their normal departure dates. New state record departure dates were set for the Veery, Bank and Cliff Swallows.

Reports this year were good in covering most of the state. Only the s.w. area again had limited coverage. A total of 88 reports were received from 65 observers. As is usual the WSO Records Committee pared down the list of rarities. This editor also had reservations on several more. As a caution I would suggest that reporters include age information on certain rare species they encounter. If one can identify in the field such species as a Golden Eagle or Little Blue Heron, one should be able to indicate if it was in either adult or immature plumage. That information is essential in identifying the species! This editor also took exception with the Records Committee by including the Anhinga sighted at Cedar Grove Ornithological Station. It had been rejected because of the ambiguous documentation submitted. It was added after consultation with two of the observers (Berger and Allez), and also being aware that another observer (Bienvenu) is extremely familiar with the species having lived on the Louisiana Gulf Coast most of his life. Hopefully better documentation has since been provided. This is a very good example why observers should take time to submit detailed descriptions of rarities encountered and not just date and location.

There is probably no other season wherein the weather has more influence on either the variety or the total numbers of birds present in the state. The

main weather event affecting migration in the autumn is the west to east passage of low pressure or low pressure systems and their associated cold fronts. Conditions ahead of such a system usually inhibit migration. This is often precipitation, falling barometric pressure and southeast winds. With the passage of the cold front, skies usually clear, pressure rises, temperatures drop and most important the winds switch to the north or northwest. This is optimum migration weather. Therefore, it is obvious that the number and quality (origin and strength) of these systems directly affect the number of migrants recorded in the season.

Generally the more systems we experience the more representative the observations become of the actual migration. Most species have set migration periods. A phenomenon well known to bird-banders is that in many species the adults and juveniles, and even the sexes migrate separately. As a result a particular weather system might produce only one sex or age class. A period of few frontal movements might result in a species being recorded in very low numbers. It is this unpredictability that makes utilizing migration data very difficult in population studies.

This fall witnessed an above average thirty-three frontal passages through the state. These were often reflected by reports of peak numbers, and in the season's arrival and departure dates for many species. The dates of these frontal movements have been included in the following seasonal weather summary. This will provide a quick reference to those interested in this aspect of migration when compared to the dates in the species summary.

August and the first half of September were uniform in being warm and exceptionally wet. This was due to an almost stationary ridge of high pressure centered in the southern states. It created an extended heat wave in the south while in the Great Lakes region it served as a blocker to most storm systems. Weak cool fronts would move through the state only to stall out in northern Illinois or in several cases retreat northward as warm fronts. This pattern resulted in August and September 1980, being the second wettest consecutive months since 1892. Wisconsin received double the normal precipitation with just under 14 inches. Much of this fell in southern sections. Most of the shorebird peaks were recorded there in this period. Only six fronts moved through in August (Aug. 4, 8, 13, 17, 26 and 31). The fronts on the 4th and 26th returned northward as warm fronts. The one on the 26th proved disastrous for migrants in Buffalo County. On the 27th migrants started out with north winds following the passage of the cool front. However the front had stalled in Illinois, and during the day of the 27th moved northward as a warm front. It brought with it low clouds and light rain. The migrants, mostly warblers encountered this at Galesville, where a well lighted 1600 foot TV tower resulted in a heavy mortality. Robert Frieslein, Refuge Manager, Trempealeau NWR accessed the kill at an estimated 3 to 5,000 birds. He picked up over 500 individuals composed of 28 species in less than 10% of the kill area.

The first two weeks of September continued in the same pattern as August. There were ten frontal systems recorded for the month (Sept. 2, 4, 9, 13, 16, 18, 20, 21, 25, and 27). The cold front associated with a very intensive low on the 16th finally changed the seasons weather pattern. It's passage at Chicago created a 17 degree drop in only six minutes. It brought below normal temperatures and the first frosts to northern sections. It produced the peak Broadwinged Hawk migration for the period. The quick

series of fronts following this system produced a steady hawk flight along Lake Michigan. Hard frosts and a low of 21 degrees occurred in the north on the 25th. The front on the 27th produced 11 Peregrines at Cedar Grove.

October began with another intensive cold front which brought heavy frosts over most of the state, and officially ended the 1980 growing season. It also pushed temperatures below normal and brought the first snow to northern Wisconsin. A good series of 6 fronts continued the pattern (Oct. 1, 7-8, 10, 17, 20, 25, and 30). The system on the 7th and 8th produced a peak of 3000 Double-crested Cormorants on lower Green Bay. Northern Wisconsin received an inch of snow on the 14th. October 17th found peak numbers of Canada Geese at Horicon NWR. Storm systems on the 20th and 25th produced excellent Red-tailed and Rough-legged Hawk flights, along with the first movements of Cross-bills and Evening Grosbeaks. The additional snow generated stayed on the ground in the north. The final system of the month brought some snow to southern Wisconsin while dumping a record nine inches in central Iowa. The last two weeks of September and the month of October produced below normal precipitation and temperatures. Quite a contrast from August and first two weeks of September.

November temperatures remained below normal as did the precipitation. A total of 9 weather fronts passed through (Nov. 3, 7, 9, 13, 17, 19, 21, 23, and 28). Dry weather persisted for the first twelve days. On the 13th the north received 2-4 inches of snow. The major movement of Whistling Swans passed through on the 14th to the 16th. At the end of the month open water in southern Wisconsin still held large numbers of Canada Geese and ducks.

LOONS, GREBES, PELICANS, CORMORANTS

Common Loon: Present at the beginning of the period in nine northern counties. Reported as far south as Dane County by Sept. 14 (Smith). Peak numbers were noted on Lake Michigan in late October. Season high was 25 birds in Ozaukee County on Oct. 28 (Tessen). Still present at the end of period as far north as Ashland (Verch).

Red-throated Loon: Only four reports, single birds were reported in Ozaukee County on Oct. 4 (Hanbury), Oct. 18 and Nov. 1 (Tessen). Two others were found by Gustafson in Milwaukee County on Oct. 28.

Red-necked Grebe: Lingered until Oct. 6 in Winnebago County where Ziebell reported a season high of 14 on Aug. 5. Also reported from St. Croix County on Aug. 3 (Hoffman) and Sept. 19 (Polk).

Horned Grebe: First reported by Gustafson on Sept. 15 in Milwaukee County. Most reports were in October with no peaks. Last reported in Door County, Nov. 16 (Hoffman).

Eared Grebe: For the second year in a row an individual took up temporary residence near the Coast Guard station in Milwaukee. It was first reported May 31 (Gustafson) and lingered till Oct. 5 (Idzikowski). Another was found at Goose Pond from Sept. 28 (Hoffman) till Oct. 4 (Shea). Last report was Oct. 19 at Manitowoc (Sontag).

Western Grebe: Three birds of the dark morph were documented by Polk on Nov. 30 at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County. Single birds were found in Ashland County at Butternut Lake on Oct. 30 (DNR, Fish Managers) and on Lake Superior Nov. 8 (Verch).

Pied-billed Grebe: Peaks were 30 in Winnebago County, Aug. 11, (Ziebell), 30 in Manitowoc County on Aug. 31 (Sontag), 23 on Sept. 25 in Buffalo County (Drieslein), 55 in Columbia County, Oct. 4 (Shea) and 30 on Oct. 15 in Monroe County (Epstein). Present til Nov. 16 in Door County (Hoffman) and Jefferson County (Etter-Hale).

White Pelican: Single individual at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County in late October (Johnson).

Double-crested Cormorant: Outstanding numbers reported reflect the excellent reproduction and expanding colonies from this summer. Drieslein reported 200 on Sept. 20 at Trempealeau, NWR. Luepke reported 600 in Marathon County, Aug. 10. Another 650 were reported at Green Bay on Aug. 31 (Cleary). Migration peak was Oct. 7 when up to 3000 birds were observed on lower Green Bay (Trick). Lingered until Nov. 27 at Green Bay (Erdman) and Nov. 29 at LaCrosse (Leshner)

Anhinga: Wisconsin's third record of this species came from Cedar Grove Ornithological Station on Sept. 27. It was well scrutinized by G. Allez, D. Berger, E. Bienvenu, C. Berwick, H. Mueller, N. Mueller and C. Whelan. (Although this record was not accepted by the Record's Committee due to "insufficient documentation" the seasonal editor through subsequent discussions with several of the observers is firmly convinced it is a valid record.)

HERONS, EGRETS, BITTERNS

Great Blue Heron: Observations were wide spread. Late summer concentrations were noted in Marathon County on Aug. 10 with 36 observed (Luepke) and in Winnebago County on Aug. 5 with 30 (Ziebell). Still present at the end of the period in Manitowoc (Steffen) and Langlade Counties (Pickering).

Green Heron: Luepkes noted 19 birds in Marathon County Aug. 10. Birds were gone from most of the state by Oct. 1. Very late was a bird on Nov. 15 in Milwaukee (Tessen)

Little Blue Heron: One in Dane County Aug. 16 (Hoffman) and a white-phase bird at Rush Lake, Winnebago County Aug. 10 (Tessen).

Cattle Egret: Present at the beginning of the period in Brown and Dodge Counties. Peak of 41 on Sept. 16 in Brown County where 6 birds lingered til Nov. 4 (Erdman).

Great Egret: Greatest concentration was on Aug. 5 in Winnebago County with 200 birds (Ziebell). Lange reported 70 on Sept. 5 in Columbia County and Evrard found 66 on Aug. 14 in Burnett County. Last seen on Nov. 1 by Leshner at LaCrosse.

Snowy Egret: The two birds in Brown County lingered until Sept. 14 (Erdman).

Black-crowned Night Heron: Sontag found 13 birds at Manitowoc on Sept. 2. Schultz reported 30 birds on Sept. 21 in Winnebago County where it was last seen on Oct. 18 (Ziebell).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: Epstein found one Sept. 3 in Milwaukee and another Aug. 7 in Trempealeau County. Hoffman saw one Sept. 10 in Columbia County.

Least Bittern: Ziebell reported a peak of 20 on Aug. 5 in Winnebago County. Last seen Sept. 10 by Hoffman in Columbia County.

American Bittern: Widely reported. Present Aug. 1, north to Door, Marinette, Langlade and Barron Counties. Luepkes reported 3 on Sept. 1 in Marathon County where a single bird was still present Nov. 28.

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS MERGANSERS

Mute Swan: Three birds were present at Wisconsin Point, Douglas County until Nov. 9 (Johnson). Present throughout period at Ashland (Verch). A single bird at Lake Butte des Morts created a stir in November when it refused to migrate when the lake froze. It was eventually captured by the DNR and released elsewhere.

Whistling Swan: An early wanderer was present in Winnebago County on Aug. 21 (Ziebell). Main movements were state-wide on Nov. 14, 15, and 16. Luepkes reported 650 on 14th in Marathon County. On the 15, 325 were in Dane County (Shea), 200 in Brown (Cleary) and 150 were at Trempealeau, NWR (Drieslein). On the 16th, 438 were counted at Little Suamico (Erdman), 240 were in Sheboygan (Kuhn) and 900 in Winnebago County (Ziebell). Polk reported 1000 in Buffalo County on the 19th. Present in small numbers at the end of the period on Green Bay and along Lake Michigan.

Canada Geese: Residents reported from nine counties at beginning of period. Migrants began moving into Wisconsin by mid-September. Season high at Horicon was 76,500 on Oct. 17 (Thompson). Major peaks included 5000 in Brown County Sept. 30 (Cleary), 1074 on Oct. 1 in Oconto County (Erdman), 2000 on Oct. 7 in Burnett County (Evrard), 3000 on Oct. 5 in Winnebago County (Ziebell) and 3000 on Oct. 24 in Fond du Lac County (Schultz). Many birds lingered till the end of period due to mild conditions and open waters.

Brant: A single bird was found Oct. 7, in Chippewa County by Polk. A flock of 16 was observed at Little Suamico, Oconto County on Oct. 19 by Erdman.

Greater White-fronted Goose: Only report was a bird feeding with Snow Geese on Oct. 2, in Clark County by Robbins.

- Snow Goose:** Reports from the beginning of period at Green Bay are "locals" associated with the resident Canada Goose flock. Migrants were first noted in late September with two well defined peaks in October. Peak numbers were 700 at Horicon (Thompson), and 200 in Burnett County (Evrard) on Oct. 7. Present at the end of period in Milwaukee County (Idzikowski) and Jefferson County (Etter-Hale).
- Mallard:** No peak numbers reported from Horicon, Evrard reported 4000 in Burnett County on Nov. 30 (Cleary). On the same date 750 were in Dane County (Shea).
- Black Duck:** Reported from 16 counties at the beginning of the period. Early peak at Green Bay was 300 on Aug. 30 (Cleary). Most peaks were in late October and November. Good numbers still present in 11 counties at end of period.
- Gadwall:** Present in Brown, Dane, Trempealeau and Dodge Counties at beginning of period. Migration peaks were in late October with 275 in Dane County (Shea) on the 26th. Found at end of period in Dane and Eau Claire Counties.
- Pintail:** Present Aug. 1 at Horicon and in Dane, Winnebago, Milwaukee and Burnett Counties. Drieslein reported high of 95 on Nov. 21 at Trempealeau, NWR. Present at end of period in Brown, Dane and Milwaukee Counties.
- Green-winged Teal:** Present Aug. 1 as far south as Milwaukee and Fond du Lac Counties in the east. Early peak of 200 on Sept. 13 was recorded by Schultz in Fond du Lac County. Most peaks were in October with 30 on the 6th in Winnebago (Ziebell), 30 on 10th in Burnett Counties (Evrard) and 145 on the 17th at Trempealeau, NWR (Drieslein). Still present at Milwaukee at end of period (Idzikowski).
- Blue-winged Teal:** Widely reported from 35 counties. Early August peaks were 200 in Dane County on 10th, (Smith) and 70 at Manitowoc (Sontag). September peaks were 107 on 4th at Trempealeau NWR (Drieslein), 50 on 9th in Winnebago County (Ziebell) and season high of 1500 on 13th in Fond du Lac County (Schultz). Still present at end of period in Waukesha County (Safir) and Vernon County (Weber).
- American Wigeon:** Present Aug. 1 in Brown, Barron, Burnett and Fond du Lac Counties. Numbers were down from last fall. October peaks were 2000 on 6th in Winnebago County (Ziebell), 515 on 7th at Trempealeau NWR (Drieslein), and 195 on 25th in Dane County (Shea). Present at end of period in Dane, Eau Claire, Jefferson, and Milwaukee Counties.
- Northern Shoveler:** Most peaks were unusually late in November. Drieslein reported 69 on the 7th at Trempealeau NWR, 30 were in Dane County on 29th (Smith) and 12 were found in Winnebago County on the 25th (Ziebell). Still present at end of period in latter two counties.
- Wood Duck:** Widely reported throughout the state at start of period. Most northern report was Oneida County (Vanderschaegen). Early peak was 50 on Sept. 1 in Marathon County (Luepke). October peaks were 20 on 6th in Burnett County (Evrard) and 332 on the 17th at Trempealeau NWR (Drieslein). Erdman reported 8 in Oconto County on Nov. 9 and birds were still present at end of period in Dane (Hoffman) and Milwaukee Counties (Idzikowski).
- Redhead:** Present Aug. 1, at Horicon and Trempealeau NWR's, also in Dane, Winnebago, Milwaukee, Eau Claire, and Brown Counties. Early migrants were first noted in late September with most peaks in mid-October. Lukes reported 150 on Oct. 16th in Door County, and 80 were found on 13th in Shawano County (Peterson). Last reported on November 16, in Jefferson (Etter-Hale), Door (Hoffman) and Manitowoc Counties (Sontag).
- Canvasback:** Present Aug. 1 in Dane (Erickson) and Columbia Counties (Tessen). First migrants noted Sept. 19 in Clark (Robbins) and Ozaukee Counties (Idzikowski). Normal October peaks in following counties were: 30 on 6th in Winnebago (Ziebell), and 25 on 8th in Fond du Lac (Schultz). On the 27th 15 were in Monroe County (Epstein) and 12 were found in Jefferson County where it was still present at the end of the period (Etter-Hale).
- Greater Scaup:** Present in Door County (Lukes) at the beginning of period and at Manitowoc (Sontag) on Aug. 13. Migrants arrived at the end of September. October peaks on Lake Michigan were 10-12,000 in Ozaukee County on the 5th (Idzikowski), 5000 were still present there on the 18th (Tessen). Inland, Ziebell found 250 in Winnebago County on Nov. 11. Birds were still present there and on Lake Michigan at the end of the period.
- Lesser Scaup:** Present at the beginning of period in Milwaukee and Outagamie Counties. Migrants arrived state-wide in the last few days of September. Season high of 2000 were present Sept. 30 in Fond du Lac County (Schultz). Present at end of Period in Dane, Eau Claire, Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Outagamie and Manitowoc Counties. Unusual was reported for Ashland at the end of period (Verch).

Ring-necked Duck: Present at the beginning of period in Dane, Barron, and Burnett Counties. Evrard reported 200 birds in Burnett on Sept. 9. Most reports were from October with a peak of 173 on the 31st at Trempealeau NWR, (Drieslein). Still present at end of period in Eau Claire, Dane and Jefferson Counties.

Common Goldeneye: Present at the beginning of period in Iron County (Butterbrodt). Found in Ozaukee County on Sept. 21 (Shea). Reported throughout the state by late October. November peaks were 50 at Manitowoc (Sontag) on the 5th and 500 in Milwaukee County on the 20th (Woodmansee). Still present at end of period on open water state-wide.

Bufflehead: Present at the beginning of period in Door County (Lukes). Found Aug. 19 in Eau Claire County (Polk). Most migrants arrived state-wide in 2nd week of October. November peaks were 42 on the 15th in Dane County (Shea), 35 in Fond du Lac County on the 19th (Schultz), and a season high of 500 at Milwaukee on 20th by Woodmansee. Present at the end of period at Ashland, along Lake Michigan with scattered reports inland across southern half of the state.

Oldsquaw: First observed in Ozaukee County on Oct. 18 by Tessen and Gustafson. Found along Lake Michigan from Door to Milwaukee Counties by November. Woodmansee reported 500 at Milwaukee on Nov. 20.

Harlequin Duck: An immature female was found in Ozaukee County on Oct. 18 by Tessen.

White-winged Scoter: Another exceptional migration this fall with reports from Ashland, Dane, Eau Claire and most counties along Lake Michigan. Tessen reported peaks of 90 in Ozaukee County on Oct. 18 and 25. He also found 43 there on Nov. 1, and 160 more in Sheboygan County. Still present at Ashland at end of period (Verch).

Surf Scoter: First reported on Sept. 27 in Ozaukee County where a peak of 110 were present on Oct. 18 (Tessen). Large numbers were found by Hoffman in Door County on Nov. 16. Only inland report was a single bird found in Monroe County on Oct. 24 (Epstein).

Black Scoter: Exceptional numbers of "dark-winged" scoter were reported this fall along lake Michigan. First reported Sept. 27 in Ozaukee County where 200 were found on Oct. 18 by Tessen. Hoffman found between 4-5 hundred "dark-winged" scoters in Door County on Nov. 16. Last reported by Polk in Douglas County on Nov. 30.

Ruddy Duck: Present at the beginning of period in Brown, Dodge, Fond du Lac and Winnebago Counties. Found across southern half of state by Oct. 1. Milwaukee County had the most reports with peaks of 25 on Sept. 23 (Bauers) and 50 on Oct. 22 (Idzikowski). Present at end of period in Milwaukee, Dane, Winnebago and Outagamie Counties.

Hooded Merganser: Well reported with birds present at the beginning of period south to Milwaukee, Outagamie, and Buffalo Counties. Peaks were later than normal with birds lingering well into November. Drieslein reported 305 in Trempealeau NWR, on Nov. 7. Polk found 24 on Nov. 12 in Eau Claire County, and 22 were in Dane County on the 30th (Hoffman and Thiessen).

Common Merganser: Present at beginning of period in Ashland, Iron and Door Counties. Migrants arrived in late October with peaks in November as follows: 30 on 2nd in Manitowoc (Sontag), 100 on 15th in Winnebago (Ziebell), 435 on 14th at Trempealeau NWR (Drieslein), and 320 on the 19th in Shawano County (Peterson). Present at the end of the period at Ashland, along Lake Michigan and in Dane County.

Red-breasted Merganser: Present in Oneida, Door and Milwaukee Counties on Aug. 1. Peak numbers were found in November in Ozaukee County where Idzikowski found 150 on the 5th, and Tessen reported 200 on the 18th. Present at end of period along Lake Michigan from Manitowoc southward.

VULTURES, HAWKS, EAGLES

Turkey Vulture: Encouraging numbers reported this fall. September peaks were 8 in Monroe County on the 9th (Epstein), on the 26th Drieslein observed a flock of 35 in Trempealeau NWR, and Peartree counted 46 in Sauk County. Number of migrants recorded in eastern part of the state was also up with a record 20 observed for the season in Oconto County (Erdman). Present at the end of the period in Vernon County (Weber)

Black Vulture: Wisconsin's third record was a well documented individual observed first at the Woodland Dunes banding station in Manitowoc County by Steffen on Oct. 26. The bird was then observed the next day south in Sheboygan County at Cedar Grove by Berger and Whelan.

Northern Goshawk: Again there were few observations of this species outside of its breeding

range across the northern half of the state. Single birds were observed in October at Cedar Grove on the 3rd (Berger), and in Ozaukee County on the 18th (Tessen). At Little Suamico in Oconto County, 12 of the 14 birds observed between Aug. 23 and Nov. 9 were trapped and banded (Erdman).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Scattered reports at the beginning of the period south to Manitowoc, Outagamie and Eau Claire Counties. Migrants first noted Aug. 18 at Little Suamico where 1345 were recorded through Nov. 29 (Erdman). Main flights were in September with 124 on the 9th at Little Suamico and 265 at Cedar Grove (Berger). Epstein recorded 78 on Oct. 2 in Monroe County.

Cooper's Hawk: Above normal number of migrants reported at Little Suamico (Erdman) and at Woodland Dunes in Manitowoc County (Steffen). In Oconto County 25 were observed between Aug. 18 and Nov. 11 with a peak of 3 observed on Oct. 11. Steffen reported 16 birds for the season. Epstein recorded 5 in Monroe County on Sept. 16, and 4 were recorded at Cedar Grove on Oct. 21 (Berger).

Red-tailed Hawk: Despite very poor movements in August, a record 673 were counted at Little Suamico for the season (Erdman). Main movements came in late October. Epstein recorded a peak of 202 on the 20th in Monroe County. On the 26th, 147 were seen at Little Suamico and 180 in Cedar Grove (Berger). November peak was on the 9th with 83 at Little Suamico. Included in the 108 Red-tails banded at Little Suamico were two Krider's and a melanistic, "calurus" type individual. Birds were widely reported at the end of the period north to Barron and Langlade Counties.

Red-shouldered Hawk: Steffen (Manitowoc County) and Erdman (Oconto County) both indicated below normal number of migrants. Only 9 individuals were noted at Little Suamico for the season. A peak of 13 were seen at Cedar Grove on Oct. 26 (Berger). Epstein found 3 on Oct. 20 in Monroe County. Present at the end of the period in Eau Claire (Polk), Manitowoc (Steffen) and Oconto (Erdman) Counties.

Broad-winged Hawks: Widely reported across the northern half of the state at the beginning of the period. Below normal number of migrants were noted at Little Suamico where a total of 7,583 were seen between Aug. 9 and Oct. 13 (Erdman). There were three major movements noted in September each following the passage of a cold front. On the 16th, Epstein observed 189 in Monroe County while 161 were seen at Little Suamico. On the 17th, 3858 were counted at Little Suamico. The next movement was on the 21st with 1483 at Little Suamico and 2-300 observed near Oshkosh (Schultz). The last peak was on the 27th with 1111 at Little Suamico and 388 at Cedar Grove (Berger). Last seen in Oconto County on Oct. 13 (Erdman).

Swainson's Hawk: The only record was an immature, light phase bird observed Sept. 2 at Little Suamico, Oconto County by Erdman and Brinker.

Rough-legged Hawk: A bit unusual was that the first reports were in the southwestern part of the state. Weber reported the first in Vernon County on Sept. 28, and another was seen in Dane County on Oct. 1 by Smith. Although Pickering reported a bird in Langlade County also on Oct. 1, there were no other reports in the north for the next two weeks. First birds were observed on the 18th at Little Suamico where a record low of only 37 birds were noted for the season (Erdman). The only major movement in east occurred on Oct. 26 with 11 at Little Suamico and 14 at Cedar Grove (Berger). Present widely at the end of the period.

Golden Eagle: Very early -- was an adult at Horicon, NWR, on Sept. 13 by Tessen. Donald observed an adult over Thunder Lake Wildlife Area in Vilas County on the 21st. Two birds were recorded at Cedar Grove, one on Oct. 20 and the other Nov. 4 (Berger). Epstein observed adults in Monroe County on Oct. 2, 11th and Nov. 22. St. Croix County (Hoffman).

Turkey: No reports from the Necedah area or Nicolet National Forest. Small flock in Green Bay area doing well (Erdman).

CRANES, RAILS, GALLINULES

Sandhill Crane: Reported north to Door, Marinette, Marathon and Burnett Counties at the beginning of the period. Early peaks were 20 at Horicon NWR on Aug. 8 (Thompson) and 28 in Burnett County on Sept. 9 (Evrard). Migrant peaks included 45 in Marathon County (Luepkes), and a flock of 25 at Little Suamico, Oconto County both on Sept. 20. Safir reported 29 in Waukesha County on Sept. 26. Last report was NOV. 11 at Little Suamico when the "local family" was last observed (Erdman).

King Rail: Only two reports, both in Oconto County of single birds by Shea on Sept. 9 and Erdman on the 10th.

Virginia Rail: Few reports this fall! Late reports were Oct. 6 in Columbia County (Hoffman) and Oct. 15 in Fond du Lac County (Ziebell).

Sora: Reported north to Oconto, Marathon and Barron Counties at beginning of period. Luepkes reported a season high of 27 on Sept. 1 in Marathon County. Last report was on Oct. 15 in Fond du Lac County by Ziebell.

Common Gallinule: Only reported north to Brown County at the beginning of the period. Sontag reported a peak of 15 at Manitowoc on Aug. 31. Last report was Sept. 30 in Brown County (Cleary and Columban).

American Coot: September peaks were noted in the following counties: 200 in Brown on 15th (Cleary), 500 in Marathon on 20th (Luepkes) and 5000 in Shawano on the 21st (Peterson). In October Ziebell reported 3000 on the 6th in Winnebago and Etter-Hale found 1300 in Jefferson County on the 29th. Shea reported 2000 in Dane County on Nov. 1. Still present at the end of period north to Brown County.

SHOREBIRDS

Semipalmated Plover: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron, Eau Claire, Dane and Milwaukee Counties. Shea and Thiessen reported a peak of 12 in Dane County on Aug. 30. Last reports were from Manitowoc County on Oct. 1 (Sontag) and on Oct. 6 in Columbia County (Hoffman).

Piping Plover: Individual reported first on July 21 in Madison lingered until Aug. 9 (Hoffman and Shea). Another was present Aug. 1 at LaCrosse (Leshner) and in Sheboygan County on Sept. 15 (Donald).

Killdeer: Most concentrations were noted near the end of August. Shea found 135 in Dane County on the 23rd, Ziebell reported 30 in Winnebago County on the 29th, while 95 were noted in Brown County on the 30th by Cleary and Columban. Johnson found 35 in Douglas County on Sept. 1. Verch reported a bird lingered at Ashland until Nov. 15. Last report was in Dane County on Nov. 16 by Smith.

Lesser Golden Plover: The summering individual in Eau Claire County was still present Aug. 1 (Polk). Excellent migration this fall. On Sept. 27, Humphrey reported 75 in Barron County and Tessen found 200 in Walworth County. Peaks in October for the following counties were: 70 on the 2nd in Eau Claire (Polk), 300 in Dodge on the 4th (Tessen), 32 on the 5th in Clark (Robbins) and a season high of 600 on the 6th in Columbia (Hoffman). The last sighting was Oct. 31 by Polk in Eau Claire.

Hudsonian Godwit: No reports.

Marbled Godwit: Only report was a single bird observed Oct. 7 at Green Bay by Erdman.

Whimbrel: Two birds were found at the Juneau Park Landfill in Milwaukee by Casper and Idzikowski on Sept. 9 and 10.

Upland Sandpiper: Present at the beginning of period north to Barron (Goff) and Door Counties (Lukes). Last report was at Milwaukee on Sept. 10 by Gustafson.

Greater Yellowlegs: Present Aug. 1 in Burnett, Barron, Eau Claire, LaCrosse and Dane Counties. Poor migration throughout the state with the largest number reported only 9 at Little Suamico on Sept. 9 (Erdman). Last report was Nov. 4 in Eau Claire County (Polk).

Lesser Yellowlegs: Widely reported Aug. 1 across the southern half of the state north to Barron County in the north. August peaks in Dane County were 450 on the 7th (Shea) and 150 on the 10th (Smith). Last peak was 35 in Fond du Lac County on Sept. 21 (Schultz). Smith reported the last bird in Dane County on Nov. 16.

Solitary Sandpiper: Reported from 9 counties on Aug. 1. August peaks recorded in Dane County were 20 on the 8th (Shea) and 57 on the 9th (Thiessen). A single bird was still present Oct. 1 in Manitowoc County (Sontag).

Willet: Single bird reported on Aug. 5 at Manitowoc may have been the bird reported during the summer (Sontag). Leshner reported 4 at LaCrosse on Aug. 5 and 6.

Spotted Sandpiper: Widely reported from 14 counties on Aug. 1. August peaks in the following counties were 6 on the 2nd in Douglas (Johnson), 17 on the 6th at Manitowoc (Sontag) and 8 on the 18th in Milwaukee (Woodmansee). Last recorded at Manitowoc on Oct. 18 (Sontag) and in Dane County on the 19th by Shea.

Ruddy Turnstone: First reported Aug. 7 in Douglas County. Tessen found 2 in Winnebago County on the 10th. First reported along Lake Michigan at Milwaukee on the 14th (Gustafson). Peak of 12 reported there by the Bauers on Sept. 23. Sontag reported a peak of 14 on

- Sept. 3 at Manitowoc where it lingered until Nov. 9.
- Wilson's Phalarope:** Despite being widely recorded for the summer, birds were reported in only 4 counties this fall (Dane, Brown, Eau Claire and St. Croix). Last report was in Dane County on Sept. 6 (Tessen and Thiessen).
- Northern Phalarope:** First recorded in Dane County on Aug. 9 (Hoffman) where a single bird was present until the 17th (Shea). Polk found 2 in Eau Claire County Aug. 19-20. Only other report was 2 in Dodge County on Sept. 6 by Tessen.
- American Woodcock:** Widely reported at the beginning of the period. Above average migration with over 20 banded at Little Suamico (Erdman). Luepkes reported 9 on Oct. 11 in Marathon County and Idzikowski found 15 on the 19th in Ozaukee County. Last reported on Nov. 9 in Oconto (Erdman) and Langlade Counties (Pickering).
- Common Snipe:** Widely reported throughout the state with normal numbers present. Safir reported a season high of 100 on Sept. 7 in Waukesha County. Polk found 75 on Oct. 18 in Eau Claire County. Last reported in Marathon County on Nov. 10 by Luepkes.
- Short-billed Dowitcher:** Idzikowski reported 4 birds in Milwaukee and Thiessen found it present in Dane County at the beginning of the period. Very poor migration with a peak of 10 birds on Aug. 7 in Dane County where it was last observed on Oct. 12 (Shea).
- Long-billed Dowitcher:** Present at the beginning of the period in Marathon (Luepkes) and Dane Counties (Smith). Only scattered individuals reported in the southern counties. Last report was 6 in Eau Claire County by Polk on Oct. 24.
- Red Knot:** Two individuals reported in Douglas County from Aug. 22 to Sept. 13 by Hoffman, Johnson and Polk. Only report inland was an individual in Dane County on Aug. 16 (Shea). Birds were present at Manitowoc from Aug. 8 till Oct. 19 with a peak of 5 on Sept. 2 (Sontag).
- Sanderling:** Early birds reported in Milwaukee may have been summering individuals (Idzikowski). Widely observed along Lake Michigan and Lake Superior. Inland reports came from Dane, LaCrosse and Eau Claire Counties. Tessen reported a peak of 28 in Douglas County on Sept. 21. In Manitowoc Tessen reported 65 on Aug. 18, while Sontag recorded 60 on Sept. 6. Last report was on Nov. 16 in Door County (Hoffman).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper:** Present at the beginning of the period in Eau Claire and Dane County. August peaks of any number were all in Dane County with 50 on the 3rd (Smith) and 150 on the 7th (Shea). Last report was 2 birds on Oct. 18 by Tessen in Milwaukee.
- Western Sandpiper:** Well documented birds in Dane County Aug. 30 to Sept. 1 (Tessen and Thiessen). Also reported in Eau Claire County on Aug. 14 (Polk) at Milwaukee on Aug. 19 (Frank) and Walworth County on Sept. 6 (Tessen). Last report was Oct. 18 in Dane County (Thiessen). (Although all of the above were accepted by the Records Committee this seasonal editor has reservations).
- Least Sandpiper:** Birds were reported in 7 widely distributed counties on Aug. 1. Some of these were probably summer wanderers. Poor migration with the only major peaks in Dane County in August. Shea reported 100 on the 8th, and Smith found 75 on the 10th. Schultz reported 25 in Fond du Lac County on Sept. 13. Last report was on Oct. 23 in Eau Claire County (Polk).
- White-rumped Sandpiper:** Robbins reported a bird Aug. 1 in Taylor County. There were four reports of single birds in Dane County. Only report for the east were 2 birds at Manitowoc on Oct. 12 (Sontag). Polk reported last birds on Oct. 20 in Eau Claire County.
- Baird's Sandpiper:** Poor migration. First report was Aug. 5 in Barron County (Goff). Only peak was 70 birds bound Sept. 4 by Polk in St. Croix County. Last report was Oct. 19 in Dane County (Thiessen).
- Pectoral Sandpiper:** Fairly normal migration. Present Aug. 1 in Marathon, Taylor, Eau Claire, LaCrosse and Dane Counties. Peaks in Dane County were 150 on Aug. 3 (Smith) and 250 on the 7th (Shea). Last report was from Eau Claire County on Nov. 4 (Polk).
- Dunlin:** First report came from Dane County on Aug. 7-8 (Shea). Poor migration inland but normal numbers along Lake Michigan. Tessen reported 200 on Oct. 18 in Ozaukee County and 40 on Nov. 1 in Sheboygan. Also on the 1st, Sontag reported 20 at Manitowoc. Idzikowski reported a peak of 26 on Oct. 17 in Milwaukee with birds still present at the end of period.
- Stilt Sandpiper:** Present Aug. 1 in Eau Claire (Polk) and LaCrosse Counties (Leshner). ONLY peak was 12 birds on Aug. 30 by Hoffman in Dane County. Below normal migration with

only a single bird reported along Lake Michigan shore. Last report was by Hoffman in Dane County on Sept. 16.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Very remarkable migration with record numbers observed. Robbins found the first bird in Clark County on Aug. 1. Birds first appeared on Aug. 9 and remained until Sept. 25 in Dane County where a maximum daily count of 57 was recorded on Sept. 8 (Hoffman). On Sept. 9 another 47 were recorded by Hoffman in Columbia County. In September birds also were recorded in the following counties; Douglas, Eau Claire, St. Croix, Fond du Lac, Winnebago, Dodge, Waukesha and Ozaukee. Conservative estimates of the total number of birds involved would be about 150 individuals.

JAEGER, GULLS, TERNS

Parasitic Jaeger: Three documented reports from Lake Superior in Douglas County. Hoffman observed an adult and an unidentified immature bird on Sept. 13. At Wisconsin Point, Tessen reported a dark phase bird on Sept. 20-21 and Polk found an immature on Oct. 1.

Glaucous Gull: Three reports all along Lake Michigan. Woodmansee observed a second-year bird at Milwaukee on Aug. 24. A second-year bird was observed in Sheboygan Co., on Nov. 1 by Tessen. Sontag observed a bird at Manitowoc on Nov. 21.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Wisconsin's first record was a well documented adult found in the Milwaukee harbor on Oct. 12 by Idzikowski. (As no photograph, specimen or additional verification was obtained this species will be placed on the state's hypothetical list.)

Herring Gull: Reports of concentrations were mostly from along Lake Michigan. Bauers reported 1000+ at Milwaukee on Sept. 26. Cleary and Columban found 2000 at Green Bay on Nov. 21. Inland, Peterson found 200 in Shawano County on Oct. 18. Shea reported 45 at Madison on Nov. 27 while on the 29th, Ziebell saw 150 in Winnebago County.

Thayer's Gull: Two, well documented reports were accepted by the Record's Committee. Both birds were adults, observed by Polk in Douglas County. The first at the Superior dump on Sept. 9, and the second at Wisconsin Point, Nov. 5. (Hypothetical).

Ring-billed Gull: Reports and totals observed continue to grow as this species becomes the dominant gull of the region. There were few reports inland Aug. 1, but by the 15th Ziebell reported 200 in Winnebago County and Smith found 2000 in Dane County on Sept. 23. Along the shore, peaks of 300 were noted at Manitowoc on Aug. 13 (Sontag) and 500 at Milwaukee on Sept. 26 (Bauers). Present as far north as Ashland on Nov. 30 (Verch).

Laughing Gull: Single individual was reported at Manitowoc until Aug. 5 (Sontag).

Franklin's Gull: Birds were present Aug. 1 at Milwaukee (Gustafson and Idzikowski) and LaCrosse (Leshner). Another individual was observed in Manitowoc Aug. 7 (Sontag). Migrants reached the state in the second week of September. Flock of 7 was observed at Little Suamico, Oconto Co. on Sept. 26 (Erdman). Hanbury reported last bird at Milwaukee on Nov. 1.

Bonaparte's Gull: Present Aug. 1 on Green Bay and along Lake Michigan. Migrants noted in August included 400 on the 6th at Manitowoc (Sontag). Numbers at Milwaukee went from 200 on Sept. 23 (Bauers) to 650 on Oct. 10 (Idzikowski). It was still present there at the end of the period.

Little Gull: At least two individuals lingered at Manitowoc until Aug. 16 (Sontag). Two more were reported at Milwaukee (Idzikowski), where a single bird was last reported Oct. 17 (Gustafson).

Black-legged Kittiwake: An adult was observed along Lake Michigan in Ozaukee County on Oct. 26 by Mary Donald.

Forster's Tern: Present Aug. 1, along Green Bay, at Manitowoc, LaCrosse, Horicon and in Winnebago County where Ziebell reported a peak of 40 on Aug. 5. Sontag found 25 at Manitowoc on the 6th. Late peak of 16 was noted at Milwaukee on Oct. 10 by Idzikowski. Last reported on Nov. 1 in Sheboygan County (Tessen) and Nov. 2 in Manitowoc (Sontag).

Common Tern: Present in Douglas, Brown, Milwaukee, and Manitowoc Counties on Aug. 1. Few reports inland, although the 5 observed Aug. 27 in Oneida County by Engberg is unusual. Sontag reported 50 at Manitowoc on Aug. 26 and Idzikowski had a peak of 25 at Milwaukee Aug. 9. Last report was a single bird, Nov. 1 by Tessen in Sheboygan Co.

Arctic Tern: Sontag found two individuals on Aug. 6 and another on Aug. 13 at Manitowoc.

Caspian Tern: Summering birds reported Aug. 1 in Winnebago, LaCrosse, Trempealeau, Milwaukee, Manitowoc and Marinette Counties. Peak numbers were 29 on Aug. 18 at

Manitowoc and 30 at Milwaukee, on Sept. 13 (Tessen). Below normal numbers for the season. Unusual were 2 in Oneida County on Sept. 5 by Engberg. Last reported in Eau Claire and Milwaukee Counties on Sept. 30.

Black Tern: Widely distributed at the beginning of the period in southern half of the state north to Marinette, Marathon and Douglas Counties. August peaks were 100 on the 1st in Winnebago Co. (Ziebell), and 150 at LaCrosse on the 67th (Leshner). Last reported Sept. 30 in brown Co. (Cleary and Columban).

DOVES, CUCKOOS, OWLS

Rock Dove: Widespread and persistent north to Douglas and Iron Counties. Reported in normal numbers in the south, but increasing in the northern counties.

Mourning Dove: Present throughout the state on Aug. 1 with a total of 82 reports. Season high of 350 reported in Dane County on Aug. 31 by Smith. Present at end of period north to Door, Langlade and Marathon Counties.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Present north to Iron and Oneida Counties at the beginning of the period (Butterbrodt and Engberg) Good migration with the last bird found on Oct. 18 in Ozaukee County (Gustafson).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Reported north to Iron County on Aug. 1 (Butterbrodt). Average migration with 5 noted Sept. 1 in Dane County (Smith) and 2 on the 5th in Manitowoc (Sontag). It was last recorded there on Oct. 8.

Screech Owl: Most northern report was a bird on Sept. 13 in Douglas Co. (Hoffman). For the first time the red phase outnumbered the gray phase at Little Suamico in Oconto Co. (Erdman), probably reflecting our recent mild winters.

Great Horned Owl: Reported throughout the state with a high number of 12 found in Ozaukee County on Oct. 5 by Tessen.

Snowy Owl: Above average migration with 21 reports. First found at Ashland by Verch on Oct. 25. By Nov. 1 birds were reported in Marinette, Door, Brown, Manitowoc, Sheboygan and Ozaukee Counties. by mid-November there were scattered reports inland south to LaCrosse (Leshner). Idzikowski found 3 at Milwaukee on Nov. 16. At least 4 birds died in the Kewaunee--Manitowoc area due to illness, being shot or accidentally trapped in fox traps.

Barred Owl: Well reported north to Vilas, Price and Oneida Counties. Peak year at Little Suamico where 7 were banded between Oct. 3 and Nov. 4 (Erdman).

Long-eared Owl: The only report away from Lake Michigan this fall was an individual in Marathon County on Oct. 11 (Luepkes). Peak migration year at Little Suamico where 23 were banded between Sept. 9 and Nov. 11 (Erdman). Ten of those were netted between Nov. 5 and 6.

Short-eared Owl: Reported north to Marathon Co. Present throughout the period at Horicon NWR, (Thompson). Peak of 10 found in Ozaukee County at the end of the period by Idzikowski.

Saw-whet Owl: First bird was netted at Little Suamico on Sept. 25. A total of 72 were banded there through Nov. 11 with a peak of 10 on Oct. 21 (Erdman). At Cedar Grove numbers were also above normal with a peak of 13 on Oct. 13 (Berger). Last reported in Door County on Nov. 16 (Hoffman).

GOATSUCKERS, SWIFT, HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHERS

Whip-poor-will: Widely reported on Aug. 1. Above normal numbers at Little Suamico where 3 were banded on Sept. 28 (Erdman). Birds lingered later than usual with three October reports. The last on the 20th in Ozaukee Co. (Idzikowski).

Common Nighthawk: First major movement was 2200 birds noted at Cedar Grove on Aug. 21 (Berger). On the 22nd there was a statewide movement with 259 in Douglas Co. (Johnson), 100 in Langlade Co. (Tessen) and 350 noted in Oconto Co. (Erdman). Idzikowski reported 400 at Milwaukee on Aug. 29. September peaks were on the 2nd with 385 at Little Suamico and 1000 in Door County (Lukes), and on the 8th when Smith found 256 in Dane Co.

Chimney Swift: Cleary and Columban reported 150 on Aug. 20 in Brown Co. on Sept. 2 Erdman counted 128 in Oconto County while on the next day Ziebell reported 500 in Winnebago Co. On Sept. 8 Schultz found 300 in Winnebago Co., and Smith 256 in Dane. Last reports were on Oct. 19 on Oconto and Dane Counties.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Reported widely at the beginning of the period. Engberg reported 8 in Oneida County on Aug. 4. Hoffman recorded 18 on Aug. 31 in Dane Co. Most amazing was individual still present at a feeder in Door County at the end of the period (Lukes).

Rufous Hummingbird: This western species was found Aug. 31 by Hoffman near Waunakee in Dane Co. The written documentation was accepted by the Record's Committee. (Hypothetical).

Belted Kingfisher: Birds lingered later than normal with 11 november departure dates. Birds were still present at the end of the period in the following counties: Oneida (Engberg), Eau Claire (Polk), Dane (Erickson) and Milwaukee (Strehlow).

WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS

Common Flicker: Most migration peaks came from late August with 100 reported by Hardy in Price County on the 22nd. Present at the end of the period in Oconto, Winnebago, Dane, Sauk and Jefferson Counties.

Pileated Woodpecker: Reported throughout the period across the northern half of the state south to Ozaukee and Outagamie Counties in the east and Vernon County in the west.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: Apparently increasing northward. Now a regular migrant in Oconto Co. (Erdman). Present at the end of the period north to Marinett Co. (Lingberg) in the east and Barron in the west (Goff).

Red-headed Woodpecker: Only migration peak was 23 reported in Monroe County on Sept. 7 by Epstein. Widely present at the end of the period north to Marinette, Marathon and Burnett Counties.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Present Aug. 1 south to Eau Claire, Langlade and Marinette Counties. Migration peaks were in late September with 7 reported by Thiessen on the 28th in Dane Co. Last noted in Milwaukee on Nov. 15 by Woodmansee.

Hairy Woodpecker: Present throughout the state for the period. Southward movements peaked on Nov. 11 at Little Suamico with 8 (Erdman). Hardy reported 5 in Price County on Nov. 30.

Downy Woodpecker: Present throughout the state during the period with 85 reports. Was the most commonly reported woodpecker especially in the south.

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: Four reports for the season. Found in Forest County on Aug. 28 (Polk) and Sept. 1 (Peterson and the Andersons). Tessen found a bird in Douglas Co. on Sept. 21., and Vanderschaegen found a male in Oneida Co. on Nov. 28.

Eastern Kingbird: Most reports were from August with no peaks. Birds lingered into September with the last reported on the 29th in Langlade County (Pickering).

Western Kingbird: Only record was a bird found in Milwaukee on Oct. 5 by Mary Donald.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: An adult and an immature spent most of September and October at a farm near Beloit in Rock Co. (Mahlum). Birds were last observed about Oct. 24.

Great Crested Flycatcher: Reported across the north on Aug. 1 with the only reports in the south from Dane and Milwaukee Co's. No distinct peaks noted, with the last individual found in Oconto Co. on Oct. 3 (Erdman).

Eastern Phoebe: Luepkes reported a peak of 5 on Aug. 10 in Marathon Co. Birds were widely present north to Langlade County until Oct. 6. Hoffman reported the last bird on Nov. 6 in Columbia Co.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: First reported Aug. 6 in Milwaukee County by Woodmansee. Only six scattered reports until Sept. 19 when Schultz observed the last bird in Fond du Lac Co. Two were included in the TV tower kill at Galesville, Buffalo Co., Aug. 28 (Erdman and Drieslein).

Acadian Flycatcher: Idzikowski provided the only record of a bird present Aug. 1 in Ozaukee Co.

Willow Flycatcher: Only four reports. Birds were present Aug. 1 in Milwaukee and Eau Claire Co.'s. Also found in St. Croix and Dane where Hoffman last noted it Aug. 16.

Alder Flycatcher: Six reports. Last noted on Sept. 1 by Peartree in Sauk Co., and Hoffman in Dane.

(Traill's Flycatcher): Noted Aug. 31 in Dodge Co. (Shea), and Sept. 1 in Dane (Smith). Seven were included in the Galesville's TV tower kill on Aug. 28 (Erdman and Drieslein). One Sept. 15, Eau Claire (Kemper)

Least Flycatcher: Noted Aug. 1 across the northern counties and in the south to Dane, Sauk and Trempealeau. No peaks this fall with birds lingering till Sept. 30 in Barron (Goff) and Sauk Co.'s (Peartree). Twelve were included in the TV tower kill at Galesville on Aug. 28.

Eastern Pewee: Well noted with most observations from late August. Peak of 21 by Luepkes on Aug. 10 in Marathon Co. Anderson's reported the last bird on Oct. 12 in Outagamie Co.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Noted Aug. 1 in Oconto Co. (Erdman). Most reports were in late August. Last observed Sept. 13 in Dane and Columbia's Co.'s (Hoffman).

Horned Lark: Reported Aug. 1 from twelve counties, mostly in the north central part of the state. Hardy observed 25 on Sept. 15 in Price Co. while Idzikowski noted 25 in Ozaukee County on Oct. 5. Widely present Nov. 30.

Tree Swallow: Most peaks were in September with 200 in Douglas Co. (Johnson) and 850 in Marathon (Luepkes) on the 1st. Hoffman reported 8000 on the 8th in Columbia Co. Thiessen found 500 on the 14th in Dane, and Tessen 400 on the 21st in Chippewa Co. Widely reported into October with the last seen in Sheboygan Co. on the 26th (Ziebell).

Bank Swallow: Widely reported throughout the state on Aug. 1. Peak of 550 was found by Hoffman on Aug. 16 in Dane Co. Last reported Sept. 21 in Barron (Goff) and Burnett (Polk).

Rough-winged Swallow: Peak concentration of 300 was reported on Aug. 20 in Dane Co. (Hoffman). Smith reported the last bird there on Sept. 24.

Barn Swallow: Few major peaks this fall. In August Ziebell found 140 on the 9th in Winnebago Co., while in Dane County Shea reported 250 on the 16th and Smith 175 on the 31st. Sontag reported the last bird on Nov. 26 which sets a new state departure record.

Cliff Swallow: August peaks were 100 noted in Marathon Co. (Luepkes) on the 9th, and 200 in Oneida Co., (Engberg) on the 12th. Hoffman found 700 in Columbia County on Sept. 8 while Polk reported 6000 in Chippewa County on the 7th. A single bird observed in Little Suamico, Oconto County on Oct. 18 is also a new state departure record (Erdman and Brinker).

Purple Martin: Rather a poor migration this fall with the only major movement noted on Aug. 31. On that date Idzikowski reported 300 in Milwaukee and Ziebell found 600 in Winnebago Co. Lingered until Sept. 30 in Brown Co. (Cleary and Columban).

CORVIDS, TITMICE, NUTHATCHES

Gray Jay: Above normal reports from Douglas, Bayfield, Sawyer, Price, Taylor, Oneida, Vilas and Forest Counties.

Blue Jay: Generally a poor migration this fall. Migrants were first noted Sept. 14 in Oconto County where a peak of 110 was noted on Oct. 4 (Erdman). There were no other peaks reported which totaled over 50 birds.

Northern Raven: Widely reported across the northern half of the state for the period. At Little Suamico a total of 143 were noted between Sept. 17 and Nov. 4. A peak of 13 was noted Oct. 20 (Erdman). A single bird was noted in Sheboygan County on Oct. 26 and Epstein reported 5 in Monroe County on Nov. 21.

American Crow: Luepkes reported 175 in Marathon County on Oct. 17. Ziebell found 120 in Winnebago County on Oct. 27. In Dane County Smith had 296 on Nov. 6. Idzikowski estimated that 10,000 were present at the Milwaukee roost by the end of the period.

Black-capped Chickadee: Present throughout the state on Aug. 1. No pronounced peaks until November and these few did not exceed 25 birds. Present throughout the state at the end of the period in normal numbers.

Boreal Chickadee: Reported from Vilas, Oneida, Forest and Taylor Counties. Polk reported 12 birds on Aug. 29 in Forest.

Tufted Titmouse: Present Aug. 1 in Eau Claire and Milwaukee Counties. Present at the end of period in Eau Claire (Polk) and Rock Counties (Mahlum).

White-breasted Nuthatch: Widely reported in normal numbers throughout the state for the period. Five reporters observed peaks of not more than 6 birds during the last few days of November.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Reported at the beginning of period south to Barron, Langlade and Marinette Counties. Birds reached the southern counties by mid-August. Luepkes reported 25 on Aug. 31 in Marathon Co. Peterson noted a seasonal high of 50 in Shawano County

on Sept. 23. The last peak was 20 by Hardy in Price County on Nov. 30. Present in above normal numbers at the end of the period.

Brown Creeper: Found south to Manitowoc, Outagamie and Jackson Counties at the beginning of the period. Migrants were noted throughout the state by the 2nd week of September. Tessen reported a season high of 25 on Sept. 21 in Douglas Co. Present north to Ashland, Iron, Marinette and Door Counties at the end of the period.

WRENS, MIMICS, THRUSHES

House Wren: Widely reported Aug. 1 with no distinct peak movements. Most birds departed by the first week of October. Last recorded Oct. 9 by Peterson in Shawano Co.

Winter Wren: Found at the beginning of the period south to Manitowoc County in the east (Steffen). Migrants reached the southern counties by Sept. 15 when Woodmansee recorded 4 in Milwaukee. Sontag found 3 on Oct. 16 in Manitowoc where it was still present at the end of the period.

Marsh Wren: Reported north to Barron County in the west and Marinette in the east at the beginning of the period. Peak of 10 was noted in Winnebago County on Aug. 9 by Ziebell. Donald found one on Oct. 20 in Milwaukee Co. Kemper found one on same date in Eau Claire County.

Sedge Wren: Present Aug. 1 north to Barron, Marathon and Marinette Counties. Most birds had departed by October except in Milwaukee County where it lingered until the 27th (Gustafson).

Northern Mockingbird: Two well documented reports for the season, Luepkes summering bird in Marathon County stayed until Aug. 10. Drieslein found a bird on Nov. 13 at Trempealeau NWR.

Gray Catbird: The only migrational peak noted in the period was Sept. 1, when 12 birds were found in Marathon Co. (Luepkes), and 15 were recorded in Dane (Smith). Last observed by Sontag at Manitowoc on Oct. 17.

Brown Thrasher: Again no concentrations were noted during the period. Most birds had departed by October. Three November reports found birds at Trempealeau NWR, Shawano and Dane Counties. Last noted in the latter on Nov. 10 (Hoffman).

American Robin: Ziebell reported 200 in Winnebago County at a late summer roost. Migrants were first noted in mid-September. Major peaks came in October with a season high of 1000 in Sauk County on the 17th (Peartrees). Present at the end of the period north to Barron and Door Counties.

Varied Thrush: One was found at Madison on Oct. 22 (L. Zimmerman) and another was frequenting a feeder at Menasha at the end of the period (Sykes).

Wood Thrush: Present statewide on Aug. 1. No definite peaks noted. Last reported Oct. 3 in Sheboygan Co. (Bishop) and Oct. 4 in Dane (Erickson).

Hermit Thrush: Present Aug. 1 south to Taylor and Oconto Counties. Arrived in the southern counties on Sept. 23. Woodmansee found 8 at Milwaukee on Oct. 5. Last report Nov. 15 in Dane Co. (Shea) and on the 16th in Door (Hoffman).

Swainson's Thrush: Reported Aug. 1 in Milwaukee by Woodmansee. Most migrants arrived statewide on Aug. 21. Smith recorded 20 on Sept. 1 in Dane County. Last reported Oct. 9 in Sauk Co. (Lange).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: Hoffman recorded the first bird on Aug. 21 in Dane Co. Arrived elsewhere in the state during the 2nd week of September. Lukes reported the last bird on Oct. 21 in Door County.

Veery: Present Aug. 1 north to Door, Oconto, Langlade, Oneida and Douglas Counties. Migrants were noted by the 18th of August with no discernable peaks during the period. Last recorded on Oct. 27 in Brown Co. (Cleary and Columban). This exceeds the previous record departure date by three days.

Eastern Bluebird: An encouraging 43 reports this fall. Birds were present Aug. 1 north to Barron County in the west, Door and Marinette in the east. Good movements came in October in the following counties: 45 on the 13th in Monroe (Epstein), 25 on the 14th in Eau Claire (Polk), 28 in Oconto (Erdman) and 10 at Manitowoc (Steffen) on the 21st. Peartree found 10 in Sauk County on the 25th. Last reported Oct. 29 in Rock Co. (Mahlum).

Townsend's Solitaire: Three well documented reports for the period. Steffen reported the first on Oct. 26 at Woodland Dunes Nature Center in Manitowoc Co. On Nov. 1 a bird was

found at Appleton by Sykes and West. Lange found another on Nov. 16 in Sauk County at Devil's Lake State Park.

GNATCATCHER, KINGLETS, PIPIT

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Reported north to Monroe and Oconto Counties Aug. 1. August observations were also in Jackson, Trempealeau, Sauk, Manitowoc and Milwaukee Counties. Individuals were last seen on Sept. 6 in Dane and Rock Counties.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Found Aug. 1 in Vilas County and at Trempealeau NWR. Four other August sightings all in the far north. By mid-September birds were present throughout the state. October peaks included 100 at Milwaukee on the 6th (Idzikowski), 45 at Manitowoc on the 10th (Sontag), and a season high of 200 in Sauk County on the 19th (Peartree). Found at the end of period north to Door County in the east and Monroe in the west.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Surprisingly found Aug. 1 in Eau Claire and Trempealeau Counties. Arrived in southern counties in the first week of September. Although reported as often as the above species, the peak numbers were much lower and in late September. Tessen found 30 in Douglas Co., on 21st, Schultz noted 30 on the 28th in Fond du Lac County while Smith reported 29 in Dane on the 30th. Last report was Nov. 20 at Manitowoc.

Water Pipit: First found by Tessen in Douglas County on Sept. 22. Poor migration in the east with only scattered individuals. Late September peaks in the west were 21 on the 27th in Monroe and 50 on the 29th in Eau Claire. Departed from the south by Nov. 3.

WAXWINGS, SHRIKES, VIREOS

Bohemian Waxwings: First reported at Ashland by Verch on Sept. 24. Observed in the Shawano area on Oct. 22. Birds reached Lake Michigan Shoreline by the end of October and were present till end of the period. Lukes reported 90 in Door County on Nov. 28. Also present Nov. 30 in Oneida, Eau Claire and Ashland Counties.

Cedar Waxwings: Migrants first noted Aug. 8 in Oconto County where an August peak of 126 was noted on the 24th (Erdman). September peaks indicated 150 at Milwaukee on the 7th and 200 on the 27th in Sauk Co. (Peartree). In October 150 were noted in Dane County on the 18th and 100 in Winnebago County on 23rd. Present Nov. 30 widely in the southern counties and north in Barron and at Ashland.

Northern Shrike: First noted at little Suamico on Oct. 9 where it was below normal in numbers this fall (Erdman). Polk reported 5 birds in Taylor County on Oct. 29. Only four scattered reports at the end of the period.

Loggerhead Shrike: Only two reports both in August. Hoffman found a bird on the 3rd in St. Croix Co., and Epstein another on the 27th in Monroe.

European Starling: High concentrations included 1000 on Sept. 27 in Dane County, 1000 on Oct. in Marathon, and 5500 on the 30th in Brown. The Milwaukee roost held an estimated 125,000 by the end of the period (Idzikowski).

White-eyed Vireo: Three reports this fall. Sontag found a bird in Manitowoc on Aug. 20. Woodmansee located on in Milwaukee County on Sept. 5 and on the 6th one was present in Dane County (Hoffman).

Bell's Vireo: Epstein observed a bird in Burnett County on Aug. 7. Hoffman reported an individual in Dane County from Sept. 3rd to the 6th.

Yellow-throated Vireo: Reported Aug. 1 north to Manitowoc, Outagamie, Taylor and Eau Claire Counties. No discernable migration peaks. Individuals lingered into mid-September with the last being recorded on the 23rd in Shawano Co. (Peterson).

Solitary Vireo: Present in Barron County on Aug. 1 (Goff). There was a weak migration into the southern half of the state in mid-September. Four October records; the latest in Outagamie County on the 7th (Andersons).

Red-eyed Vireo: Main migration occurred at the end of August. Luepkes reported 12 in Marathon County on the 31st. Smith found 8 in Dane County on Sept. 1. A total of 51 individuals were obtained from the TV tower kill in Buffalo County on Aug. 28 (Drieslein). Last noted Oct. 18 in Dane Co. (Smith).

Philadelphia Vireo: First observed by Sontag on Aug. 22 in Manitowoc. Most observations were in early September. Last reported on Oct. 4 in Waukesha County (Safir).

Warbling Vireo: Reported north to Douglas, Iron and Marinette Counties on Aug. 1. Main movement came in late August. Last report was Sept. 23 in Columbia Co. (Hoffman).

WARBLERS

- Black-and-white Warbler:** Widely reported on Aug. 1. Migration peak was at the end of August. Smith reported 10 in Dane County on Sept. 1. A total of 54 were included in the Galesville tower kill on Aug. 28 (Drieslein). Last noted in Langlade County on Oct. 12 (Pickering).
- Prothonotary Warbler:** Ziebell located an individual in Winnebago County from Aug. 20 to 26.
- Golden-winged Warbler:** Reported south to Eau Claire and Marinette Counties on Aug. 1. Smith noted 6 birds in Dane County on Sept. 1 and reported the last bird on Sept. 17.
- Blue-winged Warbler:** Only two reports, both by Epstein, who found one in Monroe County on Aug. 10 and another on Aug. 25 in Jackson County.
- Tennessee Warbler:** Reported as far south as Milwaukee by Aug. 1. First major movement came at the end of August. At Galesville 27 were killed at a TV tower on the 28th. Peartree reported a peak of 38 birds on Sept. 24 in Sauk Co. Last noted Oct. 8 by Harmer in Jackson Co.
- Orange-crowned Warbler:** Early reports was an individual in Dane County on Aug. 31 (Hoffman). Most reports came in mid-September and early October. Last noted Nov. 1 in Dane County.
- Nashville Warbler:** Reported south to Ozaukee County on Aug. 1. Peak movements occurred around September 1st. Luepkes reported 11 in Marathon County on Aug. 31. Smith found 9 in Dane County on Sept. 2, while on the 7th Idzikowski reported 30 in Milwaukee Co. Bishop noted the last bird on Oct. 28 in Kenosha Co.
- Northern Parula:** Found at the end of August in Taylor, Shawano and Dane Counties. Smith reported on September 30 in Dane County for the last report.
- Yellow Warbler:** Widely reported Aug. 1 north to Douglas and Marinette Cos. Main movement came in late August. On the 28th at Galesville a total of 35 were found at the TV tower kill (Drieslein). Last report was from Brown County on Sept. 30 (Cleary and Columban).
- Magnolia Warbler:** Reported south to Door and Eau Claire Counties on Aug. 1. Migrants reached the south by the last week of August. On Aug. 28 Sontag reported 12 at Manitowoc while that night 10 were killed at the tower in Galesville, Buffalo Co. Smith noted 30 in Dane County on Sept. 1. Last report Oct. 20 in Manitowoc.
- Cape May Warbler:** Frank found the first bird on Aug. 15 in Burnett Co. Reached the rest of the state in the last week of August. Hardy reported a season high of 20 in Price County on Sept. 12. It was last noted there on the 15th. One in Chippewa Co., Sept. 30, (Kemper).
- Black-throated Blue:** Found Aug. 1 in Marinette Co. (Lindberg). Only a few scattered reports in the south, mostly in early September. Wierzbicki found the last on Sept. 23 in Brown Co. One on Oct. 20, Chippewa County, (Kemper).
- Yellow-rumped Warbler:** On Aug. 1 birds were widely reported across the north and as far south as Jackson County in the west. Found statewide in the first week of September. Peaks came in late September and the first few days of October. Last reported by Tessen on Nov. 1 in Ozaukee and Sheboygan Cos.
- Black-throated Green Warbler:** Reported in the north on Aug. 1. Migrants reached the south by the last week of August. Peak movements came at the end of August and in the third week of September. At Galesville 16 were found at the Aug. 28 TV tower kill. Last noted Oct. 20-30 at Mosquito Hill Nature Center, Outagamie Co. (Anderson).
- Cerulean Warbler:** Noted Aug. 1 in Ozaukee Co. (Idzikowski). Three other August reports with birds in Monroe Co. on 10th, in Barron on the 28th and in Price on 29th.
- Blackburnian Warbler:** Unusual was a bird reported in Ozaukee County on Aug. 1 (Idzikowski). Migrants reached Brown County by Aug. 22 with peak movement at the end of August. On the 28th a total of 36 were found at the Galesville TV tower kill (Drieslein). Most birds were gone by first week of September with the last noted on the 22nd in Chippewa Co. (Kemper).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler:** Widely reported on Aug. 1 north to Iron and south to Milwaukee Counties. Migrants first noted Aug. 15 with most reports from early September. Smith found 11 on Sept. 17 in Dane Co. At Galesville 15 were recovered on Aug. 28. Last seen Oct. 1 in Milwaukee by Bontly.

Bay-breasted Warbler: First noted Aug. 15 in Eau Claire and Burnett Counties. Recorded statewide by the end of the month, (8 found at the Galesville TV tower on the 28th). September peak of 10 found on the 17th in Dane Co. (Smith). Last noted Oct. 1 in Dane County and Oct. 3 in Milwaukee.

Blackpoll Warbler: Present Aug. 1 in Langlade Co. (Pickering). Most reports came from September with 25 at Manitowoc on the 15th and 30 on the 17th in Milwaukee. It lingered there until Oct. 1 (Bauers).

Pine Warbler: Found Aug. 1 in Marinette, Barron and Eau Claire Counties. Scattered individual reports were from late August till the end of September when a bird was still present in Vilas Co. (Baughman).

Palm Warbler: First noted Aug. 19 by Hardy in Price County and in Brown County on the 21st (Cleary and Columban). Most reports came from mid-September with below normal numbers noted. Sontag reported a season high of 25 on Sept. 17 at Manitowoc. Last reported by the Andersons in Waupaca County on Nov. 10 ----- for an exceptional late date.

Ovenbird: Reported throughout the state at the beginning of the period. Most observations came from late August and early September. A total of 50 were recovered from the TV tower kill at Galesville on Aug. 28. Sontag found 12 at Manitowoc Sept. 5. Polk found an individual in Manitowoc County on Nov. 1 which ties the state departure record.

Northern Waterthrush: Most of the observations came from mid-September. Only numbers noted were 5 at Manitowoc on Sept. 9 (Sontag). Peterson reported the last on Oct. 8 in Shawano Co.

Louisiana Waterthrush: Only four reports. Robbins noted on in Taylor County on Aug. 30. Also found in Dane, Sauk and Milwaukee Counties in first week of September.

Kentucky Warbler: Only record was a single bird found at the TV kill at Galesville, Buffalo County on Aug. 28 (Drieslein).

Connecticut Warbler: First noted by Hardy in Price County on Aug. 12. The tower kill on Aug. 28 claimed 8 individuals. Unusual were two October reports, the last on the 7th in Waukesha Co. (Safir).

Mourning Warbler: Below normal number of reports. Scattered reports in mid-August and again in early September. At Galesville 21 perished on Aug. 28. Last noted by Sontag at Manitowoc on Sept. 23.

Common Yellowthroat: Most widely reported warbler at the beginning of the period (32 reports). No distinctive movements noted for the period. Most birds departed by the end of September, although Gustafson found an exceptionally late individual in Milwaukee County on Nov. 22.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Only report was a bird at Cedar Grove, Sheboygan County on Oct. 14 (Berger).

Wilson's Warbler: Noted Aug. 1 in Langlade and Vernon Counties. Peak migration statewide at the end of August. At Galesville 22 were picked up after the tower kill on Aug. 28. Last noted by Peartree in Sauk County on Sept. 26.

Canada Warbler: Below normal number of reports for the period. Only indication of a movement came from the TV tower kill at Galesville on Aug. 28 where it was the most abundant warbler noted with 65 individuals recovered (Drieslein). Peartree noted the last bird on Sept. 27 in Sauk Co.

American Redstart: Widely reported statewide on Aug. 1. Heavy migration in the later part of August and early September. Sontag reported 20 at Manitowoc on Aug. 28 and 21 were recovered at the Galesville TV tower on the same date. Aug. 31 saw 13 in Sauk County (Peartree) and 50 in Dane (Thiessen). Idzikowski noted 300 in Milwaukee County on Sept. 1. Late peak was 30 at Little Suamico, Oconto County on Sept. 25 where it was last observed on Oct. 21 (Erdman).

ICTERIDS, TANAGER

Bobolink: Epstein reported 200 in Monroe County on Aug. 3. Few reports for the period. Luepkes noted 50 in Marathon County on Sept. 6. Robbins recorded last bird Sept. 27 in Taylor Co.

Eastern Meadowlark: At the beginning of the period birds were reported north to Iron, west to Barron, Eau Claire and Vernon Counties. Small peaks noted in late September in Brown and Monroe Counties. Still present Nov. 30 in Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties.

Western Meadowlark: Only half as many reports as the bird above. Most reports were west of Lake Winnebago although it was found in Door County on Aug. 1. No distinct peaks with most birds departed by early October. Last noted by Shea on Oct. 22 in Dane Co.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Reported north to Oconto, Marathon and Douglas Counties. Ziebell reported 60 in Winnebago County on Aug. 1. Last noted in Brown County on Sept. 30.

Red-winged Blackbird: Mild conditions lead to spectacular October peaks. Ziebell reported 3000 in Winnebago County on the 12th. Luepkes found 10,000 in Marathon County on the 17th and Schultz estimated 85,000 in Dane County on Oct. 15. Still present Nov. 30 north to Price and Brown Counties.

Orchard Oriole: Polk reported one in Eau Claire County on Aug. 1.

Northern Oriole: Most birds had departed by the end of August. Smith reported 10 in Dane County on Sept. 1. Lingered till the end of September in Eau Claire, Brown and Dane Counties.

Rusty Blackbird: Reached most of the state by the end of September in below normal numbers. Peartree reported a season high of 50 in Sauk County on Sept. 27. Last noted Nov. 15 in Racine and Fond du Lac Counties.

Brewer's Blackbird: Present at the beginning of the period north of a line from Brown to Eau Claire County. Migrants reached the south by late August. Tessen noted 200 in Winnebago County on the 24th. A season high of 500 was found Sept. 7 in Marathon Co. (Luepkes). Last noted Nov. 15 by Tessen in Racine Co.

Common Grackle: Erdman reported a peak of 4000 on Sept. 28 in Oconto Co. Peterson found 5000 on Oct. 6 in Shawano Co. On Oct. 15 Shea recorded 8000 in Dane Co. Present at the end of the period north to Door County in the east and Barron in the west.

Brown-headed Cowbird: Present throughout the state Aug. 1. Season high of 200 reported by Thiessen on Sept. 14 in Dane Co. Still present Nov. 30 in Winnebago Co. (Ziebell).

Scarlet Tanager: Widely reported at the beginning of the period. Most birds departed by late September with no discernible peaks. Last noted Oct. 6 in Milwaukee Co. (Bontly).

FINCHES, GROSBEAKS, SPARROWS

House Sparrow: Widely abundant. Season high of 2000 noted at Green Bay on Sept. 24 (Cleary and Columban).

Cardinal: Noted in normal numbers north to Door, Marinette, Langlade, Taylor and Barron Counties throughout the period. Southward movement noted at Little Suamico at the end of October (Erdman).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Reported statewide on Aug. 1. Smith reported 16 on September 17 in Dane County for the only peak. Last noted by Gustafson on Oct. 17 in Milwaukee Co.

Indigo Bunting: Reported north to Iron, Barron and Marinette Counties on Aug. 1. No discernible movements noted with most birds departed by late September. Last noted at Little Suamico, Oconto County where a bird was netted Oct. 18 (Erdman).

Dickcissel: Found Aug. 1 in Eau Claire and Ozaukee Counties. Only other reports were from Shawano County on Aug. 8 (Peterson) and Milwaukee County on Aug. 10 (Idzikowski).

Evening Grosbeak: Reported Aug. 1 in Douglas, Iron, Vilas, Oneida, and Price Counties. Also reported in August from Forest, Florence and Shawano Counties. Wisconsin's breeding population is rapidly increasing. Birds were not recorded further south until late October, when statewide movements were noted on the 18th and 27th. Late November peak of 395 was recorded in Oconto County on the 29th (Erdman). Present throughout the state in low numbers at the end of the period.

Purple Finch: Reported south to Barron, Taylor and Langlade Counties on Aug. 1. Birds reached as far south as Sauk and Milwaukee Counties by Aug. 20. Only scattered reports in September with peaks of 60 noted on the 21st, and 65 on the 25th in Oconto Co. (Erdman). Peterson recorded 100 on Oct. 1 in Shawano County. Present on Nov. 30 in low numbers south of Langlade and Barron Counties.

Pine Grosbeak: Reported Aug. 1 in Iron Co. (Butterbrodt). Appeared at Manitowoc on Oct. 21 and Ashland on the 30th. There were only scattered reports in the west with birds as far south as Jackson County. Birds were present in small numbers in the northeast

throughout November with a few reaching Sheboygan and Milwaukee Counties. Peak of 34 were noted Nov. 29 at Little Suamico (Erdman).

Common Redpoll: First noted Oct. 10 by Hanbury in Ozaukee Co. Reported in November in below normal numbers throughout northern and eastern Wisconsin. Most reports were of six or less birds although Luepkes found 100 in Marathon County on Nov. 30.

Pine Siskin: No reports until September when birds reached as far south as Dane and Manitowoc Counties by the 23rd. Main southward movements came in October when 260 were in Door County on the 16th, 300 in Shawano on 17th, and 150 in Ozaukee on the 18th. Reported widely south of a line from Barron to Door County at the end of the period.

American Goldfinch: Widely reported throughout the period in normal to above normal numbers. Erdman reported 132 on Oct. 31 in Oconto County for the only peak over 50 birds. Present widely Nov. 30.

Red Crossbill: Verch reported it throughout the period at Ashland. Found in September in Douglas and Taylor Counties. By the end of October it was noted in Shawano and Manitowoc areas. Most November reports came from along Lake Michigan although Leshner recorded it at LaCrosse and Epstein found it in Jackson County. Present in Brown, Manitowoc and Eau Claire Counties at end of period.

White-winged Crossbill: Reported more widely and in better numbers than the above. First noted Oct. 21 in Manitowoc and Oct. 29 in Taylor Counties. November peaks included 75 on the 5th in Douglas Co., and 50 on the 24th in Shawano Co. Still present Nov. 30 in the east and northern sections.

Rufous-sided Towhee: Reported in below normal numbers in the southern portions of the state. No reports of over 1 or 2 birds for the season. Last noted by Robbins on Nov. 7 in Dane County.

Savannah Sparrow: Luepkes reported a season high of 95 birds on Aug. 29 in Marathon County. Reported in lower numbers than last year. Last noted on Nov. 1 in Dane Co. (Hoffman).

Grasshopper Sparrow: Reported Aug. 1 from Iron, Door, Eau Claire, Ozaukee and Milwaukee Counties. Other August reports came from St. Croix, Trempealeau, Monroe and Dane Counties. It was last noted in the latter on Sept. 28 (Thiessen).

Le Conte's Sparrow: Only three reports. Observed in Milwaukee County on Oct. 15 and 18 by Donald and Idzikowski and in Columbia County, Oct. 8 by Hoffman.

Henslow's Sparrow: Present Aug. 1 in Eau Claire, Ozaukee and Milwaukee Counties. Last noted Sept. 22 in Shawano, and Sept. 27 in Dane County (Hoffman).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: Documented observations came from Milwaukee where single birds were noted Oct. 13 (Gustafson), Oct. 19 (Idzikowski) and Oct. 20 (Donald). Tessen reported another on Sept. 21 in Chippewa County.

Vesper Sparrow: Most reports came from the north on Aug. 1. Only number reported was 10 found Aug. 27 by Engberg in Oneida County. Last noted by Hoffman on Oct. 23 in Dane Co.

Lark Sparrow: Polk found it Aug. 1 in Eau Claire County and observed it in Trempealeau county on Aug. 22.

Northern (Slate-colored) Junco: Noted Aug. 5 in Oneida County (Baughman). Moved into the north central counties by Sept. 1 and throughout the state by Sept. 20. Peaks came from October with 200 at Milwaukee on the 6th, 250 in Marathon on the 18th and 300 in Brown on the 27th. Widely present at the end of the period south from Price and Langlade Counties.

Northern (Oregon) Junco: Three reports. Found in Price County Oct. 11-18 (Hardy) and on the 18th till the end of the period at Manitowoc (Albrecht). Ziebell found one Nov. 29 in Winnebago Co.

Tree Sparrow: First noted in Eau Claire County Oct. 6 by Polk, and at Milwaukee by Idzikowski. Reported statewide in below normal numbers by Nov. 1. Found south from Langlade and Eau Claire counties at the end of the period.

Chipping Sparrow: Reported statewide on Aug. 1. Migration peak was in early September with Goff reporting 100's on Sept. 7. Lingered into October with the last noted in Grant County on the 20th (Shea).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Reported south to Taylor and Marathon Counties on Aug. 1.

Scattered reports at the end of September with an individual lingering until Oct. 17 in Milwaukee Co. (Gustafson).

Field Sparrow: Reported north to Ashland and Iron Counties for Aug. 1. Epstein noted 14 birds on Sept. 3 in Monroe County for a late peak. Individuals lingered until Oct. 22 in Milwaukee Co. (Bauers).

Harris' Sparrow: First noted by Robbins Sept. 20 in Marathon County. It was found the next day in Douglas, Forest and Dane Counties. In October it was noted on the 9th in Barron and on the 23rd in Price, where it lingered until Nov. 11 (Hardy). Totally absent along Lake Michigan.

White-crowned Sparrow: First noted Sept. 13 in Barron (Goff) and Douglas Counties (Hoffman). Tessen found 25 on Sept. 20 in Douglas Co. October peak of 10 was noted on the 5th in Price County (Hardy). Last noted Nov. 15 with 2 in Oconto Co. (Erdman).

White-throated Sparrow: Present Aug. 1 south to Langlade and Price Counties. Exceptional were birds in Ozaukee County (Idzikowski). Arrived statewide in mid-September, with peaks of 100 noted on 17th in Milwaukee and on the 26th in Brown County. Still present Nov. 30 in Brown and Dane Counties.

Fox Sparrow: Arrived Sept. 1 in Brown County (Cleary). Reported statewide in the last week of September. October peaks of 15 noted on the 20th at Milwaukee (Idzikowski), where it lingered until Nov. 21 (Gustafson). Reported in reduced number for the period.

Lincoln Sparrow: Well reported for the period with 29 observations. Noted Aug. 1 in Barron and Door Counties. With three other August records from the north. Migrants noted by Aug. 31 as far south as Dane Co. Most observations came in late September with Tessen reporting 10 in Douglas County on the 21st. Last noted Oct. 27 in Milwaukee (Gustafson).

Swamp Sparrow: Present throughout the state on Aug. 1. Idzikowski reported a season high of 35 birds at Milwaukee on Oct. 4. Still present Nov. 30 in Dane Co. (m.ob.).

Song Sparrow: Most peaks were surprisingly early in August. Ziebell noted 10 on the 9th in Winnebago Co., Shea found 18 on the 13th in Dane Co., and Luepkes reported a season high of 40 on the 29th in Marathon Co. Most birds departed by late October, however individuals lingered till the end of the period in Brown, Sauk, Rock, Dane, Waukesha and Milwaukee Counties.

Lapland Longspur: First noted by Hoffman on Sept. 13 in Douglas County. Reached Manitowoc County by Sept. 23. Major movement in mid-October. Erdman noted 600 on the 14th in northern Oconto County. There were few reports from southern Wisconsin. Still present Nov. 30 only in Eau Claire Co.

Snow Bunting: First noted at Horicon NWR on Oct. 5 (Thompson). Major influx came in mid-October statewide. Peak numbers came in November with 500 on the 22nd in Shawano Co., and 300 on the 29th in Fond du Lac. Present Nov. 30 south to Milwaukee and Monroe Counties.

CONTRIBUTORS

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By the Wayside...



Black-legged Kittiwake

Oct. 10, 1980 - Ozaukee County. On a hunt for loons and scoters, none of which were seen because hunters drove the birds out too far to identify even with a scope, a small gull flew by back and forth three times.... It was alone so no size comparison, but it had black sharply defined wing tips with no white at all. It was an adult Kittiwake, watched over a period of ten minutes with 9x35 glasses at 300 or so yards. There was some back light from the sun which was partially clouded over but everything was clear. The bird flew north, sailed back south and disappeared going north.

Mary Donald

Parasitic Jaeger

Sept. 20-21, 1980 - Wisconsin Point, Douglas County. After birding Wisconsin Point for several hours I ended up at the western end of the Point shortly before noon. While standing on the beach scanning the gulls flying over the lake I suddenly picked up a dark bird, smaller than the Herrings, coming from the east. The bird had wings distinctly bent at the joint. Despite the great distance and only having my 10x binoculars with me at the time, the bird was obviously a jaeger. The distance prevented positive species identification. For 5+ minutes the bird worked slowly toward the state line, pursuing various gulls. Occasionally it would chase one for some distance and at least twice attacked gulls from below, with both falling toward the lake until the attack was broken off just above the water. I hurried back to the car and got my scope. Unfortunately I was unable to relocate the jaeger. About 10 minutes later I was surprised to suddenly have it fly into my view. The bird gradually worked in toward me, eventually flying past the lighthouse and over to the Minnesota side where it harrassed the gulls along the breakwater. During this 10 minute study, the following points were easily seen: dark head, body and wings, distinct white on the outer primaries as it wheeled, tail had some white with a heavy black gray border. Its size was smaller than the harrassed Herrings. The jaeger was a dark phase Parasitic, only the third I had ever seen and the first dark phase.

On the 21st, I was pleasantly surprised to discover it flying along the Minnesota breakwater, heading for the Wisconsin side. It did not pursue any gulls at this time. Soon it passed the lighthouse and headed eastward out into Lake Superior. I followed it with the binoculars until it became a dot out on the Lake.

Daryl Tessen

Parasitic Jaeger

Sept. 13, 1980 - Douglas County. After several hours birding Wisconsin Point I made my way to Gull Bluff -- there were a large number of gulls and some terns resting on beach to the east of the bluff. I made my way to the area. While scanning the resting gulls and some over the water, two birds were picked out coming towards me from the northeast. As they came closer, the pointed bent wing flight was apparent. Still closer the wing flash was easily seen. One bird was clearly adult or near adult. The bird had definite short pointed central tail feathers. The belly was light with a dusky breast and the throat was white and the cap was black. The yellow on the face couldn't be seen clearly but appeared darker than the throat. The other bird was an immature about the same size but positive identification was impossible. On the same weekend several jaegers were seen on the Minnesota side.

Randy Hoffman

Parasitic Jaeger

Oct. 1, 1980 - Douglas County. As I was scanning the lake front I noticed a small, slender-winged jaeger flying against the wind. It was smaller than any gull in the vicinity and flew with a rather tern-like wing beat, albeit with bent wings. It was dark brown above, whitish below, with dark brown cap, lighter nape, and brownish breast band. The light bars of the primaries were visible above and below, and the central tail feathers were elongated just a little bit and pointed and not twisted.

Janine Polk

Rufous Hummingbird (Hypothetical)

Aug. 31, 1980 - Dane County. Having seen Rufous Hummingbirds many times before in western U.S., I strongly suspected this bird was a male Rufous. Since the light conditions were not optimum and realizing the rarity of such a sighting, I at this time began taking notes in the field, concentrating entirely on this bird. During the next 30 minutes I saw the bird from as close as six feet to as far as 45 feet... The bird was approximately the same size as the Ruby-throats. The tail was rufous on the top with darker tips. One time the bird fanned its tail while perching. The shape was definitely a wedge. The back was entirely rufous -- no trace of green. All Ruby-throats observed on the same day had green backs. The nape was not as rufous, tending more toward brown. The forehead appeared to be dark brown. The bill was black. There was a small white spot behind the eye, this was only observed in side views. The wings at rest appeared dark brown almost gray. The sides were rufous next to the folded wing, but slowly changed to buff on the belly. The breast was dusky changing to white only a little below the throat. The throat most of the time appeared dark. But on two occasions, with the right angle, the red was briefly glimpsed....

Randy Hoffman

Lesser Black-backed Gull (Hypothetical)

Oct. 12, 1980 - Milwaukee, WI. ...I was counting gulls, when I noticed a Herring Gull-sized bird with a very dark mantle which I at first thought was a Herring Gull in a shadow. This bird was moving slightly amidst the Herring Gulls (few Ring-bills) on the breakwater and soon moved into a position where the sun shone directly on the bird's mantle, the darkness persisted in this light. This bird was not as dark as an adult Great Black-backed Gull, but the mantle was darker than the mantle of a Franklin's Gull; one adult of which was observed in the water of the CGC ten minutes earlier. This bird first brought Great Black-backed Gull to mind except the mantle color was lighter in color than in this species, but the main feature that caught my eye was the size of the bird; it was smaller by an inch or two than the Herring Gulls that were nearby. I compared this bird with at least five Herring Gulls and it was smaller than all of these. Also, at first glance the yellow bill with a prominent red spot on the lower mandible near the tip was immediately noticed. The bill was overall slightly larger than the bill of a Herring Gull in proportion to head size giving the bird an appearance of a miniature Great B-b. Gull with a less prominent bill. The legs of this bird were yellow in direct comparison with the pink legs of the adult Herring Gulls nearby. The bird's shape was not noticeably different than the shape of a Herring Gulls nearby, although the bird appeared slightly more chunky and the legs were a bit shorter than the Herring Gulls. As already mentioned this bird was smaller than a Herring Gull, but was larger than a Ring-billed Gull. The iris of the bird was not distinctly visible at this distance but it was definitely light in color, very similar in appearance to the iris of a Herring Gull, again afforded by direct comparison.

...The bird flew toward us and alighted on the water in front of the breakwater. Its flight was like a Herring Gull's and it soared briefly before landing. When it flew I could see through the scope that the bird had a wing tip pattern like a Laughing Gull's with the dark gray of the mantle becoming black in the tops of the primaries with no white feathers in between as is the case in the Franklin's Gull. There were several white spots visible in the black of the wingtip and a terminal tip of white, although the black of the wingtip predominated giving the bird the appearance of a Laughing Gull as noted above. The underside of the wing tip was noted to show some dark although the bird did not fly long enough to allow a good look. The bird flew back on to the breakwater and positioned itself into the wind behind a Herring Gull obscuring further observation. One other note concerning the wing --when the wing was folded one could distinctly see the black of the wingtips, devoid of white, contrasting with the dark slate gray of the mantle.

John Idzikowski
Liza Idzikowski

Thayer's Gull (Hypothetical)

Nov. 5, 1980 - Superior, Douglas County. As I was studying the gulls lined up on the cement channel wall opposite me at the end of Minnesota Point, I found the one I was looking for. It closely resembled nearly adult Herring Gulls with the following important differences: very dark eye appearing black - black in upper surface of wingtips minimal compared to surrounding Herring adults, as seen in extended wing; closed wingtips showing large white spots at end of outer primaries, which, when these feathers were

overlapping just right, appeared to be connected to short white stems pointing anteriorly. This effect of "golf clubs" or "zebra stripes" (depending on the size of the white feather tips) can be seen on at least some adult Thayer's Gulls and has been noted by experienced observers in Chicago (and elsewhere?). It is due to the way each tip overlaps the white "tongue" extending deeply into the black of the underlying feathers. The gull on the cover of the Dec. 1975 issue of **American Birds** shows it well. Undersurface of wingtips basically whitish with some gray markings corresponding to the black on upper surface. This is in great contrast to Herring Gulls which all showed more or less black in undertips.

The bird was about the same size as nearby Herring Gulls. It's bill was yellow with a red spot on the lower mandible and was about the same size as the bills of some of the more daintily built Herrings. The forehead was moderately steep, again like some of the less ruggedly built Herrings. The bill size and forehead steepness were, in fact, very similar to those of the adult Thayer's Gull on the cover of **American Birds**, Dec. 1975. The mantle and leg colors were identical to the Herring Gulls, as far as I could tell. All these characteristics are variable, of course, and show quite a bit of overlap between Thayer's and Herring Gulls. I could not see the color of the eye-ring. The undersides, tail, and head were white, the latter with some dusky markings.

I studied the standing bird for about 30 minutes, after which time it obligingly took off and flew into Wisconsin.

Janine Polk

(Records Committed also accepted another observation by J. Polk on Sept. 9, 1980 at Superior, Douglas County.)

Arctic Tern

Aug. 6, 13, 1980 - Manitowoc, WI. I was comforted to read Sam Robbins statements about the Arctic Tern, and his feeling "gun shy" about reporting his sightings. The three birds that were seen on the 6 Aug. (2 birds) and 13 Aug. (1 bird) were observed at close range under ideal light conditions. They were also observed standing and flying. Where all of Peterson's field marks could be noted with relative ease. The Arctic Tern in flight appears to be proportioned differently than the Common Tern giving the "illusion" of being stout. Perhaps it is more the head/neck relationship that creates this appearance.

Charles Sontag

Laughing Gull

Aug. 5, 1980 - Manitowoc, WI. One immature bird was observed at very close range, less than 60 feet with 7x50 binocs. The bird was standing in the company of Bonaparte's Gull where size and color marking could be easily compared. The "heavy" gull bill and dark throat were readily seen and its noticeably larger size. Franklin's Gulls were observed on subsequent days under similar conditions which reinforced observation.

Charles Sontag

Brant

Oct. 19, 1980 - Oconto County. Apart from our main interest in raptor migration at Little Suamico, we also record all other migratory movements. On 19 October at 16:10 a small flock of waterfowl was noted moving southwest along the bayshore. They were moving approximately one half mile inland and were flying at about 1500 feet. When first observed head on at a distance of one mile, it could not be determined whether they were geese or ducks. As a result when they reached the station we moved outside for a better look. The 16 birds were Brant, **Branta bernicla hrota**.

The birds were small and dark. Distinctive were the long-wings and short necks. No white was noted on either their heads or necks. Their heads, necks and breasts were dark, quite different from the small races of **Branta canadensis**) that we regularly observe. Their flight pattern was a swift, compact, wavering line. It was similar to that of Double-crested Cormorants when they are flying over the water. The flock was observed until it disappeared to the south. On the same day we observed over 300 Canada Geese and a single flock of blue phase Snow Geese.

Thomas Erdman

Brant

Oct. 7, 1980 - Chippewa County. As I was returning to my car from scanning the lake, I noticed a duck or goose with a dark head and neck standing in an alfalfa field opposite the road. Through the binoculars it looked like a Brant, and through the scope I could see the following characteristics: black head, neck, and breast; small light area on neck in right position for Brant; dark gray back and wing coverts with indistinct barring getting more distinct towards rear; white stern with narrow black band on end of tail; light grayish sides; short black bill. Although I didn't have a frame of reference, the bird looked smallish for a goose. When it flew, I could see the wide white V on the tail and the whitish belly. Before it was flushed by a low-flying plane it fed for quite a while in alfalfa.

Janine Polk

Varied Thrush

Nov. 29, 1980 - Menasha, WI. the most noticeable identifying mark without the aid of binoculars was the color of the bird. The breast and throat of the bird and markings on the wings were a beautiful hue of gold. The bird also seemed to hold its head up in such a way as to suggest the Common Flicker.

Once the bird was brought into focus with the aid of binoculars, a very definite dark eye patch extending from the bill to the neck was observed with an eye stripe matching the same golden hue of the breast. Its movements and flight was thrush-like as the bird fed on the ground below the feeder. There was a very faint, dark breast band approximately the size and shape as found on the Meadowlark.

J. Thomas Sykes

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

Sept. 28, 1980 - Rock County. While driving to church about 10:30, I saw a bird light on a high wire which I thought was a small hawk, but as I drove closer I could see that it was not a hawk. It was facing me and it had quite a long tail. I got a very good look at it; I didn't have my binoculars with me.

It was light grayish white with pinkish color on the sides of its breast towards the wings. It looked just like the immature bird in **Birds of North America** by Robbins, p. 191. I looked for the bird after church but could not see it anywhere. I thought it would be gone out of sight.

Later I saw the owner of the land and he said he had also been seeing an adult bird for about a month. He had seen both the birds. He was inquisitive about that long tailed bird and was going to call me but didn't. The birds were there till the 3rd week in October. He didn't see them after the cold weather. After the 24th or 25th he would see them west of his buildings and towards Coon Creek in the fence lines.

Gyda Mahlum

Swainson's Hawk

Sept. 2, 1980 - Oconto County. The bird was first observed soaring southward in the company of three Broadwinged Hawks at 10:28: Its larger size and the higher dihedral at which it held its wings while soaring quickly raised our suspicions that it was a Swainson's Hawk. Unfortunately before we could closely glass the bird we were besieged by a flurry of Sharp-shinned Hawks which drew all of our attention as we attempted to trap them. In the next few minutes we trapped five of twelve sharpies and had also counted two Ospreys and a Harrier moving south. We assumed the four buteos were gone. Therefore it was much to our surprise when at 10:40 while we were attempting to trap an immature Red-tailed Hawk drifting in from the north, that the Swainson's Hawk came into the trapping area from the south. At only thirty yards distance it was obviously a light phase, immature Swainson's. We might have caught the bird except that the on-coming Red-tail flushed it away and then blundered into a mist net, requiring our immediate attention. The Swainson's was not seen again. This bird is our third record in the past ten years of observation. We have trapped only one. It was also a light phase immature bird.

Tom Erdman
Dave Brinker

Black Vulture

Oct. 26, 1980 - Manitowoc County. On October 26 at 0855 while operating the Woodland Dunes Nature Center raptor banding station, I observed a Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*). The bird was in the company of two adult Red-tailed Hawks. The three birds were soaring at a moderate height (150-200 ft.) off to the northeast of the blind about a quarter mile away. I didn't pay them much notice at first as there was a Red-tailed Hawk sitting in the trapping area which was receiving most of my attention. In the distance I assumed the three birds to be two Red-tails and a melanistic Rough-legged Hawk as I had seen several Rough-legs earlier. As the birds

moved closer I noticed that the dark bird lacked the light markings typical of melanistic Rough-legs. The wings were an even black with no white outer wing lining. However, as it flapped I noticed white showing near the wing tops and mostly on the upper surface of the wing. The tail of the bird also appeared too squarish and short for a Rough-leg. I also noticed that the head appeared out of proportion to the body and that it was very narrow and pointed in appearance.

One of the Red-tails stooped at the dark bird and it swerved to avoid it. As it swerved I noticed the wing tips were very deeply slotted - more so than a hawk's wing. The bird was not sufficiently larger than the Red-tails to suggest an eagle. The markings were also not eagle-like nor its wing and tail proportions. The bird also held its wings horizontally as it glided and did not hold them in a dihedral as a Turkey Vulture would have (a Turkey Vulture was seen later the same day).

The whitish patches in the wing tips with the rest of the bird being black, the large slotted primaries, horizontal wing position, small narrow head in proportion to the body and short tail all suggest to me that this bird was most definitely a Black Vulture.

James Steffen

(Also documented the next day at Cedar Grove Ornithological Station, Sheboygan County by D. Berger and C. Whelon.)

Western Grebe (Dark Race)

November 30, 1980 - Wisconsin Point, WI. As I was scanning Lake Superior from the beach I noticed three smaller birds around a Herring Gull rather far out. Through the scope they could be seen to be Grebes, blackish on the back sides, back of the neck, and top of the head, and gleaming white underneath. My first instinct was that they were Horned Grebes, but then I realized they were much too large. Stretched out, they would have about equalled the Herring Gull in length; a Horned Grebe would be about half that. Their bodies were very long and straw-yellowish. The black on their foreheads went below the eye, assigning them to the dark phase.

The birds were very active, even playful. The Herring Gull followed them around as if it enjoyed their company.

Viewing at this distance was greatly facilitated by the fact that there was almost no wind.

Janine Polk

Sharp-tailed Sparrow

October 13, 1980 - Milwaukee, WI. After unsuccessfully searching for a possible Lesser Black-backed Gull which had been reported the previous evening, I was returning along a gravel road on the Milwaukee Coast Guard impoundment when I almost stepped in a small dark sparrow. It flew only a few feet landing in some sparse brush on the gravel.

I immediately trained my binoculars on the area where it landed, which was only 10 feet away. I had searched unsuccessfully for Sharp-tailed Sparrows in this area for several years, but I was to have success finally. The bird conve-

niently hopped into an open space where I first noticed the bright orange facial triangle. The crown was unstreaked and blackish and the back was coarsely marked and very dark in tone. The bird turned and hopped even closer towards me, showing its very buffy upper breast with indistinct striping. The belly was whitish. I was able to observe the sparrow for four minutes before I had to leave for work, and it was still cooperating when I left.

Dennis Gustafson

(Further documented by Idzikowski on Oct. 19 and Donald on Oct. 20.)

Townsend's Solitaire

Oct. 26, 1980 - Manitowoc County. On October 26 at 11:55 while operating The Woodland Dunes raptor banding station, I saw a Townsend's Solitaire.

While making observations of hawks from within the blind a motion caught the corner of my eye as a songbird landed on a post not more than twenty feet away. At first glance it almost suggested a very drab bluebird but I quickly realized that was not the case. The bird was more or less solid gray similar to a catbird. It had a light eye-ring as well as some light markings in the wings.

As the bird flew to a second post which was approximately 10-15 feet away, I noticed it had white on the sides of its tail.

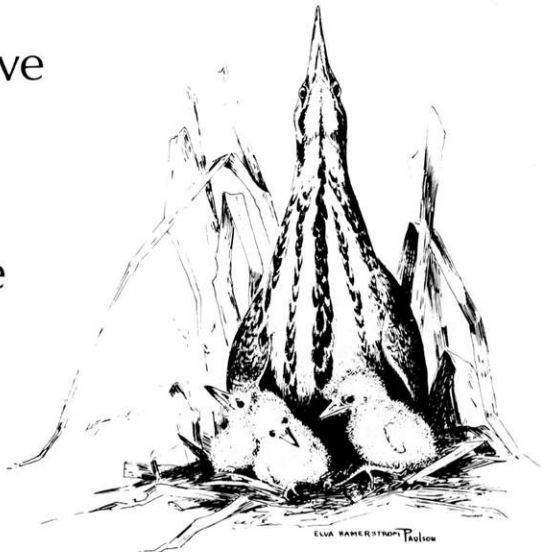
The bird remained sitting there for about 2-3 minutes then flew across in front of me and landed on the edge of the woods. It remained there for about a minute then flew out of sight into the trees.

James Steffen

(Individuals were also well documented on Nov. 1 at Appleton by T. Sykes and A. West and at Devil's Lake State Park on Nov. 16 by K. Lange.)

Help Save
Habitat
For
Wildlife

Mary and
Charlie Nelson



FIELD

NOTES



By Kenneth I. Lange

The Winter Season

December 1, 1980 to February 28, 1981

Nationwide this was a cold winter in the East but mild and dry in the West and Midwest. Wisconsin once again experienced a winter with below normal snowfall, deep frost penetration and relatively mild temperatures. A January thaw and record high temperatures in February made soaring fuel prices a little more bearable. December was actually the only month in the period when temperatures averaged below normal. Snowfall in the state averaged approximately 26 inches, 10 inches less than last winter and 20 inches below normal. This was the lightest snowfall since the 22 inches of the 1967-68 winter. The heaviest snowfalls generally occurred in the Lake Superior snowbelt, with only 2 major snowstorms elsewhere in the state, one at the beginning of December and the other on 10 February. Snow depths during much of the winter averaged 4 inches or less, which allowed for deep frost penetration.

December's average temperature, 20.0 degrees, was 1.1 degrees below normal. This month began with a 3 to 6 inch snowfall in the southern half of the state, but warm temperatures a few days later melted the cover. The next appreciable storm was on the 23rd, when 1 to 3 inches fell on previously bare ground in southern Wisconsin.

Temperatures were above freezing over a period of 8 to 10 successive days in the third and fourth weeks of January. The average temperature for the month, 17.0 degrees, was 1.2 degrees above normal. Snowfall averaged 2.6 inches, 8 inches less than normal. This was the lightest snowfall in January since 1944.

Precipitation was above normal for February, with the biggest storm of the season on the 10th and heavy rain or rain and snow on the 22nd. The average temperature, 22.9 degrees, was 3.8 degrees above normal. The first half of the month was cold, but the latter half, especially the third week, was unseasonably warm with many record highs in the 50's and 60's. This exceptionally warm flow developed over most of the continent during the mid-February. During the latter half of February, at least in southern Wisconsin, some people were beginning to tap maples, lawns were greening next to residences, worms were active, pussy willows were showing white, and the buds of silver maple, American elm and trembling aspen were beginning to swell. Some silver maple flowers were open by the 28th along the Wisconsin River in the Mazomanie Wildlife Area, Dane, County.

Many waterbirds and passerines remained much farther north than usual over much of the country (**American Birds**, Vol. 35, No. 3, P. 270, 1981), and in Wisconsin the relatively mild and open winter resulted in several exciting records. A wintering cormorant in the Bayside Power Plant area of Green Bay (Cleary and Brother Columban) is **not** the first winter record, John Kraupe reported one on Dec. 14, 1957, but a Great Egret in December and January (see **By the Wayside**) in Trempealeau County, 24 December to 18 January (Draskowski) is a first, and a Ruby-throated Hummingbird at feeders in Door County was Wisconsin's first wild hummer in December (Lukes').

The numbers of Canada Geese, along with Mallards and Black Ducks were up considerably on the Christmas counts from the 1975-79 average. A sad consequence of the open winter was a die-off of geese. An estimated 20,000 Canadas remained in the Lake Puckaway-Grand River Wildlife Area, feeding in the shallow lake bottoms and adjoining cornfields. Dead geese were first noticed in January, and eventually the number increased to approximately 4000. The cause of death for all birds tested was acute lead poisoning, again pointing out the desirability of changing to steel shot.

Red-tailed Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks, Kestrels and Harriers all showed significant increases on the Christmas counts above the average of the last 5 years, at least partly in response to the relatively snowless landscape. Goff found Harriers in Barron County throughout the season, a situation which she termed "unusual." This species and the Short-eared Owl were in relatively high numbers in several western regions (**Amer. Birds**, Vol. 35, No. 3, pp. 274-275, 1981). Short-eared Owls were also in good numbers this winter in Wisconsin. Follen, on one occasion with K. Luepke, found an immature Peregrine on 2 dates in February in central Wisconsin.

Certain increases on the Christmas counts probably were due to other causes, for example greater ease of foot coverage by count participants when there is little or no snow cover. The increase in Red-headed Woodpeckers was probably caused by a good acorn crop in the fall of 1980.

Golden-crowned Kinglets are generally scarce or absent in Wisconsin after early January. This season they wintered in at least 4 counties, with 10 individuals surviving the season in one of these counties.

Perhaps the cumulative effect of 2 consecutive mild and open winters is best appreciated when one considers the Cardinal in Taylor County, where Robins noted it all winter in 6 areas in Medford, in contrast to 2 winters ago when he could find only a single pair.

Other reports which at least in part seem also to mirror the winter conditions include a Blue-winged Teal on 25 January in Jefferson County, Common Mergansers "unusually abundant" in Winnebago and Outagamie Counties, a Dunlin on 13 December in Milwaukee County, the highest number of Common Bobwhites on Christmas counts since 1966, Virginia Rails on 5 Christmas counts, a record, with one surviving in Dane County until at least 25 January, a Killdeer in Juneau County on 17 January, Mourning Doves in above normal numbers in the Ashland area, another good winter for Common Flickers, a Winter Wren throughout the season in Manitowoc County, Northern Mockingbirds in Brown County, a Gray Catbird until 1 February in Dane County, a possible wintering Hermit Thrush in Milwaukee County, a Pine Warbler in Manitowoc County until 6 January, 2 December records for Northern Orioles, a Chipping Sparrow at

a feeder in Marinette County, and Fox Sparrows at feeders in Ozaukee and Milwaukee Counties.

After two relatively "finch-less" winters, Wisconsin again witnessed an appreciable finch invasion. Pine Siskins were especially numerous and widespread, "the winter of the Siskins" being the way one contributor (Hardy) described it. See Robbins's comments in the species account. Although here in record numbers on the Christmas counts, Evening Grosbeaks were often described as "erratic," doubtless in reference to local movements. Pine Grosbeaks, Common Redpolls and White-winged Crossbills were in high numbers, but Purple Finches and Red Crossbills were relatively uncommon. American Goldfinches were in normal or below normal numbers.

It was one of the best winters ever for the Bohemian Waxwing, at least in the northern half of the state. Flocks of 70 to 200 were reported for several counties. High numbers were reported for the entire northern half of the Western Great Lakes Region while Ontario, Main and New Brunswick had record or near record flights. Perhaps the poor berry crop in the Prairie Provinces caused the birds to disperse eastwards in search of food (**Amer. Birds**, Vol. 35, No. 3, pp. 273 & 303, 1981).

This was also a good winter for the Snowy Owl, with reports from some 20 counties, including wintering birds (at least 17 in 8 counties. Minnesota reported it from 29 counties with 25 to 30 individuals holding territories in the Duluth-Superior harbor area, and Illinois witnessed its largest invasion ever (**Amer. Birds**, Vol. 35, No. 3, pp. 272 & 302, 1981).

Doubtless the most exciting ornithological event of the season for some people was the discovery of a Gray-crowned Rosy Finch at a feeder in Dunn County near Menomonie for a new state record. See **By the Wayside**. This same winter saw Minnesota record its eighth rosy finch (**Amer. Birds**, Vol. 35, No. 3, p. 303, 1981).

Other rarities of note were the Brant in Dane County on 21 February (see **By the Wayside**), The Harlequin Duck on Madison's Lake Monona from 14 December to the end of the period, a Milwaukee County Purple Sandpiper on 16 December (see **By the Wayside**) a Thayer's Gull in Milwaukee County on 5 January (see **By the Wayside**) and seven Varied Thrushes. Kim R. Eckert, Western Great Lakes Regional Editor for **American Birds**, reported ten Varied Thrushes for Wisconsin and also 6 in Michigan and 14 in Minnesota, the highest count ever for this region.

As usual, the first migrants noticed were Horned Larks in January, with most birds appearing by the middle of February. Common Redpolls and Pine Grosbeaks were beginning to leave by February. Also by this month migration probably was underway for the Crow and Starling, with an apparent influx of Black-capped Chickadees, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins in certain parts of the state, for example Taylor County (Robbins).

This would be about all the migration normally encountered in February, other than some early waterfowl, raptors, and blackbirds. But this winter ended very quickly with the mid-February rush of warm air, triggering a wave of early migration all across the country (**Amer. Birds**, Vol. 35, No. 3, p. 278, 1981). Thiessen's comment for Dane County would apply to southern Wisconsin in general: "Spring migrants started the week of Feb.

15th with Grackle, Redwinged Blackbird, Common Merganser, and Goldeneye..." In Rock County the Ned Hollister Bird Club did their annual rerun of the local Christmas count on 15 February and found a number of birds which very likely were early migrants: a Pied-billed Grebe, Mallards, an American Wigeon, a Northern Shoveler, Harriers, Kestrels, American Robins, a Field Sparrow and Song Sparrow. On 19 February in Milwaukee County, Idzikowski was surprised to find an American Woodcock, a difficult record to explain, but with the weather conditions one would guess that this was an early migrant, rather than a wintering bird. On this same date, in Chippewa County, Polk found a Green-winged Teal. Two days later, and also 26-28 February, Canada Geese were migrating into Wisconsin on a broad front, with several 1000 in Columbia County by the end of the month. On 21 February over Norwalk, Monroe County, Epstein saw several species of migrating raptors (Red-tailed Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks, Kestrels and a Bald Eagle). A killdeer in Rock County on 21 February and a Sandhill Crane in Sauk County on 25 February were also among the early migrants.

Refer to the species accounts for details. And for a limited yet intriguing migration, see Mute Swan.

It was a most eventful season and helped make the debut of this "club reporter" especially memorable. In this first attempt at a seasonal summary for the **Passenger Pigeon**, I very quickly became aware of two things: it takes an enormous amount of time, and we really do owe a great deal to all those who have performed these and other largely thankless tasks over the years. A tip of my hat or rather my old weathered field cap to these people! A final note: I especially enjoyed the comments on the Field Report Forms because they made the compilation more personal. Thank you!

These counties had coverage (the number in parentheses is the number of contributors): Adams (5), Ashland (2), Barron (2), Bayfield (3), Brown (5), Buffalo (1), Burnett (2), Chippewa (2), Clark (5), Columbia (3), Dane (11), Dodge (1), Door (3), Douglas (4), Dunn (2), Eau Claire (2), Fond du Lac (1), Forest (2), Green (1), Iowa (1), Iron (2), Jackson (3), Jefferson (1), Juneau (4), Kenosha (2), LaCrosse (1), Langlade (2), Lincoln (1), Manitowoc (8), Marathon (6), Marinette (2), Marquette (1), Menominee (1), Milwaukee (14), Monroe (1), Oneida (2), Outagamie (3), Ozaukee (6), Protage (2), Price (1), Racine (2), Rock (4), Rusk (1), St. Croix (1), Sauk (5), Shawano (2), Sheboygan (2), Taylor (2), Trempealeau (1), Vernon (1), Vilas (2), Walworth (1), Washington (2), Waukesha (2), Waupaca (4), Waushara (1), Winnebago (2), and Wood (3). A total of 67 people in 58 counties.

Counties not covered from north to south: Florence, Washburn, Sawyer, Polk, Pierce, Pepin, Oconto, Kewaunee, Calumet, Green Lake, Richland, Crawford, Grant and Lafayette.

Abbreviations used in the species accounts: BOP - beginning of period, EOP - end of period, DOR - dead on road, m.obs. - many observers, n.d. - no date.

SEASONAL SUMMARY

Common Loon: 3 birds reported from 3 counties: Shawano, 1 Dec. (Peterson), Dane until 13 Dec. (Smith), and Douglas, 22 Dec. on a Christmas count.

Horned Grebe: 3 on a Christmas count in Walworth Co., 2 Jan.

Pied-billed Grebe: Individual birds lingered until 9 Dec. in Milwaukee Co. (Idzikowski) and 12 Dec. in Dane Co. (Shea). Also on the Fremont and Lake Geneva Christmas counts, and (Vanderschaegen) two on the Wisconsin River in Rhinelander, Oneida Co., from 22 Dec. to 13 Jan. Single birds in Rock Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC), and Dane Co., 28 Feb. (Hilsenhoff), could have been migrants.

Double-crested Cormorant: One apparently remained all winter in the Bayside Power Plant area of Green Bay (Cleary and Brother Columban); This seems to have been Wisconsin's first wintering cormorant. Also single birds on 4 Dec. in Jefferson (Hale) and 13 Dec. in Milwaukee (Idzikowski) Cos.

Great Blue Heron: Reported for 7 counties in Dec. plus 5 Christmas counts, with one post-Christmas count record a bird with an injured foot in Dane Co. until 24 Jan. (Erickson). Eckert (*Amer. Birds*, Vol. 35, no. 3, P. 302, 1981) reports 3 January records plus another "overwintering" in Trempealeau Co.

Great (Common) Egret: One was observed by Bill Drazkowski of Winona, Minn., in Second Lake, Trempealeau Lakes Recreation Area, Trempealeau, Wis., 24 Dec. and on weekends thereafter thru 18 Jan. It frequented a strip of edge water with active springs, where it was able to catch frogs. Drazkowski photographed the bird at distances as close as 40 ft. See *By the Wayside*. Previous Wis. records for this species extend from March into November. Apparently the Great Egret is less tolerant than the Great Blue Heron.

Mute Swan: For the last decade this species has been wintering from Dec. into March on the Manitowish River below the dam in Manitowish Waters and nearby areas with open water. Residents anticipate the return of these birds, generously providing them with bread and cracked corn. The flock has grown in recent years and now averages 15-20 birds. Baughman reported a family of 5 (3 immatures) in the Manitowish River on 27 Jan. Apparently these are birds that summer in the Ashland area, approximately 60 miles away (Erdman; *Green Bay Press-Gazette*, 22 Feb. 1981). Also throughout the season in the Ashland area (Verch). Records also for Milwaukee, Waukesha and Racine Cos. (wintering?). One in Door County's Kangaroo Lake until it froze on 9 Dec. (Lukes'). A 25 pound male was transferred from Lake Butte des Morts, Oshkosh Co., to the Milwaukee Co. Zoo in Dec. (Ziebell).

Whistling Swan: Reported from 7 counties in Dec., with one in Brown Co., 17 Jan. (Peterson) the latest record.

Canada Goose: Deprted most counties by 7 Jan. Wintering reported for Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Rock (maximum 2500, Ellis) and Dane Cos. (Also Juneau and Adams?), with an estimated 20,000 in the Lake Puckaway-Grand River Wildlife Area. Migrating into Wis. on a broad front, 21 Feb. and 26-28 Feb., with several thousand in Columbia Co. by the end of the month (Smith). Reported in St. Croix Co., 20 Feb. (Polk). Migrants in Barron Co., 26 Feb. (Goff) and Forest Co., 27 Feb. (Vanderschaegen).

Brant: One flying with Canadas at Lower Mud Lake, Dane Co., 21 Feb. (Baughman). See *By the Wayside*.

Snow Goose: One wintered in Milwaukee Co. (Donald), and an injured bird wintered in Dane Co. (Erickson, Hilsenhoff). Peterson saw five in Brown Co., 17 Jan. Birds in St. Croix Co., 20 Feb. (Polk), must have been migrants.

Mallard: Wintered throughout the state, Kenosha Co. to the Ashland area. Highest numbers were 2500 in Dane Co. (Shea), 2500 in Milwaukee Co. (Idzikowski), approximately 300 in Eau Claire Co. and 130 in Chippewa Co. (Polk). A count of 1836 in Rock Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC), probably includes some migrants).

American Black Duck: Highest number on Christmas counts since 1974. Wintered in all regions of the state, the maximum number being 150 in Milwaukee Co. (Idzikowski).

Gadwall: Wintering reported only for Dane Co.; counts of 327 on 2 Jan. (Thiessen) and 475 on 24 Feb. (Shea) may indicate early migration.

Common Pintail: Wintered in Milwaukee (2 - Idzikowski), Dane (4 - Smith) and Winnebago (Tessen) Cos.

Green-winged Teal: One by the dam in downtown Chippewa Falls, Chippewa Co., 19 Feb.-EOP (Polk).

Blue-winged Teal: 3 on the Madison Christmas count, 20 Dec., and one at the Lake Mills Fish Hatchery, Jefferson Co., 25 Jan. (Hale).

American Wigeon: One wintered in Milwaukee Co. (Caspar, Donald, Gustafson), and 14 were

noted in Dane Co., 20 Jan. (Hilsenhoff) and 28 Feb. (Thiessen). One in Rock Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC), could have been a migrant.

Northern Shoveler: Wintering reported only for Milwaukee Co., with a maximum of 75 on 19 Jan. (Shea). The single bird in Rock Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC) could have been a migrant.

Wood Duck: 1-4 wintered in Milwaukee Co. (Caspar, Donald, Idzikowski). One was noted in Manitowoc Co., 24 Jan. (Sontag). Birds in Barron Co. 24 Feb. (Goff) and Brown Co. 28 Feb. (4- Cleary and Brother Columban) probably were migrants.

Redhead: Throughout the season in Milwaukee Co., maximum 7 (Gustafson, Idzikowski); wintering uncertain. Dane Co. until 14 Dec. (Smith) and 12 Feb.-EOP (Shea); maximum 25, 28 Feb. (Hilsenhoff). One wintered in Winnebago Co. (Tessen) but two in Manitowoc Co., 14 Feb. (Sontag), must have been migrants. Also several Dec. records.

Ring-necked Duck: One in Milwaukee Co. from 12 Dec. - 25 Feb. (Gustafson, Woodmansee) may have wintered. The only other post-Dec. records are for Dane Co., one on 2 Jan. (Thiessen) and one on 28 Feb. (Hilsenhoff).

Canvasback: 4 wintered in Winnebago Co. (Tessen). Noted in Dane and Milwaukee Cos. at the beginning and end of the period. December records for 2 additional counties and 3 Christmas counts excluding Madison and Milwaukee.

Greater Scaup: Wintered in Milwaukee (maximum 3000 +, Idzikowski), Ozaukee (Donald) and Door (Lukes') Cos. Noted in Manitowoc Co., 14 Feb.-EOP (Sontag).

Lesser Scaup: Wintered in the following counties: Milwaukee (2 - Gustafson), Dane (1 - Hilsenhoff), Winnebago (7 - Tessen) and Chippewa (a male by the dam in downtown Chippewa Falls - Polk). December records for 4 additional counties and 7 Christmas counts excluding Milwaukee and Madison.

Common Goldeneye: Definitely wintered in at least the following areas: Lake Michigan (M.obs.), Brown Co. (Cleary and Brother Columban), Winnebago and Outagamie Cos. (Tessen), Shawano Co. (Peterson), Marinette Co. (Lindberg), Eau Claire and Chippewa Cos. (Polk), Dane and Sauk Cos. (Erickson, Lange), and Rock County (Ellis).

Bufflehead: Wintered in 3 counties: Milwaukee and Ozaukee (Donald) and Dane (Shea). December records for 4 additional counties and 3 Christmas counts excluding Milwaukee and Madison.

Old Squaw: Wintered in 3 counties: Milwaukee (maximum 900 - Idzikowski), Ozaukee (Donald) and Manitowoc (maximum 34 on 24 Jan. - Sontag).

Harlequin Duck: One in eclipse plumage on Lake Monona by the warm water outlet of the Madison Gas & Electric Plant was noted from 14 Dec.—EOP (m.obs.). Also one in the Two Rivers harbor, Manitowoc Co., 17 Jan. (Mahlum), and a male and two females at the Sheboygan Yacht Club, Sheboygan Co., 25 Jan. (Sontag).

White-winged Scoter: On 3 Christmas counts but only one post-December record, a single bird in Milwaukee Co. from 26 Feb.-EOP (Gustafson)

Ruddy Duck: No reports later than the Christmas counts. December records for 7 counties.

Hooded Merganser: Wintered in 4 counties: Milwaukee (1 - Frank, Gustafson), Walworth (1 - Tessen), Dane (maximum 4 - Erickson) and Winnebago (Tessen).

Common Merganser: Definitely wintered in the following areas: Lake Michigan northwards at least to Manitowoc Co. (Sontag), Brown Co. (Cleary and Brother Columban), Winnebago and Outagamie Cos. ("unusually abundant" - Tessen), and Sauk (Lange) and Dane (Erickson) Cos.

Red-breasted Merganser: Wintering reported for Milwaukee and Ozaukee Cos. (Donald). 24 Jan. the latest date for Dane Co. (Erickson).

Northern Goshawk: An immature in Monroe Co. at least thru 25 Dec. and probably all winter (Epstein - documented). Also documented were immatures in Milwaukee Co., 31 Jan. and 28 Feb. (Gustafson) and Dane Co., 28 Dec. (Smith). Undocumented were single birds in Dane Co., 4 Jan. (Korotev and 18 Jan. (Shea), individuals noted all winter in Eau Claire and Chippewa Cos. (Polk), and single birds in 4 other counties.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: More records for this Accipiter than the others. Wintered in Milwaukee and Ozaukee (Donald), Door (Lukes'), Outagamie (Anderson), Eau Claire and Chippewa (Polk), and Dane (Hilsenhoff, Shea) Cos. All records undocumented.

Cooper's Hawk: Wintering in Milwaukee (Donald), probably Dane (Smith, Tessen, Thiessen), and Eau Claire and Chippewa (Polk) Cos. All records undocumented.

Red-tailed Hawk: The Christmas count total was 45% above the 1975-79 average. Wintered north to Brown (Cleary and Brother Columban), Shawano? (Peterson), Marathon (Luepkes) and Barron (Goff) Cos.

Red-shouldered Hawk: One wintered in Racine Co. (Kratz) and at least two wintered in Eau Claire and Chippewa Cos. (Polk). One in Rock Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC), and one in Burnett Co., 25 Feb. (Hoefer), may have been migrants.

Rough-legged Hawk: The Christmas count total was considerably above the 1975-79 average (110%), but numbers declined considerably by mid and late winter. The highest count was reported by Tessen: 51 at Necedah National Wildlife Refuge and Meadow Valley Wildlife Area, 31 Jan. Northernmost birds were in Douglas Co., 19 Jan. (Polk), and Marinette and Door Cos., throughout the season (Lindberg, Lukes').

Golden Eagle: One on a Christmas count in Burnett Co., 20 Dec., an immature in Douglas Co., 27 Dec. (Luepkes), an adult in Monroe Co., 4 Jan. (Epstein), and an immature in Juneau Co., 31 Jan. (Tessen) and 8 Feb. (Shea).

Bald Eagle: Northernmost counties for wintering birds were Burnett (Evrard), Barron (Goff), Chippewa (Polk) and Marinette (Lindberg). This species remained only until 19 Dec. in Marathon Co. (Luepkes), but Cleary and Brother Columban noted it in Brown Co. from 13 Dec.-Jan., and Vanderschaegen reported it in Oneida Co., 19 Jan. In Monroe Co., where this species did not winter, single adults were flying south on 2 Dec. and north on 21 Feb. (Epstein). The maximum post-Christmas count tally was 6 adults and 5 immatures in Sauk Co., 10 Jan. (Thiessen).

Northern Harrier: The same number of birds, 39 on the Christmas counts as in the previous year for a 25% increase above the 1975-79 average. Wintered as far north as Burnett (Hoefer), Barron (Goff) and Marathon (Luepkes) Cos. Also wintered in Ozaukee Co. (Donald) and apparently Washington Co. (Cleek), with mid-winter reports from 6 other counties. Five in Rock Co. and one in Columbia Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC, Shea), could have been migrants, Harriers in 6 other counties, 21-28 Feb. (m.obs.), including the Ashland area on the 21st (Verch), assumed to be migrants.

Osprey: One in Brown Co., 10-13 Feb. (Cleary and Brother Columban).

Gyrfalcon: A gray phase bird in the Duluth-Superior harbor, Douglas Co., was observed chasing pigeons near the Superior grain elevator, 14 Feb. (Leshner). A gyrfalcon was also in this area last winter (*Amer. Birds*, Vol. 35, No. 3, p. 302, 1981).

Peregrine Falcon: An immature in Clark and Marathon Cos., 7 Feb. (Follen and K. Luepke) and an immature in Wood Co., 25 Feb. (Follen). In both instances the falcon was attracted to pigeons. Both records fully documented by Follen.

Merlin: Found on 2 Christmas counts and one in Chippewa Co., 24 Jan. (Polk).

Kestrel: 277 birds on the Christmas counts for a 21% increase over the 1975-79 average. Wintered as far north as Barron (Goff), Marathon (Luepkes), Shawano (Peterson) and Brown (Cleary and Brother Columban) Cos. Also wintered in at least 12 other counties, with mid-winter reports from 7 more counties. A count of 14 in Rock Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC), must have included some migrants. Other reports also indicated migration in the latter half of Feb.

Spruce Grouse: Noted in Vilas Co. (Baughman).

Greater Prairie Chicken: Wintered in below normal numbers in Burnett Co. (Evrard). Four in Portage Co., 31 Jan. (Peterson).

Sharp-tailed Grouse: Reports for Douglas, Burnett, Taylor and Oneida Cos.

Common Bobwhite: The highest number on Christmas count since 1966. The only contributor who reported wintering was Polk for Eau Claire Co. (normal numbers).

Ring-necked Pheasant: Northernmost reports were from Burnett (Hoefer), Barron (Goff), Marathon (Luepkes) and Marinette (Lindberg) Cos.

Gray Partridge: Wintered in the following counties: Milwaukee (Idzikowski, Donald), Ozaukee (Donald), Fond du Lac (Schultz), Winnebago and Outagamie (Tessen), Manitowoc (Steffen), Brown (Cleary) and Brother Columban, Door (4 Jan.-EOP, Lukes') and Marinette (Lindberg).

Sandhill Crane: A bird whose mate apparently was shot lingered in Columbia Co. until 6 Dec. (Lange), and 7 were noted in Wood Co., 20 Dec. (*Passenger Pigeon*, Vol. 43, No. 1, p. 5, 1981). Call in the vicinity of the Leopold Reserve along the Wis. River in Sauk Co., 25 Feb. (Lange), an early date for migrants.

- Virginia Rail:** Found on 5 Christmas counts, a record, including 2 on the Ft. Atkinson count, Jefferson Co., 4 Jan. One in Dane Co. survived until at least 25 Jan. (Shea).
- American Coot:** One wintered in Milwaukee and Ozaukee (Donald), Walworth (10 - Tessen), Dane (maximum 125 on 14 Dec. - Smith) and Winnebago (3 - Ziebell) Cos. Lingered in Jefferson Co. until 4 Dec. (Hale), Manitowoc Co. until 17 Dec. (Sontag) and Brown Co. until 10 Dec. (Cleary and Brother Columban). Four in Rock Co. 15 Feb. (NHBC) - wintering birds or early migrants?
- Killdeer:** The only winter record, after the Christmas counts was a bird on 17 Jan. in Juneau Co. (Robbins). Single birds on 21 Feb. in Rock Co. (Ellis) and 28 Feb. in Milwaukee (Gustafson), Dane (Shea) and Winnebago (Ziebell) Cos. must have been migrants.
- American Woodcock:** One in Milwaukee Co. 19 Feb. (Idzikowski) was probably an early migrant rather than a wintering bird.
- Common Snipe:** Found on 8 Christmas counts, plus records for 2 locations in Monroe Co., 9 & 27 Dec. (Epstein), one in Columbia Co. 25 Jan. (Shea), one in the Ashland area 3 Feb. (Verch) and one in Jefferson Co. 15 Feb. (Hale).
- Purple Sandpiper:** Most of Wisconsin's records are from late fall. Smith added another this season, one in Milwaukee Co., 16 Dec. See **By the Wayside**.
- Dunlin:** One lingered in Milwaukee Co., 24-25 Jan. (m.obs.), and possibly one on the Milwaukee Christmas count, 20 Dec.
- Glaucous Gull:** At least 2 adults and 2 immatures in Milwaukee Co., 20 Dec.-28 Feb. (m.obs.), 2 adults and 2 immatures in Manitowoc Co., BOP-17 Jan. (Mahlum, Sontag), an individual approaching all white plumage in Dane Co., 20 Dec.-22 Jan. (Erickson, Robbins, Shea) and an immature at Alma, Buffalo Co., 12 Dec. (Polk).
- Iceland Gull:** 2 in Milwaukee Co., 24-25 Jan. (m.obs.), and possibly one on the Milwaukee Christmas count, 20 Dec.
- Herring Gull:** Wintered along Lake Michigan from Milwaukee and Ozaukee Cos. (Donald) and Manitowoc co. (Sontag) to Marinette Co. (Lindberg) and Door Co. (Lukes'), also throughout the season in Outagamie and Winnebago Cos. (Tessen). Latest date for the Ashland area, 21 Jan. (Verch). For Dane Co., noted until 1 Feb. (Smith), with the first one back on 18 Feb. (Thiessen). Maximum counts: 1500+ in Milwaukee Co. (Idzikowski), 300 on 25 Jan. in Manitowoc Co. (Sontag), 200 on 20 Feb. in Brown Co. (Cleary and Brother Columban), 323 on 20 Dec. in Door Co. (Lukes'), 80 on 3 Dec. in Winnebago Co. (Tessen) and 415 on 9 Dec. in Dane Co. (Shea).
- Thayer's Gull:** The Sundells carefully documented a bird in Milwaukee Co., 5 Jan., associated with Herring Gulls. See **By the Wayside**.
- Ring-billed Gull:** Wintered in Milwaukee (Idzikowski), Ozaukee? (18 Feb. - Frank) and Dane (Smith) Cos. All other records are from December. Maximum counts: 70+ in Milwaukee Co. (Idzikowski; 300 on 28 Feb., Gutschow, probably includes migrants), 22 on 9 Dec. in Dane Co. (Shea) and 3 in Manitowoc Co., where this species was noted until 27 Dec. (Sontag).
- Bonaparte's Gull:** Only in Milwaukee Co., 12-18 Dec. (Woodmansee, Gustafson, Frank), maximum 50 on the 13th (Gustafson).
- Mourning Dove:** Wintered northwards to Door (Lukes'), Marinette (Lindberg), Langlade (Pickering) and Barron (Goff) Cos., with above average numbers in the Ashland area (Verch).
- Common Screech Owl:** Northernmost reports from Door Co. (8 Jan., Lukes') and Brown Co. (throughout the season, Cleary and Brother Columban). Also wintered in Milwaukee (Donald), Dane (Erickson) and Fond du Lac (Schultz) Cos., with additional post-Christmas count reports from Walworth (Tessen), Jefferson (Hale) and Winnebago (Tessen, Ziebell) Cos.
- Snowy Owl:** Reported from the following counties only in the fall: Rock Sauk, Manitowoc (until 26 Dec.), Oneida, Barron and Burnett. Christmas count numbers were up from last year, 17 vs 4. Wintered in Milwaukee and Ozaukee (2), Dane (2), Fond du Lac (3-4), Winnebago (2), Door, Marathon (2) and Douglas (5) Cos. Also late winter reports from Brown (until 1 Feb.), Langlade (1 from 25-27 Feb.), Clark (2 on 6 Feb.) and LaCrosse (7 Feb.) Cos. In the Ashland area, 24 Feb.
- Great Gray Owl:** One hit by a car in Ashland Co. in Dec. (Verch) and one in Douglas Co. on a Christmas count, 20 Dec.

Long-eared Owl: Early winter reports were 3 in Clark Co., 13 Dec. (Luepkes), and 15 on 6 Christmas counts. Mid and late winter records: one with a broken wing in Iron Co., 8 Jan., released in March (Frank), one in Brown Co., 20-23 Jan. (Cleary and Brother Columban), one in Waukesha Co., 29 Jan. (Tessen) and one in Milwaukee Co., 29 Jan. (Hanbury).

Short-eared Owl: Short-eared Owl: Early winter reports: the Ashland area until 10 Dec. (Verch), 23 birds on 10 Christmas counts, and Clark Co., 2 Jan. (Robbins). Wintering in Milwaukee (maximum 7 - Idzikowski), Ozaukee (maximum 12 - Idzikowski), Brown (Cleary and Brother Columban) and Marathon (maximum 7 on 12 Jan. - Luepkes) Cos., with 6-8 in Fond du Lac Co. (Eldorado Marsh) from at least 30 Jan.-EOP, perhaps throughout the season (Schultz). One in Burnett Co., 15 Feb. (Evrard).

Saw-whet Owl: One in Sauk Co., mid-Dec. (Lange) and one during the Christmas count period at Appleton. Late winter reports: one DOR, Barron Co., 25 Jan. (Humphrey), two in Fond du Lac Co., 20 Feb.-EOP (Schultz), a fresh DOR in Manitowoc Co., 24 Feb. (Steffen) and at least 5 in Dane Co., 26 Feb., being first noted at this locality 23 Feb. (Shea).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: A female came regularly to feeders in Door Co. until 19 Dec., surviving freezing temperatures (-2 degrees F. one night) and several snowstorms (Lukes'; **Passenger Pigeon**, Vol. 42, No. 4, pages 133-134, 1980) Apparently this is the first record for a wild hummer in Wisconsin in December.

Belted Kingfisher: 60 birds on 25 Christmas counts was approximately the 1975-79 average. Wintered in Milwaukee Co. (Donald, Gutschow, Hanbury), Dane Co. (Erickson, Thiessen), along the Wis. River in Sauk Co. (Also Baxter's Hollow? - Lange) and Winnebago Co. (Tessen). Late winter reports from Kenosha Co. (26 Jan. - Bishop), Jefferson Co. 25 Jan. - Hale), Manitowoc Co. (19 Jan. - Donald) and Trempealeau Co. (7 Feb. -Leshner).

Common Flicker: Up 27% on the Christmas counts from the 1975-79 average. Wintered in Racine Co. (Kratz), Milwaukee Co. (Donald), apparently Jefferson Co. (Hale), Dane Co. (Thiessen), along the Wis. River in Sauk and Columbia Cos. (also D.L. St. Pk? -Lange), Winnebago Co. (Tessen) and Outagamie Co. (Anderson). May also have wintered in Rock, Marathon and Monroe Cos.

Pileated Woodpecker: For the third consecutive year this species showed an increase on the Christmas counts.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: A 21% increase in the Christmas count totals above the 1975-79 average, but the northern range limit remained the same (Door, Marinette, Marathon and Barron Cos.).

Red-headed Woodpecker: A big increase (108%) in the Christmas count totals above the 1975-79 average, with most birds in the southwestern quarter of the state; scarce in central and particularly northern Wisconsin. The large increase probably was in response to a good acorn crop in the fall of 1980. Wintered at least to Brown (Cleary and Brother Columban), Juneau (Halvorsen) and Barron (Goff) Cos.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Wintered in Kenosha (Bishop), Milwaukee (2 males - Idzikowski) and Ozaukee (Donald) Cos.

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: Noted on Christmas counts in Douglas, Oneida and Sheboygan Cos., one in Forest Co., 1 Jan. (Tessen) and one in Vilas Co., 23 Jan. (Baughman).

Horned Lark: Numbers were down considerably (55%) on the Christmas counts from the 1975-79 average. When indicated, maximum numbers were noted in Feb., mainly by the 15th, except for Door Co. ("big push began on 23 Jan." - Lukes') and Winnebago Co. (24 Jan. - Ziebell). Northernmost reports from Door, Langlade, Vilas, Taylor, Barron and Burnett Cos.

Gray Jay: Christmas counts and reports from the Ashland area and Douglas, Sawyer, Price, Vilas, Oneida and Forest Cos.

Northern Raven: Southernmost reports from Jackson (Harmer, Robbins), Monroe (Epstein), Juneau (Shea), Marathon (Luepkes), Shawano (Peterson) and Door (Lukes') Cos. Contrary to the statement in **American Birds** (Vol. 35, No. 3, p. 303, 1981), Necedah National Wildlife Refuge in Juneau Co. is **not** unusually far south for this species; it is listed as "uncommon" for spring, fall and winter on the Refuge's bird list, 1975 edition.

American Crow: Migration was underway by at least 20 Feb. in Taylor Co. (Robbins).

Black-capped Chickadee: Robbins noted an apparent influx by Feb. in Taylor Co.

- Boreal Chickadee:** Christmas counts and reports from Douglas, Iron, Price, Vilas, Oneida and Forest Cos.
- Tufted Titmouse:** Mid and late winter reports from Walworth, Rock, Waukesha, Dane, Iowa, Columbia, Sauk, Vernon, Eau Claire and Chippewa Cos.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch:** A big increase (65%) on the Christmas counts above the 1975-79 average. Well distributed throughout the state, although relatively uncommon in parts of southern Wisconsin. An apparent influx by Feb. in Taylor Co. (Robbins).
- Brown Creeper:** Christmas count numbers were down 14% from the average of the last 5 winters. found throughout the season in scattered areas statewide.
- Winter Wren:** 8 individuals were found on 7 of the Christmas counts. The only report of wintering came from Sontag - a bird in Manitowoc Co.
- Northern Mockingbird:** For the second consecutive winter this species was found in Brown Co. - one spent the season at a feeder and two others were at another feeder until 15 Jan. (Cleary and Brother Columban).
- Gray Catbird:** One in Brown Co. until 3 Dec. (Cleary and Brother Columban), and one on the Madison Christmas count, 20 Dec. and (Thiessen) one nearby on 31 Jan. and 1 Feb.
- Brown Thrasher:** 11 individuals were noted on 8 Christmas counts scattered throughout the state, but the only post-Christmas count reports were single birds in Dane (17 Jan., Smith) and Rock (9 Feb. - Ellis and 15 Feb. - NHBC) Cos.
- American Robin:** The Christmas count numbers were down slightly from the 1975-79 average. Wintered in Milwaukee (maximum 50 on 29 Jan., Tessen), Ozaukee (Donald), Dane (maximum 41 on 17 Jan., Thiessen), Winnebago (Tessen), Outagamie (Tessen), Brown (Cleary and Brother Columban), Door (1, Lukes') and Chippewa (1, Polk) Cos. Migrants in the southernmost counties, 15-16 Feb., and in Monroe and Jackson Cos. by 21 Feb.
- Varied Thrush:** One at a feeder in Park Falls, Price Co., 8-10 Dec. (Hardy) one in Manitowoc Co. until 24 Jan. (Sontag), one at a residence in Fox Point, Milwaukee Co., 13 Dec.-15 Jan. When it flew into a window and killed itself, feeding on cracked corn and stirring up leaf litter, roosting at night with Mourning Doves in a dogwood thicket (Frank), one at a feeder in Shawano Co., 4-14 Feb. (Peterson), one at feeders in LaCrosse, 26 Feb. and into March (**Badger Birder**), one at a feeder in Crivitz, Marinette Co., n.d. (Erdman) and one at a feeder near Grantsburg, Burnett Co., n.d. (Hoeftler).
- Hermit Thrush:** One in Milwaukee Co., 26 Dec.-8 Feb. (Woodmansee); throughout the season?
- Eastern Bluebird:** 9 on the Beetown Christmas count, Grant Co., 20 Dec.
- Townsend's Solitaire:** One in Manitowoc Co. on a Christmas count, 3 Jan.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 237 birds were tallied on the 1980 Christmas counts, down from 1979's record 392 but still 73% above the 1975-79 average. Numbers were reduced after early January but 10 wintered in Milwaukee Co. (Idzikowski). Also throughout the season in Manitowoc (Steffen), Outagamie (Tessen) and Door (Lukes') Cos.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** Single birds, 20 Dec., on 3 Christmas counts in Ozaukee, Winnebago and Grant Cos. One post-Christmas count record, a bird in Milwaukee Co., 2 Jan. (Woodmansee).
- Bohemian Waxwing:** One of the best winters in many years for this species, at least in the northern half of the state. Robbins commented "Biggest flight I can remember" for Taylor Co., where he noted flocks of up to 70 from 1 Dec.-11 Feb. Peterson in Shawano Co. reported birds from 12 Dec.-28 Feb., with a maximum of 200 on the latter date. Cleary and Brother Columban noted this species in Brown Co. from 15-23 Jan., with a maximum of 100 on the latter date. Found in 8 other counties after the end of Dec., with four birds in Adams Co., 10 Jan. (Luepkes), the southernmost record for January-February.
- Cedar Waxwing:** Wintered northwards to Door (Lukes', Donald), Brown (Cleary and Brother Columban) and Barron (Goff) Cos., and the Ashland area (Verch). Maximum counts mainly in the latter half of Feb.
- Northern Shrike:** Down considerably (54%) on the Christmas counts from the 1975-79 average. Jan. and Feb. reports from 21 counties scattered throughout the state. Numbers when noted were usually below normal.
- Starling:** Migration underway by Feb. in Taylor Co.? (Robbins).

- Yellow-rumped Warbler:** Found on 4 Christmas counts. The only wintering bird was one at a feeder on Cedarburg, Ozaukee Co. (Donald).
- Pine Warbler:** One on a Christmas count in Manitowoc Co., 27 Dec., only the second record for this species on Christmas counts. This bird was last seen on 6 Jan. (Sontag).
- Eastern Meadowlark:** Wintering reported for Ozaukee (Donald) and Brown (Cleary and Brother Columban) Cos. Steffen found it in Manitowoc Co., 12 Jan.-EOP, maximum 6 on 20 Jan. One in Dane Co., 22 Feb. (Shea), probably a migrant.
- Western Meadowlark:** One in Dane Co., 28 Feb. (Smith), probably a migrant.
- Meadowlark spp.?** Christmas counts and Manitowoc (Peterson) and Door (Lukes') cCos.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird:** A female/immature in a flock of Red-winged Blackbirds in Milwaukee Co., 29 Dec. (Gustafson).
- Red-winged Blackbird:** Wintered in the Ashland area (Verch), probably Taylor (Robbins), Marathon (1 - Luepkes), Outagamie (Anderson), Brown (maximum 14 on 14 Dec. - Cleary and Brother Columban) and Winnebago (Ziebell) Cos. Migrating and on territory, 20-24 Feb., in a number of southern counties.
- Northern Oriole:** This species is noted rarely after September. This season 2 birds lingered into Dec., a male in Door Co. until the 18th (Lukes') and one in Calumet Co. on a Christmas count, the 21st.
- Rusty Blackbird:** The only January-February record was a bird in Walworth Co., 14 Feb. (Tessen).
- Brewer's Blackbird:** Found on 2 Christmas counts (2 birds) in northwestern Wisconsin.
- Common Grackle:** Wintered in Door (maximum 5 - Lukes'), Marinette? (1 - Lindberg), Barron (Goff), Eau Claire (50 at feeders - Polk), Outagamie (Tessen), Winnebago (Ziebell), Dane (Hilsenhoff) and Milwaukee (Idzikowski) Cos. Migrants by the end of Feb., mainly the 24th thru the 28th, north to Taylor (Robbins) and Shawano (Peterson) cos.
- Brown-headed Cowbird:** Hale in Jefferson Co. noted an increase in numbers coming to feeders this winter. Other post-Christmas count reports from Racine (Kratzat) and Milwaukee (Idzikowski) Cos., where this species wintered, also one in Winnebago Co., 1 Jan.-5 Feb. (Ziebell) and 4 at a feeder in Eau Claire Co., 29-30 Jan. (Polk). 20 in Rock Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC), Vernon Co., 23 Feb. (Weber) and 2 in Dane Co., 28 Feb. (Shea) probably migrants.
- Northern Cardinal:** Jan. and Feb. records ranged northwards to Door (Donald), Brown (Cleary and Brother Columban), Langlade (Pickering), Price (15 Jan. - Hardy) and Barron (Goff) Cos.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** One during the Christmas count period in Kenosha Co.
- Evening Grosbeak:** A record number (12,885) on the Christmas counts, January and February reports from throughout the state, Bayfield to Kenosha Cos. Robbins noted an apparent influx by Feb. in Taylor Co.
- Purple Finch:** The Christmas count total (1209) was close to the 1975-79 average. Wintering usually in below normal numbers, was reported for Milwaukee (Donald), Ozaukee (Donald), Jefferson (Hale), Dane (Smith), Sauk (Lange), Door (Lukes'), Langlade (Pickering), Barron (Goff), Eau Claire and Chippewa (Polk) Cos.
- Pine Grosbeak:** 1277 birds on the Christmas counts for a big increase (144%) over the 1975-79 average, but none in southwestern or south-central Wisconsin. In Jan. and Feb. a few appeared in Dane Co. (Thiessen, Shea). Southernmost reports came from Milwaukee Co., 25 Dec.-12 Feb. (Woodmansee) and Ozaukee Co., 15 Feb. (Idzikowski). Beginning to leave by February.
- Gray-crowned Rosy Finch:** One at John and Lou Russell's feeder in Dunn Co. near Menomonie for a new state record. It was seen on 19 and 21 Feb. by the Russells and in March by Robbins and Polk. Photographed and drawn by John Russell. See **By the Wayside**.
- Hoary Redpoll:** Verch reported this species at feeders in the Ashland area, n.d. 2 were found on 2 Christmas counts in Taylor Co. January and February reports from Price Co. (2 at a feeder, 24 Jan.-28 Feb., Hardy), Eau Claire Co. 1, 2? in a flock of about 70 Common Redpolls in a weedy field, 15 Feb., Polk) and Sauk Co. (one at a feeder, 1 Feb., Erickson and WA).

- Common Redpoll:** A good winter for this species, especially in the northern half of the state. The Christmas count total (3204) was close to the 1975-79 average. Southernmost reports for Jan. and Feb. from Rock (15 Jan.-EOP, Ellis) and Milwaukee (one bird, 23-31 Jan., Gustafson, Gutschow) Cos. Beginning to leave by Feb.
- Pine Siskin:** A great season for siskins. 7887 on the Christmas counts was a record number. Reported from throughout the state for the entire season. Robbins for Taylor Co. noted a good fall migration, low numbers in Dec., an influx beginning about 23 Jan. and high numbers thru Feb.
- American Goldfinch:** 6769 on the Christmas counts was an increase (14%) above the 1975-79 average. For the season, only one contributor (Steffen) reported above normal numbers (Manitowoc Co.). All others, when indicated, reported normal or below normal numbers.
- Red Crossbill:** Relatively uncommon. Found on 12 Christmas counts scattered thru the state. January and February reports from the Ashland area (Verch) and the following counties: Vilas (Baughman), Langlade (Pickering), Clark (Robbins), Eau Claire and Chippewa (Polk), LaCrosse (Leshner), Winnebago (Ziebell) Adams (Peterson), Dane (Tessen) and Milwaukee (Gustafson). The maximum number reported after the Christmas counts was 9 in Milwaukee Co., 10 Jan. (Gustafson).
- White-winged Crossbill:** A good season for this species, although wintering was reported only for the Ashland area (Verch) and Eau Claire and Chippewa (Polk), Langlade (Pickering), Door (Donald), Ozaukee and Milwaukee (Donald) Cos. No longer found by the end of Jan. in most other counties where noted after the Christmas counts.
- Rufous-sided Towhee:** A female in Door Co., 25 Dec. (Lukes') and 5 birds on as many Christmas counts plus one during the count period in the Madison area.
- Savannah Sparrow:** One on the Lake Geneva, Walworth Co., Christmas count, 2 Jan.
- Vesper Sparrow:** 2 on the Lake Geneva, Walworth Co., Christmas count, 2 Jan.
- Chipping Sparrow:** One on the Beetown, Grant Co., Christmas count, 20 Dec., and one during the count period in the Wisconsin Rapids area. One post-Christmas count record: a bird at a feeder in Marinette Co., 10 Jan.-EOP (Lindberg).
- Field Sparrow:** A total of 9 birds on 5 Christmas counts scattered throughout the state. One record for Jan. (one at a feeder in Waukesha Co. on the 31st, Donald) and one record for Feb. (one in Rock Co., 15 Feb).
- White-throated Sparrow:** 75 were found on the Christmas counts. Wintered in Milwaukee (maximum 12 - Idzikowski), Ozaukee (Donald), Dane (maximum 6 - Tessen) and probably Taylor (1 - Robbins) Cos. The NHBC found 3 in Rock Co., 15 Feb.
- Fox Sparrow:** A total of 7 birds on 4 Christmas counts in the extreme southern part of the state. Cleary and Brother Columban reported 2 at a feeder in Brown Co. until 1 Jan., Donald noted one at a feeder in Ozaukee Co. throughout the season and Gustafson reported one in Milwaukee Co., 20 Jan.-EOP. The NHBC found 2 in Rock Co., 15 Feb.
- Lincoln's Sparrow:** One in Milwaukee Co., 17 Jan.-10 FEB. (Hanbury, Idzikowski).
- Swamp Sparrow:** A total of 49 birds on 16 Christmas counts, including 8 in one area on the Sauk City count, 2 in Walworth Co., 29 Jan. (Tessen) and one in Marquette Co., 31 Jan. (Donald) might have wintered. Throughout the season in Milwaukee Co. (Idzikowski). Apparently one wintered along a spring run in Monroe Co.; on 21 Feb. it lacked its tail (Epstein).
- Song Sparrow:** A total of 149 birds on 28 Christmas counts for a decrease of 13% below the 1975-79 average. Wintered in at least 3 southern counties (Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Dane) and Brown Co. 31 in Rock Co. and 4 in Green Co., 15 Feb. (NHBC, Peterson) and 3 in Walworth Co., EOP (Tessen) could have been migrants.
- Lapland Longspur:** A total of 343 birds on 6 Christmas counts, all in eastern Wisconsin, with 15 in Chippewa Co. until 2 Dec. (Polk) and throughout the season in Marathon Co. (Luepkes). Records for several other counties in Jan. and Feb., the northernmost being Taylor (Robbins).
- Snow Bunting:** A total of 4325 birds on the Christmas counts, mainly in northern and eastern Wisconsin, for an increase of 18% above the 1975-79 average. Post-Christmas count reports of large flocks (100 or more) from Dane (325, 18 Jan., Shea), Columbia (260, 7 Feb., Tessen), Fond du Lac (2,000, 7 Feb., Schults), Waupaca (100, 3 Jan., Peterson) and Brown (125, 18 Jan., Cleary and Brother Columban) Cos.

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By the Wayside...



Great Egret

On December 24, 1980, I was on my way to our cottage which is located near the Trempealeau Lakes Recreation Area just outside Trempealeau, Wisconsin. The road passes Second Lake and to my astonishment, I saw a large white bird which I immediately recognized as a Great Egret. Second Lake was frozen but along the north-east edge a strip of water, about ten feet wide, stays open because of the spring activity. To photograph the bird I approached thru the trees but found this unsuccessful as the bird took flight and moved about 100 feet. My second approach was in the open across the lake ice in full view of the bird. Using an eight power telephoto lens on my 35mm camera I began taking pictures at 200 feet. My final pictures were taken at 40 feet with the bird posing beautifully. Moving closer the bird took flight over the trees and out of sight. Returning each weekend thereafter, the bird was back on Second Lake thru January 18, 1981.

The bird was large - almost the size of a Great Blue Heron. Neck, body and wings were all white. The bill was yellow and the legs and feet were black. a typical Great Egret which are common along the Mississippi River in our area during the spring and summer.

The eating habit of the Great Egret during these winter months proved very interesting. The bird was able to catch large frogs with little or no trouble. I saw the bird take two frogs in less than ten minutes. Checking with Rory Vose, associate professor of biology at St. Mary's College, it was found that frogs winter in the lake bottom, but not too deep as it is necessary for them to take in oxygen. In this springs area, no frogs could be seen, but the Egret had no problem locating them for food. How this is done is part of the intriguing story and I do not have the answer.

The eating process also deserves comment. The bird walks into the water and catches the frog. The frog is held in the center of the bill above the water for a few seconds, then put back into the water and raised to head height for a few more seconds. Then back into the water and finally raised out of the water and moved to the base of the bill and swallowed. Now comes the speculation; Is the Egret in fact washing the mud from the frog that probably collected on the frog as he wintered in the muddy bottom of the lake??

Checking **Minnesota Birds**, by Janssen and Green, no Great Egret has ever over-wintered in Minnesota. In **Illinois Birds: Ciconiiformes**, by Graber, Graber and Kirk, "we have found no January records for the Great Egret in Illinois. This species is apparently much less cold tolerant than is the Great Blue Heron". (Needless to say Illinois is much to the south of us).

Bill Drazkowski

Brant

Feb. 21, 1981, 2:15 p.m., Lower Mud Lake, near McFarland, WI, a group of us (five) were observing the first large concentrations of flying geese of the year. There had been several large flocks flying over and a few smaller flocks of Snows, Blues, and Canadas on the lake. Also present were several species of ducks on the lake.

I was particularly interested in seeing my first Snows and Subspecific Blues for the year, so I kept my eyes on the smaller geese in flight. While scanning the horizon and seeing several flocks of Canadas, I noticed a smaller goose flying out of formation with a group of about 30 of the much larger Canadas. The bird being several hundred yards away, I continued to watch this particular bird and also brought the rest of the group to its attention.

Because of the overcast day, colors were hard to pick up but one could see the bird had a dark head, neck and chest. With this combination, it ruled out Blue Goose but could it be a smaller subspecies of Canada or even a mallard. I was able to rule out these two possibilities when the bird flew overhead at about 200+ feet. It definitely was not a mallard and not one of the smaller race of Canadas. One could not see the white cheek patch as they flew over, so this species was ruled out. "White-fronted Goose" was ruled out because our bird had a lighter belly and was also smaller. I did not decide on the species until after I consulted some other literature, then decided it was a "Brant".

Voice: Not heard

Habitat: Flying over lake and wetland

Comparison: With Mallard, Brant slightly larger, wingbeat not as fast; with Canada (small race), cheek patch not present; with White-fronted, smaller and had lighter colored belly.

Distance: 1/2 mile to 200 feet. 10x40 Bushnell, 40x spotting scope

Weather: Overcast, 10 MPH West wind, 30-40 degrees

Experience: None, first observation of species

Other Observers: Scot J. Baughman, Harry & Betty Shaw, Rita Babbitt, Other observers independent ID - not known.

Books, Illustrations, Advice: Peterson's New Guide, Golden

Purple Sandpiper

My brother, David and I were scanning the ducks and gulls in the waters around the Juneau Park Landfill, when a dark, medium-sized shorebird suddenly flew past below our feet along the large rocks at the base of the pilings. Both our thoughts immediately went to Purple Sandpiper, given the late date and habitat, and we hastily thumbed through the field guide for cogent field marks while running, telescope and all, to find where the bird had landed. We had no trouble finding it again about a minute later on some of the rocks farther along the pilings. Our first impressions were of a dunlin-sized, very dark shorebird - a bird which reminded me, in coloration and to some extent in actions, of some strange cross between a Surfbird and a Dipper. The bird allowed very close approach, usually flying only short distances along the rocks and leaving in its wake some very hauntingly large footprints in the freshly fallen snow. At one point, we were both standing directly above him at a distance of no more than 20 feet, having difficulty focussing our binoculars on him. The bird continued along, almost oblivious to us, pulling at algae growing on the rocks, even at times submerging a fair proportion of his body in the obviously cold water.

We watched this bird for a good 20 minutes in good lighting, and at such close distances (never more than 50 yards) we had no difficulty getting the following description of the bird's physical characteristics:

- * Build, size - medium-sized, very stocky. (Peterson's description of "portly" is apt.
- * Head, neck and throat - all a fairly uniform slate to charcoal gray. Overall, the bird was noticeably quite dark on the front and top of his body. No obvious markings (eye rings, etc) were seen on the head.
- * Bill - Fairly long and slender (similar in proportion to head size, to that of a dunlin) nearly straight, with only a very subtle decurvature at the tip. Most striking was the two-toned nature of the bill - yellow-orange at the base and very dark at the tip. The yellow-orange color accounted for about one-third of the bill's length.
- * Upperparts - the color of the upperback was basically a continuation of the slate-gray color at the head and neck but with a lovely warm, almost rusty, brown scaly pattern superimposed upon it. This type of pattern reminded me of a Baird's Sandpiper, except for the color, of course. The lower back was more of a mottled gray-brown.
- * Upper parts, pattern flight - All dark, except for 2 small white patches on the flanks (near where the tail attaches to the rump), and a mottled white pattern in the wings giving rise to indistinct wing strips. The tail was all dark.
- * Underparts - The slate-gray color of the throat thinned out on the breast and gradually became white on the belly, but also became overlaid with a gray-brown or brown color in streaking on the breast and finally as spots on the belly and sides. There seemed to be no area of any size on the entire bird which was entirely clear white.
- * Legs - Short (giving a squat and waddly appearance to the bird) and bright yellow-orange in color. I thought the color approached that of

yellowleg's legs, but my brother said he didn't think it was quite that bright (but he did agree they were definitely not green or any color approaching it).

* Call - A raspy "chweet", given upon taking flight.

The combination of size, build, overall coloration, bill length, bill shape, bill color, back pattern, and leg color left no doubt in our minds that this bird was indeed a Purple Sandpiper - a life bird for both of us.

R. Martin Smith

Thayer's Gull

Weather: Clear and bright with high, thin cirrus cloud cover in broad streaks.

Distance: As close as twelve feet to as far as approximately 1500 feet. The bird was present for most of the period of observation at distances ranging between 20 and 40 feet, except for two brief periods when the bird flew about, ranging over a considerable distance before returning. The bird was observed directly in front of, and slightly below, the observers, who were seated in a car parked at the edge of the parking lot adjacent to the yacht club harbor where Mallards and Black Ducks were being fed.

Optical Equipment: RAS Bushnell 8 X 40 binoculars in excellent condition, RHA Bushnell 7 X 35 binoculars in excellent condition.

Physical Characteristics: The bird was generally the size, shape and appearance of the Herring Gull, with the following differences observed by direct comparison with six adult Herring Gulls (all seven birds, standing or sitting on the ice or flying nearby at distances between 20 and 40 feet):

1. length slightly shorter and body size slightly smaller than Herring Gulls;
2. color of body, including tail, white (but excluding mantle, head, neck and upper breast);
3. mantle slightly darker shade of gray than pearl gray mantles on adult Herring Gulls; the slightly darker gray on the mantle of the Thayer's Gull was distinct upon careful comparison with Herring Gulls at close range in excellent light, but the degree of color difference was so slight that it did not by itself distinguish between the two species;
4. head, neck and upper breast deeply washed with medium brown, giving a pronounced hooded effect and easily separating the Thayer's Gull from the Herring Gulls: This brown wash was so deep and so constant (without any evidence of streaking) that it gave the impression that the entire anterior part of the bird had been dipped in a brown liquid);
5. eye color dark (not black, but definitely dark, perhaps brown), in striking contrast with straw-colored eyes of adult Herring Gulls (standing, at times, as close as two feet from the Thayer's Gull);
6. eye ring color dark but not black (probably dark brown); this was in contrast with the pale yellow eye ring color of the adult Herring Gulls;
7. bill color yellow with red subterminal spot on each side of lower mandible; the bill of the Thayer's Gull was slightly shorter and

noticeably more slender than the bills of any of the nearby adult Herring Gulls;

8. upper surface of primaries dark slate gray, in contrast with pitch black of primaries of adult Herring Gulls; outer tips of outermost primaries white, together with elongated white strip along outside of slate gray on second primaries, giving strong impression of more white on upper surface of wing tips than in adult Herring Gulls;

9. lower surface of primaries mostly pure white in striking contrast with pitch black undersurface of primaries of adult Herring Gulls in flight and when preening wings; very thin pale gray feather edgings toward outer edges of primaries discernible only at very close range in perfect light;

10. color of feet and legs, deep pink.

Behavior: For approximately 30 of the 35 minutes that the bird was observed, it was at rest, standing, sitting or walking about on the ice; the bird was also observed preening, briefly resting (sleeping?) and flying over the ice; the bird was loosely associated with six adult Herring Gulls and one first year Glaucous Gull, and an additional 30 Herring Gulls (about 25 adults and five first year or second year birds) were sitting several hundred feet away on the ice; two brief incidents of hostile interaction were observed when individual Herring Gulls attacked the Thayer's Gull, once when the Thayer's Gull landed on the ice, forcing it to move some distance away, and once when a Herring Gull pursued the Thayer's Gull in flight for several hundred feet.

Similar or confusing speices believed to have been eliminated by this report: Herring Gull, Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucoideus kumlieni*), Glaucous-winged Gull, Glaucous Gull.

Previous experience with this species: June, 1973, both observers at Churchill, Manitoba; June, 1975, both observers off the southern coast of Alaska; December, 1969 - December, 1980 twelve observations by RAS and three by RHS on the Niagara River between New York and Ontario; because of the unusually close range, extended length of time and excellent light, this was for both observers their most satisfying and completely convincing observation of the Thayer's Gull.

Time of writing this report: transcribed from original notes written January, 5, 1981 between 10 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

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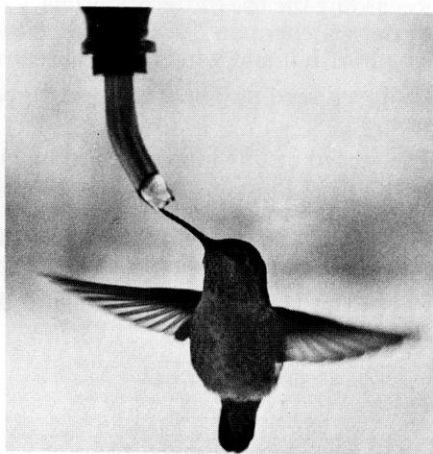
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Robert A. Sundell and Roger H. Sundell

Letters to the Editor

(Editor's Note: Last fall at a meeting of the IBBA in Texas, I ran into a young hummingbird expert from Louisiana by the name of Nancy Newfield.

*I told her about Wisconsin's first winter Ruby-throated Hummingbird, (**Archilochus colubris**). See photograph, and Passenger Pigeon, 42(4), p 133 by Roy Lukes. She asked me how did I know it wasn't a Black-chinned Hummingbird (**Archilochus alexandri**). She told me that when she started her work in Louisiana, everyone had been misidentifying wintering **A. alexandri** as **A. colubris**. Subsequently, she has convinced skeptics of this. Actually we do not have any Wisconsin records for the Black-chinned Hummingbird ever.*



Could Roy's hummer have been a Black-chinned Hummingbird? To help resolve this, I sent her an enlarged photograph sent by Roy Lukes. The following communication from her should be of interest to serious Wisconsin birders.)

Dear Dr. Kemper:

Please pardon my long delay in replying to your letter. Unfortunately, I cannot give an absolute diagnosis on the hummingbird pictured because the 10th primary and the 5th rectrix are blurred (common in hummer photos). Without these and without measurements, I cannot be absolutely certain.

Based on several other less concrete criteria, however, the bird appears to be a Ruby-throat as originally identified. The bill appears to be only about the length of the head. In Black-chinned, the bill is considerably longer. Additionally, the inner primaries are rounded terminally rather than flat. I have enclosed a sheet on **Archilochus** identification that I have developed from museum study. Another feature I use is the coloration of the underparts --whitish in Ruby-throat, grayish in Black-chinned. Behaviorally, Black-chinned is more active in feeding than Ruby-throated. At a feeder, such as the one in the picture, Ruby-throats hold their tails nearly still and even with their backs. Black-chins constantly flick their tails inward. Black-chins usually appear slimmer through the head and neck but I do not have a way to measure this. In young male birds, the coloration of the back is important. In the Ruby-throat, the back is bright emerald green, but in the Black-chinned, the back is dark, forest green and has little iridescence. It is not as pretty. This feature is only good for young males.

As an added complication, I always specifically eliminate Costa's by examining the rectrices. Even though that species is rare in western Texas and has never been recorded on the Texas upper coast or anywhere in the East, it could easily slip through unnoticed because of its similarity to **Archilochus**. All possibilities should be considered (Enclosed is a copy of a recent article

from the **Wilson Bulletin** on an extralimital Black-chinned (Wilson Bulletin 93(3), 1981, pp 405-406).

Regarding the use of the 6th primary for sexing, that is valid only for Ruby-throats (Leberman 1972, IBBA News 44:197-202). I sex Black-chins by length of bill and wing in the absence of purple gorget feathers.

I enjoyed reading **The Passenger Pigeon**. It is the nicest state journal I have seen.

The record of any hummingbird in winter as far north as Wisconsin is fantastic. Next time, it may be something other than a probable Ruby-throat. Here, Ruby-throats are outnumbered five to one by Black-chins. Numbers of Rufous and unidentifiable **Selasphorus** about equal both **Archilochus** combined. We also have a smattering of other species.

I hope this is useful. Even though it did not give you a new state record, it was a valuable exercise.

Nancy L. Newfield
3016 45th Street
Metairie, Louisiana 70001

Identification of **Archilochus** Hummingbirds

Colubris

Alexandri

Rectrix 5



Note: More strongly angled at indicated points.

Primary 6



Note: Blunter end, slightly wider

Primary 10



Note: Wider, more rounded tip. Distal end more strongly incurved.

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