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The Passenger Pigeon

Summer 1973

VOLUME 35, NO. 2

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Birds of Chippewa, Eau Claire, and Neighboring Counties

An Annotated Checklist by Charles A. Kemper

FOREWORD

These notes are written to indicate the status of birds in Chippewa and Eau Claire Counties. In numerous instances references are made to adjacent counties (Clark, Taylor, Rusk, Barron, Dunn, Pepin, Buffalo, Trempealeau and Jackson) where they may throw added light on the probable status in Chippewa and Eau Claire Counties.

In the past there have been ornithological studies of "the Birds of Wisconsin," by Kumlien and Hollister, 1903, and revised by A. W. Schorger in 1951. Hartley, HT, Jackson made a study of "the Summer Birds of Northwestern Wisconsin" in 1941 and 1943. (*Passenger Pigeon*, 3 (11): 95-98 and *Passenger Pigeon*, 5 (21): 24-35). The lower Chippewa River area was studied by Irvin O. Buss and Helmer M. Mattison and was published in 1955. A. J. Schoenebeck studied and wrote *The Birds of Oconto County* in 1902 and his notes were printed in the *Passenger Pigeon*, Vol. I, No. 6, 7. A. R. Cahn wrote "The Birds of Waukesha County" Wisconsin, *Bull. Wis. National Historical Society*, 11 (1913) 113-149. Grundwig published "On the Birds of Shiocton in Bovina, Outagamie County, Wisconsin, 1881-83", *Trans. Wis. Acad. Science, Arts and Letters*, 10 (1894-5) 73-158. John Lowe described "The Birds of Green Lake County, Wisconsin". *Bull. Wis. National Historical Society* 13 (1915) 62-87. A. W. Schorger wrote "The Birds of Dane County, Wisconsin", Part I. *Trans. Wis. Acad. Science—Arts & Letters* 24 (1929) 457-499; Part II Ibid. 26 (1931) 1-60. S. W. Willard published "Migration and Distribution of North American Birds in Brown and Outagamie Counties." *Trans. Wis. Acad. Science—Arts & Letters* 6 (1881-3) 177-196.

Hopefully these notes will serve as an ecological reference for students of environmental changes in future years. It is expected that some birds which are now rare may become common in the future. Some birds, now rare, may be headed for extinction. These notes may also serve those people whose interest in birds is just beginning, and simply want to know more about the status of local birds.

Geographically Chippewa County and Eau Claire County are located in west central Wisconsin about 90 miles directly east of the Twin Cities, Minnesota at the latitude of roughly 45° north and longitude 91° west. They are drained by the Chippewa River. Lake Wissota is the largest

body of water in the area, covering roughly 7,000 acres. It was formed in 1917 by construction of Wissota dam. Lake Holcombe in northern Chippewa County covers 4,300 acres, and was formed by the new Holcombe dam in 1951.



FIG. 1—SHOWING CHIPPEWA, EAU CLAIRE AND ADJACENT COUNTIES

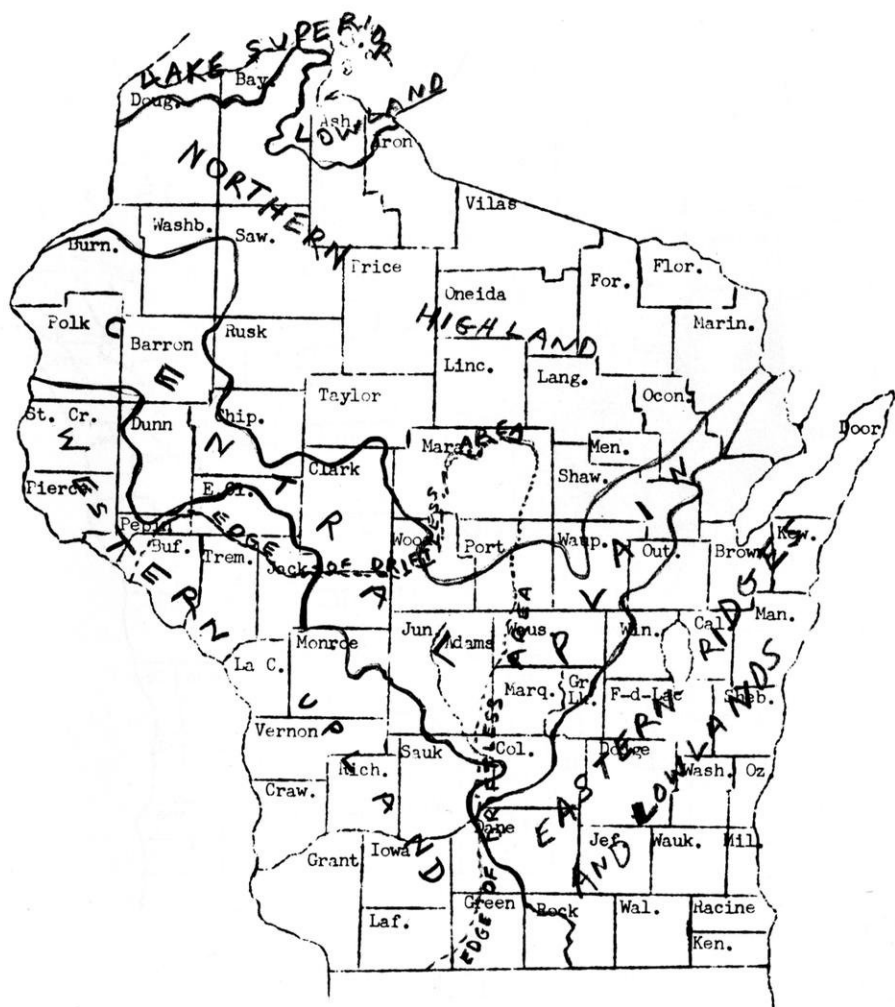


FIG. 2—THE FIVE GEOGRAPHICAL PROVINCES OF WISCONSIN
From "The Physical Geography of Wisconsin" by Lawrence Martin

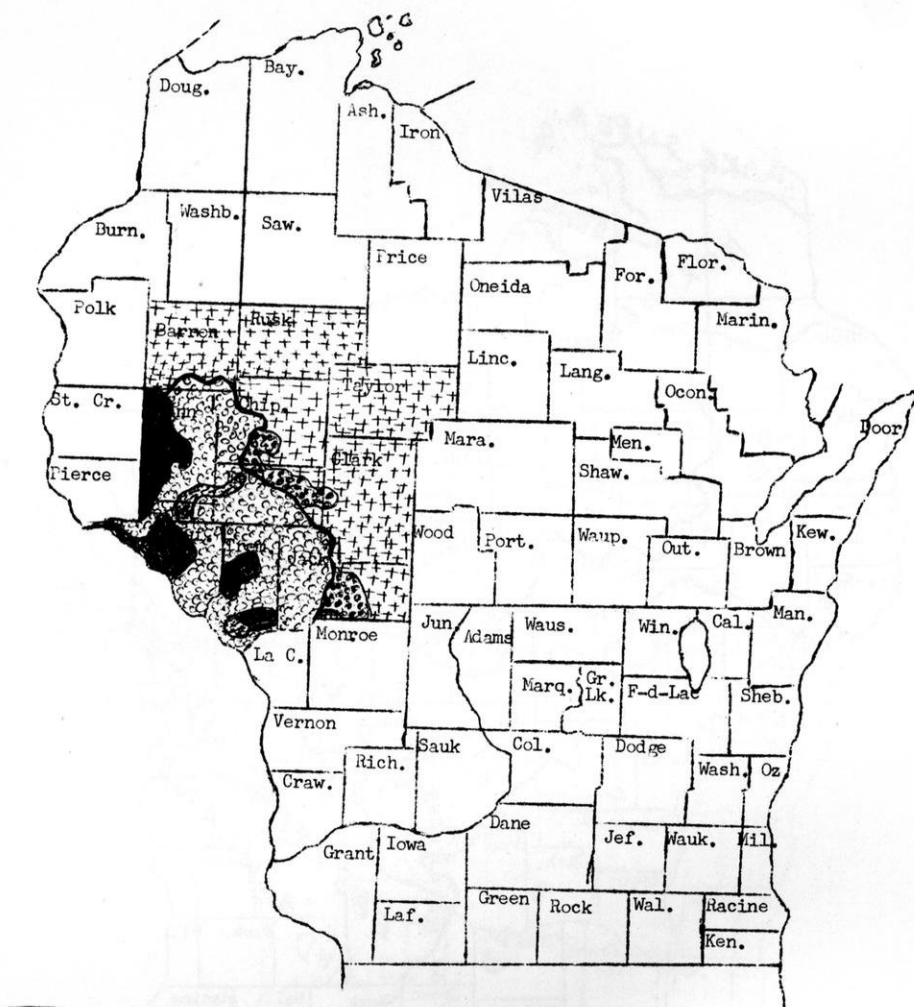


FIG. 3—MAJOR PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WISCONSIN
(CURTIS)



FIG. 4—SHADED BAND SHOWING TENSION ZONE AS ILLUSTRATED BY CURTIS

The northeastern corner of Chippewa County lies in what is referred to by geologists as the northern highland province of Wisconsin. The rest of Chippewa County lies in the Central plain. Chippewa Falls occurs at the northern edge of the Central plain, and is known as a Fall Line city.

Eau Claire is also a Fall Line city because it lies between the Central plain and the Western upland. The Western upland takes in the southern half of Eau Claire County. The northern edge of the driftless area lies on a line which runs diagonally across the southwestern corner of Eau Claire County. The Chippewa lobe of the continental glacier came down about halfway between Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls.

From Dr. Curtis's classic work on the **Vegetation of Wisconsin**, (The University of Wisconsin Press, 1959), we learn that the major plant communities found in Chippewa and Eau Claire and the immediately adjacent counties include conifer-hardwood forest, southern-hardwood forest, pine savanna, oak savanna and prairie. See figure 3. Also we learn that the two distinct floristic provinces, the prairie-forest province of southwestern Wisconsin, the northern hardwood of northern Wisconsin, and the narrow band separating these two provinces, known as the tension zone, are found. See figure 4.

The ecological implications of these geographical and vegetative studies are still under study and by no means fully clear. More botanical and ornithological work needs to be done in this regard.

Ornithologically this area is not spectacular. It lies inland, far enough from the Great Lakes and Mississippi River to be a sort of backwater from the major migratory flights of waterfowl, shorebirds, hawks and other species. But it is an area typical of much of Wisconsin. A study of its avifauna has been most interesting and rewarding and, I believe, of some significance.

My personal experience with the birds of this area extends from 1949 to the present (1973). It encompasses field observations, bird banding studies of approximately 36,000 birds of about 140 species, continuous fall and spring monitoring of birds killed at WEAU television tower since 1955. It is also enriched by help from observers on local winter and summer bird censuses. References are made to the notes of J. N. Clark as recorded in Kumlien and Hollister's **Birds of Wisconsin, A Half Century of Changes in Bird Populations in the Lower Chippewa River** by Buss and Mattison, and to innumerable references published in the **Passenger Pigeon**. I have received help from a number of local observers, particularly Sam Robbins, Paul Blanchard, Ed and Neva Reifenauer, John Kysilko, Joel and Joan Klink, Clarence Kube, Ralph Christopherson, and members of the Chippewa Wildlife Society. Paul Rudahl and his family gave immeasurable help collecting TV tower casualties. I am tremendously indebted to Sam Robbins for help in reviewing and editing these notes. In taking time from his own gigantic work on the Birds of Wisconsin, now in preparation, he has shown great generosity. His help has been invaluable. Norval and Clara Barger, Ed Peartree, the late A. W. Schorger and Walter Scott are among those who helped me. Dwain Warner, W. J. Breckenridge and Robert Dickerman gave me valuable help also.

I must also acknowledge the help and forbearance of my wife who put up with a great deal of nonsense, had to make a great many explanations to inquiring patients, and was reasonably philosophical about it all.

ANNOTATED CHECKLIST OF BIRDS OF CHIPPEWA, EAU CLAIRE & NEIGHBORING COUNTIES

Common Loon, *Gavia immer*. This is a common transient visitor that arrives on the average about April 12. Its peak of abundance in passing through is between the second week of April and early May. Loons do nest on the more remote lakes in the northern part of Chippewa County, close to the Rusk County line. I have no records in the past 23 years of any loons nesting in Eau Claire County. In previous years when there was less human habitation this might have been. The loons will be found commonly in the middle of Lake Wissota and on the Chippewa River above Jim Falls and Cornell in migration. They are seen often as the ice is just breaking. They are not generally seen again until mid-October and in transition they may be found on the large lakes and rivers up to about the third and fourth week of November.



RED-THROATED LOON

Red-throated Loon, *Gavia stellata*. I have a record for one on May 14-17, 1972. This is a bird that is not common at any time in our state. It generally is recorded on the Great Lakes in April and May. The bird was photographed on Super 8 Kodachrome film.

Red-necked Grebe, *Podiceps grisegna*, is a rare transient visitor and summer resident in Wisconsin. It has been seen in April on Lake Tainter and Lake Menomin in Dunn County (Mattison) and in the open waters of Chippewa River in winter (J. N. Clark). Personally I have no sight records for it. Sam Robbins recorded one May 3, 1970 on the Holcombe flowage in Rusk County, less than one mile north of the Chippewa County line.

Horned Grebe, *Podiceps auritus*, is a fairly common transient visitor. It generally appears about mid-April (earliest April 14, 1953) and may be seen until about the third week in May. It might not be a surprise if one showed up in the summer, but I have no summer records. It begins to appear again about mid-September, but is most common from mid-October until mid-November. A few will remain until the end of November, and there are a few very rare records for December.

I have no record for the Eared Grebe, *Podiceps nigricollis*. It is a very rare visitor and breeder in the western part of the state. Sam Robbins recorded one on May 31 - June 3, 1970 on a pond south of Ladysmith, Rusk County. Also, he reported a bird with one young on its back in St. Croix County, 1968.

Western Grebe, *Acchmophorus occidentilis*. One hypothetical sight record in the spring, May 3, 1970, but it was too fleeting to consider significant. The bird flew off as I was setting up my tripod to photograph it. This was on the Chippewa River just south of Eau Claire. It might be expected to show up as a rare transient visitor.

Pied-billed Grebe, *Podilymbus podiceps*. This is the common "hell diver" of the layman. This bird of the marsh is a very common resident and abundant migrant, spring and fall. Its earliest arrival is in late March (March 27, 1954 and 1963). Its peak of abundance in the spring is from the first week in April to May 10. The fall migration begins to pick up about the last week in September and continues all through October, and starts to taper off the first week in November. A few rare scattered Pied-billed Grebes may be seen throughout November. No records of any in December, but a cripple might be expected to be seen occasionally in December.

The White Pelican, *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*, is a very rare spring and fall transient. This bird, on its way to or from its nesting grounds out on the Dakota prairies, is not apt to be seen after a storm or unusual cyclonic disturbance that would blow it off course. One was reported to me by the game warden on large Lake Wissota above the dam in April, 1951. A solitary bird was seen on little Lake Wissota by Judge Marshall Norseng in late June, 1967. Buss and Mattison have sight records for Dunn County, August 28, 1877; May 22, 1889; June 30, 1946; July 1, 1946; April 19 - 21, 23 - 26, 28, 1950; October 5 - 19, 1952. Schorger found a reference in the Chippewa Falls Herald, April 29, 1871. Five birds were seen in the Chippewa River above Durand the summer of 1877. (Eau Claire Free Press, September 20, 1877.)

Double-crested Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax auritus*, has been referred to as an uncommon transient visitor in the Chippewa Valley, but is now considered rare. It arrives about mid-April (April 17, 1941, Rev. Toppe near Bloomer). The largest flock I saw was about 50 birds in May, 1951 on the Chippewa River between Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls which, to my surprise, alighted atop some elm trees. They also may be seen rarely in fall in flight. A flock was seen over Eagle Point on October 29, 1965 flying south. This bird is probably being affected by DDT. The state records for the bird seem to be diminishing. There are active Cormorant rookeries on the Wisconsin River in central Wisconsin.

Great Blue Heron, *Ardea herodias*. I would call this a common transient visitor and a common summer resident. It arrives in this immediate area in late March or early April (earliest March 24, 1962). Its numbers pick up about the first week in April until about the first week of May and then taper off. Summer birds can be seen farther north in Chippewa County and in the more remote parts of Eau Claire County. The peak of fall migration is in the last week of August and continues through the third week in October. This species has been subject to persecution from farmers (who have raided the rookeries with the mistaken idea that the herons are a threat to young lambs), from owners of fish hatcheries who resent all herons and kingfishers, from jealous fisher-

men and from vulgar vandals, who love to destroy most anything. These birds nest in colonies generally in tall stands of maple, pine or tamarack.

Green Heron, *Butorides virescens*, is a common summer resident. It arrives later than the Great Blue Heron. The earliest I have seen it was May 2, 1953; average, May 8. I have never seen it beyond the third week in September in this area. However, Robbins reported one on September 28, 1972, near Eagleton. Unexpectedly, it has nested in pine groves just off of Lake Wissota near the Wissota dam. They are not uncommon. While they nest in colonies, they seem to feed solitarily — they have their own feeding territories.

Great Egret, *Casmerodius albus* (previously called Common or American Egret). This bird is just beginning to extend its range into the Chippewa-Eau Claire area in the past six or seven years, and its numbers are very few. It arrives in southern Wisconsin about the first week in April and may be seen as late as mid-October. I first saw it on September 8, 1961 below the Main Street bridge in Chippewa Falls. The first spring record I have is April 21, 1962 by a slough north of Jim Falls. I have no summer records to date. Lawrence Johnson reported in the *Passenger Pigeon*, Vol. XI, April, 1949, p. 58, seeing a dozen egrets at Lake Menomin at Menomonie in 1942.

Black-crowned Night Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*. I have thought I have seen it flying on one or two occasions over the Chippewa River, but they were never directly verified. However, Sam Robbins has recorded it regularly from May 5-16 in Chippewa County. Most of these were night migrants. One sighting was in the Paint Creek area of Chippewa Falls.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron, *Nyctanassa violacea*. While there are no records for this immediate area, birds have summered along the Mississippi River in Pierce and LaCrosse Counties within the past ten years.

American Bittern, *Botaurus lentiginosus*, is a common bird in the marshes and may be the most abundant of all our heron family. It arrives as early as April 15 (1960). It is usually well established by early May. It generally nests in the marshes, but is found feeding by lakes and streams. It generally remains in our area until about mid-October. One exhausted emaciated bird was picked up alive on the Cadott school playground on December 7, 1970, and brought to me by Sam Robbins. It died the following day.

Least Bittern, *Ixobrychus exilis*. I have found but one in a marsh in Chippewa County in mid-summer. It has been reported a couple of times by Buss from Elk Lake and upper Lake Menomin in Dunn County in dense stands of bullrush and cattail. I would not be surprised if it does occur in some of the marshes in Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties in suitable habitat. It might be expected to be seen during the summer months. One was seen by Sam Robbins on May 31, 1970 in the Fisher River marshes north of Holcombe.

Whistling Swan, *Olor columbianus*, is a common spring migrant and common fall migrant. Its arrival has not been noted before late

March (March 26, 1961) through about the first week in May. Its peak of abundance is in the first three weeks of April. It is most commonly seen in the spring after a severe snowstorm or thunderstorm. I remember one occasion when they were quite abundant in the Chippewa Falls, Menomonie and Eau Claire areas. It returns from the Arctic breeding grounds in mid-October through November, and even occasionally into December. Studies show that our swans generally winter on the middle Atlantic coast. I photographed a swan on the Chippewa River just south of Chippewa Falls on February 2, 1968.

Canada Goose, **Branta canadensis**, is a common transient visitor, a rare summer resident, and a rare winter resident. This bird generally arrives at the end of March (earliest March 17, 1957) and is quite abundant, reaching its peak of abundance in mid-April. Its fall migration begins around September 20, but peaks about the last three weeks in October and the first few days in November. They may be seen any season of the year. Some of the Canada Geese that stay around Eau Claire on the river all winter, appear to be the giant Canada Goose, **Branta canadensis maxima**.

White-fronted Goose, **Anser albifrons**. A sight record in May, 1954, of a lone goose in a pond on a grain field in the Chippewa River valley just about five miles south of Jim Falls. This is the only sight record I have in over twenty years of observation.

Snow Goose, **Chen caerulescens**, appears to be a fairly common transient visitor in the fall, rare in the spring. It can be looked for from early April until around the middle of May. It arrives again in the fall in the last days in September, reaches a peak about mid-October, and is seldom seen after the middle of November.

The Blue Goose is the dark morph and no longer officially considered a separate species.

Mallard, **Anas platyrhynchos**, is an abundant migrant and a quite common summer resident. It is common in fall and is almost abundant in the winter, particularly along the Chippewa River in downtown Eau Claire, along the College campus and in Carson Park where a pond is kept ice-free by artificial air pumping. These are a mixture of semi-domesticated Mallards and wild Mallards. Birds nest commonly on the campus and along Putnam Drive in the woods by the campus.

Black Duck, **Anas rubripes**, is less common than the Mallard in the Eau Claire - Chippewa area. A few are generally seen in the winter with the wintering Mallard populations, but these are at the ratio of one to one hundred if that high. They are extremely rare in summer.

Gadwall, **Anas strepera**, is perhaps the least common of all our regular migrating ducks. It generally arrives in this area about mid-April (earliest April 9, 1943, Toppe). It departs in early May. In fall we have seen it the second half of October and less commonly into November. I remember a large flock of Gadwalls in 1962 on October 14 near Nelson, Buffalo County. They are apparently more common on the Mississippi River.

Pintail, *Anas acuta*, is a common transient visitor and an uncommon summer resident in our area. The Pintail returns generally in mid-March. The peak of migration is in mid-April and extends up to about the first week in May. A few Pintails possibly nest in area marshes. Migration in the fall hits its peak in the last two weeks of October and the first week in November.

American Green-winged Teal, *Anas crecca carolinensis*, is a fairly common transient visitor, uncommon in the summer, and I have seen it only once in the winter, December 2, 1953. It generally arrives in late March and reaches its peak in mid-April. Birds are generally paired when they arrive. I have no nesting records, but I expect a few may nest in the marshes in Chippewa and Eau Claire Counties. Fall migration extends from about mid-September through October and into early November.

Blue-winged Teal, *Anas discors*, is a far more abundant visitor and summer resident than the preceding. There are no winter records for Chippewa or Eau Claire. The bird arrives about the first of April and its peak is about mid-April, extending into the first week of May. The fall migration peaks in the second half of September. With the opening of duck hunting season, populations are rapidly flushed out. By October 10 most of the Blue-winged Teal are gone.

American Wigeon, *Anas americana*, is a common transient visitor. I suspect there may be some summer residents, but I have never seen one, and I have never seen any after mid-November. The Widgeon arrives with the Green-winged Teal about the first of April and peaks about the third week in April through the first week in May. The fall peak is in the last half of October and the first few weeks of November.

Northern Shoveler, *Anas clypeata*, is a fairly common migrant and a very uncommon breeding bird in the Chippewa River area. This is a bird of the plains. It arrives a little bit later than the American Widgeon. It arrives usually in early April (earliest March 31, 1967) and does not peak until about the second week of April. It remains through April until about the first ten days of May. Then it disappears until about the first week in October. It remains to about the first week in November. In very wet summers this bird breeds on prairie marshes. A pair was seen throughout June, 1973 in Hallie Township.

Wood Duck, *Aix sponsa*, is one of the most common resident ducks in the Chippewa valley in the Eau Claire - Chippewa Falls area. It makes its nest in the bottom lands along the river and is highly dependent upon the Pileated Woodpecker for nesting sites. It also has benefited by bird boxes from 4H and other conservation groups. In this particular area I have no winter records, but it does winter rarely in southern Wisconsin. It begins to appear about the first week in April, hits its peak in mid-April. It departs about the last week in October and the very first few days in November. It peaks between mid-September and mid-October.

Redhead, *Aythya americana*, has decreased in numbers in recent years. It is seen in the spring more than fall. It is far less numerous than the other river ducks. It is seen commonly on the river from Eau Claire

to Cornell in company with Scaup and Ring-necked Ducks. It arrives generally in early to mid-April (earliest April 6, 1955) and departs in mid-May. It returns the first week in October and may remain through November. The bird is much more wary in the fall during the hunting season when sight observations are less common.

Ring-necked Duck, *Aythya collaris*, is a very common migrant. It is seen sometimes in the thousands on the river. It is not quite as abundant as other Scaup. It arrives about mid-March and peaks about the first of April through mid-April, peaks again in fall — the first week of October to mid-November. I have a very few summer sight records of Ring-necked Duck along Lake Wissota.

Canvasback, *Aythya valisineria*, has a status similar to that of the Redhead, but is less common. It has likewise decreased in numbers in the last twenty years. It arrives in early April (earliest April 2, 1958), peaks rapidly, and generally remains until about the third week in April, occasionally about May 1. Returns in the fall, about the last week of October, and may be seen through the last of November. A most unusual male spent the summer of 1972 just above the Jim Falls dam.

Greater Scaup, *Aythya marila*, a species that favors large bodies of water, is not common on the Chippewa River as is the Lesser Scaup, *Aythya affinis*, which arrives about the same time as the Greater Scaup. The Lesser Scaup, because it is more abundant, usually has earlier sight records for arrival. It generally arrives early in April (earliest March 26, 1963), peaks the last weeks of April. In fall it arrives about mid-October and peaks about the last of October through mid-November. There have been a few summer sightings.

Common Goldeneye, *Bucephala clangula*. The Goldeneye is a common winter resident. There are a very few scattered summer records in the remote parts of Chippewa County and neighboring areas. This is a tree nesting bird, like the Wood Duck, but I have no nesting records. It arrives in early November and remains throughout the winter until about the first of May. It congregates in the late afternoon during the coldest weather, below the dams.

Bufflehead, *Bucephala albeola*, is generally more common in the spring. You rarely see it over winter. It arrives about the first week in April (earliest April 2, 1958 and 1968). The peak of abundance spans the second and third weeks of April. It departs about the first week of May and returns about mid-October. The peak of abundance is from the last days of October through the last three weeks of November. Sam Robbins reported a male above the Cornell dam in 1970 through July 11, and probable thereafter. This is the only known summer record for Wisconsin.

Oldsquaw, *Clangula hyemalis*. Very rare winter visitor. I have never seen it myself in Chippewa County. Robbins saw one on the Holcombe flowage, southern Rusk County, November 7, 1970. Toppe reported one in Chippewa County on March 29, 1943. Mattison saw two pairs in Dunn County on Lake Menomin on March 24 - 29, 1943.



White-winged Scoter, *Melanitta deglandi*. The only ones I have seen in Chippewa County have been a few specimens presented to me by hunters. The first was an adult female shot on Long Lake October 26, 1957, by Luther Johnson. A second was shot by Bill Tilbury on October 25, 1957, at the same site. A third was on November 2, 1968, shot by Ken Brist.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (Shot at Long Lake)

Surf Scoter, *Melanitta perspicillata*. A pair seen on Lake Wissota is my only sight record in this area. The pair remained for two days. These were photographed on Super 8 movie film, through a long lens from a half mile distance on November 2, 1968. They remained until November 9. Sam Robbins reported a sighting on Lake Menomin, Dunn County, on May 24, 1963.

Black Scoter, *Melanitta nigra*. One was present with the Surf Scoters noted above November 2 - 9, 1968. It too was photographed.

Ruddy Duck, *Oxyura jamaicensis*, is irregular and uncommon in the Chippewa Valley area. It arrives about the first of April, and stays until the first few days in May. I saw two males courting a female throughout June, 1973. This is my only summer record, and is no doubt due to the very wet spring. It returns in fall about mid-October and peaks in the last half of October and the first half of November. No records beyond that date in mid-November.

Hooded Merganser, *Lophodytes cucullatus*, is a fairly common river duck particularly in the spring. It arrives about the third week in March and peaks about the first of April through the third week in April. Sam Robbins has two summer records for the Hooded Merganser, one on August 5, 1970, three on July 18, 1972, near Jim Falls. I saw a female with eight downy young near Town Line Lake on June 23, 1962. The peak is from mid-October until mid-November, and I have very rare December records, December 23, 1967, and December 27, 1970.

Common Merganser, *Mergus merganser*, is a common transient visitor and a rare winter visitor. A few individuals may be seen with flocks of Goldeneyes beginning about the first of March. They pick up in mid-March through the middle of April. The return flight begins the first week of October and goes almost through mid-November.

Red-breasted Merganser, *Mergus serrator*, is a less common transient visitor than the Common Merganser and is less common in any season.

I have no winter records. It arrives about the last of March, peaks in abundance about the first week in April and is last seen about the first few days of May. Returns about the first week through the third week in November. I have a few winter sight records on the river where there is open water.

Turkey Vulture, *Cathartes aura*, is an uncommon transient. It arrives about early April (earliest April 6, 1962) and stays through the month. I have no summer records. One was seen in Taylor county on July 7, 1972 by James Evrard. In fall it migrates from mid-September through October 10. This bird is more common to both the east and west of here. One shot in April, in the town of Wheaton in 1961, was mistaken for a crow. It was wounded badly. I nursed it back to health, but it did not regain its ability to fly. I presented it to the local zoo, where it eventually died.

Goshawk, *Accipiter gentilis*, is an uncommon winter visitor. It may possibly nest occasionally in the remote forests of northern Chippewa County. Francis Zirrer found it nesting in northwestern Rusk County, 1933 - 1936 (*Passenger Pigeon* 9, 1947:1949). Sam Robbins and I saw one flying south of Cornell Lake on July 7, 1973. In my experience, it is most commonly encountered in the winter time. I would also say its peak migration is between mid-October and early November. I have a few sight records about April 1, but it is never abundant at any time except in the fall when one might occasionally see a flight of Goshawks along with Sharp-shinned and Coopers, which are far more abundant. The fall of 1972 witnessed an extraordinarily large migration of Goshawks into Wisconsin.

Sharp-shinned Hawk, *Accipiter striatus*, is a common migrant during spring and fall. Its spring flight is between April 10 and May 10. It returns in September and remains through mid-October. Personally I have no nesting records of the Sharp-shinned Hawk, but I suspect it does nest in this area. Sam Robbins found one near Augusta on December 20, 1971, and January 1, 1973.

Cooper's Hawk, *Accipiter cooperii*, is an uncommon summer resident, fairly common in the fall and spring. It has declined in numbers in recent years. The peak of abundance is about the first of April to about April 25 and its peak of abundance in the fall is between the last week of September and the last week in October. We have found it twice on Chippewa County Christmas Counts in twenty years.

Red-tailed Hawk, *Buteo jamaicensis*, is the most common of our buteos. It is a year-round resident. The peak of abundance is the first week in March through the middle of April and from mid-September through the third week of November. It is the most common buteo that we see on winter censuses. Several subspecies or races of *Buteo jamaicensis* occur in Chippewa County. The frequency of these is still uncertain. I have the following records:

A specimen was found shot and attached to a fence in Anson in 1955. This was sent to the Minnesota Museum of Natural History. It was an immature, sex ?, subspecies *borealis*, and on May 16, 1954 near Chippewa City; Norval and Clara Barger and I saw a very pale hawk which we

thought was Krider's **B. j. kriderii**. I have seen similar birds in spring on numerous occasions.

On April 8, 1956, I had an excellent look at a melanistic Red-tailed Hawk in Lafayette Township. In February, 1959, a Western Red-tailed Hawk, **B. j. calurus**, was shot by children in Tilden. It was sent to Helmut Mueller, who identified it.



WESTERN RED-TAILED HAWK

Red-shouldered Hawk, **Buteo lineatus**, has noticeably declined in numbers in the last twenty years. Why, I don't know. This is a bird that will nest in the tall trees along the river. We perhaps are getting near the northern edge of this bird's nesting range in the Chippewa and Eau Claire area. It is more common between Eau Claire and the Mississippi than it is from Eau Claire northward. I have seen it nesting in maple trees right alongside the river. I haven't seen a nest locally in the past ten years.

Broad-winged Hawk, **Buteo platypterus**, is a common migrant and fairly common summer resident, particularly in the northern part of Chippewa County. It nests in the coniferous forest. The flights of Broad-winged Hawks, in surprising numbers, sometimes can be seen in mid-September until the first week in October. In spring — observations have been from April 25 through the first three weeks of May.

Swainson's Hawk, **Buteo swainsoni**. Buss mentions a sight record south of Eau Claire and there have been occasional sightings by J. N. Clark in the late 1800's. He also secured a specimen in December, 1886, in Dunn County. Sam Robbins reported one west of Cadott on August 25, 1968. I saw a dark phased adult flying over my banding area on June 6, 1973. This hawk of the plains might be expected occasionally in the counties immediately to our west.

Rough-legged Hawk, **Buteo lagopus**, is a common transient visitor, occasionally seen in the winter, never in the summer. Its peak of abundance is from the first week in March through the second week in April, and in the fall it is expected to peak about mid-October through mid-November.

Golden Eagle, *Aquila chrysaetos*, is extremely rare. No recent records for our immediate Eau Claire - Chippewa area. The closest area would



GOLDEN EAGLE

be just south of Durand where, on Christmas Counts, several have been sighted and also farther south toward Alma. A bird wounded by a shotgun in Trempealeau County in November, 1972, is being treated by me at this time. There are winter records for Rusk and Jackson Counties. Kumlien and Hollister in 1903 reported that Milton College Museum contains a gigantic female which attacked a man who was carrying a deer upon his back in Chippewa County in 1874.

Hartley Jackson reported a Golden Eagle was trapped in a wolf trap "a short distance" north of Holcombe in January, 1918, and was kept alive a week or ten days before it died: was examined as a mounted specimen in the Holcombe Hotel. (*Passenger Pigeon*, Vol. III, No. N, p. 96, 1941.)

Bald Eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, is an uncommon but regular transient visitor along the Chippewa River, and it is a winter resident



AUTHOR AND WOUNDED BALD EAGLE

below the dams along the Chippewa River wherever there is open water, as far north as Cornell. Almost every dam has one or two wintering eagles below it that feed on the fish that are killed or injured as they go through the turbines. No nests for Eagles have been found in Chippewa County in recent years, but I have sight records for a pair of eagles twenty miles north of Chippewa Falls at Marshmiller Pond on the surprising late date of June 1. An immature bird was reported on June 23, 1972 northwest of Cornell. One was seen on June 25, 1972, on O'Neil Flowage, Chippewa County.

An adult was observed in the Popple Lake area between July 7 - 21, 1954. They do nest rarely in the Chequamegon National Forest, north of Chippewa County. No doubt in previous years they were more abundant in all of Wisconsin. There is an increase in numbers about the first week in December through the first week in April.

Marsh Hawk (Harrier), **Circus cyaneus**, was a common summer resident and migrant in the Chippewa area, but this bird too has dropped alarmingly in numbers in recent years. It will be seen in the winter time, only if there is an absence of snow on the ground, which is not very often in this area. It returns with the melting of snow, generally reappearing the last week in March. It nests in marshes and savannas in our locality. Sightings have been made in every month of the year.

Osprey, **Pandion haliaeetus**, is by no means as common as it once was. It is a transient visitor and it nests in northern Chippewa County in favorable habitat. The spring flight begins about the first week in April (earliest March 24, 1962). It may be observed flying over the river and feeding in the river through April and the first week in May. Its peak flight in the fall is between the third week in August to the end of September (last, September 25, 1954).

Peregrine Falcon, **Falco peregrinus**, is an extremely rare transient and more apt to be seen in mid-April and mid-October. I have three records, one September 23, 1954 over Irvine Park in Chippewa Falls, and April 5, 1962, flying north over my farm at dusk, and one flying over Lake Wissota on April 29, 1973. They formerly nested on the Mississippi bluffs in Buffalo and Pepin Counties.

Merlin, **Falco columbarius**, is regarded as an uncommon transient visitor. I think the status of this bird is on the decrease, but it has never been common. The extreme dates would be about April 10 - May 5, August 25 - October 20.

American Kestrel, **Falco sparverius**, is a common transient visitor, a common summer resident and an uncommon winter resident. The peak flight is from the third week in March through the third week in April, and from the first week in September through the last week in October.

Spruce Grouse, **Canachitas canadensis**. This species suffered a drastic decline with the heavy lumbering in Wisconsin about the turn of the century. The closest current reports I know of come from Sawyer County from deer hunters. However Walter Scott in the **Passenger Pigeon**, Vol. V, 1943, p. 66, reported "a few birds were reported to be located in T32N, R8W, Chippewa County in 1931". Seven were reported by Dugdale in the Blue Hills Country of Rusk County in October, 1948. This is considered an endangered species.



Ruffed Grouse, **Bonasa umbellus**, is a common year-round resident. Numbers fluctuate from year to year.

RUFFED GROUSE

Prairie Chicken, *Tympanuchus cupido*. This was once a common bird in this area, but now is probably extinct. One was seen with a flock of Sharp-tailed Grouse on the Pershing Wildlife Area in 1970, Taylor County. John Kysilko photographed a flock of thirty-nine at his farm seven miles northeast of Cadott in February, 1939. They disappeared about 1951 at his farm.



PRAIRIE CHICKEN

Sharp-tailed Grouse, *Pediacetes phasianellus*, cannot be found ordinarily along the river bottoms in Chippewa or Eau Claire, but as one gets to the northern part of Chippewa County one finds it more commonly in the cut-over brushy areas in the back forties of the poorer farms. Mr. J. N. Clark wrote that it was "quite common up to about 1885, but now (1902) becoming very rare".

Bobwhite, *Colinus virginianus*, is a year-round resident, and its numbers fluctuate from year to year. It is more commonly found in the limestone and sandstone areas; they seem to require this kind of soil. Southern Chippewa County is about at the northern edge of its range. Paul Blanchard and I heard one June 30, 1973, 5 miles north of Bloomer.

Ring-necked Pheasant, *Phasianus colchicus*, is a year-round resident. It is not native, but introduced. For some reason it does not fare as well in this area as it does in the southern and eastern parts of Wisconsin.

Gray Partridge, *Perdix perdix*, is extremely rare in this area. I did see a covey of Gray Partridges one winter, 1962, near Fairchild. That is the only local sight record I have. Apparently there have been some unsuccessful attempts by the DNR to stock these birds locally.



SANDHILL CRANE

Sandhill Crane, *Grus canadensis*, is extremely rare in this immediate vicinity. I have two sight records for Chippewa County, and one April 26, 1972, over Eleva. One was photographed in Hallie Township in May, 1971. One was seen flying in October, 1957, by Mrs. Glen Fisher. It does nest in remote parts of Jackson County, and in Burnett County. It may be looked for in April and October in migration.

King Rail, *Rallus elegans*. I have never seen one in this area, but it has been reported by Buss on two occasions in the lower Chippewa Valley. Its range does not quite extend this far north. Robbins heard one on June 4, 1971, in the Bear Bluff marshes, east of Millston in Jackson County.

Virginia Rail, *Rallus limicola*, is a fairly common transient visitor and fairly common summer resident. Records run from May 12, 1960, through October 27, 1954. The peak of abundance is in the fall from the first week in September through the first week in October. In the spring, it is most often found the first ten days of May.

Sora, *Porzana carolina*, is more common than the Virginia Rail. It arrives about the same time as the Virginia Rail and departs about the same time. It nests in the marshes.



YELLOW RAIL

Yellow Rail, *Coturnicops noveboracensis*, is an extremely secretive bird. It has been identified by sound in the marshes. I have not seen it alive. Sam Robbins and I heard its distinctive clicking notes on May 17, 1969, in the Hallie hunting grounds in a large marsh there. It also is seen in the fall as a casualty from colliding with the TV tower. Resume of tower kill records are October 3, 1962 (1); September 5, 1961 (2); September 25, 1972 (1); September 22, 1971 (2).

Common Gallinule, **Gallinula chloropus**. I have one probable sight record early June, 1971, for this area, a bird in a marsh about ten miles southwest of Eau Claire, reported by Paul Blanchard.

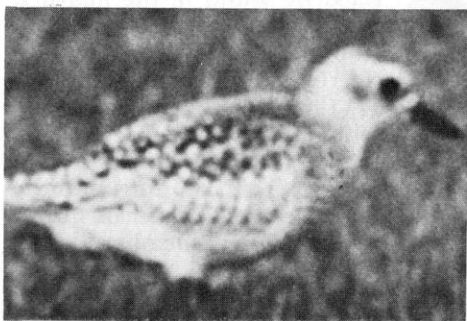
American Coot, **Fulica americana**, is an abundant visitor in the spring and fall, rarely over winter. It arrives in mid-March, migrates in great numbers in late March and throughout April. It nests in marshes and potholes. The peak of abundance in the fall is the first week in September through the first few days in November.

Semipalmated Plover, **Charadrius semipalmatus**. This is a fairly common migrant in the Chippewa - Eau Claire area. It arrives generally around mid-May (earliest May 1, 1967). The peak of abundance is about May 18 and May 23. It disappears from our area by the end of May and does not return again until the end of July. It is not uncommon at all throughout the last two weeks of August and uncommonly into the last two weeks of September, in areas of good habitat, such as flooded fields, sewage waste disposal areas, along shores and mud flats.

Piping Plover, **Charadrius melodus**. There is one fragmentary record for the County. Sam Robbins recognized its call when it flew over Cadott one spring night in May, 1969. While the identification of this is probably correct, the evidence is too unsubstantial for such a rarity to be accepted. However it must, in my judgement at least, be mentioned.

Killdeer, **Charadrius vociferus**, is an abundant transient visitor, and breeder. It arrives as early as March 19 (1954), with average date of arrival, March 26. It remains all summer and departs toward the end of October. My latest date is October 31, 1955. The peak of abundance in fall is the last two weeks of September and the first week of October.

American Golden Plover, **Pluvialis dominica**, is an uncommon transient visitor, seen more often in the spring than in the fall. It arrives in late April (April 17, 1963) in the Chippewa area, and may be seen as late as the last week in May. It returns in the fall in much fewer numbers, (at this time the Black-bellied Plover is more common), but it can be about the end of October. An extremely early one was seen at Jim Falls on August 2, 1972.



Black-bellied Plover, **Pluvialis squatarola**. This bird is an uncommon transient visitor. It generally arrives in this area in early May (earliest April 17, 1963). Its peak of abundance is between the third and fourth week of May, and it disappears the first few days in June. It returns in mid-August and may remain through October. The peak is between mid-September and mid-October.

FALL BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER

Ruddy Turnstone, *Arenaria interpres*, is a rare visitor in this area. On May 22 - 23, 1963, a small flock was seen in a flooded field in Hallie Township. It is far more common in the eastern part of Wisconsin where flocks occur in the hundreds in late May. Its favorite habitat is along rock beaches. It could be expected anytime in May from the first week onward through the first few days of June. I have no fall records.

Woodcock, *Philohela minor*, is a common resident in this area. It is irregular in abundance; it prefers seemingly cut over damp places, alder thickets preferably. My earliest sighting was April 2, 1960. The peak of abundance is throughout April. Fall migration is abundant through the last week in September throughout October. They are last seen in early November.

Common Snipe, *Capella gallinago*, is a common migrant and common summer resident nesting in marshes. It generally arrives in early April or late March. It hits a peak of abundance the last week of April and the first week in May, and again its peak of fall abundance is from the last week of August through September and mid-October. A few are occasionally seen in November. I have no December records.

Upland Sandpiper, *Bartramia longicauda*, old name, Upland Plover, is, in my observation, a very uncommon summer resident. It arrives as early as April 25, 1971 (Robbins). The latest record I have is August 5, 1955, in Hallie Township, Chippewa County. Buss and Mattison have cited seeing six August 15, 1949, two miles east of Menomonie.

Spotted Sandpiper, *Actitis macularia*, is a common transient visitor and a common summer resident. It arrives in late April (April 25, 1954, is the earliest date I have); its abundant peak is about from May 6 until May 24. The latest departure date I have is September 22, 1953.

Solitary Sandpiper, *Tringa solitaria*, is a common transient visitor. It seems to be more solitary in the spring. Its spring arrival is in late April through May and into June. It returns in early July (July 3, 1955) and is quite abundant through August and early September. It remains until the last week in October in parts of Wisconsin, but in this area I have no records beyond September 23, 1957.



WILLET

Willet, *Catoptrophorus semi-palmatus*, is a rare transient visitor in any part of Wisconsin. I have one spring record for Chippewa County. That was in a flooded area just south of Chippewa Falls on May 20, 1968. It was carefully photographed on movie film at close range.

Greater Yellowlegs, *Tringa melanoleucus*, is a fairly common migrant. It arrives generally the first week in April (the earliest record was March 31, 1967), remains through early June. I have seen it as late as June 6, 1956. Some Greater Yellowlegs return as early as July 11, and may remain through mid-October. The peak of abundance however on the fall flight is through September, and the first few days of October. Latest record I have is October 26, 1954.

Lesser Yellowlegs, *Tringa flavipes*. This is another common migrant. It arrives about the first few days of April, builds up in numbers during the last half of April through the first three weeks of May. It remains as late as the first week in June. I saw a pair in Hallie Township on June 22, 1973. One can only guess if these were north or south bound migrants, or if they were simply stragglers. Like the Greater Yellowlegs it may return in early July (July 2, 1955) and it may remain until late October, but its peak abundance is seen throughout August and September. Suitable habitat is almost any wet grassy area or along shallow water, and sometimes in mowed fields. They may assemble in flocks of several hundred.

Red Knot, *Calidris canutus*. This is one of the rarest of our shore birds. Have only one record for Chippewa County; three seen near Jim Falls on August 18, 1972 (Robbins).

Pectoral Sandpiper, *Calidris melanotos*, is a very common migrant. It is found in wet meadows, rain pools and grass lands, along grassy shores of ponds and rivers, or open mud flats. April 6, 1954, is the earliest date I have seen it. It generally arrives in some abundance through the latter half of April and the first half of May. It will remain through the early part of June. It returns in mid-July and has its fall peak of abundance the last two weeks of September. It stays through all of October in lesser numbers.

White-rumped Sandpiper, *Calidris fuscicollis*, is one of our rare but regular migrants. It arrives here about mid-May (May 17, 1955) and may be expected to be seen to about June 12 (1963). I have no fall records in this immediate area, but it is possible for a fall straggler to occur anytime from August 1 to October 15.

Baird's Sandpiper, *Calidris bairdii*. Another one of the rarer Sandpipers. I have not seen it in the spring. The only records I have are between August 21 and August 23, 1955. It is more apt to be seen in the fall in our area. Mr. J. N. Clark found this a regular migrant in Dunn County. However Buss and Mattison never found it in the lower Chippewa River valley.

Least Sandpiper, *Calidris minutilla*, is about equally as common as the Semipalmated Sandpiper. I have not seen it before April 16 (1963). Its peak seems to be May 10 - 25 (latest May 28). It may return as early as July 4 (1955). It remains in abundance throughout August and the first few days of September. It disappears by the end of September.

Dunlin, *Calidris alpina*, is common in the eastern part of the state, and I would say is quite uncommon in the Chippewa area. It arrives the

last week of April and is most likely to be seen between May 5 and June 5. It returns about the first week of August. It seems even rarer hereabouts in fall than spring but should be searched for about the last half of September through the first half of October.

Dowitcher is now divided into the Long-billed Dowitcher, *Limnodromus scholopacrus*, and the Short-billed Dowitcher, *Limnodromus griseus*. I can't differentiate too well as far as the dates of arrival, but the best way to distinguish the two is by their call notes, and my hearing is not that good. I can't always distinguish them. Their field marks are not too distinctive. According to Sam Robbins the Long-billed Dowitcher is likely to arrive between April 25 and May 15. Any dowitcher seen after May 15 is probably *griseus*. Fall migrants are scarce but could be looked for September 1 - October 25.

The Short-billed Dowitcher is decidedly more numerous than the Long-billed, but still uncommon. Spring migrants most likely between May 10 and June 1 and fall migrants are likely between July 15 and September 15.

Stilt Sandpiper, *Micropalama himantopus*, is irregular in occurrence, perhaps because of lack of suitable habitat. Some years we don't see it at all. It has been rare in spring and uncommon in the fall. Usually it is seen with Yellowlegs. Our dates show May 11, 1965; May 25, 1971; May 28, 1972. In the fall it may return by July 20 (1972) and has been seen as late as October 5 (1969).

Semipalmated Sandpiper, *Calidris pusillus*. This is a common migrant, just as abundant as the Least as far as sight records go. In my banding for three years on the edge of a muddy farm pool I found it slightly less numerous than the Least Sandpiper. My earliest spring record was April 19, 1958. Its phenology is slightly later as a rule than that of the Least Sandpiper, often remaining throughout June 5. In the fall it returns and departs slightly later than the Least. It should be seen between July 15 and September 30.

Western Sandpiper, *Calidris mauri*, is one of our rarer Sandpipers. I have seen it in both spring and fall, about once every seven or eight years. My first sighting was May 17, 1955. June 2, 1962, June 10, 1972, September 10, 1960 and September 19, 1969, are my only sight records.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper, *Tryngites subruficollis*, is a little shore bird of the short grass prairie. Quite a rare migrant for any part of the state. It appeared south of Jim Falls on August 1, 1972 (Robbins). It was seen again by me the next day in the same vicinity but attempts at photographing failed.

Marbled Godwit, *Limosa fedoa*. I saw one May 20, 1963, in Hallie Township in a flooded field in company with some Hudsonian Godwits. I believe I have seen it on another spring occasion, but it was too distant an observation to be satisfactory. Unfortunately, I have no photograph or specimen.



HUDSONIAN GODWIT

Hudsonian Godwit, *Limosa haemastica*, overall is a very rare migrant. However, some springs, particularly years of heavy snow runoff, there are fairly surprising numbers. It arrives in mid-May (earliest May 9, 1956) in wet grassy areas and mud flats, and I have seen it throughout May. I have photographed it on 8mm movie film a number of times. I have no fall records.

It sometimes is seen in spring and winter plumage. Interestingly Schoger expressed doubt that this bird would escape extinction.

American Avocet, *Recurvirostra americana*. I have one spring sight record in a grassy marsh just south of Eau Claire May 18, 1968, one-fourth mile south of Robbins school. This bird was first seen by Joel Klink and photographed by Paul Blanchard.

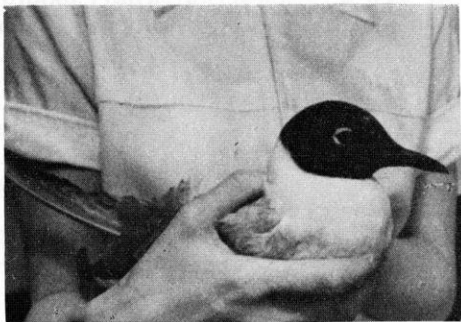
Wilson's Phalarope, *Steganopus tricolor*, is a fairly regular but not numerous resident in the summer. It arrives in late April, most apt to be seen in mid-May, and departs about the end of August.

Northern Phalarope, *Lobipes lobatus*. This is a rare transient visitor that I have caught and banded twice in the fall. The only records were August 9, 1956, and August 10 and 12, 1952. I have one other record for this, May 30, 1954, above the dam in Chippewa Falls.

Herring Gull, *Larus argentatus*, is a fairly uncommon gull in this area. The Herring Gull arrives about the third week in March, sometimes lingers to mid-May, but is not nearly as abundant as the Ring-billed Gull. It is almost never seen again until September. It may remain irregularly until about mid-November, and rarely over winter.

Ring-billed Gull, *Larus delawarensis*, is easily our most common gull. It arrives about the first of April and remains until May 10. It returns in the fall about mid-August and remains until about the end of November. Is peak of abundance is from mid-September until mid-October. It likes to rest below the dams.

Franklin's Gull, *Larus pipixcan*, is a rare migrant in April and May. I have no fall records. It is a gull of the plains and is sometimes seen in the hundreds in fall following plowing operations 60 miles west of us in St. Croix County. Robbins reported a sighting on Lake Wissota, April 19, 1969. I saw it on a flooded part of the Northern Colony farm on May 25, 1963.



Bonaparte's Gull, *Larus philadelphia*, is another gull that happens to be rare in this area. I have only three records, one on April 21, 1965, another on May 9, 1961, and another one April 18, 1967. It is far more common in the eastern part of the state. Robbins saw a flock of fourteen on April 18, 1970 in the area of the confluence of the Yellow River and Lake Wissota. A flock of twenty-five was seen on Lake Wissota on October 30, 1971.

BONAPARTE'S GULL

Forster's Tern, *Sterna forsteri*, is an uncommon migrant and possibly a rare summer resident. There are no known summer records. It arrives about the third week in April. Its habitat elsewhere are prairie marshes. It is somehow rare in fall. I do not recall seeing it at this season. It should be looked for anytime through mid-September.

Common Tern, *Sterna hirundo*, is not really common in this area. Overall in Wisconsin it arrives in mid-April and remains until about November 5. The peak of abundance is the last two weeks in May and the last few days of August through most of September. But in this area of Wisconsin it is seen only in small numbers in May and even fewer in September. More work really needs to be done on this and the preceding species.

Caspian Tern, *Hydroprogne caspia*. I have but one record for the immediate Chippewa - Eau Claire area. This was a specimen found on September 25, 1968, by a schoolboy five miles from Cadott on a roadside nowhere near water. It was given to me by Sam Robbins. The next closest record is on Lake Pepin, Pepin County. It ordinarily requires large bodies of water.

Black Tern, *Chlidonias niger*. This is a common bird in the marshes. It arrives about the end of April and its peak is from May 10 - 25. Numbers remain up through August 25, then drop off rapidly. The latest date is September 25.

Ancient Murrelet, *Syntheiboramphus antiquum*. One was found alive on November 10, 1964, near Ladysmith by Lester Tiews. It died overnight, but was photographed thoroughly while still alive. The specimen is at the University of Wisconsin Museum. It was the second specimen for Wisconsin. This was an emaciated bird, almost starved. It apparently was the victim of a severe storm. It had recently been reported that this western pelagic species winters in small numbers on the Great Lakes.

Passenger Pigeon, *Ectopiates migratorius*. Extinct in the state since 1899. J. N. Clark, of Meridean, Dunn County, found it nesting and collected a dozen between 1890 and 1897.

Mourning Dove, *Zenaida macroura*, is certainly an abundant summer resident. It may occasionally be seen throughout any winter month. Its peak arrival is in March through April, and its peak in the fall is from September 1 to October 10.

We have both the Eastern, *Z. m. carolinensis*, and Western Mourning Dove, *Z. m. marginella*, breaking them down into sub-species. They are not distinguishable in the field by looks, but the Western Mourning Dove winters south toward the western gulf states and the Eastern Mourning Dove winters in the southeastern United States and into the West Indies. Nestling birds I have banded in Chippewa County have been recovered in Mexico, Texas, Kansas, Louisiana, Florida, and are usually birds of the year, their immaturity rendering them more vulnerable to the hunter.

Interestingly I have found one nest on the ground in June, 1963, near Lake Wissota. Rev. Toppe reported one, April 28, 1942, near Bloomer nesting on the ground.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo, *Coccyzus americanus*. This is the rarer of our two cuckoos. It is not often found as far north as Chippewa County, but does occur more commonly in Eau Claire County. It likes willow thickets bordering streams, brushy bordered country roads, dense tangles, and run-down orchards. This bird sometimes arrives by May 15, but often is delayed until the end of the month. It is last seen about the end of September.

Black-billed Cuckoo, *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*, is the more common cuckoo. My earliest record for it in this area is May 9, 1963, and the last record about September 23. This species is attracted to tent caterpillars.

Barn Owl, *Tyto alba*. I have no records for this species in this area. Perhaps we are a little to the north of its range.

Screech Owl, *Otus asio*. This is a year-round resident which I would call less than common. It is found in open woodlands and clearings. It roosts in cavities and may be partly dependent upon Woodpeckers and bird houses. The brownish red phase has been encountered more than the gray phase.

Great Horned Owl, *Bubo virginianus*, is the largest eared owl. It is found all year long in this area. It is somewhere between common and uncommon. It most often prefers mature deciduous woodlands, but occasionally wanders into our city parks.

Snowy Owl, *Nyctea scandiaca*, is a rare, irregular winter visitor. It may be seen in open prairie areas, open fields or in marshes, and seldom in the bottom river lands. They may be found around dumps where rats may abound. Records are from mid-November through early April.

Hawk Owl, *Surnia ulula*, has occurred in northwestern Wisconsin, but I have no record for this particular area. J. N. Clark did collect three Hawk Owls, twice at Meridean, in April, 1885, and in December, 1900. It might be expected that this bird will again turn up some winter.



Barred Owl, *Strix varia*, is perhaps our most common permanent resident owl. It prefers wooded river bottom lands.

BARRED OWL

Great Gray Owl, *Strix nebulosa*. This is a large rare irregular species that invades Wisconsin once every one or two decades. One specimen was obtained in November, 1968, near Stanley, Wisconsin, and is in the collection of the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. This is our only local record. A sight record was made in March, 1969, in Taylor County by the game warden.

Long-eared Owl, *Asio otus*, in my experience is the least common of all the local owls. I have yet to see my first one in this area. On a Christmas census in 1956 I am sure I heard a Long-eared Owl, but I am still searching for one. Elsewhere they have been seen in thick pine groves, and especially in cemeteries.

Short-eared Owl, *Asio flammeus*, is a mysterious species. In some seasons it seems to be fairly common; it prefers a habitat of marshes and prairies, much the same as the Marsh Hawk. But its numbers fluctuate and there are many years I do not see it at all.



BOREAL OWL

Boreal Owl, *Aegolius funereus*. I know of two records in this area. One was collected by J. N. Clark in Meridean on February 24, 1893. The other was photographed about 1950 in Cadott, Chippewa County, by Gordon Peterson.



Saw-whet Owl, *Aegolius acadicus*, is our smallest owl. It is uncommon, but is most apt to be seen in fall and may occur any time of the year. I have banded about ten of these birds in the past twenty years.

IMMATURE SAW-WHET OWL

Whip-poor-will, *Caprimulgus vociferus*, is heard far more than seen. It nests in ungrazed woodlots, of which there are fewer and fewer now; it does like areas along river bottoms. It can be expected to arrive in late April or more usually in early May. My earliest date, April 21, 1962. Departure is about mid-September. Peak of abundance is around mid-May.

Common Nighthawk, *Chordeiles minor*. This is a common transient and a common summer resident. It arrives generally about mid-May (earliest May 11, 1965) and great flights of migration are seen in the last week of August and the first week of September in the late afternoon and early evening hours. They are most generally gone by mid-September.

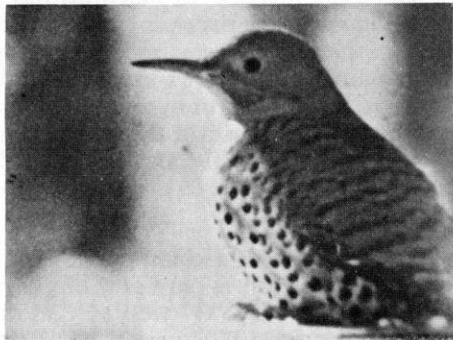
Chimney Swift, *Chaetura pelagica*, is a common transient visitor and common summer resident. This bird migrates in the daytime. Its arrival is generally late April or early May. The earliest day I have for the Chimney Swift is April 24, 1954, and the latest day of departure is September 29, 1953. Interestingly H. H. T. Jackson recorded "at Holcombe, July 29, 1918, I saw one repeatedly entering a hollow white pine stub 12 feet high and 18 inches in diameter and open only at the top . . . adjacent to the Chippewa River . . . resorting to . . . ancestral trait of nesting in hollow trees."

Ruby-throated Hummingbird, *Archilous colubris*, is a fairly common migrant and a fairly common summer resident. It may be expected anytime after May 15. The latest day of departure is September 24, 1958.

Belted Kingfisher, *Megaceryl alcyon*. This is one of our most common birds along the river bottoms; however it has become less common in recent years. Maybe it's one of the birds that is suffering from the accumulation of DDT in fish. It nests in gravel pits and in burrows in the ground. There have been plenty of gravel pits to use in recent years for the birds to nest in. When the water is open they may be found all winter. They seem to be territorial and you seldom see more than a pair

of kingfishers per section of river. The kingfisher's greatest spring abundance is throughout April, and its main flight in the fall is September and August.

Common Flicker, *Colaptes auratus*. Up to April of 1973 this was referred to as the Yellow-shafted Flicker. Now this, the Red-shafted Flicker, and the Gilded Flicker are all conspecific, each considered a subspecies, rather than separate species. It is a common migrant, and common summer resident. Usually it is gone by October 20. Rarely is it seen on the winter census in December.



RED-SHAFTED FLICKER

Red-shafted Flicker, *Colaptes auratus cafer*. The only sight record for one of these in Wisconsin was one in the woods, along the Chippewa River north of Eau Claire, near the Joel Klink residence in 1970, 1971, 1972 (first date seen, November 19, 1969), recorded and photographed by myself, Paul Blanchard and others.



PILEATED WOODPECKER

Pileated Woodpecker, *Dryocopus pileatus*, is a bird which is less than common. It is more apt to be found in the river bottom areas. It likes tall, mature stands of trees, generally soft wood trees, and does not tolerate human beings too well. Well, let us say human beings do not tolerate this bird, because it is often shot by hunters and young boys. The bird is a permanent resident. It generally stays within four miles of its nesting area. It is found along the Chippewa River in the woods, particularly places like Putnam Drive near the College, and in the area between Chippewa and Eau Claire. The Wood Duck and other tree-cavity nesting birds sometimes take advantage of old pileated holes for breeding purposes.

Red-bellied Woodpecker, *Centurus carolinus*, is a southern species that is extending its range northward and is becoming increasingly numerous in the last twenty years. Its preferred habitat is river bottom hardwoods. It is non-migratory and can be expected year-round. It is most conspicuous in winter when it comes to suet feeders and open corn cribs.

Red-headed Woodpecker, *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*, seems to have diminished in numbers definitely within the past twenty years of my experience. It was once an abundant bird, a year-round resident, which also migrates. It has gone from abundant to common and now has been reduced to fairly common status. I believe the increase in Starlings has a lot to do with this. And the increase in Starlings, in my opinion, is partly the result of the numerous mink farms in the area. Throwing food on top of mink cages attracts a great many Starlings, and allows them to build up rather impressive numbers. The Starlings usurp nest cavities of the Red-headed Woodpecker. This probably has an effect on the population of other cavity-dwelling nesters. I have not been able to band a Red-headed Woodpecker since 1965, between 1954 and 1965 I have banded only seven, usually banding one or two a year.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, *Sphyrapicus varius*, is a common transient visitor. It is a rare summer resident in the northern part of Chippewa County. Sam Robbins has recorded it along County "O" west of Cadott. It arrives about the first week in April and there is a period of about three weeks in April when the numbers are common. It returns from mid-September through mid-October. The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker has been reported by J. N. Clark to be a summer resident around Meridean, and he did record a number of nesting records, at least seven altogether. Lois Almon found it nesting in Durand and at Cornell in the summer of 1951. (*Passenger Pigeon*, Vol. XIV, 1952, p. 45)

Hairy Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos villosus*, is a common permanent resident, but less common than the Downy Woodpecker.

Downy Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos pubescens*, is more common than the Hairy Woodpecker with a ratio of about three to two, in the Eau Claire - Chippewa area. The Hairy Woodpecker seems to be more numerous northward. Both these species are found year-round.

Eastern Kingbird, *Tyrannus tyrannus*, is a fairly common summer resident. It arrives the first week in May (earliest I have is May 5, 1959). It is last seen about mid-September.

Western Kingbird, *Tyrannus verticalis*. One recorded for the Eau Claire - Chippewa area: a May 19, 1965 sight record in Lafayette Township. The bird was photographed with 8mm movie camera film. There are some nesting records for the Hudson area, St. Croix County, Wisconsin, but it is accidental in this area.

Great Crested Flycatcher, *Myiarchus crinitus*, likewise is a common summer resident. It usually arrives the first week in May, and remains until the last few days of September. Its population is fairly stable, it frequently nests not only in hardwood areas, but in bottom lands, and occasionally will nest in newspaper or mail boxes. It is a cavity nesting bird.

Eastern Phoebe, *Sayornis phoebe*, is a fairly common bird. It arrives in mid-March and remains throughout October, sporadically in November. Its peak of abundance is in the last half of April and the last half of September and the first half of October. One favorite nesting place is the under side of bridges.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, *Empidonax flaviventris*, is an uncommon but not rare spring and fall migrant. It is more common in fall. It arrives about May 10 and leaves about June 7, and returns in August (August 2, 1960) and leaves about the middle of September (latest September 28, 1963).

Acadian Flycatcher, *Empidonax virescens*. This bird is the rarest of our flycatchers, excluding, of course, the Western Kingbird. It is another southern species that is extending its range northward and in the last five years I have been capturing it. Half a dozen banding records on an average for a year. They appear in spring and fall about the same length of time as the Yellow-billed Flycatcher. I banded one on the late date of September 20, 1969.

Traill's Flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii*, is a common migrant and summer resident. The latest AOU official nomenclature divides this now into two species: *E. traillii*, the Willow Flycatcher (It calls "fitz-bew" and is generally a southern and western bird of prairies), and *Empidonax alnorum*, the Alder Flycatcher (a bird of the boreal forest region, it calls "wee-be-oh"). When specific identification is not possible, it is proper to consider it Traill's Flycatcher. We have both in our area. Chippewa County is at the northern edge of the "fitz-bew" range, while Eau Claire is fairly near the southern edge of the "wee be oh" range. They arrive in early May and are found until mid-October. They like wet alder brush areas.

Least Flycatcher, *Empidonax minimus*, prefers more the wooded dry areas. It is quite common. It usually arrives the first week of May (May 1, 1965) and the last date I have is October 10, 1961. The peak of abundance is in mid-May and about August 15 to September 15.

RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF EMPIDOMAX FLYCATCHERS IN CHIPPEWA COUNTY

	Yellow-bellied Flycatchers	Acadian Flycatchers	Traill's Flycatchers	Least Flycatchers	Total
Total Birds banded 1953 through 1972	138	33	705	607	1483
Percentage of total banded	9.30	2.23	47.54	40.93	100
Total TV Tower casualties 1960 thru 1972	69	3	300	162	534
Percentage of TV Tower total casualties	12.92	0.56	56.18	30.33	100
Grand total of all records (banding and TV) in numbers	207	36	1005	769	2017
In percentage of total	10.26	1.78	49.83	38.13	100

Wood Pewee, *Contopus virens*, is a common summer resident. It is a bird found in the same wooded areas that one finds the Red-eyed Vireo. I do not find the Wood Pewee abundant, although it is common. The Wood Pewee arrives mid-May and remains through September. Occasionally a few stay into early October. Sam Robbins had an astonishing pewee in his backyard in Cadott on October 30, 1971. This is a state departure record.

Olive-sided Flycatcher, *Nuttallornis borealis*, is definitely an uncommon but regular migrant throughout the Chippewa and Eau Claire area, and nests perhaps not too far to the north. I have some early June records, (probably late spring migrants), but no nesting records. It arrives in the early days of May (May 8, 1962) and returns in mid-August. It departs again by late September (latest date, September 26, 1965).

Horned Lark, *Eremophila alpestris*, is a year-round resident. There are several sub-species in our area, for which I have no data. This bird begins to appear about the first week in February and builds up in great numbers in migration in March and early April. Another flight appears in the fall between the first week in October until the first week in November. I rarely see it between this date and early February.

All the swallows are interesting because they migrate early in the spring, always come back about the same time, and unlike many species, they migrate by day. In the first days of spring when the weather is cool, they spend much time foraging over the Chippewa River for flying insects.

The first is *Iridoprocne bicolor*, the Tree Swallow. In my experience this is the first returning swallow. It is a true harbinger of spring. It arrives in early April, and is one of the last of the swallows to leave. It may be seen through the end of October, but usually is gone by the second week in October from this area. This is a common summer resident, it nests in tree woodpecker cavities and also readily takes to bird houses.

Bank Swallow, *Riparia riparia*, is another common summer resident. This bird usually arrives a few days later than the Tree Swallow, and it is in company with the Rough-winged Swallow. It resides in the sandy banks and in quarries. Often in these Bank Swallow colonies, especially the ones that are close to water, may be found a Kingfisher's burrow. It too arrives about mid-April (earliest April 16, 1967) and I have never seen it after August 28 (1955).

Rough-winged Swallow, *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*, has been reported by Buss as the most common swallow in the lower Chippewa River area. These birds nest in smaller colonies, maybe three or four pair in the banks of the rivers and lakes. They also nest sometimes in small drainage pipes. They arrive just about the same time as the Bank Swallow and stay about the same time.

Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica*, is a common or even abundant bird. It arrives in April and remains until about the first week in October. Its habitat is generally around the barnyards. It nests inside the barn. Like the Phoebe, it likes to nest beneath bridges.

Cliff Swallow, *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*, is common but not abundant. It is probably the least common of the swallows. It is more common, it seems to me, toward the northern part of this region, and it nests on the outside of barns. It is less common where it has competition from the English Sparrow. The Cliff Swallow usually arrives in late April, but I have seen it as early as April 16 (1965). It seems to be just a little bit later than the other swallows, but it remains longer than all the others except the Tree Swallow. It is generally gone by the last of September.

Purple Martin, *Progne subis*, is a common, if not abundant swallow throughout our area. It arrives in early April (average date April 10) and begins to congregate in large numbers in mid-August. Most leave during the first week of September, with a few remaining through the 15th.

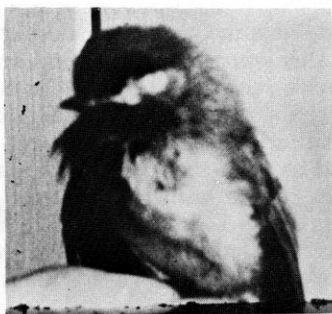
Gray Jay, *Perisoreus canadensis*, is accidental in this area. I have not seen it personally in this area, but it has been reported by Buss and Mattison three times in Dunn County.

Blue Jay, *Cyanocitta cristata*, is abundant at all seasons, particularly during an April 20 - May 20 spring flight and a September 10 - October 15 fall flight. The numbers of wintering Blue Jays seem to vary with the success of the oak acorns. If there are a lot of oak acorns, Blue Jays seem to be more abundant. The Blue Jay is considered a nuisance by some people who feed birds in the winter and it does face a certain amount of persecution, but it seems to survive in good numbers.

Common Raven, *Corvus corax*, is common north of Ladysmith. It does occur in small numbers in our area. It is a year-round resident in the northern part of Chippewa County, and has been reported in summer in the forested areas of north and east Augusta. It also is seen in Jackson County, near Black River Falls. It prefers forests to open fields. It frequents garbage dumps, the same ones that black bears often enjoy.

Common Crow, *Corvus brachyrhynchos*, is an abundant permanent resident. There is a spring flight in March, and a fall flight which goes through most of October and half of November. In the winter it seems to retire south to just about the northern edge of Eau Claire County. It is noticeably more abundant in the winter months in Eau Claire than in Chippewa County.

Black-capped Chickadee, *Parus articipillus*. While this bird is an abundant permanent resident, there is a migration in the spring and fall.



BOREAL CHICKADEE

Boreal Chickadee, *Parus hudsonicus*, is accidental in this area. I have one record, October 6, 1966. This was a bird that was captured at my bird banding station. It was photographed.

Tufted Titmouse, **Parus bicolor**, is one of the southern species that has pushed its way northward and is a permanent resident, increasing in numbers gradually over the years. It is found mainly in the river bottom areas and around Lake Wissota.

White-breasted Nuthatch, **Sitta carolinensis**. This is a common year-round resident. In general it shows a preference for deciduous trees.

Red-breasted Nuthatch, **Sitta canadensis**, is an irregular migrant in this area. It is generally found in conifers rather than hardwood trees. Some winters it is quite abundant, about one winter in five. Other years it is practically absent.

Brown Creeper, **Certhia familiaris**, is a common migrant and an uncommon winter resident. It is most numerous April 1 - 25, and September 15 to October 31. I have not seen it in the summer; but it should be looked for, since there are summer records for Buffalo and LaCrosse Counties. A few scattered individuals spend the winter in our area nearly every year.

House Wren, **Troglodytes aedon**. The House Wren is one of our most familiar birds: a common summer resident. The earliest arrival date, that I have, is April 21. Its latest departure, October 10. Its peak flights are the first two weeks of May and the last ten days of September. The House Wren is a cavity nesting bird that takes readily to bird boxes. It competes with other house nesting species such as Bluebirds and Tree Swallows. It is not above destroying the eggs of these other competitors if it has the chance. The male will build several dummy nests in its territory in addition to the one in use.

Winter Wren, **Troglodytes troglodytes**, is, in my experience, a very uncommon and even rare migrant in spring and fall in the Chippewa-Eau Claire area. In eighteen years of bird banding, I have banded only two Winter Wrens, and have about the same number of sight records. It is most likely to be seen between April 10 and 30. I have one early arrival date: March 19, 1952. Sam Robbins heard one singing in the Keystone area on June 6, 1970. He suspects a few individuals summer here each year. In fall the best time to look for them is from September 20 to October 20. Although there are no winter records here, it has been recorded on Christmas bird counts as far north as Hudson.

Carolina Wren, **Thryothorus ludovicianus**, is a rare occurrence in our area. I have one sight record and this was along the Chippewa River during the winter of 1968. J. N. Clark's records show that he observed this bird on three occasions and collected a specimen once. This again is a southern bird, which may be extending its range northward, and in future years may be expected to extend its range up the Chippewa Valley northward. It likes the shrubbery area in the undisturbed river bottom woods. One was reported by Sam Robbins November 24 and November 27, 1971, in the Cadott area and another, perhaps the same bird, was seen by Ralph Christopherson at Lake Wissota throughout December.

Long-billed Marsh Wren, **Telmatodytes palustris**, is a fairly common migrant and a fairly common summer resident. It likes stands of bull-

rushes in wet marshes. It arrives about the first of May and remains through the first two weeks of October.

In my experience it is nowhere near as common as the Short-billed Marsh Wren, *Cistothorus platensis*, which I would regard as an almost abundant summer resident. This bird nests in marshes but also in drier prairies sometimes. He lives in the drier parts of the marsh or where the water is not quite as deep. He too arrives about the first of May and lingers until about mid-October.

Mockingbird, *Mimus polyglottos*, is quite rare in the Eau Claire-Chippewa area. I have two sight records for the species and one banding record (November 11, 1958). The first bird was discovered singing at night, May 25, 1963, near the airport by Clarence Campbell. It sang every and all night. It was last seen by Paul Blanchard on June 10, 1963. Some neighborhood child shot it with his "bee-bee" gun. The second sighting was a bird seen by me flying over highway 53, May 14, 1964, at the northern outskirts of Eau Claire. But I expect it, like other southern species such as the Cardinal, will push its way northward into the Chippewa-Eau Claire County areas. It is a year-round resident in its normal range. This northward progression is not just a local phenomenon. It has been documented in New England as well.

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Gray Catbird, *Dumetella carolinensis*, is an abundant migrant and summer resident. The average date of arrival for twenty years was May 9. Its migration peaks in the middle of May until late May, and in the fall it peaks in September, falling off rapidly in the first week of October. It rarely lingers into early November.

Brown Thrasher, *Toxostoma rufum*, is another common migrant and common summer resident, and rarely stays over winter. While it may be seen on a Christmas Count occasionally, it doesn't always survive the winter when it stays. Clarence Kube reported one on the extremely early date of March 23, 1960. I personally have not found it before April 22 (1960, 1962) nor seen it in fall after October 1 (1959).

Curve-billed Thrasher, *Toxostoma curvirostre*. One accidental record has been well documented and photographed in Buffalo City, in Buffalo County, first seen in 1971 and still present. See the **Passenger Pigeon**, Vol. 34, No. 1, p. 47.

American Robin, *Turdus migratorius*, is an abundant migrant and summer resident. Rarely it may winter, particularly so in Eau Claire County. The Robin migrants arrive in early March as soon as the ground thaws. The peak of migration is between mid-March and the last week in April. A heavy flight of Robins occurs in the last half of September through the end of October. Interestingly the late fall Robins are believed to be an Alaskan race of Robin. They are a little larger and considerably whiter in color than the summer Robins. Robins differ from other thrushes (except Bluebirds) in being day rather than night migrants. This observation is based on the fact that Robins and Bluebirds are very rarely found as TV tower casualties.

Varied Thrush, *Ixoreus naevius*, is a very rare winter visitor from the west. It appears in about one winter out of eight, and when it does appear



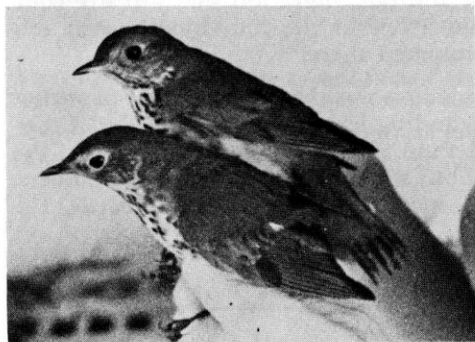
it is an isolated bird that stays around somebody's feeder all winter. One was at Mrs. Helene Paine's feeder in Chippewa Falls all winter of 1961-1962. It left in March. A bird was photographed that stayed from December to March at C. W. Blom's feeder in Altoona in 1966. There was one winter, 1968-1969, when there was a Varied Thrush in Black River Falls, one near Jim Falls, and one near New Auburn, all close by this area. This was extremely unusual. I photographed all three.

VARIED THRUSH

Wood Thrush, **Hylocichla mustelina**, is a fairly common summer resident. It prefers the moister parts of deciduous woodlands. Its choice habitat is along streams, lakes and swamps. It is a rather secretive bird and recognized by its beautiful song. The Wood Thrush arrives almost a month and a half later than the Robins, about May 4 - 12. Its song stops about mid-July, but it remains through most of September. I found one specimen at the WEAU TV tower on the very late date of October 9, 1960.

Hermit Thrush, **Catharus guttata**, is a fairly common spring and fall migrant. It does rarely occur in summer in the northern parts of Chippewa County and even in some of the wilder parts of Eau Claire County. It appears in mid-March. The peak of abundance is the last three weeks of April and the first few days of May. There is a sizeable migration in late September and the first three weeks of October. While it is seen occasionally on a southern Wisconsin Christmas Count, this has not happened yet in this immediate area.

Swainson's Thrush, **Catharus ustulatus**, is another abundant migrant. It does not nest in the immediate area. It is the most numerous of the migrant thrushes (excluding the Robins). It outnumbers the Gray-cheeked Thrush about three to one. The Swainson's Thrush has arrived as early as April 24, 1970. In a twenty year period, the average arrival date was



May 10. Its average departure, May 28. Its earliest fall return, July 23, 1965 and 1971. The average return date is August 17; the average departure date is October 1. The latest departure date was October 10, 1961.

Gray-cheeked Thrush, **Catharus minimus**, is another fairly common migrant. Average arrival in twenty years was May 11. Earliest date was May 2, 1956. Average spring departure date was May 25, latest May 31, 1972. The average fall return, September 5 (earliest, August 30, 1961 and 1967); latest departure was October 9, 1961; average date, September 30.

(To be continued in next issue)



FIELD NOTES

By NANCY and HAL ROBERTS

Summer Season

June 1 - August 15, 1972

The summer season started off with cold and wet weather following a hot, dry May. Much of the summer remained cool and wet with an extensive frost in early July. There were scattered brief periods of high temperatures and August temperatures were near normal. It was thought that species such as swifts, martins, swallows and flycatchers must surely have suffered during the nesting period because of the cold weather and resulting shortage of insects. The nesting of shorebirds was apparently cut short by the cold weather. Four early fall arrival dates were record-breakers this year. Daryl Tessen writes of the shorebirds: "the migration lingered well into June in the Appleton-Neenah area and especially at the slough in Green Bay. An excellent variety of species was present at least into mid-June. In early July the fall migration had already commenced although it is possible that a few of the individuals never left the Green Bay area but rather summered there."

Another notable feature of the season was the large number of winter finches observed. Particularly outstanding was the number of Red Cross-bills present. Purple Finches and Pine Siskins did not come up to the level of the invasion two years ago but were well above normal numbers. Evening Grosbeaks started arriving in southerly locations in July.

Following are the season's highlights:

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Common Loon: Found in the usual locations in the northern part of the state and as far south as Mead Wildlife Area in Portage, Wood and Marathon counties where one was present on August 2, 3 and 4 (Ronald R. Hoffman) and three in Wood county near Babcock on July 27 (Mr. & Mrs. Jon L. Seymour).

Red-necked Grebe: Two were located at East Twin Lake near Roberts, St. Croix county, on July 30 (Sam Robbins) and two were found at Rush Lake, Winnebago county on August 5 (Daryl Tessen).

Double-crested Cormorant: Few reports this summer; 18 were found in Crex Meadows on June 28 (Robbins), four in Taylor county on July 10 (James O. Evrard), present all summer on islands off Green Bay slough with a maximum of 35 on July 12 (Tessen) and 18 nests counted at Grand River Marsh, Green Lake county (Mr. & Mrs. Richard Shepard).

Little Blue Heron: An immature bird was spotted in Horicon Marsh, Dodge county, on August 1. It was seen again August 5 near the main dike (Tessen).

Great Egret: Possible breeders were those in Brown county from June 19 to July 30 (Edwin S. Cleary and Brother Columban), one at Green Lake county on June 21 (Robbins) and those in Vernon county (Viratine Weber, Margarette Morse) and one in Dane county on June 1 (Tom Aeshman). Late summer visitors were three in St. Croix county on July 30 (Robbins) and those in Horicon Marsh where 150 were seen on July 10, and 450 were seen on August 5 (Tessen).

Cattle Egret: After the first nesting record last year, many reports in 1972. They were found in the Green Bay area where Tom Erdman was reasonably sure of nesting activities and one was seen in flight from Green Bay slough to islands on July 23 (Tessen). In Dodge county, 25 were found 2½ miles northwest of Burnett on July 21 (Harold Mathiak). At Grand River Marsh, 22 were present up to July 3 (Shepards); one at Bolens Pond, Port Washington on June 17 (Tom & Carol Bintz); nine at Theresa Marsh (Mary Donald) and eight in Columbia county in June south of Wycena (Bob Fiehweg).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: At Bolens Pond, Ozaukee county, one immature bird was present from July 23 to August 7. Two immature birds were seen there on August 4 (Bintz). An immature bird was found in Kletzsch Park in Milwaukee (Elmer Bastens).

Least Bittern: Outside the expected south and east locations are those found at Crex Meadows June 10 and 27 and west of Ashland on June 26 (Robbins).

Mute Swan: One at Lake Ellen, Sheboygan county, June 2 (Harold Koopman).

Whistling Swan: A few late stragglers; at Bayfield (Albert Roy Jr.), June 16; one in Taylor county (Evrard) and one in Manitowoc on June 21 (Marjorie Albrecht). One was also found on July 31 at Baileys Harbor (Louise Erickson).

Canada Goose: Reports came from the following counties: St. Croix, Wood, Brown, Trempealeau, Juneau, Winnebago, Dodge and Milwaukee.

Blue Goose: One was seen flying with a Canada Goose in Winnebago county on June 3 (Tessen).

Pintail: Two birds were found in the Mead Wildlife Area, Marathon county, on August 2, 3 and 4 (Hoffman), one in Brown county from June 8 to August 8 (Cleary & Columban) and one in Dane county from June 1 on (Ashman). Also Chippewa and Dodge counties (Robbins).

Green-winged Teal: Summered in Barron county (Alta Goff), Taylor county where two broods were found June 23 (Evrard), many in Marinette county (Harold Lindberg), Chippewa county (Robbins), Oconto county (John Woodcock), in Manitowoc county on June 7 (Albrecht), Dane county from June 1 on (Ashman, Robbins), Dodge county (Robbins) and Milwaukee county at Whitnall Park on July 27 (Elmer Strehlow).

American Wigeon: Found at Goose Pond on June 17 and August 3 (Robbins) and in Dane county from June 1 on (Ashman). Three were present in Taylor county on July 10 (Evrard), in Brown county on July 16 (Tessen) and in Winnebago county on June 21 (Albrecht).

- Shoveler:** Located in Barron (Goff), Brown on June 4 (Tessen), Winnebago where five were seen on July 27 (Tessen) and Dane counties, the latter from June 1 on (Ashman).
- Redhead:** Midsummer records came from Brown county where two were seen on July 8 by Tessen and birds were seen on June 29 and August 8 by Cleary and Columban and Manitowoc county on June 21 (Albrecht). August records were two on August 1 and seven on August 5 in Horicon Marsh (Tessen).
- Ring-necked Duck:** Three were present in Rusk county June 3, at least 10 in Burnett county on June 10, 27 and 28, and one in Chippewa county on July 18 (Robbins). Also found in Taylor county on June 29 where three broods totaling eight individuals were located (Evrard). Noted in Outagamie county (Bradford) and on August 5 at Rush Lake, Winnebago county (Tessen).
- Canvasback:** One male summered in the Chippewa River above Jim Falls where it was seen on June 12, 28, July 18 and August 1 (Robbins).
- Scaup:** Three Lesser Scaup were with the Canvasback mentioned above in Chippewa county (Robbins). One male was seen in Kaukauna on July 4 and continuously thereafter until July 30 when it moved to Kimberley and was joined by another male and the two remained into the fall season (Tessen). Spotted in Trempealeau county from June 3 to 12 (Ruth Lender) and in Vernon county on June 4 (Weber).
- Ruddy Duck:** Three were found in St. Croix county on July 30 (Robbins). Found also in Goose Pond where there were 25 present on July 10 (Tessen), in Outagamie county (Tessen), Brown county (Melvin Wierzbicki, Tessen, Columban and Cleary) and on June 4 in Dane county (Ashman).
- Hooded Merganser:** Most southerly was the report in Ozaukee county on July 2 (Bintz) an an immature from June 12 on at Kimberley (Tessen).
- Common Merganser:** Only report was in Outagamie county (Bradford).
- Turkey Vulture:** Most northerly was one in Taylor county July 7 (Evrard).
- Goshawk:** Two young were found in Marinette county (Lindberg). Another Marinette county report came from Leona Wagner.
- Sharp-shinned Hawk:** Southerly reports were the four in Langlade county on July 30 (Casimir Magulski) and Oconto county on July 13 (Woodcock).
- Cooper's Hawk:** Observations were made in Shawano, Adams, Outagamie, Oconto, Ozaukee and Dane counties. On June 19 one adult, four young and one unhatched egg were discovered at a nest in Jefferson county (Stuart Johnston). The four young were later banded by Sindelar and Evans.
- Broad-winged Hawk:** Three were present in Vilas county on July 20 (Tessen).
- Bald Eagle:** One immature bird on June 23 northwest of Cornell, Chippewa county (Robbins). Found on June 3 in Polk county (Mrs. Andrew Fuller), two adults and one immature in Price county (Alice Vincent) where the species were found on June 7 and 16 (Maybelle Hardy). One adult was found in Taylor county on July 10 (Evrard).
- Marsh Hawk:** One in Rusk county on June 3 was the only one Robbins saw!
- Osprey:** Nesting activities were observed in Chippewa (Robbins), Vilas (Bradford), Polk (Fuller), Price (Vincent), Menominee (Tessen), Oconto (Woodcock) and Manitowoc (Albrecht) counties. Six nests were under observation in northern Juneau county, five of which produced a total of 10 fledglings (Ralph and Ellen Allan).
- Spruce Grouse:** Found in three locations: in Chequamegon National Forest, Bayfield county on August 17 (Norma Schmidt), in Marinette county (Wagner) and on July 8 in Langlade county south of Three Lakes (Erickson).
- Sharp-tailed Grouse:** One was in Sawyer county on June 3 and two in Douglas county on June 26 (Robbins). Three broods totaling nine individuals were in Taylor county on June 13 (Evrard) and one was found in Marinette county (Wagner).
- Sandhill Crane:** Two pairs were reported in Waushara county (Irma Chipman), one pair west of Appleton all summer and one northeast of Omro, Winnebago county on June 3 (Tessen). Two at Horicon on August 1 (Tessen) and six were in Mead Wildlife Area, Marathon county, on August 2, 3 and 4 (Hoffman).

- King Rail:** Two were discovered in Mead Wildlife Area, Marathon county, on August 2, 3 and 4 (Hoffman) and one in Horicon Marsh on August 1 (Tessen).
- Semipalmated Plover:** Latest spring bird was in Brown county on June 14 (Cleary and Columban). Earliest fall migrant was one in Outagamie county on July 21 (Tessen).
- Piping Plover:** None were found on Barker's Island, Superior, where they have been located each year. It seems the heavy motorcycle activity may have prevented their return to this area (Robbins).
- American Golden Plover:** One early fall bird arrived in Jim Falls, Chippewa county, on August 2 (Dr. Charles Kemper). This is the earliest fall date on record, beating out the August 7, 1964 date recorded by Rudy Ohm.
- Black-bellied Plover:** Birds were migrating into Horicon Marsh on August 1, 2 and 5 (Tessen, Robbins). At least 30 were present in Winnebago county by August 9 (Tessen).
- Ruddy Turnstone:** One individual was located in Bayfield county on June 1 (Albert Roy Jr.); one was in Crex Meadows, Burnett county, on June 10 (Bill Foster, J. J. Hickey, Robbins); in Marinette county on June 4 (Lindberg) and in Brown county, one on June 3 and 4, two on June 10 (Tessen) and to June 4 (Cleary and Columban).
- Common Snipe:** Numerous reports came from northern parts of the state. Southernmost were the reports of 55 in Horicon Marsh on August 5 (Tessen) and four in Kenosha county from July 2 to 26 (Hoffman).
- Whimbrel:** One was observed flying west of Appleton on June 8 (Tessen). Another was found at Goose Pond on June 9 (Dr. and Mrs. Warren Woessner and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Jaynes).
- Upland Plover:** A good sprinkling of observations throughout the state from Douglas to Lafayette counties, including a report from Whitnall Park, Milwaukee, on July 6 (Magulski).
- Willet:** Two were discovered at the north end of Horicon Marsh with Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs on August 2 (Robbins).
- Solitary Sandpiper:** Earliest fall migrants were found on July 10 in Fond du Lac county and in Horicon Marsh (Tessen).
- Greater Yellowlegs:** Two spring migrants lingered in Taylor county until June 1 (Evrard). The earliest fall arrival record set in 1963 on July 3 (Stone) was broken by the observation in Ozaukee county on July 1 (Bintz).
- Lesser Yellowlegs:** Earliest fall arrivals were seen on July 4 when 60 were present in Outagamie county. A peak of 300 individuals was reached on July 25 (combined Greater and Lesser) at Kaukauna (Tessen).
- Red Knot:** Brown county produced the following observations: two on June 3 (Tessen), three in Atkinson Marsh on June 8 (Columban and Erdman), one in the same area on July 14 (Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Koeller, Clara Hussong, Columban).
- Pectoral Sandpiper:** One at Goose Pond on June 17 was too late for spring migrant, too early for fall. Earliest fall migrants were in Chippewa county on July 18 (Robbins).
- Western Sandpiper:** On June 10, one in spring plumage was noted at Jim Falls, Chippewa county (Robbins) and two were compared with Semipalmated Sandpipers in Brown county (Tessen). One at Superior on July 25 had but a trace of spring plumage (Robbins). One in Outagamie county on August 3 was carefully observed at close range (Tessen).
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** The first county record was noted in Chippewa county at Jim Falls on August 1 (Robbins).
- Marbled Godwit:** Another fall record falls to the observation on July 24 when an individual was watched for 1½ hours (Tessen). The previous record was July 29, 1949 (Robbins). The bird was also noted in Horicon on August 2 (Robbins) and three were seen feeding and in flight in Brown county on August 3 (Tessen).
- Hudsonian Godwit:** One was seen in the company of the Marbled Godwit in Brown county on August 3 (Tessen).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Two were noted in Brown county on June 4, nine there on June 10 (Tessen) and noted there on July 10 (Cleary and Columban).

Baird's Sandpiper: This bird appears to have summered in Brown county. It was found at Atkinson Marsh on June 14 (Koellers, Hussong, Columban) and in Brown county from June 14 to 30 (Cleary and Columban). Other Brown county dates are one on June 3, four on June 4, one on June 10, two on July 14 (Tessen). One was also present in Outagamie county on August 7 (Tessen).

Least Sandpiper: Spring birds present in Brown county to June 14 (Cleary and Columban) breaks yet another spring record. Previous latest date was June 12, 1964 (Bill Weber). Earliest fall birds were present in Ozaukee county on July 2 (Bintz).

Dunlin: Latest spring birds were in Brown county on June 15 (Cleary and Columban). Record-breaking fall returns were the ones in Brown county on July 5 (Tessen) and July 6 (Cleary and Columban).

Dowitcher: Earliest fall migrants were two on July 4 in Outagamie county (Tessen). Largest numbers were 60 in Brown county on July 16 and 60 in Horicon Marsh on July 24 (Tessen).

Stilt Sandpiper: First fall returnees were eight in Outagamie county on July 8 (Tessen).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Birds were noted on June 15 and from June 30 to the end of the summer season in Brown county (Cleary and Columban). Largest numbers were in Outagamie county where 55 were present on July 25 and 125 were counted on July 30 (Tessen).

Sanderling: Found at Superior on July 25 and 26 (Robbins) and one on June 4 and 10, two on August 3 and three on August 7 in Brown county (Tessen).

Wilson's Phalarope: A surprising number of observations of probable summer residents; one in Burnett county on June 27 and one in Chippewa county on August 1 (Robbins); one in Fond du Lac county on July 10 and one in Outagamie county on July 5 and 8 (Tessen); in Brown county, one on June 14 (Cleary and Columban); one on July 10, ten on July 24, five on August 1, seven on August 5 in Horicon Marsh (Tessen) and one in Ozaukee county on June 12 (Bintz).

Northern Phalarope: Two males were observed at close range in Brown county on June 4 and one was found there on July 14 (Tessen). Two were present in Horicon on August 1 (Tessen).

Ring-billed Gull: Observed in Manitowoc county on July 6 (Albrecht) and in Dane county from June 1 on (Ashman).

Bonaparte's Gull: One was found in Superior on July 26 (Robbins); seven in Brown county on July 22, three there on August 3, two on August 7 (Tessen) and one in Kenosha county sometime between July 2 and 26 (Hoffman).

Little Gull: Two pairs were present in Green Bay from June 25 on and attempted to nest (Erdman). This is the eighth record for the state. They were last seen in Manitowoc in 1969.

Ivory Gull: Noted in Horicon Marsh on July 24 (Tessen). See **By the Wayside**.

Forster's Tern: 100 breeding pairs were present in Green Bay (Erdman). One carrying food was observed northeast of Winneconne on June 3 and in Horicon Marsh on July 10 (Tessen). Seen again in Dodge county on July 16 (Ashman).

Common Tern: Located in Bayfield county (Roy), Marinette county on June 4 (Lindberg), Brown county on June 15 (Cleary and Columban) and Manitowoc county on July 6 (Albrecht).

Caspian Tern: Noted in Marinette county on June 4 (Lindberg). One on June 10, increasing to a peak of 75 on August 7 in Brown county (Tessen).

Ringed Turtle Dove: Two observations of these which can be presumed to be escaped cage birds; one on July 14 in Kaukauna, Outagamie county (Tessen) and two at feeders in Milwaukee (Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Heitkemper).

Screech Owl: One was located in Monroe county near Kendall (Robbins), in Brown county (Cleary and Columban), Vernon county (Weber), one red phase in Jefferson county (Johnston) and one in Rock county (Mrs. Joseph Mahlum).

- Barred Owl:** Most reports came from northern counties: Price, Barron, Rusk, Taylor. Central locations were Vernon, Outagamie and Oconto counties. South were Dane (Nancy Ashman) and Rock (Ellis).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** Robbins noted an increase over usual numbers.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** Found south to Clark county on June 8 and August 13 and Juneau county on June 17 (Robbins).
- Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker:** A "black-backed" woodpecker was noted at Athelstone, Marinette county, on July 16 (Wagner et al). The identification is not positive; we hope it can be verified.
- Western Kingbird:** None, after last year's disaster, at Hudson.
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** Found in the northern counties of Douglas on June 26 (Robbins), Vilas on June 3 (Bradford) and July 20 (Tessen), Price on June 19 (Robbins), and Brown on August 15 (Wierzicki). Probable fall migrants were the ones seen August 2, 3 and 4 in Mead Wildlife Area, Marathon county (Hoffman), and August 12 in Rock county (Ellis).
- Trail's Flycatcher:** Three of the wee-bee-o type (**Alder Flycatcher**) were heard at Lima bog, Rock county on June 25. Fitz-bew type (**Willow Flycatcher**) was present elsewhere in the county (Ellis). Robbins reports that he was surprised to find the northern (wee-bee-o) form in the Eagle area of both Waukesha and Walworth counties. He says he had not known of previous summer records south of northern Richland county. His most northerly records for the southern (fitz-bew) form this summer are Chippewa, Clark and Outagamie counties.
- Acadian Flycatcher:** Observed in Price county from June 1 to August 4 (Hardy). One was heard singing near Cashton, Monroe county, on June 14 (Robbins).
- Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Missed entirely in northern Wisconsin except three June migrants in Rusk and Sawyer counties (Robbins). Also migrating may have been the ones seen June 1 in Vilas county (Bradford), June 3 in Winnebago county. A possible summer resident was the one found June 24 in Bayfield county (Roy). Fall migrants were noted August 2, 3 and 4 in Mead Wildlife Area, Marathon county (Hoffman) and in Rock county on August 12 (Ellis).
- Boreal Chickadee:** One was found north of Solon Springs, Douglas county, on June 27 (Robbins); also found south of Three Lakes, Langlade county, on July 8 (Erickson).
- Tufted Titmouse:** One was located in Monroe county on June 14 (Robbins); in Vernon county (Weber); June 12 and 19 in Jefferson county (Johnston); from June 1 to August 15 in Dane county (N. Ashman); in Rock county (Ellis).
- Brown Creeper:** Most southerly was the one found July 20 at Hortonville, Outagamie county (Robbins). Tessen also reports seeing two in Outagamie county on August 3, northwest of Appleton, which would be very near the same area.
- Winter Wren:** Found in the usual northern locations (Robbins, Bradford). Also one singing in Marinette county on June 17 (Lindberg).
- Bewick's Wren:** One was present on June 25 at the Honey Creek dump, Sauk county (Art and Lucy Gauerke).
- Mockingbird:** The only report was of one on June 24 in Lafayette county (Ellis).
- Swainson's Thrush:** Spring migrants lingered in Whitnall Park, Milwaukee, until June 5 (Strehlow). A possible summer resident may have been the one in Vilas county on July 4 (Bradford). Fall migrants had returned to Chippewa county by August 1 (Robbins).
- Bluebird:** Encouraging increases were noted by a number of observers.
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** Farthest north was an unsuccessful nesting attempt in Marinette county (Lindberg). In Jefferson county, one pair made three unsuccessful nesting attempts before June 19 (Johnston).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** Found singing at four Douglas county locations on June 26 and 27, two Price county spots on June 19 and 20, and one in Iron county on June 19 (Robbins). Also found in Bayfield county (Roy), Price county (Hardy) and one in Chippewa county on June 10 could not be located again on June 18 (Dennis Folczyk).

- Loggerhead Shrike:** Present in Trempealeau county on June 8 (Lender), Sauk county on June 18 (Ashman), Marathon county on August 2, 3 and 4 (Hoffman) and six were observed in northern Clark county (Don and Mary Follen).
- Bell's Vireo:** One was located north of Galesville, Trempealeau county on June 13 (Robbins). Nested for the sixth year north of the municipal golf course in Beloit (Ellis).
- Prothonotary Warbler:** One was located on the Wolf River near Hortonville, Outagamie county, on July 20 (Robbins). Found in Vernon county (Morse), a singing male at Blackhawk Point, Lake Koshkonong, Jefferson county, on June 7 (Johnston and Donald).
- Tennessee Warbler:** The female caught on July 10 and males heard singing on July 10 and 11 in Rusk county (Ellis) could have been nesting, but may also have been early fall migrants. Birds were heard daily after July 21 in Cadott (Robbins).
- Nashville Warbler:** The first fall migrants had reached Cadott, Chippewa county, by August 1 (Robbins).
- Northern Parula Warbler:** Found in late June in the following northern counties: Douglas, Bayfield, Washburn, Price, Oneida. Fall migrants were in Marathon county by August 2 (Hoffman), and Chippewa county by August 13 (Robbins).
- Cape May Warbler:** One male was found in Price county on June 19; three were found north of Solon Springs where they have been for the past two summers; early fall migrants were in Cadott on August 12 (Robbins).
- Black-throated Blue Warbler:** One male was found east of Drummond, Bayfield county, on June 27. This is only the second record in northwestern Wisconsin in summer (Robbins).
- Black-throated Green Warbler:** Four were heard singing and one male was seen at Lima Bog in Rock county on June 25, and were carefully noted for all field marks (Ellis).
- Cerulean Warbler:** A record for the most northerly is the male heard singing on June 27 east of Drummond, Bayfield county (Robbins).
- Blackburnian Warbler:** One was found south of the usual area; in Kenosha county from July 2 to 26 (Hoffman).
- Bay-breasted Warbler:** Fall migrants had reached Brown county by August 10 (Wierzbicki) and Oconto county by August 13 (Woodcock).
- Palm Warbler:** One was located July 20 in Oneida county where they are assumed to be nesting (Tessen).
- Northern Waterthrush:** Late June records came from Bayfield, Price, Iron and Barron counties; an early fall arrival was in Chippewa county on August 1 (Robbins).
- Louisiana Waterthrush:** One was spotted near Hatfield, Jackson county, on June 13 (Robbins) and one in Sauk county on June 7 (Johnston and Donald).
- Kentucky Warbler:** A singing male was spotted north of Mazomanie, Dane county, on June 7 (Johnston).
- Connecticut Warbler:** Two were present in Bayfield county on June 27, about 18 were in Douglas county the same day (Robbins). Sam calls this a memorable day for this bird. He is eager for June of 1973 when he hopes to follow through on what may be a "breakthrough" concerning the summer status of this bird. Also found in Iron county on June 20 (Robbins) and in Price county on July 22 (Hardy). Another July observation was one in Door county on Washington Island (Erickson).
- Mourning Warbler:** Last spring migrants were in Sauk county on June 7 (Johnston) and in Jackson and Trempealeau counties on June 13 (Robbins). On June 8, a nest with four eggs was discovered in Oconto county (C. H. Richter).
- Wilson's Warbler:** A fall migrant arrived in Outagamie county on August 12 (Bradford). Also noted in Bayfield (Roy) and Barron counties (Goff), no dates given.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird:** Found to be numerous and increasing in Brown county (Tessen, Cleary and Columban). Found in the usual places including Ozaukee county where it was reported for the first time last year (Bintz).

- Orchard Oriole:** An immature male was seen and heard singing near Cashton, Monroe county, on June 14; one was found in Vernon county same date (Robbins). One was found June 2 and a pair with a nest containing five eggs in Jefferson county on June 7 (Johnston). One was present in Whitnall Park, Milwaukee, on June 27 (Magulski).
- Dickcissel:** Reports came from as far north as Burnett, Washburn and Sawyer counties (Robbins). Irma Chipman found fewer than last year in Waushara county.
- Blue Grosbeak:** One on a powerline at close range in Sheboygan county on June 16 (Eleanor Kuhn). Also reported in Marinette county where two were noted on June 18 and 26 and July 5 (Wagner).
- Evening Grosbeak:** Reports came from the following counties of scattered individuals (never more than two per report): Iron, Douglas and Bayfield counties (Robbins); Vilas and Outagamie (Tessen); St. Croix (Philip Hummel); and Waushara (Tessen, Chipman, William Boose).
- Purple Finch:** Farthest south were the two pair and nestlings found in Waupaca county (Mrs. Irving Auld).
- Pine Siskin:** A diminishing number of observations after the high of 1969. Ten were found in Price county on June 20 (Robbins) where the species was also found from June 14 to June 25 (Hardy). Two were in Douglas county on July 25 (Robbins), one in Oneida county on July 20 (Tessen) and one or two were seen frequently after July 18 in Chippewa county (Robbins).
- Red Crossbill:** An especially large number of observations; the largest number found was 36 near Gordon, Douglas county on June 26 (Robbins). Next largest was the ten in Trempealeau county on July 9 (Lender). Three were in Drummond, Bayfield county on June 27 and the birds were present in Cadott constantly after July 16 with a flock of nine on August 15 (Robbins). Other findings were in Price county from July 26 to August 15 (Hardy); Marinette county (Lindberg); Oneida county on July 20 (Tessen); a pair with young in Green Bay on August 19 (Columban); an injured bird in Brown county on August 13 (Cleary); Sheboygan county on August 15 (Harold Koopman); Vernon county (Morse); Portage county (Rosemary Rossier); Milwaukee on August 6 (H. G. and H. Liebherr) and in July (Donald and Winnie Woodmansee); and in July in Kenosha (James Hamers).
- Grasshopper Sparrow:** Found in the following counties: Sawyer, Burnett, Washburn, Price, Shawano, Oconto, Trempealeau, Outagamie, Winnebago, Vernon, Marathon, Jefferson, Dane, Lafayette, Green and Rock.
- LeConte's Sparrow:** Robbins found the following: three in Sawyer county on June 3, two in Rusk county on June 3, two in western Clark county June 8, one in eastern Clark county June 19, one in Douglas county June 26, one in Bayfield county June 26 and two in Ashland June 26. Also found in Ashland county on June 29 (Roy) and two in Winnebago county on August 3 (Tessen).
- Lark Sparrow:** Two were present in Oconto county on June 9 (Tessen); one was in Waushara county on June 10 (Tessen); one in Sauk county on June 7 (Johnston and Donald) and one at the Honey Creek dump, Sauk county, on June 25 (Gauerkes).
- Dark-eyed Junco:** Found in Bayfield county (Robbins, Roy), Vilas county (Bradford) and Menominee county (Robbins). An early fall migrant was in Kenosha county on August 2 (Hoffman).
- Clay-colored Sparrow:** Most southerly were the June 17 observations in Jackson and Juneau counties (Robbins).
- Field Sparrow:** Six were found in Douglas county on June 26 by Robbins who comments that they are usually scarce that far north. Tessen found two in Appleton during the summer and says they are very rare in that area.
- White-crowned Sparrow:** Found July 8 at the UW-M Field Station in Ozaukee county (Bintz).
- White-throated Sparrow:** Found for the third consecutive year near Hatfield, Jackson county, on June 13. Also in six areas of Chippewa county (Robbins). Also found in Bayfield (Roy), Price (Hardy), Chippewa (Folczyk), Oconto (Tessen, Woodcock) and Brown counties (Cleary and Columban).

Fox Sparrow: The bird found in Kenosha from July 2 to 26 may have been injured. It was not seen flying (Hoffman).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Found in three Iron county locations on June 19; one east of Park Falls in Price county; one in southeast Menominee county on July 19 (Robbins). Four were singing and observed west of Three Lakes, Oneida county, on July 20 and one in Langlade county on the same date (Tessen).

1972 OBSERVERS

Marjorie Albrecht, Ralph and Ellen Allan, Nancy Ashman, Tom Ashman, Mrs. Irving Auld, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Basten, Jane Bickford, Tom and Carol Bintz, William Boose, Alfred Bradford, Mr. and Mrs. John Brakefield, Irma Chipman, Edwin S. Cleary, Brother Columban, Mary Donald, Tom Ellis, Tom Erdman, Louise Erickson, James O. Evrard, Bob Fiehweg, Dennis Folczyk, Don and Mary Follen, Bill Foster, Mrs. Andrew Fuller, Art and Lucy Gauerke, Alta Goff, James Hamers, Maybelle Hardy, Mrs. Francis Harmer, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Heitkemper, Ronald R. Hoffman, Philip Hummel, Clara Hussong, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Jaynes, Stuart Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Koeller, Harold Koopman, Eleanor Kuhn, Ruth Lender, H. G. and H. Liebherr, Harold Lindberg, Casimir Magulski, Mrs. Joseph Mahlum, Harold A. Mathiak, Margrette Morse, C. H. Richter, Sam Robbins, Dell and Alex Roger, Rosemary Rossier, Albert Roy Jr., Norma Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Jon L. Seymour, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shepard, Elmer Strehlow, Daryl Tessen, Alice Vincent, Leona Wagner, Robert and Judy Wagner, Viratine Weber, Melvin Wierzbicki, Dr. and Mrs. Warren Woessner, John Woodcock, Winnie Woodmansee.

By the Wayside...

Ivory Gull at Horicon Marsh

While completing birding on the main dike around 8:15 p.m. on July 24, I was finishing observing the Godwit, Dowitchers, Yellowlegs, Phalaropes and "peeps". I heard a bird call that had a blended quality of a high pitched night heron and a tern. When I heard the call a second time it was almost directly overhead. It was then that I took note and looked up to discover a small gull flying very low over me at the moment. Its flight was somewhat like that of a tern or a pigeon — very different from the "typical" gull flight. With 7x binoculars I immediately noticed that it had an all white body, including wings and tail. There was no gray or brown or black on it at all except for the bill and legs which were both black. The gull came from the main pond along the main dike, flew across the road in a south-westerly direction over the marsh and landed in a small pond on the other side of the road some distance from the road. While in flight beyond the road I had it in view with a 30x scope. The total period of observation was approximately three to four minutes. I realize that this is a most "unique" observation but all field marks were carefully noted. I can still picture the bird directly overhead one month after seeing it. — Daryl Tessen

Corrections and Additions to Extreme Arrival and Departure Dates, Passenger Pigeon, Vol. XXXII, No. 3

1. Page 101, under Fall Arrival column, **Golden Plover**, delete Aug. 7, 1964, Rudy Ohm and insert August 2, 1972, Charles Kemper.
2. Page 103, **Greater Yellowlegs**, delete July 3, 1963; insert July 1, 1972, Tom and Carol Bintz in the Fall Arrival column.
3. Page 102, **Knot**, under Spring Departure column, delete June 6, 1966, Richard Bernard; insert June 8, 1972, Tom Erdman and Brother Columban.
4. Page 103, **Knot**, under Fall Arrival column, delete Aug. 1, 1955, Sam Robbins; insert July 14, 1972, Ralph Koehler, Clara Hussong and Brother Columban.
5. Page 102, **Baird's Sandpiper**, under Summer Status column, insert "remained, 1972".
6. Page 102, **Least Sandpiper**, under Spring Departure column, delete June 12, 1964, Bill Weber; insert June 14, 1972, Ed Cleary and Brother Columban.
7. Page 105, **Dunlin**, under Fall Arrival column, delete July 8, 1965, Bill Weber; insert July 5, 1972, Daryl Tessen.
8. Page 104, **Western Sandpiper**, under Spring Departure column, delete June 7, 1951, Mary Donald; insert June 22, 1971, Sam Robbins and Harold Lindberg.
9. Page 105, **Marbled Godwit**, under Fall Arrival column, delete July 29, 1949, Sam Robbins; insert July 24, 1972, Daryl Tessen.
10. Page 107, **Northern Phalarope**, under Fall Arrival column, delete Aug. 9, 1956, Charles Kemper; insert July 14, 1972, Daryl Tessen.
11. Page 107, **Ivory Gull**, under Exceptional Dates column, delete "only records"; insert July 24, 1972, Daryl Tessen.
12. Page 109, **Ringed Turtle Dove**, under Exceptional Dates column, delete "4 locations since 1962" and insert "occasional escaped cage bird sightings."
13. Page 136, **White-crowned Sparrow**, under Summer Status column, delete "1 record"; insert "2 records".

New Bird Names

Bird students and bird watchers everywhere will note with some consternation the many new names adopted by the AOU Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. The list was published in the April 1973 issue of "The Auk," Journal of the American Ornithologists' Union. The changes are intended to conform to the treatment currently believed correct by the great majority of active systematists. It should be noted that the present list covers but part of the changes that will be required in the next edition of the A. O. U. Check-list.

Whatever controversy or distaste this causes, we feel we must go along. Henceforth the following name changes go into effect in this issue of **The Passenger Pigeon**. If one of the subspecies is reported that needs explanation the old name will be used. There are a number of taxonomic changes in scientific spellings, readjustments and merging of genera and families. For these the reader is referred to the "Auk." Changes below refer merely to English names. The old name is marked with an asterisk. The new name is in bold print.

Great White Heron* is now a subspecies of the **Great Blue Heron**.

Blue Goose* is considered a color phase of the **Snow Goose**.

Green-winged Teal is merged with the **Common Teal*** but retains **Green-winged Teal** as enlarged species name. The **Common Teal*** is referred to as the **Eurasian Green-winged Teal** and our bird as the **American Green-winged Teal**.

Common Scoter* is changed to **Black Scoter**.

Harlan's Hawk* is now a subspecies of **Red-tailed Hawk**.

Thayer's Gull is now distinct and separate from the **Herring Gull**.

Common Flicker is the overall species for **Red-shafted***, **Yellow-shafted***, and **Gilded*** Flickers which are now subspecies.

Trall's Flycatcher* becomes two separate species: **Alder Flycatcher**—the "fee-bee-o" singer, and **Willow Flycatcher**—the "fitz-bew" singer. "Where circumstances do not permit specific identification 'Trall's Flycatcher' remains available for the complex."

Pitayumi and Socorro Warblers* are to be the **Tropical Parula**. The **Parula Warbler*** becomes the **Northern Parula**.

Audubon's Warbler* and the **Myrtle Warbler*** are considered one species, the **Yellow-rumped Warbler**.

Bullock's Oriole* and **Baltimore Oriole*** are merged into one overall **Northern Oriole**.

Great-tailed Grackle is separate from the **Boat-tailed Grackle**.

Ipswich Sparrow* is a subspecies of **Savannah Sparrow**.

Dusky Seaside Sparrow* and **Cape Sable Sparrow*** are merged as subspecies into **Seaside Sparrow**.

Dark-eyed Junco is the new name for **Slate-colored***, **White-winged***, **Oregon***, and **Guadalupe Junco**, which are component subspecies.

Mexican* and **Baird Junco*** are merged to form **Yellow-eyed Junco**.

Fulmar* becomes **Northern Fulmar**.

Common Egret* becomes **Great Egret**.

Wood Ibis* becomes **Wood Stork**.

Widgeon* is now spelled **Wigeon**.

Shoveller* becomes **Northern Shoveler**.

Pigeon Hawk becomes **Merlin**.

Sparrow Hawk* becomes **American Kestrel**.

Upland Plover* becomes **Upland Sandpiper**.

Knot* becomes **Red Knot**.

Catbird* becomes **Gray Catbird**.

Yellowthroat* becomes **Common Yellowthroat**.

There has been a suggestion that there be separate bird name lists for birdwatchers and ornithological students. We have no desire to encourage any such dichotomy. Our aim has always been to serve as a bridge between professionals and amateurs. We will follow the lead of the professionals.

— C. A. Kemper

BOOK REVIEWS

BIRDS OF BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK AND VICINITY by Roland H. Wauer. Paintings by Howard Rollin and Anne Pulich. U. of Texas Press. Austin and London. 1973. 232 pp. Paperback. \$4.95.

This is written by a man who for six years was the Chief Parks Naturalist at Big Bend National Park. The book was probably a labor of love. I can't think of many more exciting jobs a man can have.

Big Bend National Park is a most interesting place for any tourist — but most especially it is a place for the bird watcher. Three hundred and 85 species have been recorded here — more than any other national park. "The Big Bend country is one of those special 'must visit' places for bird watchers. It is one of a handful of localities in the southern latitudes of the United States that represents choice birding. Places like the Everglades, Aransas, Rockport, Ramsey Canyon, the Chiricahuss, and the Chisos sooner or later show up on every birder's calendar."

This is a "where to go and see" book, not a field guide.

A brief history of the ornithological investigation in this area is given. Names such as Harry C. Oberholser, Vernon Bailey, Louis Agassiz Furtes, Josselyn Van Tyne, Frederick and Helen Gaige, Max Peet, George M. Sutton, Herbert Brandt, are a few of the outstanding ornithologists who worked here.

A lovely painting of the Colima Warbler is found at the beginning of the text. This bird is probably Big Bend's most famous bird. It is found nowhere else in the United States. It was first collected in the U. S. by Frederick Gaige on July 20, 1928.

A chapter on the Big Bend country describes the various ecological communities and is illustrated by excellent color photographs. There is a detailed map provided for the bird finder.

The greater part of the text is an Annotated List of Species. The bird paintings may be just a little faded in color. The author prefers and insists on using the term Upland Sandpiper rather than Upland Plover — which perhaps is logical, but nevertheless seems somewhat arbitrary to me.* Some professionals may object to the acceptance of sight records as authentic when details are not given. The scientific names omit the name of the scientist associated with the name.

But the book is a fine book. It makes a useful and interesting addition to the birder's library. And more important it will stimulate the reader to surely investigate this magnificent wild and spectacular part of America.

— C. A. Kemper

*Interestingly the latest AOU checklist has officially changed the name from Upland Plover to Upland Sandpiper.

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