



*Wintering Peregrine Falcon, west of Champaign, Champaign County. 11 January 2009.*  
Photo by Greg Lambeth.

22 & 24 Jan (MAM, JAS & DMK, MSS); St. Joseph (Champaign Co), 20 Dec (MPW); Crawford Co, 12 Feb (RES, CLH); Carl.L., 31 Jan (DMK); Marion Co, 2 Feb (RES, CLH). **Others** ("Richardson's" or "Prairie" subspecies): Sangamon Co, 14 Jan (HDB); Clin.L., 27 Dec & 21 Jan (fide RLJ & \*MEF resp). Winter records for Merlin continue to increase. Bohlen (1978) considered this species a "very rare winter resident".

#### **Peregrine Falcon**

**MC:** 2 (pr.), Wauk., 31 Dec-3 Jan (EWW); 2, Les Arends FP (Kane Co), 4 Jan (KL). **Others:** ad., Rockfd, 7 & 27 Dec (DTW, BCW); ad., Kane Co, 20 Dec (MAM); Chi, 24 Feb (MJB); ad., LCal, 27 Dec & 29 Jan (WJM); Moline (Rock Island Co), 2 Feb (KJM); Champ. (2<sup>nd</sup> bird? west of town), 11-31 Jan (GSL ph, et al.); Champ. (roosting on building in town), 12 Dec - 16 Jan (RK, GSL); Urb., 3 Jan (EJC); Fairmount (Vermilion Co), 25 Feb (BP); Madison Co, 8 Dec (FRH); Marion Co, 14 Jan (RES); East St. Louis (St. Clair Co), 14 Jan (KAM); Columbia (Monroe Co), 25 Jan (\*DMK); imm., Randolph Co, 11 Jan (TJD).

#### **PRAIRIE FALCON**

Taylor Twp (Ogle Co), 18 Jan (KL); Champ, 10-16 Jan (BP ph, GSL ph, TB).

#### **Virginia Rail**

IBSP, **31 Dec - 9 Jan** (EWW, \*GAW); St. Clair Co, **20 Dec** (TJD); Wolf Lake (Union Co) (2 calling), **29 Dec** (\*SDB, PM).

#### **Sora**

Wolf Lake (Union Co) (calling), **29 Dec** (\*SDB, PM).

#### **American Coot**

**MC:** 120, Brown, Morgan, Pike, Scott Cos, 16 Dec (TWd, m.ob.); 60, Rend L, 8 Dec (KAM); 32, Chi, 5 Dec (DFS); 21, LCal, 18 Jan (WJM); 20, Crab Or., 9 Jan (KAM); 10, Mazonia-Braidwd, 12 Feb (JBH). **Others:** 9, Whalon L FP (Will Co), 14 Dec (UWG); 7, Shelby Co, 3 Jan (CAT, TLK); 7, Carl.L., 21 Dec (DMK, MSS); 6, Bald.L., 24 Feb (KAM); 6, World Shooting Complex, Sparta (Randolph Co), 27 Feb (SDB); 2, HL, 30 Dec (DMK, MSS); 2, Horseshoe Lake FWA (Alexander Co), 28 Dec (SDB, PM); Urb., 7 Feb (GSL). Poorest season since 1996-1997.

#### **Sandhill Crane**

**MC:** 80, Boone Co, 10 Dec (AEB); 70, Mazonia-Braidwd, 10 Dec (JBH); 66, East Fork L (Richland Co), 20 Feb (CLH); 43, Chi, 6 Dec (CAT, TLK); 25, Edwards Co, 25 Feb (RES); 20, Coles Co, 26 Feb (GC, RB). **Others:** 31, Woodridge (Du Page Co), 4 Dec (JAS); 25, Hennepin L, 23 Feb (MJB); 17, Trail of Tears SF (Union Co), 26 Feb (SDB); 13, Vermilion Co, 27 Feb (BS); 3, Beckemeyer (Clinton Co), 1 Jan (DW); Jasper Co, 13 Jan (\*RES); Lily L (McHenry Co), 25 Feb > (ADF). All records represent late fall or early spring migrant flocks except for two January records.



*Prairie Falcon in Champaign County. 10 January 2009.*  
Photo by Brock Price.

#### **Killdeer**

**MC:** 36, Bald.L., 24 Feb (KAM); 30, Carl.L., 8 Feb (DMK, MSS); 22, Santa Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co), 22 Feb (KAM); 13, Boone Co, 11 Feb (AEB); 10, Ten Mile Creek FWA (Jefferson Co), 24 Feb (SDB); 10, World Shooting Complex, Sparta (Randolph Co), 27 Feb (SDB); 8, Chau, 27 Feb (RGB, SNB); 5, Mercer Co, 23 Dec (CM, JMo, KJM, SBH). **Others** (central & north): 2, Chi, 1 Dec (GN); 2, L&D #13 (Whiteside Co), 18 Dec (KJM, LB, JS, DF); 2, Subat FP (Kendall Co), 15 Feb > (UWG); 2, Kank., 15 Feb (JBH); 2, Will Co, 25 Feb (JAS); Champaign Co, 13 & 20 Dec (GSL); Wauk., 21 Feb (EWW). Most early Dec and late Feb records represent migrant birds.

#### **LESSER YELLOWLEGS**

Whalon L FP (Will Co), **26 Feb** (JAS).

#### **SPOTTED SANDPIPER**

Rend L, **6 & 13 Jan & 10 Feb** (LS).

#### **SANDERLING**

Rend L, 9 Dec (LS).

#### **LEAST SANDPIPER**

Rend L, 20 Dec (LS); UCCA, 29 Dec (SDB, PM).

#### **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER**

Chi, 3-4 Dec (RDH, \*KH).

#### **Wilson's Snipe**

**MC:** 14, Brown, Morgan, Pike, Scott Cos, 16 Dec (TWd, m.ob.); 8, Rend L, 8 Dec (KAM); 2, Mercer Co, 23 Dec (TM, WZ). **Others:** Du Page Co, 28 Feb (UWG); Whalon L FP (Will Co), 14 Dec (UWG); Fayette Co, 24 Feb (MAH); Jasper Co, 24 Feb (RES); Peabody FWA, 25 Feb > (TJD); Harrisburg (Saline Co), 25 Feb (SDB); Mermet L SP (Massac Co), 5 Jan (KAM).

#### **American Woodcock**

**MC:** 12, Ten Mile Creek FWA, Eads Unit (Jefferson Co), 24 Feb (SDB); 12, Peabody FWA, 23 Feb (TJD); 10, Carl.L., 16 Feb (DMK); 10, Pinckneyville (Perry Co), 26 Feb (SDB). **Others:** 2, St. Clair Co, 7 Feb (TJD); 2, Wayne Fitzgerrell SP (Franklin Co), 7 Feb (KAM); 2, Edwards Co, 18 Feb (RES); 2, Monroe Co, 26 Feb (CCD, PPD); Riverbend FP (Champaign Co), 15 Feb (CKA); Mahomet (Champaign Co), 14 Feb (RDD). Good numbers, presumably all involving spring migrants.

#### **LAUGHING GULL**

**MC:** 2 ad., Miss. R (Madison Co), **2 Jan** (\*DMK, MSS)--the only winter-season count greater than one. **Others:** ad., Carl.L., **10 Jan** (\*DMK, MSS)--latest winter date other than possible over-wintering in 2000-2001; Rend L, **20 Dec** (RES, CLH); Crab Or., **21 Dec** (RMR, \*KAM, CAT, TLK); The largest number of reports for any winter season.

#### **FRANKLIN'S GULL**

HL, **15 Feb** (FRH).

#### **Bonaparte's Gull**

**MC:** **3000**, Rend L, 6 Dec (DMK, MSS); 297, Kidd L Marsh, 9 Feb (CCD, PPD); 200, White Co, 18 Dec (CLH); 120, Carl.L., 14 Dec (DMK). **Others:** 13, Wabash Co, 9 Dec (RES); 12, Jasper Co, 12 Dec (CLH).