



Northern Shrike in Clinton County, the most southerly report of this species during the flight of 2007. Photo taken 3-4 November 2007 by Dan Kassebaum.

in the winter of 1999-2000 (Stotz 2001).

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata*) One in Grant Park, Chicago, COO on 2 Sep (2005.022; DFS). Orange-crowned Warblers are reported by birders in early September and even late August, but there is little evidence to support these early fall reports. This record is one of the few documented reports from early September. The earliest fall specimen in the Field Museum collection is 14 September, and is one of only four (out of 78) from earlier than 28 September.

Any Orange-crowned Warbler in the fall in Illinois before 15 September should be documented.

Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum*) subspecies hypochrysea (Yellow Palm Warbler) One at Northerly Island, Chicago, COO on 7 Nov 2006 (DFS, TSS).

UNACCEPTED RECORDS

Possible first state record species (three records of three species)

Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) One photographed near Sparta, RAN on 2 February (2007.058). The observer in this case photographed the owl in question without specifically identifying it as to species. Because the photos appeared to show pale eyes, people to whom the observer showed the photos concluded that the owl was a Great Gray Owl. The Committee concluded, after extensive discussion, that the bird in the photo was a Barred Owl. On close examination, the pale eyes looked to be an irregular area of off-white that did not fully fill the eye sockets, rather than the piercing bright yellow eyes of a Great Gray Owl. The Committee believes that the pale eyes seen in the photo are an artifact. The plumage of the bird also appears to resemble that of a Barred Owl rather than a Great Gray Owl. The general tone of the plumage, the extent of the facial disks and the underparts pattern fit Barred Owl rather than Great Gray Owl. The winter of 2006-2007 was not a major flight year for Great Gray Owl, unlike 2005-2006 when this species occurred south to Iowa and southern Wisconsin. Also southern Illinois seems like an unlikely locale for the first Illinois record of this boreal forest species.

Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) One seen by a single observer in Lincoln Park, Chicago, COO on 28 Oct (2006.051). The majority of the Committee felt the submitted documentation was insufficient to accept this report as the first state record. The details were consistent with Cave Swallow, and the date is also consistent

with the timing of vagrant Cave Swallows elsewhere in the upper Midwest. However, the Committee felt that the description was inadequate to absolutely eliminate immature Cliff Swallows (in particular the pale auriculars of a Cave Swallow were not noted), and the observation of this flying bird was brief and made with the naked eye; no binoculars were used. There have been a handful of Cave Swallows reported from Illinois, mostly along the Lake Michigan lakefront, but none have been accepted yet by IORC, although at least three records remain under consideration. The species has been found in small numbers in other Midwestern states. Most vagrant records in inland eastern North America are from late fall, so this report fits the known pattern of vagrancy. The limited evidence indicates that vagrant birds belong to the subspecies pallida that breeds in Texas and New Mexico (Spahn and Tetlow 2006).

Varied Bunting (*Passerina versicolor*) One reported from Montrose, Chicago, COO on 14 Nov (2004.066). This was a single observer sighting of a basic-plumaged adult male. A majority of the Committee voted not to accept the record based on questions about the origin of such a bird, although a couple of Committee members also expressed concern about the identification, questioning whether other buntings and grosbeaks had been eliminated. Varied Bunting undergoes a fairly limited migration at the north edge of its range with birds withdrawing a short distance southward into northern Mexico. Varied Bunting typically disappear from their southwestern US breeding grounds by September (Phillips et al 1964), well before this record. However, the only two California records are from mid-November and January (Roberson 1980). There is little evidence of long-distance vagrancy in this species; the only accepted record in North America far from its breeding range is a 7 May 1995 record at Long Point, Ontario (Dobos 1996).

Review list species (three records of three species)

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) One seen and photographed in southwestern MON on 13-14 Oct (2007.023). The Committee examined both the photograph and the written details on this bird. A majority of the Committee thought that the documentation was not sufficient to determine the identity of this bird, as White-faced Ibis could not be eliminated. The bird is accepted as a *Plegadis* sp., not identified to species.

Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) One gray morph reported at Peoria, PEO on 17 Dec (2005.021). The Committee unanimously thought that the documentation of this bird had too limited a description of the bird and did not rule out the possibility of it being another species of raptor.

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) An adult male found dead near Midway airport, COO in early May (2007.059). A photo of a dead adult male Painted Bunting appeared on-line on Craig's List (<http://chicago.craigslis.org/>) in mid May 2007. The narrative that accompanied the photo