

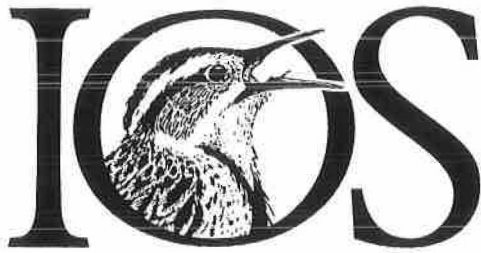
# Meadowlark

A JOURNAL OF ILLINOIS BIRDS

Volume 4, Number 2

1995





## Illinois Ornithological Society

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### **Letter from the editor**

#### *For the good finds, bird your backyard*

Like Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, I often believe "there's no place like home" to find a good bird. The only time I've ever seen a Carolina Wren in northern Illinois has been in my backyard. One spring day, with windows open on my screened-in porch, I heard the distinctive "tea kettle, tea kettle, tea kettle tea" of the wren which perched on my feeder for a minute, then flew away.

A fairly regular bird out in the field could be a rarity in the backyard giving you a whole new perspective on that species. One crisp fall afternoon, several Swainson's Thrushes fed on ripening elderberries in my backyard. I watched as they tenderly plucked the berries from the bush, held them between their beaks for a few moments, then swallowed. Eastern Kingbirds have fed elderberries to their fledglings in my backyard in late summer.

In spring, I have heard White-throated Sparrows singing in my backyard. I have seen several Northern Orioles on a sugar maple, a Common Nighthawk ensconced horizontally on a black walnut tree in the neighbor's front yard, and a Fox Sparrow shuffling around near composted leaves.

For those few sweet moments, my backyard is transformed into a mini-nature preserve. Birding in the backyard (and front yard) brings home the realization that "rare find" can have many different meanings. Zealous birders trying to find fame in discovering a state first could retain the pure joy of birding if they spent a few moments birding in their backyards. They may even record a state first as Ann Minckler did when she saw Illinois' first confirmed Painted Bunting at her feeder a few years ago.

In this issue, we feature a compendium of backyard bird sightings and high counts compiled by Sue Friscia. You'll read about James Smith who has recorded 221 species of birds on his farmstead. One day, Smith tallied 1,000 Horned Larks; another day, he counted 250 Pectoral Sandpipers. The sighting that really gets my "envy" juices flowing is the account of six Worm-eating Warblers that once visited Judy DeNeal's backyard.

If you'd like to share some of your favorite back or front yard birding tales, please send a double-spaced typed written account to me for possible publication in a future issue of *Meadowlark*. The address is 967 Braeburn Road, Mundelein, IL 60060. That's where you could have seen four Yellow-headed Blackbirds feeding on corn my neighbor had scattered on the ground, four Wood Ducks perched on walnut trees across the street, a Brown Creeper gleaning insects from the bark of a silver maple . . .

*Sheryl De Vore*

# MEADOWLARK

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## President's Message

Standing about 5 feet from my open car window one bright Sunday was an unusual looking gull. It was so close I didn't need binoculars and after a lengthy study, I was convinced I had found my first Thayer's Gull in the hard-to-identify 1st winter plumage. What stole my thunder was my passenger who had been looking equally hard, and was pronouncing it an Iceland Gull! After inconclusive vigorous debate, we noticed the gull had shifted position, and the way the sun shone on it gave it a whole different appearance. I realized it was indeed an Iceland Gull and as I was about to sheepishly turn and apologize, my friend had begun to recant his identification and say it was a Thayer's Gull.

It wasn't until we set to paper both our observations that we could confidently identify this species. Others who read the documentation later agreed.

That experience highlights the fact that birders, even skilled ones, can be looking up close at the same bird and see field marks differently. How then can amateurs reasonably expect to impact ornithology? The answer is in written and pictorial documentation, the only means for other reviewers to assess the viability of unusual sightings. If I had started taking notes when I first saw that gull, I probably would have arrived at the correct identification earlier.

When sending details to our Illinois Ornithological Records Committee, which is aggressively reviewing old records, it is vital to have written materials. Take notes. Try drawing the bird. Take photographs. After my experience, I will more readily trust the rare sighting that comes from a birder with a heavily used notepad over a birder who took no notes in the field.

*Eric Walters*

## Articles

- Endangered and Threatened Birds of Illinois:** 42  
An overview of the species and their habitats  
- James R. Herkert,  
Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board
- First Confirmed Illinois Record of the Glaucous-winged Gull** 47  
- David B. Johnson, Laurence C. Binford, Ph.D.,  
Alan Stokie, and Walter Marcisz

## Departments

- Bird Finding Guide ~ Fermilab** 51  
- Denis Kania and Peter Kasper
- Feeder Station** 57  
Illinois' First Backyard Bird High Count  
- Sue Friscia  
Backyard lister attracts 221 species on farmstead  
- Judy K. DeNeal
- Photo Essay** 61  
A Day in the Life of a Glossy Ibis  
- Dennis Oehmke
- Seasonal Highlights/Fall Migration 1994** 62  
Northern Gannet, Ground Dove, Sharp-tailed Sparrow,  
Ross' Goose, *Branta x Anser* Hybrid, Yellow Rail
- Field Notes ~ Fall Migration 1994** 66  
- Robert Chapel

**About our cover:** Our art editor Denis Kania drew the Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Twenty one individuals of this species were seen in one day during fall migration at Illinois Beach State Park in Lake County. For more information, see Seasonal Highlights. Kania has exhibited his drawings at the Midwest Birding Symposium and A Touch of Nature in Chicago. He accepts commissioned works and can be reached at (708) 961-5364.

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# ENDANGERED AND THREATENED BIRDS OF ILLINOIS: AN OVERVIEW OF THE SPECIES AND THEIR HABITATS

James R. Herkert

Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board  
Springfield, Illinois

In Illinois there are presently 203 species of recorded breeding birds of which 42 (21%) are considered to be either endangered or threatened. The proportion of endangered and threatened birds is somewhat higher than the proportion of endangered and threatened taxa among most other vertebrate groups in the state (e.g., fish 17%, amphibians 13%, reptiles 22%, and mammals 15%).

The identification and protection of endangered and threatened species in Illinois had its primary roots in the early 1970s when two lists of rare, endangered, and extirpated species were developed. In 1971, George (1971) published a list of vanished and endangered birds of Illinois as an outgrowth of the 1970 annual meeting of the Illinois Audubon Society. George's list identified 27 species considered to be at risk of extirpation as breeding species and identified an additional 16 species that were considered to have been extirpated as breeding species (Table 1). In 1972, the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission approved a preliminary list of 121 rare and endangered vertebrates (Illinois Nature Preserves Commission 1973), which included nine endangered, 32 rare, and six possibly extirpated species of birds (Table 1).

Also in 1972, the Illinois General Assembly passed the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act providing legal protection for endangered species and creating the first official

list of Illinois endangered species. However, no birds were included on this initial list. Illinois' first official list of endangered species included only exotic species such as tigers, leopards, cheetahs, crocodiles, jaguars, polar bears, and ocelots.

The first official lists of endan-

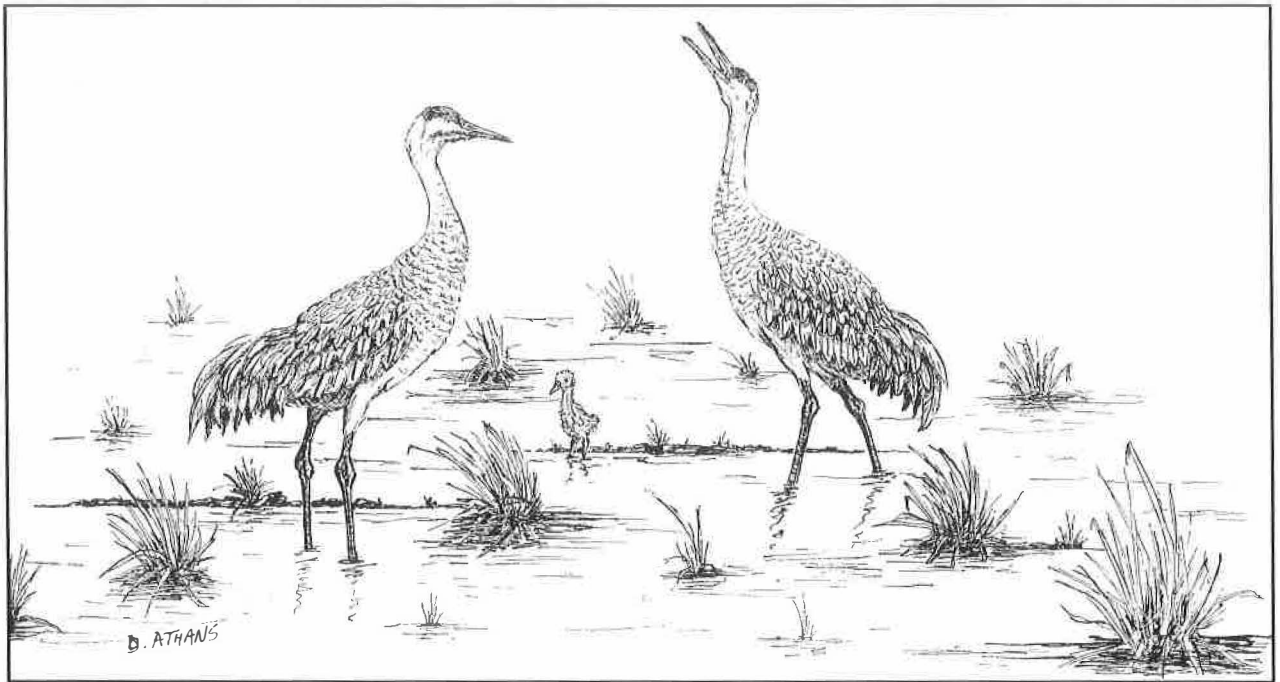


*The Red-shouldered Hawk has been listed as an endangered breeding species in Illinois since 1972. The species has bred within the past few years at Ryerson Conservation Area, Deerfield, Illinois, Lake County. The photo of this Red-shouldered Hawk was taken 31 Jan. 1992 in Springfield, Illinois by Dennis Oelmuke.*

gered and threatened native species were developed as part of the Illinois Endangered Species Project, which was initiated in 1977 by the Natural Land Institute. The Endangered Species Project was established to deter-

mine which native vertebrate and vascular plant species were threatened with extirpation. Following the compilation of preliminary information on potential species, a series of workshops were held in conjunction with the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory Project in order to discuss the status of each species. The subsequent lists were then determined based on a consensus of experts, and forwarded to the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board for action. The Board held public hearings regarding the proposed lists and following review, adopted a list of 72 endangered and threatened vertebrates and 364 endangered and threatened plants (Bowles 1981). The first official list of Illinois native endangered and threatened species included 40 species of birds (Table 1).

The list of endangered and threatened bird species remained essentially unchanged for nearly 10 years until 1988-1989 when the list underwent its first major revision. Amendments added to the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act in 1985 included a provision that called for the review and revision of the state list of endangered and threatened species no less than once every five years. The 1988-1989 revisions resulted in the addition of five bird species to, and the removal of two bird species from, the state list resulting in a new total of 43 endangered and threatened bird species (Table 1).



*The Sandhill Crane is an endangered species in Illinois. Drawing by David Athans.*

### 1994 CHANGES IN THE STATE LIST OF ENDANGERED AND THREATENED BIRDS

In January 1994, the second major revision of the Illinois list of endangered and threatened species was completed, adding another two bird species to and removing three bird species from the state list for a total of 42 endangered and threatened species in Illinois (Table 1). The Yellow-crowned Night-heron and King Rail were added to the state list as threatened species, and the Brewer's Blackbird, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Purple Gallinule were removed from the state list. The Yellow-crowned Night-heron and King Rail were added to the state list due to evidence of population declines and threats to their breeding habitat. The Purple Gallinule was removed from the state list on the basis that its breeding status in Illinois appears to be that of a vagrant, with Illinois occurring substan-

tially north of its typical breeding range. The Brewer's Blackbird was removed on the basis of its relatively recent addition to Illinois' bird fauna (first recorded as nesting in Illinois in 1930; Ford 1930, Lyon 1930) without a history of population decline, and because its disturbed habitats are not threatened in Illinois. The Clay-colored Sparrow was also removed from the list for similar reasons, lack of evidence of a significant population decline and a dependence on disturbed/artificial habitats. Nelson (1876) listed the Clay-colored Sparrow as a rare summer resident near the borders of the prairies but gave no specific nesting information. That was the only known reference to this species in the state until its discovery in 1972 in Lake County (Herkert 1992). The first documented Clay-colored Sparrow nest in Illinois was not discovered until 1983 (Pucelik and Pucelik 1984). Presently the only known breeding population in the state occurs on a Christmas tree farm in Winnebago County (see Pucelik and Pucelik 1984).

### GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ENDANGERED AND THREATENED BIRDS

The distribution of endangered and threatened bird species in Illinois is shown in Figure 1. Areas of high concentration of endangered and threatened birds include the northeastern part of the state (Chicago metropolitan area), the Mississippi and Illinois rivers and their associated wetlands, and the southern Illinois forested regions including the Shawnee National Forest. However, endangered and threatened bird species can be found throughout much of Illinois. The high concentration of endangered and threatened bird species in the Chicago metropolitan area may be due in part to the large number of people in this region that look for birds, particularly rare ones. However, the Chicago area also contains a very diverse assemblage of natural communities (White 1978) and is also

an area in the state undergoing the most rapid development.

In terms of the number of endangered and threatened species per county, Cook County has the highest number of state-listed breeding bird species with 17. Lake and Will counties are a close second with 15 endangered and threatened breeding bird species each. Other counties with relatively high numbers of endangered and threatened breeding bird species include DuPage (12), Vermilion (10), Carroll (10), McHenry (10), Johnson (9), Kane (9), Jasper (8), and Union (8).

The Loggerhead Shrike is currently the most widespread endangered or threatened bird species in Illinois with confirmed breeding in 40 counties since 1980. However, Loggerhead Shrike numbers remain very low in the northern portions of the state with nesting pairs generally widely scattered and unpredictable in occurrence. Five endangered and threatened bird species are known to breed in only one Illinois county, the Common Tern, Forster's Tern, Osprey, Swainson's Hawk, and Wilson's Phalarope. Breeding records for four of these five species are restricted to the Chicago Metropolitan region. The Common Tern is known to nest in only one location in Lake County, with a population that has fluctuated between 15 and 30 pairs in recent years. The Forster's Tern is also known to nest at only one location on an isolated island in a heavily used Lake County state park. Fewer than 50 pairs of Forster's Terns presently nest in Illinois. The Osprey is also a very rare breeding species in Illinois with only one documented nest in the state in the last 40 years, a 1986 nest in Adams County. The Wilson's Phalarope has not been known to nest in Illinois since a 1981 record from Cook County.

TABLE 1. Bird species composition of lists of endangered, threatened, and rare bird species in Illinois. INPC = Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, IESPB = Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board. See text for an explanation of the various state lists.

	George <sup>1</sup> (1971)	INPC <sup>2</sup> (1971)	IESPB <sup>3</sup> (1978)	IESPB <sup>3</sup> (1988)	IESPB <sup>3</sup> (1994)
Pied-billed Grebe				E	T
Double-crested Cormorant	E	E	E	E	T
American Bittern		R	E	E	E
Least Bittern				E	E
Great Egret			E	E	T
Snowy Egret		R	E	E	E
Little Blue Heron		R	E	E	E
Black-crowned Night-heron		R	E	E	E
Yellow-crowned Night-heron					T
American Black Duck		R			
Northern Pintail	E	R			
Northern Shoveler	E	R			
Canvasback		R			
Hooded Merganser	E	R			
Ruddy Duck		R			
Osprey	E	E	E	E	E
Mississippi Kite	E		E	E	E
Bald Eagle	E	E	E	E	E
Northern Harrier		R	E	E	E
Sharp-shinned Hawk	E	R		E	E
Cooper's Hawk	E	E	E	E	E
Red-shouldered Hawk		E	E	E	E
Swainson's Hawk	X	X	E	E	E
Peregrine Falcon	X	E	E	E	E
Ruffed Grouse	E				
Greater Prairie-chicken	E	E	E	E	E
Yellow Rail	E	X	E	E	E
Black Rail	E	X	E	E	E
King Rail					T
Purple Gallinule	X		E	E	
Common Moorhen			T	T	T
Sandhill Crane	X			E	E
Piping Plover	X		E	E	E
Upland Sandpiper		E	E	E	E
Common Snipe		R			
Eskimo Curlew			E		
Wilson's Phalarope	E	X	E	E	E
Common Tern		R	E	E	E
Forster's Tern		R	E	E	E

TABLE 1. (continued)

	George1 (1971)	INPC2 (1971)	IESPB3 (1978)	IESPB3 (1988)	IESPB3 (1994)
Least Tern	E	R	E	E	E
Black Tern			E	E	E
Common Barn-owl		R	E	E	E
Long-eared Owl		R	E	E	E
Short-eared Owl		R	E	E	E
Northern Saw-whet Owl		R			
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		R			
Least Flycatcher	E				
Western Kingbird		R			
Red-breasted Nuthatch	E	R			
Brown Creeper	E	R	E	T	T
Bewick's Wren		R	T	E	E
Veery		R	T	T	T
Loggerhead Shrike		R	T	T	T
Solitary Vireo	E	R			
Golden-winged Warbler	E				
Nashville Warbler	E	R			
Pine Warbler		R			
Black-and-White Warbler	E				
Bachman's Warbler	X		E		
Swainson's Warbler	E	R	T	E	E
Bachman's Sparrow	E	E	E	E	E
Clay-colored Sparrow	E	X		E	
Henslow's Sparrow			T	T	E
LeConte's Sparrow	E	X			
Yellow-headed Blackbird	E		E	E	E
Brewer's Blackbird		R	T	T	

1 E = Endangered, very limited numbers of breeders; X = Extirpated, formerly reproducing species which have become extinct or have been extirpated as breeding Illinois populations. Source: George (1971).

2 R = Rare, very restricted range and/or numbers in Illinois; E = Endangered, in danger of extirpation from Illinois. Source: Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (1973).

3 E = Endangered, species in danger of extinction as breeding species in Illinois; T = Threatened, species likely to become state endangered within the foreseeable future in Illinois. Sources: Bowles and Thom (1981), Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board (1989), Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board (1994).

## HABITATS OF ENDANGERED AND THREATENED BIRD SPECIES

A look at the distribution of endangered and threatened bird species among breeding habitats shows that a disproportionate number of wetland and grassland associated breeding birds are considered to be at risk of extirpation as breeding species in Illinois. There are 61 species of breeding birds associated with wetland and open water habitats in Illinois, of which 23 (38%) are currently listed as endangered or threatened (Table 2). Illinois grasslands, which contain only 19 species of breeding birds also have a high proportion of listed species with 32% of all grassland associated breeding bird species listed as either threatened or endangered (Table 2). In contrast woodlands, which contain the highest number of breeding bird species in Illinois (72), have only 9 (12%) species listed as endangered or threatened (Table 2). Shrublands and early successional habitats have 37 associated species of breeding birds of which only three (8%) are considered either threatened or endangered.

## THREATS TO ENDANGERED AND THREATENED BIRD SPECIES IN ILLINOIS

Historically, bird populations in Illinois have been significantly affected by loss and degradation of habitat, interactions with introduced non-native species, egg collecting, destruction of nests by feral cats and dogs, unregulated hunting, pesticides, pollution, and human disturbance in and around nesting areas (Woodruff 1907, Ridgway 1915, Bowles and Thom 1981). Today the loss and degradation of breeding habitat continues to be the single greatest threat to most endangered and threatened bird species.

However, destruction of nests by feral cats and dogs may still be a serious problem for birds in some areas given the high degree of development and urbanization that surrounds many sites where endangered and threatened birds nest and the high density of feral cats in many rural areas (Warner 1985, Coleman and Temple 1993).

### CONSERVATION NEEDS OF ENDANGERED AND THREATENED BIRDS IN ILLINOIS

The protection of breeding habitat and increased protection for breeding adults from human disturbances during the breeding season are the primary conservation needs of endangered and threatened bird species in Illinois. Many breeding sites used by endangered and threatened bird species continue to be jeopardized by conversion, development, and degradation due to continued development. Several other sites where endangered and threatened bird species nest can be significantly influenced by high levels of human disturbances, occasionally even by people specifically seeking "rare" birds. Disturbances to areas that are known to possess breeding populations of endangered and threatened bird species should be kept to a mini-

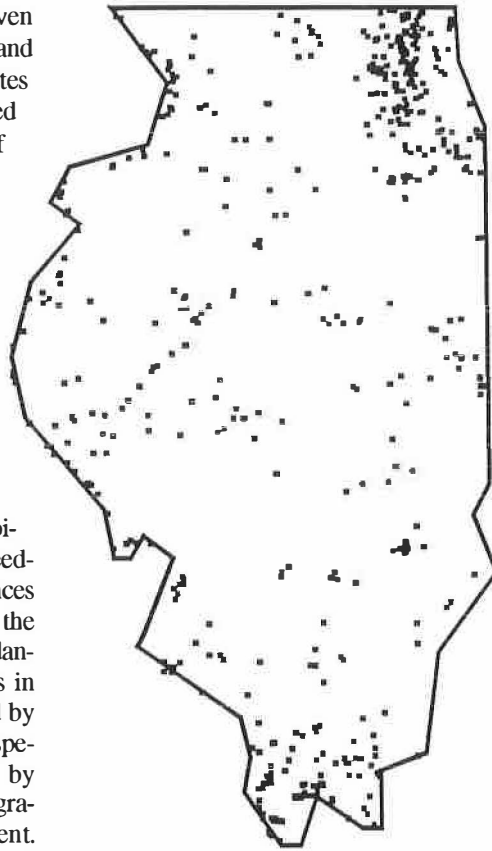


Figure 1. Approximate locations of breeding records for endangered and threatened bird species in Illinois. Only records since 1980 are shown.

imum so that these birds are afforded the best possible opportunity to successfully raise their young.

Recent increases in Illinois populations of a number of endangered and threatened bird species such as, the Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Great Egret, and Double-crested Cormorant and the recent reestablishment of a breeding population of Sandhill Cranes (Greenberg 1980) are encouraging signs and suggest that population declines of some endangered and threatened species can be successfully reversed. However, populations of many endangered birds in Illinois remain critically low indicating the need for increased measures to stem the decline of some of Illinois' rarest breeding bird species.

**AUTHOR'S NOTE:** *If you see evidence of nesting by an endangered or threatened bird in Illinois, please notify the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board at 524 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Please include the following information: Species seen, date(s) seen, breeding evidence, and precise location information.*



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TABLE 2. Number of breeding and endangered and threatened bird species by habitat types in Illinois.

Habitat	Number of Breeding Species	Number of Endangered/Threatened Species	
Wetland/Open Water	61	23	(38%)
Grassland	19	6	(32%)
Woodland	72	9	(12%)
Shrubland/ Early Successional	37	3	(8%)
Urban	12	1	(8%)



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# First Confirmed Illinois Record of the Glaucous-winged Gull

By David B. Johnson, Laurence C. Binford, Ph.D,  
Alan Stokie, and Walter Marcisz

Thanksgiving is traditional for unusual birds to appear along Chicago's lakefront. Thanksgiving Day, 27 November 1992, was no exception, and this time birders were grateful for some good gull sightings. On the Shedd Aquarium breakwater was an adult California Gull (*Larus californicus*). At Montrose Harbor a Little Gull (*L. minutus*) fed with a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls (*L. philadelphia*), and a third-year Lesser Black-backed Gull (*L. fuscus*) stood on the beach. Finally, the immature Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) found on 21 November was still at Navy Pier. The next day, birders failed to relocate these four rarities but instead made an even more remarkable discovery—the first confirmed Glaucous-winged Gull (*L. glaucescens*) for Illinois and the easternmost for North America. This sighting was reviewed and accepted in early 1995 by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee.

## Sightings

Alan Stokie, having given up the lakefront search for the Thanksgiving Day gulls, decided to visit some new locations. He arrived at O'Brien Lock and Dam on the Calumet River, Chicago, Cook County, with fellow birders Louise Augustine, Pat Geis, and Andy Sigler. This foursome en-

The Glaucous-winged Gull is essentially a bird of the Pacific coast. The Illinois bird apparently is a product of a recent pattern of inland vagrancy and range expansion of this species.....

countered Sue Friscia and Wes Serafin chumming gulls. Just west of the river some 1,000 gulls foraged on a gigantic garbage dump. All six observers searched the flock but except for one possible Glaucous Gull (*L. hyperboreus*) they could find only the usual Herring (*L. argentatus*) and Ring-billed (*L. delawarensis*) Gulls. Having reached the limit of how many herrings and ring-bills most birders can tolerate, Friscia and Serafin departed. The four remaining birders then shifted their attention to the gulls on the

fenced-in lawn next to the river.

Almost immediately Augustine noticed a gull that had a very different appearance, being bulkier than a Herring Gull and almost uniform pale brownish-gray. The wing tips and tail were no darker than the rest of the plumage, whereas in a young Herring Gull these parts are blackish. The observers also noticed that the gull had a very thick, apparently all-black bill. Then, much to the group's frustration, the mystery gull hunkered down on the grass, went to sleep, and was nearly blocked from view by arriving Herring Gulls.

Needing to move some of the obscuring rows of Herring Gulls, the birders began some slow arm waving, resulting in all the gulls flying away! Fortunately, Augustine and Stokie were able to track the bird in flight until it landed on the Calumet River. Now all the birders obtained a better look, and Sigler even viewed the gull through his Questar. But the gull swam toward the opposite bank and disappeared. About ten minutes later all the gulls from the dump arose and circled higher and higher. They were then joined by the river gulls, and the entire group flew east toward Lake Michigan.

Augustine suggested that the unknown gull might be a glaucous-winged in first basic (first-winter) plumage, but this is a bird normally found only along the Pacific coast. Although nothing they saw would rule out this identification, Sigler felt that eliminating hybrids, such as between Glaucous-winged and Western (*Larus o. occidentalis*) Gulls, would be difficult. An estimate of their viewing time was 8 to 10 minutes when the bird was on the ground and in the water. While it was in flight, Augustine and Stokie saw it for only a few seconds, and Sigler did not see it at all. The group agreed it would be necessary to see the gull again for a longer period, especially in flight. They also felt that for this record to be

accepted by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC), more birders would have to see the bird, particularly someone more experienced with immature west coast gulls.

Fortunately, the gull remained in the Lake Calumet area through 12 December 1992 and was seen by scores of birders. Most observations were adjacent to the O'Brien Lock and Dam, either on the Calumet River,



*Glaucous-winged Gull flying above O'Brien Lock and Dam, Chicago, Cook County. 9 Dec. 1992.*

*Photo by David B. Johnson.*

a frozen pond, or the Calumet Industrial District dump. On days when this dump was closed, the bird was observed from the Beaubien Woods Forest Preserve boat launch on the Little Calumet River adjacent to the Dolton dump.

## Description

The following description was compiled from color photographs (Johnson, J. B. Milosevich, D. Oehmke), a sketch (Marcisz), a videotape (Johnson), and eight written descriptions (the authors, L. Augustine, R. Chapel, J. E. Landing, and J. B. Milosevich; on file with IORC). Nearby Herring Gulls afforded excellent direct comparisons standing, swimming, and flying. See accompanying photographs.

**Size and shape.** Overall size approximately same as Herring Gull, but neck and chest bulkier; humorously but aptly described as "built like a Herring Gull on steroids." Primary extension beyond tail less than 1 inch, much shorter than Herring Gull and contributing to stocky appearance.

**Head and neck shape.** Head larger and neck thicker than Herring Gull, but head shape the same, with well-sloped forehead and moderately rounded crown.

**Bill.** Key marks separating this bird from Herring Gull: bill length approximately same as Herring Gull, but height greater and similar to Western Gull; color black, perhaps with some paling at base, as suggested by some photos and the video; nail heavy, with a whitish tip, and gonydeal angle pronounced, giving tip a bulbous aspect compared to base.

**Head and neck color.** Head pale brownish-gray, darkest in front of and below eye, this forming a faint "mask," and palest on forehead and crown. Neck pale brownish-gray. Chin and throat white.

**Eye.** Appeared small and dorsally located; iris dark brown.

**Back and scapulars.** Uniform dusky gray, grayer, less brownish, than upperwing coverts.

**Rump, tail coverts, and tail.** Rump conspicuously pure white, contrasting with grayish back and plain brownish-gray tail. Uppertail and undertail coverts whitish, distinctly barred with brownish-gray.

**Legs and feet.** Fleishy pink, slightly darker than herring. Legs thicker and "knobbier-kneed" than herring.

**Wings.** From above, remiges uniform pale brownish-gray, browner and slightly darker than back and similar to upperwing coverts and tail. No darker secondary bar. Inner primaries faintly paler than outers (in flight). Outer primaries narrowly tipped with whitish like Thayer's Gull (*L. thayeri*).



*Glaucous-winged Gull (center) with Herring Gulls in Chicago Industrial District landfill near O'Brien Lock and Dam, Chicago, Cook County, 9 Dec. 1992. Photo by David B. Johnson.*

Unlike Herring Gull, upperwing coverts rather uniform brownish-gray, with very faint buffy brownish mottling on lesser and median coverts and even less conspicuous mottling on greater coverts. From below in flight, remigessilvery-gray, much paler than above but not translucent, and underwing coverts slightly darker brownish-gray than upper-wing coverts. Axillars pale grayish.

**Breast, flanks, and belly.** Brownish-gray, obscurely mottled with whitish and with a buffy tint (probably adventitious). Overall impressions. Although descriptions of overall color varied from uniform "grayish" to "light grayish-brown," or "coffee with lots of cream," there is no doubt about the brownish cast. Either because of optics, lighting conditions, or differing sensory perceptions, some observers could not always discern the brownish tint, particularly on the upperwing coverts, flanks, and belly. In flight the bird looked wide-winged and had labored wing beats similar to a Glaucous Gull, and from below the silvery-gray primaries and secondaries contrasted beautifully with the brownish-gray wing linings.

### Age

Most reviewers and observers (including the authors) categorized this gull as in second basic (second-winter) plumage, based on the white rump, dusky-gray back, rather uniform scapulars and upperwing coverts, and pale culmen nail (compare plates 534 and 537 in Grant 1986). However, second basic Glaucous-winged Gulls typically have a clear gray back contrasting with brownish-gray wings, more white on the head and underparts, and up to 50% of the bill pale (D. Paulson in litt.). The almost entirely black bill and largely dusky plumage of the Lake Calumet bird are more typical of mid winter first basic plumage (D. Paulson in litt.; W. Russell pers. comm.). Glaucous-winged and Western Gulls, perhaps more than any other large gulls, vary in the intensity of markings on their upperwing coverts in first basic plumage; some are contrastingly marked, whereas others are almost unicolor (Paulson in litt.). J. Morlan (in litt.) warns that the timing and aspect of plumages in large *Larus* gulls is so variable that ageing is risky.

In regard to age, we believe that the early date (27 November) of the

Calumet bird is pertinent. Prebasic molt of the contour feathers normally is completed by mid October but may extend to at least mid November (Verbeek 1993). If the bird were less than a year old, a greatly advanced molt sequence, one embracing at least the first prealternate (first-spring) molt, would be needed to account for the white rump, grayish back, somewhat white-mottled head and underparts, and rather uniform upperwing coverts. If on the other hand, the gull were over one year old, we need to envision a retardation of the second

prebasic molt by only a month or so, in our opinion a far more likely scenario. Thus we believe the Calumet bird was in its second calendar year, molting slightly late from first alternate (first-summer) to second basic (second-winter) plumage.

### Identification

All observers were confident of the identification based on the observed characters. But many people wondered if hybrids between Glaucous-winged and Western, Glaucous-winged and Herring, Glaucous-winged and Glaucous, and Glaucous and Herring Gulls could be eliminated.

All similar species were eliminated. Thayer's Gull, although somewhat similar in plumage coloration, is smaller-bodied and smaller-billed and has a long-winged profile at rest, a dark secondary bar, more sharply mottled and checkered upperwing coverts, and wing tips that are usually darker than the mantle. Glaucous Gull usually is larger-bodied and has a distinctly bicolored bill in first and second winters, paler body plumage (often extremely white), translucent primaries, and a marbled tail. Iceland

Gull (*Larus glaucoides*) has a smaller body, much smaller bill, more rounded crown and steeper forehead, usually whiter plumage, and longer primary extension, all of which contribute to an overall delicate appearance, and a vermiculated tail. Slaty-backed Gull (*L. schistisagus*) and Western Gull are similar to Glaucous-winged Gull in size, proportions, and bill shape but show contrasting dark wing tips, tail, and secondary bars.

Grant (1986) stresses that hybrids normally show intermediate or "wrong" characters, none of which was apparent on the Calumet bird. To eliminate Glaucous-winged X Western Gull, the authors consulted D. Paulson, providing him with written documentations, videotape, and still photographs of the Calumet bird. Paulson, familiar with the two species and their hybrids, said, "from available photos, it is a pure Glaucous-winged Gull, showing no evidence of introgression with Western Gull. The two hybridize on a grand scale in Washington, to the point at which many of the birds we see in Puget Sound are intermediate, but the Illinois bird is not so. Nor can I see any

evidence of hybridization with Glaucous or Herring; we get both of these hybrid types here and have them in our collection." In summation, Paulson stated, "this bird was a Glaucous-winged Gull. It matches my mental picture—a composite of many thousands of observations over a quarter-century—of this species perfectly and cannot, from the field marks visible, be any other gull species." All other reviewers, P. Lehman, G. McCaskie, J. Morlan, W. Russell, and T. S. Schulenberg, reached the same conclusions.

## Distribution

The Glaucous-winged Gull is essentially a bird of the Pacific coast. The Illinois bird apparently is a product of a recent pattern of inland vagrancy and range expansion of this species, as will be detailed elsewhere (Binford and Johnson in prep.).

Although the Calumet Glaucous-winged Gull did not generate the fanfare or excitement of the previous year's Ivory Gull (*Pagophila eburnea*;

Stokie 1992; Walters 1992), perhaps it should have. Not only was it the first confirmed record for Illinois but also the easternmost for the species and only the second for eastern North America. The two records nearest Illinois were an adult collected on 15 February 1912 at Capron, Oklahoma (Sutton 1967), about 650 miles southwest, and a first-winter bird seen 31 March to 6 April 1989 near Iliff, some 760 miles west in northeastern Colorado (Kingery 1989; B. Prather in litt.). The only other accepted eastern record was a second-summer bird taken on 1 June 1964 at Churchill, Manitoba (Jehl 1974; P. Chu in litt.). However, it should be noted that three other Illinois sight records are pending before IORC: Peoria and Tazewell counties, 18-24 February 1989; Lake Decatur, Macon County, 19-20 February 1993; and Peoria County, 27-28 February 1993.

Illinois birders truly had something to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. Gulls are great wanderers, and all who saw the Calumet bird were delighted it wandered their way.



## Acknowledgments

Special thanks go to Louise Augustine for spotting and correctly identifying the Calumet Glaucous-winged Gull and for sharing her detailed notes. We also thank R. Chapel, J. E. Landing, and J. B. Milosevich for their documentations; R. Biss, R. E. Goetz, V. M. Kleen, J. O'Brien, D. Oehmke, and A. Sigler for helpful information; P. Lehman, G. McCaskie, J. Morlan, D. Paulson, W. Russell, and T. S. Schulenberg for their expert opinions concerning the identity and age of the bird; and David Willard, Ph.D, for access to specimens at the Field Museum of Natural History.

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- Binford, 330 Grove Street, Glencoe, IL 60022
- Marcisz, 13416 S. Mackinaw Ave, Chicago, IL 60633
- Stokie, 174 E. Kathleen Dr., Park Ridge, IL 60068

## Fermilab offers diversity in undisturbed environment

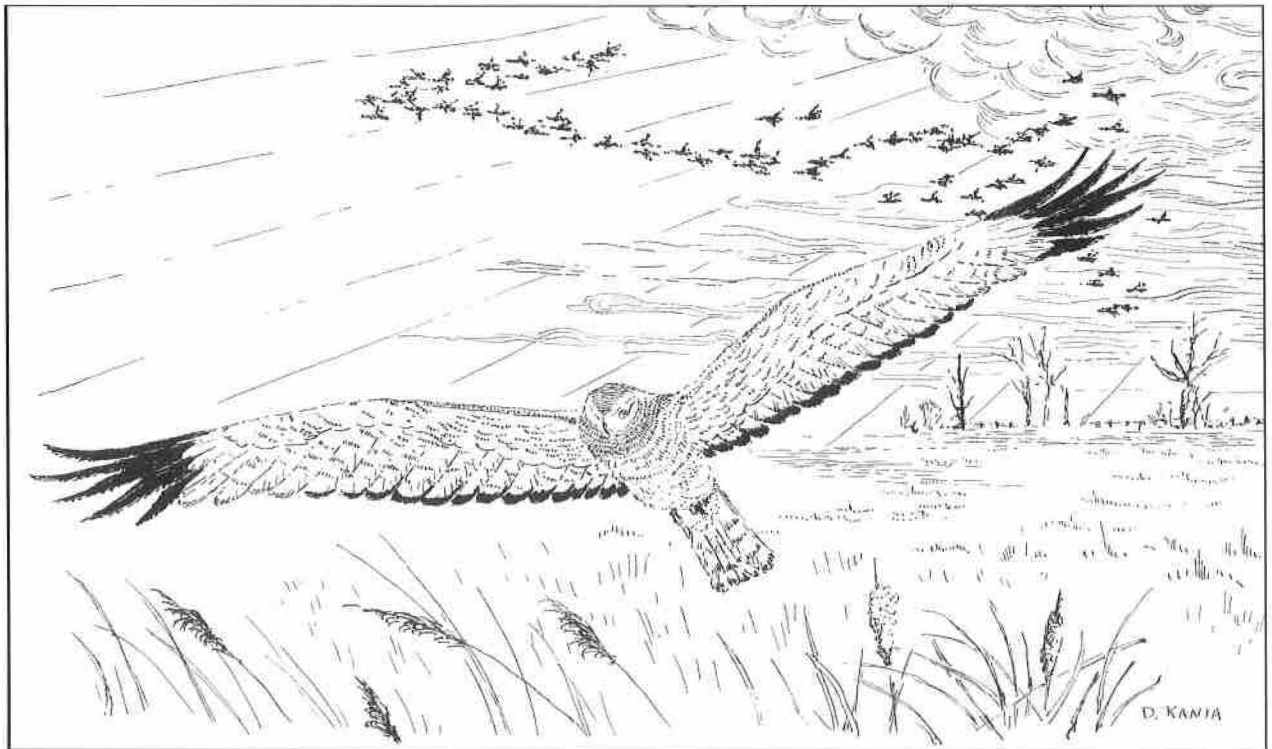
by Denis Kania and Peter Kasper

Diverse habitat and the relative lack of disturbance make Fermilab one of the best birding locations in the Chicago area. This 6,800-acre site has harbored 251 species including 80 confirmed breeding species and eight which probably breed there.

Rarities found at Fermilab include Neotropic Cormorant, Ross' Goose, Garganey, Cinnamon Teal, Yellow Rail, Baird's Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Snowy Owl, Yellow-throated Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, LeConte's

Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, and Harris' Sparrow. Birders have also observed some species more typically associated with the Lake Michigan flyway such as Piping Plover, American Avocet, Willet, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Sanderling, all three phalaropes, and Common Tern.

*continued on page 52*



*Northern Harriers can be found hunting the fields south and west of Lake Law at Fermilab.  
Drawing by Denis Kania.*

# FERMILAB SITE



- |                          |                          |                       |                  |                         |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Farm Machinery Display | 7 Village Pines          | 13 Swenson Rd. Pond   | 19 Buffalo Field | 25 Horse-shoe Pond      |
| 2 A. E. Sea              | 8 DUSAF Pond             | 14 Main Ring Lake (R) | 20 Bullrush Pond | 26 Kidney Pond          |
| 3 Sea of Evanescence     | 9 Oxidation Pond         | 15 Lake Logo (R)      | 21 Casey's Pond  | 27 Education Center     |
| 4 Sparrow Hedge          | 10 Garden Club (R)       | 16 Main Ring Moat (R) | 22 Wilson Hall   | 28 Prairie Trail Head   |
| 5 Lake Law               | 11 Garden Club Marsh (R) | 17 Buffalo Walkow     | 23 Swan Lake     | 29 Director's Woods (R) |
| 6 Red Barn               | 12 Eola Rd Trail Head    | 18 Buffalo Feeders    | 24 Big Woods     | 30 Morgan Woods         |

(R) = Restricted Entry

On the Fermilab grounds, the birder will find upland forest, flood plain woods, oak savanna, restored prairie, grasslands, pasture, croplands, fence rows, scrub, lakes, streams, and wetlands. Fermilab, which is mostly located in DuPage County, is a premiere site for unusual geese, shorebirds, owls, grassland birds, and shrikes. The western portion of the site spills over into Kane County and although less diverse, still offers interesting birding. The accompanying map shows the county line division.

Despite these attractions Fermilab is often overlooked by birders probably because much of the site is closed to the general public. However, birders will find enough accessible areas to comfortably fill an entire day of birding in any season.

### Site Access

If you limit your birding to the areas described in this article you should have no problems with Fermilab security. However, be careful not to enter the restricted areas without permission. If interested in birding any areas not mentioned, check with Site Security located on the first floor of Wilson Hall. Note also that Fermilab grounds have been declared a National Environmental Research Park; hence you may occasionally come across special research areas that should be avoided since the disturbance may prejudice research project results. Regard your birding opportunities at Fermilab as a privilege rather than as a right.

### Birding Areas

The lakes near the east entrance are a good place to start your day's birding in any season. A short distance after entering Fermilab on

Batavia Road (west from Route 59), you will pass between two lakes; north is DUSAF Pond [8] and south is A.E. Sea [2] (an example of physicist humor). A little farther you will come to a stop sign. Parking is available by the Red Barn [6] south of the sign. South of the barn is Lake Law [5]. Two trails start here giving access to the lakes and surrounding grasslands and scrub. The first trail heads west around Lake Law through a small pine plantation (the village pines [7]) and then heads out across grassy fields ending at Eola Rd. The second trail runs around the east side of Lake Law and soon forks; the east fork takes you to the south end of A.E. Sea and the Sea of Evanescence [3] which, despite its grandiose name, is a rather small lake to the south of A.E. Sea. The west fork continues

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With its diversity of habitat, there are certainly more discoveries to be made at Fermilab every year.

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around to the south end of Lake Law where it intersects an east-west trail which runs from Eola Road to the Sea of Evanescence.

In winter, check the village pines west of the Red Barn for Long-eared Owls, Cooper's Hawk, and the occasional Red-breasted Nuthatch. When searching for the owls, be careful not to disturb them. The idea is to spot them at their roost site. Once flushed they become very shy. Further pursuit will only drive them from the area. If you do flush them, give up the search for that day.

Lake Law and A.E. Sea are the most productive lakes for migrating waterfowl, loons, and grebes in early spring and late fall. All inland duck

species have been found on these two lakes including Canvasback, Red-head, Greater Scaup, and all three mergansers. Northern Harriers can be found hunting the fields south and west of Lake Law. A Glaucous Gull on DUSAF pond in March of 1994 was the latest species added to the Fermilab list.

During migration, Ospreys and Bald Eagles have been located near the small woods at the south end of A.E. Sea. In spring 1992 a Cinnamon Teal was found on Lake Law and in 1989 an Eared Grebe was recorded on A.E. Sea. On Halloween day, 1991, a Ross' Goose, 20 Tundra Swans, and 11 Common Loons were seen at Lake Law within an hour.

Sparrows are present in good numbers in late fall. The best area is along the hedgerow [4] which parallels the trail from the south end of Lake Law to the Sea of Evanescence. Many sparrow species have been seen in this area, including Fox, Vesper, and Clay-colored. Most of the Fermilab records for Harris' Sparrow come from this hedgerow. This area can also be productive for Orange-crowned and Pine Warblers. Depending on water levels appropriate habitat may also have developed for LeConte's and Sharp-tailed Sparrows; the south end of Lake Law is your best bet, though you will have to search through hundreds of Savannah and Swamp Sparrows.

Late spring and early fall are the best times to find migrating terns on these lakes. Caspian, Forster's, and Black Terns can all be seen with A.E. Sea, Lake Law, and DUSAF Pond being the most productive. In 1993 a first year Common Tern was found on Lake Law. Ospreys have been known to linger at the south end of A.E. Sea until late May. The cattails at the south end of Lake Law often harbor Sora, Virginia Rail, and Marsh Wrens.

Depending on water levels, late

spring, late summer, and fall can be a good times for shorebirds and pipits. Rarities found in recent years include an avocet on Lake Law in 1991 and the Sea of Evanescence in 1992; Ruddy Turnstone and White-rumped Sandpiper on the Sea of Evanescence in the spring of 1988; a Piping Plover on Lake Law in 1988; Sanderling on DUSAF Pond and A.E. Sea in 1988 and Lake Law in 1991; Buff-breasted and Baird's Sandpipers on Lake Law in 1988 and 1991; Western Sandpiper on Lake Law in 1988; and a Red Phalarope on Lake Law in October of 1981.

The lakes are less productive in the summer, but the surrounding cattails and grasslands are good for Marsh Wren, Bobolink, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, and sometimes Dickcissel. The thicker scrubby areas near the Sea of Evanescence provide nesting habitat for Bell's Vireo and sometimes Yellow-breasted Chat.

Continue west on Batavia Road to the intersection with Eola Road. Just beyond this intersection the road forks; the right fork is the continuation of Batavia Road and the left fork is Road D. Between these roads is a large field [19] containing a herd of buffalo, a popular attraction for non-birders. In late fall and early spring this field will often contain an impressive flock of geese. Thousands of Canada Geese have to be scanned for the reward of finding some Greater White-fronted Geese or even a Ross' Goose. Sightings of both species have increased over the past few years with as many as three Ross' Geese seen at one time in the fall of 1993. Care should be taken when identifying Ross' Geese because Snow Geese, both white and blue morph, are usually found in reasonable numbers here. In some years they have numbered in the hundreds. This field should also be checked in late spring and early fall for Lesser Golden-Plover and Black-bellied Plover.

The savanna on the north-west edge of the buffalo field provides nesting areas for Red-tailed Hawk and Great-horned Owl. You can view the savanna from Road C which forms a T-junction at the west end of Batavia Road.

Along Batavia Road are some buffalo feeders [18] which should also be checked in fall and winter. Scan the starlings, House Sparrows, and buffalo hooves for Horned Larks, Snow Bunting, Lapland Longspur, and Brewer's Blackbird. The grasslands along Eola Road, both north and south of the Batavia Road intersection are worth checking in winter for hawks. Red-tailed Hawks are always common and in some years so are Rough-legged Hawks. Also be on the lookout for Northern Harriers and Cooper's Hawks. If

## Fermliab study is model bird survey

by Denis Kania

Peter Kasper has been collecting data on the birds of Fermliab since 1987. His approach to this task has given him such intimate knowledge of the site that he can easily determine the best time and place to look for any particular species.

His data has proven the value of the Fermliab site to breeding and migratory species. His research during two survey periods has also been acknowledged as a creditable resource. In 1989, Victoria Byre issued a Bulletin of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, Vol. 14 No. 4, titled, "The Birds of Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory: Their Seasonal Occurrence and Breeding Activity," based on Kasper's research. Byre and Kasper worked closely together for several years and complemented each other's projects.

In 1987, Fermliab was designated as a National Environmental Research Park by the U.S. Department of Energy. Rod Walton, research park coordinator, requests periodic updates on Kasper's research.

Prior to 1987 Kasper had virtually no birding knowledge of North America let alone DuPage County. An Australia native, Kasper has birded for 20 years several regions of the world including Australia, Kenya, Western Europe, Israel, and Costa Rica. With this worldwide exposure, it is ironic that when it comes to Illinois, he has confined his birding almost exclusively to Fermliab.

His simple approach requires a high motivation level. He conducts five-year period surveys with each month divided into four equal quarters. Kasper has created what he calls double days. Sightings made on double days count in the two quarters that share that day. This allows each quarter to consist



of the same number of days with a little overlap. The presence of a bird species is then recorded in any quarter month in which it is seen. Kasper's data reflect the window of opportunity for finding a species, but do not indicate the species' abundance.

Survey I was conducted from 1987 through 1991. Survey II began in 1992 and will be completed in 1997. Kasper is pitting the findings of Survey I against Survey II. Each quarter month, Kasper tries to fill gaps in his historic data. The completion of Survey I presents a benchmark for measuring the effectiveness of the coverage in Survey II.

Kasper keeps his records on his own designed database written in Fortran and running on a VAX system, courtesy of Fermilab. With this system, Kasper can plot distributions or percentages over the year. The reporting capabilities include the YEAR REPORT which lists the species seen in the current year as well as a projection to the end of the year. A GAP REPORT lists the species needed in the current survey versus a previous survey for a specific quarter month. A LIST REPORT produces a monthly checklist and reflects for each species its presence in either Survey I or II for each quarter month.

Largely through Kasper's efforts, the Fermilab bird list now stands at 251 species. Some of his most notable additions include Red-necked Grebe, Neotropical Cormorant, Cinnamon Teal, Ross' Goose, Willet, Glaucous Gull, and Common Tern. Kasper predicts the next most likely species to appear at Fermilab will be Carolina Wren, Tufted Titmouse, Least Bittern, Thayer's Gull, and Kentucky Warbler.

Kasper said that having a project like this keeps him birding and helps him to appreciate the more common species. He gains satisfaction from adding to our understanding of birds more than from adding species.

Similar projects undertaken at other Chicago area sites could prove equally valuable and provide information that would be useful in ensuring the continued preservation of these sites. I encourage the use of Kasper's survey project as a model for such projects.

you wait till dusk you may be lucky enough to find Short-eared Owls hunting these fields. The owls seem to prefer the fields north of Batavia Road.

In summer, a productive grassland area can be reached by going south on Eola Road from Batavia Road. Continue along Eola Road to the second white frame house on the right (1/4 mile past Swenson Road). Turn around here and pull up just before the "curve" road sign [12]. The trail should be visible. The first part of the trail leads through dense grasses in which Sedge Wrens often nest. Farther along is good for Dickcissel, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bobolink, and Eastern Meadowlark.

In wetter years transient ponds develop in the grassy fields along Eola Road. These can be excellent for shorebirds, waterfowl, and Bonaparte's Gulls at the appropriate time of year. In past years these ponds have produced Red-necked and Wilson's Phalaropes, Black-bellied Plover, and Cattle Egret. There is a more permanent shallow pond [13] at the corner of Swenson and Eola Roads. This pond and the wet areas in the horse paddock on the other side of Swenson Road are also worth checking for shorebirds.

Go north on Eola Road from Batavia Road, to an intersection with a stop sign (near the building with the strange roof). This is the junction of Eola Road, Wilson Street and Road A. The road heading southwest from this intersection is Road A and leads straight to Wilson Hall [22] (the tall administration building). Up until 1992, Western Meadowlark could be found by cruising slowly along Road A during spring and listening for their song. Just beyond the stop sign north of Wilson Street there is a small lake called Casey's Pond [21]. This lake is not as productive as the other lakes, but is always worth a look. In 1991, several Tundra Swans remained there for most of November.

The scrubby areas around Casey's Pond should be checked in winter for Northern Shrike. This location has proven to be the most productive of the accessible areas on site for this species. Loggerhead Shrikes have also been found at various locations along Wilson Street and at the Eola and Batavia Roads intersection. North and west of Wilson Hall is a section of remnant oak woodlands known as the "Big Woods" [24]. These woods and the associated lakes, ponds, and canals contain some of the best habitat on the site for woodland species including migrating warblers. Although these areas do not rank among the best in the county, they have nonetheless produced some notable finds, such as Worm-eating, Cerulean, Hooded, Pine, and Black-throated Blue Warblers;



*Turkey Vulture at Fermilab, 19 April 1988. Photo courtesy of Visual Media Services*

Louisiana Waterthrush; Olive-sided, Acadian, and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers; Red-breasted Nuthatch; and Redpoll.

There are three locations from which the Big Woods can be explored. The Education Center [27] on the south side of Pine Street provides ample parking and access to bird feeders along the lot's eastern edge. These feeders have only recently been put into place and should provide some interesting winter birding. Throughout January and February 1994, they sustained a Red-breasted Nuthatch and a flock of redpolls along with the usual mix of woodpeckers, White-breasted Nuthatch, chickadees, goldfinches, and winter sparrows.

A short trail passes through a section of wood and crosses two canals to connect the Education Center parking lot with the main parking for Wilson Hall. This trail can be productive for warblers, vireos, and other woodland species during migration. Good birds found in this area include Black-throated Blue Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Pine Warbler, and Louisiana Waterthrush. A Cooper's Hawk frequented this area late into the spring of 1993 and may have

nested in these woods.

Just outside the entrance to the Education Center, a short two-way road connects the southern (eastbound) lane of Pine Street to the northern (westbound) lane. There is a small parking lot [28] north of Pine Street near this connecting road, which provides access to a series of trails which wind through the restored prairie and include a loop through the Big Woods. The restored prairie offers limited birding potential but the trail through the Big Woods can be quite productive. In early spring the interior of the woods can be particularly good for Winter Wren and all of the usual thrushes while the fringes can be good for Orange-crowned and Pine Warblers.

During spring and fall migration the most productive points along the trail are the northwest corner and the area around the footbridge on the northern part of the trail. In summer the woods provide nesting habitat for Wood Thrush, and occasionally Scarlet Tanager. In 1988 a pair of American Redstarts nested on the eastern edge of the woods.

Probably the best area for warblers is Horseshoe Pond [25]. Horseshoe Pond is on the northern fringes of the woods and can be accessed from a parking lot off Receiving Road. To get there, go north on Road A from Wilson Hall, turn left (west) onto Road B at the stop sign near the power substation. Receiving Road is the first right and the parking lot can be reached by turning left at the first stop sign just past the fire-station. Horseshoe Pond can be seen from the far end of the parking lot. Check the western edges of the parking lot. This area attracted a Worm-eating Warbler in spring 1991 and a Cerulean Warbler in spring 1993.

With its diversity of habitat, there are certainly more discoveries to be made at Fermilab and every year a few new species have been added to the list. For a good day's birding in any season, Fermilab is a good choice.

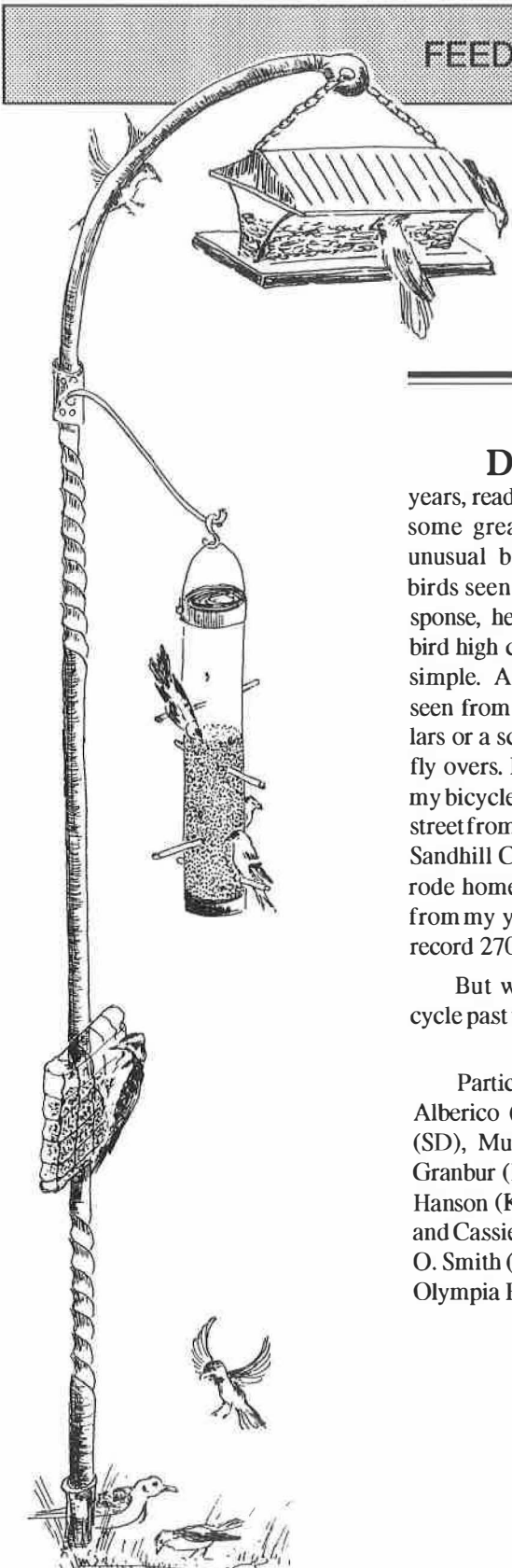


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**Meadowlark**

FEEDER STATION



# Backyard Bird High Count



by Sue Friscia

During the past several years, readers have been sending me some great information about the unusual birds and high counts of birds seen in their backyards. In response, here is IOS' first backyard bird high count. The rules are simple. All birds must have been seen from your house with binoculars or a scope. This also pertains to fly overs. For example, I was riding my bicycle in the cemetery across the street from my house when a flock of Sandhill Cranes flew over. I quickly rode home in time to see the birds from my yard. So I counted them - a record 270 cranes.

But when I was riding my bicycle past the cemetery later and saw

Turkey Vultures fly over, I couldn't make it home in time to count the birds. So Jim Smith gets to keep his record of six. That is, unless anyone out there has a new record.

These records - based on the number of birds seen at one time - are begging to be broken. In fact, after Todd Fink sent me his record of 21 Double-crested Cormorants, 100 of them flew over my house when I was talking to the roofer. So, check out the records and let us know if you've broken them. We'll periodically publish updated lists.

Please send all updates and new data to Sue Friscia, 3417 W. 123rd St., Alsip, IL 60658.

Participating high count back and front yard bird watchers include Cindy Alberico (CA), Crest Hill; Judy DeNeal (JD), Harrisburg; Sheryl De Vore (SD), Mundelein; Todd Fink (TF), Ozark; Sue Friscia (SF), Alsip; Lisa Granbur (LG), Warrenville; Dave and Phyllis Gruver (DPG), Lansing; Kay Hanson (KH), Clarendon Hills; Cary Hillemonds (CH), Calumet City; Calvin and Cassie Maginell (CM), Jonesboro; Ann Minckler (AM), Makanda; James O. Smith (JS), Homer; Muriel Smith (MS), West Chicago; Ellen Strauss (ES), Olympia Fields; and Craig and Barb Thayer (CBT), Orland Park.

Species .....	Total .....	Observer
Double-crested Cormorant .....	100 .....	SF
American Bittern .....	1 .....	MS
Great Blue Heron .....	4 .....	JS
Cattle Egret .....	2 .....	JS
Green-backed Heron .....	4 .....	JS
Black-crowned Night-heron .....	1 .....	JS/H
Swan sp. ....	8 .....	MS

Feeder station drawing by Denis Kania

Continued on page 58

# Backyard lister attracts 221 species on farmstead

by Judy K. DeNeal

A glance at iOS' first backyard high count list shows onename appearing 143 times. James O. Smith has been watching birds on his Vermilion County farm for 45 years and has recorded 221 species on the farm and 181 for his yard. Farm duties have kept him outdoors and close to home and have certainly helped his bird list grow.

The farmstead, near Homer, Illinois, consists of grain fields, pasture, hay fields, some woodland, a couple of ponds, and several barns and outbuildings, which offer food and shelter to myriad birds. Smith has done more to lure birds close to the house. Each spring about five acres are set aside for wildlife food plots, which are planted with a mixture of milo, sunflower, buckwheat, and other foods relished by seed eaters. The yard is landscaped with many

kinds of trees and shrubs that provide food, winter shelter, and nesting sites. And there is plenty of water for drinking and bathing, too.

Smith keeps several feeders filled year-round. He estimates that in one year he purchases one ton of black oil sunflower seed, the only "bird seed" he offers at feeders. Corn-eating birds clean up grain spilled by the livestock and glean the fields, too.

An indoor spotting scope aimed at the pond nearest the house during waterfowl migrations has permitted good looks at just about every species of duck. The other pond from which the livestock tanks are filled is especially attractive to Lesser Yellowlegs and Solitary and Spotted Sandpipers.

Each year as spring planting commences, large flocks of Lesser Golden Plovers, Killdeer, and Pectoral Sandpipers dot the damp fields. In 1988, while surveying flocks of foraging shorebirds, Smith was surprised to see a yellow and green, thick-bodied bird with an orange bill and long tail walking over the newly tilled soil. When the plovers took flight, the exotic bird rose with them turning and diving in the simultaneous flight of shorebirds. Although the parrot was photographed, it has never been identified.

Spring planting also brings flocks of blackbirds (including Brewer's), American Crows, Horned Larks, Ameri-

## BACK YARD BIRD COUNTS, continued from page 57

Species .....	Total .....	Observer
Greater White-fronted Goose .....	1 .....	JD
Snow Goose .....	1000 .....	TF
Canada Goose .....	4000+ .....	JS
Wood Duck .....	40 .....	JS
Green-winged Teal .....	10 .....	JS
American Black Duck .....	1 .....	KH/JD
Mallard .....	50+ .....	JS
Northern Pintail .....	2 .....	JS
Blue-winged Teal .....	20 .....	JS
Northern Shoveler .....	5 .....	JS
Gadwall .....	1 .....	JD
American Widgeon .....	5 .....	JS
Ring-necked Duck .....	30 .....	JS
Greater Scaup .....	30 .....	JS
Lesser Scaup .....	10 .....	JS
Common Goldeneye .....	2 .....	JS
Bufflehead .....	2 .....	JS
Hooded Merganser .....	3 .....	JS
Common Merganser .....	1 .....	JS/JD
Ruddy Duck .....	2 .....	JS
Black Vulture .....	3 .....	TF
Turkey Vulture .....	6 .....	JS
Osprey .....	2 .....	JS
Bald Eagle .....	1 .....	JS/JD/SD

Species .....	Total .....	Observer
Northern Harrier .....	5 .....	JD
Sharp-shinned Hawk .....	1 .....	JS/CBT
Cooper's Hawk .....	1 .....	JS/CBT
Northern Goshawk .....	2 .....	MS
Red-shouldered Hawk .....	3 .....	TF
Broad-winged Hawk .....	18 .....	TF
Red-tailed Hawk .....	6 .....	JS
Rough-legged Hawk .....	2 .....	JS
Golden Eagle .....	1 .....	MS/JD
American Kestrel .....	8 .....	JS
Merlin .....	1 .....	TF
Peregrine Falcon .....	2 .....	JD
Ring-necked Pheasant .....	2 .....	JS
Northern Bobwhite .....	52 .....	TF
Virginia Rail .....	1 .....	MS
Sora .....	1 .....	MS
Sandhill Crane .....	270 .....	SF
American Golden Plover .....	500+ .....	JS
Killdeer .....	50+ .....	JS
Lesser Yellowlegs .....	4 .....	JS
Solitary Sandpiper .....	8 .....	JS
Spotted Sandpiper .....	2 .....	JS
Pectoral Sandpiper .....	200+ .....	JS
Common Snipe .....	5 .....	MS

can Pipits, and other birds that feed on small mammals and assorted invertebrates disturbed by the machinery.

Hayfields have yielded some surprises, too. Smith recalled the day a Black Rail flushed four times as he mowed rounds of alfalfa. Driving down the last uncut strip, Smith anticipated a final look at the tiny bird, but when it failed to fly out again, he was sure the rail had been killed by the mower. The next Black Rail was luckier. Smith kept his eyes on the bird as it flew to cover in the unmowed area. Then he stopped the tractor, walked over and grabbed it. After a close examination of this most seldom seen marsh bird, Smith carried it to safety and drove the mower to a different field. Black Rails have interrupted Smith's hay operation four separate years. These remarkable sightings all took place near the end of May, usually during the first cutting of the crop.

Smith flushed a Least Bittern only once but he has seen Sora and Virginia Rail several times. His only Yellow Rail was recorded in August, also while he was mowing hay.

Smith declares there is no shortage of House Sparrows on the farm, but even that has a kind of benefit. During severe winter weather any bird activity seems to attract the notice of the field birds. During the bitter winters of the 1970s, Snow Buntings, Lapland Longspurs,

a few Chipping Sparrows, and even a Dickcissel came to the backyard feeders. January 1994, when the temperature dropped to 30 below zero, redpolls visited the yard feeders for the first time.

Another exciting find was two Barn Owls that moved into a cedar tree near the house one year in March. Nest boxes in the barns had been ready for Barn Owls for years, but these birds moved on after roosting for a month in the cedars.

The most recent addition to Smith's yard list was a flock of noisy Sandhill Cranes that flew over the yard during the 1993 fall migration. With 221 species counted in 45 years of looking up, Smith anticipates the changing seasons, hoping to add a Northern Goshawk, Snowy Owl, or maybe a cooperative Alder Flycatcher to his list.

Thousands of birds enjoy the Smiths' hospitality during the year and Smith offers this advice to birders with country homes. Resist mowing; the slightly neglected roadside may be a well-stocked avian buffet. Permit a few thickets to grow up for additional food and shelter. Build brush piles and do not burn them. Provide winter shelter in the form of dense cedars and spruce trees. And by all means, look up often and keep the binoculars handy.



Species .....	Total .....	Observer
American Woodcock .....	7 .....	JD
Bonaparte's Gull .....	15 .....	MS
Ring-billed Gull .....	30 .....	TF
Herring Gull .....	10 .....	JS
Rock Dove .....	50+ .....	JS
Mourning Dove .....	122 .....	SF
Black-billed Cuckoo .....	2 .....	JS
Yellow-billed Cuckoo .....	4 .....	JS
Common Barn Owl .....	2 .....	JS
Eastern Screech Owl .....	6 .....	JS
Great-horned Owl .....	4 .....	JS/S
Barred Owl .....	2 .....	JS
Long-eared Owl .....	1 .....	JS
Short-eared Owl .....	3 .....	JS
Northern Saw-whet Owl .....	2 .....	TF
Common Nighthawk .....	697 .....	KH
Chuck-will's Widow .....	2 .....	TF
Chimney Swift .....	100+ .....	JS
Ruby-throated Hummingbird .....	4 .....	JS
Rufous Hummingbird .....	1 .....	ES
Belted Kingfisher .....	2 .....	JS
Red-headed Woodpecker .....	8 .....	JS
Red-bellied Woodpecker .....	4 .....	JS
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker .....	4 .....	JD

Species .....	Total .....	Observer
Downy Woodpecker .....	4 .....	JS
Hairy Woodpecker .....	2 .....	JS
Northern Flicker .....	9 .....	JD
Pileated Woodpecker .....	3 .....	TF
Eastern Wood-pewee .....	8 .....	TF
Alder Flycatcher .....	1 .....	KH/JS
Least Flycatcher .....	2 .....	JS
Eastern Phoebe .....	1 .....	JS
Great-crested Flycatcher .....	4 .....	JS
Eastern Kingbird .....	6 .....	JS
Horned Lark .....	1000+ .....	JS
Purple Martin .....	4 .....	JS
Tree Swallow .....	100+ .....	JS
North. R-winged Swallow .....	25+ .....	JS
Bank Swallow .....	1 .....	JS
Cliff Swallow .....	2 .....	JS
Barn Swallow .....	12 .....	JS
Blue Jay .....	12 .....	JS
American Crow .....	4000+ .....	JS
Black-capped Chickadee .....	5 .....	SF
Carolina Chickadee .....	6 .....	JS
Tufted Titmouse .....	6 .....	JS
Red-breasted Nuthatch .....	2 .....	JS

*continued on next page*

**Species ..... Total ..... Observer**

White-breasted Nuthatch .....	2	SD
Brown Creeper .....	1	SD
Carolina Wren .....	7	TF
Bewick's Wren .....	7	CM
House Wren .....	10	JS
Winter Wren .....	2	JS
Sedge Wren .....	2	JS/JD
Marsh Wren .....	2	MS
Golden-crowned Kinglet .....	4	JS
Ruby-crowned Kinglet .....	6	JS
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher .....	8	F
Eastern Bluebird .....	40	TF
Veery .....	2	JS
Gray-cheeked Thrush .....	1	SF/JS/KH
Swainson's Thrush .....	4	JS/SD
Hermit Thrush .....	2	JS/SD
Wood Thrush .....	6	JS
American Robin .....	50+	JS
Gray Catbird .....	8	JS
Northern Mockingbird .....	2	JS
Brown Thrasher .....	8	JD
Water Pipit .....	2	JS
Cedar Waxwing .....	130	JD
Northern Shrike .....	1	SF/MS
Loggerhead Shrike .....	2	JS
European Starling .....	500+	JS
White-eyed Vireo .....	8	TF
Yellow-throated Vireo .....	3	TF
Warbling Vireo .....	2	JS
Philadelphia Vireo .....	1	JS
Red-eyed Vireo .....	2	JS
Blue-winged Warbler .....	1	JS
Golden-winged Warbler .....	1	JS
Tennessee Warbler .....	2	KH/JS
Orange-crowned Warbler .....	5	JD
Nashville Warbler .....	7	TF
Northern Parula Warbler .....	2	JS
Yellow Warbler .....	4	JS
Chestnut-sided Warbler .....	3	JS/JD
Magnolia Warbler .....	4	JS
Cape May Warbler .....	2	JS
Black-throated Blue Warbler .....	2	JS
Yellow-rumped Warbler .....	34	TF
Black-throated Green Warbler .....	6	JS
Blackburnian Warbler .....	4	JS
Yellow-throated Warbler .....	3	JS
Pine Warbler .....	15	JS
Prairie Warbler .....	4	TF
Palm Warbler .....	20	JS
Bay-breasted Warbler .....	2	JS
Blackpoll Warbler .....	7	JD
Cerulean Warbler .....	2	TF
Black-and-White Warbler .....	4	JS
American Redstart .....	10	TF
Prothonotary Warbler .....	1	JD/TF
Worm-eating Warbler .....	6	JD
Ovenbird .....	3	TF

**Species ..... Total ..... Observer**

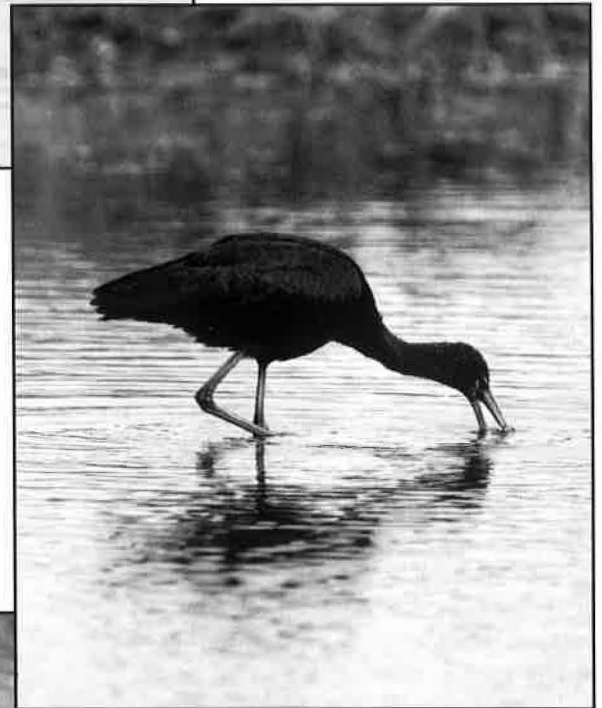
Northern Waterthrush .....	1	JS/JD
Louisiana Waterthrush .....	4	TF
Kentucky Warbler .....	6	TF
Connecticut Warbler .....	1	JS
Mourning Warbler .....	1	JS
Common Yellowthroat .....	8	JS
Hooded Warbler .....	1	TF
Wilson's Warbler .....	3	TF
Canada Warbler .....	3	TF
Yellow-breasted Chat .....	2	TF
Summer Tanager .....	7	TF
Scarlet Tanager .....	7	JD
Northern Cardinal .....	22	SF
Rose-breasted Grosbeak .....	15	JS
Blue Grosbeak .....	2	TF
Indigo Bunting .....	8	JS
Painted Bunting .....	1	AM
Dickcissel .....	4	JS
Rufous-sided Towhee .....	5	JS
American Tree Sparrow .....	500+	JS
Chipping Sparrow .....	8	JS
Field Sparrow .....	6	JS
Vesper Sparrow .....	8	JS
Lark Sparrow .....	3	JD
Fox Sparrow .....	8	JD
Song Sparrow .....	25	JS
Lincoln's Sparrow .....	1	SF
Swamp Sparrow .....	4	JS
White-throated Sparrow .....	30	JS
White-crowned Sparrow .....	15	JS
Harris' Sparrow .....	1	MS
Dark-eyed Junco .....	500+	JS
Lapland Longspur .....	100+	JS
Snow Bunting .....	100+	JS
Bobolink .....	12	JS
Red-winged Blackbird .....	500+	JS
Eastern Meadowlark .....	20	JS
Western Meadowlark .....	2	JS
Yellow-headed Blackbird .....	4	SD
Rusty Blackbird .....	15	KH
Brewer's Blackbird .....	5	JS
Common Grackle .....	1000+	JS
Brown-headed Cowbird .....	500+	JS
Orchard Oriole .....	6	JS
Northern Oriole .....	4	JS
Purple Finch .....	150	TF
House Finch .....	300	JD
Red Crossbill .....	5	DPG
Common Redpoll .....	30	CBT
Pine Siskin .....	133	MS
American Goldfinch .....	100+	JS
Evening Grosbeak .....	110	JD
House Sparrow .....	200+	JS
Eurasian Tree Sparrow .....	1	CH
Ringed-turtle Dove .....	83	CA
Muscovy Duck .....	1	JD
Monk Parakeet .....	1	DPG



# A Day in the Life of a Glossy Ibis

*Posing*

Dennis ●ehmke discovered this Glossy Ibis in basic (winter) plumage resting and feeding during a migration stopover at Beardstown in Cass County on 15 Nov. 1994. An ibis feeds by separating its bill, then dipping it to the bottom of a shallow body of water where it gropes for a meal.



*Scratching*



*Feeding*

## FALL 1994 HIGHLIGHTS

### Northern Gannet: Possible Fourth State Record and First Adult

14 August 1994 was a great day for birding in the Calumet area. Water levels had recently been drawn down at the "Big Marsh" (near 114th St. & Stony Island Ave. in Chicago, Cook County), and migrant shorebirds were present in profusion. On this date Cindy Alberico, Sue Friscia, Dennis Lane, Wes Serafin, Craig Thayer, and I surveyed the area for unusual shorebirds, and luck was with us. To be sure, numerous shorebirds were located, but two unexpected King Rails (one adult pointed out by Serafin, and the other simultaneously located by Friscia and Alberico at the opposite end of the marsh) added excitement to the morning's findings. While most of us were still ogling the rails, I glanced up momentarily to examine some of the gulls that were flying overhead.

I almost immediately located a bird flying high above which I tentatively identified as a Northern Gannet, only briefly equivocating to consider the possibility of American White Pelican which had recently been reported summering at nearby McGinnis Slough. Lane and the others, however, quickly reaffirmed my original identification - indeed, after even a few seconds inspection, the bird was obviously recognizable as an adult Northern Gannet (*Sula bassanus*).

The bird was flying high overhead. Because of the lack of objective reference points, exact distance was difficult to gauge, but it would be safe to guess the bird was at least 500-1,000 feet overhead. Size was difficult to judge, but it appeared to be a large bird, much larger than the many gulls present at various elevations. It was a heavy-bodied bird, with a long, sharp, very thick (light-colored) bill; long, pointed wings; and a long, pointed tail. The forward projection of the bird's head and bill were nearly equal in extent to the backward projection of the bird's sharp, pointed tail, which, when coupled with the bird's long pointed wings, contributed to an overall "cross-shaped" effect.

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*The Northern Gannet was seen at Lake Calumet's Big Marsh in Cook County on 14 August 1994.  
Drawing by Walter Marcisz.*

The bird's body plumage, including the tail, was pure white, except for the black primary wing feathers. Although there appeared to be at least some white in the primary under-wing coverts, the great distance involved contributed to the overall effect of a white wing with the distal half dipped in black paint.

Identification of the bird as an adult Northern Gannet was straightforward, as no other *sulid* fits the description given. Harrison's *Seabirds* (1985) indicates that worldwide, all other gannet and booby species show at least some dark feathering in the secondaries and/or tail, unlike the bird we observed.

The bird remained for only a minute or two. Alberico last noted the bird heading northeast, presumably toward Lake Michigan.

Very few Northern Gannet records exist for Illinois. After an initial sighting at Powerton Lake, Tazewell Co. (19-20 November 1983), single birds were noted at Chicago, Cook Co. (6 November 1993), Vernon Hills, Lake Co. (9 November 1993), and Rock Island Co. (19 December 1993). If the Chicago and Lake Co. records are regarded as multiple sightings of the same bird, our observation would represent the fourth state record for Illinois.

Perhaps this recent rash of sightings is the result of a higher probability of vagrancy caused by an objective population increase. Richards' *Seabirds of the Northern Hemisphere* (1990) indicates that the world population of Northern Gannets is increasing at an estimated 3 percent annually.

All prior Illinois Northern Gannet sightings have involved immature birds. Our observation constitutes the first sighting of an adult Northern Gannet for Illinois, a bird which, based on previous gannet records, was also slightly out of season (all previous Illinois gannet records have involved late fall or winter birds). Documentation of this bird is on file with the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC).

-Walter J. Marcisz  
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*Editor's Note: This sighting is in its second round of review by the IORC and has not yet been accepted.*



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## Ground Dove on the University of Illinois South Farms

On 7 November, 1994, I received a report from Greg Lambeth that he had spotted a Prairie Falcon in South Urbana and adjacent Meadowbrook Park. On 9 November, I took the morning off to search for the falcon. As luck would have it, it was raining steadily with increasing winds out of the northeast when I got up.

Nevertheless, as it got light, I was determined to look for the bird. After driving for several miles and looking for the falcon by car, I decided to brave the rain and search the University of Illinois' South Farms on foot. As I crossed through the area known as Forestry, I came to a sheltered spot along its west side, adjacent to open fields.

A sparrow-sized dove flushed from about 20 feet in front of me and flew with very quick wing beats, noticeably quicker than a Mourning Dove's (*Zenaida macroura*). I also noted that it had a short, square, dark tail and bright rufous primaries. The bird lacked any rusty wash on the back and upper tail coverts. Although the head was small and the bill dovelike, it had a stout no-neck appearance, compared to larger Mourning Doves. I recognized the bird as a Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*).

I followed the bird with my binoculars until it flew into a dense thicket of brush alongside a flooded stream. I could not determine if the bird landed there or continued on. I searched the South Farms for about an hour, including manured fields where many other birds were feeding. I was unable to relocate the bird among the thousand or so sparrows, finches, doves, starlings, and blackbirds feeding in the fields or along the stream.

This was the first record for a Common Ground-Dove in Champaign County. There have been approximately 10 previous records for Common Ground-Dove in Illinois;

one in the spring, one on a Christmas Count, and the others, like this bird, in late fall (Bohlen 1989).

Robert Chapel  
301 1/2 W. California  
Urbana, IL 61801

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## Invasion of the Sharp-tailed Sparrows

On 25 September, 1994, Rick Seibert and I walked to the shrubby copse near the main swale area in Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County. The main swale was the only one in the complex with standing water at this point. We had seen four Sharp-tailed Sparrows (*Ammodramus caudacutus*) the day before in the spot.

Sure enough, I found six Sharp-tailed Sparrows in one shrub, which I thought pretty spectacular. That is, until Rick found four more in a shrub 10 feet away from the first clump. It was possible to see 10 Sharp-tailed Sparrows at the same time, all within 10 to 12 feet of each other! We added four more as we walked along the rest of the main swale, for a total of 14 Sharp-tailed Sparrows.

Fifteen minutes later, we added at least seven more sharp-tailed farther west, for a grand total of 21 Sharp-tailed Sparrows in one day!

Also seen at Illinois Beach in September 1994 were two Western Sandpipers on the 5th, a White-rumped Sandpiper on the 25th, and a Buff-breasted Sandpiper and a late Piping Plover on the 24th.

Alan Stokie  
174 E. Kathleen Dr.  
Park Ridge, IL 60068

## First Winnebago County Record of Ross' Goose

Howard's Farm near Durand is by far the best place in Winnebago County for seeing geese during migration. Each spring and fall, thousands of Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) stop along their way to rest. Both color forms of Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) are commonly found with the Canadas. Over the past several years, all species of geese which occur in Illinois have been seen at this farm, except the Ross' Goose (*C. rossii*).

One has been expected to show up for several years.

My brother Randy was visiting for Thanksgiving and on 21 November, 1994, we went birding. We were having a great day, starting out with an immature White-winged Scoter, Northern Shrike, and Northern Saw-whet Owl. About noon, we ended up at Howard's Farm. Among the thousands of Canada Geese, we saw several white geese that we figured were probably Snow Geese.

I began scanning with my scope, searching through the many Canadas for something different. I soon came to a group of Blue Geese and saw two very white birds. Were they Snow Geese or Ross' Geese? They appeared to be small, but with their heads in the grass, I couldn't be sure. I positioned the scope so that there was a Blue Goose in the field of view with the two white geese. They were definitely smaller birds. One of the birds finally lifted its head. I could see the short neck and stubby pink bill and immediately knew we had found the first Ross' Goose seen in Winnebago County.

Before we left Howard's Farm, we managed to see Canada Geese, both blue and white Snow Geese and the two Ross' Geese in the scope's field of view at the same time for a great comparison.

A third Ross' Goose was found at Howard's Farm on 25 November, 1994 by Jeff Donaldson. All three geese were present through 6 December 1994, when we were hit with 9 inches of snow and colder weather.

Brad Grover  
2628 Newburg Rd., #63  
Belvidere, IL 61008

## Fall Yellow Rails at Illinois Beach State Park

On 10 September, 1994, while Bob Erickson and I were walking back from the far western part of the south swales area of Illinois Beach State Park, Lake Co., we came within 12 to 15 feet of a small rail which flew up from the tall grass in a muddy spot. It landed in the grass about 25 feet away. We hurried to the spot where we thought it landed. It finally flew away again only to land much farther away and disappear in the grass once more. Not wanting to upset the rail any more than we already had, we did not attempt to find it again.

This rail seemed slightly smaller than a Sora and in flight, the white wing patches were clearly marked off from the rest of the wing. The rail's small bill looked greenish-yellow and its face and chest were a buff-orange color. The back showed streaks of buffy-orange and black. We had found a Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*).

On 25 September, 1995, Rick Seibert and I were in the same south swales area, although this time, we were about two blocks away from the area I'd been in on 10 September. We again flushed a Yellow Rail. As before, we relocated it once more, watched it fly in a fairly wide circle and then let it disappear in the 3-foot tall grass.

On both days, the rails were found in fairly tall grass in a muddy swale, away from standing water. Other areas in the swales did have standing water at the time. High grasses made it impossible to observe the rails walking, but our in-flight looks were fairly good, especially on 25 September.

It is possible that the two sightings were different individuals, but there is no way to tell with any certainty.

Alan Stokie  
174 E. Kathleen Dr.  
Park Ridge, IL 60068

## Probable BRANTA X ANSER Hybrid

On the morning of 27 November, 1994, an unusual goose was spotted by keeper Diane Bell on the grounds of Brookfield Zoo. The goose was feeding on the large central grassy mall of the zoo with a flock of approximately 50 Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*). Diane immediately asked my help in identifying this bird.

We found the goose grazing with a small group of Canadas within the larger flock. It was slightly larger than the Canada Geese and stood out from them due to its pink beak and orange legs and feet. Closer examination showed white feathers on the forehead just above the bill, white cheek patches, and a dark brown/black head and nape. The bird's body looked like a paler version of the Canada Goose, with no markings on the abdomen.

The goose was most probably a hybrid between a Canada Goose and a Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*). Canada Goose hybrids are rare in the wild (Palmer 1976), though single crosses with Greater White-fronted Geese have been reported from California (Baird 1874), Minnesota (Eckert 1970) and Japan (Kuroda 1953).

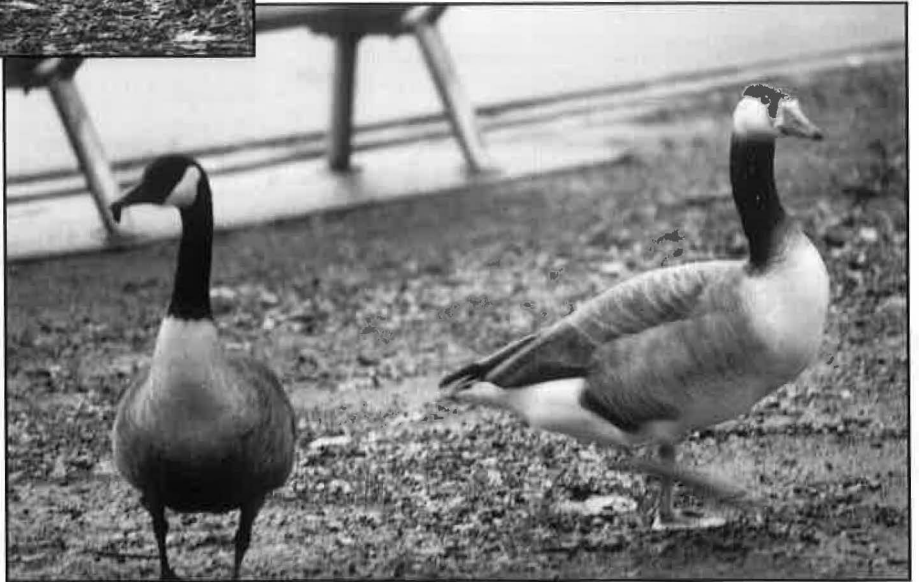
Canada Geese hybridize fairly freely in captivity (Gray 1958), as do many waterfowl. However, Brookfield Zoo does not keep Canada or Greater White-fronted Geese in the bird collection and has not for at least 20 years. There is no possibility that this bird is the offspring



*Possible hybrid  
of Branta x Anser  
at Brookfield Zoo,  
Cook County. 27 Nov. 1994.  
Photo by Nancy Bent.*

of any birds in captivity at Brookfield Zoo.

Greater White-fronted Geese are migrants through Illinois (Bohlen 1989). Canada Geese are both migrants and breeders in Illinois, depending on which race is under consideration (Bohlen). The Canada Geese the hybrid was associating with were smaller than the Canada Geese that breed on the grounds of Brookfield Zoo ("Giant" Canada Geese, *B.c. maxima*) and were probably of the migratory race that winters in southern Illinois ("Interior" Canada Geese *B.c. interior*).



*A possible hybrid of Branta x Anser species, right, with Canada Goose, left, at Brookfield Zoo, Cook County. 27 Nov. 1994 Photo by Nancy Bent.*

The hybrid and the flock it was associating with were observed at the zoo for two days (27-28 November), after which the flock disappeared, presumably to continue its southern migration.

The fundamental unit within a flock of Canada Geese is the family, which includes "adopted" individuals (Palmer). The hybrid was seen with a small sub-group of four to five Canada Geese during observations. The hybrid may have been the result of an extra-pair copulation by the breeding female or it may have been adopted by the parent geese.

I believe this is the first report of a *Branta X Anser* hybrid in Illinois. If anyone else knows differently, I would appreciate hearing from them.

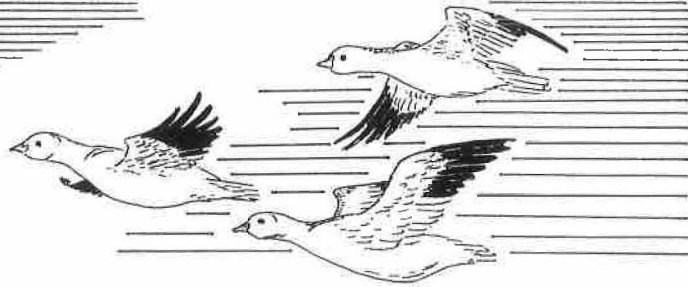
I would like to thank Dave Willard for help in tracking down references to goose hybrids, Roger Reason for comments on an earlier draft, and Diane Bell for noticing a strange goose among 50 others.

*Nancy Bent  
3513 Park Ave.  
Brookfield, IL 60513*

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# Field Notes



Ross' Geese drawing by Denis Kania.

## The 1994 FALL SEASON

by Robert Chapel

Statewide, temperatures were below normal in early fall and near normal in late fall. Precipitation was below normal for September and October but slightly above normal in August and November. The dry summer created extensive mudflats; the fall rainfall did little to decrease them. Consequently, there was good shorebird habitat in many parts of the state.

Many observers found the fall season exciting. Land birds arrived early and many moved through quickly. While there were a number of peak days, landbirds, for the most part, were not present in numbers for a great deal of time. The few exciting rarities lingered long enough for just a few observers to see them. The exceptions were Ruffs, Red Phalaropes, and plegadis ibises. Both White-faced and Glossy Ibis were identified, although most sightings were at a distance that precluded identification. Another rarity seen was a Tricolored Heron.

Black-billed Magpies and Harris' Hawk of unknown origin were also reported. The rufous-phase female Eurasian Wigeon seen by many at Lincoln Park was captured by zoo personnel and found to have clipped wings thus precluding any chance of it being a wild bird.

There were very large numbers of shorebirds, perhaps the best fall since 1988. Many avocets were seen statewide, sometimes in good numbers. Marbled Godwits and Piping Plovers also appeared in unusual numbers. Black-necked Stilts lingered after the breeding season, despite

their nest failures. Ducks appeared in greater than normal numbers, especially in the Illinois River Valley. Check out Lake Chatauqua totals! White-fronted Geese also appeared in unusual numbers, and lingered later than usual.

Documentations of species difficult to identify or where observers disagreed are awaiting evaluation by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee and if accepted, will be added as an addendum.

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Waterfowl survey reports by Michelle Georgi (MGe) are aerial survey estimates.

As a printing aide, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

Carl.L	=	Carlyle Lake (Clinton & Bond Cos)	LChau	=	Lake Chatauqua NWR (Mason Co)
CBG	=	Chicago Botanic Garden (Glencoe, Cook Co)	LCNP	=	La Salle County Nuclear Plant (La Salle Co)
Chi	=	Chicago's Lakefront Parks, excluding JP (Cook Co)	LRen	=	Lake Renwick (Will Co)
Clin.L	=	Clinton Lake (De Witt Co)	LShel	=	Lake Shelbyville (Moultrie and Shelby Cos)
CONWR	=	Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co)	M.Arb	=	Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
CNC	=	Crabtree NC (Cook Co)	MFWA	=	Middlefork FWA (Vermilion Co)
Fermi	=	FermiLab (Du Page Co)	MM	=	McKee Marsh (Du Page Co)
FWMA	=	Fishhook Wildlife Management Area (Moultrie Co.)	MS	=	McGinnis Slough (Cook Co)
GLPSP	=	Goose Lake Prairie SP (Grundy Co) & Heidecke L	MTNWR	=	Mark Twain NWR (Calhoun Co)
HLCA	=	Horseshoe Lake CA (Madison Co)	Palos	=	Palos Forest Preserve inc. Saganashkee Slough (Cook Co)
IBSP	=	Illinois Beach SP (Lake Co)	Rend L	=	Rend Lake (Franklin & Jefferson Cos)
JP	=	Chicago's Jackson Park (Cook Co)	RLCA	=	Rice Lake CA (Fulton Co)
KCP	=	Kennekuk County Park (Vermilion Co)	SRSF	=	Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co)
KFWA	=	Kaskaskia FWA (Moultrie Co)	Sang.L	=	Sangchris Lake SP (Sangamon and Christian Cos)
LCal	=	Lake Calumet & vicinity (Cook Co)	Spfld	=	Springfield (Sangamon Co)
			UCCA	=	Union County CA (Union Co)
			Wauk	=	Waukegan (Lake Co)

EA = Earliest Arrival(s)    MC = Maximum Count(s)    LD = Latest Departures(s)

ad.	=	adult	FWA	=	Fish and Wildlife Area	NP	=	Nature Preserve
Co(s)	=	County(ies)	pr.	=	pair	resp.	=	respectively
subad.	=	subadult	L	=	Lake	NWR	=	National Wildlife Refuge
CA	=	Conservation Area	*	=	documented record	m.ob.	=	many observers
imm.	=	imm.	NC	=	Nature Center	ph	=	photo(s) taken
FP	=	Forest Preserve	**	=	specimen record	est.	=	estimated
yg.	=	young				SP	=	State Park

A number in parentheses ( ) indicates the number of birds observed at a particular location or on a particular date. No number signifies single birds.

## The 1994 FALL SEASON Field Notes

### Common Loon

EA: 4 Sep., IBSP (ASt); 13 Oct., Decatur (MD); 13 Oct., Spfld (DB). MC: 125+, Wilmette, 2 Nov. (RB,EW); 100+, Carl.L, 11 Nov. (DK); 30, Clin.L, 8 Nov. (MD). LD (north): 29 Nov. (7), Chi (JL).

### Pied-billed Grebe

MC: 120+, HLCA, 23 Aug. (KM); 73, Spfld, 24 Oct. (DB); 33, Baker's L (Cook Co), 9 Nov. (EW). LD (north): 21 Nov., Winnebago Co (BG).

### Horned Grebe

EA: 23-27 Aug. (2), DeKalb (RF,DS); 8 Sep., Spfld (DB). MC: 70, CONWR, 29 Nov. (RD); 59, LCNP, 20 Nov. (CMc, JMc); 50, Clin.L, 10 Dec. (RC,MD).

### Red-necked Grebe

EA: 18 Oct., Wilmette (GR).

### Eared Grebe

EA: 20 Aug., Champaign (RC,RW); 20 Aug., Decatur (MD,m.ob.); 22 Aug., JP (\*PC, ph-TJ). MC: 5, Spfld, 16 Sep. (DB); 4, O'Fallon, 7 Sep. (KM); 3, Chi, 6 Oct. (RH). LD: 29 Oct. (3), Decatur (MD). Others: 28 Aug., Marshall Co (CMc, JMc) 1 Sep. (2), HLCA (KM); 4 Sep., Monmouth (PR); 11 Sep., Arcola (RC); 17-25 Sep. LCal (WM,m.ob.); 22-26 Sep., Wilmette (EW-ph, m.ob.); 24-25 Sep., Champaign (RC).

### Western Grebe

EA: 22 Oct., CONWR (TF). LD: 24 Nov., Lake Forest (BS). Others: 9-10 Nov., Carl.L (DK,\*JV).

### American White Pelican

MC: 700, MTNWR, 11 Oct. (HW); 150, Thomson (Carroll Co), 9 Oct. (RF). LD: 13 Nov., Carl.L (DK); 7 Nov. (2), Starved Rock SP (JH,JLa,m.ob.). Others: 4 Nov. (imm.), Massac Co (TF); 1 Nov. (summering bird), MS (WS,m.ob.) - also seen as far east as LCal in period; 22 Oct., Clin.L (RC).

### Double-crested Cormorant

EA: 15 July, Spfld (DB). MC: 5,000, Carl.L, Oct. (DK); 300+, Palos, 30 Sep. (WS). A few to end of period.

### American Bittern

EA: 7 Aug. (2), Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC,HP,ERg). LD: 25 Oct., JP (KC). Others: 4 Oct., Palos (WS); 16 Oct., Havana (KR,LA).

### Least Bittern

EA: 6 Aug., Sauget (St. Clair Co) (DK); 21 Aug., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC). LD: 27 Aug., Wadsworth (AA).

### Great Blue Heron

MC: 225+, FWMA, 6 Aug. (RC); 200, Stump L (Jersey Co), 8 Aug. (KM); 65, LCal, 17 July (WM). LD (north): 13 Dec., L.Ren (JM).

### Great Egret

MC: 1,200, Stump L (Jersey Co), 5 Aug. (KM); 220, MS, late Aug. (WS). LD: 15 Nov., Beardstown & LChau (RC); 29 Oct., LCal (WM). Others: 7 Sep. (pr. at nest), L.Ren (JM).

### Snowy Egret

EA: 2 July - 14 Sep., LCal (WM,m.ob.); 16 July, FWMA (RC). MC: 46, HLCA, 2 Sep. (KM). LD: 5 Oct., HLCA (KM). Others: 24 July, LChau (RC); 12 Aug. - 1 Sep., Wadsworth (\*SH); 27 Aug. - 10 Sep. (imm.), Clin.L (MD, RC); 15 Sep., JP (KC) - LCal bird?

### Little Blue Heron

EA: 17 July (2 imm.), LCal (WM,m.ob.). MC: 200+. Stump L (Jersey Co), 5 Aug. (KM); 24, LChau, 6 Aug. (RC); 6 (imm.), LCal, 30 July-21 Aug. (WM). LD: 25 Sep., LCal (JL); 24 Sep. (2), Carl.L (KM).

### Tri-colored Heron

9-10 July (ad.), Rend L (RD,TF,m.ob.).

### Cattle Egret

MC: 70, St. Clair Co, 25 Aug. (KM). LD: 30 Oct. (5), Decatur (AS,m.ob.); 8 Oct., Lockport (CA).

### Green Heron

MC: 51 (roost), Orient (Franklin Co), 13 Aug. (LS,MB). LD: 18 Oct., LCal (WM); 15 Oct., Charleston (BH).

### Black-crowned Night-Heron

EA: 28 June (imm.), JP (PC); 28 July, Spfld (DB). MC: 57, LCal, 21 Aug. (JL); 30, HLCA, 11 Aug. (KM). LD: 27 Nov. (imm.), LCNP (CMc, JMc).

### Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

EA: 4-17 July (imm.), Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC); 14-19 July (ad.), JP (PC,TJ). MC: 9, Sauget (St. Clair Co), 28 Aug. (DK). LD: 1 Oct., LChau (RC); 25 Sep. (imm.), LCal (JL). Others: 14 Aug., LCal (WM).

### Glossy Ibis

EA: 24-26 Sep., Havana (KR). LD: 12-15 Nov., Beardstown (fide DB,\*RC).

### White-faced Ibis

EA: 16 Oct., Havana (KR).

### Plegadis Ibis

EA: 19 Sep, LChau (KR,m.ob.). MC: 2 (one was likely the Glossy at Havana), LChau, 21-22 Sep. Others: 24-26 Sep. (Glossy + unidentified Plegadis seen at same time), Havana (KR); 8 Oct., Wilmette (DBr,GR); 8-18 Oct., LChau (LA,m.ob.). LD: 23 Nov., LChau (KR).

### Tundra Swan

EA: 29 Oct. (5), Wilmette (RC). MC: 60, Wilmette, 15 Nov. (RH); 12, Mendota (JH,JLa). LD: 11 Dec. (18), Rockford (DW).

### Mute Swan

MC: 5 (3 ad., 2 imm.), Glen Ellyn, 16 Sep. (EW). LD: 9 Nov. (3), Baker's L (Cook Co) (EW).

### Greater White-fronted Goose

EA: 1 Oct., Havana (RC); 15 Oct., Fermi (PK et al.). MC: 45, Rend L, 29 Oct (TF); 29, Rockford, 25 Nov. (DW); 12, LChau, 3, 5 & 23 Nov. (KR). Others: 7-24 Nov. (6-3 ad., 3 imm.), Durand (BG).

**Snow Goose**

EA: 4 Sep. (4), RendL (LS,RD); 2 Oct. (2), Aurora (DuPage Co) (CA); 15 Oct., Clin.L (MD). MC: 2,000+, LChau, 15 Nov. (RC); 1,150, LCNP, 6 Nov. (CMc, JMc); 300, RendL, 29 Oct & 3 Nov. (TF). LD: 29 Nov. (1 white, 1 blue), Boone Co (AB).

**Ross's Goose**

EA: 2-15 Oct. (ad.), RendL (TF); 12 Nov., Harristown (Macon Co) (MD); 20 Nov. (imm.), Fermi (PK,\*GW,CP). MC: 11, LChau, 27 Nov. (KR); 3, Baldwin L, 25-27 Nov. (CMc, JMc, DK). Others: 21-24 Nov. (2), NC Winnebago Co (1st Co record) (\*BG,\*DW,m.ob); 24 Nov. (2, ad. & imm.), LChau (KR); 25-26 Nov. (3), NC Winnebago Co (JD,EW).

**Canada Goose**

EA (minima): 23 Sep., Buckhart (Sangamon Co) (DB); MC: 28,000, CONWR, 28 Nov. (RWh); 1,500+, Fermi, 7 Nov. (EW); (minima): 300+, Clin.L, 6 Nov. (RC).

**Wood Duck**

MC: 65+, Stump L (Jersey Co), 5 Aug. (KM); 48, Palos, 19 Sep. (WS).

**Green-winged Teal**

EA: 31 July (7), LCal (JL); 18 Aug. (2), Sang.L (DB); 21 Aug. (2), LCal (WM). MC: 9,000, Carl.L, 2 Nov. (MGe). Others: 95, LCNP, 6 Nov. (CMc, JMC).

**American Black Duck**

EA: 16 Sep., MS (EW); 19 Sep., Sang.L (DB); 29 Sep., Carl.L (KM). MC: 5,000, GooseL (Marshall Co), 7 Nov. (MGe); 1,500, LCNP, 20 Nov. (CMc, JMC). Others: 50, Rend L, 3 Nov. (TF); 50, Pulaski Co, 18 Nov. (TF).

**Mallard**

MC: 320,000, LChau, 29 Nov. (MGe); 13,500, LCNP, 20 Nov. (CMc, JMC).

**Northern Pintail**

EA: 20 Aug. (male), LCal (WM); 30 Aug. (2), Sang.L (DB); 4 Sep. (3), Carl.L (KM). MC: 20,000, LChau, 15 & 29 Nov. (RC, MGe). Others: 1 Oct. (33), Palos (EW).

**Blue-winged Teal**

EA: 28 July, Spfld (DB); 1 Aug. (6), Boone Co (AB); 22 Aug. (3), Carl.L (KM). MC: 5,800, LChau, 8 Sep. (MGe); 175, GLPSP, 18 Oct. (JM); 110, HLCA, 1 Sep. (KM). LD: 25 Nov., Palos (WS); 23 Nov. (2), Jackson Co (TF). Others: 165, Wilmette, 23 Sep. (EW).

**Northern Shoveler**

EA: 22 Aug. (4), LCal (WM); 28 Aug., Spfld (DB); 1 Sep. (30), HLCA (KM). MC: 15,000, LChau, 29 Nov. (MGe). Others: 30 Oct. (85+), O'Fallon (KM).

**Gadwall**

EA: 13 Aug. (4), LCal (WM); 20 Aug., Champaign (EC). MC: 17,000, LChau, 1 Nov. (MGe). Others: 22 Oct. (91), Palos (WS); 25 Oct. (85), HLCA (KM).

**American Wigeon**

EA: 28 Aug. (female), LCal (JL); 30 Aug., Champaign (RC). MC: 6,000, LChau, 17 Oct. (MGe); 300+, Palos, late Oct. (WS).

**Canvasback**

EA: 10 Oct., Havana (MD); 31 Oct. (2), O'Fallon (KM). MC: 15,000, Nauvoo, 14 Nov. (MGe).

**Redhead**

EA: 11 Sep. (2), LCal (CA); 10 Oct., Havana (MD). MC: 2,000, Nauvoo, 7 Nov. (MGe). Present to end of period.

**Ring-necked Duck**

E.A.: 10 Sep., Clin.L (MD). MC: 17,500, Nauvoo, 1 Nov. (MGe); 900, Baker's L (Cook Co), 9 Nov. (EW). Others (I.D of summering): 11 Sep. (2 males, 1 female), Arcola (RC).

**Greater Scaup**

EA: 22 Sep., Wilmette (EW); 13 Oct. (female), Spfld (DB); 13 Nov. (3), Carl.L (TF). MC: 1,400, Evanston, 30 Nov. (LB). LD: 10 Dec., Clin.L (RC).

**Lesser Scaup**

EA: 22 Sep., Wilmette (EW). MC: 300+, Wilmette, 9 Oct. (JL); 300+, Clin.L, 10 Dec. (RC, MD); 100, O'Fallon, 21 Nov. (KM). —Scaup, sp. MC: 16,000, Nauvoo, 14 Nov. (MGe).

**Harlequin Duck**

EA: 10 Oct., Evanston (JKO).

**Oldsquaw**

MC: 14, Wilmette, 19 Nov (DW). Others: 25 Nov., Carl.L (DK).

**Black Scoter**

EA: 24 Oct., Spfld (DB); 30 Oct. (3), Evanston (EW). LD: 26 Nov., Evanston (GW); 11 Nov., Spfld (DB).

**Surf Scoter**

EA: 1 Oct. (7), Wilmette (m.ob. fide EW); 13 Oct. (10), Spfld (DB). MC: 14, IBSP, 25 Nov. (ASt). LD: 10 Dec. (8), Clin.L (RC, MD); 30 Nov., Rend L (TF).

**White-winged Scoter**

LD: 30 Nov., Evanston (LB); 27 Nov. (2), Clin.L (RC). —Scoter, sp. LD: 10 Dec. (3), Clin.L (MD, RC).

**Common Goldeneye**

EA: 6 Nov., Evanston (JSu); 7 Nov. (2), LChau (KR); 8 Nov., Carl.L (TF). MC: 200+, Evanston, 14 Nov. (EW); 90, Spfld, 25 Nov. (DB).

**Bufflehead**

EA: 11 Sep. (female), Wauk (GW); 11 Sep., JP (PC et al.); 22 Oct., LChau (KR). MC: 1,200, Nauvoo, 29 Nov. (MGe); 101, CBG, 24 Nov. (JSa); 90, HLCA, 15 Nov. (KM).

**Hooded Merganser**

EA: 11 Sep. (2 female type), Wauk (GW). MC: 125, LCNP, 27 Nov. (CMc, JMC); 45, Spfld, 26 Nov. (DB).

**Common Merganser**

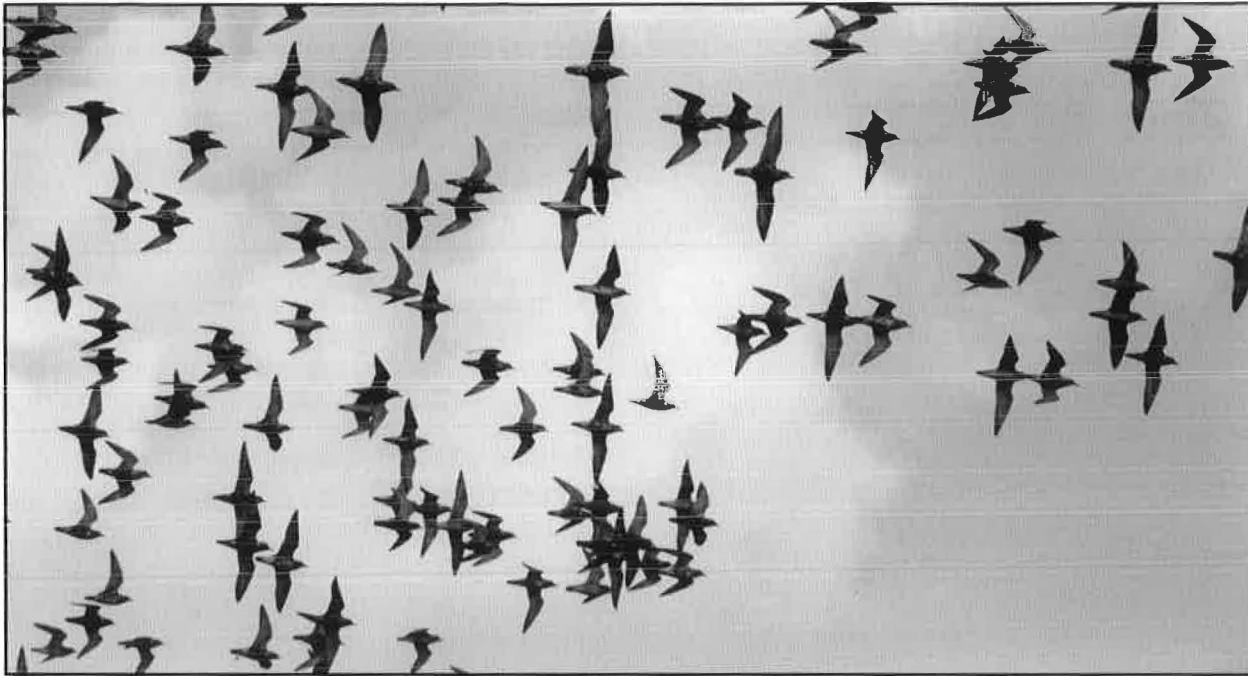
EA: 6 Nov. (4), Clin.L (RC, MD); 25 Nov. (female), LCal (WM). MC: 50, Evanston, 16 Nov. (JSu). Others (summering birds): 7 Sep. (4 female) & 12 Sep. (1 male, 6 female), Joliet; 21 Sep. & 18 Oct. (2 eclipse males), GLPSP (JM).

**Red-breasted Merganser**

EA: 15 Oct. (4), Chi (EW); 21 Oct., Spfld (DB). MC: 100, Rend.L, 30 Nov. (TF); 100, Clin.L, 10 Dec. (RC, MD). Others: 20 Aug. (summered?—molting male), WolfL (Cook Co) (WM).

**Ruddy Duck**

EA: 19 Sep., Spfld (DB). MC: 250, Clin.L, 24 Nov. (MD); 205, O'Fallon, 21 Nov. (KM).



*Lesser Golden-Plovers, Will County, 9 Sept. 1994. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.*

#### Turkey Vulture

EA: 17 Sep., JP (SM). MC: 301, Mississippi Palisades SP, 27 Sep. (JB); 50+, Middlefork FP (Champaign Co), 2 Oct. (JS); 13, Naperville, 28 Oct. (fide EW). LD: 11 Nov., Carl.L (KM); 8 Nov. (2), Clin.L (MD); 6 Nov., La Salle Co (CMc,JMC).

#### Osprey

EA: 2 Aug., Boone Co (BG) - **summering?**; 20 Aug., UCCA (\*DMI,m.ob.); 22 Aug., Spfld (DB); 22-23 Aug., MM (fide EW). MC: 3, Winnebago Co, 2 Oct. (JB). LD: 10 Nov., Clin.L (KR); 30 Oct., Rend L (RD). Others (summering male & female): 7 Aug. - 1 Oct., Rockford (ABr).

#### Bald Eagle

EA: 7 Aug. (imm.—age?), Palos (JL); 8 Aug. (4th yr.), Palos (CT); 9 Aug. (ad.), Palos (CT); 29 Aug., Savanna (JB); 6 Sep. (imm.), Union Co (KM); 21-23 Sep. (imm.), Spfld (MD,DB). MC: 63, Savanna, 23 Nov. (JB); 3, Palos, 28 Nov. (WS). Others: 6 ad., 10 imm., & 3 unspecified also reported.

#### Northern Harrier

EA: 1 Aug. (imm.), JP (PC); 25 Aug., Rend L (RS). MC: 27, IBSP, 9 Oct. (BE).

#### Sharp-shinned Hawk

EA: 6 Aug. (2), Homer (Vermilion Co) (JS); 16 Aug., Savanna (JB). MC: 188, IBSP, 9 Oct. (BE).

#### Cooper's Hawk

EA: 29 Aug., Chi (JL). MC: 3, Mississippi Palisades SP, 28 Sep. & Winnebago Co, 2 Oct., resp. (JB).

#### Northern Goshawk

EA: 2 Nov. (imm.), Clin.L (MD); 12 Nov., MTNWR (\*HW,m.ob.). Others: 24 Nov. (ad.), Shirland (Winnebago Co) (BG).

#### Red-shouldered Hawk

EA: 22 Aug., Carl.L (KM). LD: 11 Nov., Carl.L (KM); 10 Nov. Urbana (EC).

#### Broad-winged Hawk

EA: 14 Aug. (imm.), JP(PC); 18 Aug. (3), Urbana (EC); 22 Aug., S. Clinton Co (KM). MC: 5,107, Mt. Hoy, 20 Sep. (HC); 600+, Spfld, 19 Sep. (VK); 100+, Carl.L, 1 Oct. (DK). LD: 23 Oct., se. Cook Co (WS).

#### Red-tailed Hawk

EA: 15 Sep., JP (TJ); 17 Sep. (imm., rufous morph), Clin.L (RC); 3 Oct. (imm.), Evanston (EW). MC: 117, Long Hollow (Jo Davies Co), 19 Oct. (JB); 73, IBSP, 9 Oct. (ASt); 23, Spfld, 15 Nov. (DB). Others: 6 Nov. (dark morph), Palos (WS); 9 Nov. (Krider's), Urbana (RC); 25 Nov. (Harlan's), Zeigler (Franklin Co) (LS—photos); 25 Nov. (Krider's), Ware (Union Co) (CMc,JMC).

#### Rough-legged Hawk

EA: 12 Nov., Urbana (RC); 12 Nov., Winnetka (LB) — few records this Fall.

#### Golden Eagle

EA: 22 Oct. (ad.), Clin.L (RC).

#### American Kestrel

EA: 16 Aug. (18), Savanna (JB). MC: 21, Savanna, 29 Aug. (JB).

#### Merlin

EA: 27 Aug., Chi (JL); 6 Sep. (ad.), Carl.L (MSe); 18 Sep., Urbana (RC). MC: 7, IBSP, 9 Oct. (ASt). LD: 6 Nov., Clin.L (RC); 25-26 Oct. (male), Rockford (ABr). Others: 25 other sightings reported.

#### Peregrine Falcon

EA: 2 Aug. (imm.), Carl.L (MSe); 6 Aug. (ad.), Carl.L (MSe); 18



Aug. - 17 Sep. (ad. tundrius), Decatur (MD). MC: 9, Cook Co (lakefront), 1 Oct. (EW,RH). LD: 26 Nov., nc. Winnebago Co (EW,JD). 21 other sightings reported.

#### **Prairie Falcon**

EA: 2 Nov., Maroa (Macon Co) (MD); 7 Nov., Urbana (GL). MC: 2, Urbana & Champaign (Univ. of IL South Farms), 10-13 Nov. (SB & EC, resp.). Urbana & Champaign sightings were of same birds.

#### **Greater Prairie Chicken**

MC: 45, Jasper Co, 24 Oct. (TF).

#### **Wild Turkey**

MC: 5, Massac Co, 21 Oct. (TF).

#### **Northern Bobwhite**

MC: 40, Clin.L, 6 Nov. (RC).

#### **Yellow Rail**

EA: 10 Sep., IBSP (\*ASt). LD: 25 Sep., IBSP (\*ASt).

#### **Virginia Rail**

EA: 22 Aug., Decatur (MD). MC: 2, Arcola, 11 Sep. (RC). LD: 9 Dec. (\*\*window kill), Urbana (fide EC) Others: 17 Sep., M.Arb. (fide EW); 8 Sep., JP (DM).

#### **King Rail**

LD: 29 Aug. (fresh roadkill), Sang.L (DB); 14 Aug. (2 ad.), LCal (WM,m.ob.).

#### **Sora**

EA: 27 July, Spfld (DB); 15 Aug., JP (PC). MC: 17, Arcola, 11 Sep. (RC). L.D.: 2 Oct., Dragon L (Du Page Co) (JSu); 28 Sep., Carl.L (DK).

#### **Common Moorhen**

MC: 36 (ads. & yg.), Havana, 24 Sep. (MD); 25, Palos, 1 Aug. (WS); 5, HLCA, 12 Sep. (KM). LD: 19 Oct., Moraine Hills SP (RBa).

#### **American Coot**

EA: 8 Sep. (8), Palos (WS); 8 Sep., Spfld (DB). MC: 4,300, Baker's L (Cook Co), 9 Nov. (EW); 3,000, Clin.L, 15 Oct. (MD); 2,500, HLCA, 15 Nov. (KM).

#### **Sandhill Crane**

Others: 13 Oct., Fulton Co (KW); 13-15 Nov. (5), LChau (fide DB,m.ob.). MC: 710, Glencoe, 22 Nov. (LB). LD: 17-27 Nov., Havana (KR, m.ob.)

#### **Black-bellied Plover**

EA: 28 Jul., RLCA (RC); 8 Aug. (ad.), JP (PC). MC: 20, sw. Boone Co, 23 Aug. (JD). LD: 12 Oct. (5), Carl.L (DK); 10 Oct. (15), RLCA (KR).

#### **Lesser Golden Plover**

EA: 27 June (3), Decatur (MD et al.). MC: 300+, nw. Will Co,

8-9 Sep. (CA); 150, RLCA, 19 Sep. (KR). LD: 2 Nov., Decatur (MD); 16 Oct. (3), Winnebago Co (BG); 16 Oct. (2), LCNP (CMc,JMC).

#### **Semipalmated Plover**

EA: 29 June, Decatur (MD); 20 July (2), Carl.L (KM); 11 Aug. (2 ad.), JP (PC). MC: 35, RLCA, 15 Aug. (KR); 30+, Carl.L, 4 Sep. (KM); 20, LCal, 14 Aug. (WS). LD: 1 Nov., Rend L (LS); 4 Oct. (2), Charleston (BH).

#### **Piping Plover**

EA: 26 June, Decatur (MD); 3 July (ad.), JP (\*PC et al.). LD: 24 Sep., Clin.L (RC); 24 Sep., IBSP (ASt). Others: 15-31 July, Decatur (MD); 3 Aug., Chi (RH).

#### **Killdeer**

EA: 21 July (3), JP (PC). MC: 1,000, Decatur, 22 Oct. (MD); 500, ne. Champaign Co, 4 Sep. (RC); 300, Stump L, 5 Aug. (KM).

#### **Black-necked Stilt**

MC: 5, RLCA, 29 Aug. (KR—the same 5 that summered at LChau?)

#### **American Avocet**

EA: 26 June, Decatur (MD). MC: 22, RLCA, 18-24 Sep. (KR,m.ob.). LD: 19 Nov. (4), Rend L (LS); 6 Nov. (16), LChau (KR). Others: 15 July, RLCA (KR,LA); 8 Aug., Stump L (KM); 1-17 Sep. (3), Rend L (RD); 22-28 Sep. (2), Carl.L (DK,KR); 24 Sep. (2), Carl.L (KM); 30 Sep.-3 Oct. (2), Sanganois CA; 14-16 Oct., LCal (GW,m.ob.); 15 Oct. (2), Rend L (TF); 16 & 23 Oct., LCNP (CMc,JMC); 16-23 Oct., Champaign (RC,m.ob.); 22-30 Oct., Decatur (MD,m.ob.); 31 Oct. (4), O'Fallon (KM).

#### **Greater Yellowlegs**

EA: 2 July, LCal (WM,EW); 17 July (8), Carl.L (KM). MC: 50, RLCA, 26 Sep. (KR). LD: 23 Nov. (2), Havana (KR); 6 Nov., Orland Park (WS); 6 Nov. (3), Will Co (CMc,JMC); 6 Nov. (11), LCNP (CMc,JMC).

#### **Lesser Yellowlegs**

EA: 24 June, Decatur (MD); 2 July (10), LCal (WM); 10 July (6), Rend L (KM); 12 Aug. (imm.), Wilmette (EW). MC: 5000+, RLCA, 25 July (KR); 346, LCal, 14 Aug. (WM), 104, Rend L, 5 Sep. (TF). LD: 1 Dec.+ (4), Havana (KR); 18 Nov. (4), Pulaski Co (TF); 23 Oct. (6), LCal (WM).

#### **Solitary Sandpiper**

EA: 25 June, Havana (MD); 9 July, LCal (WM); 9 July, GLPSP (JM); 20 July, Carl.L (KM). MC: 55, RLCA, 15 July (KR,LA). LD: 27 Sep., JP (TJ); 22 Sep., Carl.L (KM); 20 Sep. (2), Sangamon Co (DB).

#### **Willet**

EA: 7 July, JP (JO); 8 July, LChau (KR); 22 July, Rend L (TF). MC: 15 (imm.), Wilmette, 13 Aug. (EW); 6, LShel (Moultrie Co), 13 Aug. (RC). LD: 6 Nov., LChau (KR,m.ob.).

#### **Spotted Sandpiper**

EA: 2 July (2), Rend L (TF); 7 July, JP (PC). MC: 18, Rend L, 31 July (TF); 9, JP, 14 Aug. (PC). LD: 18 Oct., Spfld (DB); 3 Oct., GLPSP (JM).



*Piping Plover, Decatur, Illinois, 27 June 1994. Photo by Dennis Oehmke. This is a state and federally endangered species.*

**Upland Sandpiper**

EA: 11 July, GLPSP (JM). MC: 14, Decatur, 30 July (MD). LD: 18 Aug., Rend L (TF). Others: 5, Arthur (Moultrie Co), 6 Aug. (RC).

**Whimbrel**

EA: 15 July, JP (PC). LD: 21 Aug., IBSP (ASt). Others: 17 July, IBSP (ASt); 13 Aug., Wauk (RDe); 13 Aug., Decatur (MD).

**Hudsonian Godwit**

MC: 8, Rend L, 20 Aug. (RD).

**Marbled Godwit**

EA: 9 July, RendL (TF); 16 July, FWMA (RC). LD: 29 Oct. - 3 Nov., LChau (KR). Others: 13-23 July, Carl.L (DK); 8-15 Aug., RLCA (VK,KR,m.ob.); 18-24 Sep., RLCA (KR,m.ob.); 7-8 Oct., LChau (KR,m.ob.).

**Ruddy Turnstone**

EA: 20 July (ad.), JP (PC); 23 July, Carl.L (DK). MC: 3, Rend L, 31 Aug. (TF). LD: 24 Sep., Chi (GW); 5 Sep., Rend L (TF).

**Red Knot**

EA: 11 Aug. (2), Decatur (MD); 14 Aug., Chi (CMc,JMC); 14 Aug. (imm.), JP (PC). MC: 3, RLCA, 4-9 Sep. (KR). LD: 2 Oct., Rend L (TF); 11 Sep., RLCA (KR); 10 Sep. (2), LCal (GW,m.ob.).

**Sanderling**

EA: 13 July, JP (PC); 15 July, Decatur (MD). MC: 39, Chi, 3 Sep. (JL); 13, Decatur, 21 Sep. (MD). LD: 4 Oct., Charleston (BH); 22 Sep., Carl.L (KM).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**

EA: 2 July, Rend L (TF). MC: 142, Rend L, 24 July (TF); 115, LCal, 30 July (WM); 75, FWMA, 6 Aug. (RC). LD: 24 Sep., Carl.L (KM).

**Western Sandpiper**

EA: 1 July, Decatur (MD); 17 July, Carl.L (KM). MC: 6, Decatur, 15 Aug. (MD); 5, Carl.L, 4 Sep. (KM); 4 (imm.), Wilmette, 12 Aug. (EW). LD: 1 Dec., Havana (KR).

**Least Sandpiper**

EA: 28 June, Decatur (MD); 2 July (25), LCal (WM); 10 July (25+), Rend L (KM); 31 July (imm.). Chi (JL). MC: 152, Rend L, 27 July (TF); 150, FWMA, 6 Aug. (RC); 127, LCal, 6 Aug. (JL). LD: 1 Dec. + (6), Havana (KR); 6 Nov., LCNP (CMc, JMC).

**White-rumped Sandpiper**

EA: 8 Sep., Cook Co (TF). LD: 30-31 Oct., Decatur (MD,AS,m.ob.); 16 Oct., LCNP (CMc, JMC); 15 Oct. (2), Rend L (TF). Others: 10 Sep. LCal (GW,m.ob.); 25 Sep., IBSP (ASt).

**Baird's Sandpiper**

EA: 25 July, Decatur (MD); 6 Aug. (6 imm.), O'Hare Airport (RDe); 18 Aug. (ad.), Chi (RDe). MC: 30, RLCA, 22 Aug.

(KR,LA); 12, LCal, 27 Aug. (DM). LD: 2 Nov., Decatur (MD).

**Pectoral Sandpiper**

EA: 21 June (2), Decatur (MD); 2 July, LCal (WM); 10 July (3), RendL (KM). MC: 10,000, RLCA, 6 Aug. (MD); 217, LCal, 28 Aug. (JL); 210, StumpL (Jersey Co), 5 Aug. (KM). LD: 28 Nov., LChau (KR); 4 Nov., Massac (TF).

**Dunlin**

EA: 9 Sep., RLCA (KR); 24 Sep. (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 100, RendL, 14 Oct. (LS); 75, LChau, 16 Oct. (KR,LA). LD: 1 Dec. + (4), Havana (KR).



*Sanderling, Heidecke Lake, Grundy County, 21 Sept. 1994., Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.*

**Stilt Sandpiper**

EA: 2 July, LChau (RC); 9 July (3), LCal (WM); 9 July (5), Rend L (TF). MC: 500, RLCA, 25 July (KR); 96, Rend L, 6 Aug. (RDe); 45, LCal, 28 Aug. (JL). LD: 30 Oct., Winnebago Co (BG).

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper**

EA: 4 Aug. (2), Rend L (TF); 11 Aug., RLCA (KR); 19 Aug. (3), Boone Co (BG). MC: 22, Rend L, 31 Aug. (TF); 12, SW Boone Co, 23 Aug. (JD); 7, RLCA, 29 Aug. (KR,LA). 9 Sep. Heidecke L (JM); LD: 24 Sep., Clin.L (RC); 24 Sep. (4), RLCA (KR,RS); 23 Sep. (2), Rend L (TF); 17 Sep., LCal (GW,WM).

**Ruff**

EA: 27 June (white male), Decatur (\*MD,m.ob.); 20 Aug. (male), Rend L (TF). LD: 22 Oct. - 2 Nov. (imm.), Decatur (MD,m.ob.). Reeve: 23 Nov. - 8 Dec. + (ad.), Havana (KR).

**Short-billed Dowitcher**

EA: 25 June, LCal (JL); 3 July, Decatur (RC); 3-4 July (6), LChau (KR,LA); 17 July (4), Carl.L (KM). MC: 79, LCal, 28 Aug. (JL); 20, Decatur, 18 Aug. (MD); 8, Rend L, 6 Sep. (KM). LD: 9 Sep., RLCA (KR); 4 Sep., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC).



*Ruff in breeding plumage, Decatur, Illinois, 27 June 1994. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.*

**Long-billed Dowitcher**

EA: 11 July, LChau (KR); 11 Sep. (2), LCal (JL). MC: 74, LChau, 3-5 Nov. (KR); 5, Carl.L, 1 Oct. (KM). LD: 1 Dec.+ (2), Havana (KR).

**Common Snipe**

EA: 27 July, Spfld (DB); 22 Aug. (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 27, Decatur, 29 Oct. (MD); 11, Wadsworth, 4 Oct. (SH); 5, Carl.L, 1 Oct. (KM). A few to end of period.

**American Woodcock**

LD: 26 Nov., Urbana (JNa); 20 Nov., Chi (\*\*JSa).

**Wilson's Phalarope**

EA: 27-3 July June, Decatur (MD et al.); 2 July, Carl.L (DK). MC: 10, RLCA, 26 Aug., (KR). LD: 11 Sep. RLCA (KR).

**Red-necked Phalarope**

EA: 27 July, RLCA (KR); 16 Aug., Carl.L (\*MSe). MC: 8, RLCA, 19 Aug. & 26 Aug., (KR); 4, Rend L, 21 Aug. (RD). LD: 24 Sep., RLCA (KR,RS). Others: 19-20 Aug. (2), LCal (LR,m.ob).

**Red Phalarope**

EA: 18-22 Aug., Decatur (MD,m.ob.). LD: 8 Oct. - 19 Oct., Rock Falls (CA,m.ob.).

**Jaeger, sp.**

EA: 30 Sep., Carl.L (DK); 21 Nov. (imm.), LChau (KR)..

**Laughing Gull**

EA: 2 & 31 July (ad.) Rend L (TF); 3 July (2 imm.), RLCA (KR,LA). MC: 6 (imm.), Decatur, 10 Aug. - 8 Sep. (MD,m.ob). LD: 15 Oct. (ad.), CONWR (RD); 13 Oct. (1st winter), Rend L (RD); 16-24 Sep., Decatur (MD). Others: 4-8 July (ad.), LChau (KR); 13 July, Carl.L (DK); 16-19 July (imm.), RLCA (KR); 19 Aug. (2 imm.), RLCA (KR); 21 Aug. (imm.), LShel (MD); 30 Aug. & 5-8 Sep. (imm.), Spfld (DB); 10-17 Sep. (imm.), Clin.L (MD,RC); 12 Sep. (3 imm.), Spfld (DB); 14-21 Sep., GLPSP (1st county record) (im.)m (JM).

**Franklin's Gull**

EA: 9 Sep., GLPSP (JM); 22 Sep., Carl.L (KM). MC: 28, Spfld, 24 Oct. (DB); 23, CONWR, 18 Oct. (RD). LD: 5 Nov., Clin.L (GL,MHa); 5 Nov., Rend L (TF).

**Little Gull**

EA: 29 July (imm.), RLCA (KR); 16 Sep., Spfld (\*DB). LD: 30 Oct. - 4 Dec. (imm.), Clin.L (AS,\*RC, m.ob.); 10 Nov. (ad.), Evanston (JKo). Others: 18 Oct., Wilmette (GR).

**Bonaparte's Gull**

EA: 18 July (ad.), JP (PC); 8 Aug. (3 imm.), Pekin (KR); 10 Aug. (imm.), Wilmette (EW). MC: 1,600, LCNP, 6 Nov. (CMc,JMC); 750+, Clin.L, 6 Nov. (RC); 500+. Carl.L, 27 Nov. (DK).



*Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Heidecke Lake, Grundy County, 9 Sept. 1994. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich*



*Immature Laughing Gull, Heidecke Lake, Grundy County, 21 Sept. 1994.  
Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.*

Sep. (MD); 10, HLCA, 11 Aug. (KM). LD: 25 Nov., Spfld (DB); 24 Oct. (4), HLCA (KM); 23 Oct. (5), Wolf L (Cook Co) (WM).

**Least Tern**

EA: 11 Aug. (imm.), Decatur (MD). LD: 17 Sep., Rend L (RD).

**Black Tern**

EA: 30 June (2), L.Ren (JM); 1 July (ad.), LChau (KR); 10 July (3), Rend L (KM). MC: 49, LCal, 13 Aug. (WM); 26, Decatur, 22 July (MD); 24, Rend L,

17 Sep. (RD). L.D.: 23 Sep., Spfld (DB); 16 Sep. (9), GLPSP (JM).

**Mourning Dove**

MC: 300+, Urbana, 12 Nov. (RC); 260+, HLCA, 1 Sep. (KM).

**Monk Parakeet**

Nest in late Oct produced yg. that perished (JPu,m.ob.).

**Black-billed Cuckoo**

EA: 17 July, Rend L (TF); 6 Aug., FWMA (RC). LD: 24 Sep., JP (SM).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

EA: 27 Aug. (2), Chi (JL). MC: 3, Germantown, 22 Aug. (KM). LD: 23 Oct., Fermi (JSu et al.).

**Great Horned Owl**

MC: 4, Homer, 7 Sep. (JS).

**Long-eared Owl**

EA: 31 Oct., Cook Co. (RB); 1 Nov. Urbana (RC).

**Short-eared Owl**

MC: 14, IBSP, 20 Oct. (BE).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl**

EA: 22 Oct., Clin.L (RC). Other: 21 Nov., Shirland (Winnebago Co) (BG).

**Common Nighthawk**

MC: 500+, Urbana, 8 Sep. (RC); 500, Decatur, 26 Aug. (MD); 107, Belleville, 1 Sep. (KM). LD: 17 Oct., Urbana (RC); 17 Oct. (6), Belleville (KM).

**Whip-poor-will**

LD: 18 Sep. (3), Joinson Co (TF).

**Chimney Swift**

MC: 2,000+, Chi, 5 Sep. (RC); 500, Pekin, 25 Sep. (KR); 275, HLCA, 5 Oct. (KM). LD: 19 Oct., Urbana (RC); 19 Oct., HLCA (KM); 12 Oct. (2), Chi (RE); 12 Oct., M.Arb (fide EW).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

EA: 27 Aug., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC). MC: 5, Urbana, 18 Sep. (RC et al.). LD: 20 Oct., Jackson Co (RD); 16

**Ring-billed Gull**

EA: 11 July (25-1st summer), GLPSP (JM). MC: 5,000, Spfld, 26 Nov. (DB); 3,500+, Carl.L, 29 Sep. (KM); 1,833, JP, 5 Aug. (PC).

**California Gull**

10 Aug. (ad.), Decatur (\*MD).

**Herring Gull**

EA: 12 Sep., Buckhart (DB); 19 Sep., Carl.L (KM).

**Thayer's Gull**

EA: 21 Oct., Evanston (EW).

**Iceland Gull**

EA: 25 Nov. (ad. "Kumlein's"), LCal (WM).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**

EA: 21-22 Aug., RLCA (KR,LA). Others: 29 Aug - 18 Sep. (ad.), Spfld (DB); 29 Sep., Carl.L (DK); 30 Sep. (ad), Chi (JPu); 5 Oct. 2 ad., Carl.L (MSe); 10 Oct. (2nd winter), Carl.L (KM); 22 Oct. (ad.), Clin.L (RC).

**Glaucous Gull**

EA: 10 July (2nd yr.), IBSP (ASt); 24 Sep. - 16 Oct., IBSP (ASt).

**Sabine's Gull**

EA: 17 Sep. (imm.), Spfld (MD); 27 Sep. (imm.), Carl.L (TF). LD: 2 Nov. (imm.), Wilmette (RB,EW).

**Caspian Tern**

EA: 15 July (2), Rend L (TF); 17 July, Evanston (EW); 8 July, Spfld (DB). MC: 64, IBSP, 13 Aug. (ASt). LD: 25 Oct., Orland Park (WS).

**Common Tern**

EA: 12 Aug. (8—6 ad.), Wilmette (EW). MC: 40 (1 ad., 39 imm.), Clin.L, 24 Sep. (RC). LD: 10 Nov. (imm.), Spfld (DB); 22 Oct., Charleston (BH); 15 Oct., Rend L (TF); 1 Oct., Wilmette (EW). Others: 30 June (ad.), RLCA (KR); 16 July (2 ad.), JP (PC).

**Forster's Tern**

EA: 2 July (imm.), Rend L (TF); 13 July, Spfld (DB); 14 July (ad.), Evanston (EW). MC: 27, Chi, 25 Sep. (JL); 26, Decatur, 25

Oct. (female), Spfld (DB).

**Red-headed Woodpecker**

EA: 13 Aug. (ad.), Wilmette (EW). MC: 55, Rend L, 21 Nov. (LS).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**

EA: 30 Sep., JP (KC).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**

EA: 17 Sep. (2 imm.), Starved Rock SP (CMc,JMC); 18 Sep., Spfld (DB); 2 Oct., Franklin Co (TF). MC: 7, Urbana, 9 Oct. (RC). LD: 21 Nov. (ad.), Rockford (BG).

**Downy Woodpecker**

MC: 11, Spfld, 16 Oct. & 3 Nov. (DB).

**Northern Flicker**

EA: 17 Sep. (10), JP (SM). MC: 30, JP, 20 Sep. (SM); 28, Spfld, 25 Sep. (DB).

**Pileated Woodpecker**

New population: 5, Starved Rock SP, in Sep. (CMc,JMC,m.ob.).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**

EA: 9 Aug., Evanston (EW); 13 Aug., JohnsonCo (TF). LD: 19 Sep., Dragon L (Du Page Co) (JSu).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**

E.A.: 20 Aug. (imm.), Evanston (EW). MC: 15, Clinton Co, 22 Aug. (KM); 13, Spfld, 7 Sep. (DB). LD: 20 Oct., JP (TJ).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**

EA: 12 Aug., Evanston (EW); 21 Aug., Urbana (RC); 21 Aug., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC); 21 Aug., SRSF (KR). LD: 28 Sep., Sangamon Co (DB).

**Acadian Flycatcher**

EA: 16 Aug., JP (DM). LD: 18 Sep. (2 calling), Starved Rock SP (CMc,JMC); 6 Sep., RLCA (KR); 6 Sep., Pomona (Jackson Co) (KM).

**Alder Flycatcher**

EA: 21 Aug., SRSF (KR); 29 Aug., Pope Co (TF). LD: 8 Sep., Urbana (RC).

**Willow Flycatcher**

EA: 15 July, Evanston (EW). MC: 3, JP, 14 Aug. (SM). LD: 28 Sep. (by voice), Urbana (DR).

**Least Flycatcher**

EA: 10 July, JP (PC); 2 Aug., Evanston (EW); 13 Aug., FWMA (RC). MC: 7, Evanston/Wilmette, 20 Aug. (EW); 6, Spfld, 29 Aug. (DB). LD: 26 Sep., Spfld (DB).

**Eastern Phoebe**

E.A.: 25 Aug., JP (PC). MC: 10, JP, 2 Oct. (JP et al.); 7, Clin.L, 1 Oct. (MD). LD: 6 Nov., Wilmette (JP,m.ob.); 6 Nov., Fermi (JSu).

**Great Crested Flycatcher**

EA: 19 Aug., JP (PC). LD: 15 Sep. (2), Spfld (DB); 10 Sep., Chi (JL); 9 Sep., Saline Co (TF).

**Western Kingbird**

LD: 4 Aug. (1 from nesting pr.), E. St. Louis (KM).

**Eastern Kingbird**

EA: 15 Aug., JP (PC). MC: 167, Rend L, 30 Aug. (RD); 24, Skokie Lagoons FP, 21 Aug. (JSa); 22, Clin.L, 27 Aug. (MD). LD: 19 Sep., Carl.L (KM).

**Horned Lark**

MC: 36, Sangamon Co, 28 Aug. (DB).

**Purple Martin**

EA: 26 June, Evanston (EW) - migrating south at dusk. MC: 274, JP, 9 Aug. (PC); 22, Bond Co, 17 July (KM). LD: 25 Sep. (6), Chi (JL).

**Tree Swallow**

EA: 17 July, Evanston (EW); 20 July, Carl.L (KM). MC: 100,000, Carl.L, 27 Sep. (TF); 30,000+, RLCA, 1 Oct. & 8 Oct. (RC); 30,000+, LChau, 8 Oct. (RC). LD: 30 Oct., (15), Sang.L (DB); 23 Oct., Carl.L (KM).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow**

EA: 4 July (10), Wilmette (EW); 10 July (4), Rend L (KM). MC: 500, Alexander Co, 22 July (TF); 200+, LChau, 24 July (RC). LD: 1 Oct., Giant City SP (LS, RD).

**Bank Swallow**

EA: 2 July (205), near LCal (EW); 10 July, RendL (KM). MC: 1000+, RLCA, 24 July (RC); 250, LCal, 6 Aug. (JL). LD: 23 Sep. (2), Spfld (DB); 12 Sep. (6), Alton (KM); 10 Sep. (11), LCal (JL).

**Cliff Swallow**

EA: 10 July (60), Rend L (KM). MC: 1,000, Decatur, 28 Aug. (MD); 120+, Scott Co, 24 Aug. (KM). LD: 10 Oct., Carl.L (KM); 26 Sep. (2), Spfld (DB).

**Barn Swallow**

EA: 11 July (8), Evanston (EW). MC: 132, JP, 14 Aug. (PC); 30+, Carl.L, 24 Sep. (KM); 30, Spfld, 22 & 30 Aug. (DB). LD: 24 Oct., Spfld (DB); 23 Oct., Zion (JSa).

**Blue Jay**

E.A.: 15 Aug., JP (PC). MC: 100+ (foraging for acorns, not migrants), Middlefork FP (Champaign Co), 25 Sep. (RC); 50, Fermi, 2 Oct. (JSu); 37, Carl.L, 24 Sep. (KM).

**American Crow**

MC: 1,100, Homewood, 27 Nov. (WS); 250+, O'Fallon, 24 Oct. (KM).

**Fish Crow**

MC: 8, Stump L (Jersey Co), 8 Aug. (KM). LD: 4 Oct. (2), Alexander Co (KM).



*Long-eared Owl peering into seventh floor of building at Polk and Wells streets in Chicago, Cook County, 31 Oct. 1994. Photo by Richard Bready.*

**Black-capped Chickadee**

MC: 23, Spfld, 2 Sep. (DB).

**Tufted Titmouse**

EA: 18 Sep., Urbana (migrant or post-breeding wanderer) (RC et al.). MC: 35, Rend L, 21 Nov. (LS).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**

EA: 10 Sep., Chi (CA); 10 Sep., Evanston (EW); 24 Sep., Clin.L (RC). MC: 6, Urbana, 26 Nov. (RC); 3, M.Arb, 22 Oct. (JSu).

**Brown Creeper**

EA: 9 Sep., Urbana (DR). MC: 14, Spfld, 22 Nov. (DB); 7, JP, 2 Oct. (PC).

**Carolina Wren**

MC: 12, Spfld, 22 Nov. (DB). Others: 9 Aug., Evanston (EW); 27 Aug. & 3 Sep., Egger's Woods FP (Cook Co.) (WM).

**Bewick's Wren**

EA: 29 Sep., Decatur (MD).

**House Wren**

EA: 19 Aug., Chi (EW). MC: 13, Spfld, 29 Sep. (DB); 10, Carl.L, 19 Sep. (KM). LD: 23 Oct., Spfld (DB); 16 Oct., Illini SP (CMc.JMC).

**Winter Wren**

EA: 25 Sep., Urbana (RC); 25 Sep., JP (SM); 1 Oct., Carl.L (KM). MC: 18, Urbana (Busey Woods), 9 Oct. (RC); 14, Urbana, 2 Oct. (RC). LD: 11 Nov., Carl.L (KM); 2 Nov., Evanston (EW).

**Sedge Wren**

EA (breeding?): 16 July, Pope Co (TF); 8 Aug., Pekin (KR); 8 Aug., Pere Marquette SP (KM). MC: 23, West Frankfort, 5 Oct. (LS); 16, Havana, 25 Sep. (MD). LD: 25 Oct. (2), Dragon L (Du Page Co) (JSu); 19 Oct., RLCA (KR).

**Marsh Wren**

EA: 8 Sep., Cook Co (TF); 9 Sep., Spfld (DB). MC: 40, Chi, 28 Sep. (DM); 9, Carl.L, 24 Sep. (KM). LD: 1 Nov., JP (TJ); 31 Oct., Urbana (EC).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**

EA: 28 Sep. (2), Sangamon Co (DB); 28 Sep., Urbana (DR); 28 Sep. (2), JP (SM); 10 Oct., Carl.L (KM).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**

EA: 17 Sep. (2), Chi (JL); 18 Sep., Urbana (RC); 18 Sep., Decatur (MD); 18 Sep. (3), Spfld (DB); 19 Sep. (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 30, Mason Co, 18 Oct. (TF); 30, Spfld, 16 Oct. (DB); 20, JP, 9 Oct. (SM). LD: 12 Nov., JP (KC); 11 Nov., Carl.L (KM).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**

EA: 27 July, JP (PC). MC: 6, Clinton Co, 22 Aug. (KM). LD: 27 Sep., Urbana (EC); 23 Sep., Johnson Co (TF); 12 Sep., Winnebago Co (BG).

**Eastern Bluebird**

MC: 49, Clin.L, 29 Oct. (MD); 14 (imm.), Boone Co, 2 Aug. (AB); 13, Carl.L, 24 Sep. (KM). LD: 30 Nov., (2), Rock Cut SP (BG).

**Veery**

EA: 15 Aug., JP (PC); 21 Aug., Urbana (RC); 21 Aug., SRSF (KR). LD: 22 Sep., Spfld (DB).

**Gray-cheeked Thrush**

EA: 27 Aug., JP (KC); 29 Aug., Urbana (RC). LD: 9 Oct., Chi (JL).

**Swainson's Thrush**

EA: 20 Aug., JP (PC); 21 Aug., Urbana (RC); 4 Sep. (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 30, Urbana, 29 Aug. (RC); 23, JP, 3 Sep. (SM). LD: 22 Oct., Urbana (RC); 9 Oct. (3), Chi (JL); 9 Oct., CBG (JSa); 9 Oct., JP (PC).

**Hermit Thrush**

EA: 29 Sep., Spfld (DB); 1 Oct. (20), Chi (EW). MC: 25, Urbana, 9 Oct. (RC); 23, JP, 9 Oct. (PC). LD: 11 Nov., Spfld (DB). Others: 9-16 Aug. (unhealthy individual, perhaps summered nearby?), JP (\*PC)

**Wood Thrush**

EA: 3 Sep., Mahomet (RC). LD: 25 Oct., Spfld (DB).

**American Robin**

MC: 2,000+ (roost), Urbana, 6 Oct. (RC); 600, Rockford, 25 Oct. (ABr); 260+, Willstadt (St. Clair Co), 27 Oct. (KM). A few to end of period.

**Gray Catbird**

EA: 8 Sep. (3), Cook Co (TF). MC: 15, Carl.L, 19 Sep. (KM); 14, Spfld, 29 Aug. & 14 Sep. (DB); 10, JP, 9 Oct. (SM). LD: 3 Dec., Urbana (RC).

**Northern Mockingbird**

EA: 14 Aug., LCal (CMc.JMC). MC: 5, Spfld, 12 Oct. (DB). LD: 27 Oct., SRSF (KR); 22 Oct., IBSP (AST).

**Brown Thrasher**

MC: 10, Spfld, 5 Sep. (DB). LD: 26 Nov., Spfld (DB).

**American Pipit**

EA: 17 Sep., Decatur (MD); 18 Sep. (3), Winnebago Co (BG); 1 Oct., Carl.L (KM). MC: 100, Spfld, 8 Nov. (DB). LD: 1-17 Dec., Urbana (\*RC). Others: 20 Nov. (90), Champaign & Urbana (RC)

**Cedar Waxwing**

EA: 25 July (5), Evanston (EW). MC: 2,100, IBSP, 13 Aug. (RDe); 850+, Carl.L, 29 Sep. (KM).

**Northern Shrike**

EA: 23 Oct., Fermi (JSu et al.). Others: 27 Oct. (imm.), CBG (LB); 28 Oct., Chi (m.ob.); 29 Oct. - 26 Nov., IBSP (AST); 11 Nov., Chi (North Park Village) (RDe); 20 Nov., Fermi (JSu); 21 Nov., Winnebago Co (BG). 6 sightings in Winnebago Co in Nov. (JD, m.ob.).

**Loggerhead Shrike**

EA: 12 Sep., Havana (KR). MC: 3, Bond Co, 4 Sep. (KM). Others: 7 Aug. (1 from nesting pr.), Winnebago Co (BG).

**European Starling**

MC: 3,500 (roost), LCal, 4 & 22 Oct. (WM).

**White-eyed Vireo**

EA: 5 Sep., Starved Rock SP (CMc.JMC). MC: 13, Pomona (Jackson Co), 6 Sep. (KM). LD: 11 Oct., Mattoon (BH,SS).

**Bell's Vireo**

LD: 13 Sep. (2), Sangamon Co (DB).

**Solitary Vireo**

EA: 17 Sep. (2), Chi (JL); 18 Sep., Spfld (DB) 27 Sep., Carl.L (TF). MC: 3, Spfld, 6 Oct. (DB). LD: 9 Nov., Sang.L (DB); 9 Oct., Egger's Woods FP (Cook Co) (WM).

**Yellow-throated Vireo**

EA: 22 Aug. (2), Clinton Co (KM); 4 Sep., Urbana (RC, EC et al.). LD: 29 Sep., M.Arb. (fide EW); 28 Sep., Urbana (DR).

**Warbling Vireo**

EA: 15 Aug., Wilmette (EW); 21 Aug., Urbana (RC). MC: 6, Spfld, 29 Aug. (DB); 6, JP, 17 Aug. (PC). LD: 2 Oct., Franklin Co (TF); 25 Sep., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC); 25 Sep., Urbana (DR).

**Philadelphia Vireo**

EA: 29 Aug., West Frankfort (LS); 29 Aug., JP (PC); 3 Sep., Mahomet (EC). MC: 5, Mahomet, 5 Sep. (TR, DR). LD: 14 Oct., CNC (EW-photo).

**Red-eyed Vireo**

EA: 8 Aug. (male), JP (PC); 21 Aug., Urbana (RC). MC: 20, Mahomet, 5 Sep. (TR, DR); 11, JP, 27 Aug. (SM, PC). LD: 5 Oct. (2), Spfld (DB); 2 Oct., Starved Rock SP (CMc.JMC).

**Blue-winged Warbler**

EA: 7 Aug., Orient (Franklin Co) (LS);

21 Aug., Urbana (RC,EC). LD: 15 Sep. (2), Spfld (DB).

**Golden-winged Warbler**

EA: 21 Aug. (2), Urbana (RC,EC); 21 Aug., JP (LL,PW); 21 Aug. (2), Egger's Woods FP (Cook Co) (WM,WS). MC: 6, Spfld, 31 Aug. (DB). LD: 25 Sep., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC); 24 Sep., Carl.L (KM).

**Tennessee Warbler**

EA: 22 July (2), Evanston (EW); 23 July, Evanston (EW) - a new migrant; 14 Aug., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC), 22 Aug., S. Clinton Co (KM). MC: 30, Carl.L, 4 Sep. (KM). LD: 18 Oct., Mason Co (TF); 18 Oct., Spfld (DB); 11 Oct., Chi (JL); 10 Oct., Carl.L (KM).

**Orange-crowned Warbler**

EA: 18 Sep. (2), Urbana (RC,EC); 1 Oct. (3), Carl.L (KM). MC: 6, Spfld, 15 & 25 Oct. (DB). LD: 6 Nov. (imm.), Spfld (DB); 25 Oct., Evanston (EW).

**Nashville Warbler**

EA: 21 Aug., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC); 4 Sep. (3), Carl.L (KM). MC: 10, Spfld, 10 Sep. (DB). LD: 20 Oct., Spfld (DB); 9 Oct., Dragon L (Du Page Co) (JSu).

**Northern Parula**

EA: 29 Aug., Urbana (RC,EC). MC: 6, Spfld, 21 Sep. (DB). LD: 2 Oct. (3), Rend L (TF); 1 Oct., Palos (EW).

**Yellow Warbler**

E.A.: 17 July, Evanston (EW). MC: 3, Rend L, 31 Aug. (TF). LD: 25 Sep., Dragon L (Du Page Co) (JSu); 23 Sep., Franklin Co (TF).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**

EA: 21 Aug. (10), Urbana (RC); 22 Aug. (7), Clinton Co (KM); 25 Aug. (ad.), Evanston (EW). MC: 15, Spfld, 29 Aug. (DB). LD: 7 Oct. (ad.), Spfld (DB); 4 Oct., Jackson Co (TF).

**Magnolia Warbler**

EA: 18 Aug. (2), Champaign Co (KM); 29 Aug., Johnson Co (TF). MC: 40+, Urbana, 18 Sep. (RC); 20, JP, 20 Sep. (SM); 10, Carl.L, 4 Sep. (KM). LD: 2 Nov., Spfld (DB); 21 Oct., Chi (GW).

**Cape May Warbler**

EA: 17 Aug. (3), JP (PC). MC: 5, JP, 18 Aug. (PC). LD: 10 Nov., Chi (Rainbow Beach) (RH).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**

EA: 3-4 Sep., Carl.L (DK, KM); 4 Sep. (female), Evanston (EW); 4 Sep., Chi (JL et al.); 4 Sep. (imm. female), Brookfield (DR,TR); 4 Sep. (female), (SM,TS); 5 Sep. (female), Decatur (MD); 5 Sep. (female), Starved Rock SP (CMc,JMC). MC: 4 (3 males, 1 female), Urbana, 18 Sep. (RC et al.). LD: 1 Nov. (imm. male), Spfld (DB); 15 Oct. (male), IBSP (ASt); 4 Oct. (female), Jackson Co (TF).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**

EA: 21 Aug., JP (PC); 8 Sep., Spfld (DB); 28 Sep., HLCA (KM). MC: 150+, Chi, 9 Oct. (JL); 62, Carl.L, 10 Oct. (KM); 59, Spfld, 13 Oct. (DB). A few to end of period.

**Black-throated Green Warbler**

EA: 16 Aug., JP (PC); 23 Aug. (2), Urbana (RC); 4 Sep., Carl.L (KM). MC: 14, Spfld, 6 Oct. (DB). LD: 21 Oct., JP (HR); 20 Oct., Spfld (DB).

**Blackburnian Warbler**

EA: 17 Aug. (2), Spfld (DB); 19 Aug. (2), JP (PC). MC: 6, Spfld, 29 Aug. (DB); 3, Carl.L, 4 Sep. (KM). LD: 4 Oct., Spfld (DB); 2 Oct., Franklin Co (TF).

**Yellow-throated Warbler**

EA: 22 Aug., S. Clinton Co (KM). LD: 6 Sep., UCCA (KM). Other: 1 Aug. (male - probably nested), Winnebago Co (BG).

**Pine Warbler**

EA: 30 Aug. (10), Pope Co (TF); 3 Sep., Mahomet (RC,EC). MC: 12, Pope Co, 6 Sep (TF). LD: 25 Oct., IBSP (ASt).

**Prairie Warbler**

EA: 29 Aug., RLCA (KR). LD: 28 Sep., Urbana (RC); 23 Sep., Franklin Co (TF).

**Palm Warbler**

EA: 19 Aug., JP (PC); 29 Aug. (3), Homer (JS). LD: 21 Oct., JP (KC); 18 Oct., Sang.L (DB).

**Bay-breasted Warbler**

EA: 9 Aug. (ad. male), JP (PC); 22 Aug., Sang.L (DB); 6 Sep. (2), UCCA (KM). MC: 8, Spfld, Sep. 9 (DB); 6, Carl.L, 19 Sep. (KM). LD: 13 Oct. (tower kill), Spfld (DB).

**Blackpoll Warbler**

EA: 27 Aug., Egger's Woods FP (Cook Co) (WM); 27 Aug. (9), Chi (JL); 27 Aug., JP (PC,SM); 29 Aug., Urbana (RC,EC). MC: 11, Wilmette, 2 Sep. (EW). LD: 9 Oct., Chi (JL).

**Cerulean Warbler**

LD: 22 Aug., S. Clinton Co (KM).

**Black-and-white Warbler**

EA: 19 Aug. (2), Wilmette (EW); 22 Aug., Clinton Co (KM); 22 Aug., Sang.L (DB). MC: 9, Spfld, 1 Sep. (DB); 9, JP, 28 Aug. (PC). LD: 13 Oct. (tower kill), Spfld (DB); 9 Oct., Wolf L (Cook Co) (WM). Other: 14-26 July (imm. male), JP (PC);

**American Redstart**

EA: 16 Aug. (2), JP (PC); 21 Aug. (25), Urbana (RC); 22 Aug. (6), Clinton Co (KM). MC: 150+, Urbana, 29 Aug. (RC); 37, Chi, 27 Aug. (JL). LD: 8 Oct. (2), JP (SM); 7 Oct. (2), Spfld (DB).

**Prothonotary Warbler**

LD: 7 Sep., RLCA (KR).

**Ovenbird**

EA: 21 Aug. (4), Urbana (RC); 21 Aug., Egger's Woods FP (Cook Co) (WM); 21 Aug., JP (SM); 4 Sep. (3), Carl.L (KM). MC: 14, Urbana, 9 Sep. (DR). LD: 17 Nov., Chi (Illinois Institute of Technology) (\*GW).

**Northern Waterthrush**

EA: 16 Aug., JP (PC); 21 Aug., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC); 4 Sep. (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 17, JP, 28 Aug. (PC et al.). LD: 15 Oct., JP (KC).

**Louisiana Waterthrush**

LD: 27 Aug., Chi (JL).

**Kentucky Warbler**

LD: 5 Sep. (male—from nesting pr.), Winnebago Co (BG).

**Connecticut Warbler**

EA: 27 Aug., JP (fide PC). MC: 3, Cook Co, 8 Sep. (TF). LD: 2 Oct., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (JS).

**Mourning Warbler**

EA: 12 Aug., Chi (EW); 21 Aug., Urbana (RC). MC: 3, Chi, 20 Aug. (JL). LD: 2 Oct., JP (KC); 27 Sep., Urbana (EC).

**Common Yellowthroat**

EA: 15 Aug. (2 female), JP (PC). MC: 15, Carl.L., 24 Sep. (KM). LD: 14 Oct., Buckhart (DB); 12 Oct., Dragon L (Du Page Co) (JSu).

**Hooded Warbler**

EA: 3 Sep. (female), Urbana (RC). LD: 12 Sep. (male from nesting pr.), Winnebago Co (BG); 5 Sep., Decatur (MD).

**Wilson's Warbler**

EA: 21 Aug., Urbana (RC); 22 Aug., S. Clinton Co (KM). MC: 5, Urbana, 25 Sep. (RC); 5, JP, 3 Sep. (SM). LD: 3 Oct., Spfld (DB); 3 Oct., JP (KC).

**Canada Warbler**

EA: 19 Aug., Chi (EW); 21 Aug., Urbana (RC). MC: 7, JP, 28 Aug. (PC, SM). LD: 26 Sep., JP (TJ).

**Summer Tanager**

LD: 3 Oct., Johnson Co (TF); 29 Sep., Spfld (DB).

**Scarlet Tanager**

EA: 5 Sep., Starved Rock SP (CMc, JMC); 8 Sep., Urbana (EC); 19 Sep., Johnson Co (TF). LD: 3 Nov. (male), Woodstock (RBA).

**Northern Cardinal**

MC: 30, Spfld, 9 Nov. (DB); 25, JP, 9 Aug. (PC).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak**

EA: 16 Aug., JP (PC); 29 Aug., Urbana (RC & EC—different birds); 29 Aug. (6), Sangamon Co (DB). MC: 25+, Urbana, 18 Sep. (RC). LD: 10 Oct., Spfld (DB); 9 Oct., Dragon L (Du Page Co) (JSu).

**Blue Grosbeak**

LD: 10 Sep. (pr. w/3 yg.), Clin.L (MD); 6 Sep. (2), Union Co (KM); 4 Sep., SRSF (KR).

**Indigo Bunting**

MC: 40, Carl.L (KM). LD: 17 Oct., Spfld (DB).

**Dickcissei**

LD: 17 Oct., Spfld (DB).

**Rufous-sided Towhee**

MC: 7, Carl.L., 10 Sep. (KM). LD: 10 Nov., CONWR (KM). LD: 18 Nov., Spfld (DB). Others (spotted form): 6 Nov., Spfld (DB); 7-8 Nov. (imm.), Chi (EW, m.ob.); 10-27 Nov., SRSF (KR).

**American Tree Sparrow**

EA: 25 Oct., Evanston (EW); 1 Nov., Clin.L & Urbana (RC). MC: 90, Du Page Co, 20 Nov. (JSu); 31, Spfld, 26 Nov. (DB).

**Chipping Sparrow**

EA: 20 Sep., JP (SM). MC: 66, Spfld, 16 Oct. (DB). LD: 15 Nov., Spfld (DB).

**Clay-colored Sparrow**

EA: 10 Sep., Clin.L (MD). LD: 25 Sep., Middlefork FP (Champaign Co) (RC).

**Field Sparrow**

EA: 26 Sep. JP (TJ). MC: 17, Spfld, 18 Oct. (DB). LD: 26 Nov., Spfld (DB).

**Vesper Sparrow**

EA: 2 Oct., JP (PC). LD: 6 Nov., LCNP (CMc, JMC).

**Lark Sparrow**

LD: 24 Aug., Sang.L (DB).

**Savannah Sparrow**

EA: 2 Sep. (3), Spfld (DB); 4 Sep. (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 200+, Freeman (Franklin Co), 31 Oct. (LS); 32, Spfld, 11 Oct. (DB). LD: 25 Nov., Decatur (MD).

**Grasshopper Sparrow**

EA: 13 Aug. (imm.), Jefferson Co (TF). LD: 26 Oct. (ad.), Marion Co (TF); 17 Oct., Spfld (DB).

**Henslow's Sparrow**

EA: 26 July, JP (\*PC). MC: 4, Logan (Franklin Co), date? (LS).

**Le Conte's Sparrow**

EA: 18 Sep., Chi (JL); 26 Sep., RLCA (KR); 1 Oct., Carl.L (DK). MC: 7, Spfld, 17 Oct. (DB). LD: 11 Nov., Spfld (DB); 31 Oct., Freeman (Franklin Co) (LS).

**Sharp-tailed Sparrow**

EA: 8 Sep., Chi (RH); 9 Sep. (2), RLCA (KR); 10 Sep., Clin.L (RC); 20 Sep., Carl.L (MSe). MC: 21, IBSP, 25 Sep. (AS, m.ob.); 20+, Chi, 28 Sep. (DM); 12, Decatur, 14 Sep. (MD); 7, Carl.L, 24 Sep. (KM); 4, Chi, 8 Oct. (GW). LD: 17 Oct., Spfld (DB).

**Fox Sparrow**

EA: 5 Oct., Evanston (EW); 9 Oct., Urbana (RC); 9 Oct., Spfld (DB); 10 Oct. (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 35, SRSF, 27 Oct. (KR); 17, Skokie Lagoons FP, 21 Oct. (EW). LD: 24 Nov., Cherry Hill FP (Cook Co) (CT). Some to end of period.

**Song Sparrow**

MC: 42, Dragon L (Du Page Co), 25 Sep. (JSu); 36, Spfld, 14 & 24 Oct. (DB).

**Lincoln's Sparrow**

EA: 7 Sep., RLCA (KR); 11 Sep. (2), Chi (JL); 22 Sep., Carl.L (KM). MC: 8, Spfld, 16 Oct. (DB); 6, Carl.L, 25 Sep. (DK). LD: 25 Nov., Spfld (DB).

**Swamp Sparrow**

EA: 27 Aug., Chi (JL); 20 Sep. (imm.), Sangamon Co (DB); 22 Sep. (3), Carl.L (KM). MC: 1,000+, LChau, 15 Nov. (RC); 200+, Urbana, 1 Nov. (RC); 30, Carl.L, 10 Oct. (KM). LD: 4 Dec., MS (CT).

**White-throated Sparrow**

EA: 4 Sep., Chi (JL); 18 Sep. (29), Urbana (RC et al.); 18 Sep. (8), Decatur (MD); 18 Sep. (2), Spfld (DB). MC: 500+, Urbana, 16 Oct. (RC); 99, JP, 9 Oct. (PC). LD: 15 Nov. (2), Greenville (KM). Some to end of period.

**White-crowned Sparrow**

EA: 21 Sep., Decatur (MD); 23 Sep. (2), Wilmette (EW); 10 Oct. (2), Carl.L (KM). MC: 43, Spfld, 15 Oct (DB); 18, Fermi, 23 Oct. (JSu).

**Harris' Sparrow**

EA: 20-25 Sep., Carl.L (MSe, DK); 6 Oct., Urbana (RC). LD: 29 Oct. (imm.), Spfld (DB). Others: 16 Oct. (imm.), Urbana (RC); 23 Oct. (imm.), Chi (RH).

**Dark-eyed Junco**

EA: 18 Sep., CBG (JSa); 25 Sep., Urbana (DR); 10 Oct., Johnson Co (TF). MC: 340, Skokie Lagoons FP, 21 Oct (EW); 120, Spfld, 4 Nov. (DB). Others ("Oregon" Juncos): Oct. 22, 24 & 31 & Nov. 4 & 26 (5 different birds), Spfld (DB).

**Lapland Longspur**

EA: 17 Sep. (19), Winnebago Co (DW); 23 Oct., Chi (RH); 1 Nov., Clin.L (RC). MC: 1,200+, Urbana, 12 Nov. (RC).

**Snow Bunting**

EA: 10 Oct., Evanston (EW); 1 Nov. (2), Spfld (DB); 5-10 Nov. (female), Carl.L (TF, \*JV); 7 Nov. (4), SRSF (KR). MC: 115, LCNP (CMc, JMC); 20, Morton, 23 Nov. (KR); 3, Carl.L, 13 Nov. (DK).

**Bobolink**

EA: 15 Aug. (5), RLCA (KR); 4 Sep. (11), Carl.L (KM). MC: 65, RLCA, 24 Sep. (KR). LD: 4 Oct. (6), Spfld (DB).

**Red-winged Blackbird**

MC: 14,500 (roost), LCal, 2 Oct. (WM); 8,000 (roost), Spfld, 5 Oct. (DB). A few to end of period in north.

**Eastern Meadowlark**

MC: 60+, Clin.L, 24 Sep. (RC); 13, Clinton Co, 11 Nov. (KM).



**Yellow-headed Blackbird**

LD: 7 Aug. (male), LCal (WM).

**Rusty Blackbird**

EA: 3 Sep., s. Cook Co (\*MH); 5 Oct., Spfld (DB). MC: 150, McHenry Co, 22 Oct. (JSa); 100 (roost), Spfld, 28 Nov. (DB). LD: 26 Nov. (10), Urbana (RC); 3 Nov. (4), LCal (WM). Some to end of period.

**Brewer's Blackbird**

EA: 7 Nov. (4), Fermi (EW). MC: 3 (2 male, 1 female), Homer, 16 Nov. (JS). LD: 27 Nov., Homer (JS). Others: 3 Nov. (female), Spfld (DB).

**Common Grackle**

MC: 50,000+ (leaving roost), Champaign, 24 Sep. (RC); 20,000 (2 flocks), Baldwin L, 25 Nov. (CMc,JMC); 15,000 (roost), LCal, 22 Oct. (WM).

**Brown-headed Cowbird**

MC: 5,000, Spfld, 5 & 26 Oct. & 11 Nov. (DB).

**Orchard Oriole**

LD: 26 Aug., Jefferson Co (TF).

*continued on page 80*



*Trumpeter Swan, Lake Springfield, first Sangamon County record, 25 Nov. 1994. Note band on neck of one of the swans. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.*



*Mandarin Duck male at Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago, Cook County, 17 Sept. 1994. This bird is of unknown origin. Photo by Mary Lakin.*

**EXOTICS, INTRODUCED & UNKNOWN**

**Trumpeter Swan**

30 Nov. (ad. with green band & 3 imm.), Decatur (MD) — note: 2 other imm. were shot at Decatur, 1 died & 1 sent to Minnesota (see 30 Nov. Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette) (see photo).

**Eurasian Wigeon**

13 Sep. into winter. (female-rufous phase), Chi (Lincoln Park Zoo) (m.ob.). Clipped wings seen in Sep.

**Mandarin Duck**

17 Sep. (male), Chi (Lincoln Park Zoo — bird not owned by zoo) (see photo).

**Harris' Hawk**

30 Oct. (ad.), ■BSP (\*Ast) — unknown origin (falconer's bird?).

**Black-crowned Parakeet**

10-16 Aug., Wilmette (EW).

**Nanday Conure (Parakeet)**

15 Aug - 23 Sep. (PC,SM).



*Black-billed Magpie, one of two probable escapees from a local breeder. McHenry County, 19 Oct. 1994. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.*

**Cockatiel**

16 Oct, JP (PC).

**Budgerigar**

16-19 Aug., JP (PC).

**Ringed Turtle Dove**

15 Aug., Boone Co (AB).

**Black-billed Magpie**

3 Oct.+ (pr.—\*1), Woodstock (RBa,m.ob.-ph.)—unknown origin (second hand reports indicated that they were escaped caged birds) (see photo).

**FIELD NOTES** *continued from previous page*

**Northern Oriole**

EA: 8 Aug. (male), Evanston (EW). MC: 9, Spfld, 29 Aug. (DB); 9, JP, 14 Aug. (PC). LD: 24 Sep., Carl.L (KM); 11 Sep., Spfld (DB); 4 Sep., Starved Rock SP (CMc,JMC).

**Purple Finch**

EA: 27 Sep., Decatur (MD). MC: 14, Spfld, 3 Nov. (DB). LD: 27 Nov. (female), Ottawa (CMc,JMC).

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**House Finch**

MC: 100, Homer, all Fall (JS); 75+, Boone Co, 10 Aug. (AB); 40+, HLCA, 25 Oct (KM).

**Red Crossbill**

EA: 10 Aug. (10), Wilmette (JD). Others: 24 Sep. (pr.), SRSF (MD); 30 Sep. (male), Urbana (RC); 12 & 26 Nov. (2), Rockford (DW); 30 Nov. (pr.), SRSF (KR).

**Pine Siskin**

EA: 20 Oct. (2), IBSP (BE,ASt); 26 Oct. (5), Spfld (DB). Very few into Dec.

**American Goldfinch**

MC: 430, Spfld, 28 Oct. (DB); 225+, Carl.L, 31 Oct. (KM).

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow**

MC: 200+, Havana, 15 Nov. (RC).

**House Sparrow**

Others: 15 Aug. (albino), Homer (Vermilion Co) (JS).

**CORRIGENDUM, Fall 1993**

**Black Tern**

MC: 640+, Pomona (Jackson Co), 25 Sep. (KM), reported in Fall 1993 field notes, should be:

**Mourning Dove**

MC: 640+, Pomona (Jackson Co), 25 Sep. (KM).

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*Pectoral Sandpiper at Heidecke Lake, Grundy County. 21 Sept. 1994.  
Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.*