The Autumn Season  August 16 - November 30, 1971

According to some reporters this autumn season was a highly exciting one, due primarily to the outstanding species that were observed. However other reporters felt the opposite situation prevailed during the period; that is, it was a subpar migration due to the absence of major waves moving through the state. This situation was caused by the unusually hot, humid, even violent weather that prevailed into October. Such an absence of waves resulted in an expectantly low number of many species being noted, eliciting the comment from many people about the considerably less than exciting fall migration for the year.

The period commenced with extremely hot, humid conditions which were interspersed with severe storms followed by a brief cooling spell. On August 22 eight funnel clouds were sighted in Dane county. September saw a return to high temperatures, into the 90’s, with high humidity. A tornado struck near Edgerton on Sep. 4. By the middle of the month the weather had cooled considerably, with some light frost occurring in the northern part of the state. However the end of September and beginning of October saw a return to the hot, humid weather. Five tornadoes struck the northeastern part of the state at the end of September (27th and 28th) with extremely heavy lightning, rain and additional severe storms also occurring in various parts of the state. The middle of October returned to more seasonable temperatures but the last third of the month saw a return to unseasonably warm temperatures. Accompanying these high temperatures were unusually strong winds. November started much cooler, with snow flurries occurring over much of the state. The first hard state wide freeze occurred on November 6 and 7. This was followed by a gradual warming trend, reopening all areas by the middle of the month. More winter-like conditions returned by the beginning of the fourth week with a major snowstorm occurring in the northern two-thirds of the state during the Thanksgiving weekend. As a result most areas had one half to a foot of snow on the ground with sleet also occurring in many areas. Overall both September and October had monthly temperatures among the warmest in the last 100 years, with precipitation being highly variable, depending upon whether some of the more violent storms hit a particular area or not. November was also warmer than usual, although not as drastic as the previous two months. Precipitation during the month was above average in most parts of the state.
As previously mentioned spectacular waves were lacking this autumn. Instead, at best, moderate movements occurred during the period. The migration commenced with a small wave occurring in late August. This was followed by four successive waves of medium or above proportion, marking the peak movement through the state this autumn. They occurred on Sep. 4-6, 11-12, 15-18 and 21-22. Of these, the waves on the 11-12 and 21-22 were the largest and included excellent numbers of warblers, vireos, and thrushes. This was followed by a slightly smaller wave between Oct. 2-6. Considerably smaller waves occurred on Oct. 11-15 and 19-21. Two special waves passed through the state during the period. One occurred on Oct. 30-31 and consisted primarily of a waterfowl movement, especially along the extreme eastern and western edges of the state. The second occurred on Nov. 9-10 and consisted of a variety of finches passing through the eastern half of the state in large numbers.

**Interesting Species**

286 species were recorded in the state this autumn making this the best autumn total ever reported. As would be expected with this record total, some spectacular observations were made in the state. Most outstanding was the first state record of a Curve-billed Thrasher coming regularly to a feeder in Buffalo county; another first state record, this of a Brown-headed Nuthatch coming to a feeder in Milwaukee county commencing in late October; the second and third state records of a Black-headed Grosbeak; the second fall and sixth state record of a Ruff; the sighting of a Glossy Ibis along the Mississippi River; the appearance of a Parasitic Jaeger, Laughing Gull and Black-legged Kittiwake at Loon Bluff; the tenth state record of the Little Gull; the sighting of a Buff-breasted Sandpiper on the Wisconsin River; the observation of Glaucous and Iceland Gulls; the discovery of two nesting rookeries of Cattle Egrets in the state; the appearance of several western visitors, including the White Pelican, Cinnamon Teal, Swainson’s Hawk, Golden Eagle, American Avocet and Varied Thrush; and a southern visitor, the Little Blue Heron. Added to this impressive list were the following noteworthy species: Red-necked Grebe, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Harlequin Duck, Surf and Common Scoters, Chukar, Whimbrel, Purple Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits, Northern Phalarope, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker, Bewick’s and Carolina Wrens, Mockingbird, Bohemian Waxwing, Worm-eating, Prairie and Kentucky Warblers and Lark Sparrow. Of special note is a possible sighting of the extremely rare, almost extinct Eskimo Curlew at Grand River Marsh. Unfortunately due to the limited substantiating evidence at this time this observation cannot even be considered a hypothetical sighting. However it remains a most intriguing observation.

**Species Summary**

**Herons:** There were more observations of the Great Blue and Black-crowned Night than in past years with several good rookeries of the former reported in the southern half of the state during the early part of the period. Again this autumn there were very few reports of Common Egrets from the state with the exceptions being the usual concentrations on its nesting grounds at Horicon Marsh and LaCrosse county. The best autumn ever for the Cattle Egret occurred this year, primarily due
to the discovery of two nesting rookeries in the state. A small one was found at Green Bay, with a much larger one at Grand River Marsh.

**Waterfowl:** The large concentrations of Whistling Swans were lacking this autumn, with the entire migration being at best, average. The goose migration produced a varying picture this year. Canadas passed through the state in excellent numbers with large concentrations being reported at various refuges throughout the state. Easily the most spectacular concentration occurred at Horicon Marsh where a record 227,770 were present in the immediate area on Nov. 15. According to March the overall Snow/Blue goose migration was average this year. The peak numbers in the state occurred between Nov. 1-15. There were many small groups scattered throughout the state, as witnessed by twenty-five reporting counties this autumn in comparison to the average fifteen. However, there were few large concentrations, which is in direct contrast to last year.

The duck population was slightly above that of 1970. According to March weekly waterfowl census data was available from ten fall concentration areas (Crex, Oak Ridge Lake, Powell, Mead, McMillan, Meadow Valley, Grand River, Collins, Sheboygan, and Green Bay). "This autumn peak duck populations in these ten areas totalled 64,100 birds as compared to 47,740 in 1970, a gain of 34%. However this gain was offset by lower peaks in other areas, resulting in only a slight overall gain. Areas reporting the largest peak populations were: Grand River—20,000 ducks; Mead—19,000; Crex Meadows—5,500; Collins—5,100 and Sheboygan Marsh—4,000." On Sep. 29 there were about 20,000 ducks, mainly Baldpate and Mallard on Horicon National Wildlife Refuge. According to March the most noticeable duck movement occurred on Oct. 6-7 (dabblers and some divers); Oct. 15-24 (Mallards, other dabblers, divers); Oct. 27-31 (divers, Mallards); Nov. 4-7 (all species); and Nov. 15-18 (Mallards, some divers). The greatest duck movements occurred during the last week of October and the first week of November. However there were no major migrations in the state this autumn except along the Mississippi River. Diver concentrations peaked about Oct. 31.

**Hawks:** An excellent migration occurred this fall, especially along and near Lake Michigan. At Cedar Grove a total of 578 raptors were banded this fall, tying the banding record for Cedar Grove. In Oconto county an excellent movement of various hawks was also observed (Erdman). From these reporters, as well as others, it is apparent that the following species passed through the state in excellent numbers: Sharp-shinned, Red-tailed, and Broad-winged. Showing a moderate increase in numbers, as compared to the average autumn, were the following: Goshawk, Marsh, Pigeon and Peregrine Falcon. Experiencing poor flights again this year were the Cooper's, and Red-shouldered.

There were considerably more reports of the Bald Eagle this autumn and there was an excellent movement of both the Golden Eagle and the Osprey through the state during the period.

**Shorebirds:** There were no large concentrations of any plover species in the state this year with the entire plover migration being poor. However the remaining shorebird picture was considerably better. There
were excellent numbers recorded from various parts of the state, especially in the east and south-central regions. For example Goose Pond had several hundred birds at the beginning of the period, with the number tapering off rapidly due to a decrease in suitable habitat. At Green Bay, 300+ were present likewise at the beginning of the period. This also had rapidly decreased by early September. At both Kaukauna, on the Fox River, and Weyauwega Lake, which had been drained for the summer, 750+ birds were present in late August. There was a gradual decrease in numbers during September. The most consistent shorebird concentration occurred at Horicon Marsh, especially along the southeastern edge where 200-750+ were present into early November. Good migrations were experienced for the Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral, Dunlin, and Stilt Sandpipers and the Northern Phalarope. Interesting species observed in this group included the Whimbrel, Purple and Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits, Ruff and Avocet.

**Gulls:** Again this fall there was no large movement of the Franklin's into the state. Along Lake Michigan, especially between Milwaukee and Racine, there were very large numbers of Bonaparte's present. Many outstanding species were again observed in this group during the period.

**Chickadees-Nuthatches:** Black-capped were present in average numbers again this fall. For the second consecutive autumn no Boreals were reported during the period. Red-breasted Nuthatches were present in above average numbers throughout the state with many areas reporting birds present into the winter period. One of the most outstanding observations for this fall came from within this group, a Brown-headed Nuthatch.

**Thrushes:** While the migration for the entire group this fall was slightly above average, the most encouraging note was the large number of Bluebird sightings, as reported by many observers. In addition many of these reporters indicated flocks of thirty to forty birds being observed.

**Warblers:** There were a few reporters indicating several good movements in their areas but overall there was almost total agreement on the lack of observed migratory waves as well as a scarcity of numbers for all species. Thus again this fall this group experienced another subpar migration. Interesting species observed included the Worm-eating, Prairie and the Kentucky.

**Finches:** After an almost total absence of finches last autumn this year was in marked contrast. This most decidedly was a “finch” year with an excellent movement statewide of the Evening and Pine Grosbeaks, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, goldfinch, and White-winged Crossbill. Only the Red Crossbill was hard to find in the state during the period. The Evening, Pine, redpoll, and White-winged commenced entering the state at the beginning of November with numbers increasing rapidly for all of these species well into December. The Purple Finch and Pine Siskin movements commenced slightly earlier, during the latter half of October. Likewise these two were still increasing in numbers well into December. There were 23,000 goldfinches observed on Nov. 10 at Cedar Grove with 9,000+ redpolls/siskins noted on Nov. 19 in Oconto county.
Sparrows: A complete unanimity among observers on the poor flight for the group this year. Many people commented on the unusually low numbers of Harris’, White-crowned, White-throated and Lincoln’s observed during the period. The only two species that were noted in good numbers were the Tree and the Fox.

The Season Summary

Common Loon: Twelve reporting counties this fall including Chippewa, Dane, LaCrosse, Oconto, Ozaukee, Racine, Sauk, Sheboygan, Taylor, Vilas, Washington, and Waushara. Numbers observed included 12 on Oct. 31 (Tessen) and 10 on Nov. 6 (Gustafson), both at Loon Bluff (Ozaukee county). Last noted on Nov. 17, Racine county (Gerstenbach); Nov. 20, Dane county (T. Ashman); and Nov. 27, Sauk county (P. Ashman).

Red-throated Loon: Two reports; one on Oct. 19 near Washington Island, Door county (Klugow), and one on Nov. 20 at Loon Bluff, Ozaukee county (Gustafson).

Red-necked Grebe: Individuals were present at their nesting colony on Rush Lake into the early portion of the autumn period. Several were also observed in September in Vilas county (Mead).

Horned Grebe: Reported from nine counties with September observations coming from Taylor, the 1st (Evard), and Brown, the 23rd (Cleary, Columban), counties. Numbers noted included twelve on Oct. 12, Dane county (P. Ashman), 30 on Oct. 31 (Tessen) and 40 on Nov. 6 (Gustafson) at Loon Bluff (Ozaukee county). Last reported on Nov. 20, Dane county (P. Ashman).

Pied-billed Grebe: Late November observations from Green and Sauk counties with it still present into December in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

White Pelican: An individual which was discovered on Grand River Marsh (Green Lake and Marquette counties) in August remained into the autumn period and was observed by a number of people. It was last seen on Sep. 11 (Tessen). Eleven birds were observed in Ashland on Sep. 27 by Roy. Several were photographed with the picture appearing in the local newspaper.

Double-crested Cormorant: For the first time in the past eight years there was an excellent number of observations for this species. Up to thirty summering birds were discovered on several islands in Green Bay by Erdman. A nesting colony was discovered on Green River Marsh during the summer. Over sixty birds were counted there by Gustafson on Sep. 4 with twenty still present on Sep. 11 (Tessen). Other sightings included: Oct. 12-Nov. 4, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); Oct. 31-Nov. 5, Milwaukee (Gustafson); Nov. 4, Ozaukee county (Gustafson); Sep. 22-Nov. 20, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Great Blue Heron: There were move November sightings this fall than in the past eight years. They included: Nov. 7, Barron county (Goff); Nov. 9, Dane county (P. Ashman); Nov. 10, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Nov. 20, Waukesha county (Johnston); Nov. 28, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); and still present into December in Vernon county (Weber).

Green Heron: Extremely late was the sighting of one individual in Milwaukee county on Nov. 2 by Gustafson.

Little Blue Heron: An immature bird was observed on the main dike at Horicon Marsh on Aug. 28 by Tessen.

Cattle Egret: Two nesting colonies were discovered during the summer in the state! One small colony was located on one of the islands in Green Bay (Brown county) by Erdman. A larger colony (60+) was located on Grand River Marsh (Green Lake county) with many birds lingering into September as reported by several observers. Also reported from Horicon Marsh where one individual was observed on Oct. 19 (March, Hunt).

Common Egret: The following reports: late August in Waukesha county; Aug. 29, Brown county (Robbins, Kemper); Aug. 24-Sep. 7, Manitowoc county (Woodcock); ten on Sep. 5, Winnebago county (Greenman); until Sep. 11 on Grand River Marsh (Tessen); until Oct. 19 in LaCrosse county (Rosso); until Oct. 31 at Horicon Marsh (Tessen).
Black-crowned Night Heron: There were several October sightings with the last individuals noted on Oct. 30 in Milwaukee (Basten) and Nov. 15 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: Three reports: an immature on Sep. 4 at Grand River Marsh (Gustafson); three until Sep. 20 in Milwaukee (Basten); Oct. 3 in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Gadwall: Present at the end of the period in LaCrosse (Rosso) and Outagamie (Tessen) counties.

Pintail: Migrants arrived at Collins Marsh on Aug. 31 and Grand River Marsh on Sep. 6 (March). Present into December in LaCrosse (Rosso), Outagamie and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.

Green-winged Teal: November observations from Brown, the 4th (Cleary, Columban), LaCrosse, the 6th (Rosso), and Milwaukee, 13 on the 20th (Streelow) counties.

Blue-winged Teal: According to March the majority of birds had left the state by Oct. 15. November sightings included Green, the 7th (Rohde), Milwaukee, the 13th (Gustafson, Streelow), and Brown, the 24th (Cleary, Columban) counties.

Cinnamon Teal: An individual was observed in company with some Blue-wings on the Milwaukee River at Hawthorne Hills County Park (Ozaukee county) on Sep. 7 by Bintz. This represents a new fall state arrival record.

Least Bittern: These reports: Aug. 23, Brown county (Tessen); two on Aug. 31, Oconto county (Erdman); “many” in Horicon Marsh on Sep. 17 (Schmidt); Sep. 27, La Crosse county (Rosso).

American Bittern: Early October sightings from Brown, LaCrosse, St. Croix and Taylor counties. One bird was noted on Nov. 7 in Barron county (Goff).

Glossy Ibis: An individual was flushed from the Mississippi River bottoms at Perrott Park (Trempealeau county) on Oct. 7 by March. The bird was observed by Hunt and Hale. This represents the first autumn report in over seven years.

Whistling Swan: Fourteen reporting counties again this fall with the first sighting coming from Waushara county when 50 were counted on Sep. 26 (Greenman). The major migration occurred this fall in the state between Oct. 31-Nov. 3 according to March. Also the majority of sightings came during this particular period. The only numbers reported included 400+ on Oct. 31 in Oconto county (Erdman) and 150 on Nov. 2 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban). Individuals were lingering into December in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Canada Goose: Individuals were present at the beginning of the period in Brown (Cleary, Columban) and LaCrosse (Rosso) counties as well as the Grand River Marsh (Tessen). The first migrants arrived in the state on Sep. 9 at Horicon Marsh (March). This was followed by Sep. 11 (Waushara county,March), Sep. 12 (Burnett county, Stone) and Sep. 15 (Forest county, Richter) sightings and then a wave of Sep. 18-22 arrivals from throughout the state. Statewide the major movements occurred on Sep. 20-23, Oct. 2-3, 12-13, 20-23, and 30-31. Major exoduses from the state occurred on Nov. 4-7, and 27-29. The Horicon area peaked at record numbers with 223,570 present on Oct. 20, increasing slightly to 227,770 on Nov. 15 (March). Other peak numbers in the state included: Necedah, 16,900 on Oct. 19; Pine Island, 7,300 on Oct 20; Crex Meadows, 5,750 on Oct. 20; Eldorado Marsh, 4,200 on Nov. 15; Grand River Marsh, 4,000 on Nov. 2; Collins Marsh, 3,100 on Nov. 15; and Mead Wildlife Area, 2,000 on Sep. 23 (March). Erdman in Oconto county observed the following peak movements: 1,475+ on Sep. 29, 900+ on Oct. 5, 3,900+ on Oct. 6, 1,000+ on Oct. 8, and 500+ on Oct. 23. 2,000 giant Canadas were present in Rock county during November (March). Birds were still present into December in LaCrosse county as well as 16,500 (Dec. 13) at Horicon, 500 at Green Bay and 225 at Necedah.

Snow and Blue Geese: Both species were reported from twenty-five counties this fall with first reports coming from Crex Meadows (Burnett county) on Sep. 23 (Stone) and the next from Horicon on Sep. 25 (Gustafson). The major movements in the state included Sep. 29-30, Oct. 1-7, 12-13, 20-23 and Nov. 4-7 (March). The peak numbers were present in the state between Nov. 1-15. Snow/Blue peaks included: 11,650 (Nov. 2) — Crex Meadows; 1,800 — Horicon; 1,750 — Necedah; 1,700 — Brule red clay area; 1,050 — Mead; 900 — Pine Island; 600 — Collins; 600 — Grand River; 500 — Powell; and 300 — Goose Pond (Columbia county). Individuals were present in several state areas at the end of the period.
Mallard: Peaks included 10,000 — Mead, 8000 — Grand River, 5,000 — Collins, 4,500 — Crex Meadows, 4,000 — Sheboygan (March) and 1,500 — Price county (Vincent).

American Widgeon: A major movement into Collins, Grand River and Horicon Marshes occurred on Sep. 14 (March). It was present at the end of the period in LaCrosse (Rosso) and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.

Shoveler: Last reported from Milwaukee county on Nov. 13 (Strehlow).

Wood Duck: Present into December in Brown county (Cleary, Columban) and Winnebago county (Tessen).

Redhead: End of the period sightings in LaCrosse (Rosso), Waukesha (Johnston) and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.

Ring-necked Duck: Reports from nine counties with the first sighting coming in Trempealeau county on Oct. 4 (Lender). 250 were counted in Taylor county on Nov. 2 by Evvard. Present at the end of the period in Dane (P. Ashman) and LaCrosse (Rosso) counties.

Canvasback: First autumn reports came from St. Croix county (Aug., Grancia), Lake Chetae (Sep. 29, March) and along the Mississippi River (Oct. 7, March). Present into December in LaCrosse county (Rosso) and twelve in Racine county (Erickson).

Greater Scaup: March reported that the arrival for the species this year occurred between Oct. 1-7 in the state. Over 1,000 were observed migrating at Loon Bluff (Ozaukee county) on Oct. 31 by Tessen. Besides the expected numbers wintering along Lake Michigan there were individuals in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Lesser Scaup: Arrived in the state this fall on Sep. 29 with sightings in Ozaukee (Bintz) and Trempealeau (Lender) counties. 2,000 were counted in Brown county on Nov. 8 (Cleary, Columban). End of the period reports from Brown (Cleary, Columban), Dane (P. Ashman), LaCrosse (Rosso), Winnebago (Tessen) and Waushara (Chipman) counties.

Common Goldeneye: Only one October arrival date this fall, the 30th, Taylor county (Evvard).

Bufflehead: Observed on Sep. 29 in Ozaukee county (Bintz). March reports that the majority of state arrivals occurred between Oct. 1-7.

Old Squaw: A new state arrival date occurred this fall with the Sep. 29 sighting in Ozaukee county by Bintz. The next observations did not occur for another full month.

Harlequin Duck: A female was observed in Racine county (Wind Point) from Nov. 4 on by Gustafson, Donald and Erickson, et. al.

White-winged Scoter: The following reports; at Loon Bluff, Ozaukee county, Oct. 12 (Bintz); 45 on Oct. 31 (Tessen); 2 to 4 between Nov. 4-27 (Gustafson); 3 on Oct. 31, Racine county (Tessen); Nov. 21, Washburn county (Olson); 2 on Nov. 11 (Lesher); from Nov. 17 into December (Rosso) in LaCrosse county.

Surf Scoter: Four males were observed at Wind Point in Racine county on Sep. 12 by Tessen. This represents a new state fall arrival date.

Common Scoter: Two at Loon Bluff, Ozaukee county on Oct. 31 (Tessen).

Ruddy Duck: Present into December in Brown (Cleary, Columban), Dane (T. Ashman), and LaCrosse (Rosso) counties.

Hooded Merganser: Thirty-three were seen on Nov. 20 in Waukesha county (Johnston). Present at the end of the period in Brown County (Cleary, Columban).

Common Merganser: First noted on Oct. 25 in Ozaukee county (Tessen). 1,000 were present in Brown county on Nov. 8 (Cleary, Columban) and 115 in Waukesha county on Nov. 25 (Johnston).

Red-breasted Merganser: First noted on Oct. 5 in Ozaukee county (Bintz) with 700 present there on Nov. 4 (Gustafson).

Turkey Vulture: Eight reporting counties including: 2 on Aug. 25, Grant (Rhode); Sep. 11, Sauk (Tessen); until Sep. 12, Vernon (Weber); until Sep. 22, LaCrosse (Rosso); a total of seven between Oct. 4-6, Celar Grove (Berger); Oct. 5-9, Chippewa (Robbins); Oct. 8, Barron (Goff); approximately ten birds between Sep. 11 - Oct. 22, Oconto (Erdman, Woodcock).
Goshawk: The following reports: Langlade county (Mosher); Oct. 10-11, Lincoln county (Rusch); Nov. 5, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); a total of eight birds on Oct. 5, Oct. 28-Nov. 8, Cedar Grove (Berger); a total of seventeen birds between Oct. 5-Nov. 20, Oconto county (Erdman).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: The observation period this fall extended between Aug. 22 and Nov. 30. Reporting counties included Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Milwaukee, Oconto, Outagamie, Ozaukee, St. Croix, Sauk, Sheboygan, Taylor and Waushara. At Cedar Grove the peaks occurred on Oct. 4 (331), 5 (515) and 6 (226) with a total of 1,700+ observed for the period (Berger). In Oconto county peaks on Sep. 14 (68), and 23 (73), Oct. 4 (171) and 5 (287) with a total of 1,062 observed for the period (Erdman). The flight was better than that of last year.

Cooper's Hawk: Again this summer another poor flight occurred for the species. Reporting counties included Brown, Chippewa, Iowa, Juneau, Oconto, Ozaukee, Portage, St. Croix, and Sheboygan. At Cedar Grove only 15 birds were seen for the entire period (Berger). In Oconto county 30 were observed for the entire period (Erdman).

Red-tailed Hawk: Peaks observed this fall included, at Cedar Grove: 88 — Oct. 31; 95 — Nov. 3, 93 — Nov. 6, and 118 — Nov. 7 (Berger); in Oconto county: 74 — Nov. 3, and 87 — Nov. 7 (Erdman).

Red-shouldered Hawk: Thirty were observed on Oct. 3 in Wood county (Schenk). A total of 86 were counted at Cedar Grove (Berger).

Broad-winged Hawk: A more “typical” migration this fall as the majority of sightings occurred near or along Lake Michigan. August sightings were made in Oconto, Sheboygan, Taylor and Trempealeau counties. Additional reporting counties during September and October included Barron, Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Green, Marinette, Milwaukee, Monroe and Ozaukee. Peaks included a heterogenous group of “several hundred” on Sep. 18 in Monroe county (Hebard); 100 on Oct. 3 in Green county (Rohde); 125 on Oct. 5, 236 on Oct. 6 with a total of 441 banded birds at Cedar Grove (Berger); and in Oconto county 305 on Sep. 14, 280 on Sep. 15, 1,566+ on Sep. 17, 2,100+ on Sep. 29, 100+ on Sep. 29, 134 on Oct. 5, 109 on Oct 6 and 100+ on Oct. 9 (Erdman). Last observed in the state on Oct. 25 in Oconto county.

Swainson's Hawk: One was observed at Cedar Grove on Oct. 11 (Berger).

Rough-legged Hawk: Fully three weeks ahead of all other reports this autumn were several birds observed in Milwaukee county starting on Sep. 20 (Strehlow, Magulski).

Golden Eagle: One of the best autumns ever for this species in the state as evidenced by the following reports: Oct. 13, Grand River Marsh (March, Hunt); Oct. 14, Dodge county (March, Hunt); Oct. 18, Horicon Marsh (Johnson); two birds on Nov. 3, one on Nov. 4, Oconto county (Erdman, John); Nov. 5, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); single birds on Nov. 3, 7 and 19 at Cedar Grove (Berger); two birds on Nov. 20, Ozaukee county (Bintz).

Bald Eagle: Fifteen reporting counties this year which is one of the largest number of counties to report in any autumn. Numbers observed included a total of five during the period at Cedar Grove (Berger), a total of eleven during the period in Oconto county (Erdman), 12 on Oct. 23 at Necedah (Lesh) and 18 on Nov. 24 in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Marsh Hawk: Peak days at Cedar Grove included 39 on Oct. 4, 112 on Oct. 5, and 32 on Oct. 6 (Berger). Twenty-two were counted on Oct. 5 in Oconto county (Erdman). Observed on Nov. 27 in Milwaukee county (Magulski) and Nov. 28 in Ozaukee county (Bintz).

Osprey: There was a total of twenty reporting counties this year, representing one of the best numbers in any autumn. The following August observations occurred: the 18th, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); the 26th, Monroe county (Hebard); the 28th, Grand River Marsh (Tessen); and the 29th, Waupaca county (Robbins, Kemper). Thirteen were seen in Oconto county during the period (Erdman). A total of 47 were observed at Cedar Grove with the last on Oct. 28 (Berger). The last state observation this year occurred on Oct. 31, Rock county (Brakefield).
Peregrine Falcon: A better flight this fall than last year with the following observations occurring: Aug. 24, Waupaca county (Donald, Urdan); 3 on Aug. 29, Columbia county (VanNess, Williams); Sep. 8, Milwaukee county (Woodmansee); Sep. 26, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Oct. 2, Crex Meadows (Stone); a total of 35 between Sep. 20 - Oct. 5 at Cedar Grove with peaks of seven on Sep. 26, five on Oct. 3 and six on Oct. 4 (Berger); a total of seven between Sep. 20-Oct. 6, Oconto county (Erdman).

Pigeon Hawk: The following reports: Langlade county (Mosher); Sep. 18, Chippewa county (Robbins); Sep. 25, Dane county (N. Ashman); Oct. 2, Outagamie county (Bradford); a total of seven between Sep. 4-Oct. 15, Oconto county (Erdman); a total of 71 between Sep. 4-Oct. 28 at Cedar Grove (Berger); and Nov. 6, Ozaukee county (Gustafson).

Sparrow Hawk: Peaks noted at Cedar Grove this autumn included 41 on Oct. 4 and 46 on Oct. 5 (Berger).

Spruce Grouse: Observed in Price county (Hardy) and in Sawyer county on Oct. 10 (Stefani).

Sharp-tailed Grouse: Three reports: Langlade county (Mosher); Aug. 30-Sep. 25, Price county (Hardy); 18 on Sep. 27, Taylor county (Evrard).

Bobwhite: Reported from Marquette (Schmidt), Outagamie (Bradford) and Rock (Mahlon) counties.

Chukar: An individual was observed on the Stanley Freistad farm on Sep. 8 by Traxler (Rock county).

Turkey: Nov. 20, Juneau county (Freitag).

Sandhill Crane: A complete reversal from last autumn with fourteen reporting counties. In addition excellent numbers were observed this year, including: 29 on Sep. 21, Waushara county (Greenman); 150 on Sep. 29, Outagamie county (Bradford); 41 on Sep. 30, Crex Meadows (Stone); 30 on Oct. 3, Milwaukee county (Magulski); a "major" migration occurred in Green Lake and Marquette counties on Oct. 3 and Horicon Marsh on Oct. 4 (March) with over one hundred present in all three counties as indicated by Harper, Kobey, MacMillan and Mathiak; at Necedah 124 were present in October with the last individuals being seen on Nov. 21 (Brown).

King Rail: Aug. 25-Sep. 2, Milwaukee county (Strehlow); Sep. 12, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Virginia Rail: The following reports: Sep. 10, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Sep. 13, Taylor county (Evrard); Sep. 20, Milwaukee county (Strehlow).

Sora: One October departure date, that on the 19th, in Milwaukee county (Strehlow).

Common Gallinule: A scarcity of reports this fall with the last observation being made in Milwaukee county when six were counted on Oct. 3 (Gustafson).

American Coot: 2,500 were seen on Oct. 27 in Taylor county by Evrard. Reported as present into December in Dane (T. Ashman), Washington (Schmidt) and Winnebago (Tessen) counties.

Semipalmated Plover: Reported from Brown, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, LaCrosse, Milwaukee and Racine counties. Last observed in the state at Horicon Marsh on Oct. 15 (Tessen).

Killdeer: 200 were present in Outagamie county on Oct. 2 (Tessen). There were November sightings in Green (Rohde), LaCrosse (Rosso), Ozaukee (Bintz), Vernon (Weber), Winnebago (Natzke) and Washington (Schmidt) counties. Two birds were present on Dec. 1 in Dane county (Ruschl) and one on Dec. 6 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban).

Golden Plover: Only six reporting counties including two on Aug. 22, Sep. 18, Waupaca (Tessen); 20 on Sep. 18, Columbia (P. Ashman); Sep. 18, Dodge (Schmidt); seven on Sep. 25, Manitowoc (Woodcock); Sep. 29, Marinette (Lindberg); Sep. 30 (Cleary, Columban) and Oct. 2 (Tessen), Brown.

Black-bellied Plover: Only seven reporting counties including seven on Aug. 23 and 40 on Oct. 2, Brown (Tessen); Aug. 29, Marathon (Robbins, Kemper); Sep. 3, Milwaukee (Basten, Tessen); Sep. 3 and 18, Horicon (Schmidt, Tessen); Sep. 4, Racine (Lesher); Sep. 29, Marinette (Lindberg); six on Oct. 16, LaCrosse (Rosso).
Ruddy Turnstone: Sep. 18, Outagamie county (Tessen); present at the beginning of the period in Milwaukee with a peak of eight, with the last observation on Oct. 12 (Gustafson, et al.).

Woodcock: Nov. 20, Barron county (Goff).

Common Snipe: 50 on Sep. 11, Horicon Marsh (Tessen); 55 on Sep. 22, Taylor county (Evvard); present into December in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Whimbrel: One was found dead at Green Bay on Sep. 15 (Baumann).

Eskimo Curlew: See “By The Wayside” for an exciting account of a possible sighting on Oct. 20 at Grand River Marsh.

Upland Plover: Only reported from St. Croix county (Grancia).

Spotted Sandpiper: One month later than all other observations this fall was that on Oct. 30 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban).

Solitary Sandpiper: Fifteen counted on Aug. 17 in Waupaca county (Weyauwega Lake, Tessen). Last on Sep. 25 in Dodge county (Gustafson).

Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs: On Aug. 23 in Outagamie and Waupaca counties 400 and 325, respectively, Greater/Lesser were counted (Tessen). Two Greater were last observed in Dodge county on Nov. 13 (Barger). Five Lesser were last observed in Dodge county on Oct. 31 (Tessen).

Knot: In Milwaukee, six were seen on Aug. 26 with observations continuing through Sep. 12 (Gustafson, Tessen). In Kaukauna a single bird was noted on Sep. 18 (Tessen).

Purple Sandpiper: Two were recorded at Wind Point, Racine county on Oct. 31 (Tessen).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 250 were present at Weyauwega Lake (Waupaca county) on Aug. 23 (Tessen). Up to 60 were present during September-October at Horicon Marsh with 12 still present on Oct. 31 (Tessen).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Three reports: Aug. 22, Weyauwega Lake and two on Aug. 23, Kaukauna (Tessen); Sep. 14-20, Barron county (Goff).

Baird’s Sandpiper: 2 on Aug. 22, Trempealeau county (Lender); 10 on Aug. 22, 2 on Aug. 23 and 4 on Sep. 18, Waupaca county (Tessen); Aug. 28, Grand River Marsh, Green Lake county (Tessen); 3 on Aug. 28, 2 on Sep. 3, Milwaukee (Tessen); Sep. 16, Marinette county (Lindberg); Sep. 14-20, Barron county (Goff); Oct. 2, Brown county (Tessen).

Least Sandpiper: 150 at Kaukauna on Aug. 23 (Tessen); last reported on Oct. 2 in Brown county (Tessen).

Dunlin: The observation period extended between Aug. 23—Grand River Marsh Tessen, and Nov. 13—Kaukauna, Tessen. At Horicon Marsh numbers increased during the latter half of October until 400 were present on Oct. 31 (Tessen).

Dowitcher: There were seven reporting counties this fall including: Brown, Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, Outagamie, Ozaukee, and Waupaca. Birds identified as Short-billed included 60 on Aug. 17, decreasing to 30 on Aug. 23 in Waupaca county (Tessen) and 42 on Sep. 11 at Horicon Marsh (Tessen). Birds identified as Long-billed included 2 on Sep. 11 in Green Lake county (Tessen), and at Horicon Marsh 30 were present on Sep. 25, increasing to 90 on Oct. 1 and 120 on Oct. 25, with 85 still present on Oct. 31 (Tessen, Gustafson).

Stilt Sandpiper: The following observations: Outagamie county, Aug. 17, fifteen on Aug. 23 (Tessen); Waupaca county, 25 on Aug. 17, increasing to 50 on Aug. 23 with six still present on Sep. 18 (Tessen, Gustafson); Brown county, five on Aug. 23 (Tessen); Green Lake county, 20 on Aug. 28, 12 on Sep. 4 and 15 on Sep. 11 (Tessen, Gustafson); a total of nineteen in Brown and Marathon counties on Aug. 29 (Robbins, Kemper); Chippewa county, Sep. 1 (Robbins); and at Horicon Marsh, two on Aug. 28, 50 present between Sep. 5-11, decreasing to seven on Oct. 25 with one still present on Oct. 31 (Tessen, Gustafson). The latter is an extremely late departure date.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Five weeks later than all other departures was that of Oct. 25 at Horicon Marsh (Tessen).

Western Sandpiper: One was observed at Kaukauna on Aug. 23 (Tessen).
Buff-breasted Sandpiper: On Sep. 3 one individual was watched for one-half hour on an island on the Wisconsin River a mile northwest of Mazomanie by P. Ashman. Read the account in “By The Wayside.”

Marbled Godwit: At Horicon Marsh on a pond along Highway 28 thirty were counted on Aug. 28 with an additional ten observed on the Main Dike. There were forty-five present on Sep. 3 (Tessen).

Hudsonian Godwit: Five were observed in company with the Marbled on Aug. 28 along Highway 28 by Tessen (Horicon Marsh). One bird was observed in spring plumage on Sep. 3 at the Bong Recreation Area (Kenosha county) in company with some yellowlegs (Tessen).

Ruff: On Aug. 22 and 23 a male in spring plumage was observed among hundreds with other shorebirds on Weyauwega Lake by Tessen. This represents only the second fall report for the species. Read the details in “By The Wayside.”

Sanderling: The first autumn observation was of fifteen individuals in Milwaukee on Aug. 26 (Basten). Observations occurred along Lake Michigan during the period with the only inland report of ten on the Wisconsin River out of Mazomanie on Sep. 3 (P. Ashman). Last reported in the state on Oct. 31 at Loon Bluff (Tessen).

American Avocet: Five birds of this western species were observed on Sep. 6 at Goose Pond (Columbia county) by Lesher.

Wilson’s Phalarope: These observations: one on Aug. 17 and 23 with two on Aug. 22 at Weyauwega Lake (Tessen); two on Aug. 28 and one on Sep. 3 at Horicon Marsh (Tessen); Aug. 22, two on Sep. 4-5 at Goose Pond (P. Ashman, T. Ashman, Gustafson).

Northern Phalarope: An excellent migration occurred during the first half of the period for this species, representing one of the best movements ever. Aug. 23, Brown county (Tessen); Aug. 22 (Tessen), 2 on Aug. 26 (Gustafson), Waupaca county; 2 on Aug. 28 (Tessen), Sep. 4 (Gustafson), Green Lake county; at Horicon Marsh, two between Aug. 28-Sep. 3 with one still present on Sep. 17 (Schmidt, Tessen); at Goose Pond, individuals were observed between Aug. 22-Sep. 25 with a maximum of four present (P. Ashman, T. Ashman, Gustafson, Lesher, Robbins, Tessen).

Parasitic Jaeger: One was observed on Nov. 2 at Loon Bluff (Ozaukee county) by Donald and Gustafson.

Glaucous Gull: Three were present in Brown county on Sep. 26 (Cleary) with one observed on Nov. 17 (Klugow). An individual appeared on Nov. 24 in LaCrosse county with it still present into December (Rosso).

Iceland Gull: One observed on Aug. 24 in Brown county (Cleary); on Pewaukee Lake (Waukesha county) one was present between Nov. 23-27 (Nelson, Bielefeldt, et al.).

Laughing Gull: One noted at Loon Bluff on Nov. 2 (Donald).

Franklin’s Gull: One on Sep. 18 in Outagamie county (Tessen); in Milwaukee, birds were observed between Aug. 4-Nov. 5 with a peak of twelve on Sep. 5 (Gustafson, et al.).

Bonaparte’s Gull: Present at the beginning of the period in Milwaukee county (Basten) with numbers increasing to “several thousand” by Oct. 25 (Tessen). It first appeared in Racine county on Sep. 4 (Lesher) with individuals present into December (Erickson). It was also reported from Oconto county (Sep. 25, Nov. 8 — Erdman); Door county (Sep. 26 — Freitag); Chippewa county (25 on Oct. 30 — Robbins); and Waukesha county (30 into December — Johnston).

Little Gull: The tenth and eleventh state records occurred this fall when single birds were observed on Sep. 25 in Milwaukee county (Gustafson) and Nov. 5 in Ozaukee county (Sundell).

Black-legged Kittiwake: An individual was observed at Loon Bluff, Ozaukee county, on Nov. 2 (Donald) and Nov. 5 (Sundell).

Forster’s Tern: A departure date this fall of Oct. 16, Outagamie county (Tessen).

Common Tern: Last on Oct. 2, Outagamie county (Tessen).
Caspian Tern: These reports: 23 on Aug. 23 (Tessen) and four on Aug. 29 (Robbins, Kemper), Brown county; Sep. 5, Racine county (Lesher); Sep. 21-29, LaCrosse county (Lesher, Rosso); until Oct. 1, Milwaukee county (Gustafson, et al.); in Outagamie county, a concentration that commenced building up in early August peaked at 65 on Aug. 17, decreasing gradually to nine on Oct. 2 with the last bird noted on Oct. 16 (Tessen).

Black Tern: Three weeks later than all other departures this autumn was Sep. 30 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban).


Black-billed Cuckoo: Oct. 18, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Screech Owl: Observations occurred in Brown, Chippewa, Dane, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Oconto, Rock, Washington and Waukesha counties during the fall.

Snowy Owl: These reports: Nov. 8, Milwaukee county (Deusing); Nov. 15 and 23, Brown county (Cleary, Columban, Erdman); Nov. 20, Portage county (Hammerstrom); Nov. 25, Ashland county (Roy); Nov. 27, Oconto county (Erdman).

Long-eared Owl: Six reports: Aug. 27, Grant county (Rohde); Sep. 9, Sheboygan county (Kuhn); Oct. 28, Cedar Grove (Gustafson); Nov. 9, Milwaukee county (Basten); Nov. 13, LaCrosse county (Lesher); and twenty-two between Oct. 3-Nov. 21, Oconto county (Erdman).

Short-eared Owl: The only fall report was of a single individual at Cedar Grove on Sep. 29 (Berger).

Saw-whet Owl: Reported from Brown, Langlade, and Racine counties plus 15 netted between Sep. 29-Nov. 7, Oconto county (Erdman) and at Cedar Grove between Oct. 7-Nov. 24 with a peak of fifteen on Nov. 7 (Berger).

Whippoorwill: Ten reports during late August and September with the last on Oct. 15 and 16 at Honey Creek, Sauk county (Peartree).

Nighthawk: No large migrations occurred this fall. There were five October departure dates, the latest being on the 21st, Dane county (P. Ashman).

Chimney Swift: A late departure date, less than one week short of tying the state record, is that of Oct. 28 in Ozaukee county (Bintz).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Twenty-five were counted at Wind Point (Racine county) on Sep. 12 (Tessen). There were two early October departure dates. However a bird came to the Maier's feeder in Buffalo City during November with it last being seen on Nov. 28 (fide Robbins). This beats the old departure record by almost four weeks.

Belted Kingfisher: End of the period sightings in Barron (Goff), LaCrosse (Rosso), Vernon (Weber) and Waukesha (Johnston) counties.

Yellow-shafted Flicker: One hundred were counted in Wood county on Aug. 16 by Schenk. Present into December in Green (Rohde), LaCrosse (Rosso), Outagamie (Tessen) and Vernon (Morse) counties.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: The first record for Douglas county occurred this fall when an individual was observed on Nov. 11 by Klugow.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Reported into December in Barron, Green, LaCrosse, Vernon, Waupaca and Winnebago counties.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: There were four late November reports plus two birds present into December in Dane county (Hickey) and also in Racine county (Erickson, Stoffel).

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: A female was banded by Wierzbicki on Oct. 14 in Brown county. On Oct. 28 Wierzbicki observed a different female (unbanded), also in Brown county. One was coming to a feeder in Superior in November (Olson).

Eastern Kingbird: Over 50 were seen in Wood county on Aug. 23 (Schenk). Two weeks later than all other observations this fall was a bird observed in Milwaukee county on Oct. 3 (Sheridan).

Great-crested Flycatcher: Lacking only two days from tying the departure record is a sighting in Marinette county by Lindberg on Oct. 28.
Eastern Phoebe: There were twenty October departure dates with two sightings occurring in November. One was made on Nov. 9 in Dane county (N. Ashman) and the second, a very late date, was made on Nov. 17 in Portage county (Bickford).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: These reports: Aug. 13 (Wierzbicki), Sep. 2-18 (Cleary, Columban), Brown county; Aug. 21-28, Chippewa county (Robbins); Aug. 30, Milwaukee county (Gustafson); Sep. 5, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Aug. 20-Sep. 29, Rock county (Brakefield).

Acadian Flycatcher: Two reports: Sep. 3, Price county (Hardy); Sep. 4, Rock county (Mahlum).

Traill's Flycatcher: These reports: Aug. 23, Trempealeau county (Lender); Sep. 2, Milwaukee county (Strehlow); Sep. 6, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Sep. 10, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Schmidt); Sep. 22, Racine county (Erickson).

Least Flycatcher: There were five October departure dates this fall, the latest being on the 7th, Sheboygan county (Kuhn). This is only three days short of tying the state departure record.

Eastern Wood Pewee: There were five departures occurring during the first half of October. However a bird was sighted on Oct. 25 in Manitowoc county (Albrecht) which ties the state departure record and another bird was observed in Robbins' yard on Oct. 30 (Chippewa county) making a new departure record.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Five reports: Outagamie county (Bradford); Aug. 17 (Basten) and Sep. 5 (Gustafson), Milwaukee county; Sep. 24, Rock county (Brakefield); Oct. 20, Dodge county (Peartree). The latter date is lacking five days from tying the state departure record.

Tree Swallow: Again this fall there were several large migrations observed in the state. They included: 5,000+ on Grand River Marsh on Aug. 28 (Tessen); 20,000 on Aug. 29 at Green Bay (Kemper, Robbins), decreasing to 2,000 on Sep. 1 (Cleary, Columban); 10,000 at Horicon Marsh on Sep. 25 (Gustafson) decreasing to 4,000 on Oct. 1 (Tessen). There were two November sightings: the 6th, Ozaukee county (Gustafson) and the 18th, Door county (Freitag).

Bank Swallow: Oct. 1, Horicon Marsh (Tessen) is a late date.

Rough-winged Swallow: Sep. 19, LaCrosse county (Bintz).

Barn Swallow: A new state departure record of Nov. 20 in Ozaukee (Bintz) occurred this fall. This surpasses the old date by eight days.

Cliff Swallow: Oct. 4, Ozaukee county (Bintz).

Purple Martin: Sep. 14, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Gray Jay: These reports: from Aug. 27 on in Price county (Hardy, Vincent); in Bayfield (3), Langlade, Lincoln and Oneida (2) counties (Olson, Mosher, Ruch, Schimmels); 3+ on Sep. 3 in Forest county (Richter); 5 on Oct. 10 in Sawyer county (Stefani).

Common Raven: Reported from Brown, Forest, Juneau, Marinette, Oconto, Price, Sawyer, Taylor and Vilas counties.

Boreal Chickadee: For the second consecutive autumn none were observed.

Tufted Titmouse: Reports from the following counties: Chippewa, Dane, Green, Sauk, Trempealeau, Vernon and Waukesha.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Present at the beginning of the period in Price (Vincent) and Oconto (Woodcock) counties. In the latter county it was abundant by the end of the period. It was next observed in Brown county on Aug. 21 (Wierzbicki), then in Dane county on Aug. 25 (T. Ashman) and next in Chippewa county on Aug. 28 (Robbins). Additional reporting counties during the remainder of the autumn included Forest, Manitowoc, Marinette, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Racine, Sauk, Waukesha, Waushara, and Winnebago. Many of these were reporting birds present into December, suggesting a moderate movement into the state for this winter.

Brown-headed Nuthatch: The first state record for the species occurred this fall when one appeared at the feeder of Laurie Otto in Milwaukee county during late October. It was observed by many people with it coming regularly to the feeder well into the winter period.
Brown Creeper: There were no less than thirteen arrival dates for the southern two-thirds of the state during September this fall. The earliest of these observations included Sep. 10, Trempealeau county (Lender); Sep. 11 Milwaukee county (Bastien); and Sep. 12, Racine county (Tessen).

House Wren: Five October departure dates with the latest being on the 19th, Manitowoc county (Albrecht).

Winter Wren: The observation period extended between Aug. 23 (Ozaukee county, Bintz) and Nov. 29 (Dane county, T. Ashman). Additional reporting counties included Brown, Chippewa, LaCrosse, Marinette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Rock, Sauk, Waukesha, Waushara, and Winnebago.

Bewick's Wren: Two were observed on Sep. 16 with an additional observation on Oct. 3 by Cleary and Columban in Brown county.

Carolina Wren: One was observed in Robbin's yard on Nov. 24 and 27 in Chippewa county.

Long-billed Marsh Wren: There were very few observations this fall with an early departure date of Sep. 25 in Milwaukee county (Sheridan).

Short-billed Marsh Wren: Likewise there were very few observations this fall with the last report coming from Waukesha county on Oct. 12 (Johnston).

Mockingbird: A well documented observation of a single bird observed in Waukesha county on Oct. 15 by Johnston. See "By The Wayside."

Catbird: Nov. 3, Price county (Hardy) and Nov. 7, Ozaukee county (Bintz) were the latest observations this fall.

Brown Thrasher: Nov. 26 in Racine county (Gustafson) with one in Price (Vincent) and two in Sheboygan (Kuhn) counties into December.

Curve-billed Thrasher: The first state record for this southwestern species occurred this year with an individual commencing to come to the feeder of Mr. & Mrs. Merton Maier in Buffalo City (Buffalo county) in mid-July and continuing well into the winter period. The bird was observed during late November and confirmed by Lesher, Robbins, Kemper and Gustafson. See Passenger Pigeon, Vol. 34, No. 1, page 47. Still present, October 1972.

Robin: 300+ were observed on Oct. 8 in Oconto county by Erdman and 200 on Oct. 23 in Trempealeau county by Lender. December observations were made in Brown, Dane, Dodge, LaCrosse, Milwaukee, Price, Rock, Vernon and Waukesha counties.

Varied Thrush: One coming to the feeder of Mrs. E. D. Fellman in Shawano county at the end of the period.

Wood Thrush: Oct. 10, Waukesha county (Johnston) and Oct. 11, Dane county (Emlen).

Hermit Thrush: Nov. 7, Dane county (P. Ashman).

Swainson's Thrush: First on Aug. 7, Outagamie county (Tessen) and Aug. 15, Rock county (Brakefield). Last on Oct. 17, Brown county (Cleary, Columban).

Gray-checked Thrush: The observation period this fall was between Sep. 3 (Outagamie county, Tessen) and Oct. 12 (Ozaukee county, Bintz).

Veery: Oct. 7, Milwaukee county (Sheridan).

Eastern Bluebird: A more encouraging report this fall with several people commenting on the good numbers that were observed. The last reports were on Nov. 3 in Outagamie (Schall) and Nov. 9 in Dane (N. Ashman) counties.

Blue Gray Gnatcatcher: Three reports: two on Aug. 27, Grant county (Rohde); three on Sep. 10, Monroe county (Hebard); and one on Sep. 11-12, Sauk county (Pearttree, Tessen).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Individuals were reported present at the beginning of the period in Dane (P. Ashman) and Oconto (Woodcock) counties. The next observations did not occur until mid-September. It was present into December in Dane, LaCrosse, Oconto, Trempealeau, Waukesha, and Waushara counties.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron (Goff) and Dane (P. Ashman) counties. The next observation occurred on Sep. 2 in Outagamie county (Tessen). It was still present at the end of the period in Waushara county (Chipman).
Water Pipit: These reports: Sep. 16-28, Marinette county, where it was reported as numerous by Lindbergs; seven on Oct. 24, Columbia county (P. Ashman); Sep. 7 (Mathiak), three between Oct. 15-25 (Tessen) at Horicon Marsh.

Bohemian Waxwing: Twelve were present from Nov. 26 on in Brown county (M. Olson, Cleary, Columban).

Cedar Waxwing: End of the period reports from Dane, Milwaukee and Vernon counties.

Northern Shrike: Another excellent fall for this species with ten reporting counties from Oct. 30, with approximately seven individuals sighted, Oconto county (Erdman); Nov. 5, Cedar Grove (Berger); Nov. 12-13, Milwaukee county (Sheridan, Strehlow, Gustafson); Nov. 13, LaCrosse county (Lesher); two on Nov. 17, Portage county (Baumgartner, Stevenson); Nov. 21, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Nov. 30, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); and also in Barron (Goff) and St. Croix (Grancia) counties.

Loggerhead Shrike: Two reports; until Sep. 23 in Marinette county (Lindberg); Oct. 26 in Oconto county (Erdman). The latter lacks three days from tying the departure record.

Bell’s Vireo: Only on Sep. 6, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Yellow-throated Vireo: A new state departure record occurred this fall with a well documented sighting of a single individual on Nov. 28 in Milwaukee county by Barnes. This surpasses the previous date by six weeks!

Solitary Vireo: The observation period occurred between Aug. 28 (Chippewa county, Robbins) and Oct. 12 (Dane county, Emlen).

Red-eyed Vireo: This fall there were two record breaking departure observations: Nov. 15, Milwaukee county (Basten) and Nov. 17, Rock county (Mahlum).

Philadelphia Vireo: From Aug. 5 (Manitowoc county, Albrecht) to Oct. 11 (Rock county, Brakefield) was the observation period this year.

Warbling Vireo: Oct. 3, Ozaukee county (Bintz).

Black-and-White Warbler: Oct. 6, Dane county (Emlen).

Prothonotary Warbler: Two reports: Aug. 20, LaCrosse county (Rosso) and Aug. 25, Grant county (Rohde).

Worm-eating Warbler: On Oct. 2 an individual was observed twice during the day in the Bintz yard (Ozaukee county). This represents a state departure record.

Golden-winged Warbler: Ten reporting counties with the last sighting occurring on Sep. 19, LaCrosse county (Lesher).

Blue-winged Warbler: Four reports: Aug. 20, Vernon county (Weber); Sep. 5, Milwaukee county (Basten); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Tessen); Sep. 29, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Tennessee Warbler: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron county (Goff). It was next observed on Aug. 21 in Brown (Wierzbiicki) and Chippewa (Robbins) counties, Aug. 25 in Dane county (Emlen) and Aug. 29 in Oconto (Woodcock) and Rock (Brakefield) counties. It was last reported from Brown county on Oct. 13 (Cleary, Columban).

Orange-crowned Warbler: First, Sep. 1, LaCrosse (Rosso) and Milwaukee (Gustafson) counties; last, Oct. 29, Waukesha county (Johnston).


Parula Warbler: These reports: Sep. 9, Sheboygan county (Kuhn); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Tessen); Sep. 12, Racine county (Tessen); three on Sep. 15, one on Sep. 21, Dane county (Emlen, P. Ashman); Sep. 19, Waushara county (Chipman); Sep. 22, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Sep. 26, Lafayette county (Robbins); and Oct. 2, Marinette county (Lindberg).

Magnolia Warbler: Interesting were observations on Aug. 10 in Manitowoc county (Albrecht) and thirty counted on Oct. 1 in Milwaukee county (Strehlow). Last on Oct. 25, Sheboygan county (Kuhn).

Cape May Warbler: Aug. 21, Brown county (Wierzbiicki) through Nov. 25, Portage county (Baumgartner) was the observation period this fall. The latter date represents a banded bird and is lacking two days from tying the departure record.
Black-throated Blue Warbler: These reports: Sep. 9, Waukesha county (Johnston); Sep. 10, Dane county (Emlen); Sep. 11, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Sep. 12, Racine county (Tessen); Sep. 7 and 20, Milwaukee county (Basten, Streichlow); Aug. 31 and Sep. 30, Brown county (Wierzbicki).

Myrtle Warbler: It was present at the end of the period in Maier's yard in Buffalo county.

Black-throated Green Warbler: Last observed on Oct. 20, Outagamie county (Tessen).

Cerulean Warbler: Three reports: Aug. 22, Vernon county (Weber); Aug. 28, Chippewa county (Robbins); Sep. 2, LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Blackburnian Warbler: Oct. 4, Rock county (Brakefield).

Chesnut-sided Warbler: Oct. 1, Brown (Wierzbicki) and Milwaukee (Strefflow) counties.

Bay-breasted Warbler: It was first observed on Aug. 25, Dane county (Emlen). Observations continued until Nov. 6, Racine county (Stoffel). This represents a record departure date, exceeding the previous date by over a week.

Blackpoll Warbler: The observation period extended between Aug. 23 (Brown county, Wierzbicki) and Oct. 2 (Waukesha county, Johnston).

Pine Warbler: Sep. 27, Rock county (Brakefield).

Prairie Warbler: A male was observed on Sep. 20 and Oct. 6 in Sheboygan county by Kuhn.

Palm Warbler: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron county (Goff). The last observation occurred on Oct. 25, Dane county (T. Ashman).

Ovenbird: A record state departure occurred this fall with a sighting on Nov. 15 in Brown county by Cleary and Columban.

Northern Waterthrush: Oct. 11, Racine county (Tessen).

Louisiana Waterthrush: Two reports: Sep. 8, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Tessen).

Kentucky Warbler: Two reports: Sep. 2, Price county (Hardy); and an excellent description of a bird observed in Goff's yard on Sep. 18, Barron county.

Connecticut Warbler: There were nine reports coming from Brown, Dane, Green, LaCrosse, Milwaukee, Price and Vernon counties. The observation period extended between Aug. 28-Sep. 21.

Mourning Warbler: These reports: until Sep. 5 in Brown county (Cleary, Columban, Wierzbicki); until Sep. 9 in Chippewa county (Robbins).

Yellowthroat: Oct. 15, Dane county (T. Ashman).

Wilson's Warbler: Present at the beginning of the period in Barron county (Goff) with observations continuing until Oct. 3, Milwaukee county (Gustafson).

Canada Warbler: Oct. 1, Milwaukee county (Strefflow).

American Redstart: Oct. 7, Dane county (Emlen).

Bobolink: Observed in Barron, Chippewa, Columbia, Green Lake, Kenosha, Oconto, Rock and Vernon counties. The last report was on Oct. 15, Rock county (Brakefield).

Meadowlark (sp.): Individuals were present at the end of the period in Rock (Mahlum) and Winnebago (Natke) counties with birds identified as Eastern present in Ozaukee county (Bintz) and Western in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Reported from only Brown, Green Lake and St. Croix counties this fall. It was last noted at Grand River Marsh on Sep. 4 (Gustafson).

Redwinged Blackbird: 20,000 were observed in Brown county on Sep. 12 by Cleary and Columban. Birds were present into December in Brown, Dane, LaCrosse, Monroe and Oconto counties.

Baltimore Oriole: An individual was observed three times during November coming to several feeders for suc in Shiocton (Outagamie county, Schwall, et al.). It was last seen on Nov. 21.
Rusty Blackbird: First reported in the state at Horicon Marsh on Sep. 17 (Tessen). Present at the end of the period in LaCrosse county (Rosso).

Brewer’s Blackbird: 500 were seen on Sep. 14 in Manitowoc county by Albrecht. Last on Nov. 19, Monroe county (Hebard).

Common Grackle: 6,000 were seen on Sep. 4, Green county (Rohde); 1,000 on Oct. 12, Manitowoc county (Albrecht); 1,000+ on Oct. 17, Trempealeau county (Lender). Individuals were present into December in Barron, Brown, Dane, LaCrosse, Outagamie and Vernon counties.

Brown-headed Cowbird: End of the period reports from Brown, LaCrosse and Winnebago counties.

Scarlet Tanager: Oct. 20, Outagamie county (Tessen).


Black-headed Grosbeak: The second and third state records for this western species occurred this fall with a bird present during the first week of October in Racine county (Joslyn); and a well documented young male coming to the feeder of Marilyn Bowker on Nov. 10-11 in Appleton (fide Mr. & Mrs. Fred Tessen).

Indigo Bunting: Five October departure dates with the latest on the 13th, Waukesha county (Johnston).

Dickcissel: Three reports: until Sep. 2, Rock county (Brakefield, Mahlum); Oct. 1, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Oct. 29, Ozaukee county (Bintz).

Evening Grosbeak: This autumn a very good movement occurred in the state, albeit a late one, with 90% of the reports occurring during November exclusively. There were 21 reporting counties with 29 observers. In Price county, three separate feeders had young being brought to them to be fed in early August (Hardy). There was only one September sighting, with observations commencing in Brown county on Sep. 21 (Cleary, Columban). Initial October sightings included the following: Oct. 4, Cedar Grove (Berger); early Oct., Oneida county (Schimmels); Oct. 18, Oconto county (Richter, Woodcock); Oct. 29, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Oct. 30, Vernon county (Weber); Oct. 31, Chippewa county (Robbins). This was followed with many November sightings, including 50+ flocks, from twelve additional counties. Two large migrations were noted; at Cedar Grove 1,900 on Nov. 10 (Berger), and in Oconto county: 800+ on Nov. 19 (Erdman). Many counties reported individuals present into December indicating a good winter movement.

Purple Finch: An excellent movement occurred this fall in the state. Birds were present in Barron (Goff), Chippewa (Robbins), Oconto (Woodcock), and Price (Vincent) counties. This was followed by initial September sightings in the following areas: Sep. 8, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); Sep. 20, Rock county (Brakefield); Sep. 25, Trempealeau county (Robbins). This was followed by October sightings from Dane (T. Ashman), Manitowoc (Albrecht), Milwaukee (Strehlow, Sheridan), Monroe (Hebard), Outagamie (Tessen), Ozaukee (Bintz), Sauk (Peartree), Waushara (Chipman) counties. There were numerous November sightings included 200+ on Nov. 9 and 400+ on Nov. 19 in Oconto county (Erdman). Almost all reporting counties had excellent numbers present well into December indicating an excellent winter movement.

Pine Grosbeak: The beginning of an excellent winter movement for this species started to develop during November as indicated by reports from the following counties: Barron, Buffalo, Brown, Chippewa, Douglas, Forest, Marinette, Oconto, Oneida, and Price. It was reported as numerous in Douglas county (Klugow).

Common Redpoll: A similar pattern prevailed for this species as did with the previous one. That is, the beginning of an excellent winter movement commenced developing during November. Reports were received from the following counties: Barron, Brown, Chippewa, Dane, LaCrosse, Milwaukee, Oconto, Oneida, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Price, St. Croix, and Winnebago.
Pine Siskin: An excellent statewide movement occurred this autumn. There were 19 reporting counties with 27 observers. The first reports came during October: Oct. 5, Dane county (T. Ashman); Oct. 15, Price (Vincent) and Rock (Skelly) counties; Oct. 16, Chippewa county (Robbins); Oct. 22, Oconto county (Woodcock); Oct. 31, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Racine counties (Tessen). This was followed by numerous November sightings including the following major movements: 2,000+ on Nov. 6, Ozaukee county (Gustafson); “hundreds” on Nov. 10-11, Milwaukee county (Basten); 3,000+ on Nov. 9 and a redpoll-siskin group of 9,350+ on Nov. 19, Oconto county (Erdman). It was reported as numerous in Forest and Marinette counties on Nov. 25 (Richter).

American Goldfinch: 5,000+ on Nov. 9, 1,200+ on Nov. 19 in Oconto county (Erdman); 23,000 on Nov. 10 at Cedar Grove (Berger).

Red Crossbill: Four reports: Nov. 10, Waushara county (Greenman); Nov. 23, Price county (Hardy); Nov. 28, Forest county (Richter); and in Nov., Oconto county (Schimmels).

White-winged Crossbill: The beginning of an excellent winter movement commenced during November with reports from the following counties: Chippewa (Robbins), Forest (Richter), Lincoln (Rusch), Marinette (Richter), Oconto (Woodcock), Oneida (Schimmels), Price (Hardy), St. Croix (Granaica), and Waukesha (Johnston).

Rufous-sided Towhee: Three November sightings: the 5th, Price county (Hardy); the 14th, Vernon county (Weber) and the 20th, Racine county (Seymour).


Grasshopper Sparrow: Three reports: Aug., St. Croix county (Granica); Aug. 17, Waupaca county (Tessen); Aug. 18-19, Green county (Rohde).

Henslow’s Sparrow: Three reports: Aug. 17, Waupaca county (Tessen); Oct. 9, Ozaukee county (Bintz); Oct. 13, Brown county (Cleary, Columban).

Vesper Sparrow: Three November sightings: the 7th, Ozaukee county (Bintz); the 11th, Waukesha county (Johnston); the 13th, Dane county (P. Ashman).

Lark Sparrow: Three reports: five in Aug., St. Croix county (Granica); Sep. 11, Sauk county (Tessen); Sep. 25, Trempealeau county (Robbins).

Slate-colored Junco: First observed in the state on Sep. 13, Oconto county (Woodcock) and Sep. 15, Outagamie (Tessen) and Ozaukee (Bintz) counties. This was followed by eleven arrival dates during the last half of September.

Oregon Junco: These observations: Oct. 18, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Oct. 22, Brown county (Cleary, Columban); Oct. 22-24, Outagamie county (Tessen); Nov. 12 (Sheridan) and 13 (Gustafson), Milwaukee county; Nov. 16 (P. Ashman) and 26 (T. Ashman), Dane county; Nov. 22, Rock county (Mahlim); Nov. 23, Waushara county (Greenman); Nov. 24, Racine county (Seymour).

Tree Sparrow: First on Sep. 21, Vernon county (Weber). This was followed by fourteen October arrival dates.

Chipping Sparrow: Last on Nov. 9, Jackson county (Harrer) and Nov. 12, Milwaukee county (Sheridan).

Clay-colored Sparrow: These reports: Aug. 18, Oconto county (Woodcock); Sep. 15, Barron county (Goff); Sep. 26, Trempealeau county (Robbins); Sep. 29, LaCrosse county (Rosso); Oct. 2, Chippewa county (Robbins); Oct. 25, Rock county (Mahlim).

Field Sparrow: Last on Oct. 27, Rock county (Mahlim).

Harris’ Sparrow: Only nine reporting counties by ten observers, indicating another poor migration; Sep. 23, Chippewa (Robbins); Sep. 28-Oct. 23, LaCrosse (Rosso); Sep. 29, Price (Vincent); Sep. 29, Milwaukee (Basten); Sep. 30, Oconto (Erdman); Oct. 1-16, Barron (Goff); Oct. 6 and 22, Trempealeau (Lender); Oct. 9, Ozaukee (Bintz); Oct. 12, Rock (Mahlim); and Oct. 5-Nov. 2, Price (Hardy).

White-crowned Sparrow: Fourteen reporting counties by nineteen observers this fall. It was first observed on Sep. 19 in Racine county (Erickson). It was present in late November at the Schwall’s feeder in Shiocton (Outagamie county) with three individuals present into December (Erickson).

White-throated Sparrow: Present at the end of the period in Appleton (Tessen).
Fox Sparrow: First observed in the state this fall on Sep. 15 in Outagamie county (Bradford). Still present on Nov. 25 in Racine county (Hanson) and on Dec. 2-3 in Jackson county (Harmer).

Lincoln’s Sparrow: Oct. 28, Dane county (Emlen).

Swamp Sparrow: Nov. 13, Milwaukee county (Strehlow).

Song Sparrow: Present into December in Brown (Cleary, Columban), Dane (T. Ashman), LaCrosse (Rosso), Rock (Brakefield, Mahlum) and Winnebago (Natzke) counties.

Lapland Longspur: Three reports: 20 on Nov. 13, Dodge county (Barger); Nov. 13, Winnebago county (Greenman); late Nov., Outagamie county (Bradford).

Snow Bunting: An excellent fall movement into the state with nineteen reporting counties. Three weeks earlier than all other observations this fall was that on Oct. 1 in Oneida county (Schimmels).

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