

Addenda

Minnesota had 3 remarkable additions to its 1994 spring and summer seasons. A **Lewis' Woodpecker** was seen in *Cass* by B. Huser May 31, providing a 3rd state record. Just confirmed by photos was a ♀ **Magnificent Hummingbird** that came to A. Brage's feeder in *Kanabec* June 16, also for the 3rd state record. The third sighting was a **Crested Caracara** watched by Glassel in *Scott* July 18, representing a first for the state and Region.

Corrigendum

Delete the Com. Ground-Dove sighting in Wisconsin during mid-October 1993 (*AB* 48:1).

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Middle Western Prairie Region

KENNETH J. BROCK

Though early August was cool, Regional temperatures were pleasantly warm through the end of the period. The cool August days stimulated passerine movement, resulting in some early records, but the ensuing mild temperatures caused most southbound migrants to linger, leading to a generally late migration. The season was dry. A perspective on relative autumn precipitation levels was provided by Dick Anderson, who noted that the Mississippi River was 25 feet below normal at St. Louis, a mark 45 feet below last year's flood level.

Correspondents in the central states lamented the low numbers of migrants and dearth of rarities, dubbing the season quite boring. In putting the best possible spin on the northeast Indiana flight, Jim Haw optimistically suggested that the season's dullness for birders might have rendered it good for the birds. In contrast, birders in Ohio and Iowa enjoyed a plethora of rarities and

offered a much brighter assessment of the season. Indeed, Tom Kent deemed Iowa's fall season outstanding for rarities.

This season brought continued reason to be concerned about dwindling numbers of marsh nesting species, such as American Bitterns and Black Terns, but also yielded good news about Double-crested Cormorant and Mississippi Kite populations. The data were less definitive on many other species, but it was encouraging that counts of several formerly abundant shorebirds returned to previous high levels.

Abbreviations: L. Cal. (*Lake Calumet, Chicago*); O.N.W.R. (*Ottawa N.W.R., OH*), S.C.R. (*Squaw Creek N.W.R., MO*); Spfld. (*Springfield, IL*).

Loons to Ibises

Red-throated Loons were widespread, with 12 in Indiana, three in Ohio, and one in Iowa. The Pacific Loon reported at Anderson L., IA during summer remained until Sept. 16 (JDi), and another was found at Black Hawk L., IA Nov. 7 (†PE). It was a good season for Pied-billed Grebes, with peak counts of 150 at West Hotters L., IA Sept. 25 (LSc), 143 at L. Manawa, IA Sept. 22 (B&LP), and 125 at L. Gibson, IN Nov. 12 (JCb). Six Red-necked Grebes were reported across the 4 n. states. Eared Grebes were reported in good numbers, with high counts of four in Illinois and three in Iowa. Western Grebe reports were confined to the w. states and Illinois; they were unusually common in Iowa, where >20 were found. A **Clark's Grebe** was stranded on ice at South Twin L., IA Nov. 25 (†SD). Most remarkably, an ad. **Northern**





Rare for Illinois was this Glossy Ibis at Beardstown Nov. 15, 1994. Photograph/Dennis Oehmke.

Gannet flew over L. Cal Aug. 14 (†WM, †CA, m.ob.), providing the Region's first summer record. American White Pelicans peaked at 2000 in c. Missouri and farther east 700 were at Mark Twain N.W.R., IL Oct. 11 (HW). Singletons strayed E to n.w. Indiana where they were seen at L. George Oct. 10–14 (†CMr, m.ob.) and at W. Lafayette Nov. 24 (*fide* JCs).

Double-crested Cormorants continued to flourish, with peak counts of 3500 at Ottawa N.W.R., OH Sept. 4 (EP, RHa) and >2750 at Carlyle L., IL Oct. 10 (KMc). Neotropical Cormorants have become established in the Region as four were at Shell-Osage W.M.A., MO in August (MR *et al.*). Casual in the Region, an Anhinga seen at Otter Slough, *Stoddard*, MO Sept. 21 (†M&LL) was a pleasant surprise. American Bitterns continued to be scarce, with only a half-dozen reported across the Region. The peak Least Bittern count consisted of four at Spring Valley, OH Aug. 7 (JDu, ST). Notable heron/egret concentrations included 1200 Great Egrets at Stump L., IL, Aug. 5 (KMc), 46 Snowy Egrets at Horseshoe Lake W.M.A., IL Sept. 2 (KMc), 11 Snowy Egrets at Ottawa N.W.R., OH Sept. 4 (EP, RHa), and >200 Little Blue Herons at Stump L., IL Aug. 5 (KMc). A Tricolored Heron, seen at Rend L., IL Jul. 9 (RD, TF), was most unexpected. Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were more widespread than normal, with small numbers in every state except Indiana and Missouri. *Plegadis* ibis invaded the Region, with 11 in Illinois, five in Ohio, one in Iowa, and one in Missouri. Among these, the only satisfactorily documented report involved four White-faced Ibis at Englewood Reserve, OH Sept. 24–25 (†JDu, LG).

Waterfowl

The Fulvous Whistling-Duck, first discovered at Goose L., IA in July, lingered until Sept. 8 (*fide* PP). A strong Tundra Swan movement crossed the n. states, with peak

counts of 330 in *Medina*, OH Nov. 15 (RHa, TL) and 197 in *Allamakee*, IA Nov. 11 (JF). In conjunction with midwestern restoration programs, Trumpeter Swans are appearing within the Region. This fall Trumpeters from both the Wisconsin and Minnesota populations were identified in Iowa (TK *et al.*). Greater White-fronted Geese numbers were normal in the w. states; singletons wandered E to FermiLab, Batavia, IL Oct. 15 (EWa) and to Headlands Beach S.P., OH Nov. 27 (RHn, LR). Snow Geese peaked at DeSoto N.W.R., IA at 800,000 Nov. 24 (*fide* SD) and were widely reported across the Region. Ross' Geese also enjoyed a strong flight, with 25 reported in Illinois, including a peak count of 11 at Lake Chautauqua N.W.R., Nov. 27 (KR).

As predicted by assessment of the breeding grounds, ducks had a good fall flight; most species, especially dabblers, were reported in above-average numbers. Noteworthy *maxima* included >150,000 Mallards and >20,000 N. Pintails at Chautauqua N.W.R., Nov. 15 (RCh). A ♂ Cinnamon Teal at Blue L., Nov. 30 (†PE), provided Iowa's latest fall record. Late nesters included a brood of Canvasbacks at Mud L., IA in August (*fide* JDi). The Region's only Harlequin Duck was seen at Evanston Oct. 10 (JK). Oldsquaw were widespread at inland sites, where a peak count of five was made at Spirit L., IA Nov. 30 (SD). Following the pattern of recent autumns, all 3 scoter species were reported at many locations, including sites away from the Great Lakes. Peak counts included 20 Black Scoters at Miller Beach, IN Oct. 25 (KB), 15 Surf Scoters at Illinois Beach S.P., Nov. 26 (AS, JS), and eight White-winged Scoters at Miller Beach, IN Oct. 20 (JM). Perhaps the season's rarest duck was a ♂ Barrow's Goldeneye seen at Terra L., IA Nov. 28 (PA, RA). A normal merganser flight was punctuated by a high count of 420 Hooded Mergansers at L. Rockwell, OH Nov. 17 (LR).

Vultures to Cranes

Both vulture species continued to expand in the Region. This fall's peak counts included 66 Blacks at Rocky Fork L., OH Nov. 20 (*fide* NK) and 301 Turkeys at Mississippi Palisades S.P., IL Sept. 27 (JBG). Osprey numbers were also encouraging, especially in Iowa where 13 were seen at Hitchcock W.M.A., Sept. 23 (B & LP). Mississippi Kites continue to prosper in the w. states. Single first-year birds were observed during late September hawk watches in both *Pottawattamie* and *Marshall*, IA. In addition seven kites were reported in s.w. Missouri in August and a flock of seven was at the Tyson Research Center, *St. Louis*, MO Aug. 3 (DCl). Bald Eagles were widely reported;

highlights included 63 at Savanna, IL Nov. 23 (JBG), and a successful nesting season in Iowa with 42 fledglings (BEh). The only sizable accipiter migration involved 188 Sharp-shinned Hawks at Illinois Beach S.P., IL Oct. 9 (BEr, AS). The Region's largest Broad-winged Hawk movement consisted of 5107 at Mt. Hoy, *Du Page*, IL Sept. 20 (HCo). Good Swainson's Hawk numbers were recorded in Iowa where 50 were counted at Kettleson Hogsback Oct. 27 (ET). Two Swainson's wandered eastward to the Busch W.M.A., MO Sept. 4 (JZ, EBr), where they are unusual. An impressive 68 Merlins were reported in the 4 n. states; the peak count consisted of six at Hitchcock W.M.A., IA Sept. 23 (B&LP). The most interesting Peregrine Falcon report involved an injured bird found in St. Louis Oct. 19; this individual had been banded in Greenland (*fide* JW). The first of three Prairie Falcons reported in c. Illinois arrived in *Macon* Nov. 2 (MD). The Region's only other Prairie Falcon consisted of a singleton at Hitchcock W.M.A., IA Oct. 25 (SD, B&LP).

Rail stalkers had good luck with Yellow Rails this fall; single birds were reported at Illinois Beach S.P., Sept. 10 & 25 (AS), two were at Snake Cr. Marsh, IA Sept. 21 (JF), and one was near Lake Park, IA Oct. 5 (DH). The Region's only King Rails were reported in Illinois, where four were found; the peak count involved 2 adults at L. Cal., Aug. 14 (WM *et al.*). A tardy Virginia Rail lingered in Calloway, KY through Nov. 12 (†MMI). Highlights of a mediocre Com. Moorhen flight included a high count of 36 adults and young at Havana, IL Sept. 24 (MD) and a late immature at Rathbun Res., IA, Oct. 29 (SD). Sandhill Crane reports from every state except Missouri attested to the Region's burgeoning population. Two wandered E to *Cuyahoga*, OH (B&AT), where they are rare. Mild conditions stimulated many Sandhills to linger at the c. Indiana staging area, where >1500 were still present Nov. 26 (AB).

Shorebirds

Shorebird distribution within the Region was extremely irregular. Many areas reported virtually no birds, while others, especially c. Illinois and Ohio's w. basin, enjoyed a superb flight. The Black-bellied Plover flight, which was near normal overall, peaked with a count of 40 at Rathbun Res., IA Aug. 3 (RCu). The largest Am. Golden-Plover accumulation consisted of >300 in *Will*, IL Sept. 8 (CA). The only concentration of Semipalmated Plovers consisted of 200 at Turtle Creek W.M.A., OH Sept. 24 (m.ob.). Encouragingly, a dozen Piping Plovers were seen this fall, with records from every state except Missouri; noteworthy among these were an adult



American Golden-Plovers stopped in Will County, Illinois, in large numbers in early September. This photo captures a few of the 240 estimated there Sept. 9, 1994. Photograph/Joe B. Milosevich.

and juvenile at Miller Beach, IN Sept. 23 (KB, JCD, m.ob.) and one at the Falls of the Ohio, KY Aug. 5 (JBI, PB). An impressive count of 1000 Killdeer was made at Decatur, IL Oct. 22 (MD). A single Black-necked Stilt was at Rice L., IL Aug. 5 (KR), two were in *Buena Vista*, IA Sept. 5 (†PP), and 25 (post-breeders?) were at Otter Slough, MO Aug. 26 (BLw). American Avocets staged a strong flight, with season totals exceeding 30 birds in Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa. The peak single count involved a remarkable 82 avocets that landed on the water at Saylorville Res., IA Oct. 20 (SD).

Although most states reported low to modest Lesser Yellowlegs numbers, an excellent tally of >5000 (the Region's largest fall count since 1988) was recorded at Rice Lake W.M.A., IL July 25 (KR). Willets were well represented on L. Michigan, where the peak count was 25 at Michigan City harbor, IN Aug. 13 (DPI), but scarce elsewhere. Typically, three of the Region's four Whimbrels were on the Great Lakes; the inland record was at Decatur, IL Aug. 13 (MD). A total of six Hudsonian Godwits were reported in Ohio and one lingered at Amana L. until Oct. 30 (†TK, CE), providing Iowa's latest record. Two Ruddy Turnstones were at the Falls of the Ohio, KY Aug. 5 (JBI, PB), where this species is rare. A modest Red Knot flight brought ten birds to Illinois, ten to the Indiana lakefront, and nine to n.w. Ohio. Maximum counts of the smaller sandpipers included 250 Semipalmateds at Turtle Creek W.M.A., OH Aug. 27 (m.ob.), six Westerns at Decatur, IL Aug. 15 (MD), and 152 Least at Rend L., IL July 27 (TF). White-rumped Sandpiper stragglers were recorded Oct. 22 at Red Rock Res., IA (AJ) and Oct. 30–31 at Decatur, IL (MD *et al.*). It was a fine season for Baird's Sandpipers, with good numbers reported from every state; the peak count east of the Mississippi R. was 30 at Rice Lake W.M.A., IL Aug. 22 (KR, LA). For the first fall since 1991 the Region produced a respectable Pectoral

Sandpiper count: 10,000 at Rice Lake W.M.A., IL Aug. 6 (MD). The best shorebird of the season was a juv. **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** seen at Decatur, IL Oct. 29 (†MD). One Purple Sandpiper was reported on L. Michigan and seven on L. Erie, but the most unusual record came from an inland site at Metzger Res., OH, where one was seen Nov. 12–13 (†DD, LG, ph., m.ob.). Good Silt Sandpiper accumulations were recorded at Rice Lake W.M.A., IL July 25, where 500 were seen (KR), and at Turtle Creek W.M.A., OH Aug. 27, where 150 were counted (m.ob.). Buff-breasted Sandpipers were reported in every state; noteworthy records included 22 at Rend L., IL Aug. 31 (TF), eight at Turtle Creek W.M.A., OH Sept. 24 (m.ob.), and one at the Falls of the Ohio, KY Aug. 28 (JBI, PB). The season's only Ruffs were in c. Illinois, with males at Decatur June 27 (MD) and Rend L., Aug. 20 (TF), an immature at Decatur Oct. 22–Nov. 2 (MD), and a female at Havana Nov. 23–Dec. 8 (KR). The Short-billed Dowitcher situation remained grim, with most areas reporting disturbingly low numbers; the Region's peak count was only 79 at L. Cal., Aug. 28 (JL). Phalaropes of all 3 species were reported in Illinois, Iowa, and Ohio, but nowhere else. Peak Wilson's Phalarope counts consisted of 14 at Turtle Creek W.M.A., OH Aug. 27 (m.ob.) and ten at Rice Lake W.M.A., IL Aug. 26 (KR). Red-necked Phalaropes were even more



Buff-breasted Sandpipers at Heidecke Lake, Grundy County, Illinois, Sept. 9, 1994. Photograph/Joe B. Milosevich.

scarce, with 26 individuals distributed among the 3 previously listed states. A good Red Phalarope flight included a molting adult at Decatur, IL Aug. 18–22 (†MD, m.ob.), plus singletons at Turtle Creek W.M.A., OH Sept. 10 (ST, CMt), Rock Falls, IL Oct. 8–19 (CA, m.ob.), and Spirit L., IA Nov. 29 (†LSc).

Jaegers to Terns

The Region enjoyed a fine jaeger flight, with one in Illinois, 24 in Indiana, two in Iowa, and two in Ohio. Unfortunately, many of these birds were not satisfactorily documented. Among those acceptably identified were five Parasitics in Indiana and an ad. Parasitic at Headlands Beach S.P., OH Nov. 12 (LR, RHn *et al.*). This was the season of the **Long-tailed Jaeger**. Adults were reported in *Sac*, IA Sept. 4–13 (†PE, DPo, ph., m.ob.) and at Miller Beach, IN Sept. 17 (†JCd, †m.ob.). A 2nd- or 3rd-year immature was also seen at the latter site Oct. 20 (†JMc). Laughing Gulls continued their invasion of the Region, with reports from every state except Kentucky; the westernmost report involved a first-year bird in *Pottawattamie*, IA Oct. 19, 24, & 29 (†RS, PL, †B&LP). The best Franklin's Gull concentrations in several years developed in Iowa, where flocks exceeding 8000 were recorded at 3 locations. Away from the w. states the largest count was 54 migrating birds at Miller Beach, IN Oct. 23 (KB). It was a very good fall for Little Gulls, with season totals of 18 in Ohio, six in Illinois, and four in Indiana. In addition, an adult was found at Big Creek, IA Nov. 14–20 (†SD, m.ob), where this species is casual.

SA Prior to 1994, Common Black-headed Gulls were accidental in w. reaches of the the Middlewestern Prairie Region. This fall's discovery of probable breeding in n.w. Iowa (or s.w. Minnesota) may significantly change this situation. Stephen Dinsmore found a breeding plumaged adult at the n.w. end Spirit L., in *Dickinson*, Aug. 2 (†), just south of the Iowa-Minnesota line. Within an hour Dinsmore also discovered a juvenile at the nearby Kettleston W.M.A. and, to his amazement, the youngster was being fed minnows by a 2nd ad. Black-headed Gull. These birds lingered in the area and were subsequently seen by scores of observers; the last adult was seen Aug. 12. In addition, a winter-plumaged adult was also seen in *Polk*, c. IA Nov. 17, 21, & 23 (†RCu, SD, JDi).

California Gull reports included a 3rd-year bird at L. Decatur, IL Aug. 10 (†MD) and an adult at Michigan City harbor, IN Nov. 20 (RHu *et al.*). Thayer's Gulls were restricted to L. Michigan, where one was reported in Illinois and three in Indiana. Only two Iceland Gulls were reported: an adult at L. Cal., Nov. 25 (WM) and a first-year bird at Headlands Beach S.P., OH Nov. 30 (RHn). As Lesser Black-backed Gulls strengthen their foothold in the Region, numbers continue to increase; this fall 16 were reported, including two in e. Missouri. Only one Black-legged Kittiwake was reported; this constituted the lowest fall tally in at least a decade. Sabine's Gull reports included 2 from down-state Illinois, one from the Illinois lakefront, two from the Indiana lakefront, and one from Iowa. The latter was a juvenile that lingered at Black Hawk L., IA, Sept. 5–13 (†B&LP, ph., †m.ob).

The Caspian Tern flight was generally below average and was dismal along the L. Erie lakefront (LR). The only large Com. Tern numbers were at Michigan City, IN where 1750 migrating birds were counted in one hour Sept. 7 (DPI) and at Turtle Creek W.M.A., OH, where 1500 were seen Aug. 27 (RHu). An imm. Least Tern was at Decatur, IL Aug. 11 (MD) and four were at the Midwest Power Ponds, IA Aug. 4 (SD) & 13 (PA, RA). The Region's first confirmed **Gull-billed Tern** was photographed at the Falls of the Ohio, KY Aug. 27 (†BPB, ph., B.B.C.). Though the bird was seen perched in Kentucky, it circled over Indiana on at least 2 occasions, providing first records for both states. Fall Black Tern counts failed to exceed 100 birds in any state; the maximum daily total was 49 at L. Cal., Aug. 13 (WM).

Doves to Woodpeckers

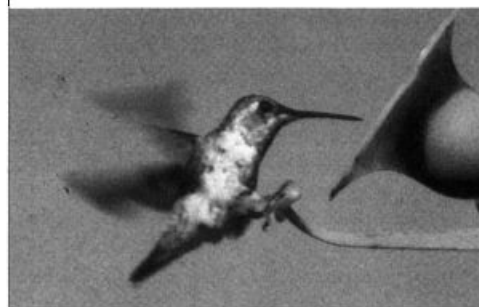
A Com. Ground-Dove at Urbana, IL, Nov. 9 (†RCh) was unexpected. Nesting Barn Owls successfully fledged young in Indiana (6 sites), Iowa (4 sites), and Ohio (2 sites). Snowy Owls were virtually absent in the Region; the single report came from *Madison*,

IA Nov. 25 (*fide* EuA, EIA). A Burrowing Owl family, two adults and four immatures, in s.w. *Emmet*, IA Aug. 2–14 (SD, m.ob.), provided a pleasant surprise for Iowa birders. One–four Long-eared Owls were reported in each of the 4 n. states. Short-eared Owls were widespread, with reports from every state except Missouri; the peak count was 14 at Illinois Beach S.P., Oct. 20 (BEr, AS) and the southernmost record involved two at the Homestead W.M.A., KY Nov. 19 (HCl, KC). A late Com. Nighthawk attended a football game in Sioux City, IA Oct. 30 (BLv). Two Chuck-will's-widows were still calling near Madisonville, KY Aug. 15 (JHa). The largest Chimney Swift concentrations consisted of >2000 along the Chicago lakefront Sept. 5 (RCh) and 1000 in Ames, IA the same date (JDi).

Except for one *Selasphorus* species in Warrick, IN Oct. 20–Nov. 20 (†JCb ph., m.ob), this fall's complement of w. hummingbirds was restricted to Missouri. Adult ♂ Rufous Hummingbirds were identified at Fayette Aug. 13–16 (†JO *et al.*) and at Kirksville Sept. 5 (†MMv). In addition, *Selasphorus* species were reported at 3 other Missouri locations between Oct. 13–Nov. 22. The Region's first Anna's Hummingbird was recorded last fall when two were discovered in Missouri. This fall a ♂ **Anna's Hummingbird** appeared at a feeder in Ozark, MO Nov. 25–26 (†LR) to produce the Region's 3rd record. Late-nesting Red-bellied Woodpeckers were observed feeding nestlings n. of Chagrin Reservation, OH Aug. 24 (KMT).

Flycatchers to Warblers

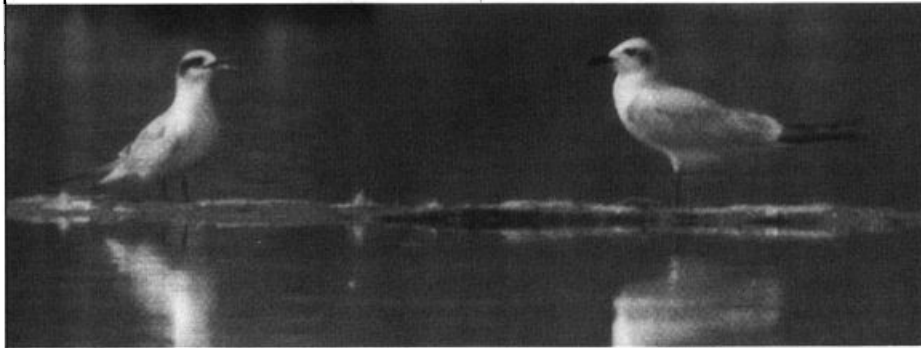
The flycatcher migration was deemed good by most correspondents. Noteworthy reports included late E. Wood-Pewees at Wolf L., IL Oct. 9 (WM) and at Big Pond Sanctuary, KY Oct. 31 (HCl, KC), plus a calling Acadian Flycatcher in *Green*, OH Sept. 11 (JDu, ST). The only W. Kingbird east of the Mississippi R. was in E. St. Louis, IL Aug. 4 (KMc). An ad. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher wandered to e. Missouri, where it was seen at Busch W.M.A.,



This *Selasphorus* hummingbird, photographed Oct. 22, 1994, stayed for a month in Warrick County, Indiana. Photograph/Jim Campbell.

Sept. 9 (EWO *et al.*). Several observers expressed concern about unusually low swallow numbers; the only sizable concentrations consisted of 1200–1500 Purple Martins at Sheldon's Marsh, OH Aug. 27 (ES) and >30,000 Tree Swallows at both Rice Lake W.M.A., IL and Lake Chautauqua N.W.R., IL Oct. 8 (RCh). Red-breasted Nuthatches were scarce across the Region, with only a handful reported from each of the n. states. The only Bewick's Wren was seen at Decatur, IL Sept. 29 (MD). Carolina Wren reports were mixed but generally favorable. Winter Wrens staged a good movement, especially in the east, where the peak count was 38 at O.N.W.R., Oct. 2 (EP, RHu). Sedge Wren numbers were also up, with above-average counts from most states. Peak counts included 23 at W. Frankfort, IL Oct. 5 (LSt) and >13 in *Sandusky*, OH Aug. 15 (TBa). A count of 40 migrant Marsh Wrens along the Chicago lakefront Sept. 28 (DM) was quite impressive. Peak counts of both kinglets were logged at O.N.W.R., Oct. 2, when 100 of each species was recorded (EP, RHu). An ad. ♂ Varied Thrush was seen briefly at Headlands Beach S.P., OH Oct. 30 (EBc, †RHn). An excellent count of 10 Sprague's Pipits was made at Rosecrans Airport, St. Joseph, MO Oct. 20 (PL). The vanguard of a fine N. Shrike flight (an immature) arrived at Chicago Botanical Garden Oct. 27 (LB); by the period's end a total of 14 N. Shrikes were seen in the n. states.

Most correspondents relegated the vireo flight to the unimpressive category. An early Solitary Vireo arrived in Moorhead Park, IA Aug. 20 (PE) and late Philadelphias were recorded at Crab Tree Nature Center, IL Oct. 14 (EWa) and at Moorhead Park, IA Oct. 18 (PE). Typically, assessment of the warbler migration depended strongly upon the observer's location; however, in total the flight was about normal. Tennessee Warblers peaked at Shades S.P., IN, when 66 were counted Aug. 31 (AB) and daily counts exceeding 25 birds were recorded at several other locations. Late Cape May Warblers were recorded at Whiting Park, IN Oct. 22



Gull-billed Tern (at right, with Forster's Tern) at Falls of the Ohio, Kentucky, Aug. 27, 1994. Very rare inland, the species had never been recorded before in Kentucky or the Region. Photograph/Brainard Palmer-Ball.

(JCd, m.ob.) and on the Chicago lakefront Nov. 10 (RHu). Black-throated Blue Warblers were unusually plentiful, with seven reported in the St. Louis area (*fide* DA), which is well w. of their normal migration path; a male straggler was at Spfld., Nov. 1 (†DBo). Ohio continued its monopoly on **Black-throated Gray Warbler** records with the discovery of a bird at Sugarcreek Nov. 11–28 (†SH, †m.ob.). Indiana's first fall **Kirtland's Warbler** was discovered at Whiting Park Sept. 24 (EH, †KB, †JCd, CE, JMc). The sequence of colored bands sported by the bird indicated that it had been banded as an ad. female, on the Michigan breeding grounds, July 16, 1992. American Redstarts were abundant with a peak count of >150 at Urbana, IL Aug. 29 (RCh) and a lingering female at Lake City, IA Nov. 18 (DS). A Yellow-breasted Chat was located at Spirit L. in n.w. IA Sept. 24 (LSc).

Tanagers to Finches

A tardy Summer Tanager lingered in *Johanson*, IL until Oct. 3 (TF) and four were still at Big Pond Sanctuary, K, Oct. 25 (KC). Black-headed Grosbeak reports included an ad. male in *Winnebago*, IL Sept. 17 (†ABh *et al.*) and an imm. female in *Clayton*, IA Oct. 1 (†FM). A pair of late-nesting Blue Grosbeaks (with three young) was noted at Clinton L., IL Sept. 10 (MD). Unexpected were three Dickcissels in *Seneca*, OH Aug. 15 (TBa). It was a great fall for LeConte's Sparrows, with reports from every state except Indiana. High counts included 22 near Columbia, MO Oct. 22 (PMc) and seven near Spfld., Oct. 17 (DBo). Extralimital reports came from Slough W.M.A., KY, where one was found Oct. 23 (DCt) and in *Lake*, OH, where an injured bird was photographed (JP, ph.). Perhaps even more remarkable was the Sharp-tailed Sparrow migration, which produced records in every state except Missouri. High counts included >20 along the Chicago lakefront Sept. 28 (DM) and 12 at Decatur, IL Sept. 14 (MD). Outside of the w. states Harris' Sparrows were confined to Illinois, where six singletons were reported. Large Lapland Longspur concentrations were restricted to Iowa, where a high count of 10,000 was logged in the northwest Nov. 11 (SD). Accidental in fall, the four **Chestnut-collared Longspurs** identified by call-note at the Rosecrans Airport, St. Joseph, MO Oct. 20 (†PL), were most noteworthy. One was still present Nov. 4–5 (†DE).

Four records, involving 44 birds, indicated that Great-tailed Grackles are continuing their range expansion into w. Iowa. Butressed by the observation of a flock of >300, Anderson noted that House Finches have gone from novelty to pest in e. Missouri. Following last fall's winter finch invasion, conditions returned to normal this year,

with only the expected sporadic Red Crossbill flocks, a smattering of Pine Siskins, and a single Evening Grosbeak at Big Pond Sanctuary, KY Nov. 21–22 (KC). White-winged Crossbills and Redpolls were not reported.

Corrigendum

The >640 Black Terns reported in *Jackson*, IL, Sept. 25 (AB 48:116) should be deleted.

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Central Southern Region

GREG D. JACKSON

Santa came early to the Region, bringing lots of exciting gifts to smiling girls and boys. The sack on his sleigh was not particularly large this year, but many of the presents were of rare quality. Once here, he lingered in the warm weather, as did many who accompanied him.

— After the beginning of the season, temperatures were warm in most areas. Though rain was increased in some locales in October, other months showed normal or decreased precipitation. Most frontal systems were weak; the best birding along the coast followed low pressure areas in the Gulf October 2 and 9–13. The only tropical storm was *Beryl*, which quickly crossed the eastern Panhandle of Florida in mid-August; no related reports were submitted.

— Pelicans and allies seemed plentiful this autumn. Waterfowl were generally lagging in numbers in most areas. The raptor migration was average; shorebirding was outstanding at select sites. Though many passerines arrived early, even more were late in departing. Good numbers of flycatchers and swallows appeared in transit. Several early sparrows were noted, though numbers seemed behind by the end of the period, there were no reports of winter finches.

— Sightings of rarities without acceptable documentation have not been included.

Abbreviations: b. (*banded*); C.P. (*Cameron Parish, s.w. LA*); M.L. (*Millwood Lake, s.w. AR*); N.N.W.R. (*Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge, e.c. MS*); p.a. (*pending acceptance by the state bird records committee*); T.E.C. (*The Earth Complex, a.k.a. Ensley Bottoms, Shelby Co., s.w. TN*); v. (*video-taped*); * (*specimen to Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science, Baton Rouge*).

Loons to Spoonbill

A rare Red-throated Loon was at Pace Point, *Henry*, TN Nov. 11–12 (JRW, MAG). Even more unusual was a **Pacific Loon** at the same spot Nov. 11–13 (JRW, MAG, TLR, RER, p.a.); this species is accidental in Tennessee, though it is now annual in the s.e. part of the Region. An early Com. Loon appeared Sept