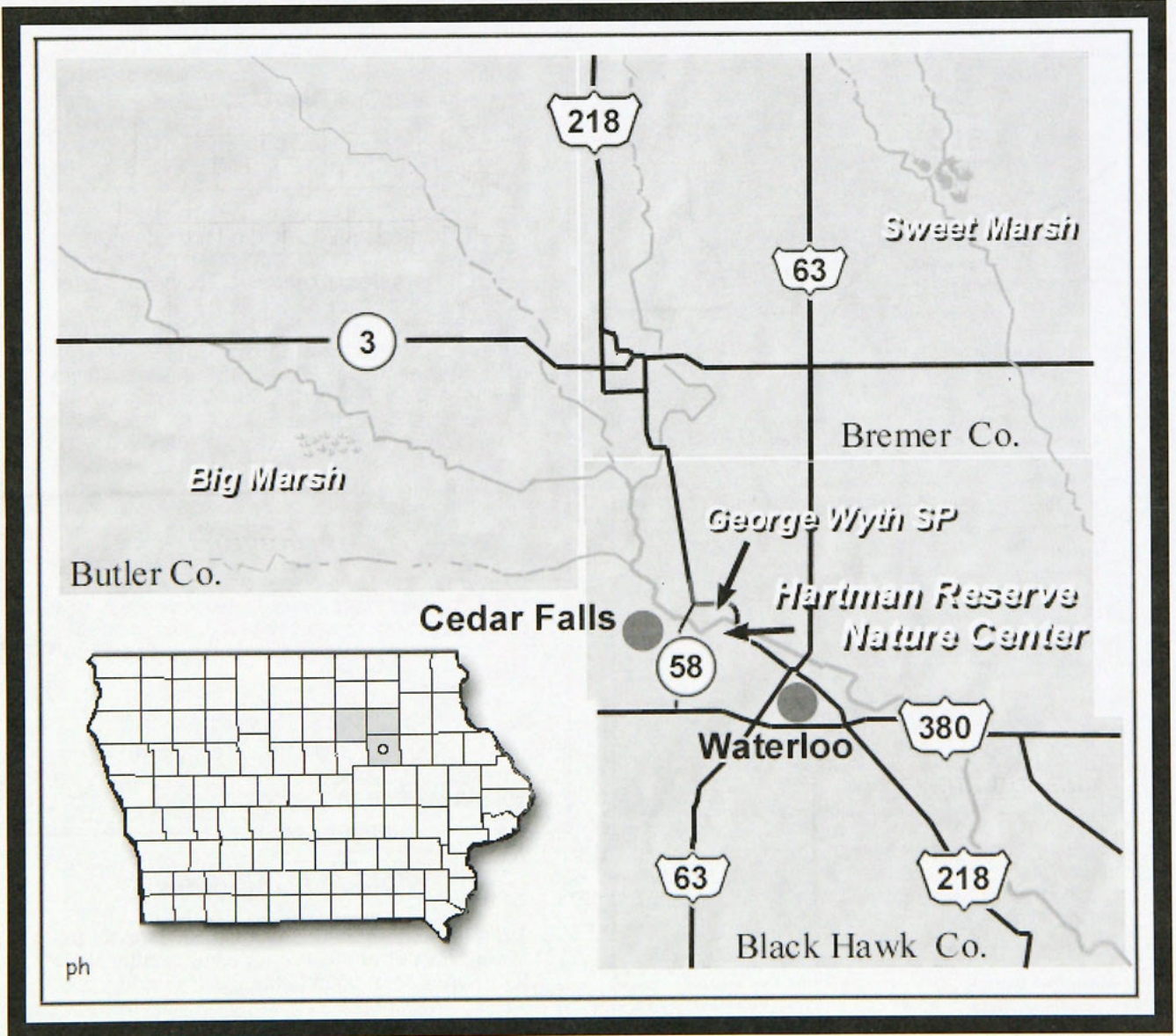


IOU News

Spring 2003 ♻ Volume 19 – Number 1



2003 IOU Spring Meeting – *Black Hawk County.*

Francis Moore and the Prairie Rapids Audubon Society will host the 2003 IOU Spring Meeting at the Hartman Reserve Nature Center in Black Hawk

County. The HRNC is midway between the cities of Cedar Falls and Waterloo. Field trips will include George Wyth Memorial State Park in

Black Hawk County, Big Marsh in Butler County, and Sweet Marsh in Bremer County.

See details on pages 4 - 5

**IOU News is a quarterly publication of
The Iowa Ornithologists' Union**

Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Founded 1923

Officers:

President- Tom Johnson, 125 N 13th St., Centerville, IA 52544
VicePresident- Hank Zaletel
Secretary- Sue Spieker
Treasurer- Rita Goranson
Board- Judy Garton, Sharon Stilwell, Linda Zaletel,
Dick Tetrault, John Rutenbeck,
Registrar-David Edwards

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Spring Bird Count- *open*

Christmas Bird Count- Aaron Brees

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Website: <http://www.iowabirds.org/>

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Send thanks to: Reid Allen, Jane Clark, Jim Dinsmore, Dave Edwards, Tom Johnson, Tom Kent, Matt Kenne, Francis Moore, Mark Proescholdt, Hank Zaletel.

From The PRESIDENT

This May I will finish my term as president of the IOU. When asked to be involved I always said I did not have the time because of family, my occupation, and, of course, I needed time for the birds. Being vice-president and president does take time but it is rewarding. I also realize that so many others do so much more than I to keep this a superb organization. Whenever you see our editors and web-site coordinator thank them! This goes for others who have had these positions in the past. So many work to keep the records, write the articles, put our information to the educational community, and do all the committee work.

Finances have dominated the last couple of years for our board. The publications committee has tackled this problem and I feel it will be solved. Support them and I believe the best way to do this is to sell us to others. Give gift memberships, bring membership forms to all club meetings and outings, and encourage youth activities for your clubs. Many of us have and can talk to school groups, scouts, and others. Make a point to take others with you birding.

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve the past 4 years. I look forward to serving on the membership and conservation committees. I welcome all to become involved. We always need fresh ideas.

-Tom Johnson
Centerville, Iowa

Slate of Candidates

The IOU Nominations Committee announces the following slate of candidates for consideration at the IOU Spring Meeting in Cedar Falls/Waterloo:

President	Dick Tetrault
Vice-president	Sharon Stilwell
Board of Directors	Linda Zaletel
Board of Directors	Mike Dooley
Board of Directors	Ric Zarwell

The Nominations Committee members are Rick Hollis, Matt Kenne and Mark Proescholdt.

IOU Publications Committee Gets A New Look

In response to an IOU-wide initiative to address budget problems caused by rises in the costs of publishing, the IOU Publications Committee has undergone a reorganization.

Bob Cecil, Tom Johnson, Tom Kent and others have coordinated changes in the committee's membership, composition, and level of activity. The new committee consists of IBL editor Kay Niyo, newsletter editor Paul Hertzell, website editor Ann Johnson, past IBL editor Jim Dinsmore, and past IBL editor Tom Kent, chair.

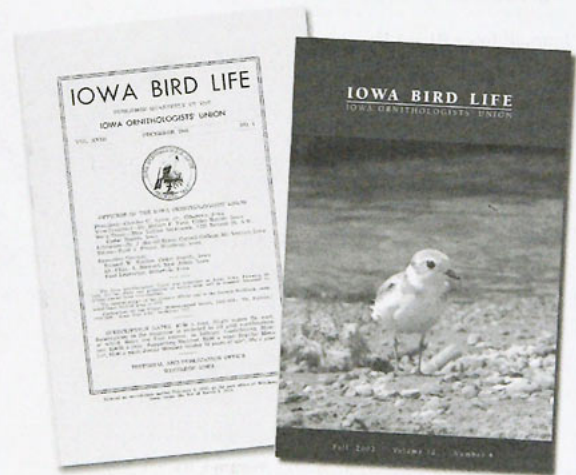
Already, through a virtually continuous session by e-mail, the committee has drafted revised bylaws for governing itself and clarifying its duties, and developed a proposal for a balanced budget for 2003. New language in the bylaws would put editors of the IOU's primary publications as members of the committee for the duration of their editorships.

The IOU Publications Committee was created by action of the Board of Directors in 1985. Its bylaws appear in *Iowa Bird Life*, Volume 60, Number 1, where its various duties are listed, including responsibility to publish a quarterly journal and "other publications deemed desirable by the membership", to ensure the quality of the publications within the resources available, and to submit a prospective budget to the Board for the use of those resources.

Historically, the Publications Committee has not had a very direct role in these activities, preferring instead to del-

egate these responsibilities to the editors of the two regular publications. And, historically, this has worked well.

However, recently, production costs have risen, while the IOU membership has remained almost constant. In the last two years, the costs of producing the journal and this newsletter have exceeded the membership revenues. Since keeping these amounts in balance is supposed to be the responsibility of the Publications Committee, many felt it might be best to change the committee's *laissez faire* approach to management.



Brees Appointed to Records Committee

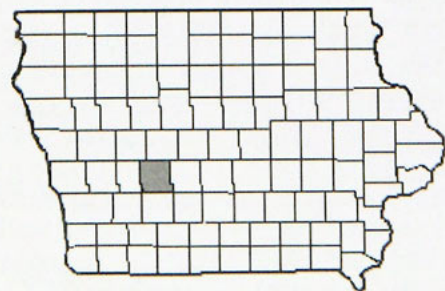
Aaron Brees of Corydon, Iowa, was appointed to the IOU Records Committee, replacing Matt Kenne, whose six-year term expired at the end of 2002. Aaron will serve from 2003-2008. Records committee members are chosen by the current committee membership.



The records committee reviews documentations of birds classified *casual* or *accidental* in the state of Iowa, or birds classified *regular* that occur in unusual locations or at unusual times of the year. Current members are Ann Johnson, chair, Tom Kent, Jim Dinsmore, Jim Sinclair, Paul Hertzell, Lee Schoenewe, and Brees.



The IOU has been happy to give a year's membership in the organization to Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Little of Menlo, Iowa, who so graciously hosted quite a few birders into their home to see the Varied Thrush which visited their yard last December.



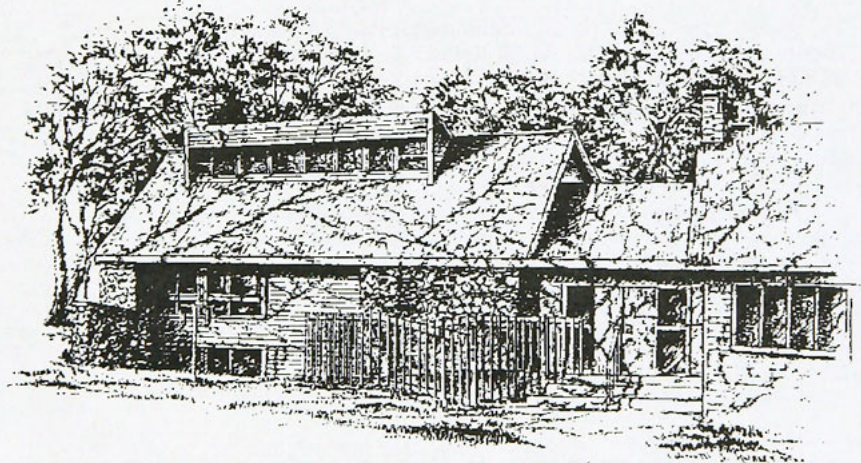
IOU Spring Meeting 2003

Friday May 16 – Sunday May 18

Hartman Reserve Nature Center, Cedar Falls, Iowa

The Spring 2003 Iowa Ornithologists' Union meeting will be held in the Waterloo, Cedar Falls area with programs and activities taking place at Hartman Reserve Nature Center (HRNC), located between Waterloo and Cedar Falls. Field trips are scheduled for both Saturday and Sunday morning and will be visiting several local areas including George Wyth Memorial State Park, Hartman Reserve Nature Center, Sweet Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area and the Cedar Valley Nature Trail. They will be led by members of the Prairie Rapids Audubon Society and others within the IOU who know the area well.

All meals will be served at Hartman Reserve Nature Center at the new Buckles Education and Learning Center and in the lodge nearby. Meeting headquarters will be at HRNC and is located at 657 Reserve Dr., Cedar Falls. Take the Greenhill Rd. exit off of U.S. 218 and turn right on Rainbow Dr. then turn right on Laurie Ave. then left on Grand Blvd., right on Timber Dr. and right on Reserve Dr. into the Nature Center parking lot.



Itinerary:

<i>Friday, May 16</i>	6:00 - 9:00pm	Registration and social time
<i>Saturday, May 17</i>	6:00 - 7:00am	Breakfast
	7:00am	Field trips
	11:30 - 12:30pm	Lunch
	1:00 - 4:00pm	Programs (to be announced)
	4:00pm	IOU Business Meeting
	6:30pm	Banquet
<i>Sunday, May 18</i>	6:00 - 7:00am	Breakfast
	7:00am	Field trips
	11:30 - 12:30pm	Lunch & compilation

Lodging:

Try to make reservations at least 30 days in advance for these prices, (these are group rates, all prices include taxes.)

Days Inn – 5826 University Ave., Cedar Falls
319-277-2230 Single \$60.48, Double \$66.08

Villager Lodge – 4410 University Ave., Cedar Falls
319-277-1550 1-4 persons, 1 or 2 beds \$66.08

Holiday Inn – 5826 University Ave., Cedar Falls
319-277-2230 Single \$77.28, Double \$88.48

Midway Inn – 4117 University Ave., Cedar Falls
319-277-6931 1-4 persons, 1 or 2 beds \$51.47

University Inn – 4711 University Ave., Cedar Falls
319-277-1412 Single \$51.47, Double \$57.07-\$68.27

Travel Inn – 3350 University Ave., Waterloo
319-235-2165 1-2 persons, 1 bed \$39.19,
2 persons, 2 beds \$45.91

Camping:

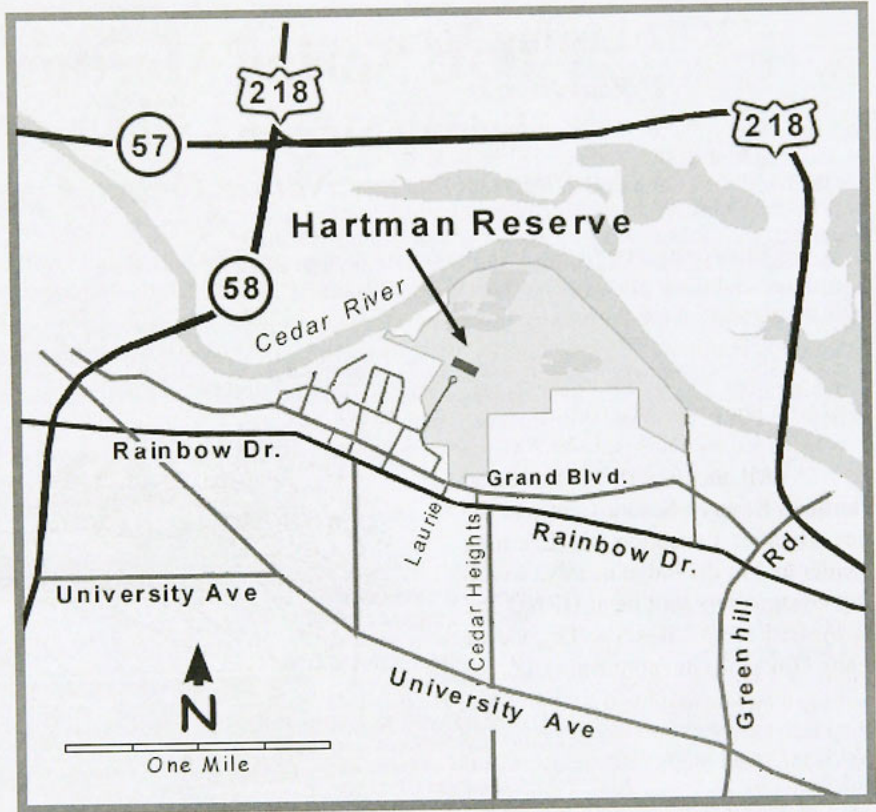
Black Hawk County Park
 319-266-6813
 2410 W. Lone Tree Rd., Cedar Falls
 located N. of Cedar Falls

McFarlane County Park
 319-342-3844
 13619 King Rd., LaPorte City,
 located E. of LaPorte City

George Wyth State Park
 319-232-5505
 2659 Wyth Rd., Waterloo,
 Between Waterloo & Cedar Falls



Directions to HRNC: Take the Greenhill Rd. exit off of U.S. 218 and turn right on Rainbow Dr., then turn right on Laurie Ave., then left on Grand Blvd., right on Timber Dr. and right on Reserve Dr. into the Nature Center parking lot.



Registration and meals: Make checks payable and send to
 Prairie Rapids Audubon Society, P.O. Box 682, Waterloo, IA 50704-0682

Registration	# of persons _____	@ \$5.00 _____
Saturday Breakfast	_____	@ \$5.00 _____
Saturday Lunch	_____	@ \$7.50 _____
Saturday Banquet	_____	@ \$12.00 _____
Sunday Breakfast	_____	@ \$5.00 _____
Sunday Lunch	_____	@ \$7.50 _____

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

2002 Listing Totals

Paul Hertzel

In visiting 92 of Iowa's 99 counties in 2002, Eloise Armstrong found 302 species of birds in Iowa, one more than her husband, and companion, Eugene. That extra bird was a Yellow-crowned Night Heron, seen at the Chariton River Greenbelt in Lucas County. They went looking for it "along the bayou with timber", said Eugene. "We split up, and when I got back she said 'Did you see the Night Heron? It flew right over me.'" He didn't see it.

302 species in a single year is just over 94% of the state's usual annual total of about 320 species. This is a remarkable percentage, for any state. For instance, there were 342 species recorded in Minnesota in 2001*, with a top year list of 321 species, for 93.8% of that total.

[* Source: *The Loon*; the 2001 Listing and Recording Supplement]

Year 2002

302 Eloise Armstrong
301 Eugene Armstrong
271 Mike Overton
270 Reid Allen, Pam Allen
269 Mark Proescholdt
267 Paul Hertzel
264 Rita Goranson
262 Aaron Brees
253 Lee Schoenewe
245 Ray Cummins
245 Bill Scheible
242 Beth Proescholdt
239 Mike Stephens
237 Tom Johnson
236 Chris Edwards
234 Ed Thelen
223 Gerald L. Von Ehwegen
229 Jay Gilliam
222 Matt Kenne
216 Vicky Stephens
208 Ric Zarwell
173 Dale Fye
163 Danny Akers

State Life

379 Eugene Armstrong
378 Eloise Armstrong
370 Jim Fuller
362 Mark Proescholdt
358 Pam Allen, Reid Allen
354 Beth Proescholdt
353 Steve Dinsmore
339 Ray Cummins
338 Jim Dinsmore
328 Curt Nelson
326 Mary Lou Petersen
323 Chris Edwards, Rita Goranson
320 Mike Overton, Lee Schoenewe
316 Aaron Brees
301 Paul Hertzel
300 Ed Thelen
291 Matt Kenne
289 Dale Fye
287 Ric Zarwell
286 Bill Scheible
249 Gerald L. Von Ehwegen
245 Jay Gilliam
176 Danny Akers

Some Top County Lists

309 Steve Dinsmore, Polk
306 Jim Fuller, Johnson
304 Eugene Armstrong, Polk
303 Eloise Armstrong, Polk
300 Bery Engebretsen, Polk
295 Reid Allen, Pam Allen, Polk
293 Curt Nelson, Cerro Gordo
285 Rita Goranson, Cerro Gordo
284 Mary Lou Petersen, Scott
283 Lee Schoenewe, Dickinson
281 Ray Cummins, Appanoose
279 Matt Kenne, Kossuth Co.

County Totals

Adair
97 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Adams
55 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Allamakee
254 Ric Zarwell
177 Mark Proescholdt
155 Chris Edwards
153 Steve Dinsmore
142 Rita Goranson
103 Danny Akers
69 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Appanoose
281 Ray Cummins
178 Steve Dinsmore
160 Mark Proescholdt
151 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Audubon
81 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Benton
177 Mark Proescholdt
127 Chris Edwards
43 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Black Hawk
221 Mary Lou Petersen
163 Mark Proescholdt
29 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Boone
252 Steve Dinsmore
237 Jim Dinsmore
232 Mark Proescholdt
220 Beth Proescholdt

208 Eloise & Eugene Armstrong
214 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Bremer

168 Mark Proescholdt
54 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Buchanan

158 Mark Proescholdt
15 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Buena Vista

57 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Butler

211 Mark Proescholdt
133 Steve Dinsmore
43 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Calhoun

145 Steve Dinsmore
130 Mark Proescholdt
117 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Carroll

156 Steve Dinsmore
130 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Cass

133 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Cedar

125 Chris Edwards
17 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Cerro Gordo

293 Curt Nelson
285 Rita Goranson
262 Paul Hertzel
188 Steve Dinsmore
162 Mark Proescholdt
145 Reid Allen, Pam Allen
129 Matt Kenne

Cherokee

61 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Chickasaw

48 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Clarke

80 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Clay

277 Lee Schoenewe
183 Steve Dinsmore
119 Matt Kenne
88 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Clayton

102 Danny Akers
22 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Clinton

203 Mary Lou Petersen
136 Steve Dinsmore
114 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Crawford

68 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Dallas

206 Eugene Armstrong
205 Eloise Armstrong
189 Steve Dinsmore
187 Reid Allen, Pam Allen
165 Ray Cummins, Mark Proescholdt

Davis

80 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Decatur

127 Steve Dinsmore
70 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Delaware

129 Mark Proescholdt
27 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Des Moines

247 Jim Fuller
97 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Dickinson

283 Lee Schoenewe
277 Ed Thelen
201 Steve Dinsmore
183 Jim Dinsmore
156 Matt Kenne
154 Mark Proescholdt
122 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Dubuque

52 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Emmet

185 Lee Schoenewe
151 Steve Dinsmore
66 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Fayette

36 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Floyd

125 Rita Goranson
38 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Franklin

175 Mark Proescholdt
80 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Fremont

250 Steve Dinsmore
202 Mark Proescholdt
195 Pam Allen, Reid Allen
154 Ray Cummins
104 Chris Edwards

Greene

217 Steve Dinsmore
182 Mark Proescholdt
181 Reid Allen, Pam Allen
160 Eloise & Eugene Armstrong

Grundy

189 Mark Proescholdt
67 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Guthrie

234 Steve Dinsmore
228 Eloise Armstrong
227 Eugene Armstrong
206 Ray Cummins
203 Mark Proescholdt
200 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Hamilton

208 Mark Proescholdt
206 Steve Dinsmore
175 Jim Dinsmore
165 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Hancock

170 Steve Dinsmore
163 Mark Proescholdt
154 Rita Goranson
142 Matt Kenne
108 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Hardin

252 Mark Proescholdt
228 Beth Proescholdt
107 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Harrison
161 Steve Dinsmore
105 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Henry
87 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Howard
37 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Humboldt
66 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Ida
55 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Iowa
209 Chris Edwards
155 Mark Proescholdt
85 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Jackson
116 Chris Edwards
83 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Jasper
206 Mark Proescholdt
172 Beth Proescholdt
130 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Jefferson
72 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Johnson
306 Jim Fuller
279 Chris Edwards
183 Mark Proescholdt
164 Pam Allen, Reid Allen
155 Dale Fye
148 Steve Dinsmore

Jones
187 Chris Edwards
37 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Keokuk
76 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Kossuth
279 Matt Kenne
180 Steve Dinsmore
168 Paul Hertzell
163 Mark Proescholdt
151 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Lee
211 Steve Dinsmore
203 Chris Edwards
169 Ray Cummins
154 Pam Allen, Reid Allen
151 Mark Proescholdt

Linn
243 Dale Fye
207 Chris Edwards
156 Mark Proescholdt
82 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Louisa
188 Chris Edwards
132 Dale Fye
126 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Lucas
220 Aaron Brees
208 Bery Engebretsen
147 Steve Dinsmore
137 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Lyon
25 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Madison
261 Eugene Armstrong
258 Eloise Armstrong
170 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Mahaska
151 Mark Proescholdt
63 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Marion
260 Aaron Brees
227 Steve Dinsmore
222 Mark Proescholdt
202 Reid Allen, Pam Allen
188 Ray Cummins

Marshall
267 Beth, Mark Proescholdt
204 Steve Dinsmore
135 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Mills
141 Steve Dinsmore
134 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Mitchell
25 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Monona
176 Steve Dinsmore
104 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Monroe
86 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Montgomery
68 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Muscatine
228 Mary Lou Petersen
135 Chris Edwards
99 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

O'Brien
194 Lee Schoenewe
33 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Osceola
42 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Page
60 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Palo Alto
234 Lee Schoenewe
150 Steve Dinsmore
147 Matt Kenne
97 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Plymouth
138 Steve Dinsmore
31 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Pocahontas
212 Ray Cummins
124 Matt Kenne
82 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Polk
309 Steve Dinsmore
304 Eugene Armstrong
303 Eloise Armstrong
300 Bery Engebretsen
295 Reid Allen, Pam Allen
265 Mark Proescholdt
248 Jim Dinsmore, Beth Proescholdt
246 Aaron Brees

Pottawattamie
208 Steve Dinsmore
149 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Poweshiek
206 Mark Proescholdt
71 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Ringgold
126 Steve Dinsmore
80 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Sac
151 Mark Proescholdt
136 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Scott
284 Mary Lou Petersen
125 Steve Dinsmore
92 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Shelby
75 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Sioux
23 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Story
279 Steve Dinsmore
258 Jim Dinsmore
243 Mark Proescholdt
224 Beth Proescholdt
191 Paul Hertzell
166 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Tama
237 Mark Proescholdt
189 Beth Proescholdt
139 Chris Edwards
112 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Taylor
61 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Union
135 Steve Dinsmore
78 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Van Buren
170 Ray Cummins
156 Mark Proescholdt
132 Chris Edwards
108 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Wapello
75 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Warren
220 Aaron Brees
177 Reid Allen, Pam Allen,
Mark Proescholdt
198 Jay Gilliam
162 Steve Dinsmore

Washington
121 Chris Edwards
75 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Wayne
203 Aaron Brees
93 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Webster
160 Mark Proescholdt
106 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Winnebago
153 Steve Dinsmore
151 Reid Allen, Pam Allen
126 Rita Goranson
113 Matt Kenne

Winneshiek
88 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Woodbury
222 Gerald L Von Ehwegen
152 Mark Proescholdt
139 Steve Dinsmore
125 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

Worth
218 Curt Nelson
172 Rita Goranson
171 Mark Proescholdt
117 Pam Allen, Reid Allen

Wright
219 Steve Dinsmore
102 Reid Allen, Pam Allen

County Big Days*

Allamakee
125 11 May 2002
Ric Zarwell, Dennis Carter,
Betty Zarwell, Danny Akers,
Matt Paulson

Cerro Gordo
145 11 May 2002
Carolyn Fischer,
Rita Goranson, Paul Hertzell

Clayton
52 30 Jun 2002
Danny Akers, Diana Pesek

Dickinson
91 5 Oct 2002
Lee Schoenewe, Gary Grange

Kossuth
153 14 May 2002
Matt Kenne, Paul Hertzell

Top Big Days* by Month

January 63 29 Jan 1995
G Brown, S Dinsmore

February 64 29 Feb 2000
P Allen., R Allen
E Armstrong, E Armstrong

March 90 27 Mar 1988
S Dinsmore, R Silcock

April 141 29 Apr 1989
S Dinsmore, P Hertzell

May 204 13 May 1996
B Blevens, D Moeller
P Petersen,

June 114 02 Jun 2001
G Grange, L Schoenewe

July 99 25 Jul 2001
P Allen, R Allen

August 104 30 Aug 1998
P Allen, R Allen

September 135 05 Sep 1987
S Dinsmore, A Fix, J Sinclair

October 91 05 Oct 2002
G Grange, L Schoenewe

November 65 07 Nov 1993
R Allen, P Allen

December 55 05 Dec 1998
R Allen, P Allen

*ABA rules; multiple party

Bookmarks – James J Dinsmore

Partners in Flight <http://www.partnersinflight.org/>

The Partners in Flight (PIF) program is a cooperative conservation effort involving governmental and non-profit organizations, private industry, and private citizens. It was formed in 1990 with its original emphasis on woodland songbirds that winter in the neotropics. Since then it has expanded its focus to include a broad range of North American landbirds. This website provides basic information on PIF, its organization, and recent projects. Perhaps of most interest to Iowa birders are the regional conservation plans (flight plans) for 60 ecological regions in Cen-

tral and North America. Iowa is part of three PIF regions, namely:

Region #16 Upper Great Lakes Plain—northeastern corner of Iowa

Region #32 Dissected Till Plains—most of Iowa

Region #40 Northern Tallgrass Prairie—prairie pothole region of north-central and northwestern Iowa

A synopsis of each plan and information on a few key bird species of each

of the ecoregions is accessible from the website. You will need Adobe Reader or a similar program to download the full conservation plans. Each plan describes the region and its habitats, key bird species that are considered of conservation concern in that region, and plans for conserving or restoring important habitats. Iowa readers should find the information on this website useful in understanding conservation issues affecting Iowa birds.



Spring Field Reports – Matthew Kenne

Spring Field Report Magic

The Spring Season is once again upon us, like a bouquet of beautiful flowers bursting from beneath the magician's cloak of winter. Every year there comes the surprise of new and exciting birds to see and mysteries to explore: Will Red-necked Grebes and Tundra Swans again be found on bodies of water across the state? Will Mississippi Kites continue to hide within Des Moines, or will they be found expanding elsewhere? Where will the shorebirds gather without Spring floodwaters this year? Can anyone find Yellow Rails or Smith's Longspurs? Will the warblers drip from the trees of your favorite birding spot? What will be the wayward Accidental bird that casts a spell on listers? Ahhh, the magic of Spring!

Please send your Spring (March 1 to May 31) observations to me for compilation in *Iowa Bird Life* by 3 June if possible. Some guidelines that make the job of compilation easier are:

- Report the birds in 1998 checklist order, which is also available on Tom Kent's website at <http://home.mchsi.com/~thkbirds>.

- Report species, number, date, and location including county.

- Provide documentations of Casual or Accidental species for Records Committee review.

- Provide details of identification of species at unusual time (early or late migration date), or details of unusual behavior.

- Report the birds that are more noteworthy for your area. -Submit a report even if you have posted your observation on the IaBirds listserv. I save few reports posted to the listserv.

- If you send your report by US Mail, include an e-mail address if you have one. This makes it much easier to contact you if I have questions or need additional information.

- If you send your report by e-mail, include your report in the body of the e-mail, or send attachments in Word. I look forward to hearing from you!

Matthew Kenne
Spring Field Reports Editor
709 N. Phillips
Algona, Iowa
mkenne@netamumail.com



Black Terns hover over Eagle Lake, Hancock County, 2002. Photo by P. Hertzell.

An IOU Friend - Leonard Larson

Tom Johnson

Leonard Larson, longtime member of the Iowa Ornithologists Union passed away on December 21 of 2002. He gave a gift of \$5000 to the IOU. I called his brother Leslie and visited him in Farnhamville, Iowa to learn about Leonard. It seems he wanted to help many groups and had donations to his church, his American Legion, The National Wildlife Federation, The Bluebird Society and the IOU. Leslie also donated over 25 years of IOU journals and Bluebird magazines to our group along with 3 framed prints.

Leonard Larson of Farnhamville, Iowa was a member of the Iowa Ornithologists Union since 1976. He was born in Kerrington, North Dakota in 1914, and moved to Farnhamville at age 9 with his mother and family when his father died. He spent his entire life in this small northwest Iowa town except for WW II when he was part of the North African campaign with the 17th Supply Squadron. This was interesting to me because my father was part of this same campaign. His brother showed me a desk Leonard had made with wooden boxes sent from overseas to his mother. He was a carpenter and helped build over 44 homes in the area along with many other projects. He was a man of many hobbies but birds were special to him, especially bluebirds. He had over 40 bluebird houses in the area and monitored these since 1978. His brother showed me his record book and he was proud of every successful nesting. He belonged to the Bluebird Society also.

Among his other interests were the American Legion, metal detection, and he had an extensive barb wire collection. He was part of the Search Team after that fatal plane crash in Sioux City years ago. His barbwire collection was valued at over \$3000 and he donated this to the Rockwell City Historical museum.

I grew up in northwest Iowa and remember the scarcity of bluebirds. Many people like Leonard have helped to increase their numbers. When we see bluebirds in Calhoun County let us thank him for improving the beauty of the area.

New State Land To Benefit Songbirds

The Iowa DNR has acquired an 80-acre tract of land that borders the west side of the Cedar Creek Unit of Stephens State Forest, near Williamson.

Nearly all of the land is in timber and has important benefits to non-game wildlife, said Doug Harr, with the DNR's wildlife diversity program. "We thought it was pretty important to migrating and nesting songbirds," he said. "And as the hickories age, it has the potential to have nursery colony habitat for the Indiana bat, which is listed as a federally endangered species, so that was attractive to us."

The new property is only accessible through the existing Cedar Creek Unit. No vehicles will be allowed on the property.

The land was purchased through a federally appropriated state wildlife

grant and a matching donation from the National Wild Turkey Federation. It will be managed for the Kentucky warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Scarlet Tanager, Yellow Throated Vireo and other warblers, vireos and flycatchers.

"This purchase couldn't have been possible without the generous donation from the National Wild Turkey Federation," Harr said. "This should also provide an excellent opportunity to expand turkey and deer hunting in southeast Iowa."

The spring turkey hunting seasons, which runs from April 14 through May 18, will not conflict with the songbird nesting season, Harr said. The new property will be managed jointly by the wildlife and forestry bureaus.

The DNR acquired the property on Dec. 20 for \$28,000.

Jim Dinsmore Receives Olav Smedal Conservation Award

Jim Dinsmore has been named the 2002 recipient of the Olav Smedal Conservation Award. The award is sponsored by the Ames Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America and is presented to an individual or group located in central Iowa whose contribution to the public in the field of natural resource conservation or other outdoor pursuits reflects the highest standards

of ethics and sportsmanship. The selection committee is especially interested in recognizing those individuals or groups whose chief means of employment is work outside of the "conservation field". Consideration is given to the individual(s) who gives unselfishly of their free time and voluntary efforts.

Past recipients of the Olav Smedal Conservation Award include:

1988 Dale Brentnall
1989 Bill Horine
1990 Steve Lekwa
1991 Nancy Kurrle
1992 Cele Burnett
1993 Dave Van Waus
1994 Robert Pinneke
1995 Jim Pease
1996 George Patrick
1997 Edwin Powell
1998 Steve Lekwa
1998 Mike Meetz
1999 Linda & Hank Zaletel
2000 Erv Klaas
2001 Cindy Hildebrand



Ed Powell presents Jim Dinsmore with the Olav Smedal Conservataion Award.



In Memorial

Three long-time IOU members, Mary Musgrove, Keith Layton, and Leonard Larson, have passed away in recent months, and will be missed.

Mary Musgrove

Mary Musgrove, and her husband, Jack, joined the IOU in 1938. Together, they co-authored five editions of *Waterfowl in Iowa* illustrated by then unknown artist Maynard Reese. For an account of Mary and Jack's life, see *IBL* 59:1-2. Mary, 86, died October 27, 2002 at Des Moines.

Keith Layton

Keith Layton joined the IOU in 1958. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, Keith was an active birdbander and a board member of the IOU. Keith, 87, died October 27, 2002 at Oskaloosa.

Leonard Larson

Leonard Larson of Farnhamville, joined the IOU in 1976. Among his many contributions to recording and preserving Iowa's birdlife was a line of over 40 Bluebird houses that he maintained near his home in Calhoun County. See the article on page 9. Leonard, 89, died December 21, 2002.

Regional Rare Bird Alerts

Iowa	(712) 364-2863
Missouri	(573) 445-9115
NW Illinois	(815) 965-3095
Wisconsin	(414) 352-3857
Minnesota	(763) 780-8890
So Dakota	(605) 773-6460

Some Top Yard Lists

197 Jim Fuller -	Johnson Co.
175 Rita Goranson -	Cerro Gordo
169 Ed Thelen -	Dickinson
165 Lee Schoenewe -	Clay
153 Reid & Pam Allen -	Polk
145 Proescholdts -	Marshall
143 Ric Zarwell -	Allamakee
121 Bery Engebretsen -	Polk
98 Dale Fye -	Linn

IOU News Deadlines for Submission of Materials

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Coverage</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Spring	March 1 - May 31	February 15
Summer	June 1 - July 31	May 15
Fall	August 1 - Nov 30	July 15
Winter	Dec 1 - Feb 28	November 15

Dates, Things To Do

April 12

Field trip to Cardinal Marsh with the Upper Iowa Audubon. Contact Dennis Carter (563) 382-3754 or Marlene Michel (563) 547-3187.

April 13

Field trip to Sherman Park with the Quad Cities Audubon Society. Contact Carol Rogers (563) 324-8897.

April 26

Iowa Trumpeter Swan Banquet, Scheman Building, campus of ISU. Hosted by ISU Trumpeter Swan Restoration Committee. Contact Brenda (515) 233-1803.

April 26

Stroll through Springtime, Blackhawk State Historic Site, with the Quad Cities Audubon Society. Birdwalk, interpretive program, lunch, wildflower walk.

May 10

Audubon Birdathon. Contact Karl Jungbluth (515) 42-5057.

May 10

Birdwalk at Effigy Mounds National Monument. Contact Dennis Carter (563) 382-3754.

May 16

IOU Spring Meeting. See details on pages 1, 4, 6.

May 24

Field trip to Colo Ponds with the Big Bluestem Audubon Society. Contact Hank Zaletel (515) 382-5427.

May 31

End of Spring season. Send field reports to editor Matt Kenne. See page 8 for details.

June 7

Annual Birder's Brunch at Ledges State Park, with the Big Bluestem Audubon Society.

In the Region

April 26 - 27

Minnesota Ornithologists' Union annual Salt Lake field trip, Lac Qui Parle County. Reservations required. Contact Mike Hendrickson (218) 626-2268.

May 16 - 18

Nebraska Ornithologists' Union Annual Meeting, Rowe Sanctuary, Visitors Center, southeast of Kearney. Contact Janis Paseka (402) 727-9229.

May 29 - June 1

Wisconsin Society for Ornithology Annual Convention, UW - Green Bay campus. Contact Bob Howe (902) 465-2272.



Iowa Ornithologists' Union Membership Request Form

Thank you for enclosing this form with your check made payable to Iowa Ornithologists' Union.

Please correct your address from the other side **if needed.**

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 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

IA County _____

Phone Number _____
(for IOU Directory)

E-mail: _____

\$12 Fledgling (Student and/or New member)
 \$ _____

\$75 Great Egret (includes IOU patch)
 \$ _____

\$20 Goldfinch (Regular)
 \$ _____

\$100 Osprey (includes IOU patch)
 \$ _____

\$35 Bluebird
 \$ _____

\$250 Bald Eagle (includes T-shirt)
 \$ _____

\$50 Baltimore Oriole (includes IOU patch)
 \$ _____

\$500 Peregrine Falcon
 (includes IOU patch & T-shirt)
 \$ _____

Make check payable to IOU

Send to David C. Edwards, Registrar
 2308 State Ave., Ames, IA 50014-8344

Or, pay online on our web

< <http://www.iowabirds.org> >

Three ways to help the IOU financially

The IOU membership has remained steady over the last decade, and as a result, has had consistent annual revenues. However, publication costs have risen to the point the organization has begun to use reserves in order to meet expenses. We look to our members to help. Here are three suggestions on how members can help:



- Purchase a gift membership for a friend, each year.
(increase annual revenue and potential membership)
- Make a donation now.
(increase reserves and potential interest)
- Make a donation later – remember the IOU in your will.
(increase future reserves and potential interest)

Iowa Ornithologists' Union
2308 State Avenue
Ames, IA 50014

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