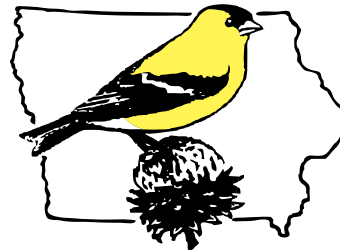


IOU News

Summer 2016  Volume 32 - Number 2



2016 IOU Spring Meeting

By Dennis Thompson

The Spring IOU Meeting in Ames was a lot of fun with a great group of 95 attendees. The Starlite Conference Center at the Quality Inn & Suites worked well for us as a base for the meetings and banquet.

Big Bluestem Audubon (BBAS) hosted the Friday evening social at the Story County Conservation headquarters. It was well attended and everyone seemed to have a good time. McFarland Park is a nice area, but the cold temperatures and strong winds kept most people inside.

Hank Zaletel was available to answer questions about the many field trip options.

Field Trips

We awoke Saturday to more of the same, weather-wise. After picking up the sack lunches provided by BBAS, folks scattered far and wide in the rough conditions. The following areas were visited (with field trip leaders noted): Brookside and Ada Hayden Parks (Wolfgang Oesterreich and Josh Obrecht); Colo Bog and Hendrickson Marsh

IOU News

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This newsletter was mailed to 431 members.



(Hank Zaletel); Ledges and Harrier Marsh (Doug Harr and Bruce Ehresman); Errington Marsh and Chichaqua Bottoms (Stuart Sparkman, Karen Viste-Sparkman and Shane Patterson). On Sunday, an additional trip visited Saylorville and Marsh Farm Wetland (Eric Ollie and Matt Wetrich). The weather bounced back on Sunday, with cool temperatures, lots of sun, and LIGHT WINDS. Many of the species that were hard to hear or get good looks at on Saturday were much more cooperative the next day. That really lifted everyone's spirits and we ended the weekend with 190 species! That may be a Spring Meeting record. Here are a few of the highlights:

- 16 species of waterfowl, including Cinnamon Teal and Red-breasted Merganser
- Common Loon
- Eared Grebe
- American & Least Bittern
- White-faced Ibis
- Virginia Rail
- Sandhill Crane
- 21 species of shorebirds, including Upland Sandpiper, both Godwits and American Woodcock
- Bonaparte's Gull
- Common Tern
- Peregrine Falcon
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
- 27 species of warbler (with good numbers for many), including Hooded, Cape May, Cerulean and Bay-breasted
- 15 sparrows, including Le Conte's



A bewildering miss was Orchard Oriole. Trumpeter Swan and Forster's Tern were also surprising no-shows. The Ledges group ran out of time to look for the Loggerhead Shrike pair that are sometimes seen south of the park.

With that said, the feedback received was how much fun everyone had in the field. Tearing folks away from the warblers was a tough chore for the trip leaders, but a fun one to have.

Afternoon Sessions

The afternoon meetings were well attended and well received. Kelly McKay's overview on how window collisions are affected by building siting and glass area was very interesting. It was a very meticulous study, and the process and planning that went into it was very informative. Steve Dinsmore followed with a talk on citizen science and bird monitoring. He focused on the challenges of using "lay" person data in three initiatives: Breeding Bird Surveys, Christmas Bird Counts and eBird. All three have pros and cons when it comes drawing scientific conclusions from the data. It definitely sparked a lot of discussion. Hank Zaletel then took the group (well, not literally) on a winter trip to Sax-Zim Bog in northern Minnesota. The Zaletels have gone on this Carroll CCB-

sponsored trip three times with Matt Wetrich. Hank had a highly entertaining presentation on the wonderful birds that were seen and the occasional logistical challenges they encountered. Tyler Harms and Paul Skrade gave a short overview of the online survey presented to Listserve members last fall. They'll be publishing full results soon. A short business meeting wrapped up the afternoon session. Elections were held and the results are as follows: Stuart Sparkman's time as Secretary was up and he will be replaced by Rex Rundquist. Karen Viste-Sparkman's term as Board Member also expired and she will be replaced by Eric Ollie. Candace Havelly and Linda Rudolph both agreed to serve a second term as Board Members. Congratulations to the new IOU board members and a well-deserved "thank you" to Stuart and Karen for their service these last four years.

Evening Session

Our keynote speaker, Mary Gustafson, came up from the Rio Grande Valley to talk about bird conservation initiatives in Mexico, especially with Chihuahuan Desert grasslands. She focused on the efforts between Canada, the United States and Mexico to conserve and improve breeding, migratory and wintering habitats for grassland birds. The decline in the number of many grassland species

in the last 50 years is truly staggering. Some have declined over 90%. Mary told us she was amazed when she discovered that IOU, Iowa Audubon and Iowa DNR have all contributed to Southern Wings and other initiatives for grassland conservation. Nearly all the other participants in those initiatives are big government agencies or national conservation organizations. She heartily congratulated us for recognizing the challenges “our” grassland birds face on their Mexican wintering grounds. She spoke at length on one of the projects in which we invested, the El Tokio Grasslands in Nuevo Leon where over 100,000 acres have been protected. It was a great presentation and rekindled (or kindled for the first time) for many, the urge to go birding in Mexico.

Many thanks to the speakers and field trip leaders. The presentations and field trips were top-notch. Also, many thanks to John and Bob Cecil for all their hard work in putting on the Silent Auction. It raised over \$400. Doug

Harr and Karen Disbrow again supported the IOU sales booth. I especially want to thank Hank Zaletel, Shane Patterson, and the rest of Big Bluestem Audubon for organizing the facilities and field trips. It was a very successful meeting. There seemed to be a real camaraderie within the attendees, and several folks commented that it was an enjoyable and birdy weekend.

I hope you can join us in Spirit Lake on August 26-28 for our fall meeting. Kevin Karlson will be the keynote speaker. Kevin is a noted field trip leader and wildlife photographer. He’s also a prolific birding author and is the co-author of *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds* and *The Shorebird Guide*. His keynote presentation will be about the former and he will also lead an afternoon session on shorebird ID. Mark your calendars and we’ll see you in the great Northwest in August!

2016 Spring Meeting Bird List - 188 species

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Canada Goose | Least Bittern | Hudsonian Godwit | Great Horned Owl |
| Wood Duck | Great Blue Heron | Marbled Godwit | Barred Owl |
| Gadwall | Great Egret | Stilt Sandpiper | Common Nighthawk |
| American Wigeon | Green Heron | Dunlin | Chimney Swift |
| Mallard | White-faced Ibis | Baird’s Sandpiper | Ruby-throated Hummingbird |
| Blue-winged Teal | Turkey Vulture | Least Sandpiper | Belted Kingfisher |
| Cinnamon Teal | Osprey | White-rumped Sandpiper | Red-headed Woodpecker |
| Northern Shoveler | Bald Eagle | Pectoral Sandpiper | Red-beilled Woodpecker |
| Green-winged Teal | Northern Harrier | Semipalmated Sandpiper | Downy Woodpecker |
| Canvasback | Cooper’s Hawk | Short-billed Dowitcher | Hairy Woodpecker |
| Redhead | Broad-winged Hawk | Wilson’s Snipe | Northern Flicker |
| Ring-necked Duck | Red-tailed Hawk | American Woodcock | Pileated Woodpecker |
| Lesser Scaup | Virginia Rail | Wilson’s Phalarope | American Kestrel |
| Hooded Merganser | Sora | Bonaparte’s Gull | Peregrine Falcon |
| Red-breasted Merganser | American Coot | Franklin’s Gull | Olive-sided Flycatcher |
| Ruddy Duck | Sandhill Crane | Ring-billed Gull | Eastern Wood-Pewee |
| Ring-necked Pheasant | Semipalmated Plover | Caspian Tern | Yellow-bellied Flycatcher |
| Wild Turkey | Killdeer | Common Tern | Willow Flycatcher |
| Common Loon | Solitary Sandpiper | Black Tern | Least Flycatcher |
| Pied-billed Grebe | Spotted Sandpiper | Rock Pigeon | Eastern Phoebe |
| Eared Grebe | Greater Yellowlegs | Eurasian Collared-Dove | Great Crested Flycatcher |
| Double-crested Cormorant | Willet | Mourning Dove | Eastern Kingbird |
| American White Pelican | Lesser Yellowlegs | Yellow-billed Cuckoo | Bell’s Vireo |
| American Bittern | Upland Sandpiper | Eastern Screech-Owl | Yellow-throated Vireo |

2016 Spring Meeting Attendees

| Name | City, State | Name | City, State | Name | City, State |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Pam Allen | West Des Moines, IA | Gwyn Hartley | Fairfield, IA | Joyce Ollie | Clinton, IA |
| Reid Allen | West Des Moines, IA | Scott Hartley | Fairfield, IA | Natalie Patterson | Ames, IA |
| Erica Anderson | Lombard, IL | Barbara Heikens | Burlington, IA | Olivia Patterson | Ames, IA |
| Lance Bauer | Winterset, IA | Rick Hollis | North Liberty, IA | Shane Patterson | Ames, IA |
| Sharon Bauer | Winterset, IA | Doug Hunt | Oskaloosa, IA | Mark Proescholdt | Liscomb, IA |
| Mike Becker | Cedar Rapids, IA | Mary Beth Hunt | Oskaloosa, IA | Terry Proescholdt | Ames, IA |
| John Bissell | Grimes, IA | Ginny Huntington | Ames, IA | Paul Roisen | Sioux City, IA |
| Christopher Brochu | Iowa City, IA | Stu Huntington | Ames, IA | Dean Roosa | Ames, IA |
| Helen Brown | Sac City, IA | Margaret Hutcheson | Des Moines, IA | Frederick Ruckersfeldt | Iowa City, IA |
| Robert Cecil | Des Moines, IA | Merle Ihne | Muscatine, IA | Linda Rudolph | Coralvill, IA |
| Seth Chamberlain | Ames, IA | Maridel Jackson | Ankeny, IA | Rex Rundquist | Sioux City, IA |
| Diane Dentlinger | Des Moines, IA | Ann Johnson | Norwalk, IA | Soren Rundquist | Ames, IA |
| Stephen Dinsmore | Ames, IA | Thomas Johnson | Mystic, IA | Tom Schilke | Waterloo, IA |
| Karen Disbrow | Iowa City, IA | Julie Johnston | Packwood, IA | Paul Skrade | Decorah, IA |
| Ava Dorrance | Red Oak, IA | Joe Jungers | Hospers, IA | Sharon Somers | North Liberty, IA |
| Dan Dorrance | Red Oak, IA | Karla Jungers | Hospers, IA | Stuart Sparkman | Des Moines, IA |
| Bruce Ehresman | Ames, IA | Cathy Konrad | Bettendorf, IA | Matt Stephenson | Ames, IA |
| Marlene Ehresman | Ames, IA | Kate Kostenbader | North Liberty, IA | Dick Stilwell | West Des Moines, IA |
| Pete Erzen | Ida Grove, IA | Carl Kurtz | St. Anthony, IA | Sharon Stilwell | West Des Moines, IA |
| Carolyn Fischer | Mason City, IA | Rick Lawton | San Francisco, CA | Gerry Tetrault | Coralville, IA |
| Pip Fisher | Gibbsville, IA | Betty Lucas | Mason City, IA | Richard Tetrault | Coralville, IA |
| Barb Fisher-Krueger | Iowa City, IA | Coady Lundy | Ames, IA | Cecille Thompson | Johnston, IA |
| Stephanie Fox | Ames, IA | John McCecil | Des Moines, IA | Dennis Thompson | Johnston, IA |
| Edwin Freese | Adel, IA | Francis Moore | Waterloo, IA | Dick Trieff | Indianola, IA |
| Janet Freese | Adel, IA | Larry Moss | Bellingham, WA | Karen Viste-Sparkman | Des Moines, IA |
| Rita Goranson | Mason City, IA | Jim Murdock | Ames, IA | Walt Wagner-Hecht | Cedar Rapids, IA |
| Tyler Grant | Ames, IA | Kevin Murphy | Ames, IA | Matt Wetrich | Jefferson, IA |
| Mary Gustafson | Mission, TX | Josh Obrecht | Ames, IA | Gerald White | Muscatine, IA |
| Deb Hansen | Algona, IA | Wolfgang Oesterreich | Ames, IA | Mark Widreichner | Ames, IA |
| Tyler Harms | Ames, IA | Art Ollie | Clinton, IA | Hank Zaletel | Nevada, IA |
| Doug Harr | Ogden, IA | Eric Ollie | Ames, IA | Linda Zaletel | Nevada, IA |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Blue-headed Vireo | Gray-cheeked Thrush | Bay-breasted Warbler | White-throated Sparrow |
| Warbling Vireo | Swainson's Thrush | Blackburnian Warbler | Harris's Sparrow |
| Philadelphia Vireo | Wood Thrush | Yellow Warbler | White-crowned Sparrow |
| Red-eyed Vireo | American Robin | Chestnut-sided Warbler | Summer Tanager |
| Blue Jay | Gray Catbird | Blackpoll Warbler | Scarlet Tanager |
| American Crow | Brown Thrasher | Palm Warbler | Northern Cardinal |
| Horned Lark | European Starling | Yellow-rumped Warbler | Rose-breasted Grosbeak |
| Purple Martin | Cedar Waxwing | Yellow-throated Warbler | Indigo Bunting |
| Tree Swallow | Ovenbird | Black-throated Green Warbler | Dickcissel |
| Northern Rough-winged Swallow | Louisiana Waterthrush | Canada Warbler | Bobolink |
| Bank Swallow | Northern Waterthrush | Wilson's Warbler | Red-winged Blackbird |
| Cliff Swallow | Golden-winged Warbler | Eastern Towhee | Eastern Meadowlark |
| Barn Swallow | Prothonotary Warbler | Chipping Sparrow | Western Meadowlark |
| Black-capped Chickadee | Black-and-white Warbler | Clay-colored Sparrow | Yellow-headed Blackbird |
| Tufted Titmouse | Tennessee Warbler | Field Sparrow | Common Grackle |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | Orange-crowned Warbler | Vesper Sparrow | Great-tailed Grackle |
| House Wren | Nashville Warbler | Lark Sparrow | Brown-headed Cowbird |
| Sedge Wren | Common Yellowthroat | Savannah Sparrow | Baltimore Oriole |
| Marsh Wren | Hooded Warbler | Grasshopper Sparrow | House Finch |
| Carolina Wren | American Redstart | Henslow's Sparrow | Pine Siskin |
| Blue-gray Gnatcatcher | Cape May Warbler | Le Conte's Sparrow | American Goldfinch |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet | Cerulean Warbler | Song Sparrow | House Sparrow |
| Eastern Bluebird | Northern Parula | Lincoln's Sparrow | |
| Veery | Magnolia Warbler | Swamp Sparrow | |

IOU Fall Meeting

Meet Us At Spirit Lake August 26-28

By Dennis Thompson

The 2016 Fall IOU Meeting will be held August 26-28 along the shores of West Okoboji Lake at the University of Iowa's Lakeside Lab. We will be based in the heart of Iowa's Great Lakes region, one of the top birding destinations in the state. The number and quality of wetlands is unsurpassed in Iowa. Along with the more expected marsh species, the area is hosting the following nesting/summering birds this year: Red-necked, Eared & Western Grebe; American & Least Bittern; Common Gallinule; Black & Forster's Tern; and Great-tailed Grackle. The wetlands should provide a lot of good habitat for migrating shorebirds, so they'll be a prime target. The large area of grassland includes some of the finest remaining native prairies in Iowa. While not as common as other habitats, there are some nice woodlands in the area that support a surprising number of species. Late August is a great time to visit the area. Fall migration will be underway, yet most of the breeding birds should still be around.



The banquet will be held at the nearby Village West Resort. Our keynote speaker is Kevin Karlson from Cape May, New Jersey. Kevin is a prolific author and his keynote speech will center on his latest book, *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach*

to *Knowing and Identifying Birds*. Kevin has also helped author shorebird guides and will be leading a shorebird ID session on Saturday afternoon.

Kevin Karlson is an accomplished birder, professional tour leader and wildlife photographer who has published four books and many bird and nature related articles for magazines and journals over the last 20 years. He is a regular presence at Bird and Nature festivals in North America, where he gives keynote presentations and workshops on bird identification and appreciation, as well as photo instruction. His photos can be seen in numerous locations, including his website kevintkarlson.com. Kevin is a co-author of *The Shorebird Guide* (Houghton Mifflin Co. 2006), and the author/photographer of two photography books titled *The Birds of Cape May* and *Visions: Earth's Elements in Bird and Nature Photography* (Schiffer Publishing, 2010, 2012). His most recent book with wife and co-author Dale Rosselet, *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds* was released in May 2015 in the Roger Tory Peterson

Reference Series at Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishers.

Kevin recently produced five photographic laminated foldout guides for Quick Reference Publishing of Florida (*Raptors of Eastern and Western North America* (2012), *Waterfowl of North America* (2013) and *Shorebirds of North America* (2014), and just recently *Warblers of North America* (2016). A former photo editor for *North American Birds*, he also wrote the Birder's ID column and served as an Advisory Board member for *Wild Bird Magazine* from 1992 – 2012. He currently leads several bird tours each year and a birding cruise with Dale Rosselet for *Carefree Birding of Florida* to six countries (www.carefreebirding.com). Locations for upcoming birding and/or photography tours include Thailand (January 2017 for *Sunrise Birding of Connecticut*), the Galapagos Islands (October 2016 for *NJ Audubon and Wildside Nature Tours*), and Kenya/Tanzania in October 2017 for *Sunrise Birding* (not yet posted).

Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds

This keynote talk shares a new slant to field identification that Kevin Karlson and his co-author and wife Dale Rosselet developed called *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds*, which is the title of their new book in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series at Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishers (April 2015). The focus of this multimedia presentation encourages a conscious assessment of body shape and physical features of birds prior to analyzing traditional ID field marks. This results in a more holistic approach to birding that includes right and left brain strengths to enhance your birding skills as well as a greater awareness of bird's behavior, movements and natural history rather than just a check on your personal list.

A short description of *Birding by Impression* is followed by unique digitized or real life photos from their new book that encourages the audience to spot differences between similar species in direct side-by-side comparison. This exciting ID approach concentrates on basic impressions of size, body shape, structural features and motion to form an accurate first impression of birds, with analysis of plumage details and bare parts to follow. Several videos and a musical ending allow for a relaxed appreciation of the beauty and intriguing nature of birds.

Schedule

Friday, August 26, 2016

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Lakeside Lab | 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm | registration and field trip signup |
| Lakeside Lab | 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm | board meeting |

Saturday, August 27, 2016

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| Lakeside Lab | 6:00 am - 7:00 am | breakfast (be sure to pick up your sack lunch) |
| Lakeside Lab | 7:00 am - 12:00 pm | field trips |
| Lakeside Lab | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm | shallow lake restoration initiative, <i>Chris LaRue</i> - Iowa DNR |
| Lakeside Lab | 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm | shorebird by impression ID workshop, <i>Kevin Karlson</i> |
| Lakeside Lab | 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm | business meeting, <i>Francis Moore</i> |
| Village West Resort | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | banquet, <i>Main Event Bar and Eatery 16010 Hwy 86, Milford</i> |
| Village West Resort | 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm | keynote, <i>Birding By Impression, Kevin Karlson</i> |

Sunday, August 28, 2016

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|--|
| Lakeside Lab | 6:00 am - 7:00 am | breakfast (be sure to pick up your sack lunch) |
| Lakeside Lab | 7:00 am - 12:00 pm | field trips |
| Lakeside Lab | 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm | compilation |

Motels

Lakeside Lab

1838 Highway 86 Milford, IA
319-335-0147
motel - \$50 cabins - \$16/person
08/14

Lakeshore Lodge

1864 Highway 85 Milford, IA
712-337-3313
\$95
8/14

Super 8

2203 Circle Dr W, Spirit Lake, IA
712-336-4901

Northland Inn

2051 IA-9, Spirit Lake, IA
712-336-1450
\$79

Ramada Inn

2704 17th St, Spirit Lake, IA
712-336-3984

Camping

Emerson Bay RA

3100 Emerson St. West Okoboji
712-337-3211

Gull Point SP

1500 Harpen St Milford
712-337-3211

Horseshoe Bend Recreation Area

1924 240th St Milford, IA
(712) 338-4786

Directions to the Lakeside Lab

Lakeside Lab is located on the west shore of West Okoboji Lake. 1838 Hi. 86 Milford, IA Go west 2.9 miles from the intersection of Highways 71 & 9 west of Spirit Lake to highway 86. Go south on 86 for 3.6 miles. Lakeside Lab is on the east side of the road. GPS Coordinates: 43.380624,-95.184656

Field Trips

- Christopherson Slough – Little Swan Lake complex
- Dewey's Pasture – Trumbull Lake
- Kettleon Hogsback – Wildwood Nature Preserve
- Spring Run wildlife complex

Registration Information

Online registration:

If possible, please register through the IOU website at: <http://www.iowabirds.org>

Make checks payable to Iowa Ornithologists' Union
Mail to: **Dennis Thompson**
7503 Wildflower Ct.
Johnston, IA 50131

Registering by mail:

Copy, fill out, and mail - don't forget your check!

Name(s): _____

(please include first and last names of all persons registering)

Address: _____

I am a new attendee

| | | | No. of People | | Total Cost |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---|----------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Registration Fee | \$20.00 | x | _____ | = \$ | _____ |
| Sat. Breakfast | \$6.00 | x | _____ | = \$ | _____ |
| Sat. Lunch | \$8.50 | x | _____ | = \$ | _____ |
| Sat. Banquet | \$23.45 | x | _____ | = \$ | _____ |
| Sun. Breakfast | \$6.00 | x | _____ | = \$ | _____ |
| Sun. Lunch | \$8.50 | x | _____ | = \$ | _____ |
| Meatless option? check here _____ | | | Total \$ | _____ | |

2015 Listing Totals

By Paul Hertzel

2015 Statewide Listing

In 2015, a first record of Brown Booby, found by Steve Dinsmore at Red Rock Reservoir and documented by Dinsmore, Kevin Murphy, Chris Edwards, Bill Scheible, Paul Roisen, Ray Cummins, Pam Allen and Reid Allen, enabled many of the top birders to increment their state lists. It was seen by eight of the top ten listers and at least seven other people. Another rarity added to at least six state lists was a Dickinson County Townsend's Warbler documented by Lee Schoenewe, Joe Jungers and Paul Roisen.

All listers appreciate the efforts of those who document the casual and accidental birds that show up in Iowa. These ultra-rare birds should appear on the lists published below only after passing records committee review. Ideally, all birders would document all casual and accidental birds seen (for ornithological reasons), but a lister does not need to have documented a bird in order to count it, as long as someone has documented it, and the subsequent review resulted in acceptance. Agreeing to this condition enables all participants to have confidence that list standards are both uniform and high. Since taking on the responsibility of compiling this information, I have tried to promote this spirit of cooperation and dedication to maintaining high standards, and have been encouraged by positive responses from many IOU members who participate in listing.

Iowa State Life Lists

- 394 Tom Stone (+Harlequin Duck, Brown Booby)
- 391 Jim Fuller (+Brown Booby)
- 388 Chuck Fuller (+Brown Booby)
- 387 Stephen Dinsmore (+Brown Booby)
- 386 Reid & Pam Allen (+Brown Booby, +Townsend's Warbler)
- 386 Tom Kent
- 384 Ann Johnson (+Brown Booby, + Common Raven from 2014)
- 380 Mark Proescholdt
- 379 Denny Thompson (+Brown Booby)
- 373 John Rutenbeck
- 367 Chris Edwards (+Brown Booby)
- 366 Jay Gilliam (+Brown Booby)
- 365 Aaron Brees
- 364 Paul Roisen (+Townsend's Warbler, +Brown Booby, +Black-bellied Whistling Duck)
- 357 Ray Cummins (+Brown Booby)
- 355 Jim Dinsmore
- 355 Thomas Johnson (+Brown Booby)
- 354 Loren & Babs Padelford (+Great Black-backed Gull)
- 354 Tommy Stone (+Parasitic Jaeger, Harlequin Duck)
- 351 Curt Nelson
- 347 Rita Goranson (+Townsend's Warbler)
- 347 Ric Zarwell (+Mountain Bluebird, +Clark's Nutcracker, +9 undisclosed)
- 344 Carolyn Fischer (+Harlequin Duck)
- 343 Bill Scheible (+Brown Booby)
- 343 Lee Schoenewe (+Neotropic Cormorant, +Townsend's Warbler)
- 343 Keith Dyche (+Townsend's Warbler, +Brown Booby)
- 332 Paul Hertzel

- 332 Bill Huser (+Glossy Ibis, +Pine Grosbeak)
- 331 Mary Lou Petersen
- 328 Paul Skrade (+Red Knot)
- 324 John Bissell
- 324 Mike Stephens
- 322 Vicky Stephens
- 322 Tyler Harms (+Golden Eagle, +Black-legged Kittiwake, +Iceland Gull)
- 319 Ed Thelen (+Townsend's Warbler)
- 316 Doug Harr
- 312 Mark Brown (+12)
- 310 Jeff Livingston (+Harlequin Duck, +Blue Grosbeak)
- 306 Rose Stone (+Harlequin Duck)
- 305 Gerald Von Ehwegen (+Glossy Ibis)
- 293 Linda Rudolph
- 267 David Shealer (+11)
- 232 Frederick Ruckersfeldt

IA Personally Found Lists

- 349 Stephen Dinsmore (+Brown Booby)
- 326 Jim Fuller
- 323 Ray Cummins
- 323 Lee Schoenewe (+Neotropic Cormorant)
- 317 Aaron Brees
- 316 Jay Gilliam (+Whimbrel)
- 310 Mark Proescholdt
- 310 Pam & Reid Allen
- 310 Keith Dyche
- 306 Tom Stone (+Piping Plover)
- 299 Paul Hertz
- 298 Matt Kenne
- 298 Paul Roisen
- 293 Rita Goranson
- 285 Bill Huser
- 213 Frederick Ruckersfeldt

Personally Found as a Pct of Personal State List

- 94.2% Lee Schoenewe
- 90.5% Ray Cummins
- 90.4% Keith Dyche
- 90.2% Stephen Dinsmore
- 90.1% Paul Hertz
- 86.8% Aaron Brees
- 86.3% Jay Gilliam
- 85.8% Bill Huser
- 84.4% Rita Goranson
- 83.4% Jim Fuller

No birders broke the coveted 300 mark for species in 2015, but Steve Dinsmore was close again with 294. Linda Rudolph led all veteran* birders in encountering 81% of the species on her life list during the calendar year. Jim Fuller somehow added another species, Greater White-fronted Goose, to his gold standard yard list.

2015 Annual Lists

- 294 Stephen Dinsmore
- 270 Ric Zarwell
- 269 Tommy Stone Jr.
- 269 Tom Stone Sr.
- 262 Pam & Reid Allen
- 262 Keith Dyche
- 254 Mark Proescholdt
- 252 John Bissell

- 249 Paul Roisen
- 246 Bill Scheible
- 246 Jay Gilliam
- 245 Lee Schoenewe
- 245 Ray Cummins
- 244 Rita Goranson
- 242 Mark Brown
- 239 Doug Harr
- 238 Linda Rudolph
- 236 Jim Fuller
- 234 David Shealer
- 222 Gerald Von Ehwegen
- 212 Frederick Ruckersfeldt

2015 Top Birders List * (percentage of life list seen in the year)

- 0.812 Linda Rudolph
- 0.778 John Bissell
- 0.778 Ric Zarwell
- 0.776 Mark Brown
- 0.764 Keith Dyche
- 0.760 Stephen Dinsmore
- 0.760 Tommy Stone
- 0.756 Doug Harr
- 0.717 Bill Scheible
- 0.714 Lee Schoenewe

*At least two years of reporting history

Yard Lists

- 213 Jim Fuller (Johnson Co) (+Greater White-fronted Goose)
- 203 Curt Nelson (Cerro Gordo Co)
- 196 Carolyn Fischer (Cerro Gordo Co)
- 193 Ed Thelen (Dickinson Co)
- 192 Stephen Dinsmore (Story Co)
- 190 Ric Zarwell (Allamakee Co)
- 189 Rita Goranson (Cerro Gordo Co)
- 187 Ann Johnson (Warren Co)
- 186 Matt Kenne (Kossuth Co)
- 183 Lee Schoenewe (Clay Co)
- 152 Mark Proescholdt (Marshall Co)
- 145 Tom Stone (Black Hawk Co)
- 140 Chris Edwards (Johnson Co)
- 133 Jay Gilliam (Warren Co)
- 127 Reid & Pam Allen (Dallas Co)
- 126 Keith Dyche (Page Co)
- 124 Jeff & Jenia Livingston (Ringgold Co)
- 119 John Bissell (Polk)
- 117 Thomas Johnson (Appanoose Co)
- 116 Bill Scheible (Linn County)
- 94 Doug Harr (Boone Co)
- 86 Tommy Stone (Black Hawk Co)

Below are some miscellaneous lists compiled and reported by IOU members in 2015. All suggestions are welcome along with explanations if technicalities of the category aren't evident.

2015 Biking Big Year

- 176 Jay Gilliam (1119 mi)

2015 Yard List

- 133 Steve Dinsmore

2015 Heard Bird Big Year (Birds Identified by Voice)

175 Chris Edwards

Following are the rules Chris set for himself: Must identify the bird by hearing a recognizable sound produced by the bird – song, call, drumming, etc. Many of the birds were also seen and identified visually, but I had to be able to answer this question affirmatively: “Would I have identified this bird without seeing it?”

Must hear the bird live in the field within the State of Iowa. Cannot use unattended recording of bird sounds for later identification, for example overnight recording of nocturnal flight calls.

Cannot use playback or vocal mimicry to elicit a response from a bird. I did sometimes listen to recordings, in the field or at home, to confirm the identify of a bird I heard, similar to how one would use a field guide.

Birds can be counted even if they are not identified to species, provided no other members of that group are counted. For example, I counted Snow/Ross’s Goose, gull species, hummingbird species, and longspur species.

2015 Big Days

There were three Big Days conducted in 2015, including first county Big Days for Winneshiek County and Dallas County. These bring the total to 38 Iowa counties now with at least one Big Day record.

| | | |
|-----|----------------|---|
| 160 | Statewide | 13 May 2015 Steve Dinsmore, Kevin Murphy, Coady Lundy |
| 133 | Winneshiek Co. | 14 May 2015 Larry Reis, Paul Hertzell |
| 99 | Dallas County | 06 May 2015 Pam & Reid Allen |

Iowa Record Big Days by Month

| | | |
|----------|-----|---|
| January | 78 | 31 Jan 2009 Stephen Dinsmore, Jay Gilliam |
| February | 76 | 25 Feb 2009 Jeff Livingston, Nathan Miller, Matthew Torres |
| March | 102 | 27 Mar 2009 J Fuller, C Fuller, J Rutenbeck |
| April | 141 | 29 Apr 1989 Stephen J Dinsmore, Paul Hertzell |
| May | 204 | 13 May 1996 Pete Petersen, Brian Blevins, Don Moeller |
| June | 135 | 1 Jun 2005 Danny Akers, Rita Goranson, Paul Hertzell |
| July | 120 | 28 Jul 2005 E & E Armstrong, Dennis Thompson |
| August | 136 | 26 Aug 2005 Lee Schoenewe, Ed Thelen |

| | | |
|-----------|-----|---|
| September | 135 | 5 Sep 1987 Steve Dinsmore, Jim Sinclair, Andrew Fix |
| October | 101 | 3 Oct 2008 Livingston, Livingston, Livingston, Miller, Miller, Wilson |
| November | 87 | 11 Nov 2003 Ed Thelen, Lee Schoenewe |
| December | 79 | 11 Dec 2012 Jim Fuller, Chuck Fuller, John Rutenbeck |

Iowa Record County Big Days

| | | |
|-------------|-----|---|
| Allamakee | 126 | 10 May 2003 Ric Zarwell, Betty Zarwell, Meliss Wolfe, Matt Paulson |
| Appanoose | 129 | 10 May 2009 T Johnson, V Stephens, M Stephens, R Cummins, D Teimeier, L Piatt, L Schwerdfeger |
| Audubon | 94 | 18 May 2013 Keith Dyche, Paul Roisen |
| Boone | 142 | 13 May 2009 Stephen Dinsmore, Jim Moreland |
| Cerro Gordo | 145 | 11 May, 2002 Paul Hertzell, Rita Goranson, Carolyn Fischer |
| Chickasaw | 109 | 14 May, 2011 Paul Hertzell, Mark Proescholdt |
| Clayton | 107 | 12 May 2007 Danny Akers, Julie Brazell |
| Clay | 148 | 09 May, 2004 Lee Schoenewe, Gary Grange, Pete Ernzen |
| Dallas | 99 | 06 May 2015 Pam Allen, Reid Allen |
| Davis | 94 | 7 May 2013 Paul Roisen, Tommy Stone Jr. |
| Decatur | 136 | 10 May 2009 Nathan Miller, Zack Miller, Ben Baldwin |
| Delaware | 102 | 9 May 2012 Chris Edwards, Bill Scheible |
| Dickinson | 152 | 14 May 2014 Lee Schoenewe, Ed Thelen |
| Emmet | 140 | 16 May 2007 Rita Goranson, Matt Kenne, Paul Hertzell |
| Floyd | 118 | 21 May 2005 Curt Nelson, Rita Goranson, Paul Hertzell |
| Fremont | 171 | 11 May, 1991 Steve Dinsmore, Ross Silcock, BJ Rose, Doug Rose |

| | | |
|------------|-----|---|
| Greene | 150 | 11 May 2007 Steve Dinsmore, Jay Gilliam |
| Guthrie | 147 | 11 May 2008 Jay Gilliam, Steve Dinsmore, Aaron Brees |
| Hamilton | 129 | 22 May 2014 Steve Dinsmore, Greg Hanson |
| Hancock | 141 | 09 May, 2005 Carolyn Fischer, Rita Goranson, Paul Hertzell |
| Howard | 95 | 24 May 2013 Tom Schilke, Paul Roisen |
| Johnson | 136 | 08 May, 2004 Tom Kent, Jim Fuller |
| Jones | 114 | 0 May 2013 Chris Edwards, Bill Scheible |
| Keokuk | 112 | 08 May 2009 Chris Edwards, Bill Scheible |
| Kossuth | 153 | 14 May, 2002 Matt Kenne, Paul Hertzell |
| Linn | 142 | 14 May 2009 Bill Scheible, Paul Hertzell |
| Marion | 141 | 10 May 2009 Stephen Dismore, Jay Gilliam |
| Marshall | 123 | 10 May, 2003 Mark Proescholdt, Paul Hertzell |
| Mitchell | 107 | 23 May, 2013 Paul Roisen, Tom Schilke |
| Polk | 173 | 17 May, 2009 Stephen Dinsmore, Jay Gilliam |
| Ringgold | 119 | 09 May 2009 Torre Hovick, Joseph Lautenback |
| Warren | 154 | 09 May, 2003 Aaron Brees, Jim Sinclair |
| Washington | 106 | 09 May, 2014 Chris Edwards, Bill Scheible |
| Winnebago | 127 | 09 May, 2004 Paul Hertzell, Rita Goranson |
| Winneshiek | 133 | 14 May, 2015 Paul Hertzell, Larry Reis |
| Woodbury | 165 | 08 May, 2004 Jerry Probst, Bob Livermore, Dave Stage |
| Worth | 136 | 13 May, 2003 Paul Hertzell, Rita Goranson |
| Wright | 119 | 14 May 2012 Rita Goranson, Carolyn Fischer |

Listing Guidelines

List totals are published here for current members of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union. Publishing totals provides a public exposure of birding activity for those who wish to participate. In doing so, birders see what is possible and some find motivation for getting out, looking for birds, and maybe exploring new areas. In turn, this generates data for field reports and adds to our knowledge of the distributions of birds in Iowa.

Lists, themselves, are not considered scientific data sets. Nevertheless, while members are encouraged to keep whatever personal lists they wish to, those submitted for publication here should conform to certain standards so that the totals are comparable across all contributors. Lists should be of live birds seen in Iowa and judged to be wild and of natural origin. Birds classified "casual" or "accidental" in Iowa should only appear on lists after the particular bird's presence has been reviewed and accepted by the records committee.

The **Iowa State Life List** is the list of all bird species seen in the state of Iowa and conforming to the standards above.

The **Personally Found List** is the subset of the Iowa State Life List in which species were personally found by the lister. "Personally found" means the lister found the representative bird with no prior knowledge, current or historical, of its presence. This list differs from all other IOU listing categories since, in other categories, a bird initially found by others may be counted on those lists.

The **Annual List** is the list of birds seen in the calendar year.

The **Yardlist** is the list of birds seen in or from the personal residence of the lister. A bird counts if it is seen on the property even though the observer may not have been on the property at the time, or if the bird is seen anywhere (e.g. in the sky) while the observer is present on the property. The totals in this category are difficult to compare, since not all properties are equal.

The **Big Day** is a list of birds seen in the course of a single day (midnight to midnight) by a group of people (more than one) in a particular geographic region. The IOU publishes any Big Days reported in Iowa, but keeps permanent records for County Big Days and record Big Days by month. Any Big Day conducted across more than one county is considered a statewide Big Day.

Due to limitations in space and time invested in compiling list information, the IOU publishes list totals, not the lists themselves. However, this does not mean that the contents of lists are protected or secret, and by participating, members agree to share this information upon request by the IOU or other listers.

2015 County Listing

At least 37 people shared individual totals for at least one county. Six birders, Pam Allen, Reid Allen, Steve Dinsmore, Jay Gilliam, Mark Proescholdt and Paul Roisen report having seen at least 50 species of birds in each of Iowa's 99 counties. Roisen joined Dinsmore as the only listers to see at least 100 species in every county, but has a way to go to achieve Steve's minimum count of 151 (Clayton County). Keith Dyche was the most active county lister in 2015, adding an amazing 1591 ticks to his totals.

Total Ticks

18,627 Stephen Dinsmore (+161)
13,037 Pam & Reid Allen (+41)
12,965 Mark Proescholdt (+115)
12,595 Paul Roisen (+549)
12,411 Jay Gilliam (+198)
12,043 Jim Dinsmore (+27)
8,889 Keith Dyche (+1591)

Top County Lists

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 333 Polk | Stephen Dinsmore |
| 330 Polk | Denny Thompson |
| 324 Johnson | Jim Fuller |
| 324 Polk | Pam & Reid Allen |
| 318 Johnson | Tom Kent |
| 316 Polk | Jay Gilliam |
| 315 Polk | Aaron Brees |
| 311 Johnson | Chris Edwards |
| 306 Cerro Gordo | Curt Nelson |
| 306 Black Hawk | Tom Stone |
| 303 Cerro Gordo | Carolyn Fischer |
| 302 Des Moines | Chuck Fuller |
| 301 Clay | Lee Schoenewe |

2015 County Listing

| | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| Adair 160 Stephen Dinsmore 125 Pam & Reid Allen 118 Keith Dyche 116 Jay Gilliam 107 Paul Roisen 60 Mark Proescholdt | Black Hawk 306 Tom Stone 221 Mary Lou Petersen 187 Mark Proescholdt 177 Stephen Dinsmore 128 Paul Roisen 120 Ray Cummins 117 Pam & Reid Allen 116 Jay Gilliam 105 Keith Dyche 100 Chris Edwards | Butler 214 Mark Proescholdt 175 Stephen Dinsmore 134 Rita Goranson 116 Jay Gilliam 104 Paul Roisen 102 Reid & Pam Allen 70 Keith Dyche | Cherokee 267 Dick Bierman 166 Stephen Dinsmore 146 Thomas Johnson 111 Paul Roisen 86 Jay Gilliam 71 Reid & Pam Allen 71 Keith Dyche 61 Mark Proescholdt | Crawford 166 Stephen Dinsmore 118 Jay Gilliam 105 Paul Roisen 100 Reid & Pam Allen 95 Keith Dyche 64 Mark Proescholdt | Des Moines 302 Chuck Fuller 262 John Rutenbeck 253 Jim Fuller 166 Stephen Dinsmore 152 Chris Edwards 103 Pam & Reid Allen 103 Paul Roisen 100 Jay Gilliam 91 Keith Dyche 61 Mark Proescholdt |
| Adams 158 Stephen Dinsmore 119 Jay Gilliam 119 Keith Dyche 106 Paul Roisen 102 Reid & Pam Allen 62 Mark Proescholdt | Boone 269 Stephen Dinsmore 250 Jim Dinsmore 247 Doug Harr 234 Reid & Pam Allen 233 Mark Proescholdt 158 Paul Skrade 153 Jay Gilliam 132 Keith Dyche 102 Paul Roisen 101 Chris Edwards | Calhoun 193 Stephen Dinsmore 160 Mark Proescholdt 130 Pam & Reid Allen 114 Thomas Johnson 112 Paul Roisen 105 Jay Gilliam 87 Keith Dyche | Chickasaw 176 Mark Proescholdt 175 Paul Hertzfel 162 Stephen Dinsmore 104 Paul Roisen 92 Pam & Reid Allen 73 Jay Gilliam | Dallas 250 Pam & Reid Allen 223 Stephen Dinsmore 210 Ray Cummins 203 Jay Gilliam 172 Mark Proescholdt 162 Jim Dinsmore 127 Keith Dyche 130 Paul Roisen | Dickinson 298 Lee Schoenewe 297 Ed Thelen 268 Doug Harr 235 Stephen Dinsmore 188 Jim Dinsmore 183 Jay Gilliam 179 Paul Roisen 170 Mark Proescholdt 142 Keith Dyche 141 Reid & Pam Allen 135 Rita Goranson 103 Chris Edwards |
| Allamakee 297 Ric Zarwell 189 Mark Proescholdt 173 Stephen Dinsmore 171 Rita Goranson 168 Chris Edwards 126 Keith Dyche 122 Jay Gilliam 121 Pam & Reid Allen 120 Ray Cummins 111 Paul Roisen 84 Paul Skrade | Bremer 244 Tom Stone 173 Mark Proescholdt 166 Stephen Dinsmore 131 Jay Gilliam 128 Paul Roisen 122 Chris Edwards 105 Pam & Reid Allen 98 Keith Dyche | Carroll 210 Stephen Dinsmore 188 Reid & Pam Allen 169 Mark Proescholdt 158 Jim Dinsmore 158 Paul Roisen 151 Jay Gilliam 83 Keith Dyche | Clarke 207 Jay Gilliam 178 Stephen Dinsmore 122 Reid & Pam Allen 102 Paul Roisen 82 Keith Dyche 62 Mark Proescholdt | Davis 176 Chris Edwards 157 Stephen Dinsmore 130 Ray Cummins 105 Jay Gilliam 104 Thomas Johnson 102 Keith Dyche 101 Paul Roisen 100 Reid & Pam Allen 65 Mark Proescholdt | Dubuque 246 David Shealer 175 Chris Edwards 165 Stephen Dinsmore 111 Paul Roisen 109 Pam & Reid Allen 87 Jay Gilliam 66 Mark Proescholdt |
| Annapoese 299 Ray Cummins 295 Thomas Johnson 221 Stephen Dinsmore 186 Reid & Pam Allen 184 Jay Gilliam 183 Mark Proescholdt 170 Keith Dyche 153 Chris Edwards 124 Paul Roisen | Buchanan 165 Mark Proescholdt 165 Stephen Dinsmore 125 Chris Edwards 101 Paul Roisen 81 Jay Gilliam 78 Reid & Pam Allen | Cass 158 Stephen Dinsmore 150 Pam & Reid Allen 139 Keith Dyche 128 Jay Gilliam 115 Paul Roisen 72 Mark Proescholdt | Clay 301 Lee Schoenewe 218 Stephen Dinsmore 163 Jim Dinsmore 156 Paul Roisen 100 Pam & Reid Allen 94 Mark Proescholdt 94 Keith Dyche 82 Jay Gilliam | Decatur 277 Jeffrey Livingston 171 Stephen Dinsmore 141 Paul Roisen 137 Pam & Reid Allen 129 Jay Gilliam 108 Keith Dyche 80 Mark Proescholdt | Emmet 224 Lee Schoenewe 197 Stephen Dinsmore 160 Paul Hertzfel 155 Rita Goranson 110 Paul Roisen 109 Jay Gilliam 100 Reid & Pam Allen 85 Mark Proescholdt 76 Keith Dyche |
| Audubon 178 Stephen Dinsmore 134 Jay Gilliam 125 Keith Dyche 116 Pam & Reid Allen 114 Paul Roisen 66 Mark Proescholdt | Buena Vista 202 Dick Bierman 195 Lee Schoenewe 178 Stephen Dinsmore 151 Thomas Johnson 112 Jay Gilliam 112 Paul Roisen 108 Pam & Reid Allen 93 Mark Proescholdt 81 Keith Dyche | Cedar 195 Chris Edwards 159 Stephen Dinsmore 103 Paul Roisen 93 Reid & Pam Allen 89 Jay Gilliam 64 Mark Proescholdt 57 Keith Dyche | Clayton 152 Mark Proescholdt 151 Stephen Dinsmore 112 Chris Edwards 109 Jay Gilliam 103 Reid & Pam Allen 100 Paul Roisen 58 Keith Dyche | Delaware 202 Bill Scheible 163 Mark Proescholdt 163 Chris Edwards 158 Stephen Dinsmore 106 Paul Roisen 87 Reid & Pam Allen 70 Jay Gilliam | Fayette 158 Stephen Dinsmore 155 Mark Proescholdt 138 Chris Edwards 118 Paul Skrade 103 Paul Roisen 92 Pam & Reid Allen 76 Jay Gilliam |
| Benton 179 Mark Proescholdt 160 Stephen Dinsmore 156 Chris Edwards 101 Paul Roisen 100 Reid & Pam Allen 73 Jay Gilliam | Cerro Gordo 306 Curt Nelson 303 Carolyn Fischer 295 Rita Goranson 287 Paul Hertzfel 216 Stephen Dinsmore 205 Mark Proescholdt 183 Paul Roisen 178 Pam & Reid Allen 175 Jim Dinsmore 123 Jay Gilliam 53 Keith Dyche | Clinton 210 Mary Lou Petersen 176 Stephen Dinsmore 173 Chris Edwards 127 Pam & Reid Allen 123 Paul Roisen 109 Jay Gilliam 83 Mark Proescholdt 81 Keith Dyche | | | |

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|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Floyd 203 Paul Hertzell 185 Rita Goranson 164 Stephen Dinsmore 110 Jay Gilliam 102 Paul Roisen 83 Mark Proescholdt 73 Reid & Pam Allen | Hardin 270 Mark Proescholdt 202 Stephen Dinsmore 140 Reid & Pam Allen 136 Jay Gilliam 113 Paul Roisen 86 Keith Dyche | Jefferson 166 Chris Edwards 162 Stephen Dinsmore 104 Jay Gilliam 103 Pam & Reid Allen 103 Paul Roisen 62 Mark Proescholdt 50 Keith Dyche | Louis 273 Jim Fuller 213 Chris Edwards 172 Stephen Dinsmore 166 Bill Scheible 151 Mary Lou Petersen 138 Reid & Pam Allen 136 Paul Roisen 106 Mark Proescholdt 100 Jay Gilliam 54 Keith Dyche | Mitchell 189 Paul Hertzell 175 Rita Goranson 154 Stephen Dinsmore 107 Paul Roisen 104 Jay Gilliam 88 Reid & Pam Allen 86 Mark Proescholdt | Palo Alto 252 Lee Schoenewe 194 Stephen Dinsmore 122 Ray Cummins 110 Paul Roisen 106 Jay Gilliam 103 Reid & Pam Allen 102 Keith Dyche 85 Mark Proescholdt |
| Franklin 216 Mark Proescholdt 212 Stephen Dinsmore 151 Rita Goranson 137 Pam & Reid Allen 129 Jay Gilliam 118 Paul Roisen | Harrison 184 Stephen Dinsmore 167 Gerald Von Ehwegen 144 Paul Roisen 110 Pam & Reid Allen 110 Keith Dyche 108 Jay Gilliam 94 Mark Proescholdt | Johnson 324 Jim Fuller 318 Tom Kent 311 Chris Edwards 271 Bill Scheible 263 Mark Johnson 208 Frederick Ruckersfeldt 207 Paul Roisen 193 Reid & Pam Allen 192 Mark Proescholdt 186 Stephen Dinsmore 172 Jim Dinsmore 165 Jay Gilliam 132 Keith Dyche 123 Ray Cummins | Lucas 243 Aaron Brees 183 Stephen Dinsmore 181 Pam & Reid Allen 176 Ray Cummins 175 Jay Gilliam 164 Mark Proescholdt 122 Paul Roisen 118 Keith Dyche | Monona 209 Gerald Von Ehwegen 207 Stephen Dinsmore 183 Paul Roisen 126 Jay Gilliam 115 Pam & Reid Allen 104 Keith Dyche 88 Mark Proescholdt | Plymouth 211 Bill Huser 195 Paul Roisen 176 Gerald Von Ehwegen 166 Stephen Dinsmore 108 Jay Gilliam 80 Pam & Reid Allen 72 Keith Dyche 67 Mark Proescholdt |
| Fremont 279 Keith Dyche 269 Stephen Dinsmore 215 Mark Proescholdt 210 Paul Roisen 209 Jay Gilliam 207 Reid & Pam Allen 178 Ray Cummins 127 Chris Edwards | Henry 163 Chris Edwards 157 Stephen Dinsmore 102 Paul Roisen 101 Reid & Pam Allen 82 Jay Gilliam 63 Mark Proescholdt 60 Keith Dyche | Jones 208 Chris Edwards 163 Stephen Dinsmore 144 Bill Scheible 110 Paul Roisen 100 Pam & Reid Allen 91 Mark Proescholdt 72 Jay Gilliam | Lyon 187 Doug Harr 168 Stephen Dinsmore 104 Paul Roisen 86 Keith Dyche 69 Jay Gilliam 68 Reid & Pam Allen 61 Mark Proescholdt | Monroe 155 Stephen Dinsmore 114 Reid & Pam Allen 120 Jay Gilliam 108 Paul Roisen 100 Keith Dyche 60 Mark Proescholdt | Pocahontas 213 Ray Cummins 201 Stephen Dinsmore 129 Reid & Pam Allen 128 Jay Gilliam 116 Thomas Johnson 105 Paul Roisen 88 Keith Dyche 71 Mark Proescholdt |
| Greene 251 Stephen Dinsmore 212 Pam & Reid Allen 201 Jay Gilliam 199 Jim Dinsmore 187 Mark Proescholdt 136 Doug Harr 107 Paul Roisen 81 Keith Dyche | Howard 175 Paul Hertzell 163 Stephen Dinsmore 138 Rita Goranson 110 Paul Roisen 90 Pam & Reid Allen 89 Jay Gilliam 83 Mark Proescholdt | Keokuk 186 Chris Edwards 184 Bill Scheible 160 Stephen Dinsmore 103 Jay Gilliam 100 Reid & Pam Allen 135 Paul Roisen 84 Mark Proescholdt | Madison 207 Pam & Reid Allen 201 Jay Gilliam 163 Stephen Dinsmore 152 Mark Proescholdt 111 Paul Roisen 109 Keith Dyche | Montgomery 189 Keith Dyche 157 Stephen Dinsmore 117 Jay Gilliam 109 Pam & Reid Allen 102 Paul Roisen 64 Mark Proescholdt | Polk 333 Stephen Dinsmore 330 Denny Thompson 324 Pam & Reid Allen 316 Jay Gilliam 315 Aaron Brees 279 Mark Proescholdt 276 Ray Cummins 265 Jim Dinsmore 259 Paul Roisen 244 Ann Johnson 231 Keith Dyche 215 Doug Harr 203 Paul Skrade 156 Chris Edwards 128 Frederick Ruckersfeldt |
| Grundy 221 Mark Proescholdt 185 Stephen Dinsmore 130 Reid & Pam Allen 103 Jay Gilliam 103 Paul Roisen 67 Keith Dyche | Humboldt 198 Stephen Dinsmore 117 Jay Gilliam 104 Reid & Pam Allen 104 Paul Roisen 64 Mark Proescholdt 60 Keith Dyche | Kossuth 287 Matt Kenne 211 Stephen Dinsmore 207 Paul Hertzell 204 Rita Goranson 175 Mark Proescholdt 155 Pam & Reid Allen 153 Jay Gilliam 150 Paul Roisen 118 Keith Dyche | Mahaska 177 Stephen Dinsmore 170 Mark Proescholdt 136 Jay Gilliam 128 Chris Edwards 119 Paul Roisen 117 Reid & Pam Allen 113 Keith Dyche | Muscatine 230 Mary Lou Petersen 177 Chris Edwards 157 Stephen Dinsmore 122 Paul Roisen 105 Reid & Pam Allen 98 Jay Gilliam 83 Mark Proescholdt 60 Keith Dyche | Pottawattamie 238 Babs Padelford 237 Loren Padelford 230 Keith Dyche 219 Paul Roisen 217 Stephen Dinsmore 167 Reid & Pam Allen 156 Jay Gilliam 132 Mark Proescholdt |
| Guthrie 259 Stephen Dinsmore 228 Pam & Reid Allen 213 Ray Cummins 205 Mark Proescholdt 176 Jay Gilliam 169 Jim Dinsmore 123 Paul Roisen 123 Keith Dyche | Ida 174 Stephen Dinsmore 148 Paul Roisen 103 Jay Gilliam 103 Pam & Reid Allen 64 Keith Dyche 63 Mark Proescholdt | Lee 252 Stephen Dinsmore 224 Chris Edwards 193 Ray Cummins 187 Paul Roisen 184 Thomas Johnson 173 Jay Gilliam 167 Reid & Pam Allen 158 Mark Proescholdt 152 Keith Dyche | Marion 295 Stephen Dinsmore 281 Aaron Brees 266 Jay Gilliam 236 Pam & Reid Allen 229 Mark Proescholdt 213 Ray Cummins 178 Jim Dinsmore 164 Ann Johnson 155 Paul Roisen 132 Keith Dyche 122 Chris Edwards | O'Brien 218 Lee Schoenewe 166 Stephen Dinsmore 111 Paul Roisen 73 Jay Gilliam 65 Pam & Reid Allen 61 Mark Proescholdt 57 Keith Dyche | Osceola 175 Stephen Dinsmore 104 Lee Schoenewe 104 Paul Roisen 74 Jay Gilliam 62 Mark Proescholdt 59 Reid & Pam Allen 57 Keith Dyche |
| Hamilton 261 Stephen Dinsmore 230 Mark Proescholdt 226 Dennis Carter 184 Jim Dinsmore 179 Reid & Pam Allen 130 Paul Roisen 128 Jay Gilliam 126 Doug Harr 68 Keith Dyche | Iowa 230 Chris Edwards 168 Stephen Dinsmore 158 Mark Proescholdt 143 Reid & Pam Allen 116 Jay Gilliam 108 Paul Roisen 57 Keith Dyche | Marshall 281 Mark Proescholdt 204 Stephen Dinsmore 171 Reid & Pam Allen 132 Jay Gilliam 113 Paul Roisen 109 Chris Edwards 67 Keith Dyche | Mills 228 Keith Dyche 193 Stephen Dinsmore 140 Pam & Reid Allen 130 Paul Roisen 128 Jay Gilliam 78 Mark Proescholdt | Page 274 Keith Dyche 175 Stephen Dinsmore 127 Jay Gilliam 119 Pam & Reid Allen 107 Paul Roisen 71 Mark Proescholdt | Ringgold 190 Jeff Livingston 165 Stephen Dinsmore 139 Keith Dyche 116 Jay Gilliam 114 Reid & Pam Allen 109 Paul Roisen 84 Mark Proescholdt |
| Hancock 231 Rita Goranson 223 Paul Hertzell 213 Stephen Dinsmore 174 Mark Proescholdt 166 Paul Roisen 164 Pam & Reid Allen 160 Jim Dinsmore 139 Jay Gilliam 110 Keith Dyche | Jackson 198 David Shealer 188 Chris Edwards 164 Stephen Dinsmore 102 Paul Roisen 101 Pam & Reid Allen 99 Jay Gilliam 77 Mark Proescholdt | Linn 277 Bill Scheible 236 Chris Edwards 179 Mark Proescholdt 169 Stephen Dinsmore 141 Pam & Reid Allen 139 Paul Roisen 63 Jay Gilliam | | | |
| | Jasper 226 Mark Proescholdt 182 Stephen Dinsmore 166 Reid & Pam Allen 134 Jay Gilliam 110 Chris Edwards 107 Paul Roisen 92 Keith Dyche | | | | |

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|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| Sac 178 Paul Roisen 177 Stephen Dinsmore 164 Pam & Reid Allen 160 Mark Proescholdt 155 Keith Dyche 125 Jay Gilliam | Story 299 Stephen Dinsmore 273 Jim Dinsmore 261 Mark Proescholdt 219 Pam & Reid Allen 193 Paul Skrade 177 Doug Harr 148 Jay Gilliam 143 Paul Roisen 136 Keith Dyche 108 Chris Edwards | Van Buren 202 Chris Edwards 195 Ray Cummins 177 Stephen Dinsmore 162 Mark Proescholdt 161 Thomas Johnson 116 Jay Gilliam 114 Pam & Reid Allen 114 Paul Roisen 106 Keith Dyche | Washington 181 Chris Edwards 153 Stephen Dinsmore 106 Paul Roisen 104 Reid & Pam Allen 98 Jay Gilliam 69 Mark Proescholdt 67 Keith Dyche | Winnebago 214 Rita Goranson 182 Paul Hertzal 180 Stephen Dinsmore 162 Pam & Reid Allen 109 Paul Roisen 108 Jay Gilliam 82 Keith Dyche 80 Mark Proescholdt | Worth 252 Curt Nelson 241 Paul Hertzal 236 Rita Goranson 164 Stephen Dinsmore 128 Reid & Pam Allen 117 Paul Roisen 101 Jay Gilliam 77 Mark Proescholdt |
| Scott 291 Mary Lou Petersen 195 Paul Roisen 183 Stephen Dinsmore 170 Chris Edwards 154 Reid & Pam Allen 134 Ray Cummins 116 Jay Gilliam 102 Mark Proescholdt 68 Keith Dyche | Tama 263 Mark Proescholdt 207 Stephen Dinsmore 155 Chris Edwards 145 Reid & Pam Allen 127 Jay Gilliam 111 Paul Roisen 81 Keith Dyche | Wapello 175 Chris Edwards 168 Thomas Johnson 160 Stephen Dinsmore 133 Ray Cummins 106 Reid & Pam Allen 104 Jay Gilliam 102 Paul Roisen 89 Mark Proescholdt 89 Keith Dyche | Wayne 228 Aaron Brees 164 Ray Cummins 164 Thomas Johnson 162 Stephen Dinsmore 114 Pam & Reid Allen 107 Jay Gilliam 106 Paul Roisen 88 Keith Dyche 63 Mark Proescholdt | Winneshiek 261 Dennis Carter 231 Tex Sordahl 203 Ric Zarwell 158 Stephen Dinsmore 153 Mark Proescholdt 149 Paul Hertzal 135 Paul Skrade 128 Paul Roisen 106 Reid & Pam Allen 103 Jay Gilliam 94 Rita Goranson 85 Keith Dyche | Wright 250 Stephen Dinsmore 174 Rita Goranson 173 Jim Dinsmore 172 Mark Proescholdt 135 Pam & Reid Allen 114 Jay Gilliam 102 Paul Roisen |
| Shelby 172 Stephen Dinsmore 139 Jay Gilliam 128 Keith Dyche 114 Pam & Reid Allen 104 Paul Roisen 72 Mark Proescholdt | Taylor 161 Stephen Dinsmore 160 Keith Dyche 123 Jay Gilliam 115 Paul Roisen 103 Pam & Reid Allen 63 Mark Proescholdt | Warren 277 Jay Gilliam 260 Aaron Brees 258 Ann Johnson 246 Pam & Reid Allen 211 Stephen Dinsmore 201 Mark Proescholdt 152 Paul Roisen 126 Ray Cummins 102 Keith Dyche | Webster 232 Stephen Dinsmore 178 Thomas Johnson 167 Mark Proescholdt 128 Jay Gilliam 124 Webster 120 Reid & Pam Allen 113 Paul Roisen 83 Keith Dyche | Woodbury 299 Bill Huser 281 Paul Roisen 279 Gerald Von Ehwegen 191 Stephen Dinsmore 156 Mark Proescholdt 126 Pam & Reid Allen 122 Jay Gilliam 93 Keith Dyche | |
| Sioux 169 Stephen Dinsmore 147 Paul Roisen 82 Jay Gilliam 73 Mark Proescholdt 68 Reid & Pam Allen | Union 210 Stephen Dinsmore 168 Jay Gilliam 144 Keith Dyche 142 Reid & Pam Allen 122 Jeff Livingston 116 Paul Roisen 69 Mark Proescholdt | | | | |

IOU News – the End of an Era

By Ann Johnson for the IOU Publications Committee

In 1985 Hank and Linda Zaletel launched the very first IOU newsletter as a means to communicate with the membership about upcoming activities, special birding events, and stories about birds and birding. The intent was to supplement Iowa Bird Life with less technical information of interest to all. The Zaletels remained as editors for 16 years!

In 2001 the editorship was capably assumed by Paul Hertzal until the Spring 2008 when, as co-editor with Harley Winfrey, Paul began to transition out of these responsibilities. This transition came to an abrupt halt when Harley's employment took him out of state so Hertzal remained as temporary editor until the fall of 2009 when Bill Scheible graciously agreed to become a temporary co-editor with Paul. Bill solicited and wrote the content while Paul took on the responsibility of the layout and printing.

By the summer of 2010 the publications committee had finally achieved finding permanent co-editors, John and Anna Bissell. With John as the active IOU member and birder and Anna skilled in creating print publications, IOU News was in good hands. This issue, however, is their final effort as well as the final issue of the IOU newsletter. For that reason, it is being mailed to all members.

When John and Anna submitted their resignation this spring, it became a time for the publications committee to assess our current publications. Like the RBA phone line in the past, had other communication venues now replaced the original need for IOU News? That sense of an Iowa birding community that was fostered through the newsletter has become more fragmented but may also be reaching more people today. We now have the website and listserv; an IOU Facebook

page and Twitter account. Even our own newsletter, which was designed to be a printed document delivered to a mailbox, is now read on-line by a majority of our members. We live in an age of instant communication so getting contributions of articles for publication has become more and more difficult over the past several years and is probably the single largest frustration of a newsletter editor. Our conclusion was that rather than spend the money on expensive publishing software and finding a new editor with specialized publishing skills, it was time to put IOU News to bed for the last time.

There are some exciting new projects in front of us, however. Since all but 26 IOU members have email addresses, most members will begin receiving regular and short e-newsletters with items of interest from our new communications committee. If you are one of those 26, maybe you can find a friend who is willing to let you use their email and print you a copy. Of course making certain your email is current is of utmost importance as well. Login to the IOU website and check it or send your current email to Cecille Thompson <cecillethompson@gmail.com> who can update it for you. Using electrons for communication saves trees, money (which can be used for our great projects), and time. Physical mailing will now be limited to meeting registration forms sent to only those with no other way to receive that information.

The next time you see one of these people, be sure to thank them for their fantastic years of service to you – the IOU membership: Hank and Linda Zaletel, Paul Hertzal, Harley Winfrey, Bill Scheible, John and Anna Bissell.

A Compiled List of Bird Blinds and Viewing Platforms Across Iowa

By Rick Hollis

Blinds and platforms are great places to watch birds. From blinds, you can watch birds without them being alerted to your presence. Platforms give us an area to watch birds with better footing and sometimes seating. Here is a collection of sites in Iowa with blinds. I have not been to most of these locations so all of the information is just from notes. If errors are corrected or gaps filled, I will keep this database running and look into putting it on the web.

There are three parts to this list.

Part One is blinds. Blinds vary a good deal. Some have seats and some do not. Some have feeders which are always filled with seed. Some do not.

Part Two represents open viewing platforms that are good for viewing birds at longer distances with a scope or binoculars.

Part three is a "Wish List", meaning places that would benefit greatly from having a blind or viewing platform.

| Site | Near | Seed | Seats | Waterfowl? | Managed by & notes |
|--|----------------------|------|---------|------------|--|
| Benton Co Nature Center | Vinton | | | | |
| Calkins Nature Center | Iowa Falls | no | | | |
| Camp Cardinal Road | Coralville | no | yes | | |
| Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt | | yes | yes | | |
| Coralville Dam Veterans Trail, West Overlook | | no | yes | | |
| DeSoto Bend NWR visitor's center | DeSoto Bend NWR | yes | yes | yes | dead deer for eagles |
| Discovery Park in | Muscatine | rare | | | |
| Don Williams Park | | | | | |
| Fontana Nature Center | | | | | |
| George Wyth State Park | | yes | yes | | |
| Prairie Rapids Audubon Society | | | | | |
| Hartman Reserve Nature Center | Cedar Falls | | | | |
| Prairie Rapids Audubon Society | | | | | |
| Heery Woods Nature Center | | | | | |
| Hurstville Interpretative Center | Maquoketa | | | yes | |
| Isacc Walton League | Vinton | yes | yes | | |
| Jester Park | | yes | no | | closed in winter |
| Kent Park | near Oxford | yes | yes | | |
| Johnson Co Conservation | | | | | |
| Kirkwood C C, Swan Pond | Cedar Rapids | yes | yes | | behind the Iowa Equestrian Center on 76th Ave SW |
| Kuehn Conservation Area in | | | | | |
| Lacey-Keosauqua SP | | | | | |
| Lake Iowa CP | | | | | |
| Lime Cr NC | Mason City | | | | |
| Lost Island Lake | | | | yes | |
| Macbride Nature Recreation Area | | yes | yes | | |
| MacFarland McFarland Park | Ames | rare | | | |
| Marr Park near | Ainsworth | rare | | | |
| Maskunky Marsh in | | | | yes | |
| McIntosh SP | | | | yes | |
| Meyer Lake | Calmar | | | | |
| Moorehead Park | | | yes | | Ida County Conservation |
| Nahant M | Davenport | | no | yes | |
| New Haven Potholes | | | | yes | |
| Pammel State Park | | | | | |
| Silver Sioux CP | Cherokee | yes | | yes | |
| Swan L | | | | | |
| Walnut Woods State Park | West Des Moines area | yes | | | on Riverside Trail |
| Whiterock Conservancy | | | | | |
| Wickiup Hill | Cedar Rapids | yes | not yet | | |

Iowa Ornithologists' Union
1201 High Avenue West
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Iowa Ornithologists' Union

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