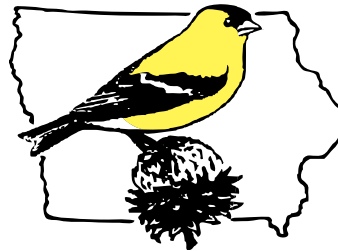


# IOU News

Spring 2012  Volume 28 - Number 1



## 2012 IOU Spring Meeting Iowa City, May 18th - 20th, 2012

The Iowa City area has historically been a great place to experience spring migration and this year should be no exception. Our meeting should coincide with primo time to maybe find Connecticut Warbler at Hickory Hill Park. Other special birds not seen just anywhere include Eurasian Tree Sparrow and maybe, just maybe, another Black Rail will sound off this spring. Field trips are scheduled to include a variety of habitats so get ready for migrating passerines and shorebirds as well as breeding species beginning to settle in for the summer.

The meeting will be held in three different locations in the Iowa City area so pay particular attention to the locations in the schedule and see map below. Our Friday night social will be held at the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History, Macbride Hall on the Pentacrest in downtown Iowa City. Here we will have the opportunity to see the results of the major renovations to Bird Hall and its historical exhibits. One of the featured exhibits is the The Laysan Island Cyclorama. The Laysan Island Cyclorama <http://www.iowalum.com/magazine/aug96/birds.cfm> in Bird Hall of the Museum of Natural History on the campus of The University of Iowa is going to be 100 years old in 2014. There is a video incorporating the collection of the specimens for the exhibit the first of its kind (cyclorama) with current footage. In 1908, 8 million birds were breeding on the island. Then a catastrophe struck when the release of rabbits nearly destroyed the entire vegetative habitat. The University of Iowa Museum was in a race to document this breeding colony before all the bird species went extinct. In 1914 the exhibit opened and in 1923 the rabbits were all removed from the island. Several bird species, however, were now extinct. Come



see this extraordinary exhibit and make a donation on Friday night for the restoration, tax documents will be available for donors. The rest of the meeting, with the exception of our final meal and compilation, will be held at Montgomery Hall at the Johnson County Fairgrounds (4261 Oak Crest Hill Rd. SE). We conclude Sunday noon at the Conservation Education Center in Kent Park 3 miles west of Tiffin on Highway 6.

### Keynote Speaker

**Alvaro Jaramillo, Half Moon Bay, CA**

*Birding outside the Box - How to bird like a Pro!*

Most bird identification lectures focus on field marks, and the specifics of separating Species A from Species B. Few ask exactly how we identify birds. What is our brain going through in order to do this? How does our brain get tripped up during bird identification? Have you ever

## IOU News

is a quarterly publication of the Publications Committee of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union.

### IOU News Editor:

John Bissell  
328 SE Cedarwood Dr  
Grimes, IA 50111-1142  
[john.annabissell@gmail.com](mailto:john.annabissell@gmail.com)

### IOU News Layout:

Anna Bissell  
328 SE Cedarwood Dr  
Grimes, IA 50111-1142  
[john.annabissell@gmail.com](mailto:john.annabissell@gmail.com)

### IOU Publications Committee:

Ann Johnson, Chair  
James J Dinsmore  
Stephen J Dinsmore  
Bill Scheible  
John Bissell

### IOU News issues:

- (1) Spring: Published approximately mid-March, depending on date of annual spring meeting.
- (2) Summer: Published late June or early July.
- (3) Fall: Published late August or early September, depending on date of fall meeting.
- (4) Winter: Published late November.

### IOU Journal:

*Iowa Bird Life*  
Stephen J. Dinsmore, Editor  
[cootjr@iastate.edu](mailto:cootjr@iastate.edu)

### Website:

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

### IOU Membership / Subscriptions:

Doug Hunt  
1201 High Avenue W  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
<http://www.iowabirds.org/>

*this newsletter was mailed to 311 members.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

encountered the “leaf bird” the “branch bird” or, worst of all, “the plastic bag snowy owl?” Why do experts identify birds almost without thinking, while the rest of us need to struggle? Are they different from the rest of us, or are there tricks? The truth is that bird identification is pretty tricky stuff, but our brains are wired to shortcut much of the thinking involved in doing it. The trick is training yourself to do it like a pro and get your brain to switch on those short cuts! That is the aim of this presentation: a lighthearted but informative explanation of how the heck the pros do it, and how our brain identifies birds. Some of what you see here will be common sense, some may seem like non-sense, and some will just plain old surprise you.

Alvaro Jaramillo was born in Chile but began birding in Toronto, where he lived as a youth. He was trained in ecology and evolution with a particular interest in bird behavior. Research forays and backpacking trips introduced Alvaro to the riches of the Neotropics, where he has traveled extensively. He is the author of the Birds of Chile, an authoritative yet portable field guide to Chile's birds, he also authored the “Helm” guide to New World Blackbirds. Alvaro writes the Identify Yourself column in Bird Watcher's Digest. Among various projects he has written part of the Emberizid sparrow chapter for the Handbook of Birds of the World, and is writing a photo guide to the birds and wildlife of Patagonia. He runs a birding and nature tour company Alvaro's Adventures, where the focus is to have fun, learn a thing or two, and truly enjoy nature. Trips are international and include a schedule of Northern California pelagic trips. Alvaro lives with his family in Half Moon Bay, California where he loves the gull watching!

## Slate of Officers

The IOU Nominations Committee offers the following Slate of Officers

*Secretary:* Stuart Sparkman  
*Treasurer:* Mary Beth Hunt (with understanding that Doug Hunt's company will still manage IOU's business)  
*Board member:* Jay Gilliam  
*Board member:* Dennis Thompson  
*Board member:* Karen Viste-Sparkman

Respectfully submitted by: John Rutenbeck, Mark Proescholdt, Sharon Stilwell

## Schedule of Events

### FRIDAY, May 18

Hageboeck Hall [Bird Hall] in Macbride Hall, Univ. of Iowa  
Museum of Natural History

- 5:00 - 8:30 PM Registration  
 7:00 PM Special Presentation  
 Annotated References to Iowa Birds Prior to  
 1900 - Tom Kent

### SATURDAY, May 19

Montgomery Hall Johnson County Fairgrounds

- 6:00 A.M. Breakfast  
 7:00 A.M. Field trips depart  
 12:30 P.M. Board Meeting  
 1:30 PM Field trips return  
 1:45 PM **Working With Beginners,  
 It's Easier Than You Think!**  
 Panel: Rick Hollis, Doug Harr, Lee  
 Schoenewe, Carl Bendorf, Alvaro Jaramillo  
 2:30 PM **American Journey - an exploration of the  
 American continent through a look at the  
 blackbird-oriole family**  
 Alvaro Jaramillo  
 3:15 PM **Chimney Swifts:  
 The Mysterious Bird of the Fireplace**  
 Ron Windingstad  
 3:45 PM **BBA Last Season Update**  
 Shane Patterson  
 4:00 PM IOU Membership Meeting  
 Special Presentation  
 Iowa Young Birders - Carl Bendorf  
 6:00 PM Group Photo - courtesy of Iowa City Bird Club  
 6:30 PM Banquet  
 7:30 PM Keynote Address  
**Birding outside the Box -  
 How to bird like a Pro!**  
 Alvaro Jaramillo

### SUNDAY, May 20

Montgomery Hall, Johnson County Fairgrounds

- 6:00 A.M. Breakfast  
 7:00 A.M. Field trips depart  
 12:00 Noon Lunch & compilation

## Lodging Options

Blocks of rooms at a reduced price are being held at the following motels until the date noted for each. Mention that you are with the Iowa Ornithologists' Union to get this special rate.

### Hampton Inn, 1200 1st Ave., Coralville

319-351-6600 or 800-HAMPTON  
 \$99.00 plus 12% tax  
 Call by May 4th

### Holiday Inn, 1220 1st Ave., Coralville

319-351-5049 or 800-HOLIDAY  
 \$84.00 plus 12% tax  
 Call by May 4th

### Heartland Inn, 87 2nd St., Coralville

319-351-8132 or 800-334-3277  
 \$89.99 plus 12% tax  
 Call by May 10th

### Clarion Highlander Hotel, 2525 N. Dodge St., Iowa City

319-354-2000  
 \$94.99 plus 12% tax  
 Call by May 4th

### Super 8, 611 1st Avenue, Coralville

319-337-8388  
 \$65.00 plus 12% tax  
 Call by May 15th

## Camping:

### Johnson County Fairgrounds (4261 Oak Crest Hill Rd. SE)

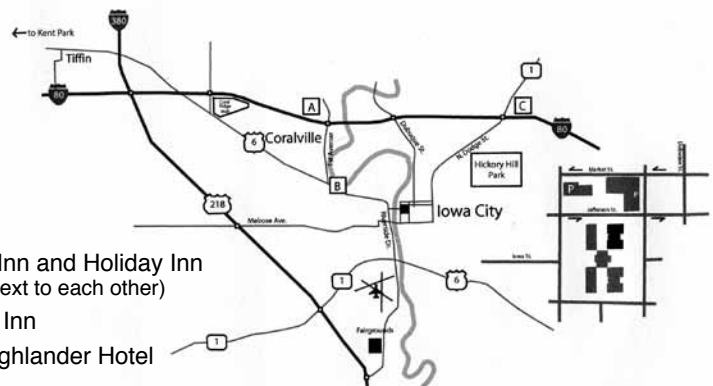
\$10.00/night tent or RV (no elec hook-up)  
 Grassy area to the south of buildings for tents  
 RVs park in lot  
 Showers and restrooms in Bldg C with outside entrance  
 No reservations

### Kent Park

\$15.00/night for tent or RV with elec hook-up and \$10.00 for non-electric.  
 Showers  
 No reservations  
 Lake Macbride State Park

## Map Legend

- A** Hampton Inn and Holiday Inn  
 (They are next to each other)  
**B** Heartland Inn  
**C** Clarion Highlander Hotel



---

---

# 2012 IOU Spring Meeting – Iowa City

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### On-line registration:

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

Make checks payable to: **Iowa Ornithologists' Union**

Mail to: Tom Schilke  
1432 Liberty Ave  
Waterloo, IA 50702

---

### Mail-in registration:

#### 2012 IOU Spring Meeting Registration Form

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

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include first and last names of all persons registering on this form)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

		No. of Persons		Total Cost
<b>Registration Fee:</b>	\$20.00	x _____	= \$	_____
<b>Meals</b>				
Sat. Breakfast:	\$ 9.00	x _____	= \$	_____
Sat. Lunch:	\$ 6.50	x _____	= \$	_____
Sat. Banquet:	\$ 16.50	x _____	= \$	_____
Sun. Breakfast:	\$ 9.00	x _____	= \$	_____
Sun. Lunch:	\$ 6.50	x _____	= \$	_____

Meatless Option? Please check here \_\_\_\_\_.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total

---

---

# New Historical Reference On Iowa's Birds Now Available

## *Annotated References to Iowa Birds Prior to 1900*

by Thomas H. Kent, assisted by  
Dominic McCaffrey.

This perfect-bound, 125-page booklet is based on Paul Bartsch's 1899 Masters Degree thesis with added annotation, mini-biographies, and historical commentary. Copies of almost all of the articles and books will be preserved at the State Historical Society in Iowa City. Bartsch had 653 citations, and 223 that he missed or that were published later are added. The bulk of the thesis was a listing of references by species. A compiled list of Bartsch's species with first records and citations is appended.

### **Availability**

A limited edition of 50 copies will be available for \$25 each in advance or at the Spring Meeting of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union. To assure a copy mail a check by April 30<sup>th</sup> for \$25 made out to "IOU Publication Enhancement Fund" to T. H. Kent, 1 Oaknoll Ct., Iowa City, IA 52246. Booklets will be distributed at the IOU meeting or mailed if not picked up. Include your e-mail address if you want confirmation or future updates. This booklet is printed privately with total proceeds donated to the IOU Publication Enhancement Fund. Consider donating a copy to a college or library.

### **Reviews**

Paul Bartsch's bibliography to articles published on Iowa birds prior to 1900 provides a fascinating window into the birds that early settlers and scientists found in Iowa in an era before the state was changed so dramatically by settlement. Long unavailable, Tom Kent has added additional references and made the bibliography available to modern birders and scientists. The short annotations for each article capture how different it must have been in those days and how much Iowa's birdlife has changed. A must for anyone interested on the historical status of Iowa's birds.

---

Jim Dinsmore

This manuscript was very interesting to me. I really enjoyed reading it. There was an unbelievable amount of research, organization, and writing involved. It should be extremely valuable historically. I'm not sure it is for the general public's consumption, but certain individuals should be interested in having a copy as well as supporting the project financially.

---

Jim Fuller

20 collections of personal bird records are now permanently archived at the State Historical Society of Iowa in Iowa City. Catalogs including biographies and content description are available on the internet. <http://www.iowahistory.org>. Click on "Collection Catalog" in the upper right of screen search on Iowa Ornithologists, and cursor to your choice. Mary Bennett of the SHS will be available Friday evening to answer questions.

---

---

# Iowa 2011 Listing and Big Day Totals

Paul Hertzel

It was a slow year for many birders, with only a few opportunities to add new birds to their Iowa life lists. Neither Jim Fuller nor Tom Kent increased their state totals, and remained slightly ahead of four people tied at 381. In that group, only the Allens added a species, Black Rail. Just behind these six, Ann Johnson added both the Black Rail and a yard Black-headed Grosbeak to inch up to 378.

Keith Dyche added the most to his state list in 2011, 9 new species. He also recorded the highest percentage of his state list during the calendar year, .844, while Steve Dinsmore recorded the most species, 292, in 2011. Dyche and Dinsmore are the *IOU News* **Top Birders for 2011**.

All totals listed below are current through December 31, 2011, and do not include additions from 2012.

## Iowa State Life Lists

388 Jim Fuller  
386 Tom Kent  
381 Reid & Pam Allen  
381 Stephen Dinsmore  
381 Chuck Fuller  
378 Ann Johnson  
377 Mark Proescholdt  
374 Jim Sinclair  
370 Denny Thompson  
368 John Rutenbeck  
365 Pete Wickham  
361 Chris Edwards  
361 Aaron Brees  
358 Jay Gilliam  
355 Jim Dinsmore  
352 Ray Cummins  
349 Curt Nelson  
348 Danny Akers  
347 Paul Roisen  
346 Babs Padelford  
345 Rita Goranson  
344 Loren Padelford  
342 Carolyn Fischer  
339 Bill Scheible  
337 Lee Schoenewe  
330 Mary Lou Petersen  
330 Ric Zarwell  
330 Paul Hertzel  
328 Keith Dyche  
325 Bill Huser  
323 Carl Bendorf  
316 Ed Thelen  
310 John Bissell  
303 Jeff Livingston  
303 Paul Skrade  
301 Gerald Von Ehwegen  
297 Doug Harr  
295 Matt Kenne  
287 Dick Bierman  
261 David Kyllingstad  
252 Bill Tollefson

## 2011 Annual Lists

292 Stephen Dinsmore  
277 Keith Dyche  
272 Danny Akers  
271 Pam & Reid Allen  
267 Paul Roisen  
262 John Rutenbeck  
261 Aaron Brees  
261 Mark Proescholdt  
252 Bill Scheible  
250 Jim Sinclair  
245 Doug Harr  
242 Chris Edwards  
238 Lee Schoenewe  
237 Jay Gilliam  
232 John Bissell  
229 Rita Goranson  
213 Gerald Von Ehwegen  
188 Bill Tollefson

## IA Personally Found List

347 Stephen Dinsmore  
326 Jim Fuller  
323 Ray Cummins  
318 Lee Schoenewe  
311 Jay Gilliam  
310 Mark Proescholdt  
309 Aaron Brees  
308 Pam & Reid Allen  
305 Keith Dyche  
295 Matt Kenne  
295 Paul Hertzel  
293 Rita Goranson  
283 Bill Huser  
276 Carolyn Fischer

## County Big Years

2011 Linn County 226 Bill Scheible

## Yard Lists

209 Jim Fuller (Johnson Co)  
194 Carolyn Fischer (Cerro Gordo Co)  
190 Ed Thelen (Dickinson Co)  
189 Rita Goranson (Cerro Gordo Co)  
186 Ann Johnson (Warren Co)  
186 Ric Zarwell (Allamakee Co)  
184 Matt Kenne (Kossuth Co)  
179 Lee Schoenewe (Clay Co)  
162 Stephen Dinsmore (Story Co)  
150 Mark Proescholdt (Marshall Co)  
136 Jim Sinclair (Warren Co)  
129 Chris Edwards (Johnson Co)  
126 Dick Bierman (Cherokee Co)  
113 Bill Scheible (Linn Co)  
112 John Bissell (Polk)  
111 Jay Gilliam (Warren Co)  
108 Reid & Pam Allen (Dallas Co)  
108 David Kyllingstad (Johnson Co)  
103 Keith Dyche (Page Co)  
86 Paul Skrade (Story Co)  
77 Doug Harr (Boone Co)



## Big Days

There were only four Big Days reported to me for 2011. Jim Fuller and friends made two attempts at the December record, but fell 4 birds short both times.

- 71 1 Dec 2011 J Fuller, C Fuller, B Dick, J Rutenbeck  
71 10 Dec 2011 J Fuller, C Fuller, J Rutenbeck

Paul Hertzell and Mark Proescholdt attempted a first Chickasaw County Big Day, but got a late start, then endured two rain delays. They reluctantly submit the following total, but hope it will not sit on the books for very long.

- 109 Chickasaw Co. 14 May 2011 P Hertzell, M Proescholdt

Finally, there was one statewide Big Day run by Steve Dinsmore and Tyler Harms.

- 173 Statewide 12 May 2011, SJD, Tyler Harms

## Iowa Record Big Days by Month

- January** 78 31 Jan 2009, Stephen Dinsmore, Jay Gilliam  
**February** 76 25 Feb 2009, J Livingston, N Miller, M Torres  
**March** 102 27 Mar 2009, J Fuller, C Fuller, J Rutenbeck  
**April** 141 29 Apr 1989, S Dinsmore, P Hertzell  
**May** 204 13 May 1996, P Petersen, B Blevins, D Moeller  
**June** 135 1 Jun 2005, D Akers, R Goranson, P Hertzell  
**July** 120 28 Jul 2005, E & E Armstrong, D Thompson  
**August** 136 26 Aug 2005, L Schoenewe, E Thelen  
**September** 135 5 Sep 1987, S Dinsmore, J Sinclair, A Fix  
**October** 101 3 Oct 2008, Livingston, Livingston, Livingston, Miller, Miller, Wilson  
**November** 87 11 Nov 2003, E Thelen, L Schoenewe  
**December** 75 19 Dec 2007, B Dick, C Fuller, J Fuller, J Rutenbeck

## Iowa Record Big Days by County

- 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 Schwerdtfeger  
**Boone** 142 13 May 2009  
Stephen J 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 Erzen  
**Decatur** 136 10 May 2009  
Nathan Miller, Zack Miller, Ben Baldwin  
**Delaware** 94 27 May 2009  
Chris Edwards, Bill Scheible  
**Dickinson** 111 27 Aug 2008  
Lee Schoenewe, E&E Armstrong  
**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  
**Hancock** 141 09 May, 2005  
Carolyn Fischer, Rita Goranson, Paul Hertzell  
**Johnson** 136 08 May, 2004  
Tom Kent, Jim Fuller  
**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 J Dinsmore, Jay Gilliam  
**Marshall** 123 10 May, 2003  
Mark Proescholdt, Paul Hertzell  
**Mitchell** 90 14 May, 2007  
Carolyn Fischer, Rita Goranson  
**Polk** 173 17 May, 2009  
Stephen Dinsmore, Jay Gilliam  
**Ringgold** 119 09 May 2009  
Torre Hovick, Joseph Lautenbach  
**Warren** 154 09 May, 2003  
Aaron Brees, Jim Sinclair  
**Winnebago** 127 09 May, 2004  
Paul Hertzell, Rita Goranson  
**Woodbury** 165 08 May, 2004  
Jerry Probst, Bob Livermore, Dave Stage  
**Worth** 136 13 May, 2003  
Paul Hertzell, Rita Goranson



---

---

**2011 County Listing**

<b>Adair</b> 154 Stephen Dinsmore 120 Pam & Reid Allen 116 Jay Gilliam 60 Mark Proescholdt 50 Danny Akers	<b>Buchanan</b> 160 Mark Proescholdt 151 Stephen Dinsmore 119 Chris Edwards 105 Danny Akers 70 Reid & Pam Allen	<b>Clay</b> 294 Lee Schoenewe 204 Stephen Dinsmore 181 Dick Bierman 163 Jim Dinsmore 137 Paul Roisen 100 Pam & Reid Allen 89 Mark Proescholdt	<b>Dickinson</b> 294 Ed Thelen 291 Lee Schoenewe 265 Doug Harr 232 Stephen Dinsmore 205 Dick Bierman 187 Jim Dinsmore 183 Jay Gilliam 173 Paul Roisen 170 Mark Proescholdt 139 Reid & Pam Allen 133 Rita Goranson 119 Keith Dyche 113 Danny Akers 106 Ray Cummins 103 Chris Edwards	<b>Grundy</b> 215 Mark Proescholdt 171 Stephen Dinsmore 112 Reid & Pam Allen  <b>Guthrie</b> 255 Stephen Dinsmore 225 Pam & Reid Allen 213 Ray Cummins 205 Mark Proescholdt 175 Jay Gilliam 168 Jim Dinsmore 109 Paul Roisen 101 Danny Akers  <b>Hamilton</b> 236 Stephen Dinsmore 230 Mark Proescholdt 226 Dennis Carter 182 Jim Dinsmore 179 Reid & Pam Allen 128 Jay Gilliam 122 Paul Roisen 62 Danny Akers	<b>Iowa</b> 228 Chris Edwards 158 Stephen Dinsmore 158 Mark Proescholdt 144 Bill Scheible 120 Reid & Pam Allen 89 Bill Tollefson 84 Danny Akers  <b>Jackson</b> 167 Chris Edwards 150 Stephen Dinsmore 102 Pam & Reid Allen 84 Danny Akers 77 Mark Proescholdt 73 Bill Tollefson 71 Paul Roisen  <b>Jasper</b> 217 Mark Proescholdt 174 Stephen Dinsmore 163 Reid & Pam Allen 124 Jay Gilliam 75 Danny Akers 56 Paul Roisen  <b>Jefferson</b> 159 Chris Edwards 150 Stephen Dinsmore 103 Pam & Reid Allen 61 Mark Proescholdt  <b>Johnson</b> 322 Jim Fuller 318 Tom Kent 306 Chris Edwards 261 Bill Scheible 214 Danny Akers 190 Mark Proescholdt 186 Reid & Pam Allen 184 Stephen Dinsmore 166 Jim Dinsmore 171 Paul Roisen 123 Ray Cummins 111 Jay Gilliam 106 Bill Tollefson 84 Keith Dyche  <b>Jones</b> 202 Chris Edwards 157 Stephen Dinsmore 100 Pam & Reid Allen 77 Bill Tollefson 74 Mark Proescholdt 59 Danny Akers  <b>Keokuk</b> 176 Bill Scheible 171 Chris Edwards 157 Stephen Dinsmore 103 Jay Gilliam 100 Reid & Pam Allen 74 Mark Proescholdt 74 Danny Akers  <b>Kossuth</b> 285 Matt Kenne 202 Paul Hertzell 200 Stephen Dinsmore 189 Rita Goranson 163 Mark Proescholdt 155 Pam & Reid Allen 114 Jay Gilliam 70 Danny Akers 68 Paul Roisen
<b>Adams</b> 153 Stephen Dinsmore 119 Jay Gilliam 102 Reid & Pam Allen 62 Mark Proescholdt 57 Keith Dyche	<b>Buena Vista</b> 202 Dick Bierman 189 Lee Schoenewe 164 Stephen Dinsmore 93 Mark Proescholdt 90 Pam & Reid Allen	<b>Clayton</b> 223 Danny Akers 151 Stephen Dinsmore 112 Chris Edwards 109 Jay Gilliam 104 Mark Proescholdt 103 Reid & Pam Allen 58 Keith Dyche	<b>Dubuque</b> 151 Chris Edwards 150 Stephen Dinsmore 122 Danny Akers 109 Pam & Reid Allen 78 Paul Roisen 65 Mark Proescholdt	<b>Hancock</b> 231 Rita Goranson 218 Paul Hertzell 207 Stephen Dinsmore 173 Mark Proescholdt 165 Paul Roisen 164 Pam & Reid Allen 160 Jim Dinsmore 119 Jay Gilliam 69 Danny Akers  <b>Hardin</b> 267 Mark Proescholdt 177 Stephen Dinsmore 117 Reid & Pam Allen 104 Paul Roisen 102 Jay Gilliam 92 Danny Akers 86 Keith Dyche	
<b>Allamakee</b> 291 Ric Zarwell 186 Danny Akers 183 Mark Proescholdt 170 Rita Goranson 167 Chris Edwards 165 Stephen Dinsmore 126 Keith Dyche 121 Pam & Reid Allen 120 Ray Cummins	<b>Butler</b> 214 Mark Proescholdt 170 Stephen Dinsmore 102 Reid & Pam Allen 68 Keith Dyche  <b>Calhoun</b> 175 Stephen Dinsmore 160 Mark Proescholdt 128 Pam & Reid Allen 62 Paul Roisen	<b>Clinton</b> 210 Mary Lou Petersen 166 Chris Edwards 162 Stephen Dinsmore 127 Pam & Reid Allen 108 Jay Gilliam 66 Mark Proescholdt 62 Paul Roisen	<b>Emmet</b> 215 Lee Schoenewe 164 Stephen Dinsmore 155 Rita Goranson 100 Reid & Pam Allen 83 Mark Proescholdt 68 Paul Roisen	<b>Harrison</b> 183 Dick Bierman 176 Stephen Dinsmore 148 Gerald Von Ehwegen 132 Paul Roisen 110 Pam & Reid Allen 101 Jay Gilliam 90 Mark Proescholdt	
<b>Appanoose</b> 296 Ray Cummins 218 Stephen Dinsmore 204 Aaron Brees 187 Reid & Pam Allen 184 Jay Gilliam 183 Mark Proescholdt 153 Chris Edwards 138 Keith Dyche 116 Danny Akers 112 Paul Roisen	<b>Carroll</b> 207 Stephen Dinsmore 171 Reid & Pam Allen 168 Mark Proescholdt 158 Jim Dinsmore 127 Paul Roisen 105 Jay Gilliam 83 Keith Dyche  <b>Cass</b> 152 Stephen Dinsmore 149 Pam & Reid Allen 72 Mark Proescholdt	<b>Crawford</b> 153 Stephen Dinsmore 100 Reid & Pam Allen 73 Paul Roisen 62 Mark Proescholdt	<b>Fayette</b> 158 Stephen Dinsmore 151 Mark Proescholdt 137 Chris Edwards 87 Danny Akers 79 Pam & Reid Allen	<b>Humboldt</b> 179 Stephen Dinsmore 106 Reid & Pam Allen 103 Jay Gilliam 64 Mark Proescholdt	
<b>Audubon</b> 159 Stephen Dinsmore 125 Jay Gilliam 116 Pam & Reid Allen 66 Mark Proescholdt	<b>Cedar</b> 175 Chris Edwards 149 Stephen Dinsmore 127 Jay Gilliam 90 Danny Akers 74 Reid & Pam Allen 62 Mark Proescholdt	<b>Dallas</b> 245 Pam & Reid Allen 216 Stephen Dinsmore 170 Ray Cummins 168 Mark Proescholdt 158 Jim Dinsmore 135 Jay Gilliam 100 Danny Akers 99 Paul Roisen	<b>Floyd</b> 190 Paul Hertzell 180 Rita Goranson 156 Stephen Dinsmore 78 Mark Proescholdt 68 Reid & Pam Allen	<b>Henry</b> 155 Chris Edwards 155 Stephen Dinsmore 101 Reid & Pam Allen 63 Mark Proescholdt	
<b>Benton</b> 179 Mark Proescholdt 156 Stephen Dinsmore 155 Chris Edwards 115 Bill Tollefson 100 Reid & Pam Allen 53 Danny Akers	<b>Cerro Gordo</b> 303 Curt Nelson 302 Carolyn Fischer 294 Rita Goranson 285 Paul Hertzell 206 Stephen Dinsmore 205 Mark Proescholdt 178 Paul Roisen 176 Pam & Reid Allen 174 Jim Dinsmore 112 Danny Akers 105 Jay Gilliam 53 Keith Dyche	<b>Davis</b> 172 Chris Edwards 153 Stephen Dinsmore 104 Jay Gilliam 100 Reid & Pam Allen 64 Mark Proescholdt	<b>Franklin</b> 213 Mark Proescholdt 203 Stephen Dinsmore 151 Rita Goranson 135 Pam & Reid Allen 104 Jay Gilliam 67 Paul Roisen	<b>Howard</b> 158 Stephen Dinsmore 127 Rita Goranson 83 Pam & Reid Allen 81 Mark Proescholdt 51 Danny Akers	
<b>Black Hawk</b> 221 Mary Lou Petersen 167 Mark Proescholdt 160 Stephen Dinsmore 112 Ray Cummins 100 Chris Edwards 100 Pam & Reid Allen 77 Paul Roisen 73 Danny Akers	<b>Cherokee</b> 267 Dick Bierman 150 Stephen Dinsmore 107 Paul Roisen 71 Reid & Pam Allen 61 Mark Proescholdt	<b>Decatur</b> 271 Jeffrey Livingston 153 Stephen Dinsmore 129 Pam & Reid Allen 128 Jay Gilliam 119 Paul Roisen 78 Mark Proescholdt 76 Danny Akers 71 Keith Dyche	<b>Fremont</b> 270 Keith Dyche 268 Stephen Dinsmore 262 Loren Padelford, Babs Padelford 213 Mark Proescholdt 205 Reid & Pam Allen 201 Jay Gilliam 181 Paul Roisen 154 Ray Cummins 143 Danny Akers 127 Chris Edwards	<b>Ida</b> 152 Stephen Dinsmore 141 Paul Roisen 88 Pam & Reid Allen 63 Mark Proescholdt	
<b>Boone</b> 264 Stephen Dinsmore 250 Jim Dinsmore 236 Doug Harr 233 Mark Proescholdt 232 Reid & Pam Allen 157 Ann Johnson 149 Paul Skrade 139 Jay Gilliam 101 Chris Edwards 116 Danny Akers 92 Paul Roisen 65 Keith Dyche	<b>Chickasaw</b> 175 Paul Hertzell 171 Mark Proescholdt 156 Stephen Dinsmore 74 Pam & Reid Allen 71 Paul Roisen	<b>Delaware</b> 189 Bill Scheible 156 Mark Proescholdt 151 Stephen Dinsmore 148 Chris Edwards 81 Reid & Pam Allen 59 Danny Akers	<b>Greene</b> 242 Stephen Dinsmore 210 Pam & Reid Allen 200 Jay Gilliam 198 Jim Dinsmore 186 Mark Proescholdt 103 Paul Roisen 69 Danny Akers		
<b>Bremer</b> 173 Mark Proescholdt 156 Stephen Dinsmore 148 Ray Cummins 108 Danny Akers 105 Jay Gilliam 83 Pam & Reid Allen 83 Paul Roisen	<b>Clarke</b> 179 Jay Gilliam 157 Stephen Dinsmore 109 Reid & Pam Allen 60 Mark Proescholdt				



Lee  
241 Stephen Dinsmore  
223 Chris Edwards  
176 Ray Cummins  
170 Jay Gilliam  
162 Reid & Pam Allen  
158 Mark Proescholdt  
157 Paul Roisen  
136 Keith Dyche  
124 Danny Akers

Linn  
289 Pete Wickham  
270 Bill Scheible  
233 Chris Edwards  
223 Bill Tollefson  
179 Mark Proescholdt  
160 Stephen Dinsmore  
140 Pam & Reid Allen  
139 Danny Akers  
98 Paul Roisen

Louisa  
272 Jim Fuller  
206 Chris Edwards  
159 Stephen Dinsmore  
150 Mary Lou Petersen  
135 Reid & Pam Allen  
134 Paul Roisen  
120 Danny Akers  
106 Mark Proescholdt  
100 Jay Gilliam  
98 Bill Tollefson  
54 Keith Dyche

Lucas  
243 Aaron Brees  
179 Pam & Reid Allen  
172 Jay Gilliam  
170 Stephen Dinsmore  
164 Mark Proescholdt  
154 Ray Cummins  
107 Paul Roisen  
76 Danny Akers  
60 Keith Dyche

Lyon  
187 Doug Harr  
154 Stephen Dinsmore  
83 Paul Roisen  
68 Reid & Pam Allen  
61 Mark Proescholdt

Madison  
204 Pam & Reid Allen  
157 Jay Gilliam  
153 Stephen Dinsmore  
152 Mark Proescholdt  
96 Paul Roisen  
55 Danny Akers

Mahaska  
169 Mark Proescholdt  
167 Stephen Dinsmore  
136 Jay Gilliam  
128 Chris Edwards  
119 Reid & Pam Allen  
108 Paul Roisen  
92 Danny Akers  
89 Bill Tollefson  
78 Keith Dyche

Marion  
283 Stephen Dinsmore  
279 Aaron Brees  
256 Jay Gilliam  
234 Pam & Reid Allen  
227 Mark Proescholdt  
207 Ray Cummins  
167 Jim Dinsmore  
161 Ann Johnson  
152 Danny Akers  
124 Paul Roisen  
119 Chris Edwards  
86 Keith Dyche

Marshall  
279 Mark Proescholdt  
204 Stephen Dinsmore  
166 Reid & Pam Allen

Mills  
176 Stephen Dinsmore  
147 Keith Dyche  
137 Pam & Reid Allen  
121 Jay Gilliam  
107 Paul Roisen  
62 Mark Proescholdt

Mitchell  
159 Rita Goranson  
151 Stephen Dinsmore  
100 Paul Hertzelt  
81 Reid & Pam Allen  
74 Mark Proescholdt  
52 Danny Akers

Monona  
198 Stephen Dinsmore  
185 Gerald Von  
Ehwegen  
173 Paul Roisen  
132 Bill Huser  
115 Pam & Reid Allen  
85 Mark Proescholdt

Monroe  
150 Stephen Dinsmore  
113 Reid & Pam Allen  
111 Jay Gilliam  
60 Mark Proescholdt

Montgomery  
152 Stephen Dinsmore  
117 Jay Gilliam  
105 Pam & Reid Allen  
92 Keith Dyche  
64 Mark Proescholdt

Muscatine  
230 Mary Lou Petersen  
168 Chris Edwards  
155 Stephen Dinsmore  
127 Paul Roisen  
106 Reid & Pam Allen  
92 Danny Akers  
82 Mark Proescholdt  
60 Keith Dyche

O'Brien  
211 Lee Schoenewe  
193 Dick Bierman  
156 Stephen Dinsmore  
65 Pam & Reid Allen  
60 Mark Proescholdt  
51 Paul Roisen

Osceola  
158 Stephen Dinsmore  
62 Mark Proescholdt  
59 Reid & Pam Allen

Page  
259 Keith Dyche  
162 Stephen Dinsmore  
127 Jay Gilliam  
114 Pam & Reid Allen  
70 Mark Proescholdt  
61 Paul Roisen

Palo Alto  
247 Lee Schoenewe  
180 Stephen Dinsmore  
122 Ray Cummins  
106 Jay Gilliam  
103 Reid & Pam Allen  
85 Mark Proescholdt  
53 Paul Roisen

Plymouth  
208 Bill Huser  
180 Paul Roisen  
157 Gerald Von  
Ehwegen  
156 Stephen Dinsmore  
70 Pam & Reid Allen  
61 Mark Proescholdt  
59 Danny Akers  
58 Keith Dyche

Pocahontas  
213 Ray Cummins  
182 Stephen Dinsmore  
155 Dick Bierman  
113 Reid & Pam Allen  
104 Jay Gilliam  
71 Mark Proescholdt  
64 Paul Roisen  
50 Danny Akers

Polk  
324 Stephen Dinsmore  
315 Pam & Reid Allen  
274 Mark Proescholdt  
307 Jay Gilliam  
306 Aaron Brees  
264 Jim Dinsmore  
264 Danny Akers  
241 Ann Johnson  
218 Paul Roisen  
177 Doug Harr  
173 Ray Cummins  
172 Paul Skrade  
152 Chris Edwards  
134 Keith Dyche  
75 Bill Tollefson

Pottawattamie  
261 Babs Padelford  
260 Loren Padelford  
217 Stephen Dinsmore  
179 Paul Roisen  
166 Reid & Pam Allen  
160 Keith Dyche  
143 Jay Gilliam  
129 Mark Proescholdt  
66 Danny Akers

Poweshiek  
221 Mark Proescholdt  
154 Stephen Dinsmore  
115 Chris Edwards  
105 Pam & Reid Allen  
82 Paul Roisen  
79 Danny Akers

Ringgold  
152 Stephen Dinsmore  
116 Jay Gilliam  
109 Reid & Pam Allen  
78 Mark Proescholdt  
57 Paul Roisen  
50 Keith Dyche

Sac  
180 Stephen Dinsmore  
167 Paul Roisen  
160 Mark Proescholdt  
159 Dick Bierman  
156 Pam & Reid Allen  
124 Jay Gilliam  
84 Keith Dyche

Scott  
289 Mary Lou Petersen  
178 Paul Roisen  
159 Chris Edwards  
158 Stephen Dinsmore  
149 Reid & Pam Allen  
112 Ray Cummins  
93 Danny Akers  
90 Mark Proescholdt

Shelby  
152 Stephen Dinsmore  
123 Jay Gilliam  
112 Pam & Reid Allen  
73 Paul Roisen  
72 Mark Proescholdt  
53 Keith Dyche

Sioux  
159 Stephen Dinsmore  
142 Paul Roisen  
69 Mark Proescholdt  
68 Reid & Pam Allen

Story  
294 Stephen Dinsmore  
272 Jim Dinsmore  
257 Mark Proescholdt  
214 Pam & Reid Allen  
172 Paul Skrade  
154 Danny Akers  
130 Jay Gilliam  
121 Paul Roisen  
108 Chris Edwards  
64 Keith Dyche

Tama  
255 Mark Proescholdt  
196 Stephen Dinsmore  
151 Chris Edwards  
146 Bill Tollefson  
132 Reid & Pam Allen  
126 Jay Gilliam  
52 Danny Akers

Taylor  
151 Stephen Dinsmore  
123 Jay Gilliam  
100 Pam & Reid Allen  
99 Keith Dyche  
62 Mark Proescholdt

Union  
202 Stephen Dinsmore  
161 Jay Gilliam  
125 Reid & Pam Allen  
68 Mark Proescholdt  
85 Keith Dyche

Van Buren  
178 Ray Cummins  
176 Chris Edwards  
161 Mark Proescholdt  
159 Stephen Dinsmore  
141 Pam & Reid Allen  
103 Jay Gilliam  
93 Paul Roisen  
90 Danny Akers  
68 Keith Dyche

Wapello  
160 Chris Edwards  
153 Stephen Dinsmore  
133 Ray Cummins  
103 Reid & Pam Allen  
88 Mark Proescholdt  
56 Danny Akers

Warren  
282 Jim Sinclair  
272 Jay Gilliam  
259 Aaron Brees  
257 Ann Johnson  
244 Pam & Reid Allen  
201 Mark Proescholdt  
189 Stephen Dinsmore  
147 Paul Roisen  
124 Ray Cummins  
114 Danny Akers  
52 Keith Dyche

Washington  
166 Chris Edwards  
152 Stephen Dinsmore  
101 Reid & Pam Allen  
74 Danny Akers  
66 Mark Proescholdt

Wayne  
228 Aaron Brees  
151 Stephen Dinsmore  
150 Ray Cummins  
115 Pam & Reid Allen  
107 Jay Gilliam  
63 Mark Proescholdt

Webster  
218 Stephen Dinsmore  
167 Mark Proescholdt  
118 Jay Gilliam  
115 Reid & Pam Allen

Winnebago  
214 Rita Goranson  
181 Paul Hertzelt  
179 Stephen Dinsmore  
162 Pam & Reid Allen  
109 Paul Roisen  
80 Mark Proescholdt  
94 Danny Akers

Winneshiek  
259 Dennis Carter  
230 Tex Sordahl  
153 Stephen Dinsmore  
151 Danny Akers  
116 Mark Proescholdt  
112 Paul Skrade  
106 Reid & Pam Allen  
103 Jay Gilliam  
99 Paul Roisen  
99 Paul Hertzelt  
92 Rita Goranson  
85 Keith Dyche

Woodbury  
294 Jerry Probst  
293 Bill Huser  
276 Gerald Von  
Ehwegen  
274 Paul Roisen  
176 Stephen Dinsmore  
155 Mark Proescholdt  
126 Pam & Reid Allen  
122 Jay Gilliam  
103 Danny Akers  
58 Keith Dyche

Worth  
238 Paul Hertzelt  
235 Curt Nelson  
229 Rita Goranson  
152 Stephen Dinsmore  
128 Reid & Pam Allen  
77 Mark Proescholdt

Wright  
241 Stephen Dinsmore  
171 Mark Proescholdt  
169 Jim Dinsmore  
132 Pam & Reid Allen  
119 Rita Goranson  
112 Jay Gilliam

Total Ticks

17,613 Steve Dinsmore  
12,625 Pam & Reid Allen  
12,615 Mark Proescholdt  
11,647 Jim Dinsmore  
11,155 Jay Gilliam  
7,699 Paul Roisen  
6,558 Danny Akers  
4,276 Chris Edwards  
3,952 Keith Dyche  
2,759 Bill Tollefson  
1,447 Lee Schoenewe



---

---

# Results of the 2010-2011 Milan Bottoms Bald Eagle Night Roost Survey Project

Cathleen D. Monson, Kelly J. McKay, Jennifer A. Rothe, Marc J. Bolinger, Robert R. Bryant, Walter M. Zuurdeeg, Brian P. Ritter, Jason L. Monson, Ryan T. Schmitz

Winter bald eagle night roost surveys at Milan Bottoms have been conducted sporadically and opportunistically in the past, and evidence suggests that this area functions as a major night roost location for wintering bald eagles. Therefore, during the winter of 2010-2011, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi River Project, Natural Resources Management Section (USACE); BioEco Research and Monitoring Center; Quad City Audubon Society; Modern Woodmen of America; Iowa Ornithologists' Union; and Alcoa, Inc., Davenport Works conducted a standardized bald eagle night roost survey at Milan Bottoms. This represented a sixth winter of research.

The Milan Bottoms study area is located on the Upper Mississippi River (Rock Island County, Illinois) in the upper portion of pool 16 (river miles 478-475). This area includes approximately 3,400 acres of public and privately-owned land. The USACE owns about 1,500 acres and is the manager of the forested resource. Wildlife management is conducted by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The remainder of the land (1,900 acres) is in private ownership.

Weekly night roost surveys were conducted from early December 2010 through late March



2011. We sampled for 17 consecutive weeks, with each week including one morning and one evening survey. When possible, and with weather permitting, we conducted the morning survey on the day following the evening survey. Each survey period was three hours in duration. Evening surveys commenced two hours prior to sunset and continued until one hour after sunset. Morning surveys were conducted one hour prior to sunrise and concluded two hours after sunrise. Surveys were conducted by three observers. Two observers were located on the Iowa shoreline (I-280 Bridge and Horse Island) directly across the river from Milan Bottoms, while one observer

---

---

was positioned along Andalusia Road in Illinois (Brandt property).

The project in 2010-2011 recorded 3,131 individual bald eagle observations over the 17-week study period. Among these, 60% were adults, 30% were immatures, and 10% were unaged. Eagle observations peaked during week 6 of the study (3 and 4 January). This peak occurred at a fairly typical time period in the season. Although temperatures had been below freezing during most of the season, ice cover on the river had been absent for nearly three weeks. We believe bald eagles, arriving in mid-December from the north, encountered favorable conditions (i.e. good interspersions of ice cover and open water) and therefore increased in the Milan Bottoms vicinity throughout the remainder of December through early January.

From December through March, adults consistently composed the greatest proportion of observed eagles (54%, 66%, 62%, and 56%, respectively). Immature eagle proportions remained similar throughout the project in 2010-2011, ranging from 27% in January to 35% in December. Adult proportions were lowest in December (54%) when immature proportions were highest (35%). This suggests a greater influx of young birds earlier in the season, similar to previous years of this project, as well as other research.

In 2010-2011, morning surveys accounted for 57% of all observations. Of these, 47% occurred in the 30 minutes immediately prior to sunrise. During our research, the majority of eagles departed the night roost 30 minutes prior to through 30 minutes after sunrise. During this

one-hour period, 70% of all eagles observed during the morning survey were recorded. The peak period for eagle entry into the night roost during evening surveys was approximately 45 minutes before through 15 minutes after sunset. 56% of all eagles observed during the evening survey were recorded during this one-hour time period.

The observer at the I-280 site recorded more eagles (1,720) than the other two sites combined (1,411). Along the upstream end of Milan Bottoms, the forested area measures approximately one mile wide. Birds entering or exiting the night roost near I-280 were thought to be using one of the widest areas in the site. Milan Bottoms becomes narrower towards the lower end of the study area. The observer at Horse Island recorded 30% of the total eagle observations, slightly more than half those observed at I-280. This may be related to the fact that this area is not as wide as the upper end of Milan Bottoms. Nevertheless, the Horse Island observation site has generally been accounting for an increasing proportion of eagles in recent years. This is possibly in response to a timber harvest in the upper end of the study area completed in 2008, and/or construction of a casino complex, which opened in 2008, immediately adjacent to the widest tract of forest in Milan Bottoms.

Milan Bottoms is an important winter night roost site for bald eagles along the Mississippi River. It provides good winter habitat and access to a reliable food source. However, this site is under growing development pressure from the Quad Cities metropolitan area. For more detailed information about this project, we will be submitting an article to Iowa Bird Life in the future.

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

*[Address Service Requested]*

**Iowa Ornithologists' Union**

# **IOU News**

## **CONTENTS**

2012 SPRING MEETING .....	1-4
SLATE of OFFICERS .....	2
HISTORICAL REFERENCE ON IOWA'S BIRDS.....	5
2010 LISTING and BIG DAY REPORT	
<i>Paul Hertzel</i> .....	6-9
MILAN BOTTOMS NIGHT ROOST PROJECT .....	10-11

