



# IOU News

Iowa Ornithologists' Union Newsletter

Summer 2001



Volume 17 – Number 2

## Thanks to Jim Fuller - Voice of the Iowa Birdline

Tom Kent

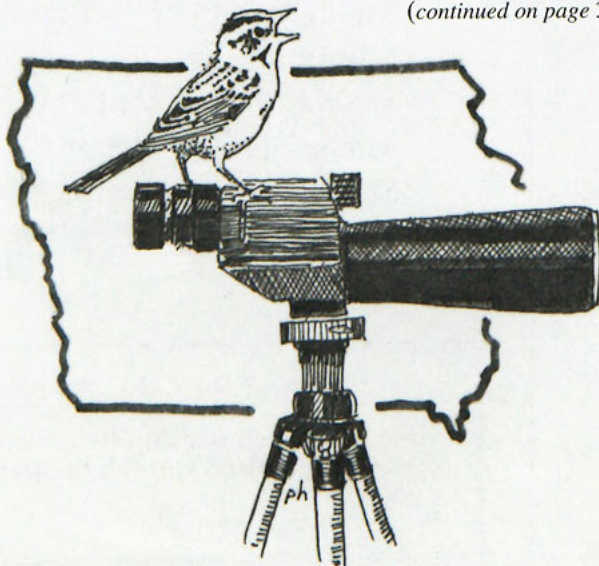
Jim Fuller was the voice of the Iowa Birdline from July 1988 to May 2001. The Birdline was started in late 1981 or early 1982 with Rick Hollis as the editor and Carl Bendorf as primary backup. The weekly summary and incoming messages were provided by a phone line in Amana because phone rates were lower there. Carl recorded Rick's message over the phone and then played it into the answering machine. In the winter of 1985, Rick retired as the primary voice of the Birdline, and Carl assumed the entire job. In the fall of 1987, Bob Cecil took over the Birdline, and it was moved to Keokuk.

Many changes occurred in the Birdline during Jim Fuller's thirteen-year tenure as Editor (actually, I can find

no indication that the Iowa Ornithologists' Union ever had an official name or position for the operator of the Birdline). Jim tells me that he went through five machines due to wear, but with increasingly better function. Jim's most significant contribution to the Birdline was his frequent updating of the information, almost daily during peak seasons. Each update required re-dictating the entire message, even if only one item was added. Jim organized the information in a very user-friendly format starting with a notation of the rarest birds and presenting the results by regions of the state. He was careful to provide as much information as possible about the location of the birds.

During the 1990s new ways of

*(continued on page 3)*



## Kansas RBA Ends

Chuck Otte

I feel a little like the executioner in writing this message. The Kansas Rare Bird Alert (RBA), telephone hotline is no more. At its winter board meeting, the directors of the Kansas Ornithological Society voted to terminate the telephone hotline.

Since the 1980s, many of us regularly called the RBA to leave news of our sightings or to hear the latest bird news from around Kansas. The demise of the RBA can be traced directly to the growth of the Internet. All over the country, telephone hotlines are falling into disuse as the regular users hook up with computer to the Internet, electronic mail and state or regional bird discussion lists. Calls to the Kansas RBA had dwindled to one or two a week, and most of those were leaving no messages. Most or all of these regular RBA callers now have e-mail and are probably subscribed to the Kansas Bird Discussion List (KSBIRD-L).

When Jerry Reeck and I started KSBIRD-L about five years ago, I never anticipated this casualty. Yet, as in many other states, once the active RBA users "got on line", the rare bird information was being exchanged in near real time over the Internet. Read your e-mail once or twice a day and you could get the news straight from the birder who saw it. You didn't have to

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

**Iowa Ornithologists' Union**

Founded 1923

**Officers:**

President- Phil Walsh; 137 51st St. Des Moines IA50312  
VicePresident- Tom Johnson  
Secretary- Jane Clark  
Treasurer- Rita Goranson  
Board- **Judy Garton**, James Scheib, Sharon Stilwell,  
Dick Tetrault, Linda Zaletel  
Registrar-David Edwards

Journal: **Iowa Bird Life**, published quarterly;  
Editor- Kayleen Niyo, [kniyo@aol.com](mailto:kniyo@aol.com)

**Documenting / Reporting Birds:**

**Records Committee-**

Ann Johnson; 432 120th Avenue, Norwalk IA 50211  
[hologrambirds@worldnet.att.net](mailto:hologrambirds@worldnet.att.net)

**Winter Field Reports-**

Robert Cecil; 1315 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA 50311  
[wewarb@aol.com](mailto:wewarb@aol.com)

**Spring Field Reports-**

Matthew Kenne; 709 N. Phillips, Algona, IA 50511  
[meekeckk@rconnect.com](mailto:meekeckk@rconnect.com)

**Summer Field Reports-**

James Dinsmore; 4024 Arkansas Drive, Ames IA 50014  
[oldcoot@iastate.edu](mailto:oldcoot@iastate.edu)

**Fall Field Reports-**

James Fuller; 6 Longview Knoll N.E., Iowa City, IA 52240  
[james-fuller@uiowa.edu](mailto:james-fuller@uiowa.edu)

Iowa Birdline: (712) 364-2863;

Pete Erzen; [pkernzen@pionet.net](mailto:pkernzen@pionet.net)

**Bird Censuses:**

Spring Bird Count- Ann Barker  
Christmas Bird Count- Stephen Dinsmore

**Resources:**

**Field Checklist of Iowa Birds:**

Maridel Jackson  
410 S.W. Westview Drive, Ankeny, IA 50021  
Website: <http://www.iowabirds.org/>  
Listserv: IA-BIRD <[hologrambirds@worldnet.att.net](mailto:hologrambirds@worldnet.att.net)>

**Membership / Subscriptions:**

David Edwards  
2308 State Avenue, Ames, IA 50014  
[dcejce@qwest.net](mailto:dcejce@qwest.net)

**IOU News:**

**Send materials to:**

Paul Hertzel  
240 12th St SE, Mason City, IA 50401  
[phertzel@rconnect.com](mailto:phertzel@rconnect.com)

**Send thanks to:**

Linda Zaletel, Hank Zaletel,  
Pam Allen, Dennis Carter, Bob Cecil, Jim Dinsmore,  
David Edwards, Rita Goranson, Anthony Hertzel,  
Ann Johnson, Tom Johnson, Tom Kent,  
Chuck Otte, Mary Lou Petersen, Mark Proescholdt,  
Mike Schantz, Rob Thelen, Randy Williams.



Board member Judy Garton.

## Regional Rare Bird Alerts

Iowa	(712) 364-2863
Missouri	(573) 445-9115
NW Illinois	(815) 965-3095
Wisconsin	(414) 352-3857
Minnesota	(800) 657-3700
So Dakota	(605) 773-6460

**Help Increase the I.O.U. Membership:**

**Give a gift membership to a friend! You never know when you might spark a life-long devotion.**

## Thanks to Jim Fuller

(continued from page 1)

communicating information reported to the Birdline developed rapidly. In 1994, Jim began writing a column in the I.O.U. News titled Heard on the Birdline. Three Internet tools became available for users of the weekly Birdline report. The first was Bird-central, a national resource. In late 1995, Ann Johnson developed an Iowa birding web site at Simpson College and this became the I.O.U. website in April of 1998. From the start, Jim sent a digital copy of the weekly report to Ann, who put it on the web site. In October 1998, Paul Zeph of the Iowa Audubon Field Office sponsored a listserv (e-mail distribution list) called IA-BIRD. Jim's Birdline summaries were then available to all three Internet media. IA-BIRD had the most impact because Internet users could both report their sightings and see the reports of others and the summary without using the telephone.

A major function of the Birdline was to protect birders from going off on a wild goose chase by obtaining confirming evidence for unlikely sightings. Most users are not aware of the many telephone calls Jim made to confirm sightings and to notify birders of rare birds, and mostly at his own expense. Sharing of birding information has entered a new age that is both more flexible and more laissez faire. With it we will miss the guiding hand of expert birder Jim Fuller.

Finally, I would like to say that it is my opinion that the Iowa Birdline was the best in the country because of Jim's efforts. Iowa may not have the best birds, but Iowa's reports were the most up-to-date, well written, and informative. Thank you Jim for thirteen years of wonderful service to the I.O.U. I wish you had had a title, and I wonder what you will do with your license plate that reads IA RBA.



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## Bookmarks

Jim Dinsmore

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This issue's featured site:

### American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds

<http://www.aou.org/aou/birdlist.html>

Many I.O.U. members are at least vaguely aware of something called the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds which serves as the official list of common and scientific names of all the birds found in Iowa. However, most I.O.U. members have probably never seen the check-list itself. The checklist, now in its seventh edition, is a bulky, 829 page book that lists all 2,023 species known from North and Central America, the West Indies, and Hawaii, provides a brief synopsis of the distribution of each species, and sells for \$50.

For many I.O.U. members, the A.O.U. check-list is known best when a species is split (Northern Oriole into Baltimore and Bullock's Oriole a few years ago), two species are combined (those same two species some years previously), or when the accepted name for a species is changed (Oldsquaw to Long-tailed Duck in 2000). Other changes that many I.O.U. members might become aware of involve changes

in the order that birds are listed in check-lists or the Field Reports in Iowa Bird Life (e.g., the vireos are now listed near the beginning of the passerine birds rather than just before the warblers as they had been for years).

Some of the mystery of this publication has now been eliminated with the posting of an abbreviated A.O.U. check-list on the internet. This website lists all the species currently on the check-list in proper scientific order with both common and scientific name given. No information on their distributions is provided. A guide to the orders or families of birds at the start of the list allows you to jump to that group and will save you having to scroll through the entire list. The check-list is updated annually, usually in late summer when the third issue of the A.O.U.'s journal, *The Auk*, is published. Thus, this site should help birders keep somewhat up to date on changes in bird names and recent splits.

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## Kansas RBA ends

(continued from page 1)

wait for a phone report to be recorded and then place a telephone call to see if there were any updates. It came to you without much effort at all.

This result should have been obvious, but perhaps, like many others, I simply underestimated how fast the Internet would grow. And now the question wanting to be answered is, "where does it end?" Wireless Internet devices are becoming available, although I have to wonder how long it will be until the entire state of Kansas will be covered with such devices. With these devices it would even further shorten the time

lag between sighting and birding community awareness. I could be at Cheyenne Bottoms observing a Common Crane and simultaneously posting the sighting on KSBIRD-L.

Details are being worked out to post regular Kansas rare bird alerts on the appropriate Internet sites, for those in and out of state birders who aren't getting the daily news on KSBIRD-L. But I guess for now, it's the end of the (hot)line.

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Originally posted by Chuck Otte to BirdChat March 15, 2001. Used by permission from the author.

## 2001 SPRING I.O.U. MEETING

Tom Johnson

The beautiful Des Moines River valley of southeast Iowa formed a setting for yet another I.O.U. meeting. Bob Cecil did a masterful job of arranging a great program including field trips, interesting talks, a picturesque location at Hotel Manning, and even the Friday night refreshments.

Choosing field trips was easy. Go to the Croton Unit of the Shimek Forest one day and the Lacy Keosauqua State Park the next. This was so much easier than choosing out of 4-5 trips and always wishing I went to the other with the Black-throated Blue Warbler. I never picked that one.

The Saturday afternoon programs consisted of Michael Porter reporting on the Global Positioning Systems. He pointed out how the units were getting less expensive and more accurate. They certainly are already a great tool for birding and it's good to be on the cutting edge.

James Dinsmore, as always, provided insight on important topics for us. Invasive Birds of Iowa was important for us to evaluate the impact on our native birds of these new entrants. We can't do a lot to control many, such as the Eurasian Collared Doves, but the Mute Swans may need birders

input and involvement if they become a problem.

David Spreadbury's program on Shorebird Banding in Northeastern Australia was superb. Thoughts of spending 4-6 weeks of volunteer labor doing this valuable research are exciting. Even the crude camping conditions, weather conditions and bubbling warm water looked inviting. Migration from the USSR to Australia was not well known until this group started studying it. We all appreciate Dr. Spreadbury's dedication to this worthy project.

The night program was one of a kind. Bob Cecil and Tom Kent were hosts to the birder's version of "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire". The five contestants were all great and the audience enjoyed it immensely.

The weather forecast for the weekend predicted disaster, but it turned out perfect. Many great birds were found including Hooded Warbler, Henslow's Sparrow, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer Tanager, Pileated Woodpecker, Bewick's Wren, and many other area specialties. We have visited Lacy-Keosauqua State Park for many I.O.U. Meetings and many will be glad to return soon.

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The listing below may be incomplete due to late registrations or our failure to note spouses or companions of some participants. Our apologies for any omissions. If you'd like a name to appear as an addendum, please let us know at IOU News.

#### Ames

Barb Bettis  
Edward & Elizabeth Carbrey  
Jim Dinsmore  
David and Jeanne Edwards  
Donna Flanagan  
Mike and Dixie Overton  
Matte Wetrich

#### Ankeny

Galín and Carol Berrier  
Maridel Jackson

#### Centerville

Ray Cummins  
Tom Johnson  
Michael Stephens

#### Clear Lake

Vergil and Joan Eness

#### Clive

Jane Clark  
Jack and Charlene Ver Steeg

#### Des Moines

Barb Brubaker  
Robert Cecil  
Diane Detlinger  
David Hurd  
John and Mary Mitchell

#### Dubuque

Charles & Gretel Winterwood

#### Evansdale

Suzanne Brown

#### Fairfield

Eldon Bryant  
Jack Eastman  
Dave and Sheryl Killman  
John Maguire  
Michael and Diane Porter  
Glenn Watt

#### Fort Dodge

Judy and John Garton

#### Fort Madison

Robert and Linda Johnson

#### Ida Grove

Pete Erzen

#### Iowa City

Drew and Judy Dillman  
Karen Disbrow  
James Huntington  
Tom Kent  
Cal and Bernie Knight  
Jim and Sharon Scheib  
Dick and Gerry Tetrault

#### Jewell

Dorothy Wilcox

#### Lansing

Ric and Betty Zarwell

#### Liscomb

Beth Proescholdt  
Mark Proescholdt

#### Mason City

Carolyn Fischer  
Rita Goranson  
Paul and Tammy Hertzell  
Jan Walter

#### Nevada

Hank and Linda Zalatel

#### Nora Springs

Reva Pedelty

#### Norwalk

Ann Johnson

#### North Liberty

Chris Edwards

#### Oskaloosa

Doug and Mary Beth Hunt

#### Ottumwa

Arminta Anderson  
Darlene Ayres

#### Sioux City

Carol Boots  
Bob Livermore  
Bob and Phyllis Nickolson  
Jerry Probst

#### Story City

Marilyn Lekwa  
Martha Stebelton

#### Walnut

Marietta Peterson

#### Washington

Edwin Lins

#### Waterloo

Francis Moore  
Tom Stone

#### West Des Moines

Reid and Pam Allen  
Dick and Sharon Stillwell

#### Van Meter

Eugene & Eloise Armstrong

#### Evergreen, Colorado

Kay Niyo

#### Peoria, Illinois

David Hultgren

#### Bellvue, Nebraska

Loren and Babs Paddleford

## 142 Species Seen at IOU Spring Meeting

Common Loon	Eastern Bluebird
Double-crested Cormorant	Swainson's Thrush
Great Blue Heron	Wood Thrush
Great Egret	American Robin
Green Heron	Gray Catbird
Turkey Vulture	Northern Mockingbird
Canada Goose	Brown Thrasher
Wood Duck	European Starling
Mallard	Cedar Waxwing
Blue-winged Teal	Blue-winged Warbler
Bald Eagle	Golden-winged Warbler
Northern Harrier	Tennessee Warbler
Broad-winged Hawk	Orange-crowned Warbler
Red-tailed Hawk	Nashville Warbler
American Kestrel	Northern Parula
Northern Bobwhite	Yellow Warbler
Ring-necked Pheasant	Chestnut-sided Warbler
Wild Turkey	Magnolia Warbler
American Coot	Cape May Warbler
Killdeer	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Common Snipe	Black-throated Green Warbler
Lesser Yellowlegs	Blackburnian Warbler
Spotted Sandpiper	Yellow-throated Warbler
Upland Sandpiper	Palm Warbler
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Blackpoll Warbler
Forster's Tern	Cerulean Warbler
Mourning Dove	Black-and-white Warbler
Black-billed Cuckoo	Worm-eating Warbler
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Ovenbird
Eastern Screech-Owl	Northern Waterthrush
Barred Owl	Louisiana Waterthrush
Common Nighthawk	Kentucky Warbler
Whip-poor-will	Common Yellowthroat
Chimney Swift	Hooded Warbler
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Yellow-breasted Chat
Belted Kingfisher	Scarlet Tanager
Red-headed Woodpecker	Summer Tanager
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Eastern Towhee
Downy Woodpecker	Chipping Sparrow
Hairy Woodpecker	Clay-colored Sparrow
Northern Flicker	Field Sparrow
Pileated Woodpecker	Vesper Sparrow
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Lark Sparrow
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Savannah Sparrow
Acadian Flycatcher	Grasshopper Sparrow
Least Flycatcher	Henslow's Sparrow
Eastern Phoebe	LeConte's Sparrow
Great Crested Flycatcher	Fox Sparrow
Eastern Kingbird	Song Sparrow
Bell's Vireo	Lincoln's Sparrow
Yellow-throated Vireo	Swamp Sparrow
Warbling Vireo	White-throated Sparrow
White-eyed Vireo	White-crowned Sparrow
Philadelphia Vireo	Harris's Sparrow
Red-eyed Vireo	Northern Cardinal
Blue Jay	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
American Crow	Indigo Bunting
Purple Martin	Dickcissel
Tree Swallow	Bobolink
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Red-winged Blackbird
Cliff Swallow	Eastern Meadowlark
Barn Swallow	Western Meadowlark
Black-capped Chickadee	Great-tailed Grackle
Tufted Titmouse	Common Grackle
White-breasted Nuthatch	Brown-headed Cowbird
Carolina Wren	Orchard Oriole
Bewick's Wren	Baltimore Oriole
House Wren	House Finch
Sedge Wren	American Goldfinch
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	House Sparrow
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	

## Mark Proescholdt Ends 2nd Term

*Tom Johnson*

Mark Proescholdt ended a 4-year tenure as I.O.U. president this spring. When Ann Johnson asked me to serve as v.p. a couple of years ago I agreed because it was time for me to do my share, but I knew that I could work with Mark.

Besides being one of the states best birders (who was "call-a-friend lifeline" for sounds at the spring meeting) he has been a patient and loyal president. There are always a few contested topics at I.O.U. meetings – it's hard to believe birders have strong opinions – but Mark always retained his composure and kept us in line.

Mark was not a user of the internet but was very supportive of the development of the web site and the listserve. He knew that it would benefit his organization. The newsletter and journal editors' positions both became vacant during his tenure. Mark, I'm sure, was worried but with persistence the positions were filled.

As president, one has to be on top of the issues for the organization. Mark wrote countless notes and made many calls to keep all informed, but many times he just took care of problems himself. When I needed programs he gave me suggestions or found them himself. During his time he and the board supported the purchase of a permanent spotting scope at the Kellerton Unit, approved joint projects with Iowa Audubon, and many other issues before I was on board. Thank you, Mark, for your four years as our president and your many years in I.O.U. As a birder you have always been willing to share your expertise with others no matter how long it takes. I will remember when I said I had never seen a Cape May Warbler. You found one at the Waterloo meeting and made sure that you took me to see it. This is The Mark Proescholdt we all know.



Mark Proescholdt steps down.

## Carroll Hotels

**Super 8 East.** \$57.70 - \$66.00, indoor pool, continental breakfast, whirlpool room, suites, restaurant and sports bar next door. (712) 792-6666.

**Burke Inn.** \$41.95 - \$60.00, continental breakfast, sauna, whirlpool room, suites, restaurant and sports bar next door. (712) 792-5156.

**Super 8 North.** \$54.42 - \$66.00, next door to McDonalds. 1/2 block north of Our House to Yours Consignment and gift store (Our store we just bought). (712) 792-4753.

**Motel 71-30.** \$30 - \$40, outdoor pool, mini golf. (712) 792-1100.

**Carrollton Inn.** \$61.95 - 2 people, indoor pool, sauna, whirlpool room, suites and lounge. Across from McDonalds. (712) 792-5600.

**Garst Farm Resort Bed and Breakfast/Cabins,** Coon Rapids about 20 miles southeast of Carroll. (712) 684-5240 or *FarmResort.com*

Camping at Swan Lake State Park, 2 miles so. of Carroll. Primitive \$9.00, Electric and Water \$10.00, + sewer \$11.00.

## Carroll Restaurants

**Burger King,** jct.Hwy.s 71 & 30

**Denny's Restaurant,** Carroll Street

**Family Table Restaurant,** Hwy. 30 W.

**Godfather's Pizza,** Hwy. 30 & Quint

**Hunan Chinese Restaurant,** Hwy. 30 W.

**Jade Garden,** Hwy. 30 E.

**Josie's Mexican and American Restaurant,** Main Street

**Kentucky Fried Chicken,** E. 6th St.

**MC Cafe,** Hwy. 30 E.

**McDonalds,** Hwy. 71 N.

**Taco John's,** Hwy. 30 E.

**Tony's Restaurant,** jct. hwy.s 71 & 30

## Things To Do

### June 23

Sockum Ridge Park in Washington County with the Iowa City Bird Club. Meet at the Fin & Feather parking lot near the corner of Riverside Drive and Hiway 1. Contact: Chris Caster 339-8343.

### June 24

Get up early, go out with a friend. Document as many nesting species as you can.

### July 7

Northwest Iowa birding tour with the Northern Iowa Prairie Lakes Audubon Society and the Loess Hills Audubon Society, covering Kirschner Prairie and Ruthven. Led by Lee Schoenewe. Contact Bob Blenderman 943-2678 or Bob Moritz 252-2898.

### July 8

Solon-Lake Macbride birding & biking trip with the Iowa City Bird Club. Meet at the Dodge Street Hy-Vee at 6:30am for the ride to Solon, or at the trailhead at the southwest edge of Solon at 8am. Bring water and lunch. Contact: James Huntington 338-1837.

### July 21

Hayden Prairie Field Trip with the Upper Iowa Audubon Society. Meet at parking lot east of the Decorah municipal building at 8am or at Cresco City Park at 8:30. Contact: Dennis Carter (563) 547-3187.

### July 31

Compile your summer season field reports and send to:

Jim Dinsmore;  
4024 Arkansas Dr.  
Ames, IA; 50014;  
*oldcoot@iastate.edu.*

### September 3

Cardinal Marsh Field Trip with the Upper Iowa Audubon Society. Meet at parking lot east of the Decorah municipal building at 8am or at the SE corner of the marsh at 8:30. Shorebirds, warblers and other migrants, late summer wildflowers. Contact: Dennis Carter (563) 547-3187.

### September 7-9

IOU Fall Meeting in Carroll County. See pages 8-9.

### September 16

Pelican Watch Festival. Jester Park on Saylorville Lake, Polk County.

### September 28-29

Audubon Iowa Annual Conference, Sioux City, IA. Theme: The Missouri River and western Iowa landscape as it looked to Lewis & Clark and John James Audubon during their explorations. Western Iowa Tech campus plus field trips.

## In the Region

### August 30 - Sept 3.

Midwest Birding Symposium, Green Bay, WI; theme: wetlands; field trips and workshops; speakers include John Acorn, George Archibald, Kenn Kaufman, Arthur Morris, Father Tom Pincelli, Peter Stangel, Eldon Greij. Contact Bill Hubert (800) 558-1544.

### September 14 - 17.

National Watchable Wildlife Conference, St. Paul, MN. Lectures, workshops, MOU-led field trips. Learn the latest and most successful means for developing wildlife-viewing programs. Contact Minnesota Office of Tourism (800) 657-3637.

# IOWA BIRD LIFE – Back Issues

David Edwards

We announce the sale of back issues of *Iowa Bird Life*, the journal of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union. Most issues are available, from 1931 to the present, though many in the 1930s are out-of-print or in very short supply. These may be photocopied on request - see below. Four issues per year have been published since the beginning. Pricing is as follows:

- Most recent complete year (2000) . . . . \$3 / issue, or \$12 for the year
- Prior four years (1997-2000) . . . . . \$2 / issue, or \$8 / year
- All prior years (1931-1996) . . . . . \$3 / year, \$12 / 5 yr.s, or \$20 / 10 yr.s

- Photocopies will be supplied for sold-out issues at actual copying costs. I will verify your request for this service before making copies.

- Mailing costs for single issue requests will be at the appropriate bulk rate, i.e., \$0.75 for one issue, \$0.60 for additional issues in an order of 5 years or more, \$0.50 for additional issues in an order of 10 years or more. Shipping costs extra. US Media Mail (Book Rate) is quite favorable for large orders:

lb.s	\$	lb.s	\$
1	1.30	5	3.10
2	1.75	6	3.55
3	2.20	7	4.00
4	2.65	8	4.30

and \$0.30 for each additional pound. Within Iowa, Parcel Post will be less costly for heavy orders.

Inquires & Requests: David C. Edwards, Registrar  
2308 State Ave (515) 292-3790  
Ames, IA 50014-8344 [dcejce@qwest.net](mailto:dcejce@qwest.net)



## Back Issues Remaining

Vol	Year	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
1	1931	6	5	4	5
2	1932	0	1	0	0
3	1933	0	1	1	0
4	1934	0	0	0	0
5	1935	0	0	1	12
6	1936	2	3	5	3
7	1937	0	0	0	5
8	1938	3	5	5	4
9	1939	9	6	23	13
10	1940	6	3	15	11
11	1941	3	8	10	7
12	1942	8	17	11	6
13	1943	10	19	9	12
14	1944	11	19	8	3
15	1945	1	8	8	17
16	1946	12	12	9	7
17	1947	9	14	11	16
18	1948	12	11	21	21
19	1949	12	24	21	11
20	1950	21	21	21	20
21	1951	25	25	13	24
22	1952	14	24	23	23
23	1953	22	22	22	22
24	1954	25	25	27	22
25	1955	24	23	23	23
26	1956	24	23	24	25
27	1957	23	23	24	23
28	1958	23	24	24	24
29	1959	24	23	24	24
30	1960	24	25	24	23
31	1961	23	24	24	22
32	1962	22	22	24	24
33	1963	23	23	18	25
34	1964	22	23	23	14
35	1965	23	24	24	24
36	1966	25	12	24	24
37	1967	26	24	23	25
38	1968	25	24	23	24
39	1969	26	25	25	24
40	1970	25	23	24	23
41	1971	35	35	35	35
42	1972	17	38	28	35
43	1973	39	36	40	28
44	1974	13	30	42	35
45	1975	24	17	11	27
46	1976	5	19	11	37
47	1977	22	34	24	36
48	1978	16	11	24	16
49	1979	33	17	29	11
50	1980	15	29	26	40
51	1981	8	33	17	26
52	1982	25	34	22	47
53	1983	52	30	28	25
54	1984	2	7	25	50
55	1985	49	38	50	46
56	1986	44	44	45	45
57	1987	45	45	46	45
58	1988	50	50	48	52
59	1989	45	37	44	49
60	1990	32	2	31	14
61	1991	23	22	17	19
62	1992	31	26	27	20
63	1993	30	28	25	27
64	1994	29	32	30	12
65	1995	32	23	31	32
66	1996	15	23	24	24
67	1997	24	24	27	28
68	1998	23	22	23	19
69	1999	23	22	20	20
70	2000	122	61	48	50

# 2001 I.O.U. FALL MEETING

## Sept 7 - 9 • Carroll County

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The 2001 I.O.U. Fall Meeting will be held September 7-9 in Carroll County, with activities planned at Swan Lake State Park, and field trips at Dunbar Slough, Tomahawk Marsh and the Raccoon River. The meeting itself will be held at Tony's Restaurant in Carroll.

**Dunbar Slough:** Already in the spring of this year, Dunbar Slough has hosted White-faced Ibis, Northern Mockingbird, Common Moorhen, Peregrine Falcon, nesting Trumpeter Swans, Great-tailed Grackle, Willets, Cattle Egrets. "Located in Greene County, Dunbar Slough is one of the premier marshes in central Iowa. It is located 4 miles south and 3 miles west of Scranton in Greene County. The area totals 1,369 acres: two-thirds are comprised of wetlands and the remaining one-third includes a variety of upland habitats, mostly grasslands." - STEVE DINSMORE, *Birding Dunbar Slough Wildlife Area, Iowa Bird Life 67:15-17.*

**Raccoon River:** Excellent habitat exists for migrant song-birds. There are extensive bottomlands and also good upland timber to explore. A summer heron rookery and Bald Eagle nests promise to provide some good fall birds.

**Tomahawk Marsh:** 319 acres, capable of producing almost anything. "On the afternoon of 4 September 1994, my 31/2-year-old son, Joshua, and I were bird watching at Tomahawk Marsh . . . to my utter amazement the distinctive form of a Long-tailed Jaeger followed the procession of Great Blue Herons . . . On 5 September, Tim Schantz relocated the bird at the southeast corner of Black Hawk Lake . . . on the same day an immature Sabine's Gull was also located in the same area." PETER ERNZEN, *Long-tailed Jaeger in Sac County, Iowa Bird Life 66:26-27.*

**Organizers:** Rob Thelen, Tom Johnson

**Initial Schedule:**

*Friday 9/7/01*

- 6pm to 10pm meet at Swan Lake State Park east side shelter house. Snacks, refreshments; plan for Saturday.

*Saturday 9/08/01*

- 7am meet at Swan Lake east side shelter house. Continental breakfast, \$3.00, or on your own. Organize field trips : Dunbar Slough, Raccoon River, Lake View / Tomahawk Marsh areas.
- 1pm meet at Swan Lake east side shelter house for lunch: BBQ pork sandwiches, beans, potato salad, spring salad, chips and drink, \$6.00.
- After lunch meet at Swan Lake east side shelter house. Programs, including Kay Newman presentation on raptor rehabilitation.
- 7pm at Tony's Restaurant, Carroll. Banquet, 3-meat buffet, \$12.50. Evening presentation and Fall Meeting.

*Sunday 9/09/01*

- 7am meet at Swan Lake north side shelter house. Continental breakfast \$3.00, or on your own. Organize field trips.
- 1pm meet at Swan Lake north side shelter house. Lunch: soup, sandwiches and drink \$6.00. Final wrap-up and thanks and good-byes.



Registration:

Saturday breakfast	\$ 3.00	x	_____	=	_____
Saturday lunch	\$ 6.00	x	_____	=	_____
Saturday evening	\$12.50	x	_____	=	_____
Sunday breakfast	\$ 3.00	x	_____	=	_____
Sunday lunch	\$ 6.00	x	_____	=	_____
Total				=	_____

Send to: Rob Thelen  
1744 Salinger Avenue  
Carroll, IA 51401



## Carroll Hotels

**Super 8 East.** \$57.70 - \$66.00, indoor pool, continental breakfast, whirlpool room, suites, restaurant and sports bar next door. (712) 792-6666.

**Burke Inn.** \$41.95 - \$60.00, continental breakfast, sauna, whirlpool room, suites, restaurant and sports bar next door. (712) 792-5156.

**Super 8 North.** \$54.42 - \$66.00, next door to McDonalds. 1/2 block north of Our House to Yours Consignment and gift store (Our store we just bought). (712) 792-4753.

**Motel 71-30.** \$30 - \$40, outdoor pool, mini golf. (712) 792-1100.

**Carrollton Inn.** \$61.95 - 2 people, indoor pool, sauna, whirlpool room, suites and lounge. Across from McDonalds. (712) 792-5600.

**Garst Farm Resort Bed and Breakfast/Cabins,** Coon Rapids about 20 miles southeast of Carroll. (712) 684-5240 or *FarmResort.com*

Camping at Swan Lake State Park, 2 miles so. of Carroll. Primitive \$9.00, Electric and Water \$10.00, + sewer \$11.00.

## Carroll Restaurants

**Burger King,** jct.Hwy.s 71 & 30

**Denny's Restaurant,** Carroll Street

**Family Table Restaurant,** Hwy. 30 W.

**Godfather's Pizza,** Hwy. 30 & Quint

**Hunan Chinese Restaurant,** Hwy. 30 W.

**Jade Garden,** Hwy. 30 E.

**Josie's Mexican and American Restaurant,** Main Street

**Kentucky Fried Chicken,** E. 6th St.

**MC Cafe,** Hwy. 30 E.

**McDonalds,** Hwy. 71 N.

**Taco John's,** Hwy. 30 E.

**Tony's Restaurant,** jct. hwy.s 71 & 30

## Things To Do

### June 23

Sockum Ridge Park in Washington County with the Iowa City Bird Club. Meet at the Fin & Feather parking lot near the corner of Riverside Drive and Hiway 1. Contact: Chris Caster 339-8343.

### June 24

Get up early, go out with a friend. Document as many nesting species as you can.

### July 7

Northwest Iowa birding tour with the Northern Iowa Prairie Lakes Audubon Society and the Loess Hills Audubon Society, covering Kirschner Prairie and Ruthven. Led by Lee Schoenewe. Contact Bob Blenderman 943-2678 or Bob Moritz 252-2898.

### July 8

Solon-Lake Macbride birding & biking trip with the Iowa City Bird Club. Meet at the Dodge Street Hy-Vee at 6:30am for the ride to Solon, or at the trailhead at the southwest edge of Solon at 8am. Bring water and lunch. Contact: James Huntington 338-1837.

### July 21

Hayden Prairie Field Trip with the Upper Iowa Audubon Society. Meet at parking lot east of the Decorah municipal building at 8am or at Cresco City Park at 8:30. Contact: Dennis Carter (563) 547-3187.

### July 31

Compile your summer season field reports and send to:

Jim Dinsmore;  
4024 Arkansas Dr.  
Ames, IA; 50014;  
*oldcoot@iastate.edu.*

### September 3

Cardinal Marsh Field Trip with the Upper Iowa Audubon Society. Meet at parking lot east of the Decorah municipal building at 8am or at the SE corner of the marsh at 8:30. Shorebirds, warblers and other migrants, late summer wildflowers. Contact: Dennis Carter (563) 547-3187.

### September 7-9

IOU Fall Meeting in Carroll County. See pages 8-9.

### September 16

Pelican Watch Festival. Jester Park on Saylorville Lake, Polk County.

### September 28-29

Audubon Iowa Annual Conference, Sioux City, IA. Theme: The Missouri River and western Iowa landscape as it looked to Lewis & Clark and John James Audubon during their explorations. Western Iowa Tech campus plus field trips.

## In the Region

### August 30 - Sept 3.

Midwest Birding Symposium, Green Bay, WI; theme: wetlands; field trips and workshops; speakers include John Acorn, George Archibald, Kenn Kaufman, Arthur Morris, Father Tom Pincelli, Peter Stangel, Eldon Greij. Contact Bill Hubert (800) 558-1544.

### September 14 - 17.

National Watchable Wildlife Conference, St. Paul, MN. Lectures, workshops, MOU-led field trips. Learn the latest and most successful means for developing wildlife-viewing programs. Contact Minnesota Office of Tourism (800) 657-3637.

## TIM SCHANTZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Iowa native and I.O.U. member Tim Schantz passed away Sunday, May 27, 2001, while birding in Alaska. An article remembering Tim will appear in the Spring 2001 issue of *Iowa Bird Life*, 71(2).

Recognizing his passion for birds, Tim's parents, Dean and Kit Schantz of Winterset, Iowa, have established the Tim Schantz Memorial Scholarship to be awarded annually to a student of ornithology. Contributions may be sent to the Union State Bank, 201 Court, Winterset, IA 50273, payable to the Tim Schantz Memorial Scholarship Fund.

### Excerpts

Shorebirds are birds that are not noticed by the casual birdwatcher. They do not come to bird feeders. One cannot build a house in hopes of attracting them. Instead, one needs to find mudflats during the right time of year. Not only that, but it takes experience and practice to tell many species apart.

July is the month when many shorebirds that have spent the summer on the tundra of the far north start heading south for the wintering grounds. Some shorebirds winter as far south as South America while others are contented with the southern United States.

On August 1, 1994, while looking at shorebirds at Lake Redrock, a small shorebird caught my eye. Its small size, leg color, short bill and overall drab appearance told me it was a Semipalmated Sandpiper. Not a great find (one of the more common migrants), but this one was different. It had four color bands on its legs that were visible through the spotting scope. The left leg had a white above blue, while the right leg had two yellow bands. I knew that this bird was a subject in some type of research, and became curious about the history of this 6-inch world traveller.

My first inquiry was to the US Fish & Wildlife Service office in Minneapolis. They found my sighting of little interest, but told me to contact the Bird Banding Laboratory in Maryland and provided me with a number to call. The biologist in Maryland was much more interested, especially when I described

the shape of the blue band. "It was wrapped around the leg and had a tab that projected about an eighth of an inch from the rear of the leg."

The biologist's reply was "That's called a flag, and is used in a study conducted by The Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. A blue flag indicates a bird banded in Brazil!" I was instructed to call Brian Harrington of The Manomet Bird Observatory in Massachusetts. Mr. Harrington explained that the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network is a study whose purpose is to protect key wintering and staging areas for migrant shorebirds in the western hemisphere. He also confirmed that the bird I observed was banded on Marajo Island at the mouth of the Amazon River in northern Brazil. He could not give me an exact date but promised to send me more information.

As I hung up the phone I got out the *World Atlas*. If the bird was banded last winter then it would have to travel from the Amazon River to northern Canada (where Semipalmated Sandpipers breed) then stop in Iowa on its way back to South America. At this point the bird has travelled roughly 11,000 miles since last winter! I envisioned "my" bird in the hands of a Brazilian biologist being set free to face tropical storms, fly over oceans, and dodge predators so that biologists can gain insight and protect areas for others of its kind. I find myself marveling at the little bird's stamina and wishing I could take part in the travels and adventures this little bird has had

in just one year of its life.

This little shorebird illustrated something to me that I have known for a long time, but never was it so clear. I owe it all to white over blue, yellow, yellow.

-Tim Schantz, 1994  
Enlightened By A Shorebird,  
*In a Nutshell*, Winter 1994

September 5th, 1995 was a drizzly overcast day. In the late afternoon, I checked the flooded fields west of Colfax along the Skunk River in Jasper County. During the past week, numerous shorebirds and waders had been seen in this area. In a small flooded area near the side of the road, I saw a small heron crouched at the edge in some sparse vegetation. As I took pictures of it from the car, it walked to the middle of the pool and started to flail around wildly, flapping its wings and shuffling its feet as it darted its bill at unseen prey. I recognized the bird as an immature Reddish Egret.

After photographing the bird and noting all the details, I alerted other birders. In the fading light we were unable to find the bird that evening. The next morning I relocated the bird about a half mile to the east. The bird was last seen on 10 September 1995 and was observed by many. This is the first report of this species for Iowa.

Tim Schantz, 1996  
Reddish Egret in Jasper County  
*Iowa Bird Life*, 66:63-64

## IOWA BIRD LIFE – Back Issues

David Edwards

We announce the sale of back issues of *Iowa Bird Life*, the journal of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union. Most issues are available, from 1931 to the present, though many in the 1930s are out-of-print or in very short supply. These may be photocopied on request - see below. Four issues per year have been published since the beginning. Pricing is as follows:

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4	1934	0	0	0	0
5	1935	0	0	1	12
6	1936	2	3	5	3
7	1937	0	0	0	5
8	1938	3	5	5	4
9	1939	9	6	23	13
10	1940	6	3	15	11
11	1941	3	8	10	7
12	1942	8	17	11	6
13	1943	10	19	9	12
14	1944	11	19	8	3
15	1945	1	8	8	17
16	1946	12	12	9	7
17	1947	9	14	11	16
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19	1949	12	24	21	11
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43	1973	39	36	40	28
44	1974	13	30	42	35
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46	1976	5	19	11	37
47	1977	22	34	24	36
48	1978	16	11	24	16
49	1979	33	17	29	11
50	1980	15	29	26	40
51	1981	8	33	17	26
52	1982	25	34	22	47
53	1983	52	30	28	25
54	1984	2	7	25	50
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67	1997	24	24	27	28
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69	1999	23	22	20	20
70	2000	122	61	48	50

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