

IOU News

Winter 2007 ❄ Volume 23 – Number 4



Fog rises off the early morning surface of Saylorville Reservoir as Stephen Dinsmore searches for birds during Sunday's field trip. (P. Hertzell)

Fall 2007 IOU Meeting Wrap-up

Paul Roisen

Birding enthusiasts from all corners of Iowa and six states gathered in Ankeny for the 2007 Iowa Ornithologists' Union Fall Meeting. Registered participants hit a total of 129 birders not including several people who stopped in to say hello or visit long time friends. Veteran attendees remarked that this number was a high for recent years. The Missouri contingent topped the out of state list with twelve birders attending. Hosting the event was Dr. Steve Dinsmore.

The weekend started off Friday evening with registration and a social gathering at the Best Western Metro North from 6:00 to 9:00PM. Dr. Dinsmore challenged everyone to test out his/her identification skills. The test was a "Look! Handle the stick, but do NOT touch the specimen" involving a series of study skins from the Iowa State University collection. Participants were given 24 hours to submit their answers.

*Continued on page 4. See **Fall Meeting***



IOU News

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

Editors: Paul Hertzell
Mason City, IA
phertzell@rconnect.com

Harley Winfrey
Boone, IA
hsbhwinfrey@hotmail.com

IOU Publications Committee:
James J. Dinsmore
Paul Hertzell
Ann Johnson, Chair
Kayleen A. Niyo
Bill Scheible

IOU News deadlines for submission of materials:

Issue	Coverage	Deadline
Spring	March 1 - May 31	February 20
Summer	June 1 - July 31	May 20
Fall	August 1 - Nov 30	July 20
Winter	Dec 1 - Feb 28	November 20

IOU Membership / Subscriptions:
<http://www.iowabirds.org/>
or : Doug Hunt
1201 High Avenue W
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
birders@mahaska.org

IOU Journal: **Iowa Bird Life**
Kayleen Niyo, Editor

Documenting / Reporting Birds:
Records Committee-
Ann Johnson
532 120th Avenue
Norwalk IA 50211
aj@hologrambirds.com
Website: <http://www.iowabirds.org/>

Winter Field Reports-
Robert Cecil
wewarb@aol.com
Spring Field Reports-
Matthew Kenne
mkenne@netamumail.com

Summer Field Reports-
James J. Dinsmore
oldcoot@iastate.edu

Fall Field Reports-
Paul Hertzell
phertzell@rconnect.com

this newsletter was mailed to 445 members

Dates, Things To Do

December 14-January 5

Audubon Christmas Counts. See page 7 for a CBC near you.

January 01

Send list totals to *IOU News*. See pages 8, 9.

Mississippi River Bald Eagle Watches:

Jan 5: Clinton Bald Eagle Watch

Jan 5: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Bald Eagle Watch at Lock & Dam 13

Jan 12: Muscatine Bald Eagle Watch

Jan 12,13: Quad Cities Bald Eagle Days

Jan 19: Dubuque Bald Eagle Watch

Jan 19-20: Keokuk Bald Eagle Days

February 15-17

First Sax-Zim Bog Winter Bird Festival, Meadowlands, MN. See moumn.org/sax-zim/

February 28

End of winter reporting season. Enter field reports online, or send by email or postal to Bob Cecil. See page 10.

Feb 29-Mar 2

6th Annual International Festival of Owls, Houston, Minnesota. See www.festivalofowls.com/

May 9-11

IOU Spring Meeting, Oskaloosa, Iowa.



From the President

featuring banquet speaker Dr. David Lambeth of the University of North Dakota.

The months between our Spring Meeting in Sioux City and our Fall Meeting in Ankeny have been busy ones for the IOU Board. During that time we have:



The **Fall Meeting in Ankeny** was unique in several ways. In recent years, our Fall Meeting has typically been in September. Steve Dinsmore, ISU professor and meeting organizer, wanted to try a later fall meeting held near Lakes Red Rock and Saylorville in an attempt to find grebes, loons, scoters, gulls and sparrows. Apparently the IOU membership agreed that this was a great idea—129 people attended the October 26-28th weekend and saw some great birds, including White-winged and Surf Scoter, Pacific Loon, Western Grebe, Spotted Towhee and Northern Shrike. Unfortunately, a Cave Swallow (apparently a first state record) seen by Steve at Saylorville on Friday was not listed among the meeting's total of 123 species, as it did not reappear during Saturday-Sunday field trips.

Dr. Jim Rising, author of *Sparrows of the United States and Canada*, was our guest speaker. Rising, a professor at the University of Toronto, spent the entire weekend with us and truly enjoyed himself. His presentation following the Saturday banquet featured his research on North American sparrows, their diagnostic characteristics and behaviors. Many in attendance brought their copies of his book and he responded by providing autographs for all.

Upcoming events include the March 2008 IOU-sponsored trip to Southern California led by Jim Fuller and Bill Scheible and the May 9-11 Spring Meeting in Oskaloosa,

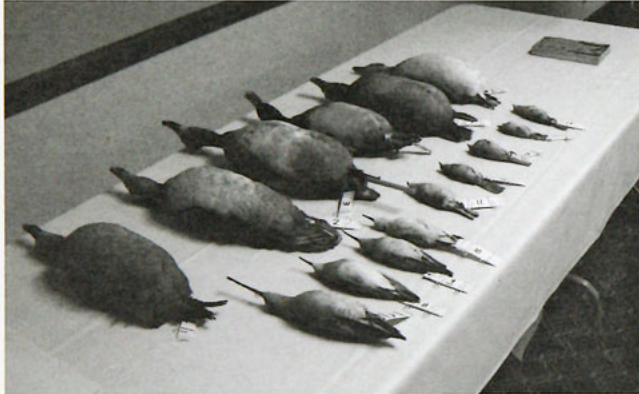
(1) Eliminated the administrative position of Registrar and created the new position of **Membership Coordinator**. Doug Hunt has been our Registrar, a position created by the Board to keep the membership list updated, to contact delinquent members and to mail copies of our journal, *Iowa Bird Life*, out to the membership. The publisher now handles the mailing of journals and the Treasurer maintains the membership list online. Thus, we have modified the duties of the Registrar, have renamed the position, and have focused the major duties around sustainability of membership. The IOU is good at getting new people to join our group, but we also lose a lot of members each year. The Membership Coordinator will work with the Membership Committee to make personal contacts with non-renewing members in an attempt to retain as many of them as possible.

(2) Worked with the **Internal Revenue Service** to submit the 990 forms required of non-profit organizations with revenues exceeding \$25,000 per year. Until about 2003 the IOU did not take in these kinds of revenues. With several estate bequests during this time period, our revenues in the past few years have exceeded this mark without the organization being aware of the need for submittal of the forms. The IRS levied automatic fines amounting to just under \$4200, despite the fact that we submitted the forms immediately after learning of the requirement. But IOU officers appealed these fines and were successful in having them dropped. See page 11.

Check out the new **Ann Barker Memorial Library** found on the IOU website at <http://library.iowabirds.org/>. All but the last two years of *Iowa Bird Life* can be found there, dating back to the first issue from 1933 (the last two years of *Iowa Bird Life* are available on our website to members only). The issues are searchable using keywords. Ann Barker, a past President of the IOU (1991-95) provided the union with a \$10,000 bequest that has helped pay for the online library, which to date has cost approximately \$6,000.

Fall Meeting, continued from page 1

Winners and prizes were announced on Saturday evening. Top prize went to Josh Livingston (Davis City), 2nd place to Tommie Rogers (Missouri), and 3rd place to Nathan Miller (Davis City). Both Livingston and Miller were first time attendees at an IOU meeting.



High score on the *id* puzzle was submitted by Josh Livingston.



Paul Roisen welcomed Jim Murdock to the IOU.

Saturday and Sunday both began with breakfast at 6:00AM. The near record numbers required adding a couple of last minute field trips to handle the larger than expected number of participants. Caravans departed at 7:00AM for various points around Saylorville Lake and Lake Red Rock.

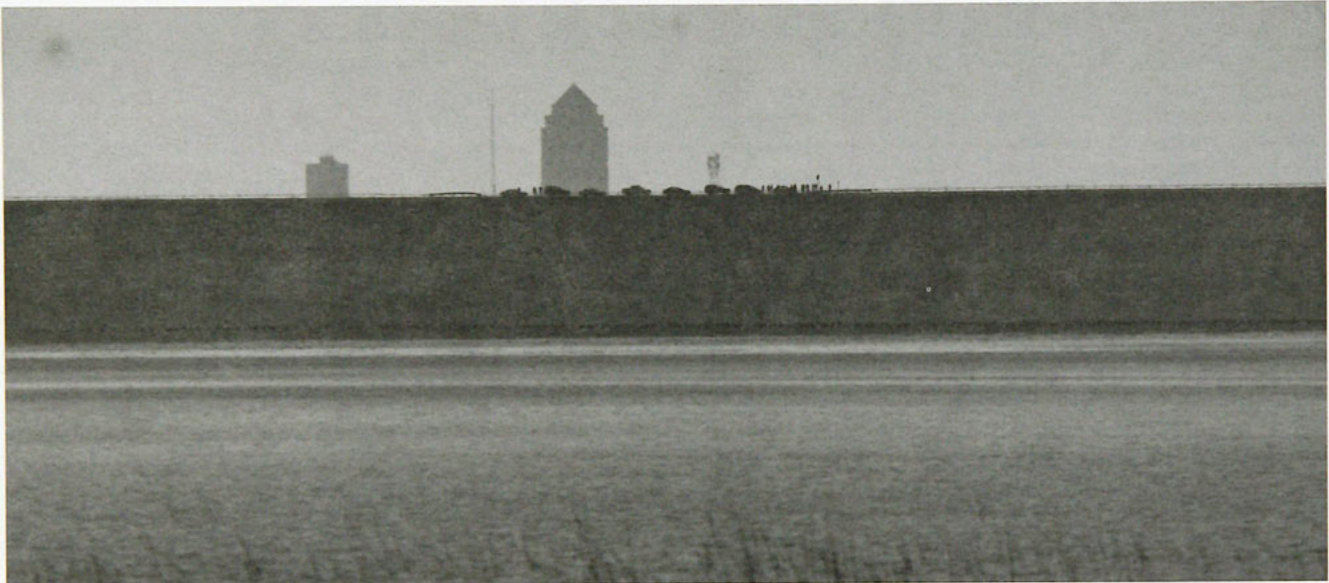
Interesting birds seen were Black-and-white Warbler, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Pacific Loon, Gray Partridge, Black-crowned Night-Heron, and American Woodcock. The species total was 123.

Eight new IOU members were welcomed during the afternoon General Member's meeting. Each received a copy of *Birds In Iowa* by T. Kent and J. Dinsmore as a welcoming gift. Other afternoon events included an update from Dinsmore on the Breeding Bird Atlas project, and a photo presentation by Ty Smedes.



Ty Smedes gave a stunning photo presentation Saturday afternoon. Below: Two Sunday field trips, one led by Jay Gilliam, and the other by Steve Dinsmore, converged on the east shore of Saylorville Reservoir. Photo by P. Hertzell.





A long string of waterfowl drifts below birders poised atop the Saylorville dam. Photo by Jay Gilliam.



Jim Rising signed books for IOU members. Photo by Bill Bossman.

Dr. Rising of the University of Toronto, Canada, capped off the Saturday night banquet with an outstanding audio/visual presentation on sparrows. Co-author of "The History of Sparrows in the United States and Canada," Dr. Rising was both entertaining and knowledgeable. The audience responded with numerous questions.

Dr. Rising spent the entire weekend with us traveling on field trips and visiting with anyone about anything bird related. His greatest desire is to inspire as many people as he can to work towards securing and setting aside additional habitat for animals and birds. His honorarium was gifted back to the IOU for use in a project related somehow to land acquisition. On the trip to the airport he remarked on the depth of knowledge demonstrated by the birders he met, the quality of birding in Iowa, and the friendliness of everyone he came in

contact with during the meeting. He spent considerable time personalizing many books brought to the meeting by IOU members, and said he would be glad to participate again in the future.

The 2008 Spring IOU meeting will be held May 9-11, 2008 in Oskaloosa. Hosts will be Doug and Mary Beth Hunt. Dr. David Lambeth of the University of North Dakota will be our banquet speaker. Dr. Lambeth is well known for his expertise in birding the pothole and prairie areas of North Dakota.



Decatur County birders, Matthew Torres, Nathan Miller, Jeff Livingston and Josh Livingston contemplate the words of a Saturday afternoon speaker. Out of view was Ben Baldwin.



2005 Fall Meeting List of Attendees

Danny Akers	Ankeny	IA	Chuck Fuller	Burlington	IA
Edward Allgood	Iowa City	IA	Judy Garton	Fort Dodge	IA
Jean Allgood	Iowa City	IA	Jay Gilliam	Norwalk	IA
Kathleen Anderson	Columbia	MO	Rita Goranson	Mason City	IA
Ben Baldwin	Davis City	IA	Doug Harr	Ogden	IA
Joyce Bathke	Columbia	MO	Bonnie Heidi	Columbia	MO
Michael Bathke	Columbia	MO	Paul Hertzell	Mason City	IA
Carol Berrier	Ankeny	IA	Tammy Hertzell	Mason City	IA
Galín Berrier	Ankeny	IA	Daryl Howell	Indianola	IA
John Bissell	Grimes	IA	Tim Humpal	Waukee	IA
Bill Bossman	Sioux City	IA	Doug Hunt	Oskaloosa	IA
Aaron Brees	Des Moines	IA	Mary Beth Hunt	Oskaloosa	IA
Jaclyn Brees	Des Moines	IA	Maridel Jackson	Ankeny	IA
Jerry Brown	Evansdale	IA	Ann Johnson	Norwalk	IA
Suzanne Brown	Evansdale	IA	Tom Johnson	Mystic	IA
Mary Burger	Englewood	CO	Dorothy Kelley	Des Moines	IA
			Mike Kelley	Des Moines	IA
			Matthew Kenne	Algona	IA
			Barbara King	Ankeny	IA
			Karen Kinkead	Ames	IA
			Cathy Konrad	Bettendorf	IA
			Dick Kraemer	Waterloo	IA
			Tom Kurtz	Davenport	IA
			Tom Lawson	Adel	IA



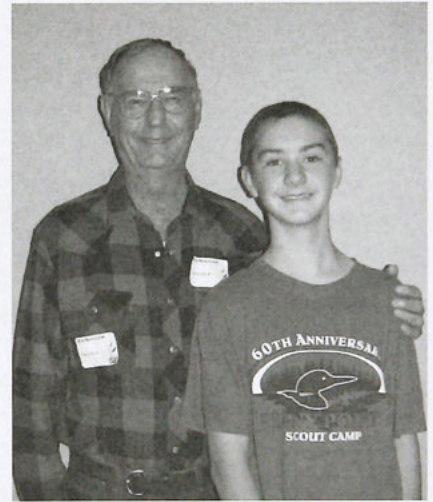
Bob Cecil and Paul Roisen double counted the money.

Bob Cecil	Des Moines	IA
John Cecil	Des Moines	IA
Douglas Chapman	Sioux Falls	SD
Jane Clark	Clive	IA
Raymond Cummins	Centerville	IA
Diane Dentlinger	Des Moines	IA
Drew Dillman	Iowa City	IA
Stephen Dinsmore	Ames	IA
Karen Disbrow	Iowa City	IA
Mark Dobbe	Ames	IA
John Donelson	Iowa City	IA
Linda Donelson	Iowa City	IA
Anne Downing	Columbia	MO
Sherry Dragula	Ames	IA
Julia Dyche	Shenandoah	IA
Keith Dyche	Shenandoah	IA
Barbara Edson	Ames	IA
Clyde Edson	Ames	IA
Bruce Ehresman	Ames	IA
Marlene Ehresman	Ames	IA
Joan Eness	Clear Lake	IA
Virgil Eness	Clear Lake	IA
Bery Engebretsen	Urbandale	IA
Anita Evans	Omaha	NE
Carolyn Fischer	Mason City	IA
Donna Flanagan	Ames	IA



Jeff Livingston addressed the membership.

Jean Leonatti	Columbia	MO
Jeff Livingston	Davis City	IA
Josh Livingston	Davis City	IA
Ken Lowder	Iowa City	IA
Les Lutter	Bronson	IA
Tucker Lutter	Bronson	IA
Lynn Marsh	Ankeny	IA
Dewey McConville	Centerville	IA
Carol Mefford	Ankeny	IA
Barbara Miller	Des Moines	IA
Nathan Miller	Davis City	IA
Francis Moore	Waterloo	IA
Jim Murdock	Ames	IA
Bob Nickolson	Sioux City	IA
Phyllis Nickolson	Sioux City	IA
Kay Niyo	Evergreen	CO
Wolfgang Oesterreich	Ames	IA
Barbara Padelford	Bellevue	NE



Bob Nickolson and Tucker Lutter drove from Iowa's west coast.

Loren Padelford	Bellevue	NE
Reva Pedelty	Nora Springs	IA
Edna Peters	Rockwell	IA
Mark Proescholdt	Liscomb	IA
Della Rhoades	Gravois Mills	MO
Jim Rising	Toronto	ON
Tommie Rogers	Mound City	MO
Paul Roisen	Sioux City	IA
John Rutenbeck	Burlington	IA
Richard Sayles	Blue Grass	IA
Bill Scheible	Cedar Rapids	IA
Tom Schilke	Waterloo	IA
Leo Schlunz	Chariton	IA
Carol Schumacher	Winona	MN
Jim Sinclair	Indianola	IA
Nancy Slife	Iowa Falls	IA
Ty Smedes	Urbandale	IA
Bernard Sorofman	Iowa City	IA
Nancy Sorofman	Iowa City	IA
Stuart Sparkman	Des Moines	IA
Susan Spieker	Norwalk	IA
Mike Stephens	Centerville	IA
Vicky Stephens	Centerville	IA
Dan Tiemeier	Centerville	IA
Bill Tollefson	Cedar Rapids	IA
Matthew Torres	Leon	IA
Richard Trieff	Indianola	IA
Fred Truck	Des Moines	IA
Lorna Truck	Des Moines	IA
Peter Vander Meer	Le Mars	IA
Karen Viste-Sparkman	Des Moines	IA
Gerald Von Ehwegen	Sioux City	IA
Edge Wade	Columbia	MO
Jerry Wade	Columbia	MO
John Wenck	Des Moines	IA
Sandy Wenck	Des Moines	IA
Matt Wetrich	Jefferson	IA
Gerald White	Muscatine	IA
Pete Wickham	Cedar Rapids	IA
Mark Widrechner	Ames	IA
Harley Winfrey	Boone	IA
Hank Zaletel	Nevada	IA
Ellen Zellmer	Blue Springs	MO
Jim Zellmer	Blue Springs	MO

2007-2008 Iowa Christmas Bird Counts

<u>Date</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Compiler</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
Dec 15	Ames	Story	Shane Patterson	515 232-4682	shane7896@yahoo.com
Jan 05	Andalusia/Bufalo	Muscatine/Scott	Kelly McKay	309 755-6731	kellyJmckay@aol.com
Jan 05	Boone County	Boone	Mark Widrechner	515 233-1532	mwpskd@aol.com
Dec 15	Bremer County	Bremer	Francis Moore	319 232-0217	flmoore@forbin.net
Dec 15	Burlington	Des Moines/Louisa	Chuck Fuller	319 753-0710	CFuller989@aol.com
Dec 22	Carroll County	Carroll	Matt Wetrich	641 919-6061	matt@naturebymatt.com
Dec 16	Cedar Falls/Waterloo	Blackhawk/Grundy/Butler	Francis Moore	319 232-0217	flmoore@forbin.net
Dec 15	Cedar Rapids	Linn	Jim Durbin	319 377-7194	durbinjames@mcleodusa.net
Dec 16	Cherokee	Cherokee/O'Brien	Dick Bierman	712 225-5552	dbierman@mchsi.net
Dec 20	Clayton County NW	Clayton	Danny Akerrs	563 880-4270	birdmandan1231@hotmail.com
Dec 18	Clinton/Savannah	Clinton/Jackson	Kelly McKay	309 755-6731	kellyJmckay@aol.com
Dec 15	Dallas County	Dallas	Tom Lawson	515 975-9989	tom.lawson@mchsi.com
Dec 16	Davenport	Scott	Kelly McKay	309 755-6731	kellyJmckay@aol.com
Dec ??	Decorah	Winneshieck	Darwin Koenig	515 964-2790	
Dec 22	Des Moines	Polk/Dallas	Dennis Thompson	515 254-0837	cndthomps@acm.org
Dec 22	De Soto	Harrison/Pottawattamie	Jerry Toll	402 453-9239	geritol48@cox.net
Dec 29	Dubuque	Dubuque	Charlie Winterwood	563 588-2783	cwinterwood@yahoo.com
Dec 19	Eldora-Union	Hardin/Marshall	Mark Proescholdt	641 496-5219	
Dec 15	Grinnell	Poweshieck	Bob Van Ervelde	641 236-6600	
Dec 22	Green Island/Lost Mound		Dan Wenny	815 273-3184	dwenny@inhs.uiuc.edu
Dec 22	Humboldt County	Humboldt	Dan Gifford	319 752-8176	giff57@aol.com
Dec 22	Ida Grove	Ida	Don Poggensee	712 364-3491	donpog@netllc.net
Dec 16	Iowa City	Johnson	Chris Edwards	319 887-6959	credwards@aol.com
Dec 18	Jamaica	Guthrie/Greene/Dallas	Ray Cummins	641 856-3518	cummins@sirisonline.com
Dec 17	Keokuk	Lee	Bob Cecil	515 277-5709	wewarb@aol.com
Dec 30	Lamoni	Decatur	Matthew Torres	641 446-6611	matthewt34@hotmail.com
Dec 15	Marshalltown	Marshall	Ed & Betty Savage	641-752-0105	
Dec 15	Mason City	Cerro Gordo	Rita Goranson	641 423-1699	ritag@mchsi.com
Dec 22	Muscatine	Muscatine	Kelly McKay	309 755-6731	kellyJmckay@aol.com
Jan 05	Neal Smith NWR	Jasper	Karen Viste-Sparkman	515 994-3400	karen_viestesparkman@fws.gov
Dec 19	North Linn	Linn	Jim Durbin	319 377-7194	durbinjames@mcleodusa.net
Dec 15	Omaha, NE	Mills/Pottawattamie	Betty Grenon	402 731-2383	grenon925@aol.com
Dec 20	Princeton/Cordova	Clinton/Scott	Kelly McKay	309 755-6731	kellyJmckay@aol.com
Dec 15	Rathbun Res.	Appanoose/Monroe	Mike Stephens	641 437-1736	
Dec 15	Red Rock Res.	Marion/Mahaska	Aaron Brees	641 660-2316	abrees@hotmail.com
Dec 16	Saylorville	Polk/Story	Stephen Dinsmore	515 233-2796	cootjr@iastate.net
Dec 15	Shenandoah	Fremont/Page	Keith Dyche	712 246-5940	kadd27@hotmail.com
Dec 17	Siam-Hopkins	Taylor/Nodaway	Kelly D Norris	712 523-2807	kellydn@frontiernet.net
Dec 15	Sioux City	Woodbury	Jerry Probst	712 258-1296	probtsuebee@aol.com
Dec 15	Spirit Lake	Dickinson	Lee Schoenewe	712 262-8194	lschoe@evertek.net
Dec 29	Taylor County	Taylor	Kelly D Norris	712 523-2807	kellydn@frontiernet.net
Dec 22	Union County	Union	Stephen Dinsmore	515 233-2796	cootjr@iastate.edu
Dec 16	Waterloo/Cedar Falls	Blackhawk/Grundy/Butler	Francis Moore	319 232-0217	flmoore@forbin.net
Dec 29	Webster County	Webster	Breck Johnson	642 647-2666	tjbjohn@iowasocean.com
Dec 21	Western Mercer Co	Louisa	Kelly McKay	309 755-6731	kellyJmckay@aol.com
Jan 05	Westfield	Plymouth	Scott Moats	712 568-2596	smoats@acsnet.com
Jan 01	Worth County	Worth	Curt Nelson	641 696-5600	cnelson@omnitel.com
Dec 28	Yellow River Forest	Allamakee	Darwin Koenig	515 964-2790	



2007 Listing Totals

Iowa bird species list totals as of December 31, 2007 may be submitted to the *IOU News* by using the form at the right, or may be sent by email. Totals will be published in the Spring issue, 2008. Current Iowa records by state, county and month can be found in the 2007 Summer issue of *IOU News* (Volume 23, number 2).

For many birders, keeping list totals is both informative and fun, and generating these totals helps motivate birders to stay active, and perhaps to explore new areas. This process contributes to our learning more about the presence of birds in Iowa, which is a principal objective of the IOU.

The **Iowa Lifetime Total List** is the category with the largest participation. Last year, 33 people contributed their state total for inclusion in this list. This particular list is defined slightly differently by different birders, for example, some birders only list birds they have found, personally. For others, the collection of personally found birds is

a subset of their state life list. So, following the suggestions of IOU members, we are into our third year of including a **Personally Found** list category. This list tracks birds found by the lister without prior knowledge of recent birds or recurring birds of the listed species at that site.

Several years ago, the *IOU News* introduced two awards for Iowa birders who enjoy listing their sightings. These awards are intended to acknowledge Iowa's most active birders, and to promote birding in Iowa.

Top Annual List. This award acknowledges the IOU member with the top annual list for the previous year. To be eligible, the participant must submit the species list, and any sightings of casual or accidental species must be accepted by the IOU Records Committee. For the 2006 year, this award went to *Jay Gilliam*, who observed 304 species in Iowa during the year, the second year in a row he has recorded more than 300 species in the state.

Top Percent of Life List. This award is intended for the IOU member with the highest percent of his/her life list seen in the calendar year. To be eligible, this member's life list must have been previously published.

Other popular list categories are yard list totals, and individual county list totals. Included also is an opportunity to list a birder's **County Total Ticks**, that is, the sum of all individual county totals.

Another popular listing activity is the **Big Day**. A Big Day is a group affair in which participants attempt to record in a single day, in a particular geographic region, as many species as they can find. We ask that participants follow ABA Big Day rules and adhere to the ABA Birding Code of Ethics. For new record totals in a category, please submit the species list and consider writing a short narrative about the adventure for publication in this newsletter.

Eagle Lake Wetlands Bird Conservation Area Dedication

FOREST CITY - A ceremony to dedicate the Eagle Lake Wetland Complex as Iowa's newest Bird Conservation Area (BCA) will take place Wednesday, December 19, at 1:30 p.m., at the Faculty Lounge in the Waldorf College Student Center, at the intersection of S.8th St. & W. I St.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is hosting the dedication that will include brief presentations and the unveiling of a special Bird Conservation Area sign. Following the ceremony, there will be a short driving tour of the area.

The Eagle Lake Wetlands area is one of Iowa's largest and most important remaining wetland complexes. "Designating the Eagle Lake Wetland Complex as a Bird Conservation Area will add to its recognition by indicating its importance for nesting and migratory grassland and wetland birds," said Bruce Ehresman, DNR wildlife diversity program biologist. "This area provides important nesting habitat for de-

clining grassland birds, such as Northern Harrier, Bobolink, Sedge Wren, and meadowlarks; for declining wetland species like Black and Forster's terns, American Bittern, and Redhead ducks; plus the area provides nesting and migration stopover habitat for many other

bird species suffering nationwide declines."

The public is welcome to attend this event. For more information, contact Ehresman at (515) 432-2823, or Doug Harr at (515) 281-4815.



A Black Tern forages over Eagle Lake, Hancock County. Photo by P. Hertzell, July 2007.

2007 IOU Bird Listing Report Form

Please return this form within a week or so of the new year in order for your totals to be included in the next compilation. Of course, **all categories are optional**. Contributed totals should be accurate as of December 31, 2007. Return to: Paul Hertzell, 1432 East State Street, Mason City, IA 50401; or email totals to: phertzell@rconnect.com

Name: _____

E-mail or postal address: _____

County of residence: _____

I will do a County Big Year in _____ County during 2008.

Iowa State Life List Total: _____ Personally Found by Me in Iowa : _____

Iowa 2007 Annual List Total: _____ (Total species seen in Iowa during 2007) Yardlist Total: _____

Regional or statewide Big Day*:	Region	Date	Species	Names of Participants
<i>Examples:</i>	<i>Emmet County</i>	<i>5/16/2007</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>Rita Goranson, Matt Kenne, Paul Hertzell</i>
	<i>Statewide</i>	<i>12/10/2007</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>Jim Fuller, Chuck Fuller, John Rutenbeck</i>

* for record totals, please submit the species list.

COUNTY LIFE LIST TOTALS

_____ Adair County	_____ Davis County	_____ Johnson County	_____ Pocahontas County
_____ Adams County	_____ Decatur County	_____ Jones County	_____ Polk County
_____ Allamakee County	_____ Delaware County	_____ Keokuk County	_____ Pottawattamie County
_____ Appanoose County	_____ Des Moines County	_____ Kossuth County	_____ Poweshiek County
_____ Audubon County	_____ Dickinson County	_____ Lee County	_____ Ringgold County
_____ Benton County	_____ Dubuque County	_____ Linn County	_____ Sac County
_____ Blackhawk County	_____ Emmet County	_____ Louisa County	_____ Scott County
_____ Boone County	_____ Fayette County	_____ Lucas County	_____ Shelby County
_____ Bremer County	_____ Floyd County	_____ Lyon County	_____ Sioux County
_____ Buchanan County	_____ Franklin County	_____ Madison County	_____ Story County
_____ Buena Vista County	_____ Fremont County	_____ Mahaska County	_____ Tama County
_____ Butler County	_____ Greene County	_____ Marion County	_____ Taylor County
_____ Calhoun County	_____ Grundy County	_____ Marshall County	_____ Union County
_____ Carroll County	_____ Guthrie County	_____ Mills County	_____ Van Buren County
_____ Cass County	_____ Hamilton County	_____ Mitchell County	_____ Wapello County
_____ Cedar County	_____ Hancock County	_____ Monona County	_____ Warren County
_____ Cerro Gordo County	_____ Hardin County	_____ Monroe County	_____ Washington County
_____ Cherokee County	_____ Harrison County	_____ Montgomery County	_____ Wayne County
_____ Chickasaw County	_____ Henry County	_____ Muscatine County	_____ Webster County
_____ Clarke County	_____ Howard County	_____ O'Brien County	_____ Winnebago County
_____ Clay County	_____ Humboldt County	_____ Osceola County	_____ Winneshiek County
_____ Clayton County	_____ Ida County	_____ Page County	_____ Woodbury County
_____ Clinton County	_____ Iowa County	_____ Palo Alto County	_____ Worth County
_____ Crawford County	_____ Jackson County	_____ Plymouth County	_____ Wright County
_____ Dallas County	_____ Jasper County		
	_____ Jefferson County		

COUNTY TOTAL TICKS _____

Former IOU President Visits Iowa

Former Iowa Ornithologists' Union President Ed Kozicky visited Ames on 6 October, his first visit to Iowa in many years. From 1948-1956, Kozicky was the Leader of the Iowa Coop-



Ed Kozicky, I.O.U. President 1953-1954 with current I.O.U. member Erv Klaas in Ames on 6 Nov 2007. Klaas was Leader of the Iowa Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit from 1992-1999.

erative Wildlife Research Unit at Iowa State College, now Iowa State University. While in Iowa, Kozicky was active in the I.O.U. and served as President of the organization from 1953-1954. He directed the work of several graduate students, most of whom studied Ring-necked Pheasants or Northern Bobwhite. The results of several of those studies were published

in Iowa Bird Life (e.g., vol. 27, pp. 63-69). In 1956, Kozicky left Ames to work for the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation where he was in charge of their conservation program for many years. He was back in Ames to help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Iowa Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. That unit, founded in 1932 through the efforts of J. N. "Ding" Darling, was the first one established in the nation. Kozicky has outlived all I.O.U. presidents previous to his term and at 92, continues to be active at his home in East Alton, Illinois.

-Jim Dinsmore, Erv Klaas



OFFICERS OF THE IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

Kozicky stands with the other key officers of the IOU in 1953. From left, Albert Berkowitz, retiring President; Frieda Crossley, Secretary-Treasurer; Woodward Brown, Vice-President; Ed Kozicky, President; Harold Ennis, Librarian; Fred Pierce, Editor of IBL. Photo by Hugh Roberts. Reprinted from *Iowa Bird Life*, June 1953, Vol XXIII No. 2.

WINTER FIELD REPORTS

Bob Cecil

For many, winter birding involves a Christmas Bird Count or two and hoping something good shows up at the feeder. While it's hard to blame them, there's a lot to see in those chilly Iowa landscapes. Beginning just in 2004, Iowa birders have found Harlequin Duck, Barrow's Goldeneye, Iceland Gull, California Gull, Slaty-backed Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Ferruginous Hawk, Northern Hawk-Owl, Great Gray Owl, Bohemian Waxwing, Lark Bunting, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Black-headed Grosbeak, Brambling, and Hoary Redpoll. Bring back some memories? But while every winter season holds the promise of excitement, this one may be special.

Already, a Black-tailed Gull lingered into the winter season, continuing to bring in flocks of birders from around

the country, but, more importantly for winter birders, we may have a winter finch invasion. That one event that many of us had lost hope for is a possibility, presaged by early Red Crossbill, Common Redpoll, and Pine Siskin, and indications of others on the way. A failed cone crop up north is blamed, and it appears that the conifers here have plenty to offer them should they decide to visit. So get out the feeders, get out into the field, and be sure to get your field reports to me by 3 Mar. We may have another opportunity to observe and chronicle a winter irruption of northern species.

If you are able, please submit your report via www.iowabirds.org. I simply enter my observations as I make them, meaning no deadlines in getting my report in. It is quick, easy, and eliminates transcription errors.

Some Correspondence with the IRS

A note from the IOU Treasurer

Non-profit organizations with gross revenues exceeding \$25,000 must file informational 990 forms with the IRS in order to maintain their tax exempt status. Historically the IOU annual revenues had not exceeded \$25,000 until 2004. In that year, the IOU received two bequests that put revenues in excess of the \$25,000 mark. Unfortunately, 990 forms were not filed. The oversight was not caught until this summer.

There is no penalty for filing a form when revenues are under \$25,000, but there is always a penalty assessed for **not** filing a form when revenues are over \$25,000. In this case, the penalty assessed the IOU was just under \$4,200. We responded by filing the appropriate forms, and an appeal was made to waive the penalty. The IOU received good news in early December that the appeal was successful and a waiver of all fees was granted.

It is doubtful we would be as lucky with a second violation, so a policy has been implemented of filing the form yearly whether or not revenues are over \$25,000.

-Tammy Hertzell



IOU Trip to Southern California Fills up Quickly

An IOU-sponsored trip to Southern California, scheduled for 4-12 March, 2008, has completely filled up. Iowa birders Jim Fuller and Bill Scheible are planning to lead a group of 10 to San Diego and Imperial Counties, visiting "habitats ranging from Pacific Ocean to Salton Sea, with mountains and desert in between". Some target birds will be Brandt's Cormorant, Yellow-footed Gull, Surfbird, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Wrentit, Le Conte's and California Thrashers, and Tri-colored Blackbird. The origination point will be San Diego.

IOU-sponsored trips are designed and organized by the IOU Trip Committee. Details of this particular trip and general information on all IOU-sponsored trips may be found on the web at www.iowabirds.org/iou/trips.asp

IOU News Gets a New Editor

The *IOU News*, newsletter of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union, and consistently ranked as one of the top 100 ornithological newsletters in the midwest, will have a new editor in 2008. Beginning with the Spring 2008 issue, Harley Winfrey of Boone, Iowa, will produce the newsletter, replacing 7-year veteran editor, Paul Hertzell of Mason City. Hertzell, who succeeded co-editors Hank and Linda Zaletel in 2000, said his fingers needed a rest, but agreed to continue in an advisory capacity, as long as the questions weren't too hard.



Harley Winfrey at the IOU Fall Meeting in Ankeny, October 2007. Photo by P. Hertzell.

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

[Address Service Requested]

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MASON CITY, IOWA
Permit No. 251

*****AUTO**3-DIGIT 522
Thomas H Kent
624 LARCH LN
IOWA CITY IA 52245-3435

I o w a O r n i t h o l o g i s t s ' U n i o n

IOU News

CONTENTS

Fall Meeting Wrap-up	1, 4-6	2007-2008 Christmas Counts	7
Dates, Things To Do	2	2007 Listing Report Form	9
From the President	3	Winter Field Reports <i>Bob Cecil</i>	10

