

# Middlewestern Prairie



## Kenneth J. Brock

1265 Red Bud Drive  
Chesterton, Indiana 46304  
(kebrock@iun.edu)

For the most part, it was a beautiful autumn for birders. The weather was warm, and November brought a delightful Indian(a) summer. Actually, November temperatures were quite remarkable—in Kansas City, it was the fourth warmest November ever, and in Chicago temperatures averaged 7° F above normal. Though western reaches of the Region were dry, the August through mid-October period was unusually wet in most areas. As a result Bill Eddleman reported that dry conditions in Missouri eliminated most waterbird habitat, whereas, in eastern Indiana Jim Haw lamented that heavy precipitation inundated the shorebird habitat (such are the joys of birding). In many areas, passerines riding September fronts overflowed the Region, resulting in few fallouts and an erratic distribution of migrant songbirds. Despite these shortcomings, most correspondents submitted positive assessments for the season. Perhaps the most noteworthy weather impact was a delayed migration. Numerous species took full advantage of summer-like conditions and tarried on their southbound journey. One measure of this delay was provided by the presence of 13 warbler species in Indiana's Migrant Trap 13 October and a

dozen warblers in St. Louis 6 October. These are impressive tallies for mid-October. Additionally, high-fives were struck for an ample number of rarities, including Ohio's first Brown-headed Nuthatch. It was indeed a good season for birders.

**Abbreviations:** Carl. L. (Carlyle L., *Clinton, Fayette, & Bond*, IL); H.B.S.P (Headlands Beach S.P., OH); I.B.S.P (Illinois Beach S.P., on the lakefront 16 km s. of the WI line), L. Chau. (Lake Chatauqua N.W.R., IL); Mill. B. (Miller Beach, IN, the southernmost point on L. Michigan); O.N.W.R. (Ottawa N.W.R., OH); R.E.D.A. (Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area, MO); S.C.R. (Squaw Creek N.W.R., MO).

## LOONS THROUGH VULTURES

Beginning in the mid-1990s, the Region's Red-throated Loon reports abruptly increased by roughly a factor of five. That pattern continued this year, with reports from all six states. The highest numbers came from the Indiana lakefront, where 47 were counted, with a peak daily tally of 14 at Mill. B. 19 Nov (JKC, PBG, JMc et al.). Pacific Loons occurred in typical numbers, with singles at Smithville L., MO 26 Oct-13 Nov (JHi, RF, LL), Clin. L. 11 Nov (†RTC), and 23 Nov at I.B.S.P. (†AFS, RE). The peak Common Loon tally consisted of 730 off Beverly Shores, IN 7 Nov (PBG). Red-necked Grebes were more common than nor-

mal, with 6 in Iowa, 5 in Indiana, 4 in Ohio, and one in Illinois. Eared Grebes wandered to Ohio, where one was in *Paulding* 9-10 Sep (JPe, D & MD) and another in *Erie* 4-11 Oct (BWh, JHa) Western Grebes were scarce, with only 2 reported e. of the Mississippi R.; these were at Clin L 31 Oct (RTC) and L. Chau. 5-24 Nov (KR, RBj, SBj, m.ob.).

The American White Pelican population continues to flourish, with counts exceeding 2500 birds in Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri. The peak tally was 3600 in *Marion*, IA 23 Aug (ABs), and singles occurred as far e. as *Erie*, OH 4-17 Aug (BM, m. ob.) and O.N.W.R. 13 Sep (GM et al.). Double-crested Cormorants were also more than plentiful, with counts exceeding 1000 in five states. A late American Bittern was at R.E.D.A. 17 Nov (Joe Eads). Least Bitterns were reported in excellent fall numbers, with a maximum of 34 at Swan Lake N.W.R. 24 Sep, where one lingered until 15 Nov to provide one of Missouri's latest records (SK). Although Great Egrets were deemed scarce in Missouri and Kentucky, impressive counts of 1700 in *Calhoun* 4 Aug (KAM, m. ob.) and 836 in *Mason* were logged in Illinois (RBj, SBj). Little Blue Herons peaked at 400 in *Union*, IL 2 Sep (CMc, JMc). The maximum Cattle Egret count consisted of "several thousand" at a post-breeding roost near L. Barkley, KY (BPB) Unidentified *Plegadis* ibis were in *Van Wert*, OH 28-29 Oct (JPe) and *Henderson*, KY 21 Nov-4 Dec (LA, MM, BPB). The latter is extremely late. In concert with the invasion farther east, 2 **Wood Storks** were identified in the Region. The first was present in the Chicago suburb of Lombard 5-25 Aug (SWo, photos in the *Chicago-Tribune*, m. ob.), where it attracted both birder and media attention. The 2nd stork was observed soaring near Cleveland 9 Sep (†Brad Stemen et al.) to provide Ohio's 4th record. Extraordinary vulture counts included 230 Blacks at Table Rock Dam, Taney, MO 21 Nov (MBR) and 465 Turkeys at Effigy Mounds, *Allamakee*, IA 26 Sep (FL).

## WATERFOWL THROUGH CRANES

An unusually mild Nov delayed the waterfowl flight; consequently many species, especially the later migrants, appeared in below-normal numbers. Once again Greater White-fronted Geese were widespread; 6 were found in *Paulding*, OH 28 Oct (D&MD), where they are rare. Bucking the late waterfowl trend, a record-early Ross's Goose appeared in *Cerro Gordo*, IA 15 Sep (†CN, †RG, †PH). In Illinois and Indiana, it was the best year for Brant in several decades. Records included an early imm. Atlantic Brant (subspecies *hrota*) at Mill. B. 24 Sep (†JMc, BGr, et al.), an ad. at Mill. B. 16 Oct (PBG, BGr), and

another at Carl. L. 19-27 Oct (KM, ASe, MW). A **Black Brant** (subspecies *nigricans*) on the Chicago lakefront 27 Sep (†GAW, RHu, m. ob.) was rarer still. Tundra Swans peaked in *Allamakee*, IA 12 Nov when 800 were counted (CE). A fine Blue-winged Teal tally was recorded at L. Chau. 30 Aug, when 2403 were counted (RBj, SBj). The delayed migration kept bay duck numbers well below average, but inland scoter counts were in the normal range, with one to 3 of each species reported in every state. On the Great Lakes, White-winged Scoters were surprisingly scarce, with no reports on L. Erie; this species was the rarest scoter on L. Michigan. Chicago had a monopoly on this season's Harlequin Ducks, with singles at Lincoln Park 30 Oct–11 Nov (GAW, DDa, JEL, m. ob.) and Winthrop Harbor 26 Nov (SH).

A whopping 66 Ospreys passed the I.B.S.P. hawkwatch 10 Sep (VB et al.), and one lingered at Smithville L., MO until 26 Nov (SK, KG). Diurnal raptor of the season was an ad. **Swallow-tailed Kite** that frequented *Shelby*, IN 2-4 Sep (RR, †DGo, m. ob.) to provide the state's 6th modern record. A flock of 8 Mississippi Kites, associating with migrating hawks, was seen in *St. Louis*, MO 24 Sep (MBr). A remarkable fall tally of 101 Northern Harriers was recorded 26 Oct during an I.B.S.P. hawkwatch (VB et al.). The latter site also provided some impressive Sharp-shinned Hawk counts, with 213 on 26 Oct and 200 on 6 Oct (VB et al.). An above-normal 20 Northern Goshawks were reported across the Region, with half of these in Iowa. The largest Broad-winged Hawk flight, by far, occurred in *Allamakee*, IA, where 1408 were counted 22 Sep (FL). For the 2nd consecutive year, an unprecedented Swainson's Hawk movement was recorded in Iowa. This year 553 birds were counted in *Pottawattamie* 5 Oct (MO). The most impressive aspect of a better-than-average Golden Eagle flight was the appearance of 4 in Ohio; the easternmost was in *Fulton* 17 Sep (RHu, SWa).

Greater Prairie-Chicken reports were restricted to w. Missouri, where the peak tally was 52 birds at Prairie Creek S.P., *Barton* 20 Nov (MBR). Rail reports were skimpy but did include a single King Rail in Arcola, IL 11 Aug (RTC) and 2 at S.C.R. 26 Aug (RF), plus a fine autumn tally of 35 Soras in *Appanoose*, IA 16 Sep (TJ). The 17 Common Moorhens counted at O.N.W.R., OH 5 Aug (RHu, SWa) is among the better fall tallies of recent years. The 17,351 migrating Sandhill Cranes counted over the Chicago suburb of Villa Park, IL 19 Nov (RB) is almost certainly the Region's largest count ever made away from the Jasper-Pulaski, IN staging area.

## SHOREBIRDS

The maximum plover counts came from Ohio, where 200 Black-bellieds were at O.N.W.R. 4 Oct (JHa, BWh), 430 American Golden-Plovers were at the same location 11 Oct (VF), 96 Semipalmateds were counted at Cedar Point 31 Aug (VF), and 3700 Killdeer in three nw. Ohio counties 8 Aug (VF).

**SA** For years most of the Region's observers have tacitly assumed that all migrant Piping Plovers that appear on s. L. Michigan beaches were part of the Great Lakes' breeding population. That assumption was shown to be invalid this fall when a juv., sporting color leg bands, was photographed at Miller Beach, IN 1 Aug (MT, JMc, ph. EPO). A lengthy web search, using the band colors and sequence, allowed Jeff McCoy to ultimately determine the bird's origin. It had been banded as a chick by Paul Gooseen of the Canadian Wildlife Service at L. Diefenbaker, Saskatchewan during the summer of 2001. Other migrant Piping Plover reports included 4 in *Marion*, IA 2 Aug (MPr) and one at Carl. L. 28 Aug (IH); unfortunately, there was no information about the origin of these birds.

Black-necked Stilts were reported at Clin. L., where two pairs were present 4-9 Jul (†RTC, HP, m. ob.) and in *Fulton*, KY, where 5 (2 ads., 3 juvs.) were observed 19 Aug-2 Sep (BPB, AC, et al.). A strong Whimbrel flight occurred on the Great Lakes, with 15 on L. Michigan and 9 on L. Erie; a rare inland occurrence was recorded at Carl. L. 8 Aug (DKa, ph.). Hudsonian Godwits appeared in typical numbers except in Indiana, where a flock of 26 at Mill. B. 3 Sep (BGr) established a record tally for the state. A better-than-average Marbled Godwit flight brought 9 to Indiana, 5 to Illinois, 5 to Ohio, and one to Iowa. In Ohio, a very tardy Marbled lingered at O.N.W.R. through 28 Oct (VF). One to 8 Red Knots were reported in every state except Kentucky. The most noteworthy knot records occurred in *Marion*, IA 21 Aug (†ABs), *Ray*, MO 10 Sep (RF), and *Johnson*, IA 12 Sep (†JLF, †MCD, †THK), where this species is casual. Peak tallies of the smaller shorebirds included 286 Sanderlings at O.N.W.R. 11 Oct (VF), 6 White-rumped Sandpipers at Chausee, OH 25 Jul (KMj, DS), 24 Baird's Sandpipers at L. Cal. 19 Aug (GAW, m. ob.), 2000 Pectoral Sandpipers at O.N.W.R. 8 Aug (VF), and 6500+ Dunlin at O.N.W.R. 28 Oct (JPg). Single Purple Sandpipers were

reported at Michigan City Harbor, IN 15-16 Nov (PBG, SBg et al.) and at H.B.S.P. 20 Nov (JS). A fairly typical Buff-breasted Sandpiper flight was highlighted by 26 imm. at Carl. L. 8 Sep (DKa). The season's Ruff list consisted of an ad. male in *St. Charles*, MO 23-24 Aug (CMA, m. ob.) and a juv. on the Mississippi R., *Carlisle*, KY 8-9 Sep (BPB, RD). The most noteworthy dowitcher report was of a Long-billed at Kentucky L. 24-25 Nov (HC, BPB, AC), which established a new late date for Kentucky. A mega-snipe tally was recorded at Metzger Marsh W.M.A., OH 18 Nov, when 310 were counted (VF). Wilson's Phalaropes staged a very good flight, with one to 8 birds recorded in every state. Most noteworthy was a very late Wilson's at Point Clinton, OH 18 Nov (VF). On the Great Lakes, the Red Phalarope migration was somewhat above average, with 9 on L. Erie and 5 on L. Michigan. The only adequately documented inland report consisted of a single at Carl. L. 25-26 Aug (DKa, ph. m. ob.).

## JAEGERS THROUGH ALCIDS

The Region experienced another fine jaeger flight. As is typical, a majority of the birds was recorded at Mill. B., where the season total was 81 jaegers, 57 of which were unidentified Pomarine reports were restricted to the Great Lakes, where an imm. was at Mill. B. 25 Sep (†JKC, PBG), another was there 16 Oct (†JMc et al.), one was at H.B.S.P. 24 Nov (LRO), and 2 were reported at Rocky River City Park, OH 15 Nov (GL). The season's Parasitic Jaeger total at Mill. B. was 22, with a peak of 7 on 24 Sep (JMc, RHu, BGr, et al.). The only other Parasitic was reported at Lakeshore Metro Park, OH 7 Oct (JPg). With more intense observation and better identification information, Long-tailed Jaegers are becoming regular in the fall report. This year, the Region had three reports of single birds: 21 Sep at Carl. L. (†DKa), 6 Oct at Mill. B. (†JKC, †JMc, †KJB et al.), and at H.B.S.P. 27 Oct (†KMe, EB).

Noteworthy among the smaller gulls were 45 Franklin's (Kentucky's 2nd highest count) at Kentucky L. 4 Oct (DR, HC), an ad. Little at Clin. L. 30-31 Oct (†RTC), another Little in *Grundy*, IL 3 Nov (DSt), and an ad. Black-headed at Spirit L. (the traditional site) *Dickinson*, IA (†LAS, †ET, †PH, m. ob.). Autumn California Gulls are becoming regular in the Region. This fall, single ads. were at Michigan City Harbor 30 Oct (†KJB, ph.), in Waukegan, IL 18 Nov (CF), and 24 Nov at the *LaPorte*, IN landfill (†JKC, SBg, †KJB). A first-year Thayer's Gull in *Buchanan*, MO 10 Oct provided that state's earliest record and one of few reports from w. Missouri (MBR). The Region's single Iceland Gull report came from Michigan City

Harbor, IN 28 Nov (KJB, ph.). Though Great Black-backed Gulls are becoming fairly common on L. Michigan, inland birds remain casual, consequently, the first-year bird at Kentucky L, KY 4 Oct (DR) was noteworthy. Compared to recent years' reports, 2001's kittiwake numbers were down, with 3 in Indiana and singles in Illinois and Iowa. In contrast, it was a remarkable fall for Sabine's Gulls—with 52 birds scattered across the four n. states. The largest accumulations occurred at Mill B., where flocks of 9 and 11 were seen 11 & 18 Sep, respectively (BGr). Both were record-high counts for Indiana.

Peak tern counts included 109 Caspians in Marion, IA 6 Oct (ABs), 4000 Commons at Mill B. 22 Sep (BGr, et al.), 480 Forster's at Point Clinton, OH 23 Oct (VF), and 140+ Least at Smithland Dam, Livingston, KY 11 Aug (BPB). During a powerful 27 Oct autumn gale on L. Michigan, lakewatchers at Mill B. were astonished when a small alcid flew past among the breakers. Brendan Grube saw the bird as it approached and yelled "murrelet!"—unfortunately, in roaring wind some of the 20 observers present thought he said "Merlin!" and cast their eyes skyward. Those able to get the bird in their scopes identified it as Indiana's 2nd **Ancient Murrelet** (†KJB, †JKC, †DG, †MT).

## DOVES THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Maintaining the recent pattern of Regional incursions, a **White-winged Dove** visited a Dickinson, IA feeding station 1-7 Oct (†ET, ph., †LAS). A Greater Roadrunner seen in Newton, MO 20 Sep (SL) provided the first se. Missouri report in several years. Snowy Owls executed a modest invasion, with some 15 birds reported across four states; a majority (nine) occurred in Ohio, the earliest being at Michigan City Harbor, IN 20 Oct (BGr), and one pressed s. to Grant, KY, where it was seen 13 Nov (MI, TH). It was another good fall for Northern Saw-whet Owls, with 14 birds scattered across all six states. Common Nighthawk flights were quite modest; the peak counts consisted of 319 at Columbus, OH 29 Aug (MS) and 300+ at Rockford, IL 20 Aug (DW). In contrast, hefty Chimney Swift tallies were recorded, with 3100 in Jefferson, IA 23 Sep (DP) and 2000+ in Licking, OH 3 Sep (TN). A very nonchalant Ruby-throated Hummingbird tarried in Monroe, IN through 2 Nov (JHv & SHv). Missouri's 3rd **Lewis's Woodpecker** was discovered Schell-Osage W.M.A., Vernon 20 Oct (RE, J&EZ) and remained through the period (m. ob.)

## FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PIPITS

Adhering to the season's pattern for landbirds,

several flycatchers lingered late in the Region. An Eastern Wood-Pewee was still in Texas, MO 20 Oct (MBR), an Acadian Flycatcher was found in Warren, KY 7 Oct (DR), a Willow Flycatcher was netted in Buchanan, MO 25 Sep (MBR), and a Least Flycatcher was identified in Vigo, IN 10 Nov (†PS). The Willow constitutes Missouri's latest confirmed record (BE), whereas the Least is Indiana's first Nov record. It is becoming apparent that the fall Alder Flycatcher migration begins very early. This year, Aug birds giving the "pip" call note were identified far s. of their breeding range. In Fulton, KY, a chipping bird responded to an Alder tape on 12 Aug, and 3 more responded on 25 Aug (BPB). Ohio's 3rd **Vermilion Flycatcher**, an imm. male, was discovered at O.N.W.R. 4 Oct (SC, BZ) and remained through the period. The easternmost Western Kingbird appeared in Porter, IN 8-9 Sep (PBG, †JMc, †JKC et al., ph.). E. of the Mississippi R., Scissor-tailed Flycatchers appeared at Carl. L. 12 Aug-9 Sep (DKa, RTC) and in Franklin, IL 2-23 Sep (FB, LSt). A spate of late Nov Blue-headed Vireos occurred across the Region, several established all-time late state records. These sightings included singles at Jasper-Pulaski W.M.A., IN 4 Nov (JHv, SHv, P & JK), the Port of Indiana 3 Nov (SBg), Magee Marsh W.M.A., OH 3 Nov (Haw et al.), Parma, OH 1 Nov (GL, PL), and Warren, KY 1 Nov (JE). At the opposite extreme, a Philadelphia Vireo in Jefferson, KY 27 Aug (JB, PB) established an early fall date for that state. The largest American Crow count was 70,000 at a roost near Terre Haute, IN 28 Nov (PS).

Impressive swallow congregations included 10,000-15,000 Purple Martins on Chicago's s. side 28 Aug (CMh), 80,000 Tree Swallows at Carl. L. 7 Oct (DKa), 6000 Northern Rough-winged Swallows in Emmet, IA 1 Sep (LAS) and 1200+ Bank Swallows at O.N.W.R. 4 Aug (VF). It was a Red-breasted Nuthatch flight year, and observers were not disappointed, as good numbers were reported across the Region. Hypothetical (at best) in most of the Region's states just a few years ago, the **Brown-headed Nuthatch** has now appeared three times, in as many states, since fall 1999. The most recent arrival, and Ohio's first record, appeared at a South Russell, Geauga feeding station 21 Nov and remained through the season (LG, LRo, ph., m. ob.). The I.B.S.P. Brown-headed Nuthatch present during summer remained through the season (BWe m. ob.). The Region's only Bewick's Wren report came from Cedar, MO, where one was found 22 Sep (MBR). An ad. **Townsend's Solitaire** at West Beach, IN 28-29 Oct (BGr, PBG, †JMc, P & JK et al., ph.), provided that state's 4th record. Noteworthy

American Robin tallies included 14,000 at a Pottawattamie, IA hawkwatch 21 Oct (MO), 4000 in Urbana, IL 18-24 Oct (RTC), and 1161 at Kelly's Island, OH 17 Nov (TB et al.) Once again, migrant Sprague's Pipits were found in nw. Missouri. This year, one was near Horseshoe L., Buchanan 11 Oct (JHi, MBR), 3-4 were in the same county 16 Oct (LL), and 2 were at Prairie S.P., Barton 20 Nov (MRB)

## WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

Most correspondents deemed the warbler flight about average. The most noteworthy aspect of the migration was the number of late records, which were no doubt related to mild late fall conditions. Among the latest warblers were a Tennessee in Marshall, KY 4 Nov (BPB, MBe), an Orange-crowned in Barton, MO 20 Nov (MBR), a Black-throated Blue in Madison, KY 22 Nov (AR, TR), a Prairie in Chagrin Metropark, OH 14 Oct (KMe), an imm./female-plumaged Cerulean at L. Barkley, KY 28 Sep (DR), a Black-and-white in Warren, KY 26 Nov (DR), and a Worm-eating banded in Pocahontas, IA 19 Oct (RHm, ph.) to provide that state's first Oct record. Not surprisingly, considering the vicissitudes of warbler migration, there were also a few early arrivals. Most noteworthy among these was a record-early Nashville in Louisville, KY 20 Aug (JB) Also quite unusual was the occurrence of 4 Black-throated Blue Warblers in Springfield, IL 1 Sep (HDB), which is well w. of their usual migratory corridor. A count of 6 Scarlet Tanagers, Urbana, IL 14 Oct (RTC et al.) was remarkably high for this late date.

As most of the Region's records occur in winter, a **Green-tailed Towhee** 12 Oct at Forest Park, Cook, IL (†GAW, SBl, m. ob.) was most unexpected. Spotted Towhee reports were confined to the w. states, with 5 in Iowa and 3 in Missouri. A moderately tardy Lark Sparrow lingered in Cerro Gordo, IA until 12 Sep (RG) Also late were 2 Henslow's Sparrows at the Peabody W.M.A., Muhlenberg, KY 6 Nov (DR) Le Conte's Sparrows were ubiquitous, with reports from all six states, including 2 in Ohio, where this species is casual. White-throated Sparrows peaked 7 Oct at O.N.W.R., where 436 were counted (EPi, et al.). Although a peak count of 220 Harris's Sparrows was made in Polk, IA 31 Oct (ABs), none wandered e. of Illinois. Birders in w. reaches of the Region have a firm handle on finding autumn Smith's Longspurs; this year Smith's were reported in Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri, with a maximum tally of 60+ in Buchanan, MO 2 Nov (MBR) The best Snow Bunting count consisted of 913 at Mill B. 27 Oct (JKC et al.). On 16 Aug, Pottawattamie, IA hawkwatchers must have had

little time to tally hawks as they counted a phenomenal 230 migrating Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (MO). A male Painted Bunting lingered at the East St. Louis breeding site until 6 Aug (DKa et al.). A late Dickcissel was at H.B.S.P. 22 Oct (LRO, VW ph.). In fall, Bobolinks often slip by undetected; consequently, the 500 (including 350 in the air at one time) observed in *Hamilton*, OH 1 Sep (PW) is most noteworthy. Also surprising was a Bobolink in *Orange*, IN 23 Nov (†LSn, ST), which provided Indiana's first Nov record. A singing Western Meadowlark was detected in *Muskingum*, OH 17 Sep (RHa, SWa). Great-tailed Grackles continued their eastward movement with 56 in *Randolph*, MO 11 Oct (BGO).

In this winter finch flight-year, both crossbills were widespread in small to modest numbers. Peak counts consisted of 42 Reds at I.B.S.P. 10 Nov (EWI) and 6 White-wingeds in both *Mahoning*, OH 2-8 Nov (LW) and *DuPage*, IL 22 Nov (ES, EWI). One overanxious imm. male White-winged that arrived in *Madison*, KY 3 Nov (GR) shaved three weeks off that state's earliest date. A modicum of Common Redpolls and Pine Siskins also staged incursions. Redpolls were reported in every state except Kentucky; one pushed s. to *Macon*, MO, where it was seen 10 Nov (JHt). A late Oct wave of Pine Siskins scattered birds across all six states; the peak count was 100+ at Clin. L. 14 Nov (RTC). Evening Grosbeaks continued their boycott of the Region; a few small flocks, with a maximum of 15 birds, were reported in four states.

**Contributors (subregional editors in bold-face):** Lyman Allen, Alan Anderson, Emil Bacik, Susan Bagby (SBg), Steve Bailey (SBl), Tom Bartlett, Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Frank Bennett, Mark Bennett (MBe), Vic Berardi Rich Biss, H. David Bohlen, Richard Bjorklund (RBj), Sigurd Bjorklund (SBj), Mike Brady (MBr), Aaron Brees (ABs), Kenneth J. Brock, **Alan W. Bruner (Indiana)**, Charles Burwick, John K. Cassidy, Paul Chad, Hap Chambers, **Robert T. Chapel (Illinois)**, Amy Covert, Sharon Cummings, Donald Dann (DDa), Roseanna Denton, James J. Dinsmore, David Dister (DDi), Michael C. Dooley (MCD), Doug & Micki Dunakin (D & MD), **Bill Eddleman (BEEd) (Missouri)**, Chris Edwards, Jackie Elmore, B), Robert Erickson, Vic Fazio, Carolyn Fields, Robert Fisher, James L. Fuller, Bill Goodge (BGo), Rita Goranson, Don Gorney, Kirby Goslee, Brendan Grube (BGr), Peter B. Grube, Joe Hammond (JHa), **Rob Harlan (RHa) (Ohio)**, Ron Harms (RHm), Todd Harp, John Harter (JHt), Jim Haw (Haw), Roger Hedge (RHg), Jim Hengeveld (JHv), Susan Hengeveld (SHv), **Paul Hertz (Iowa)**,

Scott Hickman, Jack Hilsabeck (JHi), CRobert Hughes (JHu), Ian Hunt, Marshal Iseral, Thomas Johnson, Dan Kassebaum (DKa), Phil and Joanne Kelly (P & JK), Matthew C. Kenne, Thomas H. Kent, Steve Kinder, Larry Lade, James E. Landing, Gabe Leidy, Fred Leshner, Stan Little, Paula Lozano, Charlene Malone (CMA), Carolyn Marsh (CMh), Walter J. Mascisz, Jeff McCoy (JMc), Cynthia McKee (CMc), John McKee (JMK), Keith A. McMullen (KAM), Kevin Metcalf (KMe), Greg Miller, Kent Miller (KMi), Mark Monroe, Ben Morrison, Curt Nelson, Tammy Nickerson., Mark Orsag, **Brainard Palmer-Ball (BPB) (Kentucky)**, Helen Parker, John Perchalski (JPe), Ed Pierce (EPi), John Pogacnik (JPg), Diane Porter, Ed Powers (EPo), Beth Proescholdt (BPr), Mark Proescholdt (MPr), Michael Retter (MRe), Kevin Richmond, Art Ricketts, Tina Ricketts,

Gary Ritchison, Mark B. Robbins, David Roemer, Larry Rosche (LRO), William Rowe, Ron Rayl, Dan Sanders, Lee A. Schoenewe, Scott Schuette (SSc), Peter Scott, Eric Secker, Joe Sedransk, Albert Seppi (ASe), Mark Skinner, Leonard Stanley (LSt), Lee Sterrenburg (LSn), Alan F. Stokie, Doug Stotz (DSt), Ed Thelen, Stephanie Thomas, Michael Topp, Edge Wade (EWd), Sandy Wagner (SWa), Mike Wallace, Eric Walters (EWI), Leslie Warren, Vern Weingart, Paul Wharton, Bill Wengelewski (BWe), Bill Whan (BWh), Dan Williams, Geoff A. Williamson, Sandy Woltman (SWo), Jim & Ellen Zellmer (J & EZ), Brian Zweibel. In addition to the 135 individuals cited in this report, many others contributed information to the various state lists but could not be personally acknowledged here. All observers have the editor's thanks.



# Central Southern



**Robert A. Duncan**  
**Lucy R. Duncan**  
 614 Fairpoint Drive  
 Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561  
 (cotinga@worldnet.att.net)

**U**nremarkable weather was the norm for the Region except for the deluge that hit western Tennessee in late November. The first

strong cold front of the season penetrated the Region 23-24 September, bringing many migrants. Observers reported early arrival dates too numerous to cite. Another strong cold front 6-7 October brought a wave of migrants filling the nets of ecstatic banders at Ft. Morgan, Alabama. To the delight of Louisiana Ornithological Society conventioners in Cameron, waves of ducks, geese, and