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Cover photo: Ferruginous Hawk, 28 January, Somerville Mine, *Gibson*
 Originally located 22 January by visiting Wisconsin birder Robert Visconti. Pending IBRC action, this will become the first Indiana physical evidence record of this species. Photo by Evan Speck.

Back cover photo: This Snowy Owl, 30 December was one of a dozen that graced the US 421 area in western *LaPorte* in December and one of over one hundred in Indiana this winter during an unsurpassed "invasion" year. Photo by Pete Grube.

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE INDIANA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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Announcement:

Kenneth J. Brock receives ABA's prestigious Ludlow Griscom Award

Over 100 birders and nature enthusiasts converged on the Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center for a joint celebration and special program on Sunday, April 6. Joel Greenberg spoke on the 100 years since the last Passenger Pigeon. Before the program, members of the American Birding Association presented local birder and Indiana bird writer Dr. Ken Brock with the Ludlow Griscom award for regional ornithology. Many hoosier birders can thank Ken for influencing their birding at some point in their birding career.



**Ken Brock receiving the Ludlow Griscom Award from ABA's Matt Fraker
Photo by Greg Neise**

Reminders: We appreciate and need your volunteerism! New birders are needed!

- **Big May Day Count is Saturday, May 10.**
- **Summer Bird Count Begins in June.**

THE 2013 INDIANA AUDUBON SOCIETY BIG MAY DAY BIRD COUNT

Jay Bolden, 7349 Liscannor Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46217



Figure 1. Indigo Bunting, 11-May-2013, Madison Co.
Photo by Greg Thompkins.

The Big May Day Bird Count was conducted state-wide on Saturday, May 11th, 2013. The objective of the BMDBC is to count the number of birds of each species occurring in a participating county area from midnight to midnight on the second Saturday in May. The ensuing data snapshot provides a valuable scientific record of the resident and migratory bird populations occurring each year in Indiana.

Weather conditions were generally pleasant for birding with the average high temperature across the state at 61°F and average low at 45°F. Cloud cover was the norm across the state, and some rain was recorded in several northern counties.

Lake, Porter, Vigo, Gibson, Greene, Tippecanoe and Allen counties topped the list with 150+ different species seen in each. Participation in terms of observers and total counties was down this year compared to the last few counts (Figures 2 and 4), but effort as a function of birds per observer and per observer hour has increased three straight years (Figure 5).



Figure 2. County Participation, 2013 IAS Big May Day Bird Count.

123 species which shows the potential for good birding in many of the non-compiled counties.

Visit the IAS website to access the raw data and the Vigo County count recap by Peter Scott.

Significant sightings included Ruffed Grouse (Lawrence), Eared Grebe (Gibson), Black Vulture (Tippecanoe), Piping Plover (Gibson), Sanderling (Gibson, Lake), Long-billed Dowitcher (Porter), Red-necked Phalarope (Greene), Franklin's Gull (Gibson), Clay-colored Sparrow (Jackson, Porter), Fox Sparrow (Lake, LaPorte, Tippecanoe), Dark-eyed Junco (Johnson, Lake, Madison, Porter, Wells), Yellow-headed Blackbird (Lake), and Brewer's Blackbird (LaGrange).

Not included in the data summary but as an addendum to the raw data is a BMDBC-style count in Parke County compiled by Alan Bruner, Marty Jones, Kyle Rush, Peter Scott and Patsy Steffen on May 14th. The Parke County participants were able to tally 3,787 individual birds of



Figure 3. Mississippi Kite, 11-May-2013, Vanderburgh Co.

INDIANA AUDUBON SOCIETY SUMMER BIRD COUNT 2013

Amy Kearns 562 DNR Road, Mitchell, IN 47446

The Indiana Audubon Society held its 34th annual Summer Bird Count during June and July 2013. Weather during the count period started out wet and ended cool and dry. Statewide, the month of June had normal temperatures but rainfall 2.08 inches above average, making it the 11th wettest June on record. July temperatures were cool, averaging 2.1°F below normal, with official recorded temperatures statewide never reaching triple digits throughout the month. Precipitation during July was 3.37 inches, which is 0.73 inches below average and the 47th driest July on record (Indiana State Climate Office 2013).

There were 188 species found on the recent Summer Bird Count, which is slightly below the mean of 191 but is the second-highest species total since 2005. Participation was at its highest since 2005 with 30 counties represented. Although below the 39 count average, we are happy to see the increase in participation and hope the trend continues in 2014. Ninety-five observers found 140 species exhibiting breeding evidence, which is one species above average. Individual birds, party hours and miles were all reported well below the mean (Table 1).

Adding new species to this count is difficult to do, as the count has been running since 1980. This year, two new species were added: Neotropic Cormorant from *Greene*, and Swallow-tailed Kite from *Tippecanoe* (Table 2). Participants in the Summer Bird Count over the years have now recorded an amazing 291 species in June and July. This begs the question, “What “summer doldrums”?!” Obviously, Indiana hosts an incredible diversity of birds over the summer season, and adding the challenge of recording breeding evidence should provide a fun and exciting activity for any birder.

Four species had new high counts for the count period, reflecting a true increase in their breeding numbers in the state recently: Double-crested Cormorant (326/169), Osprey (74/40), Black-necked Stilt (50/21), and Least Tern (120/75). Two species tied their previous high count: Canvasback (1) and Purple Finch (6). No new or higher breeding evidence was recorded for any species. *Tippecanoe* had the greatest species diversity with 124 species reported. Seven other counties (*Boone*, *Cass*, *Greene*, *Hamilton*, *Johnson*, *Kosciusko*, and *St. Joseph*) reported 100 species or more for the summer. Three counties bested their county’s previous species high count (*Cass* 112/106, *Carroll* 90/84, and *Hamilton* 103/102) (Fig. 1, Table 2). The 20 most abundant species on the recent Summer Bird Count, in descending order, were: European Starling, American Robin, Red-winged Blackbird, Canada Goose, Mourning Dove, House Sparrow, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, American Crow, Song Sparrow, Barn Swallow, Brown-headed Cowbird, Mallard, Killdeer, American Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, and Tree Swallow (Table 2).

Notable species with breeding evidence on the recent count were: American Black Duck (nestlings in *Kosciusko*), Blue-winged Teal (juveniles in *Johnson*), Northern Shoveler (juveniles in *Cass*), Hooded Merganser (juveniles in *St. Joseph*), American Bittern (territory in *Greene*), Least Bittern (territory in *Greene*), Black-crowned Night-Heron (juvenile in *Lake*), Osprey (nestlings in *Franklin*, *Kosciusko*, *LaPorte*, *Orange*, and *St. Joseph*), Sharp-shinned Hawk (feeding young in *Johnson*), Bald Eagle (breeding in 8 counties), Red-shouldered Hawk (breeding in 7 counties), Broad-winged Hawk (territories in *Harrison* and *Lawrence*), Common Gallinule (juveniles in *Greene* and *Lake*), Sandhill Crane (nestlings in *Kosciusko*, juveniles in *St. Joseph*, territory in *Tippecanoe*), Black-necked Stilt (juveniles in *Daviess* and *Gibson*, nest in *Greene*), Upland Sandpiper (territory in *St. Joseph*), Least Tern (eggs in *Gibson* and *Greene*),

Barn Owl (nest in *Lawrence*), Common Nighthawk (territories in *Marion* and *Vigo*), Eastern Whip-poor-will (territory in *Harrison*), Loggerhead Shrike (juveniles in *Daviess*, territory in *Gibson*, eggs in *Orange*), Sedge Wren (nest building in *Greene*, territory in *Johnson*), Worm-eating Warbler (territories in *Harrison* and *Johnson*), Prothonotary Warbler (territories in *Cass* and *Johnson*, eggs in *Harrison*), Hooded Warbler (territories in 6 counties), Cerulean Warbler (breeding in 5 counties), Lark Sparrow (feeding young in *Johnson*), and Henslow's Sparrow (breeding in 6 counties) (Table 2).

Figure 1 gives current species totals and previous record counts by county. Table 2 details tallies and efforts for each county. Species with breeding evidence are designated in bold type. Codes for breeding evidence, in order of importance, are: **E, e** - Eggs seen; **Y, y** - Young at nest; **J, j** - Juvenile being attended by an adult; **N, n** - Nest contents empty or not seen; **M, m** - nesting Material being carried by adult; **F, f** - Food being carried by adult; **T, t** - adult showing signs of being Territorial or located through breeding period in suitable area. An upper-case letter indicates that the breeding evidence was noted during the count period (1 June - 31 July), while a lower-case letter indicates that it was noted outside the count period.

We would like to invite more participation next year. If you are already extensively birding an area in June and July, please consider submitting a Summer Bird Count. Compiling a Summer Bird Count should require little extra effort if a birder is already keeping track of bird numbers and observer effort. You can record birds on a paper form and mail it in, or you can use the Excel form and email your results if you prefer that method (the compiler does). The Summer Bird Count has been contributing to our knowledge of Indiana's breeding birds since 1980. We would like to see half of the counties participating each year (or 46 counts). To participate, download the data form and instructions from the Indiana Audubon Website under Activities, or email akearns@dnr.in.gov.

Acknowledgments - Thanks to all participants (Appendix 1), especially those who submitted donations to help defray costs of publishing this count.

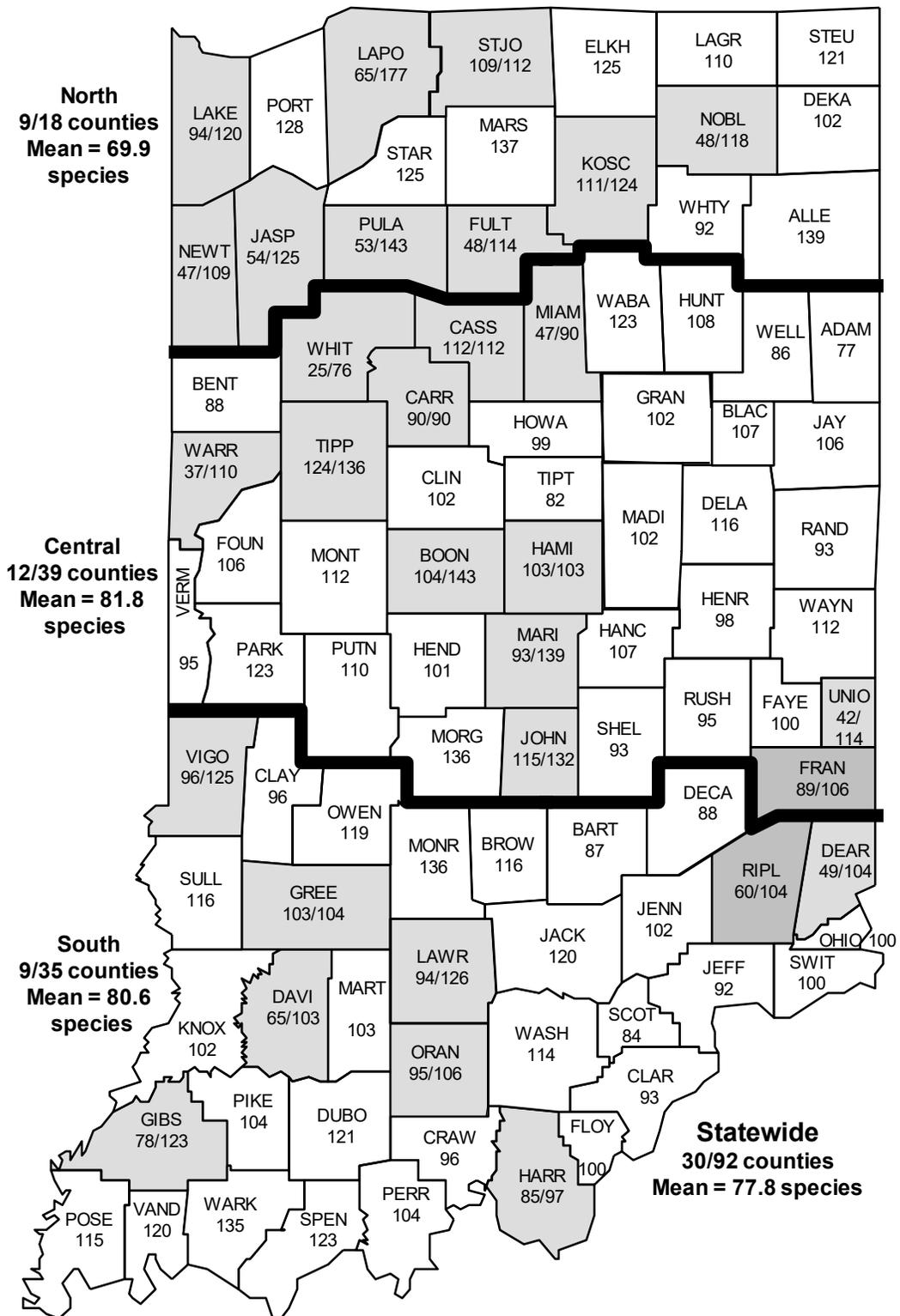


Figure 1. Current species totals and previous record counts by county.

Literature Cited

Indiana State Climate Office 2013 – www.agry.purdue.edu/climate/

Appendix 1. Summer Bird Count Participants by county during 2013 with the addresses of compilers in parentheses.

Boone - Roger Hedge (2605 Elizaville Rd., Lebanon, IN 46052), Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur St., West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133), Cloyce Hedge.

Carroll - Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur St., West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133).

Cass – Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur St., West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133), Landon Neumann (4100 High St., Logansport, IN 46947), Bud Dodrill.

Daviess – Amy Kearns (80 Sunset Rdg., Mitchell, IN 47446), Kathy McClain, Lee Sterrenburg.

Dearborn – Bob Decker (1207 East Rd., Brookville, IN 47012).

Franklin - Bob Decker (1207 East Rd., Brookville, IN 47012).

Fulton - Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur St., West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133).

Gibson - Amy Kearns (80 Sunset Rdg., Mitchell, IN 47446).

Greene - Amy Kearns (80 Sunset Rdg., Mitchell, IN 47446), Lee Sterrenburg.

Hamilton – Greg Osland (292 Stony Ln, Noblesville, IN 46060), Scott Enoch, Don Gorney, Kirk Roth.

Harrison – Del Striegel (40 Georgetown-Lanesville Rd., Georgetown, IN 47112).

Jasper –Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133).

Johnson – Karl Werner (209 Moccasin Court, Greenwood, IN 46142), Paula Baldwin, Bob Carper, Mike Clay, Ann Deutsch, Tom Hougham.

Kosciusko – Bruce Ruisard (418 N. Parks-Schram Rd., Warsaw, IN 46580), Luke Young.

Lake – Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133), Matt Kalwasinski (8115 Schreiber Dr., Munster, IN 46321).

LaPorte – Elizabeth McCloskey (1602 Michigan Ave., LaPorte, IN 46350).

Lawrence – Amy Kearns (80 Sunset Rdg., Mitchell, IN 47446), Noah Kearns.

Marion –Miles Zevin (700 N. Alabama, Apt. 1005, Indianapolis, IN 46204), Ted Lupino, Spike Selig.

Miami - Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133).

Newton – Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133).

Noble - Bob Decker (1207 East Rd., Brookville, IN 47012).

Orange - Amy Kearns (80 Sunset Rdg., Mitchell, IN 47446), Noah Kearns.

Pulaski –Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133).

Ripley- Bob Decker (1207 East Rd., Brookville, IN 47012).

St. Joseph – Louise Fessenden (P.O. Box 303, Notre Dame, IN 46556), Tony Baldoni, Alice Bentley, John Bentley, Trice Berkley, John Cassidy, Tim Cordell, John Davis, Dick Fessenden, Robert Fessenden, Audry Fleming, John Fleming, Laura Fuderer, Becky Gute, Wendy Jones, Jason Kintzele, Ellen Lechlitner, Mike Lechlitner, Julia Mast, Scott Namestnik, Marge Riemenschneider, Vic Riemenschneider, Carole Riewe, Vicky Rydzynski, Sarah Sass, Steve Sass, Jim Spier, Joan Tweedell, Casey Zillmann.

Tippecanoe – Barny Dunning (7509 North 75 East, West Lafayette, IN 47906), Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133), Wes Homoya, John Skene, Susan Ulrich.

Union - Bob Decker (1207 East Rd., Brookville, IN 47012).

Vigo - Mary Beth Eberwein (6523 E. Tryon Dr., Pimento, IN 47866), Ann Black, Bruce Black, Joe Dickson, John Haag, Karen Henman, Marty Jones, Brenda Milliren, Phil Milliren, Peter Scott.

Warren – Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133).

White – Ed Hopkins (3059 Decatur Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1133).

2013 Birder's Lists

Chuck Mills 8600 Framewood Drive Newburgh, In 47630

ccmills@wowway.com

Many serious birders keep detailed lists of the species that they identify. They often record the species name and the location of the observation. Many keep numerous lists. For most Indiana birders the main lists kept are for the ABA, Indiana, and a county or two. Some just keep a life list others also do year lists and day lists. Some lists can be as expansive as a world list or as small as a favorite park, nearby woods, or their own backyard. This annual article is a place for Indiana birders to publicize their lists. Both life and year lists are published for World, North America, ABA, Indiana, Indiana Counties, and home property.

This year there were fifty-three people who submitted at least one list. The most popular list submitted was the Indiana Life list with forty-three lists being sent to the editor. The deadline for the 2014 list report will be February 1, 2015. I plan to remind all those whose emails I have and to also use INBIRD to get the word out. Good luck to all of you in your birding endeavors.

2013 Birder's Life Lists

World

The World list is simply a compilation of the bird species seen anywhere in the world. It represents the results of a birders travels all over the world. Obviously the more places a person visits, the larger the list. The total possible on this list is 10324. The top world lister was again Bob Walton with 8331. Bob is one of the top listers in the world. He added 86 in 2013. He birded in Northeastern Brazil and Australia. Most of his new species were seen in Brazil. He indicated that it was a dismal area because of severe habitat destruction caused by rice and sugar cane farming. The only areas with birds were a few random ridge tops which were too steep to farm. He reported that several of the species that he saw had 10 or fewer individuals still in the wild. He thought that it was very depressing. Larry Peavler added 143 to stay solidly in second place. A trip to Ecuador allowed Pan Keller to increase her list by 112 and husband Tim to add 40 species. Barney Dunning added 8 species on a trip to Poland, Sweden, and Germany. He saw both Whiskered and White-winged Terns.

8331	Bob Walton	1335	Elvin Wilmot
3794	Larry Peavler	1301	John Kendall
3257	Tim Keller	1199	Barny Dunning
2598	Pam Keller	788	Roger Hedge
2122	Jim Hengeveld	778	Landon Neumann
2116	Susan Hengeveld	777	Ed Powers
2107	Marjorie Carmony	556	Dan Collins
2017	Chuck Mills	458	Brad Bumgardner
1825	Geoff Williamson	359	Marietta Smith
1549	Peter Scott	255	Chris Neuman

North America

This list covers the region that is north of the Columbian-Panamanian border and includes the Caribbean. It is similar to the AOU list but does not include Hawaii. It does include Greenland. There are around 2000 possible species on this list. The top lister is Bob Walton with 1700. That represents about 85% of the possible species. To get a large North American list a birder has to be serious about birding in Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean as well as the ABA area. There were no major changes in anyone's list.

1700	Bob Walton
1301	John Kendall
1265	Tim Keller
1222	Chuck Mills
1083	Peter Scott
1052	Pam Keller
1024	Geoff Williamson
668	John Cassady
616	Barney Dunning
515	Elvin Wilmot
203	Kimberly Ehn

ABA (Canada and the United States)

There is often some confusion about North American lists. The ABA list covers only the continental US, Canada and 2 French islands off the coast of Newfoundland. It includes Alaska but not Hawaii or Greenland. There were 981 species on last year's official ABA list. Larry Peavler with 886 is in first place for the listers from Indiana. He was tied for 2nd on the 2013 ABA report and is only 6 behind the leader. He increased his list by 7 last year. Will Larry become the first person to get a 900 ABA life list? He is only 14 away. His most notable species was a first record Common Redstart. This species is not yet on the ABA list. Mark Rhodes who did not submitted a list last year moved into a strong second place with 811. There were 38 lists reported which is an increase of 5 from last year. Roger Hedge added 9 to his list. Six of these were seen on a pelagic trip off North Carolina. He said the most unexpected sighting on the boat trip was two other Hoosier birders Ryan Sanderson and Chuck Mills. Peter Scott got 33 new species in Alaska. He birded at Gambell, Nome, and the Kenai Peninsula.

886	Larry Peavler	630	Lou Anne Barriger
811	Mark Rhodes	625	Steve Doud
768	Jim Hengeveld	620	Kirk Roth
763	Bob Walton	616	Barny Dunning
757	Jim Haw	576	Pam Keller
754	Susan Hengeveld	519	Dan Collins
730	Ed Hopkins	511	Amy Kerns
714	Peggy Harger-Allen	485	Landon Neumann
710	Ken Brock	455	Larry Carter

705	Tim Keller		448	Elvin Wilmot
701	Ed Powers		337	David Ayer
692	Marjorie Carmony		336	Leland Shaun
686	Chuck Mills		312	Marietta Smith
674	Cynthia Powers		309	Matt Kalwasinski
668	John Cassady		274	Betty Wallace
665	John Kendall		273	Vicky Whitaker
661	Geoff Williamson		255	Chris Newman
653	Peter Scott		203	Kinberly Ehn
645	Roger Hedge		194	Steve Lineback

Indiana

Tim Keller increased his list by 2 but Ed Hopkins added 3 and moved into the lead. Ken Brock was in third place only 2 behind Ed. There were 43 people who reported Indiana lists. The rarities continue to surge into Indiana and I am becoming more convinced that a 400 species list is a real possibility. There are 423 species on the official Indiana list with 3 being considered extinct and 3 extirpated. So there are 417 possible. Amy Kearns added 6 to her state list. Her favorites were Connecticut Warbler and Prairie Falcon. Barney Dunning added 5 species and is getting very close to 300. He, David Ayer, and Elvin Wilmot are all at 299. Just one more to go for 300. There were two very rare shorebirds that were seen for the first time in Indiana. Most serious Indiana listers saw the Spotted Redshank at Goose Pond. It was listed by many as their favorite bird for the year. The Lesser Sand Plover which was seen on only two days was missed by most. It was Brad Baumgartner's favorite mainly because it was located only 10 miles from his home. Marietta Smith added the Cane Ridge Whimbrel to her list. Betty Wallace who hosted the third record Green-tailed Towhee wrote about how nice it was to see how the birding social network brought together both seasoned and novice birders. Other species mentioned were Rock Wren, Spotted Towhee, and Varied Thrush.

387	Ed Hopkins		310	Evan Speck
386	Tim Keller		309	Marjorie Carmony
385	Ken Brock		302	Bob Walton
375	Mark Rhodes		301	Bob Decker
372	Larry Peavler		299	David Ayer
371	John Cassady		299	Barney Dunning
371	Peter Grube		299	Elvin Wilmot
370	Jim Haw		298	Dan Collins
368	Don Gorney		298	Sam Plew
362	John Kendall		296	Dave Reichlinger
355	Steve Doud		283	Larry Carter
354	Roger Hedge		283	Casey Zillman
348	Ed Powers		292	Landon Neumann
345	Chuck Mills		275	Matt Kalwasinski
335	Pam Keller		275	Geoff Williamson

335	Kirk Roth		265	Marietta Smith
327	Brad Bumgardner		253	Chris Newman
323	Lou Anne Barriger		222	Vicky Whitaker
321	Amy Kerns		216	Bob Carper
317	Peter Scott		200	Kimberly Ehn
316	Leland Shaun		193	Steve Lineback
310	Cynthia Powers			

Indiana Counties

There were reports from 45 Indiana counties this year. This is up from the 33 reported last year. Twenty-eight counties had only one person listing. Twenty-five people reported one or more lists. The county with the most reported lists was Gibson with 8. Gibson was closely followed by Porter County with 7 reports. The county list is a more restricted list. The list is limited to species seen in one Indiana County. Some counties are blessed with a wide variety of habitat such as Gibson County, Green County, and all of the counties along the lakefront. Some in the great corn desert such as Cass County mostly have farm fields with little opportunity for a diversity of species. The top list is 322 by Chuck Mills for Gibson County. The second place list is Ken Brock's 317 from Porter County. There were only 5 other 300 plus lists. Lake County had 3 lists that were over 300. What continues to amaze me is the number of people who have large lists from numerous counties. Jim Haw again led with the most counties reported with 16 all with at least 150 species. This is very impressive. Ed Powers reported lists for 12 counties. Tom Becker reported 8 counties that are mostly in southern Indiana and had not been previously reported. Bob Decker had 6 counties reported. These were also mostly counties that had not been previously listed and are located in southeastern Indiana.

County		Birder	County		Birder
Adams	167	Jim Haw	La Porte	301	Ken Brock
				285	John Cassady
Allen	293	Jim Haw		254	Jim Haw
	270	Ed Powers		198	Ed Powers
Boone	255	Roger Hedge	Lawrence	205	Amy Kearns
Cass	232	Landon Neumann	Marion	258	Don Gorney
				183	Steve Lineback
Clark	186	Tom Becker			
			Miami	158	Jim Haw
Crawford	74	Tom Becker			
			Monroe	202	Amy Kearns
Dearborn	117	Bob Decker			
			Newton	223	Jim Haw
Elkhart	254	Leland Shaun		169	Ed Powers
	237	John Cassady			

			Noble	204	Jim Haw
Floyd	196	Tom Becker		112	Ed Powers
Franklin	148	Bob Decker	Orange	208	Amy Kerns
Gibson	322	Chuck Mills	Porter	317	Ken Brock
	275	Dan Collins		301	John Kendall
	259	Marietta Smith		298	John Cassady
	253	Evan Speck		274	Brad Bumgardner
	227	Amy Kearns		257	Jim Haw
	217	David Ayer		232	Ed Powers
	170	Chris Newman		197	Matt Kalwasinski
	166	Tom Becker			
			Randolph	200	Larry Carter
Greene	243	Amy Kearns			
	192	Don Gorney	Ripley	129	Bob Decker
	190	Tom Becker			
	123	Bob Decker	Rush	162	Marjorie Carmony
Hamilton	150	Don Gorney	St Joseph	214	John Cassady
Hancock	159	Don Gorney	Scott	92	Tom Becker
Harrison	114	Tom Becker	Spencer	253	David Ayer
Henry	171	Jim Haw	Starke	72	Ed Powers
Huntington	252	Jim Haw	Steuben	243	Jim Haw
	182	Ed Powers		172	Ed Powers
Jackson	199	Tom Becker	Tipton	162	Elvin Wilmot
Jay	157	Jim Haw	Union	103	Bob Decker
Johnson	195	Bob Carper	Vanderburgh	210	Chris Newman
				178	Dan Collins
Kosciusko	181	Jim Haw			
			Wabash	263	Jim Haw
LaGrange	246	Jim Haw		212	Ed Powers
	235	Leland Shaum			
	167	Ed Powers	Warrick	226	Evan Speck
				225	Chuck Mills
Lake	315	Ken Brock		197	Dan Collins
	313	John Cassady		137	David Ayer
	303	John Kendall		128	Chris Newman

	252	Ed Powers			
	248	Jim Haw	Wells	57	Ed Powers
	218	Matt Kalwasinski			
			Whitley	157	Jim Haw

Property Lists

The property list covers all species seen while standing on the land of your homestead. This can be as small as the balcony of an apartment or as large as several hundred acres. The size and the length of time birding your place greatly affect the possibilities. Jim and Susan Hengeveld have one of the largest property lists in the United State. They were able to add one species last year. Leland Shaum increased his list by 11 and The Kearns went up by 8.

Count	Birder
257	Jim and Susan Hengeveld
172	Leland Shaum
161	Charles and Susan Sorenson
160	Marietta Smith
159	Marjorie Carmony
152	Peter Scott
141	John Cassady
135	Amy and Noah Kearns
129	David Ayer
128	Chuck Mills
86	Matt Kalwasinski
78	Lou Anne Barriger

2013 Birder's Year Lists

World Year List

Only 4 people reported world year lists. John Kendall had the largest. He birded in Mexico last year.

589	John Kendall
421	Chuck Mills
282	Dan Collins
240	Chris Newman

ABA Year Lists

In most years the ABA reports some lists that are near or even above 700. Last year a new ABA record was possibly set breaking the old record of 745 by 2. A big ABA year for an Indiana

birder involves not only birding heavy in Indiana but also going to south Texas, south Florida, southeast Arizona, maybe Alaska, and doing several pelagic trips. All this would have to be done in one year. The top ABA big year by an Indiana birder was Mark Rhodes with 526. To even get over 400 involves some serious birding in various parts of the ABA area. David Crouch got his 349 by birding in Southeast Arizona as well as several other western locations. Chuck Mills' list was helped by doing 2 pelagic trips from California and one from North Carolina.

526	Mark Rhodes		278	Amy Kerns
447	Jim Hengeveld		272	Matt Kalwasinski
446	Susan Hengeveld		250	Casey Zillman
368	John Kendall		240	Chris Newman
352	Chuck Mills		231	Ed Powers
349	David Crouch		203	Kimberly Ehn
282	Dan Collins		181	Steve Lineback

Indiana Year Lists

Twenty-seven Indiana year lists were submitted. The Indiana Year List record was possibly broken in 2013. The old record was 312 held by John Kendall. Ed Hopkins tied it with 312 and Kirk Roth reported 313. Two of his sightings require review by the IBRC. Kirk has indicated that if these records fail to be accepted he will lower his list total. To work on an Indiana Big Year a birder must bird both the Lake front and southwestern Indiana. They must spend a lot of time at Miller Beach, Kankakee Sands, Eagle Creek, Goose Pond, Cane Ridge and other bird magnet areas. They must be willing and able to drop everything and race to the location of a species that they have not seen yet this year. INBIRD is a great resource for any Big Year birders. Any list over 250 for a year in Indiana is very impressive. There were 12 such lists last year. Kimberly Ehn who got a new pair of binoculars indicated that she enjoyed every birding experience in 2013. Steve Lineback wrote that he just completed his second year of birding. I think that both of these new birders will greatly expand their lists in the next few years.

313	Kirk Roth		239	Chuck Mills
312	Ed Hopkins		237	Chris Newman
293	John Kendall		235	Susan Hengeveld
286	Ken Brock		232	Tim Griffith
283	John Cassady		231	Casey Zillman
280	Brad Bumgardner		221	Ed Powers
280	Evan Speck		220	Dan Collins
274	Mark Rhodes		216	Bob Carper
270	Don Gorney		208	Bob Decker
264	Amy Kearns		200	Kimberly Ehn
268	Leland Shaun		192	David Ayer
261	Peter Scott		181	Cynthia Powers
248	Matt Kalwasinski		180	Steve Lineback
239	Jim Hengeveld		175	Larry McIntosh

Indiana County Year List

There were 19 counties with at least one year list reported. This is an increase of 5. John Kendall had the top list with 253 for Lake County. He also had second place with 251 from Porter. The Big Year record for an Indiana county in the three years that I have been editing the lists is John Kendall's 259 for Lake County in 2011. Is 275 possible? Any year list over 200 for a county represents some serious birding. Amy Kerns reported lists for 5 counties. Young birder Landon Neumann worked hard on a big year for Cass County. He saw an amazing 220 species in a county that does not have very many birding hot spots.

County		Birder	County		Birder
Cass	220	Landon Neumann	Marion	180	Steve Lineback
Dearborn	116	Bob Decker	Monroe	74	Amy Kerns
Elkhart	121	Casey Zillman	Orange	132	Amy Kerns
Franklin	146	Bob Decker	Porter	251	John Kendall
Gibson	220	Evan Speck		236	Brad Bumgardner
	194	Dan Collins		152	Casey Zillman
	191	Chuck Mills	Ripley	127	Bob Decker
	174	Amy Kerns			
	146	Chris Newman	St Joseph	164	Casey Zillman
Greene	177	Amy Kerns	Union	103	Bob Decker
	94	Bob Decker			
Jackson	131	Larry McIntosh	Vanderburgh	178	Chris Newman
				166	Evan Speck
				143	Dan Collins
Johnson	195	Bob Carper		109	Chuck Mills
Lake	253	John Kendall	Warrick	174	Evan Speck
	187	Matt Kalwasinski		149	Chuck Mills
				112	Chris Newman
Lawrence	173	Amy Kerns		103	Dan Collins

Property Year Lists

The Big Year record for an Indiana property list in the three years of my editing this report is 175 seen by Jim and Susan Hengeveld in 2012. The Kerns saw 4 more this year than last and Chuck Mills increased his number by 7 over last year but was still short of 100.

Count	Birder
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158	Jim and Susan Hengeveld
121	Peter Scott
119	Tim Hougham
116	Amy and Noah Kearns
97	Chuck Mills
77	Tim Griffith

Other Lists

Amy Kerns who is pregnant with her second child was only able to add 5 species to her pregnant list. It is now 333. Most of the new ones were seen on a non-birding trip to Minnesota for a wedding.

Tim Griffith had 7 nice year lists of species seen in some of the major birding sites in the Evansville area.

John Kendall has photographed 330 species in Indiana.

John Cassady has photographed 607 ABA species

Field Notes - Winter 2013-2014 (Dec. - Feb.)

John C. Kendall

Per Ken Brock, this winter was both “brutal” and in more kind terms, “old fashioned”. Certainly one of the worst in decades, the weather was quite cold and prolonged. There were virtually no thaws, with temperatures progressing from December’s 5 degrees under par value to a full 10 degrees below normal by season’s end. Increasing precipitation accompanied this “Polar Vortex” pattern and made for record inland and Lake Michigan ice coverage. In late February, Lake Michigan had >90% coverage, and the Great Lakes, in general, had record coverage. An interesting effect of the ice coverage was the movement of wintering waterfowl south from Lake Michigan in January and February. Significant mortality of diving species was noted in many areas adjacent and on Lake Michigan during this period. It is anticipated that the many effects of this winter on avian populations and movements will undoubtedly spill over into the spring report. Reporting data will be perhaps more valuable than ever, as we can review what happened with waterfowl, possibly late passerine migrations into denuded trees and tabulate on the Big May Day just how many Carolina Wrens and other less than fully hardy species survived as we move south to north across the state.

Rarities included Ferruginous Hawk, Prairie Falcon, Varied Thrush, Cape May, Pine and Nashville Warblers, Spotted Towhee, two Harris’s Sparrows and Bobolink.

The biggest highlight that drew people outside in this dismal winter was the largest recorded incursion of Snowy Owls reported in this state. Comments from naturalists and birding organizations noted an “explosion” of new birders (or new to the birding community) following this dramatic event.

IAQ must give a special note of thanks to Ken Brock for allowing usage of his Indiana summary report. IAQ editors salute Ken and congratulate him for receiving the Ludlow Griscom award. Thank you, Ken, for your authoring of many notable Indiana books and articles. In addition, we salute Ken’s decades’ of quarterly reports and editorships; local (Lakefront), statewide (NAB and IAQ) and Regional (NAB)!

Abbreviations:

CBC = Christmas Bird Count

FWA = Fish & Wildlife Area

NWR = National Wildlife Refuge

SP = State Park

SF = State Forest

SRA = State Recreation Area

Species Accounts:

Snow Goose

A new state high count was set on 30 January at Lake Gibson in *Gibson*. The count of (357,610) by John Castrale and Adam Phelps surpassed the previous high count of 300,000 (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Ross’s Goose –A couple of birds were all that were recorded, including one at Universal Mine, *Vermillion* 12 January (Steve Lima).

Trumpeter Swan –400 were wintering in December and January at Universal Mine, just across the state line (Steve Lima) in the traditional location. 6 were reported from Goose Pond 12 January (ph. Vern Wilkins) and 6 there 22 February (Lee Sterrenburg), a few were located in other southern

counties. One was found stranded in a field after a snowstorm near Logansport, *Cass* (Landon Neumann).



**Trumpeter Swans,
11 January
*Greene***

**Photo by
Vern Wilkins**

American White Pelican

In what would portend of things to follow in March, American White Pelicans began arriving just before the winter season ended, with 39 at Goose Pond, *Greene* 24 February during an Amos Butler outing (Scott Enochs). 6 were found at Turtle Creek Reservoir, *Sullivan* 22 February (Steve Lima) and a few other scattered locations.

Blue-winged Teal

Only (1) individual was reported during the winter season. This individual was found at Patoka River NWR in *Gibson* on 22 February by Jerry Downs (eBird).

Northern Pintail

Last year's record count did not last long as Heath Hamilton set a new state high count at Patoka River NWR in *Gibson* on 21 February. The count of (32,700) pintails was 5,000 higher than last year's record that was set at Goose Pond FWA (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Surf Scoter

There were very few reports of this species in Indiana this winter season. There were two inland and two lakefront records. The inland records were of (2) photographed at Hidden Valley Lake in *Dearborn* by Brian Wulker on 15 December (eBird) and (1) at Monroe Reservoir in *Monroe* on 23 February by Scott Enochs. The lakefront records were of (1) at the BP Warm Water Outlet in *Lake* on 28 December by Jason and Kelly Sturner and (2) at Whihala Beach County Park in *Lake* on 28 December by Susan Zelek (eBird).

White-winged Scoter

It was another incredible winter season for White-winged Scoters in Indiana. It was a record winter with (676) reported across at least 16 counties. Many were spotted inland including the record high inland count of (43) on 8 February along the Ohio River in *Clark* by Del Striegel, and Dave and Sally Crouch (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Black Scoter

There were only (13) reported this season (eBird).

Long-tailed Duck

There were a total of (46) reported in the state with (39) of those coming from inland locations (KJ Brock Winter Report). The highest count was of (12) at a pond in *Elkhart* on 27 February by Ray Troyer.

Common Merganser

This winter provided the highest count of inland Common Mergansers in at least two decades likely due to the amount of ice on Lake Michigan (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Red-throated Loon

Numbers of this species were down on Lake Michigan due to the ice but there were (4) inland reports (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Red-necked Grebe

There were (7) reported in the state this winter with all reports coming from the southern tier (eBird).

American White Pelican

After two straight winter records in 2012 and 2013, this year we had a decrease in sightings due to limited open water. There were a total of (75) reported (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Great Egret

(1) was reported from Roxanna Pond in *Lake* from 2-5 December. A second report came from Oxbow in *Dearborn* on 3 December (eBird).

Black-crowned Night-Heron

After two straight years without a report, this species was reported from two locations. Up to (4) were reported from Roxanna Pond in *Lake* and (1) was reported in *Cass* by Landon Nuemann on 18 January.

Ferruginous Hawk



Robert Visconti photographed a light-morph adult at Somerville Mine in *Gibson* on 22 January. Many birders were able to see this individual as it lingered through the end of the winter season.

**Ferruginous Hawk,
Somerville Mine,
Gibson, 28 January**

Photo by Evan Speck

Prairie Falcon

While looking for the above mentioned Ferruginous Hawk, Don Gorney and Dan Collins found (1) Prairie Falcon at Somerville Mine in *Gibson* on 26 January. It was last reported on 28 February.



**Prairie Falcon, Somerville Mine,
Gibson, 8 February**

Photo by Michael Brown

Virginia Rail

There were two reports of this species during the winter season. The first was of (1) individual at Patoka River FWA in *Gibson* on 28 December (Evan Speck). The second came from *Sullivan* on 1 January (Lee Sterrenburg, Kathy McClain, and Michael Clarke).

Sandhill Crane

Fewer than (34,000) were reported this winter down from the past two winter season reports of 183,000 and 203,000 respectively (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Lesser Yellowlegs

The (1) reported by James Campbell in *Warrick* on 21 February provided the third earliest spring record for this species (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Purple Sandpiper

(1) was reported on 30 December at Portage Lakefront Park in *Porter* by Penny Starin. It was photographed the next day by Carl Swisher and Michael Topp.

American Woodcock

The first American Woodcocks of the spring (3) were reported by James Campbell at Bluegrass FWA in *Warrick* on 18 February (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: - Inland reports were up a bit this year with five. On 8 December Jim & Susan Hengeveld discovered an adult and a first-cycle bird at the east end of Lake Lemon. Other adults were found at a St. Joseph Co landfill on 13 December (Neal Miller) and at Twin Branch Dam (Mishawaka) on 16 February (Casey Zillman). The latter is the fourth St Joseph County record. On 23 February Kevin Wyckoff photographed an adult at Mississinewa Res.

Glaucous Gull

John Kendall set a new record daily count for this species on 18 January when he counted (16) at Whiting Refinery Beach in *Lake* (KJ Brock Winter Report).

Great Black-backed Gull

In addition to his record count of Glaucous Gulls, John Kendall also set the daily record for Great Black-backed Gull. He counted (63) on 18 January with stops at Whiting Refinery Beach and Portage Lakefront Park.

Snowy Owl

Just two years ago, the seasonal editor was writing about Indiana setting a new record for this species and most reports came from the northern tier but there were reports from multiple counties along the Ohio River (KJ Brock Winter Report). Taking advantage of the owl plethora, birders established several record daily (Big Snowy Day) counts that dwarfed Indiana's previous maximum of six, initially logged back in 1905. On 27 December John C. Kendall logged a record 16 Snowys, including eleven, in one rural area in west-

central LaPorte Co. and 8 birds in one field. However, Jeffrey J. McCoy, who logged 17 the following day, surpassed this impressive total.

Indiana Snowy Owls 2013-14 Season Summary

Month	Number
November (outside winter season)	9
December	77
January	17
February	8
March (outside winter)	3
Total	114

Source: Ken Brock: Indiana Winter NAB Report



The “Walmart” Snowy Owl, *Wabash* 29 December was observed by scores of people, many of whom were seeing their first Snowy.

Photo by Amy Hodson

Eastern Phoebe: Despite the brutal cold, Jim Carpenter reported that as of 6 December one was still roosting in an abandoned Phoebe nest at his residence in Zionsville (*fide* John Schaust).

Northern Shrike: Dan Collins found (1) in Warrick Co on 2 February. James H. Campbell independently confirmed this bird the following day.

Horned Lark: On 15 December Lisa and Gary Bowman discovered an enormous flock of (2440) near Saunder’s Woods (between Princeton and Gibson Lake). This total constitutes the southern tier’s largest count and Indiana’s third largest tally.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Decidedly scarce with only 9 reported for the season, which is the lowest winter total in eleven years,

Varied Thrush: The link to the photograph of a male in Zionsville was posted on IN-BIRD on 17 January. Observer names are not known.

Brown Thrasher: John Meredig observed 4 or 5 in Spencer Co on 9 February, to establish a new high winter count for Indiana. The previous maximum was two.

American Pipit: Perhaps due to the extensive snow cover, pipit numbers were down this winter, with only 13 reported. This is the lowest winter number in 13 years.

Nashville Warbler: Wes Homoya found an adult male in downtown Indianapolis on 6 December. This is Indiana's third winter record.

Baltimore Oriole: 19 December, *Allen* Carole and Ryan Smith

Cape May Warbler: Vern W. Wilkins reported an adult male in Bloomington on 3 January.

Pine Warbler: Three were reported on a December CBC and Jeremy Ross reported one at Sugar Ridge FWA on 24 January.

Spotted Towhee: On the inaugural Cass Co CBC, young Landon Neumann discovered a male along River Bluff trail on 19 December. This is Indiana's 12th record.

Le Conte's Sparrow: Steve Bell obtain fine photos of one during the 18 December Goose Pond CBC. On 17 February Lee W. Sterrenburg and Kathy McClain found (1) in the same area.

Lincoln's Sparrow: The Hengeveld's had one at their feeder on 5 January, which provided Indiana's fourth record for that month (three of these were in the last five years). The bird was still present on 19 January.

Harris' Sparrow: Chris Newman and Brian Taylor found (1) adult on the 14 December Vanderburgh Co CBC. It lingered through 2 February (John Meredig). Another Harris' visited LaGrange Co feeders from 12-19 December (Sam Plew).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Beth Proctor Schnellenberger photographed a male at her Jasper feeder on 16 December. This is Indiana's third record for the 12th month (Ken Brock).

Lapland Longspur: The enormous 15 December Gibson Co Horned Lark flock also contained 2523 Laplands. This number, along with an additional (180) found at Lake Gibson, generated the second largest count ever made in the southern tier. Other large Lapland counts in southern reaches of the state included (1000) at the Somerfield Mine on 6 January (Jeremy Ross). For the season a record 16,355 Laplands were reported.

Snow Bunting: Impressive numbers of this normally uncommon to rare winter visitor invaded the southern tier in January and February. Decatur, Floyd, Jefferson, and Spencer counties all logged first county records. High counts included (100) in Decatur Co on 9 January (Bob Decker) and (72) in Dubois Co on 8 February (Kathy McClain).

Bobolink: On the 14 December Indiana Dunes CBC Jeffrey J. McCoy found and photographed (1) near Michigan City Harbor. Many others also saw the bird. According to information in the database this is Indiana's first winter record.

Western Meadowlark: A calling bird, heard by James D. Hengeveld at the Somerville Mine on 16 February, provided Indiana's 14th winter record.

Baltimore Oriole: 19 December, *Allen* Carole and Ryan Smith



Baltimore Oriole, *Allen*, 19 December at the Smith home Photo by Ryan and Carole Smith

WINTER FINCHES

Purple Finch: Reported in low numbers with 47 logged for the season.

Common Redpoll: Not reported.

Pine Siskin: Strikingly scarce with only 2 reported in the entire state. This is the lowest winter count since we were skunked during the winter of 2002-03.

