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# Eastern Iowa Birdwatch



## The Iowa City Bird Club Newsletter

September 2022 • Volume 42 Number 2

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### Schedule

**Field Trips** are free and open to the public. Trips may be cancelled due to inclement weather or flooding and will be announced on our Facebook page and by email notification to club members. Carpooling is allowed for those vaccinated for COVID. **Meetings** are currently being held via Zoom due to the pandemic. For more information or questions email [iowacitybc@gmail.com](mailto:iowacitybc@gmail.com).

**September 11, Sunday, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Pelican Festival** at Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area, near the DNR headquarters at 2564 Amana Road NW, Swisher. A family-friendly event to enjoy and learn about our local migrating American White Pelicans. Get close-up looks at pelicans and other birds through our spotting scopes. Attend outdoor presentations on pelicans, raptors, mussels, and snakes and lizards. There will be exhibits by many conservation organizations and face painting for the kids.

**September 15, Thursday, 7 p.m. Zoom Meeting.** Luke Hart of The R.A.R.E. Group will present “Hawks and Owls Seen More Commonly during Migration and the Winter Season.”

**September 18, Sunday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Hawk Watch** at Stainbrook Preserve, located along Mehaffey Bridge Road just north of Sugar Bottom Recreation Area. Join us on the hill to watch for migrating raptors including Broad-winged Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper’s Hawk, and Red-tailed Hawk. Bring a lawn chair, and a spotting scope if you have one. Directions: park on the north shoulder pull-off just east of Mehaffey Bridge. Look for the Stainbrook Preserve sign and follow the short path up the hill. For a map, go here and scroll down to Hawk Watch: <https://iowacitybirdclub.org/miscellaneous-maps/>.

**September 24, Saturday, 7:45 a.m. Pike Run Wildlife Area** for sparrows, raptors, and other fall migrants. Explore this area in Muscatine County with leader Mark Madsen. Habitat includes wetlands and woodlands, so be prepared for wet/muddy and uneven mowed trails. Meet at the Fin & Feather parking lot, 125 Hwy. 1 W, Iowa City. Return time will be about noon.

Map: <https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Muscatine/Park/Pike-Run-Wildlife-Area.aspx>.

**October 9, Sunday, 7 a.m.– 12 p.m. The Big Sit!** at Sugar Bottom Recreation Area Day Use Area, 2192 Mehaffey Bridge Rd. NE, Solon. Drop in anytime between 7 a.m. – noon to count birds and enjoy the camaraderie, free coffee, and donuts. The objective of this worldwide, semi-competitive birding event is to tally as many bird species as can be seen or heard from within a 17-foot circle. Join ICBC host Terri Macey near the parking lot at the Day Use Area, near the beach and restrooms. Bring a chair and binoculars. For more information, visit <https://www.thebigsit.org/>.

**October 15, Saturday, 7:30 a.m. Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area** for sparrows and other fall migrants. Meet leader Jason McCurdy at the HWMA parking lot on Swan Lake Road, across from Swan Lake (GPS coordinates 41.776081, 91.675009). We will carpool our way around Hawkeye Wildlife Area. Expect moderate hiking at some viewing areas. Dress for the weather and potential wet and muddy trails. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. Ending time around noon.

Map: <https://iowacitybirdclub.org/miscellaneous-maps/>

## Schedule (cont.)

**October 20, Thursday, 7 p.m. Zoom Meeting.** In “Birding in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, South Texas,” Brandon Caswell will offer a synthesis of two trips to “The Valley” within the last few years. A brief overview of the area will be covered. Non-avian sightings as well as birding hotspot information will be covered. South Texas specialty birds will be discussed with photos. Some recent mega-rare birds will be highlighted along with implications on their possible range expansion into the United States. Many photos to be shared.

**November 12, Saturday, 8 a.m. Amana Lily Pond and Nature Trail.** This is a beginning birder trip for waterfowl ID and early winter birds. Extra scopes will be on hand for extended practice as we stop at several viewing spots around the lake. This will be followed by an optional short hike at the Amana Nature Trail to look for woodland birds. Dress warm and wear boots, as trails may be wet or muddy. Meet leaders Linda Quinn and Karen Disbrow at 8:00 at Kohl’s parking lot in Coralville. We’ll return by noon.

**November 17, Thursday, 7 p.m. Zoom Meeting.** Anna Burkhart Thomas, Avian Ecologist for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, will present “Understanding Migration in Iowa: Expanding the Motus Network.” This is the same talk Anna gave at the IOU Spring Meeting, with updated tracking data from spring, summer, and early fall.

**December 18, Sunday. Iowa City Christmas Bird Count.** More information will be provided in our next issue.

## Other Dates of Note

**September 16-18, Friday-Sunday. Iowa Ornithologists’ Union Fall Meeting** at Camp Abe Lincoln near the Quad Cities. See birds in Scott County and connect with birders from around the state. The weekend includes field trips on Saturday and Sunday mornings, presentations on Saturday afternoon, and a keynote speaker at the Saturday evening meal. Field trip destinations include Big Sand Mound Preserve, Nahant Marsh-Carp Lake, Princeton Marsh, and Wildcat Den State Park. For more information and to register, visit <https://iowabirds.org/IOU/Meetings/NextMeeting.aspx>.

## News and Notes

**The Songbird Project’s 2022 final trails report** showed significant increases in four of the five target species of their bird house programs. Purple Martin fledging numbers went up from 1556 last year, to 1680 this year. Eastern Bluebird numbers increased from 183 last year, to 274 this year. Tree Swallow numbers went from 184 to 219, while Black-capped Chickadee fledglings went from 54 to 66. The American Kestrel trail in western Johnson County showed a decline from its record last year—from 74 young to 57.

The Songbird Project, with twenty-seven volunteer monitors, checks twenty Purple Martin colonies in Johnson and Washington counties, and eighteen Eastern Bluebird trails. The Project is always looking for new volunteers and places to expand their colonies and trails. For more information contact Jim Walters at 319-466-1134 or [jcmwalt@infionline.net](mailto:jcmwalt@infionline.net).

**Meeting Recordings:** Our Zoom meetings are now being recorded for on-demand viewing. If you miss a meeting, you can stream it on our website by going to the “Videos” link in the menu at the top right of the homepage which will take you to the recordings.

## **2022 Johnson County Spring Migration Count**

**Chris Caster**

The Spring Count was held on May 7. Thankfully the COVID crisis was a greatly diminished concern this year and we did have some larger groups birding together. We also met for lunch at the North Liberty Community Center, a tradition very nice to renew without masks.

It was a fantastic day to be out birding. Sunrise was in the low 40s, but by afternoon it was 70 degrees and breezy. And no precipitation all day. But the migration seemed to be behind schedule due to the cold spring thus far. The trees were barely leafed out and there were lingering waterfowl, but few migrants. We managed a species total of 152, which is somewhat below our average. We had 14 species of waterfowl. Shorebird diversity was not great as we managed only 13. Seventeen warblers were likely one of our lowest count totals in that category.

We did have some pretty good birds though. The best bird in my opinion was the lovestruck Barn Owl coming to visit the Macbride Raptor Project's captive display bird. Mark Brown and I were there when it came in at sunset. And I was treated to a lengthy conversation between the two after dark. A beautiful Eared Grebe was on Swan Lake in breeding plumage, along with two Black-necked Stilts and an American Avocet. At Cedar River Crossing near Sutliff, Deb and Mark Rolfes discovered a Wilson's Phalarope and American Pipits. Mark Brown visited there later in the afternoon and found eight White-faced Ibis.

An estimated four Wilson's Snipe were performing their winnowing display at Williams Prairie at sunrise. American Bitterns were calling in two different locations along Swan Lake Road well west of Round Pond. The best warbler was certainly the Pine Warbler reported by Nick Timmer at Hickory Hill Park. Other good warblers were Kentucky and Golden-winged at Squire Point, Cerulean at Hanging Rock Woods, and Yellow-throated at Lake Macbride. A Summer Tanager was also at Hanging Rock – thanks to Jayden Bowen for running out to get that for us.

A Red-breasted Nuthatch was found by Karen Disbrow's group at Kent Park. Chris Edwards located a surprising three White-eyed Vireos and four Red-breasted Mergansers at Lake Macbride. Chris also had a Blue Grosbeak at Hawkeye Wildlife Area. Mark Brown had a Henslow's Sparrow and American Woodcock near the Gun Club Ponds along Greencastle Avenue.

Possibly the biggest miss was Great Horned Owl, but Eastern Screech-Owl was a close second. Other misses included Upland Sandpiper, Loggerhead Shrike, Bell's Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Northern Mockingbird, Prothonotary Warbler, and Vesper Sparrow.

Thanks to everyone who participated!

Participants: Kyle Belcher, Tom Bootsmiller, Jayden Bowen, Mary Bowler, Brian Broderick, Mark Brown, Chris Caster, Karen Disbrow, Sandy Eads, Chris Edwards, Linda Fisher, Rick, Janet, Jenny Hollis and JJ Miller, Ken Lowder, Mark Madsen, Ramona McGurk, Mary Noble, Jason Paulios, Deb and Mark Rolfes, Janet Seiz, Nick Timmer, Eliza Willis.

**SPECIES LIST**

Greater White-fronted Goose	4	Turkey Vulture	47	House Sparrow	88
Canada Goose	308	Osprey	2	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	38
Wood Duck	50	Cooper's Hawk	3	American Pipit	3
Blue-winged Teal	154	Bald Eagle	12	House Finch	12
Northern Shoveler	69	Broad-winged Hawk	1	American Goldfinch	136
Gadwall	1	Red-tailed Hawk	7	Grasshopper Sparrow	2
American Wigeon	1	Barn Owl	1	Lark Sparrow	8
Mallard	70	Barred Owl	4	Chipping Sparrow	18
Green-winged Teal	1	Belted Kingfisher	4	Field Sparrow	20
Redhead	1	Red-headed Woodpecker	44	White-crowned Sparrow	8
Ring-necked Duck	18	Red-bellied Woodpecker	56	White-throated Sparrow	40
Lesser Scaup	4	Downy Woodpecker	77	Henslow's Sparrow	1
Hooded Merganser	4	Hairy Woodpecker	16	Savannah Sparrow	6
Red-breasted Merganser	4	Northern Flicker	11	Song Sparrow	68
Northern Bobwhite	3	Pileated Woodpecker	7	Lincoln's Sparrow	3
Ring-necked Pheasant	17	American Kestrel	6	Swamp Sparrow	3
Wild Turkey	4	Great Crested Flycatcher	15	Eastern Towhee	25
Pied-billed Grebe	17	Eastern Kingbird	6	Bobolink	3
Rock Pigeon	12	Willow Flycatcher	1	Eastern Meadowlark	17
Eurasian Collared-Dove	2	Least Flycatcher	4	Western Meadowlark	1
Mourning Dove	56	Eastern Phoebe	8	Orchard Oriole	4
Chimney Swift	3	White-eyed Vireo	3	Baltimore Oriole	25
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	2	Yellow-throated Vireo	13	Red-winged Blackbird	617
Sora	18	Warbling Vireo	24	Brown-headed Cowbird	100
American Coot	2	Blue Jay	145	Common Grackle	92
Sandhill Crane	8	American Crow	49	Ovenbird	1
American Avocet	1	Horned Lark	5	Northern Waterthrush	1
Black-necked Stilt	2	Bank Swallow	4	Golden-winged Warbler	1
Killdeer	51	Tree Swallow	217	Blue-winged Warbler	7
Dunlin	5	N. Rough-winged Swallow	6	Black-and-white Warbler	5
Least Sandpiper	16	Purple Martin	51	Tennessee Warbler	3
Pectoral Sandpiper	9	Barn Swallow	102	Nashville Warbler	10
American Woodcock	5	Cliff Swallow	45	Kentucky Warbler	1
Wilson's Snipe	4	Black-capped Chickadee	87	Common Yellowthroat	58
Spotted Sandpiper	23	Tufted Titmouse	44	American Redstart	7
Solitary Sandpiper	5	Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	Cerulean Warbler	1
Lesser Yellowlegs	61	White-breasted Nuthatch	45	Northern Parula	6
Greater Yellowlegs	2	House Wren	123	Yellow Warbler	34
Wilson's Phalarope	3	Sedge Wren	4	Palm Warbler	7
Bonaparte's Gull	3	Marsh Wren	1	Pine Warbler	1
Ring-billed Gull	15	Carolina Wren	1	Yellow-rumped Warbler	75
Caspian Tern	2	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	32	Yellow-throated Warbler	7
Black Tern	2	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	Black-throated Green Warbler	4
Forster's Tern	3	Eastern Bluebird	11	Summer Tanager	1
Double-crested Cormorant	42	Swainson's Thrush	1	Scarlet Tanager	3
American White Pelican	336	Wood Thrush	5	Northern Cardinal	171
American Bittern	2	American Robin	188	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	33
Great Blue Heron	1	Gray Catbird	85	Blue Grosbeak	1
Great Egret	4	Brown Thrasher	16	Indigo Bunting	9
Green Heron	2	European Starling	140	Dickcissel	1
White-faced Ibis	8	Cedar Waxwing	5		

## 2022 Hickory Hill Park Warbler Walks

### Chris Edwards

After a two-year hiatus, our Hickory Hill Park Warbler Walks officially returned this spring! Rotating leaders this year were Mark Madsen, Chris Edwards, Jason Paulios, Dan Rose, Elliot Stalter, Mark Brown, and Elizabeth Aubrey. Mark Madsen compiled the table of daily sightings which is posted on our website. The highlight this year was the presence of up to three Pine Warblers on six days from April 29 – May 11. Connecticut Warblers were also recorded on six days, and Kentucky Warblers on three days. Non-warbler highlights included Black-billed Cuckoo, Forster's Tern, Osprey, Northern Harrier, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Acadian Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Bell's Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Clay-colored Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, and Summer Tanager. Note: the walk on May 3 was rained out.

SPECIES	04/27/22	04/28/22	04/29/22	05/02/22	05/04/22	05/05/22	05/06/22	05/09/22	05/10/22	05/11/22	05/12/22	05/13/22	05/16/22	05/17/22	05/18/22	05/19/22	05/20/22	05/23/22	05/24/22	05/25/22	05/26/22	05/27/22	DAYS
Ovenbird					X		X	X			X	X		X			X						7
Worm-eating Warbler																							0
Louisiana Waterthrush																							0
Northern Waterthrush							X																1
Golden-winged Warbler								X	X	X	X												4
Blue-winged Warbler							X																1
Black-and-white Warbler	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X		16
Prothonotary Warbler																							0
Tennessee Warbler									X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Orange-crowned Warbler	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X													8
Nashville Warbler	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						14
Connecticut Warbler															X		X	X	X	X		X	6
Mourning Warbler									X		X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Kentucky Warbler										X										X		X	3
Common Yellowthroat					X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	15
Hooded Warbler																							0
American Redstart						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	17
Cape May Warbler																							0
Cerulean Warbler																							0
Northern Parula					X		X	X	X				X			X			X			X	8
Magnolia Warbler									X	X		X	X	X	X		X				X		8
Bay-breasted Warbler									X				X		X								3
Blackburnian Warbler								X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X			10
Yellow Warbler									X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X					8
Chestnut-sided Warbler								X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		13
Blackpoll Warbler									X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X		X		9
Palm Warbler		X		X	X	X	X	X	X														7
Pine Warbler			X	X	X	X	X			X													6
Yellow-rumped Warbler	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X												9
Yellow-throated Warbler																							0
Black-throated Green Warbler		X				X		X	X	X		X		X		X	X						9
Canada Warbler										X		X	X	X					X	X		X	7
Wilson's Warbler									X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X					9
TOTAL WARBLER SPECIES	4	5	4	4	7	8	12	12	18	17	10	14	14	14	12	11	11	11	10	7	8	8	26

## Dues and Donations

### Linda Quinn

Ever wonder what your Iowa City Bird Club membership dues pay for? In short, just the basic operations of our club: expenses for meetings, publications, website, and events. All of the work is done by volunteers! Our option for e-newsletters helps keep membership dues down to a low \$10 annually. But for those who prefer the print version, we offer a \$15 membership which covers the price of paper and U.S. Mail. The pandemic has changed our meetings from rental venues to Zoom subscription. It's been so popular that we're continuing Zoom for most of our monthly meetings. Occasionally we pay speaker fees or make contributions to their projects. An example is our \$200 contribution to the Motus Wildlife Tracking System, which we will hear about at the upcoming November meeting. We also incur expenses from hosting one big yearly event – the Pelican Festival. This outreach activity helps engage the public and fits perfectly with our mission to “*promote the enjoyment, study and conservation of birds in their natural habitat.*”

What *don't* your dues pay for? For one thing, we're not affiliated with the Audubon Society like many bird clubs are. ICBC organizers purposely chose—back in the 1970s—to be an independent organization, free from the fund-raising requirement for Audubon Society clubs. Decisions on donations towards bird habitat and conservation organizations should be made individually; that was the thinking back then and still holds true today. We'd like to encourage you to support bird habitat with whatever means you can. And our state sure needs help! Iowa is near the bottom (ranking 49th out of 50) in federal and state park lands. The great majority of the state (85%) is devoted to agriculture. Public lands and parks managed by the counties (200,000 acres) are a saving grace, but funding varies by county and is not nearly enough.

How can you support bird habitat? Here's a list of local and state organizations to get you started.

- [Bur Oak Land Trust](#): Protects land in Johnson and surrounding counties from urban development, through purchase and management for public enjoyment of various habitats: wetlands, woodlands, prairies and savannas.
- [Federal Duck Stamp](#): Buy these conservation revenue stamps at any store that sells hunting licenses or through DNR's new *Go Outdoors Iowa* app. Federal duck stamps cost approximately \$28 each and are reissued yearly on July first. 98% of the purchase price goes directly to help acquire and protect wetland habitat and purchase conservation easements for the National Wildlife Refuge System.
- [Ducks Unlimited Iowa](#): Their mission is conservation of wildlife habitat and 80% of every dollar goes directly to waterfowl habitat across North America. DU has Iowa conservation projects, including one at Cone Marsh.
- [Friends of Johnson County Conservation](#): Supports the educational and conservation functions of Johnson County Conservation, through financial support and volunteer efforts.
- [Iowa Audubon](#): Dedicated to Iowa's birds – restoring and protecting habitat as well as education for citizens about conservation.
- [Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation](#): A statewide organization aimed at restoring and protecting Iowa's land, water and wildlife. INHF was founded in 1979, in part because important and threatened natural lands were being offered for sale. INHF quickly began working with private landowners statewide who wanted to sell or donate their land for conservation,
- [Natural Resources License Plate](#): A DNR program offering car license plates, \$35 for the initial plate and \$10 for renewal. Funds go to the REAP (Resource Enhancement and Protection) program, with a good portion dedicated to conservation of nongame species.

## Field Trip and Meeting Reports

**April 21, Meeting.** Brandon Caswell's presentation, "Iowa and Beyond Warbler Photo Big Year," was an account of Brandon's goal to photograph all 35 species of warblers that regularly occur in Iowa. Brandon also spoke of a larger goal of seeing 300 bird species in Iowa in a single year. Not only did we see photos of these beautiful birds, but we learned about places in Iowa to go warbler-watching ourselves!

Sandy Eads gave an overview of upcoming events and shared how to find information on the club website. Karen Disbrow let us know there will be no Turkey Vulture festival this year.

There were 19 computers in attendance on Zoom.  
– *Sandy Eads*

**April 23, Corriell Nature Preserve.** Eleven of us were able to join Bur Oak Land Trust's Executive Director, Jason Taylor, to tour their new property in Muscatine County, Corriell Nature Preserve. This nearly 200-acre restricted access property borders the Cedar River and contains wetland, timber, oak savanna, and sand prairie habitats. As we stood in the parking area to hear about the property from Jason, we were treated to the sight of numerous Broad-winged Hawk kettles moving north as well as a close Osprey being chased by a Bald Eagle. Jason pointed out numerous flowering Carolina Anemones, a rare plant of Iowa sand prairies. We also came across tubes of mud, signs of active crayfish burrowing in the marshy areas near a sedge meadow.

At the beaver dam overlook of the oxbow area we were able to see a variety of waterfowl species as well as many Painted Turtles and a few False Map Turtles. Tree Swallows were everywhere, fighting one another for empty cavities in the many dead standing trees along the water's edge. We all had great views of four newly returned male Yellow Warblers singing from the willows.

Participants: Elizabeth Aubrey, Phyllis Black, Julie Damiano, Jerry Denning, Therese Guedon, Pat Kieffer, Kristin Lee, Ken Lowder, Jason Paulios (co-leader), Jane Shuttleworth, Jason Taylor (co-leader), Nick Timmer.

Birds (49 species): Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Mallard, Hooded Merganser, Mourning Dove, Killdeer, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Greater Yellowlegs, American White Pelican, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Cooper's Hawk, Bald Eagle, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, American Robin, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Yellow Warbler, Palm Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Cardinal.

– *Jason Paulios*

**May 1, Terry Trueblood Recreation Area and Ryerson's Woods State Preserve.** This trip was scheduled for April 30, but the weather forecast predicted rain, so it was rescheduled for Sunday, May 1, which had a good forecast. As it turned out, Saturday was very nice with no rain and much nicer than Sunday turned out to be. A group of about 15 folks met at the northeast parking area at Terry Trueblood Recreation Area. There was a lone American Avocet wading just off shore to start us off. There were a few other shorebirds including Least and Spotted Sandpipers, Killdeer and a Lesser Yellowlegs. Other waterbirds were Canada Geese and Northern Shovelers.

It was very windy, so the group walked over to dirt bike trails on the west side of the park which

were sheltered. There were a few early warblers that included Yellow-rumped, Palm, Black and White and Northern Parula warblers. We also found a late Winter Wren. The field trip was originally scheduled to go to Pechman Creek Delta but because of the wind we went to Ryerson's Woods instead. The only new bird we had there was a Red-tailed Hawk, but there were lots of spring ephemerals in bloom. In total we had 50 bird species.

Birds (50 species): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Northern Shoveler, Mallard, Pied-billed Grebe, Mourning Dove, American Avocet, Killdeer, Least Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Barred Owl, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Blue-headed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, House Wren, Winter Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, White-breasted Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Gray Catbird, European Starling, House Sparrow, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, American Goldfinch, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Black-and-white Warbler, Northern Parula, Palm Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

– *Mark Madsen*

**May 14, Cedar River Crossing Conservation Area.** Our mid-May field trip started with very comfortable temperatures and clear skies overhead. It was cool, with temperatures in the mid-70s and a slight breeze when we started at 7:30, and remained sunny all morning, breaking into the low-80s when we wrapped up a little before noon. Overall, it was a picture-perfect spring day for birding.

The birds seemed to welcome us as we gathered in the parking lot. We observed a Least Sandpiper busily foraging away in the channel to the north of the parking lot. A Baltimore Oriole pair worked on renovations to their nest in

a branch almost directly above us. The orioles were plentiful and present throughout the wetland, singing a near constant background soundtrack as we explored the north half of this ever-evolving Johnson County property.

The group headed into the wetland along the main path that runs near the backwater channels of the Cedar River. We heard and spotted many woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, sparrows, and a number of swallows flying overhead. Mark Madsen found a Bobolink that teed up nicely for us. It was quite cooperative, posing for photos and allowing extended looks through the scope.

Continuing along the shore of the main pool and the edge of the feeder stream, we had great looks at a variety of shorebirds. A thorough shorebird study ensued, allowing us to really study the differences in overall size, shape, behavior, and color patterns. There were plenty of Killdeer in the mix to use as a size reference allowing us to compare with nearby Semipalmated Plovers. Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers were also hanging out close to one another for comparison. This was especially valuable as the Least Sandpiper and Semipalmated Sandpipers were life birds for four birders. One birder pointed out the bill on the Least Sandpiper has a tip that reminded them of tweezers. There was one shorebird we were not able to identify as only a few of us got on it before it disappeared. Some thought it was most likely a Baird's Sandpiper, but with only limited and obstructed views, we weren't able to reach consensus on this identification. We still call it "the one that got away."

After a group effort to search for American Pipits, without luck, we began our hike back to the parking area. Some of the group then called it a day and departed. Those who remained hiked westward to the raised terrace that overlooks most of the wetland in search of Grasshopper Sparrows and for one more scan for American Pipits. We soon picked up a distinctive insect-like buzz and focused our attention to the area, eventually locating a couple of Grasshopper Sparrows perched atop tall grasses and "singing"



away so that we could both see and hear these neat little sparrows.

Thanks to all who participated in making this a memorable experience.

Participants: Becky Benson, Mary Bowler, Brian Broderick, Barry Buschelman, Karen Disbrow, Sandy Eads, Mary Gallagher, Mark Madsen, Ramona McGurk, Richard Randell, Deb and Mark Rolfes (leaders), Jane Shuttleworth, Nick Timmer.

Birds (54 Species): Canada Goose, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Mallard, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Killdeer, Semipalmated Plover, Least Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, American White Pelican, Green Heron, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, American Robin, European Starling, House Sparrow, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, American Goldfinch, Grasshopper Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel.

– *Mark & Deb Rolfes*

**May 19, Meeting.** Linda Rudolph presented “Birding, Tigers and the Taj Mahal: Visiting Magical Northeast India.” She gave us a fascinating look at the people, places, animals, and especially birds of the areas she visited in India. Some of the mammals Linda saw were Bengal tigers, common langurs, and nilgai. She also saw 328 species of birds! Linda answered questions about the trip and the cameras she used. We all said “WOW!” as we watched the

presentation, so check it out on the ICBC website if you missed it.

Linda Quinn reported on upcoming field trips, and there was discussion of the spring walks and bird sightings. Meetings will be on summer break until the September meeting.

– *Sandy Eads*

**June 11, Indiangrass Hills.** After last year’s record-setting turnout for the ICBC’s annual outing to Indiangrass Hills, this year was a bit more normal, with thirteen birders including three attending for the first time. I planned a shorter outing than normal due to other personal commitments and the forecast for rain to start mid-morning, but that didn’t hamper the detection of any of our target species. In fact, we ended up with the highest quality checklist of birds since I’ve led this trip.

The east side of I Ave. opposite the parking area was productive for multiple individuals of the majority of our target species, including Henslow’s Sparrows, Grasshopper Sparrows, and Bobolinks. I decided to bring along the scope this year, so the participants were able to get nice extensive looks for these are other select species. Although I had planned to not cross the stream this year, Brandon Caswell thought he had heard a Yellow-breasted Chat singing in the distance, so we did cross the stream a short distance to try and track it down, where after a bit of scanning, the chat materialized at the top of a small shrub. This is the first time I’ve had this species at Indiangrass Hills, although a bird was reported on an outing back in the summer of 2019. Good looks at a Sedge Wren and Willow Flycatcher were also obtained at this spot before we started to head back.

Although the sky was starting to darken to the west and we wanted to squeeze in some time to try for the Loggerhead Shrikes and Northern Mockingbirds south of the property, it was quite difficult to ignore the same birds that we saw coming in. Some of them were just too cooperative and I was happy to set up the scope for them again. Eventually near the cars we ran

into Mark Madsen, who informed us that our two target birds on I Ave were showing well on power lines right along the road. Most of us proceeded to that location and were delighted to find the shrike and mocker still hanging out near a farmstead right along I Ave. Eventually we saw the partners of each, a good indication that these birds are continuing to breed at this location. A final bonus sighting at this spot was a singing male Blue Grosbeak, which never moved from his dead snag on the west side of the road. Along with the chat, this was another new bird for this outing. By about 9:45 or so, the rain moved in, but with all the great birds we got, no one minded calling it a day!

Participants: Connie Aldridge, Elizabeth Aubrey, Mary Bowler, Brian Broderick, Mark Brown (leader), Brandon Caswell, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Jerry Denning, Mark Madsen, Lakshmi Nagarajan, Deb Rolfes, Mark Rolfes, Maria Story.

Birds (56 species): Northern Bobwhite, Ring-necked Pheasant, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Mourning Dove, Killdeer, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Willow Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Loggerhead Shrike, Bell's Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, House Wren, Sedge Wren, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, House Sparrow, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, American Goldfinch, Grasshopper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Yellow-breasted Chat, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel.

– Mark Brown

**July 17, Iowa City Bird Club Picnic.** The club held its second annual summer picnic at Lake Macbride on July 17. Attendance increased over the previous year, which is always encouraging. The following members/visitors attended: Phyllis Black, Barry Buschelman, Sandy and Mark Eads, Lois Hughes, Merle Ihne, Doina Johnson, Pat Kieffer, Terri Macey, Linda Quinn, James Randolph, and Nick Timmer and friend.

Various members birded at the picnic shelter before, during and after the meal. We communally identified the following species: Canada Goose, Turkey Vulture, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Wood Pewee, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, House Wren, American Robin, Gray Catbird, House Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Cardinal.

Following the meal, several folks headed over to the primitive campground on the other side of Mehaffey Bridge Road to do some more birding. Additional species identified there were: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Barred Owl, Downy Woodpecker, American Goldfinch, and Red-winged Blackbird.

We did not identify the most amazing birds, but it was a good opportunity for socializing with fellow birders, meeting new people, and encouraging new birders. Be sure to make plans to attend next year's third annual summer ICBC picnic!

– Terri Macey

**July 23, Iowa City Butterfly Count.** This year's butterfly count was held on one of the hottest days of the summer, with the afternoon temperature reaching 98°. Generally, warm sunny days are preferred when looking for butterflies, but this was a bit excessive, and butterfly activity actually decreased significantly in the afternoon. And it was hard on us too!

To counter the heat, we split up into three groups in order to cover our usual areas in less time. But being a hardy bunch, we ending up staying out

until mid-afternoon anyway, and we even covered a few new areas.

This was my 24th year conducting this count as part of the North American Butterfly Association's Fourth of July Butterfly Count program. Every year more than 300 similar counts are held throughout North America, including the counts I conduct at Shimek State Forest and Yellow River State Forest. This count is held within the same 15-mile diameter circle as the Iowa City Christmas Bird Count. We visit primarily open, sunny areas with plenty of nectar sources, including reconstructed or enhanced prairies at Kent Park, Lake Macbride State Park, and Macbride Nature Recreation Area. This year we also visited Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area and Atherton Wetland.

This year we found 35 species and 1154 individual butterflies in 15.9 party-hours. The count average is 33 species and 1192 individuals in 9.5 party-hours.

One species was new for the count: a very worn Striped Hairstreak at Kent Park. Several species were seen in record high numbers: American Snout (an irregular immigrant from southern states), Eastern Comma, and Northern Broken-Dash (a small brown and orange grass skipper). I was pleased to find two Dion Skippers, a species of concern in Iowa, at a wetland in Kent Park.

In general, butterfly numbers have been lower than usual in Iowa this summer. In some years we see large numbers of Clouded Sulphurs and Orange Sulphurs, common butterflies often seen along roadsides and around alfalfa and clover fields. That wasn't the case this year, however, as these species have been somewhat scarce all year.

Participants: Jim Boles, Mark Brown, Chris Edwards (compiler), Mark Madsen, Tom Schilke.

Butterflies: Black Swallowtail 25, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail 10, Cabbage White 348, Clouded

Sulphur 94, Orange Sulphur 115, Cloudless Sulphur 3, Little Yellow 49, Bronze Copper 6, Striped Hairstreak 1, Eastern Tailed-Blue 63, Summer Azure 97, American Snout 12, Variegated Fritillary 2, Great Spangled Fritillary 95, Meadow Fritillary 11, Pearl Crescent 12, Question Mark 1, Eastern Comma 13, Painted Lady 1, Red Admiral 29, Common Buckeye 27, Red-spotted Purple 7, Viceroy 19, Hackberry Emperor 2, Common Wood-Nymph 8, Monarch 34, Silver-spotted Skipper 18, Common Checkered-Skipper 1, Least Skipper 40, Fiery Skipper 2, Peck's Skipper 2, Northern Broken-Dash 3, Sachem 1, Dion Skipper 2, Black Dash 1.

– Chris Edwards

**August 14, Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area.** Birders met at the parking lot by Swan Lake. If the lot had been any smaller, we would have been parking on the driveway. I have never seen so many show up for an outing before. Some years ago, I remember it was just Linda Quinn and I on this annual trip. We spotted a Swallow-tailed Kite along Greencastle Road that morning, so maybe y'all learned your lesson. Anyway, the weather was perfect this morning and the cars kept coming. Thirty-one participants including myself walked the access road out to the base of Sand Point.

As there were quite a few individuals new to me, I had to comment on how different the area looks from when I first began birding here in the middle 90's. What had been a sandbar with mudflats all around has morphed through continual siltation into a great expanse of willows and grasses. If it weren't for the farming, we might now need to carry machetes. Even the walk out has changed. What was prime Horned Lark habitat is now planted to soybeans. Fortunately, there are still some easily accessible wet areas with mudflats and shallows for shorebirds to stop and forage on their southward migration.

We didn't find many birds when we first arrived at the point. But that was good. We had many folks without shorebird experience and this

enabled us all to easily relocate birds of interest and discuss them as a group. Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers were our first subjects. Soon Baird's were identified. Things got really interesting when James spotted a Western Sandpiper. This is an uncommon find in Iowa, but we had been hoping for it, as Brandon Caswell had posted a sighting from this location a couple of days prior. Fall shorebirding is made more interesting by the presence of juveniles as well as molting adults. Juvenile plumage tends to be brighter and often more colorful. More colorful because the adults we find on fall migration have usually molted much of their breeding plumage and those that remain are usually worn and faded. Based on the rufous head coloration and the dark feathers on the flanks, this Western was decided to be an adult molting into winter plumage. A juvenile Western would not have the rufous on the head and the rufous coloration in the scapulars would have been much brighter.

The birds in front of us seemed to accumulate out of nowhere and soon we also had Pectoral Sandpipers and Lesser Yellowlegs to observe. We spent well over an hour in this one spot so most seemed to be pretty comfortable with the differences, although the Baird's Sandpipers many found challenging to appreciate. Cliff, Barn, Tree, and Bank Swallows were also enjoyed here. Ring-billed Gulls, American White Pelicans, and Great Egrets were all observed in the distance.

When everyone was satisfied with the birds here, we moved to view a wet area on the west edge of Sand Point. There were fewer birds here, but once again it was James who exclaimed, "Phalarope!" A beautiful Red-necked Phalarope was busy wading back and forth looking for things to eat amongst a number of Pectoral Sandpipers. A Sedge Wren was also heard singing, from the nearby sedges of course.

Soon we were hiking back to our vehicles. Along the way Lark Sparrows, American Goldfinches and Indigo Buntings were seen. Near the parking lot were Hairy Woodpeckers and Eastern

Kingbirds. Swan Lake was largely empty of birds, but Mallards and Canada Geese and a Kingfisher were present.

The group then caravanned to Greencastle Avenue and turned south to the Gun Club Ponds. Three Green Herons were there and six Belted Kingfishers. Both seemed to be family groups. The kingfishers were particularly entertaining as they spent much time chasing each other around. We spent a lazy half-hour at this spot before turning the vehicles around to view the bigger water to the north along Greencastle. The water on the west side of the road was quite high with thick vegetation right to the water's edge. We viewed a Great Blue Heron, Great Egrets, and a cormorant, but it wasn't suitable for shorebirds. Fortunately, there was a small area of exposed mudflats to the east of Greencastle. Again, there weren't a lot of birds, but a lone Stilt Sandpiper was exciting to find among the mostly Lesser Yellowlegs foraging about.

Thanks to everyone for coming out. It was fun to introduce everyone to some new birds.

Participants: Gretchen Aschoff, Elizabeth Aubrey, Lakshmi Balasubramanian, Phyllis Black, Ian and Tom Bootsmiller, Mary Bowler, Brian Broderick, Laura Brouwer, Barry Buschelman, Chris Caster (pilot), Edith and Erica Dawson, Jerry Denning (comic relief), Drew Dillman, Sandy Eads, Charlotte Fairlie, Jaclyn Hughes, James Huntington (co-pilot), Wanqui Matharu, Cheryl Miller, Hai-Dang Phan, Linda Quinn, Richard Randell, Deb and Mark Rolfes, Theresa Seeberger, Janet Seiz, Maria Story (navigator), Nick Timmer, John Tollefson (scribe).

Species (47): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mallard, Mourning Dove, Killdeer, Stilt Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Red-necked Phalarope, Ring-billed Gull, Double-crested Cormorant, American White Pelican, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Green Heron, Turkey

Vulture, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Blue Jay, American Crow, Bank Swallow, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, House Wren, Sedge Wren, American Robin, Gray Catbird, House Sparrow, American Goldfinch, Lark Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting.

– Chris Caster



## Book Reviews

Rick Hollis

*These are shorter reviews than I usually write. I hope they give readers a taste of what the books are about. Most of the books are available for check-out at the Iowa City Public Library. – Rick*

***A Warbler's Journey*** by Scott Weidensaul (author) and Nancy Lane (illustrator). The Gryphon Press, 2022. 32 pages. Weidensaul is a well-known birder and author. His book *Living on the Wind: Across the Hemisphere with Migratory Birds* is marvelous. This is his first venture into children's books. It follows a Yellow Warbler on spring migration from Nicaragua to Canada. It has lovely text and beautiful illustrations. Amazon has a number of preview pages online. I think this is great book for children of 5 - 8 years.

***The Natural History of the Snakes and Lizards of Iowa*** by Terry VanDeWalle. University of Iowa Press, 2022. 384 pages. The author is a principal biologist with a consulting service and an adjunct instructor at Hawkeye Community

College. This is much more than a field guide. Most of the book is devoted to species accounts. These accounts typically include Iowa Status, Historical Summary, Description, Size, Similar Species, Distribution (including a map by counties), Habitat, Behavior (including a bar chart of monthly sightings), Threats, Food and Feeding, and Reproduction. Most chapters include several photographs. This is great book. It reads easily and is filled with odd little facts. For example, Jim Christiansen removed 34 Western Fox Snakes and 47 Eastern Yellow-bellied Racers from a single well and well house; and Northern Watersnakes are viviparous and have given birth to 6-99 young.

***A Pocket Guide to Pigeon Watching: Getting to Know the World's Most Misunderstood Bird*** by Rosemary Mosco. Workman Publishing Company, 2021. 240 pages. Rosemary Mosco is the artist who does the Bird and Moon nature cartoons – a delightful set of comics that are well worth the effort to read. This it is fun little book that is full of interesting facts about pigeons. Most chapters have interesting box inserts, which unfortunately are poorly designed – tiny white print on almost pastel backgrounds. In fact, I am not real fond of the main font used in the book either – too small and faint. Despite these shortcomings, this book is worth checking out at the library.

***Bitch: On the Female of the Species*** by Lucy Cooke. Basic Books, 2022. 400 pages. This is a rather densely-written book, but it's full of fascinating work about how the sexes differ and how we have learned that. I did not finish this book yet, but intend to return to it. The chapter titles are clever and invite the reader to read them. Here are a few: "The Anarchy of Sex," "Fifty Ways to Eat Your Lover," "Bitch Eat Bitch," "Beyond the Binary."

***Travels with Trilobites: Adventures in the Paleozoic*** by Andy Secher. Columbia University Press, 2022. This large book is filled with glorious photos of many of the trilobites that have graced the earth. This is another book that I mean to return to. Secher is a field associate in

paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History, and coeditor of the museum's trilobite website. His private collection comprises more than 4,000 trilobite fossils. The photos surprised me as I thought all trilobites were little dark structured creatures.

***Fireflies, Glow-worms, and Lightning Bugs: Identification and Natural History of the Fireflies of the Eastern and Central United States and Canada*** by Lynn Frierson Faust. University of Georgia Press, 2017. 376 pages. What a wonderful book. It takes you through all stages of the lightning bug's life cycle. Along the way are tables and figures to help with identification, including a chart of the most common firefly genera in the US and Canada: *Photuris* (flash), *Pyraetomena* (flash), *Photinus pyralis* (large flash), *Photinus florida* (small flash), *Pyropyga* (dark), *Phausis* (glow), *Lucidata* (dark), and *Ellychrina* (dark). She has a long chapter on frequently asked questions, and a section on other luminescent organisms. The largest section of the book is a basic field guide with images and diagrams of flash patterns (single flash, flash and longer glow, very long glow, etc.). These diagrams are useful in helping to identify species by their flashes. This field guide section includes short topics on Quick ID, Appearance, Flash Behavior, Time of Year/Time of Day, Habitat, Range, Similar Species, Research, and Nature Notes. Additionally, the inside front cover of the book contains a very useful large fold-out chart depicting species flash patterns and flash color.

***Hummingbirds: A Celebration of Nature's Jewels*** by Glenn Bartley and Andy Swash. Princeton University Press, 2022. 288 pages. Glenn Bartley is a Canadian nature photographer whose work I have followed for years. This is a glorious large-format coffee table book that is far more than a coffee table book. Many of the pages have beautiful hummingbird photos by the authors and others. In fact, the book's 500+ photos cover all 101 hummingbird genera and over two-thirds of the world's 369 species. The species accounts have status, distribution, and other bits of information for each species listed.

## In Memoriam: Robert Scarth and James Sandrock

Two longtime friends of the Iowa City Bird Club passed away this spring. We will miss them both. The following is excerpted from their obituaries.

Robert "Bob" Scarth passed away May 10, 2022 at his home. He graduated from Penn State University with a B.S. in Animal Husbandry, received a M.S. in Meat and Animal Science from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and returned to Penn State University where he completed a Ph.D. in Animal Industry Statistics and Genetics. His career included teaching and research at the University of Georgia in Athens; Auburn University in Auburn; the University of New England Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit in Armidale, N.S.W. Australia and the University of Iowa Institute of Rural and Environmental Health in Iowa City.

He met the love of his life, Linda Loos, while attending the University of Wisconsin, and they were married in 1962. Bob and Linda shared an unwavering commitment to conservation of the natural world. They traveled and photographed nature across the U.S. and worldwide, including Australia, New Zealand, South America, Africa, the Falkland Islands, and the Galapagos Islands. In 2009, they published *Deep Nature: Photographs from Iowa*, which contains 75 of their photographs that celebrate some of the state's smallest flora and fauna hidden in the wetlands, woodlands and prairies. Many of their photos are part of the collection that adorns the walls of the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics. They loved to share their photographs and adventures and gave many presentations on ecology and photography to groups around the Midwest. Their beautiful photographs of flora and fauna will be an enduring tribute to their passion for the environment.

James "Jim" Sandrock passed away peacefully at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City on June 6, 2022. Jim grew up in Dubuque and came to the University of Iowa on a Nile Kinnick football

scholarship and discovered Latin, Greek, and the Classics Department. After graduating with a B.A. in classics in 1951, he entered the U. S. Air Force and was stationed in Germany. After his service, Jim returned to the University of Iowa to get his M.A. and Ph.D. in German language and literature. He spent his 40-year career as a professor in that department, serving as chair of the department and assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts. His professional publications were in the fields of German pedagogy, literature, and folklore.

Jim married Donna Gow in 1951. She passed away in 2000, and in 2003 Jim married Jean Prior. They enjoyed extensive travels together and collaborated on two publications: *The Iowa Nature Calendar* and *The Scientific Nomenclature of Birds in the Upper Midwest*. Jim was an active birder with special expertise in southeast Iowa and an interest in Yellow-throated Warblers and Henslow's Sparrows. He edited the text for *The Iowa Breeding Bird Atlas*.

Among his other interests were a love of cowboys, the art of Charlie Russell, the lives and works of Willa Cather and Eudora Welty, the game of baseball, playing the mandolin, manuscript studies, and regional literature as embodied by Mark Twain and his German-speaking counterparts, Ludwig Thoma and Peter Rosegger.



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Please send this form with your annual membership dues to Larry Mahoney, 2223 Cae Drive, Iowa City, IA 52246. Annual membership dues per household are \$15 for a print subscription, \$10 for an email subscription, or \$10 for students for a print subscription. Make checks payable to "Eastern Iowa Birdwatch". Members receive a 10% discount on birdseed and suet at Ace Hardware at 600 N. Dodge Street, Iowa City, and Forever Green Garden Center at 125 Forevergreen Rd., Coralville.

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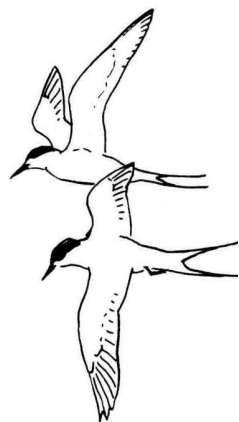
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## ***Eastern Iowa Birdwatch***

**Chris Edwards, Editor**  
4490 Daniels Cir. NE  
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**Visit our web site** at [www.iowacitybirdclub.org](http://www.iowacitybirdclub.org). You may contact Webmaster Mark Graber at [markagraber@gmail.com](mailto:markagraber@gmail.com). Also visit Iowa City Bird Club on Facebook.

**Join our Google Group** to receive email announcements of upcoming meetings, field trips, and other events, and the email version of our newsletter. Email Linda Quinn at [quinnhenry@msn.com](mailto:quinnhenry@msn.com) to sign up.

**For general club information**, contact Rick Hollis at 319-665-3141 or [xiboia@earthlink.net](mailto:xiboia@earthlink.net).

**To lead or suggest a field trip**, contact Field Trip Coordinator Linda Quinn at 319-330-3328 or [quinnhenry@msn.com](mailto:quinnhenry@msn.com).

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