

THE BIRD OF THE WEEK AND MAYBE THE YEAR IS A MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD AT CLEAR LAKE IN CENSO GORDO COUNTY IN NORTH CENTRAL IOWA. IT WAS FIRST OBSERVED ON SATURDAY SEPT 24, AND HAS BEEN SEEN EACH DAY SINCE INCLUDING TODAY THE 26TH. ON THE 25TH IT WAS SEEN NEAR GRANDVIEW POINT WHICH IS VISIBLE FROM THE END OF BAYSIDE ST. ALONG THE SOUTH SHORE AND ALSO FROM CLEAR LAKE STATE PARK AT THE S.E. CORNER OF THE LAKE. IT WAS OBSERVED TO ROOST IN A DEAD SNAG ON GRANDVIEW POINT ON THE NIGHT OF THE 25TH. ON MONDAY THE 26TH IT WAS SEEN ALONG THE NORTH SHORE OF THE EAST HALF OF THE LAKE. IT WAS SLOWLY DRIFTING ALONG THE SHORELINE AT TREETOP LEVEL OR HIGHER. IT IS A VERY LARGE BIRD WHICH RARELY FLAPS ITS WINGS, AND IS PRESUMED TO BE A FEMALE BECAUSE OF THE WHITE NECK & HEAD MARKING. PROBABLY THE BEST WAY TO LOOK FOR THE BIRD IS TO GO TO ONE OF THE PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS WHICH ARE MARKED BY BLUE SIGNS OR TO A PARK AREA AND SCAN THE SKYLINE ALONG THE

Short: WHEN THE BIRD IS LOCATED PROCEED
ALONG THE N OR S. SHORE DRIVES
AND HEAD FOR ANY LANDMARKS SUCH AS
WATER TOWERS THAT WERE SEEN WHEN
SCANNING. UNTIL YOU GET CLOSE TO THE
BIRD. GOOD SPOTS FOR SCANNING ARE
THE END OF BAYSIDE OF THE SOUTH,
CLEAR LAKE S.P. ON THE SE, CLEAR
LAKE CITY PARK ON THE E AND
THE STATE FISH HATCHERY ON THE N.
IF THE WIND SWITCHES TO THE NORTH
IT WOULD SEEM LOGICAL THAT THE BIRD
MIGHT BE MORE LIKELY ALONG THE
SOUTH SHORE HEADED INTO THE WIND.
THIS IS THE FIRST VERIFIABLE SIGHTING IN THE
STATE SINCE 1904 AND IF ACCEPTED
BY THE RECORDS COMMITTEE WILL BE THE
THE FIRST MODERN RECORD. IT IS UN-
DOUBTEDLY A GIFT FROM HURRICANE
GILBERT. PLEASE KEEP THE BIRDLINE
INFORMED OF ANY SIGHTINGS OR FAILURES
TO SEE IT. AND BE AWARE THAT
1-2 PEREGRINE FALCONS WERE SPOTTED
OVER THE LAKE ON BOTH SEPT 25-26

Update

For the second time in less than a week, a very rare bird in Iowa has made an appearance. On Wed afternoon Sept 18, a very dark Jaeger - possibly a pomarine was seen at Saginaw Res. N. of Des Moines. It was seen from 12:15 - 2:45 PM first from the dam, then from all sides of Res. Lake. Schoenew, Cherry Bl. + sent paper

The magpies frequent birds, but reports from Clear Lake - Cerro Gordo Co. in N.C. Iowa on Sat the 24th, and was seen regularly on the 25th + 26th - on the 25th ~~the~~ mainly along the South shore - on the 26th along the North Shore. It was not located by several birds on the 27th or the 28th until it reappeared about 5 PM along the North Shore + was observed drifting along the shore near the 3600 block of N Shore Drive

If you go to Clear Lake, beware
that peregrine falcons have been
seen over the lake all week
and at the west end at
Ventura Marsh ^{on Dec 28th} there are several
hundred pelicans, hundreds of
Franklin's gulls, & 10 sept
egrets. For an update on the peregrine at Point
of View birds, please keep ^{515 644-5400}
the B2 updated
in other papers

THIS IS AN UPDATE SEPT 30

YOU WHOSE THENTE THIS WEEK IS TAKE
A PELAGIC TRIP IN IOWA.

UPDATING THE NEWS ON THE POMARINE
JAEGER + FRIGATE BIRD:

ON SEPT. 29, A POMARINE JAEGER WAS
DISCOVERED AT Saylorville Reservoir north
of Des Moines. IT WAS SEEN ON BOTH
SEPT. 29 AND TODAY SEPT 30. IT IS A
VERY DARK BROWN GULL LIKE BIRD. IT
HAS BEEN SEEN FROM VARIOUS OF THE REC-
REATION AREAS AROUND THE LAKE, FROM
THE DAM, ON THE S, LAKEVIEW ON THE W
CHERRY CLEN ON THE E, AND SANDPIPER ON THE
N. THE BEST WAY TO SEE THE BIRD, HOW-
EVER IS TO TAKE A BOAT OUT AND LOOK FOR
THE BIRD ON THE WATER, OR IF FLYING,
WATCH FOR IT TO LAND. IT CAN BE
APPROACHED TO WITHIN 10-15 FEET AND IS
ENTIRELY UNAFRAID. BIRDERS SAID THE
JAEGER IN THIS WAY BOTH ON THE 29TH + 30TH.
THE Saylorville MARINA HAS 1 FISHING
BOAT + 2 PONTOON BOATS FOR RENT. THE
PHONE # THERE IS (515) 969-6541

THE FRIGATE BIRD, FIRST DISCOVERED
ON SEPT 24TH, AND SEEN REGULARLY THROUGH
THE 26TH, NOT SEEN ON THE 27TH, RE-

DISCOVERED ON THE 28TH + SEEN ON THE 29TH. ^{WAS LAST} THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS FROM TODAY, THE 30TH FOR AN UPDATE ON THE "KINGBIRD", CALL KURT NELSON (415) 696-5600. BE AWARE THAT 1-2ND PEREGRINE FALCONS HAVE BEEN REGULARLY SEEN OVER CLEAR LAKE. + THERE HAVE BEEN PELICANS, EGRETS, GULLS, + WATERFOWL AT VENTURA MARSH AT THE WEST END OF CLEAR LAKE, BUT BE CAREFUL THERE AS GOOSE SEASON OPENS SAT OCT 1

IN OTHER REPORTS

AND MAYBE THE YEAR

THE BIRD OF THE WEEK IS A MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD WHICH WAS ~~PRESENT~~^{FIRST SEEN} AT CLEAR LAKE, CERRO GORD CO. IN NORTH CENTRAL IOWA ON SUNDAY SEPT 25. ~~IT WAS SEEN IN THE LATE MORNING SOARING NEAR AN ISLAND ALONG THE SOUTH SHORE WHICH IS VISIBLE FROM GRANDVIEW POINT AND IN THE LATE AFTERNOON WAS OBSERVED FROM CLEAR LAKE STATE PARK ON THE SE PART OF THE LAKE. IT IS A LARGE BIRD WITH 7-8 FOOT WINGSPAN & USUALLY SOARS WITHOUT FLAPPING ITS WINGS & NEEDS SOME WIND TO DO THIS. THIS IS THE FIRST VIABLE SIGHTING IN THE STATE SINCE 1904 & IF ACCEPTED BY THE RECORDS COMMITTEE. IF YOU GO TO LOOK FOR THIS BIRD PLEASE KEEP THE BIRDLINE INFORMED AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO UPDATE ANY NEWS OF IT - DAILY IF NECESSARY.~~

ALSO SEEN AT CLEAR LAKE ON THE 25TH WAS A PEREGRINE FALCON

IN SW IOWA AT FORNEY'S LAKE IN FREMONT CO ON SEPT 25 WERE AN ACCENT, IBIS, 3 BROAD EAGLES, 2 BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERONS AND NUMEROUS THORNBIRDS & WATER FOWL. ALSO IN FRE-

MONT CO ALONG HIGHWAY #2 JUST WEST
OF WAMBONIE PARK 38 HAWKS WERE
SITTING IN A PLOWED FIELD + INCLUDED
RED TAIL, ROUGH LEGGED + SWAINSONS,
AND AT THE THURMAN EXIT OF I-29
AN OSPREY OVER THE BOREAS PITS

IN CENTRAL IOWA ON SEPT 21 A
BLUE THROATED BLUE WARBLER WAS SEEN
IN A BACKYARD AT COLO IN STORY CO.
ON SEPT 24 AT RED ROCK RESERVOIR
IN MARION CO 4-500 WHITE PELICANS
AND AT HENDRICKSON MARSH IN SE
STORY CO 14 SPECIES OF SHOREBIRDS
INCLUDING BB PLOVER, DOWITCHERS,
+ STILT SANDPIPERS, ALSO CASPIAN
TERNS + A WATER PIDIT. ALL THESE
BIRDS WERE IN THE NW CORNER OF
THE MARSH. AT GRAMMAR GROVE PARK
IN MARSHALL CO FROM THE 21 THROUGH
THE 25, 6 SPECIES OF HAWKS INCLUDING
A MERLIN + SWAINSON'S HAWK ^{ALSO A PILEUP} AND AT
SNAKE CREEK PARK NORTH OF RIPPEY
IN GREENE CO A SHARP TAILED
SPARROW, DESPITE THE FACT THE MARSH IS
MOSTLY DRY

on Sept 23-24

IN SE IOWA, A LARGE NUMBER
OF OSPREYS, AS MANY AS 10-12 WERE
SEEN ALONG THE IOWA RIVER N + S
OF IOWA CITY, AT THE CORALVILLE
RESERVOIR + LAKE MACBRIDE ALL IN
JOHNSON CO. ON THE 23RD AT SUGAR
BOTTOM AREA OF THE CORALVILLE RES.
A BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERON AND AT
THE SANDY BEACH AREA A BB PLOVER
+ CASPIAN + FORSTERS TERNS +
NEAR IOWA CITY 2 MERLINS ON
THE 23RD.

AT ~~THE~~ ^{THE} CROTCH UNIT OF SHIMMER
S.F. IN LEE CO. A WARBLED SPECIES
INCLUDING BL. THR. GREEN + PARULA,
WINTER + CAROLINA WREN + NUMEROUS
WHITE THROATED SPARROWS. AT POOL
#19 OF THE MISS. RIVER NEAR
MONTROSE SEVERAL THOUSAND WATERBOWL
ARE PRESENT AND 25-30 CASPIAN
TERNS WERE SEEN AT THE KEOKUK DAM
AT OF BURRUM ^(IN D.M. CO) ON A MISS RIVER
SANDBAR, ON THE 28TH THERE WERE
200 GREAT EGRETS, AN ADULT, BB PLOVER,
MANY CASPIAN TERNS + 2 COMMON TERNS

