

March 18th 1945

Matt Skretta
1619 High View Dr.
Mt. Vernon, IA

Dear Sir(s),

I hope you will accept my apology for not being able to do this earlier, but as spring vacation was coming up, I decided I would wait until it came. Then on the first day of our spring vacation, I went out bird-watching.

If you happened to be wondering about what my yard looks like, here's a pretty fair description. Our yard is about 3 acres. It has a few hills in it, and it's very grassy. What few trees we have, are all very young. Since we live in sort of a valley, lots of birds are around us. But the day I did the checklist, I wasn't feeling very venturesome, so I didn't go out of my yard.

Again, I am quite sorry if I caused you any great delay. Thankyou for your time and

devotion,

Your friend,

Matt Saretta

Age 11

Iowa Ornithologists' Union
 FIELD CHECKLIST OF IOWA BIRDS
 Revised 1982
 * note details of identification
 ** provide full documentation
 # local (area), document if
 away from usual location

Also, document birds that are
 not listed and those distinctly
 out of season.
 Send reports to Field Reports
 Editor of Iowa Bird Life.

- GAVIIDAE**
 Common Loon
- PODICIPEDIDAE**
 Pied-billed Grebe
 Horned Grebe
 Eared Grebe
 Western Grebe
- PELECANIDAE**
 Am. White Pelican
- PHALACROCORACIDAE**
 Double-crstd Cormorant
- ARDEIDAE**
 Am. Bittern
 Least Bittern
 Great Blue Heron
 Great Egret
 Little Blue Heron
 Cattle Egret
 Green-backed Heron
 Blk-crwnd Night-Heron
 Yllw-crwnd Night-Heron
- ANATIDAE**
 Tundra Swan
 Mute Swan
 Gr. White-fronted Goose
 Snow Goose
 Ross' Goose
 Canada Goose
 Wood Duck
 Green-winged Teal
 Am. Black Duck
 Mallard
 N. Pintail
 Blue-winged Teal
 Cinnamon Teal
 N. Shoveler
 Gadwall
 Am. Wigeon
 Canvasback
 Redhead
 Ring-necked Duck
 **Greater Scaup
 Lesser Scaup
 Oldsquaw
 **White-winged Scoter
 Common Goldeneye
 Bufflehead
 Hooded Merganser
 Common Merganser
 Red-breasted Merganser
 Ruddy Duck
- CATHARTIDAE**
 Turkey Vulture
- ACCIPITRIDAE**
 Osprey
 Bald Eagle
 N. Harrier
 Sharp-shinned Hawk
 Cooper's Hawk
 **N. Goshawk
 Red-shouldered Hawk
 Broad-winged Hawk
 Swainson's Hawk
 Red-tailed Hawk
 Rough-legged Hawk
 #Golden Eagle (NE)
- FALCONIDAE**
 Am. Kestrel
 **Merlin
 **Peregrine Falcon
- PHASIANIDAE**
 #Gray Partridge (N)
 Ring-necked Pheasant
 #Ruffed Grouse (NE)
 Wild Turkey
 N. Bobwhite
- RALLIDAE**
 Virginia Rail
 Sora
 Common Moorhen
 Am. Coot

- CHARADRIIDAE**
 Black-bellied Plover
 Lesser Golden Plover
 Semipalmated Plover
 Piping Plover
 Killdeer
- RECURVIROSTRIDAE**
 Am. Avocet
- SCOLOPACIDAE**
 Greater Yellowlegs
 Lesser Yellowlegs
 Solitary Sandpiper
 Willet
 Spotted Sandpiper
 Upland Sandpiper
 Hudsonian Godwit
 Marbled Godwit
 Ruddy Turnstone
 Sanderling
 Semipalmated Sandpiper
 *Western Sandpiper
 Least Sandpiper
 White-rumped Sandpiper
 Baird's Sandpiper
 Pectoral Sandpiper
 Dunlin
 Stilt Sandpiper
 *Short-billed Dowitcher
 *Long-billed Dowitcher
 Common Snipe
 Am. Woodcock
 Wilson's Phalarope
 Red-necked Phalarope
- LARIDAE**
 Franklin's Gull
 Bonaparte's Gull
 Ring-billed Gull
 Herring Gull
 **Glaucous Gull
 Caspian Tern
 *Common Tern
 Forster's Tern
 Least Tern
 Black Tern
- COLUMBIDAE**
 Rock Dove
 Mourning Dove
- CUCULIDAE**
 Black-billed Cuckoo
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- TYTONIDAE**
 Common Barn-Owl
- STRIGIDAE**
 Eastern Screech-Owl
 Great Horned Owl
 Snowy Owl
 Barred Owl
 Long-eared Owl
 Short-eared Owl
 N. Saw-whet Owl
- CAPRIMULGIDAE**
 Common Nighthawk
 #Chuck-will's-widow (S)
 Whip-poor-will
- APODIDAE**
 Chimney Swift
- TROCHILIDAE**
 Ruby-thrted Hummingbird
- ALCEDINIDAE**
 Belted Kingfisher
- PICTIDAE**
 Red-headed Woodpecker
 Red-bellied Woodpecker
 Yellow-bild Sapsucker
 Downy Woodpecker
 Hairy Woodpecker
 N. Flicker
 Pileated Woodpecker
- TYRANNIDAE**
 Olive-sided Flycatcher
 Eastern Wood-Pewee
 *Yellow-bild Flycatcher
 Acadian Flycatcher
 *Alder Flycatcher
 Willow Flycatcher
 Least Flycatcher
 Eastern Phoebe
 #Say's Phoebe (NW)
 Great Crstd Flycatcher
 #Western Kingbird (W)
 Eastern Kingbird
- ALAUDIDAE**
 Horned Lark
- HIRUNDINIDAE**
 Purple Martin
 Tree Swallow
 N. Rough-winged Swallow
 Bank Swallow
 Cliff Swallow
 Barn Swallow

WEATHER: Sunny, warm, a few white clouds.
 DATE: March 18, 1985
 TIME: 7:40 to 9:00 A.M.
 OBSERVERS: Matt Skretta
 LOCATIONS: My yard, 1619 High View Dr. Mt. Vernon, IA 52314 Rural setting

- CORVIDAE**
 X Blue Jay
 Am. Crow
- PARTIDAE**
 Black-capped Chickadee
 Tufted Titmouse
- SITTIDAE**
 Red-breasted Nuthatch
 White-breasted Nuthatch
- CERTHIDAE**
 Brown Creeper
- TROGLODYTIDAE**
 Carolina Wren
 House Wren
 Winter Wren
 Sedge Wren
 Marsh Wren
- MUSCICAPIDAE**
 Golden-crowned Kinglet
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
 Eastern Bluebird
 **Townsend's Solitaire
 Veery
 Gray-cheeked Thrush
 Swainson's Thrush
 Hermit Thrush
 Wood Thrush
 Am. Robin
 **Varied Thrush
- MIMIDAE**
 Gray Catbird
 N. Mockingbird
 Brown Thrasher
- MOTACILLIDAE**
 Water Pipit
- BOMBYCILLIDAE**
 Cedar Waxwing
- LANIIDAE**
 *Northern Shrike
 Loggerhead Shrike
- STURNIDAE**
 XXX European Starling
- VIREONIDAE**
 White-eyed Vireo
 Bell's Vireo
 Solitary Vireo
 Yellow-throated Vireo
 Warbling Vireo
 Philadelphia Vireo
 Red-eyed Vireo
- EMBERIZIDAE**
 PARULINAE
 Blue-winged Warbler
 Golden-winged Warbler
 Tennessee Warbler
 Orange-crowned Warbler
 Nashville Warbler
 Northern Parula
 Yellow Warbler
 Chestnut-sided Warbler
 Magnolia Warbler
 Cape May Warbler
 Blk-thrted Blue Warbler
 Yellow-rumped Warbler
 Blk-thrted Green Warbler
 Blackburnian Warbler
 Yellow-throated Warbler
 **Pine Warbler
 Palm Warbler
 Bay-breasted Warbler
 Blackpoll Warbler
 Carulean Warbler
 Black-and-white Warbler
 Am. Redstart
 Prothonotary Warbler
 Worm-eating Warbler
 Ovenbird
 Northern Waterthrush
 Louisiana Waterthrush
 Kentucky Warbler
 Connecticut Warbler
 Mourning Warbler
 Common Yellowthroat
 Hooded Warbler
 Wilson's Warbler
 Canada Warbler
 Yellow-breasted Chat
- THRUPINAE**
 #Summer Tanager (S)
 Scarlet Tanager
- CARDINALINAE**
 N. Cardinal
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak
 #Blue Grosbeak (W)
 Indigo Bunting
 Dickcissel
- EMBERIZINAE**
 Rufous-sided Towhee
 Am. Tree Sparrow
 Chipping Sparrow
 Clay-colored Sparrow
 Field Sparrow
 Vesper Sparrow
 Lark Sparrow
 Savannah Sparrow
 Grasshopper Sparrow
 #Henslow's Sparrow (NE)
 Le Conte's Sparrow
 Fox Sparrow
 Song Sparrow
 Lincoln's Sparrow
 Swamp Sparrow
 White-throated Sparrow
 White-crowned Sparrow
 Harris' Sparrow
 Dark-eyed Junco
 Lapland Longspur
 Snow Bunting
- ICTERINAE**
 Bobolink
 XXX Red-winged Blackbird
 Eastern Meadowlark
 Western Meadowlark
 Yellow-headed Blackbird
 Rusty Blackbird
 *Brewer's Blackbird
 Common Grackle
 Brown-headed Cowbird
 Orchard Oriole
 Northern Oriole
- FRINGILLIDAE**
 Purple Finch
 Red Crossbill
 White-winged Crossbill
 Common Redpoll
 Pine Siskin
 Am. Goldfinch
 Evaning Grosbeak
- PASSERIDAE**
 XXX House Sparrow
- CASUAL SPECIES**
 **Red-necked Grebe
 **Snowy Egret
 **Ibis sp.
 **Surf Scoter
 **Ferruginous Hawk
 **Prairie Falcon
 **Yellow Rail
 **King Rail
 **Sandhill Crane
 **Buff-brstd Sandpiper
 *Burrowing Owl
 *Scissor-tld Flycatcher
 *Bewick's Wren
 *Bohemian Waxwing
 **Prairie Warbler
 **Lark Bunting
 **Sharp-tailed Sparrow
 **Pine Grosbeak