

Highlights of Spring Migration - 1978

- Shires -

March = continued cold & snowy - most water frozen through much of month.

11th - Mississippi River + Odessa, Mucattine (E Trent)

Mute Swan - 1 flying upriver N. of Mucattine

Greater Scaup - 3-4 ♂ definitely identified amongst 10-15 Scaup all but one of which was ♂

Red-shouldered Hawk - 1 near Monsanto plant.

10 species of ducks - including Black (2) Hooded Merg. & Canvasback.

Bluebird - 1 near Odessa.

Common Redpolls plus 1 possible Hairy

18th - Olwein - Cedar Falls (E Halmi, Kent, Petersen)

Grey-Crn Rosy Finch

25th - West Overlook, Swan Lake, Big bend, Green castle, etc - Snowing hard (alone)

GT horned Owl - 1 (in long-eared Owl roost)

snipe (Species undetermined - binocular fossae) - 1

26th - Conk's Marsh (alone)

White-fronted Goose - 14 (flying in "V" directly overhead at low altitude toward the South!)

Common Snipe - 5

Rusty Blackbird - singing

April

1st - Conk's Marsh (alone) - all ice & snow gone but windy

16 species of ducks (including Black & Wood)

Tree Swallow - 3

2nd - Conk's Marsh & Mark Twain (with Kent)

Canada Goose - 4 !!!

double-cr. Cormorant - 3

Bald Eagle - 2 immatures

16 species of ducks.

15th - Field Camp (alone)

mockingbird - 1

(over)

April (cont.)

22nd Sycamore Swamp (alone)

Amer. Egret - 1

23^d Cone's Marsh (alone)

Am. Bittern - 1st date

Virginia Rail - seen

Wilson's Phalarope - 1st date

Harris' Sparrow - 1

29th Cone's Marsh (Halmi, C. Newlan, myself)

Yellow Rail - 1 seen - flushed from Multiflora Rose hedge along road

Long-billed Marsh Wren - only 1 of year

several warblers (not including worm-eating !!)

Clay-colored Sparrow - 4+

May

6th Big day (c Kent Halmi)

TOTAL 111

Coopers Hawk

Yellow Rail - 1 flushed @ cone

Golden Plover - 7 muskrats

Blk-throated Blue Warbler

Willet - 1 muskrat

Resumé

ducks - 13

Shorebirds - 15

Thrushes - 2

Warblers - 12

Sparrows - 10

7th Amarna Lilly Pond (c Halmi)

Willet - 7

Am. Pipit - 1-2

11th Bel hoc Big day (c Kent)

TOTAL 135

Margie Godwit - 3

Hudsonian Godwit - 7

Alder Flycatcher (Fitzbrew) - 2

Olive-sided Flycatcher - 1

Bell's Vireo

Philadelphia Vireo

Orchard Oriole

Resumé

ducks = 10

Shorebirds = 16

Thrushes = 5

Vireos = 6

Warblers = 20

Sparrows = 10

May (continued)

12th - Sycamore Swamp
Wiese's Slough, Wildcat Den, Miss. River near
Mucattine, Cones Maus (c Kent) - Total 114

- Stilt Sandpiper - 1 (Sycamore)
- Caspian Tern - 2 (River)
- Pileated Woodp. - 1 Flying over Mississippi.
- Acadian Flycatcher - 1 singing & seen (Wildcat Den)
- Warblers.

Cerulean,
Kentucky,
Hooded.
L. Water Thrush

Resumé

- ducks = 5
- Shorebirds = 10
- Thrushes = 5
- Vireos = 4
- Warblers = 21
- Sparrows = 5

13th - Big Day (c Halmi & Kent) Total 126

- Cattle Egret - 2 Fairmont Fish hatchery
- Least Bittern - 1 cone
- Bonapart's Gull - 3 - river.
- Loggerhead Shrike - 1
- Mourning Warbler.
- Y-br. Chat

Resumé

- ducks = 6
- Shorebirds = 9 !!!
- Vireos = 4
- Thrushes = 5
- Warblers = 27 !!
- Sparrows = 7

20th - Palisades, McBride, Big Bend, Jolly Roger, (c Halmi)
? Sycamore at PM. Total 79

- Western Sandpiper - 1 (by myself at Sycamore)
- Pileated Woodp. - 1 Palisades
- Cedar Waxwing 20 (at home after return)

Resumé

- ducks = 2
- Shorebirds = 8
- Thrushes = 5
- Vireos = 3
- Warblers = 13

21st - Wildcat Den (c Halmi)
& Sycamore at late PM Total 87

- Dunlin - 1 Sycamore
- Philadelphia Vireo - 1
- L. Water Thrush.

Resumé

- ducks = 1
- Shorebirds = 7
- Thrushes = 5
- Vireos = 4
- Warblers = 18

27th - Sycamore Swamp (alone)

- Marbled Godwit - 1 (reported by Halmi first)

Late Dates:

Amer Redpolls at Feeder until March 28

Pine Siskins at Feeder until April 22

Pine Siskins continuously seen^① in ravine on
Univ. of I campus on S. side Iowa River, ^②
in conifers near Med Labs; ^③ in Larches on
Pentacrest - until May 26.

no catbird seen until May 11
marbled Godwit on May 27.

General Comments.

on 3 consecutive days of birding
(May 11, 12, & 13) - I personally had 164 species

This list included:

- 6 - Herons & Gtterns.
- 11 - ducks
- 18 - Shorebirds
- 9 - Flycatchers
- 5 - Thrushes
- 6 - Vireos
- 30 - Warblers [missed Connecticut, Worm-eating
2 Pine (& Yellow-throated !!)]
- 10 - Sparrows. 1 BIK-Par, Blue.

Missing from this list were
all wrens except House
Cedar Waxwing & Purple Finch & bluebird
all owls except barred.
Lark Sparrow.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird