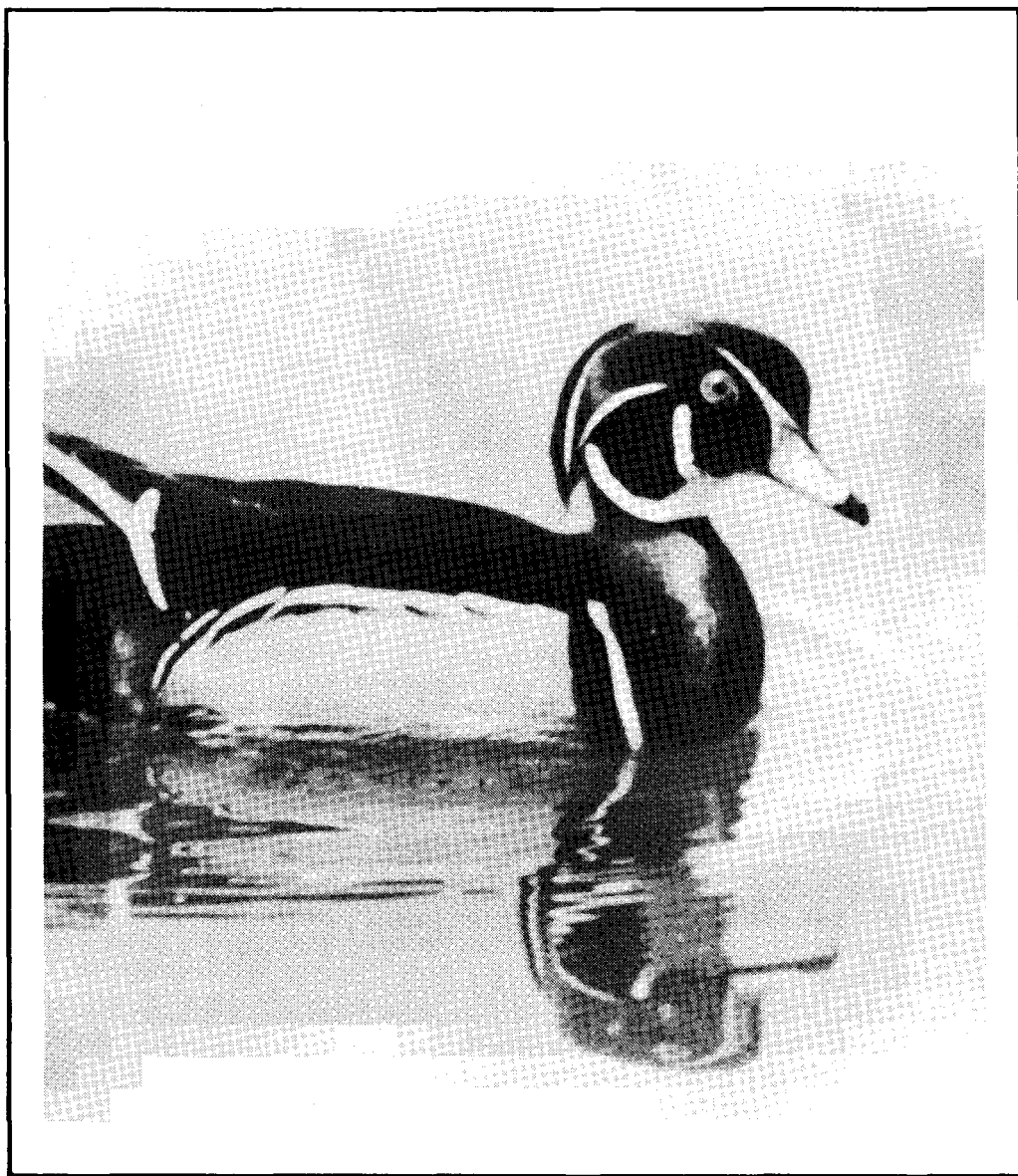


SOUTH DAKOTA
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



SOUTH
BIRD



DAKOTA
NOTES

VOL. 41

SEPTEMBER 1989

NO. 3

SOUTH DAKOTA BIRD NOTES, the official publication of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union (organized 1949), is sent to all members whose dues are paid for the current year. Life members \$150.00; Family life members (husband and wife) with 1 subscription to *Bird Notes* \$200; sustaining members \$15.00, regular members \$9.00; family members (husband and wife) with 1 subscription \$12.00; juniors (10-16) \$4.50; libraries (subscription) \$9.00. Single and back copies: Members \$2.50, Nonmembers \$3.00. All dues payments, change-of-address notices, and orders for back copies should be sent to the Treasurer, Nelda Holden, Rt. 4, Box 252, Brookings, SD 57006. Manuscripts for publication should be sent to Editor Dan Tallman, NSU Box 740, Aberdeen SD, 57401.

VOL 41	September 1989	NO.3
IN THIS ISSUE		
Wood Duck by Everett Montgomery		Cover
President's Page		39
General Notes--Whitney 1988 Banding; Graupmann 1988 Banding Results Noteworthy Banding Recoveries; Late White-eyed Vireo in Sanborn County; Record Number of Bald Eagles in Brookings County; Cedar Waxwing Recovered in Minnesota; Edmunds County Eared Grebe Colony; Woodcock Nesting in Gregory County; House Finch Nesting in Edgemont; House Finches in Huron; Extremely Early White-winged Crossbill at Aberdeen		40
Book Reviews		45
The 1989 Spring Migration		47

SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
Officers 1987-1988

President.....Rex Riis, 218 Lakeside Drive, Pierre 57501
 Vice President..... Dennis Skadsen, Box 113, Grenville 57239
 Secretary..... L. M. Baylor, 1941 Red Dale Drive, Rapid City 57702
 Treasurer Nelda Holden, Rt. 4, Box 252, Brookings 57006
 Editor and Librarian..... Dan Tallman, NSU Box 740, Aberdeen 57401

Elected Directors

For Term expiring 1989: Gertrice Hinds, Prairie City; Rex Riis, Pierre; Mark Skadsen, Sioux Falls; Dan Tallman, Aberdeen; Stephen Van Sickle, Yankton.
 For Term expiring 1990: Kelly Lane, Rapid City; Linda Riner, Black Hawk; Gay Simpson, Ft. Pierre; Dennis Skadsen, Grenville; George Vandel, Pierre.
 For Term expiring 1991: Ken Graupmann, Kadoka; Joyce Harrell, Vermillion; Michael Melius, Hermosa; Richard Peterson, Oelrichs; Galen Steffen, Burke.

Past President Directors

Jocelyn L. Baker, L. M. Baylor, Gilbert Blankespoor, Robert Buckman, Cecil Haight, Byron Harrell, Bruce Harris, Nelda Holden, Kenneth Krumm, N. R. Whitney, Jr.

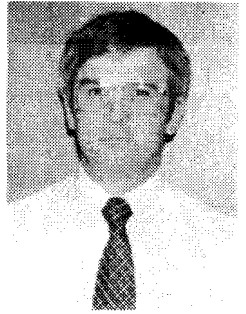
Associate Editors: Erika Tallman and David Fuller.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The Upland Sandpipers and Lark Buntings have left the prairie silent again with only the sandpipers remaining on territory. I've noticed a pair of Blue Grosbeaks near my home in late July and today, 10 August, I found their nest in a willow thicket. The grosbeak's call is a welcome sound in these days of silence--another nesting season about completed.

Now is a good time to send your Spring/Summer observations to the Newsletter editor for seasonal reports and any noteworthy observations to the Editor of *Bird Notes*. These publications are ours, so let's share interesting information.

1989 is our 40th year and the Board of Directors have decided to recognize the 10-15 living SDOU Charter members by offering them lifetime memberships. SDOU has about 300 members. We have few student members. These figures make me think back to my childhood and realize that my desire to know more about birds started then. Every child is introduced to birds by some organization, individual, or curiosity. Occasionally we know of these children and find that some are acutely interested in birds. I believe that if we as SDOU members would sponsor student members for one year, we could culture birding activities in those youths' lives. Quite possibly this introduction will mature into future SDOU members and competent birders. If anyone knows of such a student but does not wish to pay his or her membership fee, please contact me and I shall submit the name and address to those who wish to act as sponsors. These actions will demonstrate to our founders that we are committed to an enduring SDOU. I would like to see a student membership of 165, the size of the Charter organization. This goal is realistic. Only a few more than half our membership would be needed as student sponsors. After the first year, it's up to the students to continue. These students will contribute to the SDOU for another 40 years and it will be they who will organize our 80th anniversary celebration!



GENERAL NOTES

WHITNEY 1988 BANDING. I banded the following 128 birds this year. I did not put up nets; all birds were either trapped or picked up stunned after hitting a window.

B.-cap. Chickadee	9	Dark-eyed Junco	41	Red Crossbill	23
American Robin	4	White-winged Junco	22	Common Redpoll	1
Spotted Towhee	4	Slate-colored Junco	16	Pine Siskin	44
Am. Tree Sparrow	1	Oregon Junco	2		
White-cr. Sparrow	1	Gray-headed Junco	1		

N. R. Whitney, Jr. 633 S Berry Pines Road, Rapid City 57402.

GRAUPMANN 1988 BANDING RESULTS. This fall was an interesting one for sparrow migrations. I banded many more of all the sparrow species, except of Savannah Sparrows, that I regularly band. The first list includes fall sparrow records and gives my first six years' (1982-1987) average and the total number banded in 1988. The second lists my overall banding during 1988.

Vesper Sparrow	1	7	Field Sparrow	3	13
Savannah Sparrow	14	5	Song Sparrow	9	24
Harris' Sparrow	4	173	Lincoln's Sparrow	9	16
White-crowned Sparrow	25	208	Spotted Towhee	-14	135
White-throated Sparrow	3	36	Slate-colored Junco	4	5
Chipping Sparrow	13	109	American Tree Sparrow	19	69
Clay-colored Sparrow	16	52			

Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	Bell's Vireo	7
Mourning Dove	2	Warbling Vireo	4
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	Red-eyed Vireo	1
Whip-poor-will	1	Orange-crowned Warbler	3
Downy Woodpecker	2	Yellow Warbler	4
Hairy Woodpecker	1	Chestnut-sided Warbler	1
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	Yellow-rumped Warbler	4
Willow Flycatcher	6	Black-and-white Warbler	1
Least Flycatcher	3	American Redstart	3
Eastern Kingbird	2	Ovenbird	2
Blue Jay	2	Northern Waterthrush	1
Black-capped Chickadee	34	Common Yellowthroat	6
White-breasted Nuthatch	3	Wilson's Warbler	7
House Wren	4	Yellow-breasted Chat	5
Swainson's Thrush	5	Rose-breasted Grosbeak hybrid	1
American Robin	16	Black-headed Grosbeak	5
Gray Catbird	6	Spotted Towhee	130
Brown Thrasher	22	American Tree Sparrow	166
Loggerhead Shrike	1	Chipping Sparrow	109

Clay-colored Sparrow	52	Harris' Sparrow	173
Field Sparrow	14	Dark-eyed Junco	67
Vesper Sparrow	7	Red-winged Blackbird	23
Lark Sparrow	2	Western Meadowlark	1
Savannah Sparrow	5	Common Grackle	1
Grasshopper Sparrow	1	Brown-headed Cowbird	1
Song Sparrow	25	Orchard Oriole	5
Lincoln's Sparrow	16	Northern Oriole	4
Swamp Sparrow	2	Rosy Finch	149
White-throated Sparrow	36	Pine Siskin	4
White-crowned Sparrow	209	American Goldfinch	7

Kenneth Graupmann, Box 111, Kadoka 57543.

NOTEWORTHY BANDING RECOVERIES. Here are some recoveries and returns that may be of interest. The Warbling Vireo is our only known foreign recovery (SDBN 35:54-55).

band #	species	banding data	recovery data	longevity
086049417	Warbling Vireo	08-03-81 at Newton Hills State Park	02-09-82 at El Elpalmar Cito TN Tamani-que, El Salvador, Central America, by Concepcion Morales	6 months
69180677	Piping Plover-Female	07-01-66 at Elk Point Sand Dunes by P. C. Peterson	Recovered dead by us 05-25-74 in same area	95 months
56059804	Red-eyed Vireo	05-23-65 at Farm Island State Park by J. S. Findley	netted by us 05-25-69 in same area	48 months
106367149	Blue Jay	09-24-72 in Sioux Falls by us	08-30-82 by Dilwyn Rogers in Sioux Falls	119 months
069175910	Northern (Baltimore) Oriole, female	08-14-70 at Oakwood Lakes State Park by us	Found dead at Oakwood 05-28-76 by Donnell Iverson	69 months

081313466	Common Grackle	05-30-65 at Oakwood Lakes State Park by us	08-01-71 at Lake Kampeska, South Dakota, by D. H. Snook of Grand Rapids MI	74 months
--	Common Grackle	05-03-65 by us at Sioux Falls	02-?-70 north of Conway, Arkansas, by A. Lachowsky of Conway	58 months

The following birds were banded and later recaptured by us at Oakwood Lakes State Park:

band number	species	date banded	date recovered	interval since banding
69175868	Gray Catbird	06-01-67	06-25-73	73 months
7384893	Warbling Vireo	08-14-70	05-10-74	45 months
"	"	"	05-15-75	57 months
69175859	Gray Catbird	05-31-67	06-09-71	48 months
"	"	"	05-16-72	57 months
11606590	American Goldfinch	05-31-67	06-09-71	48 months
81346995	Common Grackle	04-27-67	05-18-76	109 months
69175981	Gray Catbird	07-13-71	06-16-77	71 months
71167907	Brown-headed Cowbird	05-09-74	05-24-78	48 months

Gladyce Rogge and Charles Rogge 2012 S Grange Ave., Sioux Falls 57105.

LATE WHITE-EYED VIREO IN SANBORN COUNTY. In the early afternoon of 2 December 1988, I explored a good birding spot, which I call "the Letcher Conifers," near Letcher in Sanborn Co. This 60 acre fenced-in area is predominantly evergreen. The day was mostly clear with a light breeze and temperatures in the mid-fifties. As I approached the southeastern corner of the grove, I observed a chickadee and White-breasted Nuthatch. As these birds began flying across the lane in front of me, I became aware of a small, warbler-sized bird moving about in the lower branches of an evergreen tree. Looking slightly downward, I observed the bird for about 20 seconds from a distance of 20 feet. The first field mark I observed was a definite yellow eye spectacle. Then I noted two white wing bars and an olive back.

The bird then flew across the lane. I left my car and again observed the bird for about 20 seconds at roughly 15 feet. The chin and throat were white. The breast and belly were white except for a yellow area on each upper side across from the shoulder. The yellow color extended slightly into

the breast and then down more lightly along the sides. The bird did not call. The eye appeared dark, which indicates the bird was immature.

The likelihood of a White-eyed Vireo being in South Dakota, especially in December, is remarkable. Perhaps the late, mild fall coupled with a slightly altered migration route accounts for this unusual sighting. The SDOU Rare Bird Committee has designated this a Class 3 sighting. *Bob Rogers, RR 2, Box 25-C, Woonsocket 57385.*

RECORD NUMBER OF BALD EAGLES IN BROOKINGS COUNTY--On 31 March 1989, I was replacing flax straw in mallard nesting baskets on the Mae Slough Game Production Area (commonly called the Errington Memorial Marsh) in NW Brookings County. I had received reports from local farmers of the unusual abundance of Bald Eagles in this area. That day I observed 15 Bald Eagles perched in several dead trees adjacent to the wetland. Their food was fish that died from winter-kill. A couple of days earlier, a local farmer video taped 32 eagles, all in sight at the same time. My observation on 31 March was that a third of the birds were mature, with the white head and tail. To my knowledge, this concentration of Bald Eagles is the highest recorded in Brookings County. *Spencer Vaa, South Dakota Department of Game Fish and Parks, 1819 Olwien, Brookings 57006.*

CEDAR WAXWING RECOVERED IN MINNESOTA. A Cedar Waxwing (band # 1341-84475) that I banded in Aberdeen on 24 January 1988 was recovered at Lake Como, Minnesota on 11 November 1988 by Kevin Winker of the Bell Museum of Natural History. Lake Como is about 260 miles ESE of Aberdeen. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen 57401.*

EDMUNDS COUNTY EARED GREBE COLONY. On 29 May 1988 we found an Eared Grebe nesting colony in a wetland on the Bieber-Buechler Waterfowl Production Area (WPA) (T124 N, R73 W, Sect. 22, NW 1/4), 9.7 Km north of Bowdle, South Dakota. The colony, located in an open area in two to three feet of water, contained intermittent clumps of cattails (half water, half cattails). We estimated the number of nests to be about 100. Some nests were within three feet of others, while some were up to 20 feet apart. The nests were made of floating aquatic vegetation, and the 2-5 (average 3) eggs were located slightly above or at water level. As we approached the colony, the incubating parents covered their eggs with nest material, and disappeared into nearby cattails. Grebes began returning to the nesting colony as soon as we withdrew to approximately 100 feet. Upon returning to the area on 15 June, we observed that a large number of nests still contained one or two eggs and shell fragments, evidence of a partial hatch; some parent birds were still present.

This Eared Grebe nesting colony may be the largest ever recorded in north-central South Dakota. The largest colony previously reported in that region contained about 40 pairs actively nest building near Hosmer, also in Edmunds Co., in June 1972 (Harris, pers. comm.). Other large Eared Grebe nesting colonies reported in South Dakota include 112 nests at Whitewood Lake, Kingsbury Co. (Harris and Husmann in Harris 1981,

SDBN 33:84-88); 500 nests at Pyas Lake, Marshall Co. (Husmann and Rabenberg in Harris 1984, SDBN 36:79-83); 625 nests at Lake Andes NWR, Charles Mix Co. (Jave, fide Harris, pers. comm.); and 300 nests in three colonies at Goose Lake, Codington Co. (Harris, Gilman, and Skadsen in Harris 1986, SDBN 38:102-107). *James D. Ray and Casey D. Kruse, Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Box 2206, South Dakota State University, Brookings 57007-1696.*

WOODCOCK NESTING IN GREGORY COUNTY. On 3 May 1989, I observed a female woodcock with two young under her wings at the Karl E. Mundt National Wildlife Refuge, located in southeast Gregory County. The refuge is located 1.5 miles downstream from the Ft. Randall Dam along the Missouri River. The riparian habitat, consisting primarily of cottonwoods, provides important roosting sites for eagles as they migrate in the fall and spring. Between the river and the main cottonwoods, sand dunes are interspersed with willows and some cottonwoods (acretion land). I found the woodcock and her young in a willow thicket, approximately 100 yards from the river. Woodcock have been sighted in this area in previous years; however, this record is the first documented sighting of young woodcock here and indicated that nesting occurs in the area. *Mary E. Clawson, Wildlife Conservation Officer, SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks, Rt. 1, Box 79, Lakes Andes 57356.*

HOUSE FINCH NESTING IN EDGEMONT. On 28 May 1989, Juanita and I found a male House Finch singing from an electric line in a residential area of SW Edgemont. The male was about 30 feet from where a female House Finch was making repeated trips to a small ornamental spruce tree.

We investigated the tree and found a well-concealed cup nest containing two white/gray downy nestlings with their eyes and mouths open.

On 11 June we returned and watched the female still feeding the young in the nest. Only one nestling was seen and it appeared to be fully grown and feathered, its plumage pattern and color similar to the female House Finch. At no time during the two visits did we observe the male bringing food to the nest.

This sighting may be the first nesting report of this species from South Dakota. *Richard Peterson and Juanita Peterson, HC 46, Box 49, Oelrichs 57763.*

HOUSE FINCHES IN HURON. I saw three House Finches in Huron, South Dakota, on 11 July 1989. As I was leaving the Arts and Sciences Building at Huron University at 8:00 pm, I heard a finch singing in a tree. My first impression was that a goldfinch was singing, but when I heard a second song, I recognized that the voice was much more like a House Finch than a goldfinch. My car was nearby and I retrieved my binoculars and spotted the bird on an exposed branch in a hackberry tree. The bird was a male House Finch in adult plumage. Two female-plumaged House Finches were on the same branch. In all likelihood, the birds were all adults since none showed any plumage or behavior to suggest that they were fledged in 1989. The birds flew together from tree to tree and the male sang consistently for

15 minutes. I heard the male singing near that spot nearly every day through 28 July (the day of this writing).

Previous House Finch records for South Dakota have been outside the breeding season and presumably represent birds straying from their extensive western range. House Finches from the East have recently expanded their breeding range to Iowa (1987), Wisconsin (1987), Minnesota (1989), and Nebraska (1988), and the Huron birds almost certainly came from one of these eastern populations. Huron is at least 100 km from the nearest known House Finch breeding location, and so represents a major disjunction in the known breeding season distribution. The vast majority of House Finch records come from sightings at feeders, and birds can easily be overlooked during the breeding season.

I suspect that these birds probably attempted breeding in Huron in 1989, though I have no direct evidence for this assumption. House Finches at La Crosse, Wisconsin, appear to be migratory, and so I expect that the Huron birds will migrate south in the fall and return to Huron, possibly with still more House Finches, to breed in 1990. With House Finches reaching Huron, I expect that the species will eventually push west to link up the the original population in the Rockies. *James L. Howitz, Huron University, Huron 57350.*

EXTREMELY EARLY WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL AT ABERDEEN. On the evening of 22 July 1989, we were near our garden at our home in north Aberdeen. An immature White-winged Crossbill flew low from the north and landed at the edge of a bird bath in the garden. The bird seemed as surprised to see us as we were to see it. Erika called our sons to see the crossbill while I noticed two white wingbars and a streaked breast. The bird left as quickly as it came, flying low and to the south, while uttering a rapid staccato of harsh metallic chips. We opened our bird nets for the next several days but we have not seen this individual since.

We assume this early migrant hatched somewhere in Canada and had moved south early. The earliest migration date for the species listed in *The Birds of South Dakota* is 17 August 1970 at Highmore by June Harter. Several summer records are known from the Black Hills, where breeding is not confirmed. Dinsmore et al.'s *Iowa Birds* (1984: The Iowa State University Press) lists a 24 July 1979 specimen from Cass Co., Iowa. *Erika Tallman and Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen 57401.*

BOOK REVIEWS

ARKANSAS BIRDS: THEIR DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE by Douglas A. James and Joseph C. Neal. The University of Arkansas Press, Fayetteville. 1986. 402 pp. Hardbound.

Anyone birding in Arkansas will find this state bird book indispensable. Those interested in birding across the United States will also find this text extremely attractive. It is illustrated with both black-and-white and color photographs, paintings by two artists, and many pen

and ink illustrations. Range maps are presented for many species whose Arkansas ranges require clarification.

Three attributes that set this text apart are an introductory section on Arkansas birds in prehistory (= Native American use of birds), color habitat photographs, and many maps showing nation-wide recoveries for birds banded in the state. The banding maps make the book fascinating even for the birder who never plans to leave South Dakota but who might well be interested to learn, for instance, that two Double-crested Cormorants banded in South Dakota have been recovered in Arkansas.

The introduction gives a lengthy discussion of habitat preferences of Arkansas birds, including a fascinating three dimensional graph showing birds' spatial preferences among open country, mature forest, large trees, and shrubs. Also included is a short section on finding birds in the state and a history of Arkansas ornithology. A lengthy bibliography follows an appendix listing the location of museum specimens.

A typical species account includes a short statement of range, a section on spring migration a section on the breeding season, fall migration and winter, the latter including summaries of Christmas Bird Counts. No section gives precise dates of occurrence, except in the case of extremely rare species. Noteworthy records are usually given literature citations. Because of the format of the species accounts, it is often difficult to quickly locate desired information. Bold print at section headings would be a big improvement.

The only odd aspect of *Arkansas Birds* is its cover, a painting of two Evening Grosbeaks, hardly typical inhabitants of the state (being sporadic migrants and winter visitors). It would have made more sense to repeat David Plank's painting of a Willow Flycatcher, which is included as the frontispiece, since this bird is the only bird that was first discovered in Arkansas. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen 57401.*

BIRDS OF THE WORLD, WATERFOWL by John P. S. Mackenzie. Northwood Press Inc, Minocqua, WS 1988. 144 pp. Hardbound \$19.95.

This thin volume, *Birds of the World, Waterfowl*, is a "coffee table book" of color photographs ranging from superb (e.g., an Oldsquaw swimming in front of an icesheet) to ordinary (a Magpie Goose obviously taken at a zoo). The quality of the photographs, however, is consistently excellent. Short texts introducing each group of birds (swans, geese, ducks, grebes, and cormorants) do not generally contain information that can not be easily found in other sources. Indeed, the book contains an index to photographs but not to subject matter. No literature is cited. In all, about 89 birds are portrayed. The photographs have been contributed by 24 photographers. Of the waterfowl depicted, 79 are of ducks or geese. Thus the book might have better been called *Ducks and Geese of the World*, and have left out the dozen cormorants and grebes included with the Anseriformes. In short, this book can be recommended for the casual bird enthusiast but should not be mistaken for a resource for waterfowl students. *Dan Tallman, Northern State University, Aberdeen 57401.*

THE 1989 SPRING MIGRATION

compiled by Dennis Skadsen
RR Box 113, Grenville 57239

After the long, birdless winter of 88-89, observers welcomed even the most mundane migrant! Many birders commented that the migration began later than usual by as much as two weeks. However, 12 earliest ever records were set and 31 species appeared unusually early. Most passerine species seemed to arrive in numbers around 12 May in NE SD. Other observers noted a downward trend in numbers of migrating warblers. However, I experienced the best warbler migration in three years, with 19 species observed during three days! Other warbler hotspots, aside from Pickerel Lake, included Oakwood Lakes, in Brookings Co., and in Edmunds Co., where observers found Chestnut-sided, Black-throated Green, and Blackburnian Warblers. One of the best sparrow migrations in years moved through Minnehaha Co. and an abundance of standing water in Brown Co. held migrating waterfowl, including an unusually large number of White-fronted Geese. The trend of East River migrants showing up in the western part of the state continued with Bonaparte's Gulls in Fall River Co. and a Fox Sparrow in Jackson Co. Rarities included a Whimbrel, Golden-winged, Prothonotary, and Worm-eating Warblers. The weather generally was cool and dry throughout the state, with only the NE receiving near normal precipitation.

Abbreviations used in this report are: LNWR = Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Bennett Co.; SLNWR = Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Brown Co.; WNWR = Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Day Co.

Observers cited in this report are:

Douglas C. Backlund (DCB)
Gilbert W. Blankespoor (GWB)
Chuck Branson (CB)
Robert Buckman (RB)
Kurt Forman (KF)
Ken Graupmann (KG)
John Haertel (JH)
Lois Haertel (LH)
Willis Hall (WH)
Bruce K. Harris (BKH)
Nelda J. Holden (NJH)
Jan Kieckhefer (JK)
Robert Kieckhefer (RWK)
Ross Kindermann (RK)
Gary Larson (GL)
Bill Marsh (BM)
Michael M. Melius (MMM)
Ernest E. Miller (EEM)

Mrs. Harvey Mills (MsHM)
Everett C. Montgomery (ECM)
Marjorie J. Parker (MJP)
Richard A. Peterson (RAP)
D. George Prisbe (DGP)
Dan Reinking (DR)
Linda Riner (LR)
Dennis R. Skadsen (DRS)
Mark S. Skadsen (MSS)
Paul F. Springer (PFS)
Jerry C. Stanford (JCS)
John Steiner (JS)
Dan A. Tallman (DAT)
Gay Tappan (GT)
Duane Weber (DW)
Lois Wells (LW)
J. David Williams (JDW)
Nathaniel R. Whitney (NRW)

- Common Loon--27 March, Oahe Dam (BKH). 23 May, Brookings Co. (MsHM).
- Horned Grebe--27 March, Oahe Dam (BKH). 16 April, **Meade Co.** (EEM).
- Red-necked Grebe--20 April, WNWR (Refuge records).
- Eared Grebe--28 March, Minnehaha Co., 3 (MSS).
- American White Pelican--27 March, Hamlin Co., 4 (BKH).
- American Bittern--1 May, **Lawrence Co.** (DCB).
- Great Blue Heron--26 March, Grant Co. (DGP).
- Great Egret--15 April, Brookings Co. (GT, RKJ).
- Snowy Egret--19 April, Day Co., 2 (BKH). 22-26 April, Edmunds Co. (JDW).
- Cattle Egret--16 April, SLNWR, **earliest ever** (DGP).
- Green-backed Heron--23 April, Faulk Co. (JDW).
- White-faced Ibis--30 April, Brown Co., 25 (JCS).
- Tundra Swan--21 March, Grant Co., very early (BKH).
- Greater White-fronted Goose--10 March, McCook Co., 12 (DR). 31 March, Brown Co., 1000+ (JCS). 18 May, Hamlin Co., **latest ever** (BKH).
- Ross' Goose--25 March, Minnehaha Co., 2 and 8 April, Minnehaha Co. (MSS). 8 April, Brown Co., 6 (DGP).
- Wood Duck--13 March, Yankton Co. (WH).
- American Black Duck--6 April, Brown Co. (DAT, DGP, ECM).
- Northern Pintail--21 March, Lawrence Co., 100 (DCB).
- Blue-winged Teal--2 May, Deuel Co., 250 on pond (BKH).
- Cinnamon Teal--16 April, Meade Co., (EEM). 24 May, Kingsbury Co. (RB).
- Canvasback--10 March, Yankton Co. (WH).
- Redhead--10 March, McCook Co., 2 (DR). 19 March, Pennington Co., 45 (NRW).
- Ring-necked Duck--19 March, Pennington Co., 4 (NRW). 25 March, Brown Co. (DGP).
- Greater Scaup--13 March, Day Co. (DGP, DAT). 31 March, Brookings Co. (GT).
- Common Goldeneye--13 March, Grant Co. (DGP). 19 March, Pennington Co., 140 (NRW).
- Barrow's Goldeneye--19 March, Pennington Co. (NRW).
- Hooded Merganser--25 March, Brookings Co., 8 (GT, NJH). 2 April, SLNWR, 6 (DGP). 11 April, WNWR, 5 (refuge files). 7 May, Custer Co. (NRW). 16 May, Minnehaha Co. (RB).
- Common Merganser--10 March, Edmunds Co., 5 (DGP).
- Red-breasted Merganser--26 March, Grant Co., 8 (DGP). 2 April, Minnehaha Co., 10 (MSS). 15 April, Deuel Co., 10 (BKH). 20 April, **Jackson Co.** (KG).
- Turkey Vulture--10 April, Brookings Co., 3 (RWK, JK). 22 April, Stanley Co. (NRW).
- Osprey--15 April, Meade Co. (EEM). Also reported from Brookings, Day, Fall River, Hughes, Lawrence and Pennington Co..
- Northern Harrier--12 March, Deuel Co. (BKH).
- Bald Eagle--13 March, Roberts Co. (DAT, DGP).
- Cooper's Hawk--14 May, Day Co., banded (DRS). 22 May, Dewey Co. (PFS).
- Broad-winged Hawk--23 April, Day Co., 20+ kettling (DRS).
- Swainson's Hawk--1 April, Brookings Co., early (NJH, GT).
- Ferruginous Hawk--16 May, **Roberts Co.** (BKH).
- Rough-legged Hawk--29 April, Brookings Co., dark phase (NJH, GT).
- Golden Eagle--18 April, Edmunds Co. (DGP).
- Merlin--23 March, Day Co., 2 (DRS). 3 May, Moody Co. (LW).
- Peregrine Falcon--11 May, Fall River Co. (RAP).
- Sage Grouse--23 April, Butte Co., 26 (RAP)..
- Greater Prairie-Chicken--2 April, Marshall Co., 3 (DGP).
- Sora--2 May, Brown Co., 2 (DGP).

- Sandhill Crane--11 April, Faulk Co., 2200 feeding (MMM).
- Black-bellied Plover--20 May, LNWR, 3 (SDOU). 23 May, Hughes Co., 2 (BKH).
- Lesser Golden-Plover--12 May, Grant Co., 120 (BKH). 9 May, Brown Co. (DAT, DGP).
- Semipalmated Plover--22 April, Minnehaha Co. (MSS) and Brookings Co. (RK).
- Piping Plover--11 April, Yankton Co., **earliest ever** (WH). 23 May, Hughes Co., 2 (BKH).
- Killdeer--6 March, Lawrence Co. (DCB).
- American Avocet--4 April, Moody Co. (DGP).
- Greater Yellowlegs--28 March, Minnehaha Co. (MSS). 13 May, Brookings Co. (NJH, GT).
- Lesser Yellowlegs--25 March, Minnehaha Co., early (MSS). 13 May, Brookings Co. (NJH, GT).
- Solitary Sandpiper--22 April, Edmunds Co., early (JDW).
- Willet--22 April, Edmunds Co. (DAT, DGP, ECM).
- Spotted Sandpiper--27 April, Pennington Co., early (DCB).
- WHIMBREL**--20 May, Jackson Co. (PFS, RAP, LR).
- Long-billed Curlew--3 April, Custer Co., early (MMM).
- Hudsonian Godwit--10 April, Brown Co., **earliest ever** (DAT). 22 April, Minnehaha Co., 50 (MSS).
- Marbled Godwit--8 April, Minnehaha Co., 2, very early (MSS).
- Sanderling--19, 20 May, Jackson Co. (SDOU).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper--4 April, Moody Co., very early (DGP).
- Western Sandpiper--8 May, Lake Co. (DGP).
- White-rumped Sandpiper--8 May, Brookings Co. (DR).
- Baird's Sandpiper--21 March, Roberts Co., very early (BKH).
- Pectoral Sandpiper--29 April, Grant Co., 300 (BKH).
- Dunlin--8 May, Lake Co. (DGP).
- Short-billed Dowitcher--4 May, Edmunds Co., 4, very early (DGP). 20 May, Jackson Co., 6, very late (PFS, RAP, LR).
- Long-billed Dowitcher--16 April, Meade Co., 6, early (EEM).
- Common Snipe--6 March, Lawrence Co., very early (DCB).
- American Woodcock--1 April, Lincoln Co., 4 (MSS). 24 April, Roberts Co., 3 (BKH).
- Wilson's Phalarope--2 April, Brown Co., 2, early (DGP).
- Red-necked Phalarope--19 May, Haakon Co. (DGP).
- Bonaparte's Gull--14 April, Brookings Co., (GL, JS, JH, LH). 7 May, **Fall River Co.**, 2, accidental west (RAP).
- Ring-billed Gull--28 March, Minnehaha Co., 2000 (MSS).
- California Gull--14 April, Day Co., early (DRS). 23 May, Oahe Dam, 5 (BKH).
- Glaucous Gull--26 March, Grant Co., 2 (DGP).
- Caspian Tern--16 May, Minnehaha Co. (RB).
- Common Tern--13 April, Roberts Co. (BKH).
- Common Barn-Owl--8 April, Jackson Co. (KG).
- Snowy Owl--7 March, Stanley Co. (KG). 19 March, Brown Co. (DGP).
- Burrowing Owl--4 April, Custer Co., very early (MMM).
- Barred Owl--13 April, WNWR (Refuge files).
- Long-eared Owl--1 April, Custer Co., 2 (RAP). 13 April, Edmunds Co. (JDW).
- Short-eared Owl--15 April, Jackson Co. (KG). 2 May, Faulk Co. (MMM).
- Northern Saw-whet Owl--11 March, Pennington Co. (RAP).
- Common Nighthawk--26 April, Jackson Co., **earliest ever** (KG).
- Chimney Swift--3 May, Brookings Co., 2 (DR).
- White-throated Swift--12 April, Fall River Co., very early (RAP).
- Belted Kingfisher--25 March, Brookings Co. (GT).
- Red-bellied Woodpecker--12 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 20-21 May, Jackson Co. (SDOU).
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker--21 April, Brookings Co. (NJH).

- Red-naped Sapsucker--22 April, Lawrence Co., early (DCB). 7 May, Custer Co., 3 (NRW).
- Three-toed Woodpecker--1 April, Lawrence Co. (DCB).
- Black-backed Woodpecker--7 May, Fall River Co. (RAP).
- Pileated Woodpecker--13 March, Roberts Co., male drumming (DAT, DGP). 17 May, Roberts Co. (BKH).
- Olive-sided Flycatcher--21 May, WNWR (Refuge Files).
- Western Wood-Pewee--5 May, Lawrence Co., **earliest ever** (DCB). 13 May, Fall River Co., very early (RAP).
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher--1 June, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
- Willow Flycatcher--10 May, Minnehaha Co. (MSS).
- Least Flycatcher--13 May, Fall River Co. (RAP).
- Dusky Flycatcher--22 May, Lawrence Co., singing (BKH).
- Eastern Phoebe--2 April, Lincoln Co., early (MSS). 4 April, Roberts Co., early (BKH).
- Great Crested Flycatcher--20 May, Jackson Co. (SDOU). 27 May, Shannon Co. (RAP).
- Western Kingbird--4 May, Brookings Co. (DR).
- Eastern Kingbird--3 May, Brookings Co. (DR).
- Purple Martin--7 April, Brookings Co. (BM).
- Violet-green Swallow--16 April, Meade Co., **ties earliest ever** (EEM).
- Barn Swallow--16 April, Brown Co. (DGP).
- Clark's Nutcracker--13 April, Custer Co. (DW).
- Rock Wren--30 April, Lawrence Co. (DCB).
- Canyon Wren--26 March, Fall River Co. (RAP).
- House Wren--15 April, Brown Co., very early (JCS).
- Winter Wren--17 April, Day Co. and 3 May, Deuel Co. (BKH).
- Sedge Wren--30 April, Union Co. (DGP). 30 April, Moody Co. (DR). Early dates.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet--19 March, Minnehaha Co. (MSS). 1 April, Brown Co. (DAT).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet--13 April, Brookings Co. (DR).
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher--28 April, Minnehaha Co., **earliest ever** (MSS). 30 April, Moody Co., very early (DR). Both sightings of females.
- Eastern Bluebird--24 March, Brookings Co. (NJH).
- Mountain Bluebird--27 February, Custer Co., very early (MJP).
- Veery--6 May, Minnehaha Co., very early (MSS). 14 May, Fall River Co. (RAP).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush--20 April, Brown Co., **ties earliest ever** (DGP). 14 May, Fall River Co. (RAP) 21 May, WNWR (Refuge Files).
- Swainson's Thrush--30 April, Brown Co. (DGP). 29 May, Brookings Co. (NJH, RK).
- Hermit Thrush--27 April, Brown Co. (DAT).
- Wood Thrush--8 May, Brown Co. early (JCS), 12 May, Roberts Co., singing (BKH). 31 May, Brown Co. (JCS).
- Northern Mockingbird--24 May, Fall River Co., pair (RAP).
- Sage Thrasher--28 May, Fall River Co. (RAP).
- Brown Thrasher--24 April, Moody Co. (LW).
- Water Pipit--21 April, Faulk Co. (DAT, DGP). 30 April, Lawrence Co. (DCB).
- Bohemian Waxwing--13 March, Roberts Co., only report (DAT, DGP).
- Cedar Waxwing--30 March, Brookings Co., 93 (RWK).
- Northern Shrike--1 April, McPherson Co. (DR). 2 April, Fall River Co. (RAP). 17 April, Custer Co. (MJP). 30 April, Faulk Co., **latest ever** (JDW).
- Loggerhead Shrike--2 May, Lawrence Co. (DCB).
- Bell's Vireo--9 May, Moody Co., **earliest ever** (DR).
- Solitary Vireo--3 May, Minnehaha Co., early (MSS). 13 May, Brown Co. (DGP). 21 May, WNWR (Refuge Files).
- Yellow-throated Vireo--30 April, Day Co., **earliest ever** (DRS).
- Warbling Vireo--7 May, Minnehaha Co. (MSS). 8 May, Brown Co. (DGP).

- Philadelphia Vireo--13 May, Day Co., banded (DRS). 24 May, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
- Golden-winged Warbler--14 May, Day Co. (MSS).
- Orange-crowned Warbler--21 April, Hughes Co. (DAT).
- Nashville Warbler--29 April, Minnehaha Co., **earliest ever** (MSS). 28 May, Brown Co., very late (DGP).
- Yellow Warbler--5 May, Lawrence Co. (DCB).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler--13 May, Brookings Co. (NJH, GT, RK). 18 May, Minnehaha Co. (MSS). 19 May, Jackson Co. (BKH, KG). 21 May, WNWR (Refuge Files). 24 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 24 May, Brown Co. (DAT).
- Magnolia Warbler--13 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 13 May, Day Co. (DRS). 13 May, Brown Co. (DGP). 14 May, Brookings Co., (NJH). 20 May Minnehaha Co. (MSS). 24 May, Brown Co. (DAT).
- Yellow-rumped Warbler--28 March, Brown Co. very early (CB, ECM).
- Black-throated Green Warbler--7 May, Brown Co. (DAT). 13 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 13 May, Day Co., 5+ (DRS, MSS). 13 May, Brookings Co. (NJH, GT, RK).
- Blackburnian Warbler--12, 13 May, Day Co., 5+ (MSS, DRS). 13 May, Brookings Co. (NJH, GT, RK). 14 May, Deuel Co. (BKH). 17 May Edmunds Co. (JDW).
- Palm Warbler--29 April, Minnehaha Co., 10 (MSS). 9 May, Day Co. (DAT, DGP).
- Blackpoll Warbler--4 May, Minnehaha Co. (MSS). 4 May, Brookings Co. (DR). 9 May, Brown Co. (DAT, DGP).
- Black-and-white Warbler--29 April, Brookings Co. (KF), Deuel (BKH), and Minnehaha Co. (MSS). 30 April, Brown Co. (DAT), (JCS).
- PROTHONOTARY WARBLER**--14 May, Brookings Co. (NJH). 20 May, Brookings Co. (RK).
- Worm-eating Warbler--17 May, Brown Co. (DGP).
- Northern Waterthrush--11 May, **Fall River Co.** (RAP). 18 May, **Lawrence Co.** (DCB).
- CONNECTICUT WARBLER**--25, 31 May, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
- Mourning Warbler--17 May, Minnehaha Co. (MSS), 29 May Faulk Co. (MMM).
- MacGillivray's Warbler--22 May, Lawrence Co. (BKH). 24 May, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
- Common Yellowthroat--28 April, Fall River Co. very early (RAP).
- Wilson's Warbler--30 April, Lawrence Co. (DCB). 24 May, Brown Co. (DAT).
- Canada Warbler--21 May, WNWR (Refuge Files). 22 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 31 May, Brown Co., late (DAT).
- Scarlet Tanager--13 May, Brookings Co. (NJH, GT, RK). 20 May, **Jackson Co.** (SDOU). 26 May, **Jackson Co.** (KG).
- Western Tanager--12 May, Pennington Co. (NRW).
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak--22 May, Dewey Co. (PFS).
- Black-headed Grosbeak--8 May, Fall River Co. (RAP).
- Blue Grosbeak--24 May Moody Co. (LW). 27 May, Shannon Co. (RAP).
- Indigo Bunting--22 April, Kingsbury Co., very early (DR et al.) 27 May, Shannon Co. (RAP).
- Clay-colored Sparrow--23 April, Brown Co., very early (DAT). 24 April, Moody Co. (LW).
- Brewer's Sparrow--23 April, Fall River Co., earliest ever (RAP)
- Lark Sparrow--19 May, Aurora Co. (DR). 24 May, Roberts Co. (BKH).
- Lark Bunting--3 May, Custer Co., early (MJP). 8 May, Lake Co. (DGP). 11 May, Custer Co., **300** (MMM). 14 May, Edmunds Co. (DR). 16 May, WNWR, (BKH).
- Savannah Sparrow--6 April, Brown Co., very early (DGP). 30 April, Lawrence Co. (DCB).
- Baird's Sparrow--16 May, McPherson Co. (DR). 23 May, Hyde Co. (BKH).
- Fox Sparrow--18 March, **Jackson Co.**, very early, rare west (KG). 5 April, WNWR (Refuge Files). 19 April, Day Co., banded (DRS).
- Lincoln's Sparrow--26 May, Brown Co., late (DGP),

Published by
SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
EDITOR: DAN TALLMAN
NSU BOX 740
ABERDEEN, SD 57401

Nonprofit
organization
US Postage
PAID
Permit 60
Aberdeen SD
57401
BLK RT

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

Swamp Sparrow--27 April, Brown Co. (DAT). 30 April, Brookings Co. (DR).
White-throated Sparrow--23 May, Brookings Co., late (LW).
Lapland Longspur--4 March, Jackson Co., several thousand (KG).
Chestnut-collared Longspur--11 April, Fall River Co. (RAP). 18 April, Butte Co.
(DCB) and Edmunds Co. (JDW). 22 April, Beadle Co. (DR).
Western Meadowlark--10 March, Minnehaha Co. (DR).
Rusty Blackbird--23 March, Day Co. (DRS). 2 April, Brown Co. (DGP).
Brewer's Blackbird--4 April, Brookings Co. (DGP). 22 April, Beadle Co. (DR).
Northern Oriole--9 May, Moody Co. (DR).
HOUSE FINCH--2 March, Lawrence Co. (DCB). 8 April, Deuel Co., female (BKH). 8
April through spring, Brookings Co., 2 pair (RK, NJH, GT). 28 May, Fall River Co.,
FIRST CONFIRMED NESTING IN STATE (RAP). During period, Minnehaha
Co., 5 (GWB).
Common Redpoll--4, 22 March, Lawrence Co. (DCB). 15 March, Custer Co. (MJP).
27 March, Brown Co. (DAT). 5 April, Deuel Co. (BKH). Only reports.
Pine Siskin--1 March, 31 May, Brown Co. (JCS)..