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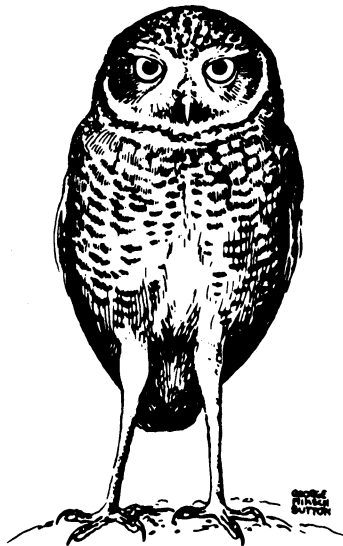
# The Nebraska Bird Review

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Other officers are: President, Mrs. Ruth C. Green, 506 W. 31st Avenue, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005; Vice President, Gary Lingle, 2550 N. Diers Avenue, Suite H, Grand Island, Nebraska 68801; and Secretary, Mrs. C.E. Johnson, 604 S. 22nd St., Apt. 406, Omaha, Nebraska 68102.

## THE NEW A. O. U. CHECKLIST AND NEBRASKA BIRDS

The Sixth Edition of *The A. O. U. Checklist of North American Birds* will be published in 1983. The Fifth Edition was published in 1957, and the last changes in it were by the 33rd Supplement, issued in 1976. The scientific and common names of the birds to be listed in the Sixth Edition, in the order to be used in that edition, are given in a 34th Supplement, published July 1982 as a supplement to *The Auk*, Vol. 99, No. 3. But that supplement, unlike previous ones, contains no explanations or comments. Stuart Keith, *Birding XIV* (2):40, who in working on the second edition of the A.B.A. Checklist had contact with members of the AOU committee, does give some explanations of name changes, but there is still a lot left to conjecture. And, at least at first, the changes in the order may be more confusing than the changes in the names. In the list below the right-hand column gives the page number on which the species appears in Johnsgard's *A Preliminary List of the Birds of Nebraska and Adjacent Plains States*. These numbers will not be much help on slight changes, such as in the order of Loons, but not much help is needed there; they may be helpful in the greater shifts, such as that of House Sparrow to the end of the Nebraska list. Mr. Clyde Johnson was helpful in providing information; Dr. Paul A Johnsgard, Dr. Ross Silcock, Dr. Roger Sharpe, and Gary Lingle made comments on some of the conjectures, but the responsibility for conjectures is strictly the writer's.

Except for material already in type which may be carried over to 1983, the following names and the following order will be used in future issues of the *Nebraska Bird Review*.

—Editor

### Order TINAMIFORMES

#### Family Tinimidae

(Elegant Crested Tinamou, <i>Eudromia elegans</i> Not on AOU list, possibly there have been no successful introductions.)	1
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Common Loon <i>Gavia immer</i>	1

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Red-necked Grebe <i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	2
Eared Grebe <i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	2
Western Grebe <i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>	2

### Order PELECANIFORMES - Suborder PHAETHONTES

#### Family Phaethontidae

White-tailed Tropicbird <i>Phaethon lepturus</i>	3
--	---

### Suborder PELECANI

#### Family Pelecanidae

American White Pelican <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i> "American" added, apparently to distinguish this species from the White Pelican, <i>P. onocrotalus</i> , of the Near East.	3
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Family Anhingidae	
Anhinga <i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	4
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Family Fregatidae	
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Tricolored Heron <i>Egretta tricolor</i> Was Louisiana Heron <i>Hydranassa t.</i>	6
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Green-backed Heron <i>Butorides striatus</i> Name changed from Green Heron to agree with the African name for this species.	5
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Yellow-crowned Night-Heron <i>Nycticorax violaceus</i> Night-heron hyphenated, was <i>Nyctanassa v.</i>	
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Family Ciconiidae - Tribe Mycteriini	
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Snow Goose <i>Chen caerulescens</i>	9
Ross' Goose <i>Chen rossii</i>	10
Brant <i>Branta bernicla</i>	9
Barnacle Goose <i>Branta Leucopsis</i>	9
Canada Goose <i>Branta canadensis</i>	9
Subfamily Anatinae - Tribe Cairinini	
Wood Duck <i>Aix sponsa</i>	13
Tribe Anatini	
Green-winged Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	11
American Black Duck <i>Anas rubripes</i> "American" added, probably because there is an African Black Duck, <i>Anas sparsa</i> .	10
Mottled Duck <i>Anas fulvigula</i> There is an old record, which was reported too recently to be in Johnsgard.	x
(Mexican Duck is not on the AOU list; presumably it is lumped with Mallard.)	10
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> Probably includes Mexican Duck, <i>Anas Diazi</i>	10
Northern Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> "Northern" added; there are other Pintails.	11
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Cinnamon Teal <i>Anas cyanoptera</i>	12
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Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i>	11
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Greater Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>	14
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Surf Scoter <i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	16
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Barrow's Goldeneye <i>Bucephala islandica</i>	15
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Hooded Merganser <i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	17
Common Merganser <i>Mergus merganser</i>	17
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Ruddy Duck <i>Oxura Jamaicensis</i>	17

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Black Vulture <i>Coragyps atratus</i>	18
Turkey Vulture <i>Cathartes aura</i>	18

Suborder ACCIPITRES - Superfamily ACCIPITROIDEA

Family Accipitridae - Subfamily Pandioninae

Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	23
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Subfamily Accipitrinae

American Swallow-tailed Kite <i>Elanoides forficatus</i> "American" added; there is an African Swallow-tailed Kite, <i>Elanus riocurii</i> .	19
Black-shouldered Kite <i>Elanus caeruleus</i> A record of the former White-tailed Kite, <i>E. leucurus</i> , (which has been lumped with the above Old World species) is too recent to be in Johnsgard.	x
Mississippi Kite <i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>	19
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	23
Northern Harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> Was Marsh Hawk. Harrier is the European name for their various <i>circus</i> species.	23
Sharp-shinned Hawk <i>Accipiter striatus</i>	20
Cooper's Hawk <i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	20
Northern Goshawk <i>Accipiter gentilis</i> "Northern" added; there are a number of other Goshawks.	20
Harris' Hawk <i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i> Accidental (NBR 45:52. Not on the Johnsgard Nebraska list.	x
Red-shouldered Hawk <i>Buteo lineatus</i>	21
Broad-winged Hawk <i>Buteo platypterus</i>	21
Swainson's Hawk <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	21
Red-tailed Hawk <i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	20
Ferruginous Hawk <i>Buteo regalis</i>	22
Rough-legged Hawk <i>Buteo lagopus</i>	22
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	22

Suborder FALCONES

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Merlin <i>Falco columbarius</i>	24
Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	24
Gyr Falcon <i>Falco rusticolus</i>	24
Prairie Falcon <i>Falco mexicanus</i>	24

Order GALLIFORMES - Superfamily PHASIANOIDEA

Family Phasianidae - Subfamily Phasianinae - Tribe Perdixini

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Chukar <i>Alectoris chukar</i>	26
Common Quail <i>Coturnix coturnix</i> is not on the AOU list, but Japanese Quail, <i>Coturnix japonica</i> , is. Neither was listed before this. Possibly <i>C. coturnix</i> and <i>C. japonica</i> have been merged; possibly only <i>C. japonica</i> has been successfully introduced; possibly something else.)	27

Tribe Phasianini

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Subfamily Tetraoninae	
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Sage Grouse <i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	26
Greater Prairie-Chicken <i>Tympanuchus cupido</i> "Prairie-Chicken"	25
hyphenated.	
Lesser Prairie-Chicken <i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i> . Extirpated	x
(NBR 13:11). Not included in Johnsgard.	
Sharp-tailed Grouse <i>Tympanuchus phasianellus</i> Was <i>Pedioecetes p.</i>	25
Subfamily Meleagridinae	
Wild Turkey <i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	27
Subfamily Odontophorinae	
Northern Bobwhite <i>Colinus virginianus</i> "Northern" added;	26
there are other Bobwhites in Central and South America.	
Scaled Quail <i>Callipepla squamata</i>	26
California Quail <i>Callipepla californica</i> Was <i>Lophortyx c.</i>	26
Order GRUIFORMES	
Family Rallidae - Subfamily Rallinae	
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Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i>	29
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King Rail <i>Rallus elegans</i>	28
Virginia Rail <i>Rallus limicola</i>	28
Sora <i>Porzana carolina</i>	29
Purple Gallinule <i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	30
Common Moorhen <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> Was Common Gallinule;	30
Moorhen is the European name.	
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Family Gruidae - Subfamily Gruinae	
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Order CHARADRIIFORMES - Suborder CHARADRII	
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Lesser Golden-Plover <i>Pluvialis dominica</i> "American"	32
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Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i>	31
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Family Scolopacidae	

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Red Phalarope <i>Phalaropus fulicaria</i>	40
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California Gull <i>Larus californicus</i>	42
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## Family Strigidae

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Boreal Owl <i>Aegolius funereus</i>	49
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## Family Caprimulgidae - Subfamily Chordeilinae

Common Nighthawk <i>Chordeiles minor</i>	51
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## Subfamily Caprimulginae

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## Family Alcedinidae - Subfamily Cerylinae

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Yellow-bellied Sapsucker <i>Sphyrapicus varius</i> This has been diminished from the former Yellow-bellied Sapsucker by splitting off Red-breasted Sapsucker, <i>Sphyrapicus ruber</i> , which apparently consists of the former <i>S. v. ruber</i> and <i>S. v. daggetti</i> , both Pacific Coast forms. ( <i>Birding</i> , 10 (4) 142-146).	54
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Acadian Flycatcher <i>Empidonax virens</i>	58
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## BOOK REVIEW

The Kingfisher, David Boag, 120 pp. 6½ × 9½, Blandford Press, England, Sterling Publishing Co. Inc. New York Hardbound, indexed. \$17.95.

This is a handsome book - thick paper, 66 color photographs (of various sizes) by the author. It is about the Kingfisher, *Alcedo atthis*, of Europe, about half the size of our Belted Kingfisher, and much more colorful. The text is interesting reading, giving the life history of the bird; description and distribution; territory and aggression; courtship and nest-building; eggs and young; food and feeding habits; mortality; myths and legend. And an appendix on photographic techniques, which will be of interest even to non-photographers, since it explains how he was able to take pictures of the birds in the nest cavity at the end of the tunnel. And it explains how he was able to picture them diving, and catching minnows under water, involving problems which the non-photographer would not think of until they are explained. Knowing the problems makes the subject pictures all the more interesting.

—Editor

*The Living Bird Quarterly*, Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road. Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

The initial issue contains articles on reproductive success in songbirds, the International Crane Foundation, the restoration of nesting Atlantic Puffins to Eastern Egg Rock, Maine, and other items and color illustrations to fill out a 24-page issue, 8½ × 11. This quarterly will replace the annual *The Living Bird*, which the laboratory previously issued. The annual was, and the quarterly is, sent to members of the Laboratory. membership classes start at \$25.00 per year.

—Editor

## 1982 FALL FIELD DAY

Those who came in Friday to the 4-H Camp at Halsey National Forest ran into rain there or on the way in, but Saturday and Sunday, 2 and 3 October, were bright, but a little too windy and a little too chilly to be perfect. Sixty-three registered for the meeting. Of the birds submitted for consideration, the directors selected the Scarlet Tanager at Scotts Bluff as the best and the Cattle Egret in Sioux Co. as second. (*NBR* 50:65 and 67). It was decided to have a new field card, on stiffer stock and smaller sized than the present card, to reflect the changes in the new A.O.U. *Checklist*, and to use the new names and order beginning in 1983. There was a slide show on Saturday night, but otherwise the time was spent in birding.

Seventy-eight species were recorded on or near the Forest, and nine others (marked (L)), which were not reported from the Forest, were reported by a party which went up through Purdham to Long Lake; Pied-billed Grebe, White Pelican (L), Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, American Bittern (L), Canada Goose (L), Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture; Sharp shinned, Copper's, Red-tailed, Swainson's, and Marsh Hawks; Peregrine Falcon, American Kestrel, Greater Prairie Chicken, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Bobwhite, Ring-necked Pheasant, American Coot (L), Killdeer, Common Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Mourning Dove; Screech and Great Horned Owls; Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker (both forms); Red-headed, Hairy, and Downy Woodpeckers; Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Horned Lark; Rough-winged and Barn Swallows; Blue Jay, Black-billed Magpie, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee; White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches; House Wren, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin; Hermit and Swainson's Thrushes; Eastern Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire; Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets; Cedar Waxwing, Starling; Tennessee, Orange-crowned, and Yellow-rumped Warblers; Common Yellowthroat, Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow; Eastern and Western Meadowlarks; Yellow-headed Blackbird (L), Red-winged



Blackbird, Common Grackle, Cardinal, Black-headed Grosbeak, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee; Savannah (L), Baird's (L), Le Conte's (L), Vesper, and Lark Sparrows; Dark-eyed Junco; Chipping, Clay-colored, Field, Harris', White-crowned, White-throated, Lincoln's, Swamp (L), and Song Sparrows.

## LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH NESTING IN FONTENELLE FOREST

On 5 June 1982, I located a nest of the Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*) in Fontenelle Forest. The location had been determined on 26 April when I, with three others, Tanya Bray, Babs Padelford and B.J. Rose, saw a Waterthrush carrying nesting material. This site was later reported as abandoned. I had first seen a Waterthrush in this area on 15 April and identified it as a Louisiana by its song. On 21 April I saw two foraging together. On the date of the nest building they were silent and easily overlooked; but I heard occasional singing on each of my five visits in June.



Louisiana Waterthrush nest in Fontenelle Forest (Photo by Andy Saunders)

In late May Louisiana Waterthrushes were still present, so I suggested to Andy Saunders, of Fontenelle Forest Nature Center, that the old nest be located and photographed. An observation of an hour and a half on 2 June indicated that the pair was nesting about 50 feet further south in a shallow ravine with running spring water. Andy could then take a picture of the original site without disturbing nesting birds. The nest was well concealed by foliage and dead leaves at the base of a hackberry sapling on a steep wooded slope, about three feet from a spring which flowed just a couple yards down the hillside to a marshy stream.

On both 2 and 3 June, I saw three Waterthrushes at the same time with one suddenly giving chase to another. Both times I was unaware of the presence of the third bird until the chase. I have heard singing Waterthrushes from just south of Gifford Road to north of Handsome Hollow on the same day, a distance of over 800 yards of similar habitat. On 8 June I saw two Louisiana

Waterthrushes at the start of the Oak Trail. Both were singing. One song consisted of two short clear notes followed by two long clear notes and an extensive "jumble". The other sang four nearly equal clear notes; but the jumbled portion of the song stopped almost as soon as it began. Both of these songs are different from what I was used to hearing at the nest site, which was intermediate between these two. These factors lead me to believe that there may be more than one pair nesting here.

Finally, on 12 June, I was privileged to witness a family group of at least four Waterthrushes near the new nest site. I had a few minutes earlier seen a Waterthrush with an insect held crosswise in its bill disappear into the understory. I was watching a juvenile bird through 10x binoculars at a distance of less than 20 feet when an adult flew up to it and quickly fed it and flew away. The plumage of this juvenile was similar to the adult with the notable exception of the streaking on the underparts, which was indistinct and strictly limited to the breast. This bird was capable of flight; and the group moved freely around the ravine and hillsides.

This was my last visit as I left the state shortly after for the remainder of the summer.

—Paul Bedell, 820 W. 29th, Richmond, Virginia 23225

## NOTES

**MINDEN NOTES.** On 14 May 1982 I saw six or so White Pelicans over the Platte, south of Kearney, and a Swainson's Hawk, perched on a fence post, near Minden. I saw Lapland Longspurs 25 December, and then not again until 11 February, when they were present in large numbers. I usually saw Marsh Hawks when I got out this winter, and Rough-legged, and Red-tailed Hawks, and a few Kestrels. Prairie Falcons were not much seen, however. I flushed a Sprague's Pipit and a lone male Prairie Chicken on 11 April, in northern Franklin Co. On 25 April I saw another lone Sprague's Pipit, northwest of Minden, plus a few Savannah Sparrows. Red Crossbills were common feeders in town, earlier in the year.

—Harold Turner, Box 333, Minden, Nebraska 68959

**WHOOPIING CRANES.** During a foot survey in search of raptor nests on 11 April 1982, three Whooping Cranes were sighted flying north about 10:30 a.m.. The location of this sighting was 3 miles south and .5 mile east of Peru, Nebraska.

—Steve Shupe, Box 151, Peru State College, Peru, Nebraska 68421

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