

**ALBERTA #1** – 4 Sept 07- 0530 to 2030 – Species Totals 118/113; (Team/Shared): Phillip Cram 116, Brian Elder 115, Ray Woods 117. 520 kilometers by car, 3 kilometers by foot. *Visiting:* Calgary region, including Bow Valley PP, Namaka Lake, Wyndham-Carseland PP, Weed Lake, and Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. *Species of note:* Red-winged Blackbird (M). *Comments:* This establishes a new Alberta Big Day record for September.

We birded for 15 hours entirely in the Calgary Region (80-km radius circle). Sunrise was at 0654 and sunset was at 2016. The weather was beautiful, with mainly sunny conditions prevailing throughout the day. Temperatures at the Calgary Airport ranged from a low of 7° C at 0700 to 23° between 1500 and 1700 (it was a few degrees cooler west of Calgary during the pre-dawn hours). A northerly breeze of around 10-15 km/hour prevailed throughout the day, with gusts up to 40 km/hour for a couple of hours around noon.

Our route was carefully planned by Brian Elder and we had done some scouting. It took us from Calgary to Sibbald Trail to Bow Valley PP to Exshaw to the Water Valley area and Ovan's Slough (northeast of Cochrane) in the morning. In the afternoon we covered sloughs in the Irricana and Strathmore areas, then Namaka Lake, Wyndham-Carseland PP and Weed Lake, and we spent the evening at Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (IBS) in Calgary. What made the outing especially enjoyable was finding new bird species steadily throughout the day as we moved on to new locations.

Our first species was Common Raven, heard along Sibbald Trail at 0620. Our 117th and last species, Gray Catbird, was heard in Brian's neighborhood in northwest Calgary at 2020.

Highlights were Greater White-fronted Goose (Cattlelands Slough, north of Strathmore), Cooper's Hawk (Exshaw), Short-billed Dowitcher (Ovan's Slough), White-breasted Nuthatch (south of Water Valley), Blue-headed Vireo (Wyndham-Carseland PP), MacGillivray's Warbler (southeast of Water Valley) and White-winged Crossbill (Bow Valley PP). Other species we were pleased to find were Black-crowned Night-Heron (Confluence Park, Calgary), Solitary Sandpiper (slough north of Langdon Reservoir), Herring Gull (IBS), Bonaparte's Gull (Irricana sloughs area), Belted Kingfisher (IBS), Mountain Chickadee (Bow Valley PP), Clark's Nutcracker (Exshaw), Blackpoll Warbler (Wyndham-Carseland PP) and Common Yellowthroat (SE of Water Valley).

We missed only one species which we felt was a sure thing: Red-winged Blackbird. Other reasonably-expected species we missed were Gray Partridge, Horned Lark and Yellow Warbler.

**ALBERTA #2** – 14 Sept 07- 0530 to 1650 – Species Totals 94/94; (Team/Shared): Terry Korolyk 94. 325.2 Kilometers by car, 2 kilometers by foot. *Visiting:* Dewinton, Fish Creek PP, Inlewood Bird Sanctuary, Lake MacDonald, Chestermere Lake and McElroy Slough areas, Irricana-Strathmore areas, Langdon Res. area, Hamlet of Shepard area. *Species of note:* Sabine's Gull (R), Rusty Blackbird (R), Red-eyed Vireo (L), American Golden-Plover (S), Greater White-fronted Goose (S), White-faced Ibis (S).

Upon receiving the 2006 Big Day Report this year, I noted that the September record for an Alberta Big Day was 88 species. Being a birder in Alberta for 20 years and never having done a Big Day, I decided if I got the chance this year, I would go for it, and that's what I did with September 14 as the day.

At starting time, the temperature was 6° C and the stars and planets were literally jumping out of the sky in the hills around Dewinton just south of Calgary. I was hoping to get a Great Horned Owl as night faded as I thought it might be a tough bird to get unless it was staked out. The quack of a Mallard at 0518 was my first bird and this was followed soon by Savannah Sparrow, Killdeer, Canada Goose, and American Robin. At 0649, a Great Horned Owl flew across the road on its way to its roost in an Aspen stand to the east!

The species continued to add up as I made my way to Hull's Wood in the east Fish Creek PP. Here I had an excellent run of songbirds, including Townsend's, Wilson's, Orange-crowned, and Blackpoll warblers, American Redstart, House Wren, a late Red-eyed Vireo, and Clay-colored Sparrow. These really helped push the total up.

From Fish Creek, I went to the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, picking up an Osprey on the drive up. The sanctuary supplied a few basic species, but did not supply a hoped-for accipiter. The next stop was Lake MacDonald near the Calgary Airport that filled in some basic duck species, as well as a lone Herring Gull floating quietly on the water in the middle of the lake.

I then made my way to McElroy Slough, picking up Western Meadowlark, American Pipit, and Northern Harrier on the way. McElroy Slough provided the basic diving ducks species as well as a lone Wilson's Snipe and a pair of male Rusty Blackbirds well molted into non-breeding plumage. Pulling away from McElroy, I was surprised by a Mourning Dove flying up from the roadside, and then was elated as a large flock of Common Grackles moved around in the nearby trees. I had hoped to pick up grack-

les earlier in the Deer Run area near Hull's Wood, but ran out of time looking for them.

I pulled into the Sunset Park parking lot at Chestermere Lake across the highway from McElroy Slough at 1222 and right away the bird of the day, a juvenile Sabine's Gull, was flying and feeding in the still waters of the lake only a few yards from shore. I had to watch for a few minutes. There wasn't much else at Chestermer, so I headed eastward on the Trans-Canada Highway, picking up Yellow-headed and Red-winged blackbirds and Bonaparte's Gull just outside Chestermere. I was headed for Strathmore to pick up staked-out Greater White-fronted Geese and an American Golden-Plover at the Cattleland Feedlots Slough, a few miles north of Strathmore. While driving through Strathmore, a flock of 25-30 mixed male and female Hooded Mergansers on the slough across from the Strathmore Golf Course made for one of the day's nicer sightings. The Golden-Plover was in almost the same spot I had him in previously, but I couldn't find any of the White-fronts. I scoped and rescoped and eventually the tension eased as three of the birds emerged from the far side of a distant island. I lucked out with Pectoral Sandpiper and other shorebirds at a small seasonal pond nearby and headed westward, hoping for an American Bittern at a slough I had seen one at earlier in the season. Not surprisingly, it wasn't there, as it had been some time since I had seen the bird.

Next stop was Langdon Reservoir where, at a slough near there, a flock of White-faced Ibis had been feeding well past the breeding season. This was a fair jaunt across the prairie, so I hoped for Vesper Sparrow and Horned Lark on the way over. I was disappointed on those, but the ibis came through in fine form at 1452.

The final stop of the day was near Shepard, just east of Calgary, where some small sloughs proved attractive to small shorebirds earlier in the season. I had good luck there, notching Stilt, Least, and Semipalmated Sandpipers.

I could turn up nothing more on the drive home (Calgary) and at 1650, with a temperature at its hottest for the day (25° C), I pulled in to the parkade at home – forced to pack it in due to other commitments. Were I able to add Glenmore Reservoir and the foothills to the west of Calgary to the itinerary, it would not be unreasonable to think 120 species on this Big Day, as the basic boreal and mixed-forest species west of Calgary are fairly easy to come by. Further, I think it not unreasonable to expect close to 140 species on a Big Day held as early as possible in September as a greater variety and number of passerines would be encountered then. Nonetheless, I was happy with my first Big Day. I had bested the previous September high and I had some very rewarding highlights.

**MANITOBA #1** – 2 Jun 06- 0000 to 2215 – Species Totals 212/210; (Team/Shared): Tom Hince 211, Paul Pratt 211. 820 Kilometers by car, one kilometer by foot. *Visiting:* Spruce Siding Road, Seven Sisters, Monominto Road, Winnipeg, Whitewater Lake, Lyleton, Lauder Sandhills, Coulter Park. *Species of note:* Whooping Crane (V,S), Black-necked Stilt (V,S), Harlequin Duck (V), Little Blue Heron (R), Northern Cardinal (R), Snow Goose (L), Ring-necked Pheasant (M), Peregrine Falcon (M), Blackpoll Warbler (M), Loggerhead Shrike (M). *Comments:* This is a new Big Day record for Canada (the previous record of 205 being set in May 1987 in Manitoba). If it had been published when originally submitted to ABA, it would have been a new Big Day record for the month of June for the ABA area. No tapes or electronic reproductions of bird calls were used on the Big Day.

We decided to visit Manitoba in late May and early June 2006 to search for a Canadian first Broad-tailed Hummingbird and other provincial birds, and to assess the possibility of doing a Big Day there in 2007. During the first four days of our trip we tallied the hummingbird, plus found a provincial first nest of Black-necked Stilt (independently found by others), added a lingering (wild and unbanded) Whooping Crane and an excellent variety of migrant shorebirds. This success kindled the idea of attempting a dry run big day in 2006. Although we felt we had a long way to go on the learning curve, the conditions for weather and migrants seemed to be excellent. By combining the breeding bird richness of boreal and mixed forests east of Winnipeg with the potholes, riparian areas and prairies of the southwest of the province, we felt we had a good shot at the record. This was a strategy that had been used several years prior by another team doing a July Big Day. The problem was the length of the route. On paper it seemed feasible but we knew from many past Big Days that planning and execution are two different things! Our biggest fear was strong winds – something that had been prevalent for much of the scouting period. If we hit strong winds in the early morning or evening, we would be sunk. Why? Winds would slow down our progress on hearing breeders in the east and add at least an hour of listening time to the route. Despite having a full week in the province, the window of opportunity for the Big Day soon closed to only one or two days. We deliberated and although the weather for June 1st looked better, we felt we just were not ready in terms of scouting. It looked like wind might be a problem on the 2nd, but we decided to gamble. As it turned out, the weather on the 2nd was absolutely the best of

our entire stay, at least from the perspective of the type of route we had planned.

Late on the evening of June 1st we checked out of our hotel near Seven Sisters and headed south towards our planned start point along Spruce Siding Road. We were about two thirds of the way along the road to our first stop when our watches chimed midnight. So we pulled over at a good looking wetland and began right there. It was quieter than our scouting night a few days earlier but the listening conditions were excellent. In seconds we had our first bird - sedge wren. Overhead there was a decent nocturnal migration going on and among the many thrushes going over we were thrilled to hear a Gray-cheeked call several times as it passed over - a major bonus bird.

Continuing along Spruce Siding we had several more great stops. At one wetland we got out of the car and a Least Bittern was singing right beside the car. Soon it was joined by American Bittern, and Sora, Virginia and Yellow Rails. Things were going well. If we could keep this pace up we knew we had a good shot at the record. The one disconcerting thing was the absence of owls - something that caused us both to get nervous. However at our third stop, we soon added a Long-eared Owl and that took the edge off. The next stop was critical as this was our best chance for Great Gray Owl. We had one respond to hooting two nights previously and hoped it would fall for our imitations again. First we listened for about five minutes in case the bird was calling on its own. Nothing. Then I started hooting. Two nights previously the bird had responded within ten seconds. I hooted for at least five minutes this time. Nothing. We were standing there quietly almost ready to give up when we both heard the deep faint hooting of the Great Gray! A half a minute later and the bird was quite close and hooting loudly. We hit our last few stops and soon added Northern Saw-whet and Barred Owls, LeConte's and Nelson's Sharp-tailed sparrows, Black-billed Cuckoo, and several Yellow-bellied Flycatchers and Connecticut Warblers. A quick stop along Monominto added Whip-poor-will. The only low point of all this night work was that Paul had missed the only American Woodcock. The core of our night birding had gone extremely well and we were actually about a half hour ahead of schedule. We made a few extra stops to add key species on our way to our dawn location near Seven Sisters Dam. Looking over the list we had six owl species, three rails, both bitterns, cuckoo, Gray-cheeked Thrush and Cooper's Hawk (at a nest illuminated by a street light!). In short, we had not missed a single bird that we thought possible. We still had one daytime owl to pick up (a stake out Great Horned Owl nest). As we raced towards our dawn site, the weather continued to hold with little wind and clear skies. One last pre-dawn stop at some suitable habitat allowed Paul to catch up on American Woodcock and we were on our way. The dawn chorus was perfect. During scouting, three species that had eluded us were Canada and Black-throated Green warblers and Brown Creeper. However, we did find areas of habitat that looked ideal so we had added them to the route. On this perfect morning, all three species were now singing in place along with all the others that we had pinned down. We got all the species we had found while scouting except two wildcards - Rusty Blackbird and Rough-legged Hawk. To make up for this we added two exceptional bonus birds - a male Harlequin Duck sitting on rocks below Seven Sisters Dam and a male Northern Cardinal singing proudly from a cottage site in the park.

We had planned on returning to Spruce Siding during daylight but now chopped that from the route because there was only one reasonable addition there. Instead we headed directly to Monominto where we soon added Yellow-throated Vireo, Golden-winged Warbler and Eastern Towhee. Looping south of Winnipeg we decided we had time to add a brief stop at Stott Road to search for the lingering Whooping Crane. On only one out of our three previous trips had it been visible. Again luck was with us as there was the crane feeding in the field to the north, while Orchard Orioles sang nearby. For the next few hours we experienced the lull that plagues many Big Days during the warmest part of the day. Several planned stops for lingering shorebirds did not pan out. In fact they were bone dry without even a Killdeer in sight. And a stop for migrants couldn't even produce a single Blackpoll Warbler - a species that had been abundant for the past four days. However, we did pick up several new species, including California and Herring gulls and Red-necked Phalarope. From here we made the long drive west towards Whitewater Lake. To this point we had done exceptionally well, but this site would probably make or break the day. We had done poorly on shorebirds in the east and needed a big haul around Whitewater to keep the record within reach. In addition we needed a good selection of bonus birds like southern herons, and hopefully a few game birds. Our first stop was a viewpoint on the south end of the lake. We knew that whatever was going to happen would either happen, or not happen, very quickly. As we headed down the dirt roads towards the lake Paul's sharp eyes spotted several Gray Partridge. Within two minutes of arrival at the lake, we had White-faced Ibis, then

Great Egret, then a small flock of Cattle Egrets, several Black-crowned Night Herons, and a major bonus of an adult Little Blue Heron! And to the west we could see flocks of shorebirds in flight. This boded well for the best shorebird areas at the west

end of the lake. On our way to the shorebird areas we made a drive by stop for that seventh species of owl (a stake out Great Horned adult and baby on the nest) and then added Purple Martin at the huge martin houses in a nearby town. Many of the shorebirds from the week before had departed, but there was still good variety. Highlights included Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone and many Hudsonian Godwits, plus a near clean sweep on all the peeps. During scouting we had found a provincial first nest of Black-necked Stilt in this area. The vegetation was now higher but with some scope work we soon had great views of both stilts around the nest. There were many, many groups of shorebirds that we decided to forgo now that we had twenty three species in the bag. Greed is not a good thing on Big Days! Instead we opted to spend more time searching for prairie species and our remaining stakeouts. We headed northwest to Broomhill where we had five potential additions. Despite spending half an hour in good listening conditions, we added absolutely nothing. Now we started to get nervous. After a brief discussion we decided to cut our losses and hit the remaining sites to ensure we broke the record. At Lyteton we soon added the nesting Eurasian Collared Doves, plus a small group of Wild Turkeys and a lingering duo of Snow Geese. We now had the record in the bag and it was just a matter of how high we could push it. We headed for a nice area of natural prairie where late evening conditions were perfect. All around us the fields were full of song and we added Sprague's Pipit, Grasshopper and Baird's sparrows and Chestnut-collared Longspur in short order. Buoyed by this success we doubled by to Coulter Park, to search for one last stake out. Shortly after 10 pm, in the dwindling light we added our 212th and final new species of the day - Say's Phoebe. We birded for about another fifteen minutes hoping to hear a Ring-necked Pheasant or perhaps a Willow Flycatcher, but with the great success of the day, we were not disappointed to miss these species. By 11 pm we were enjoying a celebratory beverage at the Melita Hotel. We both want to say thanks to all the Manitoba birders who provided us with advice during our visit. Their help was greatly appreciated.

**MANITOBA #2** – 24 May 07- 0000 to 2400 – Species Totals 198/193; (Team/Shared): Cal Cuthbert 198, Ken De Smet 196, Rudolf Koes 196, Peter Taylor 195. 1024 Kilometers by car, 8 kilometers by foot. *Visiting:* Spruce Siding, Seven Sisters, Pinawa, Winnipeg, Ninette, Whitewater Lake, Lyleton/Pierson/Melita area, Douglas Marsh. *Species of note:* none noted.

This Big Day effort was an attempt to break the magical 200 species barrier. The night was quiet, with only two species of owl (Barred and Northern Saw-whet), but memorable for the most spectacular Northern Lights we had seen in years. At first light, we found a staked out Least Bittern near Seven Sisters Falls and the dawn chorus delivered most expected songbirds, plus a bonus Black-backed Woodpecker at a nest. Nearby Natalie Lake, often good for ducks, loons, and grebes, was a complete bust.

It had become overcast and windy, and would stay so until almost sunset. In Winnipeg, we managed to find all of the local specialties (Eastern Screech-Owl, Chimney Swift, etc.), plus we lucked into a wave of late migrants.

Then came the long drive to the southwest portion of the province. Pelican Lake had a hybrid Western/Clark's Grebe, but not one pure Clark's. At Whitewater lake, we added Cattle Egret, White-faced Ibis, Ferruginous Hawk, plus a variety of shorebirds. Best of these was a Whimbrel, but as has been so often the case in the past, there were several key misses in this group, which eventually would thwart our attempt at 200.

In the extreme southwest, we found most of the prairie specialties, including Burrowing Owl, Say's Phoebe, and Baird's Sparrow, plus a staked-out Eurasian Collared-Dove. Again, there were a few key misses here, and after tallying up at Douglas Marsh at midnight, we were stuck at 198 species. Ah well, there is always next year...

**NEWFOUNDLAND** – 11 Jul 07- 0200 to 2200 – Species Totals 117/114; (Team/Shared): Tom Hince 117, Paul Pratt 114. 930 Kilometers by car, one mile by foot. *Visiting:* Cape Ray, Codroy Valley, Cape Anguille, Stephenville Crossing, Terra Nove NP, Witless Bay, Cape Spear. *Species of note:* Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (R), Blue-winged Teal (R), Cape May Warbler (R), Blackburnian Warbler (R), Gray Catbird (R), Pied-billed Grebe (R), Hairy Woodpecker (M), Tennessee Warbler (M), Green-winged Teal (M), Horned Lark (M). *Comments:* This is a new Big Day record for Newfoundland.

Our goal was to best the existing Newfoundland Big Day record of 106 species. That record had been set in the fall, the season that perhaps has the highest potential for big days in Newfoundland. The timing of our day in mid July was certainly not ideal. However as one of us was already working for a short period in Newfoundland, and the other was visiting in pursuit of a new Canada bird, it was worth a try. Bruce

Mactavish provided excellent advice. In June and July, the area of the province with the greatest potential is in the southwest in the Codroy Valley. Here species such as Red-winged Blackbird, Chipping Sparrow, Bank Swallow and many others are much easier to find than in the rest of Newfoundland.

The route started at Port aux Basques and we spent the early morning birding var-

ious sites in the Codroy Valley. One hundred species was reached at Stephenville Crossing where we added Greater Scaup, Common Merganser, Willet Red-winged Blackbird and nesting Black-headed Gulls. By evening we were overlooking Witless Bay which teemed with thousands of sea birds attracted by spawning capelin. It was hard to leave the Black-legged Kittiwakes, Atlantic Puffins, Common Murres, Black Guillemots, Razorbills and Northern Fulmars (plus many Humpback Whales) and continue our route. We finished in St. John's where the last bird of the day was Sora at Lundri-gan's Marsh.

## 2007 U.S. BIG DAYS

**ALABAMA** – 31 Aug 07- 0555 to 1820 – Species Totals 102/100; (Team/Shared): Damien Simbeck 101, Jeff Garner 100, Steve McConnell 102. 130 Miles by car, 0.5 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Tennessee Valley Authority Reservation and Wilson Dam, Lauderdale County, Cypress Creek WWTP, Key Cave NWR, Oakland Marsh, Colbert County, Town Creek marsh and point, Wheeler Dam, Wheeler SP. *Species of note:* American White Pelican (R,S), Common Yellowthroat (M). *Comments:* This represents a new Alabama record for August.

A hot, dry summer left very little shorebird habitat along an otherwise active route. This was partially compensated for by an almost complete list of local breeding warblers. However, try as we might, we couldn't find a Common Yellowthroat!

**ALASKA #1** – 9 Jun 06- 0630 to 2400 – Species Totals 85/85; (Team/Shared): Nancy DeWitt 85, Jim DeWitt 85, Peter Bente 85. 231 Miles by car, 1 mile by foot. *Visiting:* Nome area, including Kougarok Road, Council Road, Safety Lagoon. *Species of note:* Black-tailed Godwit (V), Gadwall (R), Ring-necked Duck (R).

After helping set a new record for the Farthest North Birdathon in 2005 (130 species between Valdez and Fairbanks), Jim and I decided to scale back a little bit this year. Not just because it was starting to take a week or so to recover from a gonzo, 24-hour effort that was preceded by weeks of scouting; we were looking for new turf, new birds and new challenges. Neither of us had ever birded the Seward Peninsula, so we headed to Nome to see what the area's road system had to offer.

Our horror at discovering what we had for a rental vehicle-an old beater pickup with two-wheel drive and bald tires-was tempered by our host's offer to take us in his SUV for our Birdathon. Peter Bente, a wildlife biologist in Nome, skipped work (or maybe he claimed this was work), did all of the driving, and found us many birds we would have missed otherwise.

We started off our adventure by heading out the Kougarok Road at 0630, checking off Pacific Loon, Arctic Tern, Long-tailed Jaeger, and Rock and Willow ptarmigan in the first hour. After a short but strenuous hike in the rain up a tussocky hill opposite Coffee Dome, we heard and then saw some Bristle-thighed Curlews (life birds for the DeWitts), along with a Whimbrel and Bar-tailed Godwit. From here it was on to a small drainage to see one of Alaska's most beautiful but seldom-seen songbirds, the

Bluethroat. We found a lovely male doing incredible aerial maneuvers to impress the ladies. Worked for me! Other highlights along the Kougarok included Northern Wheatears, Red-throated Loons, Golden Eagles, Rough-legged Hawks, Gyrfalcons, an American Golden-Plover, Say's Phoebe, Arctic Warblers, and Eastern Yellow Wagtails.

After gas and caffeine refills in Nome (plus some great looks at a herd of musk-ox), we headed out the Council Road. Our first stop at the Nome River bridge was amazing. Here we added Black-bellied Plovers, Pacific Golden-Plovers, Red Phalaropes, Western Sandpipers, and our only Asian rarity-a Black-tailed Godwit-to our list. At Cape Nome, Peter showed us a Peregrine Falcon nest, and I scoped out a Thick-billed Murre and Pelagic Cormorant in Norton Sound. Big rafts of Harlequin Ducks, Black Scoters, and Long-tailed Ducks in breeding plumage were floating just offshore. Long-tailed Jaegers were cruising above the tundra everywhere we looked.

We spent quite a few hours birding Safety Lagoon, finding Emperor Goose, Common Eider, Dunlin, Brant, Common Loon, Ruddy and Black Turnstones, and Vega Herring Gulls. Our unusual finds for the area included Ring-necked Duck and Gadwall, while our big miss was an Aleutian Tern (Jim and I found one two days later). We could have picked up some forest species closer to Council, but instead chose to turn around at the "train to nowhere" after admiring thousands of Tundra Swans floating in the east end of the lagoon. We only added three new species on the drive home, but they were good ones-Arctic Loon, Black-legged Kittiwake, and Parasitic Jaeger. Back in Nome I realized that this was my first Birdathon that didn't feature a chickadee or a kinglet!

In 17.5 hours we found 85 species-nowhere near Alaska's Big Day record but

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND** – 11 Feb 07- 0730 to 1525 – Species Totals 40/40; (Team/Shared): David Seeler 40, Ray Cooke 40, Dwaine Oakley 40. 216.6 Kilometers by car, 0 miles by foot. *Visiting:* none reported. *Species of note:* Northern Harrier (L), American Robin (L).

*Comments:* This is the first February Big Day report for Prince Edward Island and sets the bar for future Big Days in that month.

pretty decent for Nome and good for second place in the Birdathon. Best of all, our team raised almost \$4,500 for bird conservation programs conducted by the Alaska Bird Observatory and Arctic Audubon Society.

**ALASKA #2** – 19 May 07- 0000 to 2330 – Species Totals 119/118; (Team/Shared): Brad Meiklejohn 119, Scott Hauser 119, Robert Ambrose 118. 300 Miles by car, 4 miles by foot, 10 miles by boat. *Visiting:* Glenn Highway, Anchorage, Seward Highway, Sterling Highway, Homer, Kachemak Bay. *Species of note:* Yellow-billed Loon (R), Brant (R), Redhead (R), Eurasian Wigeon (R), Osprey (R), Northern Goshawk (R), Boreal Owl (R), Townsend's Solitaire (R), Gadwall (M), Northern Hawk Owl (M), Golden-crowned Kinglet (M). *Comments:* Being stuck in a three-hour traffic jam caused delays.

This establishes a new all-time non-aircraft Big Day record for Alaska.

**ARIZONA #1** – 25 April 07- 0000 to 1930 – Species Totals 189/185; (Team/Shared): Scott Schuette 187, Pete Hosner 187, John Yerger 186. 430 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Carr Canyon, San Pedro Riparian NCA, Ash Canyon, Benson WWTP, Paton residence, Patagonia Roadside Rest Area, Patagonia Lake SP, Rio Rico Pond, Madera Canyon, Ina Road Bridge. *Species of note:* Gadwall (M), American Wigeon (M), Loggerhead Shrike (M), Pygmy Nuthatch (M), Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (M), Hermit Thrush (M), Hooded Oriole (M).

**ARIZONA #2** – 6 May 07- 0000 to 2100 – Species Totals 196/192; (Team/Shared): Scott Schuette 192, Keith Kamper 196. 435 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Mt. Lemmon, Madera Canyon, Rio Rico Pond, Patagonia Lake SP, Paton's House, Benson WWTP, Willcox, Rustler Park, George Walker House, Cave Creek Canyon. *Species of note:* Gadwall (M), Bufflehead (L,S), Canvasback (L,S), Pied-billed Grebe (M), Green Heron (M), Willet (M), Greater Roadrunner (M), Barn Owl (M), Western Screech-Owl (M), Lewis's Woodpecker (L,S), Hooded Oriole (M). *Comments:* This is a new Arizona May Big Day record.

**ARKANSAS** – 4 May 07- 0300 to 2100 – Species Totals 164/164; (Team/Shared): Kenny Nichols 164, Dick Baxter 164. 250 Miles by car, 1 mile by foot. *Visiting:* Sandiff Road, Bald Knob NWR, Bald Know Sewage Ponds, Raft Creek Bottoms, Jones Island Road, Saul's Fish Farms, Treadway Fish Farms. *Species of note:* Great Horned Owl (M), Eastern Screech-Owl (M).

**COLORADO #1** – 28 Apr 07- 0000 to 2200 - Species Totals 141/134; (Team/Shared): Lisa Edwards 137, Brandon K. Percival 144, Mark Peterson 144, Brad Steger 141. 395 Miles by car, 1.5 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Bent, Prowers, Baca, Kiowa, Cheyenne, Kit Carson, and Yuma counties. *Species of note:* Black Rail (E), King Rail (V), Whimbrel (R), Short-billed Dowitcher (V), Eastern Wood-Pewee (V), Nashville Warbler (R), Townsend's Warbler (R), Palm Warbler (R), Summer Tanager (R), Field Sparrow (R), Indigo Bunting (R).

We wanted to submit the first April Big Day for Colorado, plus wanted a chance to see some rarities as well. We decided to spend the entire day on the far eastern plains of Colorado. After midnight, we heard a King Rail near Fort Lyon, which was a new state bird for all of us. It was a very interesting day with quite a few rarities for late April. Our actual total was 145, but to conform to the 95% rule, we removed four species from our list.

**COLORADO #2** – 20 Dec 07- 0045 to 1645 - Species Totals 107/105; (Team/Shared): Brandon Percival 106, Mark Peterson 107, Tony Leukering 106. 228 Miles by car, one mile by foot. *Visiting:* Lamar, John Martin Res., Rocky Ford, Pueblo Res. *Species of note:* Black Scoter (R,S), Long-tailed Duck (R,S), Red-necked Grebe (R), Lesser Black-backed Gull (R,S), Great Black-backed Gull (V,S), White-winged Dove (R,S), Red-bel-

lied Woodpecker (R,S), Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (R,S), Northern Mockingbird (R,S), Savannah Sparrow (R,S), White-throated Sparrow (R,S), Northern Cardinal (R,S).

**CONNECTICUT #1** – 14 Oct 07- 0640 to 1800 – Species Totals 92/88; (Team/Shared): Patrick Dugan 91, Jim Dugan 90, Frank Gallo 90, Frank Mantlik 89. 0 Miles by car, 0 miles by foot. *Visiting*: Milford Point. *Species of note*: Red-throated Loon (M), Yellow-crowned Night-heron (L), Snow Goose (R), Black Scoter (R), Bald Eagle (R), Killdeer (M), Whimbrel (L), Western Sandpiper (L), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (R,L), Eastern Phoebe (M), Fish Crow (M), Carolina Wren (M), Marsh Wren (R,L), both kinglets (M), Cedar Waxwing (M), Bobolink (L), White-crowned Sparrow (R). *Comments*: This was a Big Sit competition. Six Snow Geese in the marsh at dawn were new for their Big Sit. Noteworthy numbers were: 25 Ospreys (missed some years), 2 Bald Eagles, 30 Northern Harriers, 10 Peregrine Falcons, 70 Tree Swallows.

We decided to submit our Connecticut state record-smashing Big Sit, which totaled 101 species, as we realized, up until now, that there was no October Big Day record for the state. But with Big Day rules stricter than Big Sit rules, we had to delete a number of species, as one member arrived 0640, later than the other three who arrived 0445 (and who tallied a number of birds before dawn). Also, we had to delete our two best birds (Common Eider, Caspian Tern) due to a timeout, when not all four members were together.

**CONNECTICUT #2** – 3 Dec 07- 0430 to 1630 – Species Totals 104/99; (Team/Shared): Ed Hagen 100, Greg Hanisek 102, Frank Mantlik 101, David Tripp Jr. 103. 163 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting*: White Memorail Foundation, Hamonasset SP, East Haven, Konold's Pond, Bridgeport, Stratford. *Species of note*: Cackling Goose (R), Eurasian Wigeon (R), Harlequin Duck (V), 25 waterfowl species, Laughing Gull (L), Northern Rough-winged Swallow (L), Pine Warbler (L), Chipping Sparrow (L), Red Crossbill (R).

**DELAWARE #1** – 30 Apr 07- 0015 to 2045 – Species Totals 154/154; (Team/Shared): Billy Weber 154. 261 Miles by car, 1 mile by foot. *Visiting*: Prime Hook NWR, Redden SF, Cape Henlopen SP, Delaware Seashore SP, Bombay Hook NWR, Brandywine Creek SP. *Species of note*: Glaucous Gull (R).

Although I'm from Pennsylvania, I've been birding Delaware infrequently since I was ten years old. (I'm now twenty-four). In recent years, I've become obsessed with Big Days—not because I'm naive enough to believe that the numbers I achieve are in any way exceptional, but because (a) I like birding all night, (b) I like maps, and (c) I'm obsessive-compulsive. Frankly, nine out of ten of my Big Day totals could probably be trumped by anyone with stronger skills and the patience/energy to actually scout. That said, on Monday, 30 April, I attempted a Delaware Big Day that I'm moderately proud of.

High off a Pennsylvania-record 132 species with Devich Farbotnik on Saturday (in a single county), I decided that maybe, with two weekends of "scouting" under my belt and the potential for many more first-of-the-season passerines, Delaware's April ABA mark of 159 would be a reasonable quarry for me. So I rested on Sunday (in an entirely nonreligious—or should I say "wholly unholy"—sense), scheduled a sick day for Monday (I'm a high school English teacher, by the way), and devoted it to one of my most ambitious and best-planned routes. Of course, that's not saying a lot.

I left my house in the Lehigh Valley late Sunday evening and crossed into Delaware around midnight. Marsh Wrens and Great Blue Herons welcomed me to the northeast corner of Thousand Acre Marsh, where at least two each of both Common Moorhen and Virginia Rail eventually called. Around the corner at Grier's Pond, several Soras responded by whinnying. An Eastern Screech-Owl flew in to investigate me on my way out, at the bridge on Dutch Neck Road.

I enjoyed the monkey noises of a pair of Barred Owls at Bombay Hook's Finis Pool gate, then headed directly to Big Stone Beach Road, where American Woodcocks peented from the back of a shrub plantation and Chuck-will's-widows and Whip-poor-wills drowned out the frogs at Greco's Canal. Mispillion's Lighthouse Road was quiet, but a few Clapper Rails sounded off behind Slaughter Beach. I spent the predawn's remainder on Broadkill Road, reveling in a most satisfying ensemble of sound: Great Horned Owls, chucks, whips, and a very loud King Rail all audible simultaneously, with the east slowly pinking over the Delaware Bay. Another Sora was a happy bonus. Starting up at White Clay Creek has its merits, of course, but I'm a sucker for morning marshes. (Plus, it's less depressing for me to drive home from Wilmington than from Bethany Beach). I had recorded about twenty species by 0500. That could have been higher, were my nocturnal passerine prowess more impressive. My idea of flight-call identification is to say, "Hey! That said 'seet'! I don't think it was an owl."

I stayed with Broadkill Marsh until I tired of Swamp and White-throated sparrows, then hopped over to Deep Branch Road to commence my daylight birding. I love be-

ginning with the variety of the Prime Hook environs (it was Ed Sigda and Bruce Peterjohn's "Hundred on the Hook" reports from 2006—especially their uniformly successful "morning songbird agendas"—that gave me the idea). Deep Branch's Grasshopper Sparrows were in fine "voice," and I added Wood Duck, Wood Thrush, Yellow-throated Warbler and Ovenbird. Back on Broadkill Road, while I waited for the refuge gate to open, I worked the marsh for Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Ruddy Duck, Short-billed Dowitcher, Wilson's Snipe, Fish Crow, and other expected denizens. The hedgerows produced Gray Catbird and the first of the day's bazillion Yellow-rumped Warblers, but I kept wanting to tell the Laughing Gulls to shut the you know what up. Did I say that? What I meant to say was who doesn't appreciate a good chorus of strident larids when he's attempting to differentiate the quieter constituents of a dawn chorus through ears made ineffective by years of rock music? I love gulls.

Through the main gate I went, to Turkle and Fleetwood ponds, where Prothonotary Warblers were much in evidence. Great Crested Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Pine Warbler, and a small migrant movement starring Northern Waterthrush were present at the dock. The open areas along the entrance road produced Eastern Bluebird, Brown Thrasher, Prairie Warbler, and Blue Grosbeak, but the Savannah Sparrows were missing from their habitual brush pile. At headquarters, after securing Ruby-throated Hummingbird and Purple Martin, I stumbled into some of my favorite finds of the day: White-crowned Sparrow at the start of the Dike Trail; Kentucky Warbler singing (if not showing) at the start of the Boardwalk Trail; Northern Bobwhite clearly vocal nearby; a first-cycle Glaucous Gull by itself, right over my head. I was pretty stoked after that last one. Even more so when I realized that a congregation of gulls along Saw Mill Road (between Prime Hook and Route 113) contained a Lesser Black-backed.

Redden State Forest (0730-0930) un-stoked me. I was asking for it. I had a few intersections in mind from recent postings, and three hours of prior experience, but apart from that I was clueless—just wandering the roads between pull-offs, doomed to miss the more high-profile birds and places. At least I was efficiently clueless. Summer Tanager and Vesper Sparrow snubbed my special efforts, forcing me to settle for Bald Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk (harassed by a blackbird), Chimney Swift, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Parula, Black-throated Blue, Prairie, Black-and-white, and Worm-eating warblers, and another Blue Grosbeak. I did manage a selection of year birds: Acadian Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Indigo Bunting, Horned Lark enlivened the ride seaward.

And then, suddenly, the wind picked up. It had been lovely thus far—cool and ever-so-slightly breezy, but by the time I arrived at Cape Henlopen, I was fighting discouragement caused by 25 mph gusts. The soaring birds didn't mind. I'd snagged Black Vulture in Lewes; now there were accipiters of both species everywhere, the Cooper's Hawks battling the breeze with their best nighthawk impressions. I would have scanned for kites or something, but I was there for Brown-headed Nuthatch. If only the nuthatch had been there for me. As I trudged through the deserted and dramatically heaving pines, I did hear my only Blue-headed Vireo as it sang a few distant and eerily lonely-sounding phrases. No mixed-species flocks on my traditional road, so I tried behind the visitor center, and wouldn't you know it? The nuthatch was there for me. Several, actually. Out at the point, a wide wrack line had altered much of the Piping Plover habitat, but the Brant were present, along with a Common Loon that was the only diving bird I could find out in the whitecaps. Waterfowl would prove elusive throughout the endeavor, either absent or (presumably) concealed among waves.

Indian River Inlet held more Brant, Northern Gannet, an up-and-down Tricolored Heron, Spotted Sandpiper and Ruddy Turnstone on the south jetty, and Royal and Common terns. Route 1 between the inlet and Rehoboth Beach was more entertaining than usual, featuring Northern Harrier, up to four Merlins, one of only two Killdeer for the day, Eastern Kingbird, and the omnipresent Boat-tailed Grackles. The bay shore was even windier. Prime Hook Beach and marsh yielded Red-breasted Merganser, two of my four Glossy Ibis, multiple Black-necked Stilts, a single Northern Rough-winged Swallow, and singing Yellow Warbler. Fowler Beach Road (along which I located Bonaparte's Gull in a field) was alive with shorebirds right before the platform: Black-bellied Plover; both yellowlegs; Willet; Semipalmated and Least sandpipers; Dunlin;

Short-billed Dow; and lone White-rumped and Stilt sandpipers—cause to celebrate with a piece of Jolt gum. A Seaside Sparrow was rasping away. I accounted for the flotilla of American Avocets off Slaughter Beach, and then sped to Ted Harvey CA.

En route, I opted to tally my list in my head. (This is better than marking the checklist because it affords the comfort of having perhaps forgotten something.) Keep in mind that the gusts and the paucity of waterfowl had me feeling, at this point, quite down. Well, wasn't I started to count 139! Up until then, hitting 160 had been nothing but a pipedream, but I entered ol' Logan Tract with new wings (and I hadn't even had any Red Bull). Unfortunately, Ted Harvey tempered my nascent enthusiasm by offering only American Coot, despite the half-hour I begged for more.

Where were the Gadwall? The Pied-billed Grebes? A flyby American Kestrel on Port Mahon Road soothed me—it was a grand raptor day—but Bombay Hook was stingy. The first bird I scoped across from Sheariness was an American Golden-Plover in full breeding regalia, but the only other birds I added were Black-crowned Night-Heron, Peregrine Falcon, and Semipalmated Plover. It was 1630 and time to head north.

Under no small amount of pressure, I rushed from Route 1 to Delaware City and back, bagging targets and serendipitous species at intervals: Cliff Swallow under the Route 9 Appoquinimink River bridge; Solitary Sandpiper, American Redstart, another Black-throated Blue, and more Bonaparte's Gulls around Port Penn; Cattle Egret on Dutch Neck Road and off Route 72; Bank Swallow at swan-less Dragon Run Park. About ten birds behind the nice round record, I burned rubber to Brandywine Creek. (In retrospect, White Clay would have been the more intelligent choice.) The headquarters feeders were empty, crippling my efforts for White-breasted Nuthatch and <cough> House Finch, so I paused for Eastern Meadowlark and then took a brief walk at museum-still Thompson's Bridge. Good heavens, was it quiet, and it was past 1900 (maybe because it was past 1900). Finally, a Hairy Woodpecker indulged me with a "peek," so I opted to cut my losses and explore the countryside before sunset. The creek crossing on Ramsey Bridge Road had me hoping—what with Warbling Vireo, Palm Warbler, and Orchard Oriole all at one shot—but I could find nothing else of consequence between there and Hoopes Reservoir, nor on the reservoir proper. I had never tried so desperately, and so futilely, for House Finch. I think I listened at every yard from Port Penn to Ashland. I don't want to talk about it.

When I ultimately surrendered to nightfall and parked to check off my birds, I still had the window cracked, in case a clutch kingfisher would happen to rattle its way into my total. I ended with 154, including 10 raptors, 21 shorebirds, 7 gulls, all 6 swallows, and 16 warblers (but a mere 10 waterfowl). Most painful misses were Mute Swan, Wild Turkey, Little Blue Heron (had one fly over, but at a bad place to confirm for my conscience), Belted Kingfisher, Eastern Phoebe, White-breasted Nuthatch, and—yes—House Finch. Next time, I wouldn't mind company. It would be nice to share both the ecstasy and the physical and emotional exhaustion with someone, especially someone really good at finding House Finches.

**DELAWARE #2** – 31 Aug 07- 0300 to 2000 – Species Totals 133/133; (Team/Shared): Derek Stoner 133, Judy Montgomery 133, Bill Stewart 133. 233 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Thousand-Acre Marsh, Bombay Hook NWR, Milford Neck WMA, Prime Hook NWR, Cape Henlopen SP. *Species of note:* Common Loon (E), Whimbrel (R), Hudsonian Godwit (R). Comments: A flock of 707 American Avocets at Bombay Hook NWR was an excellent high count.

Being the last day of August and an excellent time to locate a good diversity of birds in Delaware, my teammates and I set out on a Big Day quest. Yes, we went birding for 17 hours straight on a late summer day. Crazy? Perhaps. Fun? Definitely!

Our day began two hours before dawn at Thousand-Acre Marsh, where we found a Sora and Common Moorhen calling. Marsh Wrens chattered and burred in nocturnal symphony. Whip-poor-will's and Chuck-will's-widows rocked the pines at Milford Neck with their namesake calls. We found Yellow-breasted Chat, Black-and-white Warbler, and American Redstart among the migrant songbirds. Dozens and dozens of Bobolinks flew over during our visit here. Near Fleetwood Pond at Prime Hook NWR we found Brown-headed Nuthatches, Pine Warblers, and Acadian and Least Flycatchers. Lighthouse Point at Cape Henlopen State Park produced two Common Loons, Surf and Black scoters, Royal Terns, American Oystercatchers, and a Whimbrel are always excellent finds anywhere in the state. Bombay Hook's Raymond Pool had more shorebirds than any of us had ever seen concentrated in one place. We estimated a conservative 20,000 shorebirds packed into Raymond at 1600. I counted 707 American Avocets roosting together in one flock. With the avocets were five Marbled Godwits and a gorgeous male Hudsonian Godwit still wearing russet breeding plumage. Semi-palmated Plovers, Semi-palmated Sandpipers, both dowitchers (mostly Short-billed), Black-bellied Plovers, and both Yellowlegs were among the most numerous species, covering up almost every available patch of mud. Western, Stilt, and Pectoral sandpipers also represented themselves well. We found 18 species of shorebirds packed into this pool at once, and decided that this spectacle was one of our best memories yet from all our Big Day outings!

**DELAWARE #3** – 21 Oct 07- 0230 to 1645 – Species Totals 107/107; (Team/Shared): Billy Weber 107. 209 Miles by car, 0.5 mile by foot. *Visiting:* Prime Hook NWR, Delaware Seashore SP, Cape Henlopen SP, Bombay Hook NWR. *Species of note:* Red-eyed Vireo (L), Clay-colored Sparrow (R).

I had thirteen species of sparrows in Delaware on Sunday, 21 October, although not the same thirteen tallied by the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club's concurrent field trip. I couldn't find Seaside Sparrow or junco, but I got Chipping and a sur-

prising/obliging Grasshopper at Prime Hook NWR. The Grasshopper was part of an immense congregation of emberizids in the area of the Prime Hook headquarters. It teed up on a stalk and posed for digiscoping. A Clay-colored (different from the continuing one?) put in a fine appearance as well, preening in the brush along the entrance road, where a Lincoln's later popped out; at the start of the Boardwalk Trail and elsewhere were dozens of White-crowns. But most impressive was the sheer number of Savannahs. At one point, after pishing and whinnying at a hedgerow, I turned to scan the other side of the road and counted over eighty birds at the tops of weeds. The entire field was bristling with sparrows! Down at Indian River Inlet, closer to noon, I flushed exactly two sharp-tails along the bayside entrance road: one interior-race Nelson's and one Saltmarsh. Didn't feel like donning my boots to go crazy enough for a Seaside.

Sparrows aside, the passerines were super in the state that day. My highlights included a late Red-eyed Vireo near Prime Hook's Turtle Pond, a pipit in the dry impoundment along Broadkill Road, a sweep of the mimids on the Prime Hook property (multiple thrashers, a single catbird), sapsucker and Purple Finch at Thompson Island, Brown-headed and Red-breasted nuthatches and creeper behind the Cape Henlopen visitor center, and scads upon scads of Tree Swallows, blackbirds/grackles/cowbirds, and especially Yellow-rumps everywhere. Palms were well-represented too, but I could find only one other warbler, a Common Yellowthroat at Prime Hook.

Waterbirds, by contrast, were underwhelming. The seacoast was of course overrun with exuberant beach-goers, and either Bombay Hook was too parched to be good or I was too engaged in football on the radio to be a good birder. Taxonomical highlights: Snow Goose - hundreds along Broadkill and Prime Hook roads; Ring-necked Duck - a pair on Silver Lake in Rehoboth Beach; Ruddy Duck - Silver Lake and off Prime Hook and Fowler beaches; Surf Scoter - 2 rafts off the point at Cape Henlopen; Common Loon - dawn flyover on Broadkill Road; Northern Gannet - good numbers over the ocean; Snowy Egret - still around, as at Indian River Inlet; Clapper Rail - 2 in view behind Indian River Inlet; Virginia Rail, Sora - both of which at Thousand Acre Marsh as well as Virginias being numerous and vociferous off Broadkill Road; American Coot - a bedraggled but content individual diving among the motorboats in Indian River Inlet—reminded me of a kid playing in mud...; Semipalmated Plover - still chillin' in the Port Mahon parking lot (as per a recent report); American Avocet - numbers across from Bombay's Sheariness Pool; Pectoral Sandpiper (1), dowitcher sp., Wilson's Snipe (1) – dawn flybys on Broadkill Road; a disappointing finish of 10 shorebird species; Bonaparte's Gull - 1 with Forster's and Royal terns at Port Mahon (Royals also prevalent at Cape Henlopen); and Caspian Tern - scattered birds on the flats at Bombay.

I should note that harriers and Great Horned Owls were, like the Washington Redskins' performance, all over the place.

**DELAWARE #4** – 23 Nov 07- 0315 to 1700 – Species Totals 108/108; (Team/Shared): Derek Stoner 108, Judy Montgomery 108, Bill Stewart 108. 241 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Bombay Hook NWR, Prime Hook NWR, Cape Henlopen SP, Silver Lake, Indian River Inlet. *Species of note:* Great Egret (L), Snowy Egret (L), Rough-legged Hawk (R), Northern Goshawk (R), Least Sandpiper (L), Northern Saw-whet Owl (R), Lapland Longspur (R).

To celebrate Black Friday, we skipped the shopping malls, and instead headed to Delaware's marshes and fields to "shop" for birds. Here's a recap of what our team checked off on our list today.

Our day (night) started at 0315 with a beautiful full moon and a Northern Saw-whet Owl calling along Barley Mill Road. Downstate at the Prime Hook Wildlife Area, five Eastern Screech-Owls serenaded us along with a Great Horned Owl. We heard the first Snow Goose, and saw 100,000 more by the end of the day. Dawn at Fowler Beach brought plenty of excitement: two American Bitterns flying by, 25 Wilson's Snipe calling and flushing from along the marsh edge, 4 Snowy Egrets, a Least Sandpiper, 14 Wood Ducks flying over the bay, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and a light-phase Rough-legged Hawk hovering as it hunted. Several meadows along the road held dozens upon dozens of gleaming yellow Eastern Meadowlarks that rose and glided along in bright morning light.

Prime Hook Headquarters provided great looks at a juvenile Northern Goshawk, a soaring Red-shouldered Hawk, Brown Creepers, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Palm Warblers, Field Sparrows, and a covey of 24 Northern Bobwhite that flushed from a hedgerow. The impoundments along Broadkill Beach Road held astounding numbers of waterfowl including a conservative estimate of 5,000 Green-winged Teal that flushed in successive dark clouds as four Bald Eagles hunted for breakfast. The high winds kept waterfowl hunkered down, and even the Snow Geese did not seem to want to venture out to feed in the fields.

Rehoboth Bay held Horned Grebe, Common Loon, Surf Scoter, Brant, and Buffle-

head. The Indian River Inlet produced Common and Forster's Terns, Bonaparte's Gulls, Great Cormorant, Northern Gannet, Purple Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Red-throated Loon, Long-tailed Duck, and Boat-tailed Grackle. Just south of the Inlet, we found a flock of 60 Tree Swallows swarming a bayberry bush and gorging on the fruit. Silver Lake in Rehoboth held two Canvasbacks and 47 Ruddy Ducks. The feeders at Cape Henlopen gave us looks at Brown-headed and Red-breasted nuthatches, while Lighthouse Point yielded a couple of Red-breasted Mergansers.

Cartanza Road had several hundred Horned Larks and two Lapland Longspurs feeding in the plowed field. At Bombay Hook NWR we found American Avocets, Black-bellied Plover, and Tundra Swan. The pond beside the Aquatic Resource Education Center at Woodland Beach held three lingering Great Egrets.

No crowds, no hassles, no credit card maxing-out- but plenty of great birds. A better alternative to Black Friday!

**DELAWARE #5** – 2 Dec 07- 0500 to 1700 – Species Totals 114/114; (Team/Shared): Derek Stoner 114, Forrest Rowland 114. 212 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* White Clay Creek SP, Fort DuPont SP, Thousand Acre Marsh, Woodland Beach WMA, Bombay Hook NWR, Little Creek WMA, Prime Hook NWR, Cape Henlopen SP, Silver Lake, Indian River Inlet. *Species of note:* Great Egret (L), Ross's Goose(R), Laughing Gull(L), Northern Saw-whet Owl(R), Lapland Longspur(R). *Comments:* Their Big Day total won the top prize for the Delaware Birding Trail Week competition.

The launch of the brand-new Delaware Birding Trail Guide necessitated a celebration. Thus, the first week of December in Delaware was proclaimed "Delaware Birding Trail Week." Birders happily set forth to explore as many of the 27 designated birding hotspots as possible, in order to highlight the tremendous number of species found in the wide variety of habitats in the First State.

Two hours before dawn we began our adventure in White Clay Creek State Park with a Northern Saw-whet Owl responding to our whistled entreaties with a few "mews" of its own. With a great bird(an uncommon winter visitor here) on our list to begin the day, our hopes soared.

High winds at Ft. DuPont State Park made the dawn chorus rather subdued. Here we found our first of five Fox Sparrows for the day. At Thousand-acre Marsh we had one of our best finds of the day: 3 Great Egrets flying over the far side of the main ponds. Wood Ducks on Grier's Pond and the Peregrine Falcons under the Reedy Point Bridge made this location a nice stop. A brief stop at Woodland Beach gave us our only Forster's Tern of the day. Bombay Hook NWR produced lots of ducks, some American Avocets, and the usually impressive amount of Dunlin. Our one and only American Kestrel posed on the wire lines near the refuge. A Red-shouldered Hawk flew across our car, aiding our mounting representation of the state's diverse raptors. We stopped at Cartanza Road and were astonished to see upwards of 500 Horned Lark (at least), no less than 9 Snow Buntings, and had a great look at Lapland Longspur posing for a quick photo.

A visit to a large spruce plantation near Bombay Hook known for its roosting owls gave us looks at Barn and Long-eared owls, as well as another Saw-whet. Nearby Little Creek WMA had loads of waterfowl and produced our lone Pied-billed Grebe. At Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge we had close looks at a Wilson's Snipe and a Ross's Goose picked out of a massive Snow Goose flock made for a productive visit.

Cape Henlopen SP had Red-throated Loons galore, along with Black and Surf scoters. Silver Lake had a huge flock of Canvasbacks with two gorgeous drake Red-heads mixed in for variety. At Indian River Inlet with late afternoon light creeping in, expected waterbirds like Northern Gannet, Great Cormorant, and Ruddy Turnstone made their way onto our list. A big flock of Bonaparte's Gulls contained a surprise in the form of two lingering Laughing Gulls.

At 1700, darkness had set in and we were headed back north with hopes of scrounging up another owl species or two when an absolute deluge of rain spelled the end of our Big Day. Our final tally of 101,378 individual birds, 25 species of waterfowl and 12 species of raptors found while visiting 11 Delaware Birding Trail locations spoke to the tremendous number of birds to be found in Delaware, even in December!

**INDIANA #1** – 17 May 05- 0100 to 2100 – Species Totals 193/190; (Team/Shared): Jeff McCoy 191, John Cassady 192, Brendan Grube 191. 384 Miles by foot, 1 mile by car. *Visiting:* Willow Slough, Michigan City, Beverly Shores, Indiana Dunes SP, Furnessville, George Lake, Whiting Park, Forsythe Park, Chase Street wetlands, Grand Kankakee Marsh. *Species of note:* Eared Grebe (R), Redhead (L), Ring-necked Duck (L), Greater Scaup (L), Bald Eagle (R), Broad-winged Hawk (L), King Rail (R), Sandhill Crane (L), Upland Sandpiper (M), Stilt Sandpiper (L), Alder Flycatcher (E), Loggerhead Shrike (R), Red-breasted Nuthatch (L), Brown Creeper (L), Mourning Warbler (M), Canada Warbler (M), Summer Tanager (M), Rusty Blackbird (L). *Comments:* This es-

tablishes a new high Big Day record for Indiana. After breaking the Indiana Big Day record with 193 species, our day ended with the ghostly shape of an albino White-tailed Deer running alongside our vehicle in the dim twilight!

Conditions appeared to be favorable in northwestern Indiana this season for a Big Day attempt, so Brendan Grube, John Cassady, and I (Jeff McCoy) decided to make a run for last year's record of 189 species. We basically had a four day window from Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup>, so after extensive scouting and planning, we made the "go" call for Tuesday based on the forecasted light southeast winds (Monday looked as though it would be too cold and Wednesday too windy).

We camped at Bogus Island at The Nature Conservancy's Kankakee Sands, setting our alarm for 0030. It was a chilly start, with lows in the low 40s F, but the winds were light southeast at 5-10 mph, perfect for listening to night sounds. The day ended up being as forecasted: mostly sunny with winds increasing slightly in the afternoon before becoming calm in the early evening and with a high in the upper 60s F.

We started the count rather unceremoniously on Patrol Road at Willow Slough's J. C. Murphey Lake with the first bird of the day, Canada Goose. We eventually added Whip-poor-will, Barred Owl, Sora, Virginia Rail, and Marsh Wren. Moving to the campground area on the other side of the lake, we heard our only Yellow-billed Cuckoo of the day (same spot we heard it last year) and were lucky to hear a hooting Great Horned Owl, an extremely tough Big Day bird that we missed last year. We had a nest staked out in Beverly Shores, but a recent storm had destroyed it and killed the chicks. In the woods south of the campground, our only Black-billed Cuckoo of the day was calling and we picked up Eastern Screech-Owl.

Despite southeast winds, there were no nocturnal migrants heard overhead. Hiking out into South Unit K of Kankakee Sands by flashlight, we found an American Woodcock (flushed off the path in front of us) and heard Sedge Wren and Henslow's Sparrow, but were unable to hear our main target here, American Bittern. We drove up to the headquarters at Bogus Island to try listening there and heard a Grasshopper Sparrow sing, but still no bittern. We had only a couple minutes left before we had to leave for Michigan City Harbor to arrive there at our scheduled time when we finally heard the "thunder-pumping" of an American Bittern off to the north at 0328.

On the way to Michigan City, we heard the local Northern Mockingbird singing, saving us a detour later in the day to get it at Willow Slough. We quickly hiked out to the base of the jetty and found, among other species, a Black-crowned Night-Heron standing on the outer breakwater, a pair of Red-breasted Mergansers swimming off of Mt. Baldy, our dependable Peregrine Falcon on the power plant smoke stack, and Caspian Tern. Our best bird here, however, was Common Tern (15+), a species we record on very few Big Days, but we missed the more expected Forster's Tern.

Because of the cool temps, we did the Beverly Shores part of our route in reverse, starting at Kemil Road and ending at east Beverly Drive, where we hoped there would be more birds singing a little later in the morning, and it worked out well as we recorded most of the expected locals and 20 species of warblers. On Kemil Road, we found Cerulean Warbler in its usual spot. We stopped to listen, unsuccessfully, for a Least Bittern that had been reported at the intersection of Beverly Drive and instead found a very late bonus Rust Blackbird. Stopping at the north end of Kemil for the local Prairie Warbler (which we had right outside the car) we also recorded, almost simultaneously, an American Pipit and a bonus Purple Finch migrating overhead and a Red-breasted Nuthatch calling in the nearby pines! With spirits high, it was at this point that we began to realize that this might be one of those magical days where luck was on our side and everything fell into place. Our next stop was Lakeview, where we added Common Loon and heard our only Carolina Wren of the day singing. On Central Avenue, we stopped to check a couple thrushes hopping down an alley in the residential section and found we had Gray-cheeked, Swainson's, and Veery all together! On west Beverly Drive, we stopped for the resident Brown Creeper we had staked out and also had a singing Prothonotary Warbler. A little further up the road, we quickly recorded the staked-out territorial King Rail, another bonus bird, and had Hairy Woodpecker, Common Moorhen, and a Solitary Sandpiper that flew up from the marsh. At the nearby public parking area, the seed pile we had established there over the past week was covered in White-crowned Sparrows and after a few minutes of patient waiting, our only Lincoln's Sparrow of the day popped into view. On east Beverly Drive, we had a number of warblers, including a late Yellow-rumped and our only Blue-winged and Yellow-breasted Chat of the day, as well as the tough to find Blue-headed Vireo.

We really cleaned up at Beverly, but it put us half an hour behind schedule. At Indiana Dunes SP, we quickly found the expected Louisiana Waterthrush, Pileated Woodpecker, and Red-shouldered Hawk (on its nest) but had to work a bit to find our only Acadian Flycatcher of the day. While checking the Wilson footbridge area unsuccessfully for Olive-sided Flycatcher, we lucked into a completely unexpected Sandhill Crane flying over the distant marsh to the east. We spent quite a bit of time in the pine grove near the Green Tower searching for the territorial Pine Warbler, but it

was nowhere to be found. We had been hearing it singing here daily so it was a shock to miss it. We did, however, find a later Ruby-crowned Kinglet and our only Golden-winged Warbler of the day during the search. On our way out, we were nearing the gatehouse when we heard a familiar call. I slammed on the brakes and we jumped out and found the Pine Warbler singing several hundred yards from its normal location (The next day I found it in the same spot)! Further along the entrance road, Brendan pulled off one of his miracles of the day by spotting, just as he did last year, our only Broad-winged Hawk of the day soaring high overhead.

We had gambled and skipped Furnessville earlier since we had learned that Hooded Warblers had been heard singing at Indiana Dunes SP, but they must have been migrants since we completely missed them there. To we had to backtrack to Furnessville, where we found a singing Hooded Warbler quickly, but we were now nearly an hour behind schedule.

Our staked out Greater Scaup (an incredible bonus bird) was still present at the Port of Indiana, but the Lesser Scaup were gone.

At Miller Beach, we were hoping for the Ruddy Turnstone or Sanderlings that had been seen here recently or a Forster's Tern, but came up empty.

We had a very productive stop at George Lake Woodlot, where we filled in some holes in our warbler list (Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Wilson's, and Northern Parula) and found a much needed Philadelphia Vireo.

At Whiting Park, there were very few birds, but had our only Purple Martins and Palm Warbler of the day.

Nearly a bust with very few migrants present, we pulled out our only House Finch (!) of the day at Forsythe Park. The most remarkable species here was the one we somehow completely forgot to look for.

By skipping the Hammond Bird Sanctuary, we were now back on schedule, but we missed Yellow-headed Blackbird at the Interstate 90 Stateline Toll Both, where we normally see them flying into Indiana across the toll road from their breeding colony in Illinois. Just as we were preparing to leave, however, a pair of bonus Month Parakeets (our first ever for a Big Day) flew in to harass a Red-tailed Hawk atop one of the power line poles!

At our first shorebird stop of the day (Chase Street Wetlands), we added seven species, including Greater Yellowlegs, Short-billed Dowitcher, and a much needed Stilt Sandpiper. We also recorded our only Green-winged Teal and Hooded Merganser of the day.

We left the lakefront a full hour earlier than last year's record count and with 152 species, one more than last year. A check of the list revealed enough easy species yet to tally that we even dared to discuss the possibility of breaking the 200 barrier! It was at this point though that we realized a major Big Day blunder – we had forgotten to look for Mute Swan at Forsythe! If we missed this species, we would probably be too embarrassed to continue the count. Fortunately, Brendan remembered having seen one regularly in one of the borrow pits along the Interstate, so we still had hope.

Scouting had turned up a few birds at Grand Kankakee marsh, but it turned out to be a very productive stop. We had our only Cliff Swallows of the day at the bridge along the entrance road and our only Olive-sided and Alder flycatchers at the main wetland. Also here were Northern Shoveler, Common Nighthawk, Pectoral Sandpiper, Orchard Oriole, and our only Least Bittern and Belted Kingfisher of the day.

The Mute Swan was right where Brendan had predicted (southern Lake County along Interstate 65) and a few miles further south, Brendan pulled off his second miracle of the day. Traveling at 70 mph down the Interstate, he announced he had an interesting raptor soaring high overhead. I immediately pulled off to the shoulder and waited for a break in traffic to back up. We hopped out and eventually found the speck in the sky a mile up – a Cooper's Hawk!

We then made a major change in the route in driving straight down to Big Pine Creek Wetland rather than to the Willow Slough area. We had found that most of our southern specialties (Yellow-throated and Kentucky Warbler, and Summer Tanager) were on territory at Willow Slough, meaning that we would miss only Carolina Chickadee by skipping the long drive down to Big Pine Creek Woodland near West Lafayette. Therefore, we could head straight back up to Willow Slough from Big Pine Creek Wetland and save about two hours of driving and birding. The wetland, although mostly dried up, had held hundreds of shorebirds the previous day, including several geese, but unfortunately most had left and we added only Semipalmated Sandpiper.

We stopped at one of our Western Meadowlark sites in Benton County, arriving there about 1620, where we quickly found one and added Vesper and Savannah Sparrows. At the farm pond on County Road 100E just north of 300N, a single American Golden-Plover remained where there were hundreds the previous day, but one was all we needed.

During scouting, I was cruising some roads in the middle of nowhere along Highway 41 in southern Newton County when local birder Doug Gerbracht pulled up be-

side me. As we talked, he happened to mention that we were right next to one of his fields where the tile had broken. He took me around the corner on County Road 800S just east of 200W and there before me was a beautifully flooded field with dozens of shorebirds, including a Wilson's Phalarope. We returned here on county ay and, though the phalarope was gone, we did find our only White-rumped Sandpiper of the day.

On the south side of Willow Slough, we easily found the Yellow-throated Warbler on territory, but at this time of the day, the woods were virtually silent and we missed the Kentucky Warbler and Summer Tanager that had been singing nearby the previous two mornings. While we were searching, however, a Wild Turkey wandered out to the edge of the road as a consolation. Further down the road at the State line, our only White-eyed Vireo of the day was singing.

A scan of J. C. Murphey Lake from the south side near the campground turned up no new species and our outlook became a bit less bright. We decided to try from the north side of the lake along Patrol Road, though we knew the afternoon sun would make for terrible visibility. In route, we were driving by the entrance road to Birdhouse Point when Brendan noticed the gate was open! Our spirits soared as we cruised out to the end of the road since we knew we would have a commanding view of the entire north end of the lake with the late afternoon sun at our backs providing excellent lighting. What happened next was like a page from a Big Day birders' wildest fantasy. First we spotted three Ring-necked Ducks swimming well out on the lake, then two Redheads. We then happened to look up from our scopes long enough to see a pair of Wilson's Phalaropes walking along the shoreline in front of us! There was unfortunately no time to pause and actually enjoy the bird of the day, a bonus Eared Grebe out in the middle of the lake! Next, we found three Ruddy Ducks swimming out on the lake and a Ruddy Turnstone landed on one of the dirt mounds out in the middle. Finally, just as we were leaving, a first year Bald Eagle flew in. In a flash, our total had been vaulted from 175 to 182 species. The record was now clearly in sight.

Continuing up the west side of Willow Slough, we found Bell's Vireo (#183), but we were very conscious of the fact that we had somehow managed to miss Field Sparrow and Green Heron thus far. Cruising along County Road 100E toward Kankakee Sands, Brendan announced he had a small heron flying out over the tree line – Green Heron (#184), our only one of the day! At Kankakee Sands, Field Sparrow (#185) was automatic and Dickcissel (#186) quickly followed. At North Unit K, we searched in vain for Upland Sandpiper where I had a pair the previous morning (we learned later that they were much more reliable further west at County Road 400W), but we did add Bobolink (#187). ON County Road 500N, just east of Highway 41, we stopped for the Loggerhead Shrike, though I spent over an hour here the previous day without seeing it. Another flurry of new birds for the list quickly ensued. I first whistled up a Northern Bobwhite (#188) and John then spotted a distant Northern Harrier (#189) to tie the old record. As Brendan was scanning along following the harrier, he came across the Loggerhead Shrike (#190), a fitting record breaker since we had it staked out for nearly two months! Finally, we looked off to the side to find a male Blue Grosbeak (#191) perched on a lone weed stalk next to the road. Further up the road, we added Lark Sparrow (#192) at the Old Prairie Chicken Refuge, then drove east of the high school to the farm where the resident Eurasian Collared-Dove (#193) was easily found.

It was now 1930 and we faced a dilemma: do we make another attempt for Upland Sandpiper; walk out into the South Unit K Wetland; search for the nearby Lark Bunting that I had found during scouting the previous evening; or return to J. C. Murphey Lake to scan from Patrol Road? We decided against the bunting since it was a long shot – a wise decision since we later found it had not been relocated. We chose to try for Upland Sandpiper from the area west of the headquarters at Bogus Island where we again struck out (little did we know the Western Kingbird I had found three days earlier had recently been relocated at this very spot). We then made a quick hike out into South Unit K Wetland where we found few waders present. Next, we drove out onto Patrol Road where there was not enough light left to effectively scan the lake (I had our staked-out Northern Pintail here the next day). But this incredible day of birding became even more surreal as we glimpsed the ghostly shape of an albino deer running alongside of us in the dim twilight, a fitting end to the day, with a final tally of 193 species.

Our success can be attributed primarily to the abundance of Bonus Birds (those we don't normally expect to see on a Big Day). We had 12 this year as opposed to 8 on each of the previous two high counts, and most of this year's birds were staked out during scouting. We had only average numbers of waterfowl (13 species), shorebirds (17 species), and warblers (30 species) and there was not an active migration on count day (there were few birds in the lakefront parks). Given the large number of species that we recorded only one of during the count, one could argue that pure luck was also a major factor, but luck does favor the well-scouted route. Another key

factor was the flexibility of the route. Though we hit most the usual sites, we were able to get creative with the order to save time and maximize the number of species. We had only two birds that could possibly be considered Big Misses: Forster's Tern and Kentucky Warbler. We also had two last year. I counted 26 "Tough" birds possible on the list (those birds we have a reasonable expectation of finding, but record only 50% or less of the time). Of these, we found 16 of them, a very good total. The 10 that we missed were Northern Pintail, Lesser Scaup, Black-bellied Plover, Upland Sandpiper, Black Tern, Orange-crowned Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Canada Warbler, Summer Tanager, and Yellow-headed Blackbird. We had only three partials: Ruddy Turnstone, Bobolink, and Rusty Blackbird.

**INDIANA #2** – 1 Jan 07- 0430 to 1730 – Species Totals 80/80; (Team/Shared): David Ayer 80, Ben Fritz 80, Charles Mills 80. 142 Miles by car, 1 mile by foot. *Visiting:* Buckskin Bottoms, Upper Hills Cane Ridge, Lake Gibson, Saunders Woods, Owensville uplands, Lynnville Mine, Oakland City New Lake. *Species of note:* Laughing Gull (V,S), Loggerhead Shrike (R), Eurasian Collared-Dove (M).

This January Big Day broke the old mark of 73 by seven species. Birding occurred primarily in Gibson County, with short excursions into Warrick and Pike counties. Warrick County netted four species, Pike County added nothing, and everything else was found in Gibson County. There were five species of owls for the day. The day started with a Barred Owl and ended with a Barn Owl. Other highlights of the Big Day included an adult Laughing Gull at the Gibson County Power Plant, a Loggerhead Shrike seen between Cane Ridge and the dike that encircles the lake, a LeConte's Sparrow seen in the vicinity, a pair of Cackling Geese near the guard house, a Rough-legged Hawk near Cane Ridge, a flock of Lapland Longspurs seen in a field near the plant, and a Short-eared Owl seen south of Lynnville. The biggest near miss of the day was House Finch. It was the latter part of the afternoon before one was seen at somebody's feeder in Lynnville. The biggest miss was Eurasian Collared-Dove.

**INDIANA #3** – 20 Jan 07- 0254 to 1800 – Species Totals 76/75; (Team/Shared): Jim Hengeveld 75, Lee Sterrenburg 76. 364 Miles by car, 1 mile by foot. *Visiting:* Hoosier NF, northern Lawrence County, Goose Pond FWA, Lake Gibson, Saunders Woods, Hawthorn Mine, Sullivan Sewage Ponds, Greene-Sullivan State Forest, Lake Lemon. *Species of note:* Greater Scaup (R), Least Sandpiper (L), Laughing Gull (R,S), Northern Saw-whet Owl (S), Pileated Woodpecker (M), American Goldfinch (M).

The weather for our Big Day started with a temperature of 28° F and eventually got up to 36°. Winds were initially west around 10 mph, later switching to northwest and then north. It was partly cloudy most of the day and clear by later afternoon.

We started at Lee Sterrenburg's house in eastern Monroe County where a Barred Owl called for our first bird. We then drove to Hoosier NF where we heard Great Horned Owl and a staked out Northern Saw-whet Owl. A stop in Lawrence County added Eastern Screech-Owl but we failed to locate the Long-eared Owl that was found earlier on the Lake Monroe CBC. We drove to Hawthorn Mine to get Short-eared Owl on our list, and then we headed off south for Lake Gibson. As we crossed the White River on US Highway 41, a staggering flock that we estimated as 18,000 Snow Geese was flying up the river. Thirty four Greater White-fronted Geese were also flying with the Snow Geese. Snow Goose was one of our main target birds for the drive south. Sometimes you're lucky. Driving west along State Road 64/65 on the way to Lake Gibson we added Eurasian Collared-Dove, saving a trip into the town of Francisco to search for this species.

At Lake Gibson the surprise highlight was three Least Sandpipers. We also located the adult Laughing Gull that had been present since November. Least Sandpipers now sometimes linger into winter at this locale, but none had been found so far this winter. We also added Red-breasted Merganser, Double-crested Cormorant, Herring Gull, and several species of ducks at Gibson. We made a brief stop at the heavily flooded Saunders Woods. The roads to the Cane Ridge unit of Patoka NWR were flooded and we could not get there.

Driving back north we stopped at the Sullivan sewage ponds and picked up the expected Northern Shoveler and Bufflehead. The Dugger Unit of Greene-Sullivan SF added Rough-legged Hawk and a flock of American Tree Sparrows. The forested part of Greene-Sullivan SF added a few species, highlighted by a Ruby-crowned Kinglet at Reservoir #26. Goose Pond FWA was mostly flooded and added little. At the Beehunter Marsh section we also found high water that was mostly frozen. A walk for wintering marsh birds at Beehunter was not successful although we did add Savannah Sparrow.

We then made a fast drive to Lake Lemon, where our first stop along the south shore causeway netted Ring-necked Duck, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, and Ruddy Duck. At the Hengevelds' feeders at the east end of the lake we added Downy Woodpecker, White-throated Sparrow, and House Finch. It was too late in the day for

Pileated Woodpecker and American Goldfinch, two big misses on the day. Our record keeping was off and we thought at that point we had only tied the current record of 73 species.

Somewhat dispirited, we made a last ditch effort to break it by driving to Riddle Point at the west end of the Lake at sunset. To our delight we found a Hairy Woodpecker. We later caught our error and found we had actually broken the then published record by three species.

Winter weather is always tricky. This route could produce more than 80 species although one certainly cannot count on the rarities found this time. If Saunders Woods were not flooded or if we had spent more time in Greene-Sullivan SF we could potentially have added a few more land birds. The Duke Energy plant area at Lake Gibson remains the big variable, and it produced some jackpot birds this time.

**LOUISIANA #1** – 31 Jan 07- 0530 to 1800 – Species Totals 158/157; (Team/Shared): Steven W. Cardiff 157, Donna L. Dittmann 158. 267 Miles by car, one mile by foot. *Visiting:* St. Gabriel area, Baton Rouge, rice fields region, Lacassine NWR, Holmwood area, Oak Grove, Willow Island, Rutherford Beach, Cameron area. *Species of note:* Fulvous Whistling-Duck (R), American Wigeon (M), Eared Grebe (R,S), Clapper Rail (M), Virginia Rail (M), Willet (M), Ruddy Turnstone (M), Short-billed Dowitcher (M), Lesser Black-backed Gull (R), Buff-bellied Hummingbird (R,S), Marsh Wren (M), Yellow Warbler (R,S), LeConte's Sparrow (M), Painted Bunting (R), Dickcissel (R).

*Comments:* This establishes a new January Big Day record for Louisiana.

**LOUISIANA #2** – 27 Apr 07- 0000 to 2200 – Species Totals 204/200; (Team/Shared): Richard Gibbons 203, Andres Cuervo 202, James Maley 203, Brian Oshea 203. Miles by car not provided, 3 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Pinewoods, Rice Country, Cameron Parish. *Species of note:* Glaucous Gull (R). *Comments:* This was the first 200+ Big Day since Hurricane Rita, so we were happy to know it's still possible.

**MAINE** – 29 May 07- 0415 to 2300 – Species Totals 119/116; (Team/Shared): Robert Milardo 116, Judy K. Markowsky 117, Bruce Barker 118. 250 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Greater Bangor area, Mt. Desert Island. *Species of note:* American Coot (R), Mourning Warbler (R).

This was our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Big Day. A singing male Mourning Warbler was a first for us and represents the 196<sup>th</sup> species we have recorded on this route.

**MICHIGAN #1** – 1 Nov 07- 0500 to 1915 – Species Totals 100/100; (Team/Shared): Karl Overman 100, Sue Wright 100. 280 Miles by car, 1 mile by foot. *Visiting:* Morenci Sewage Lagoons, Pointe Mouillee, Lake Erie Metropark, Bell Isle, Lighthouse Park, Port Huron. *Species of note:* Semipalmated Plover (L).

**MICHIGAN #2** – 1 Dec 07- 0430 to 1700 – Species Totals 85/84; (Team/Shared): Tom Kemp 85, Steve Stockford 85, Chuck Anderson 84. 173 Miles by car, one mile by foot. *Visiting:* Onsted SGA, Lenawee, Jackson, and Monroe Counties, Lake Erie Metropark. *Species of note:* Golden Eagle (R), Dunlin (L). *Comments:* This represents a new December record for Michigan.

**MONTANA #1** – 24 Aug 07- 0700 to 2115 – Species Totals 132/132; (Team/Shared): Daniel Casey 132. 585 Miles by car, 1 mile by foot. *Visiting:* Riverfront Park in Billings, Itch-Kep-Pe Park in Columbus, Nye, Shields River - Cottonwood Res. in Wilsall, Deep Creek, Canyon Ferry WMA in Townsend, Helena, Nevada Creek Res., Blackfoot Waterfowl Production Area in Ovando, Lake Inez. *Species of note:* Bufflehead (M), Long-billed Dowitcher (M), California Gull (M), Cliff Swallow (M), Yellow-headed Blackbird (M).

This attempt began as a way to break up a long drive home from a meeting in eastern Montana. After starting with a good mix of riparian birds at Riverfront Park in Billings (Yellow-breasted Chat) and Itch-Kep-Pe Park in Columbus (Plumbeous Vireo), a trip up the Stillwater Valley to Nye added a nice mix of shrubland and montane birds (Golden Eagle, Loggerhead Shrike, Lewis's Woodpecker, Cooper's Hawk). As birds fell into place, I made a point to fill out the list, really not deciding it was a Big Day attempt until mid-day, and not knowing the previous August record (128). Cottonwood Reservoir near Wilsall (Northern Pintail) and Canyon Ferry Reservoir near Townsend (Semipalmated Plover, Forster's Tern) yielded a nice mix of waterfowl, waterbirds and shorebirds. The last bird of the day (#132) was a Pileated Woodpecker at Lake Inez in the Clearwater drainage.

**MONTANA #2** – 1 Sept 07- 0552 to 2000 – Species Totals 129/125; (Team/Shared): Ed Harper 126, John Parker 127, Robin Wolcott – 128. 198 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Gallatin Valley, Madison River, Ennis Lake, Bear Trap Canyon, Harrison Res., Headwaters SP, Hyalite Canyon. *Species of note:* Sage Thrasher (L). *Comments:*

Twenty one Ospreys seen during the day was a most encouraging number for this species. Near the end of the day, a Black Bear provided some excitement as we shared a mutual moment of surprise!

This Big Day was an attempt to break our old record of 118 species. We succeeded nicely in spite of warm temperatures and dry conditions. The entire route was run within Latilong 38 as a way of establishing some fixed base-line information about bird numbers and distribution at this time of year. In spite of the constraints of the latilong (a block defined by 1 degree of latitude and 1 degree of longitude), this count represents a new September record for Montana.

**MONTANA #3** – 7 Oct 07- 0715 to 1855 – Species Totals 98/94; (Team/Shared): Ed Harper 97, Bruce Hallet 96, John Parker 96, Robin Wolcott 96. 171 Miles by car, 5 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Bozeman, Cherry River FAS, Madison River, Ennis Lake, Harrison Res., Three Forks Ponds, Headwaters SP, Central Park Pond. *Species of note:* Sabine's Gull (R), Common Nighthawk (L), Wilson's Snipe (M), Double-crested Cormorant (M), Dark-eyed Junco (M).

This count was conducted as another latilong census. In doing so, yet another Montana record for the month of October was achieved. While we had hoped to better the 100 species mark, the day was still a success and gives us motivation to do better next October. Doing the count on a weekday might be a better option since we encountered numerous waterfowl hunters in areas we hoped to find birds.

**MONTANA #4** – 2 Nov 07- 0800 to 1800 – Species Totals 70/69; (Team/Shared): Ed Harper 69, John Parker 70, Robin Wolcott – 69. 204 Miles by car, 2.5 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Bozeman, Cherry River FAS, Dry Creek School Road, Manhattan, Three Forks, Willow Creek, Harrison Res., Ennis Lake. *Species of note:* White-winged Scoter (R), American White Pelican (L), Double-crested Cormorant (L,S), Osprey (L), Sandhill Crane (L), American Kestrel (M), Killdeer (M), Dark-eyed Junco (M), Red-winged Blackbird (M), Brewer's Blackbird (M).

Another Big Day confined to a latilong while at the same time establishing a new November record for Montana. The day began with a greeting of 500 Bohemian Waxwings, a good sign! Cold weather had ushered in some welcome northern species such as Northern Shrike and American Tree Sparrow, but many species had departed for the winter lending to our comment that in November every bird is a "rare" bird. A very late Osprey was the most surprising discovery of the day. The lack of many expected species was sobering to us, but we still had a marvelous day where turning up any new species was deemed a little victory. It will be fun in another year to see if we can break this record while staying in the Bozeman Latilong.

**NEW MEXICO #1** – 3 May 07- 0350 to 2000 – Species Totals 188/180; (Team/Shared): Jim Black 183, Bill West 184, Charlie Black 184, Bernie Foy 184. 306 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Ruidosa area, Bitter Lake NWR, Roswell, Brantley Res., Avalon Res., Carlsbad, Walnut Canyon, Rattlesnake Springs. *Species of note:* Gray Hawk (R).

We attempted this Big Day route in the reverse direction last year. A cold front one day before the trip this year may have reduced our total a bit. Southeast New Mexico offers great possibilities and some advantages over traditional Big Day routes. With increased scouting and knowledge, and if the weather cooperates, substantially higher totals are to be expected.

**NEW MEXICO #2** – 13 Oct 07- 0430 to 1830 – Species Totals 125/125; (Team/Shared): Jim Paton 125, Marcy Scott 125, Jimmy Zabriskie 125. 284 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Leasburg SP, Swan Pond, Percha Dam SP, Caballo Lake, Emory Pass, Kingston, Animas Creek, Border Patrol playa. *Species of note:* Red-necked Grebe (V), Sabine's Gull (R), Verdin (M), Phainopepla (M), Summer Tanager (L), Brewer's Sparrow (M), Lark Sparrow (L).

High winds hampered our efforts, especially at Percha Dam SP. This was a respectable total for October, but 140-150 species is certainly possible.

**NEW YORK** – 3 Nov 07- 0730 to 1530 - Species Totals 93/93; (Team/Shared): Ryan Douglas 93. 140 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Montezuma NWR, Myers Park, Stewart Park, Sapsucker Woods, Long Point SP. *Species of note:* Cedar Waxwing (M), White-rumped Sandpiper (L).

**OREGON #1** – 2 Jun 07- 0000 to 2340 – Species Totals 219/218; (Team/Shared): Tim Janzen 218, David Irons 219, John Sullivan 219, Noah Strycker 218. 642 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Yachats, Florence, Fern Ridge Res., Gilchrist, Cabin Lake, Fort Rock, Summer Lake. *Species of note:* Ancient Murrelet (L), Heermann's Gull (E), Great Egret (M).

We ran a Big Day between Eugene and Summer Lake and found 219 species, which breaks by three species the Oregon Big Day record of 216 species set 11 May 2002 by Tom Love, David Mandell, Craig Roberts, and me (Tim Janzen) on a route from Portland to Summer Lake. This total also shattered the ABA North American Big Day record for June by 17 species. The prior June record of 202 was set in Manitoba. Incredibly, the 11 May effort found 28 species that our team didn't find on 2 June. Eleven of those 28 species were shorebirds and seven were waterfowl.

We convened at Dave Irons' mother's house in Eugene on the evening of 1 June where Dave called in a Western Screech-Owl on cue at precisely midnight. We then added Barred Owl, Barn Owl, Yellow-breasted Chat, Sora, and Virginia Rail in the Eugene area before heading to an area west of Monroe, where we picked up a Northern Saw-whet Owl.

We then headed to the coast, where we began birding in the hills near Yachats at about 0500. We picked up the normal breeding birds in the area, including a Mountain Quail, a Red-breasted Sapsucker, and a Pileated Woodpecker. At 0645, we began an incredibly productive seawatch in Yachats. Within about 25 minutes, we were able to pick up all of the expected pelagic species, as well as two Ancient Murrelets, which only Dave Irons and John Sullivan saw. Other welcome additions included two Sooty Shearwaters, one Tufted Puffin, about three Cassin's Auklets, one Red-necked Phalarope, and a lone Heermann's Gull. We found large flocks of Whimbrel on nearly every stretch of open beach between Yachats and Florence, but otherwise migrant shorebirds were absent from the coast. We also found two Harlequin Ducks at Toketee-Klutchman Wayside. We left Florence with a respectable total of 107 species at about 0845.

By abandoning Highway 126 at Walton and taking side roads through the Coast Range into Veneta, we picked up quite a few passerine species that we had not found at the coast. A log pond near Noti provided our first of three Green Herons that we saw in the Eugene area. Several female Hooded Mergansers with broods of young were at the Veneta sewage ponds. However, our search for Red-shouldered Hawk and Black Phoebe were fruitless. We covered the area around the south and east sides of Fern Ridge Reservoir from Highway 126 north to the end of Royal Avenue, adding many of the species of waterfowl and marsh birds, including Blue-winged Teal, American Bittern, and Black-necked Stilt. Unfortunately, we missed Northern Pintail and Green-winged Teal, species that had been present several days earlier.

We then drove non-stop through Oakridge and up into the Cascades. We made mandatory stops for local specialties such as Black Swift and Lincoln's Sparrow, but we failed to hear Sooty Grouse booming at a site where they had been detected a day earlier. After finding a Black-backed Woodpecker near Odell Butte, we decided on the fly not to go north to Davis Lake. By continuing directly east to Highway 97, we saved quite a bit of time and didn't cost ourselves any species in the long run. Thundershowers aided our efforts near Gilchrist by cooling the temperatures in the area and increasing normally slow mid-afternoon bird activity. We found a large flock of Clark's Nutcrackers near Gilchrist, as well as several Northern Waterthrushes and a Red-naped Sapsucker. Heading east to Cabin Lake, we cleaned up many of the pine forest specialty birds such as White-headed and Lewis' woodpeckers, and Cassin's Finch.

A series of brief stops between Fort Rock and Paulina Marsh added several expected raptor and wetland species. We also picked up our only Say's Phoebe and Ash-throated Flycatcher of the day before heading to Summer Lake. We heard several Pinyon Jays near Picture Rock Pass and a short drive up Winter Ridge produced several Blue-gray Gnatcatchers. As we approached Summer Lake, the wind picked up significantly, making it more difficult to bird. We searched for the two Eurasian Collared-Doves that had been hanging around the Summer Lake Refuge Headquarters in recent weeks, but they were nowhere to be found. We also ran out to Dutchy Lake where Eared Grebe and Canvasback were the only new species detected among the swarms of waterfowl. At this point, light was fading fast. We stopped briefly at an overlook south of the Summer Lake Refuge Headquarters in hopes of spotting a Great Egret or a White-faced Ibis, but none were to be seen. We sped through the Summer Lake Tour Loop and found a Northern Shoveler and a Snowy Plover in the Link Unit area. Our last species before darkness fell was Green-winged Teal, several of which Dave spotted at Schoolhouse Lake.

We had expected to find Great Horned Owls at the old barn near Schoolhouse Lake where there had been a family group residing in recent weeks, but when we arrived there, we were quite surprised to find the barn full of people having a wedding reception. Needless to say, the Great Horned Owls were nowhere to be found in the area and since we felt quite out of place, we left as quickly as possible.

After darkness fell, John Sullivan announced that our species tally stood at 214. At this point, we still had five species that we could reasonably hope to get. We drove up near Winter Ridge and were able to hear a Common Poorwill calling in the dis-

tance. Near Christmas Valley, we spotted the dim silhouette of a large bird on a telephone pole, that we thought for sure was going to be a Great Horned Owl, but on closer inspection the bird turned out to be a Red-tailed Hawk, much to our disappointment. Fortunately, a large bird on a second telephone pole a few miles down the road was indeed a Great Horned Owl! We continued on to a location east of Christmas Valley where we saw a Burrowing Owl. We then backtracked about 40 miles to the Fremont National Forest south of Silver Lake where we readily found a Flammulated Owl. With well over an hour left before midnight, we drove west to the Klamath Forest NWR. Arriving there about 2332, we quickly heard a number of Yellow Rails calling, bringing us to 219 species for the day.

We lingered at the marsh for a few minutes listening to the cacophony of Soras and Virginia and Yellow Rails, as well as basking in the glow of a nearly full moon and the satisfaction of a record effort before driving back to Silver Lake. We kept ourselves awake on the dim hope of spotting a Great Gray Owl or some other species that might push our total to 220, but it was not to be.

Weather conditions for our Big Day were somewhat hotter than would have been optimal. However, I am not sure that we would have found very many more species if it had been cooler since we did very well on passerine species in general. Our only major miss was Great Egret, a species that I had seen in reasonably good numbers in the Summer Lake area four days previously and that we also found on 3 June along the Summer Lake Tour Loop Road. Among the other species we had at least some chance of finding but didn't were Horned and Red-necked grebes, Snowy Egret, Northern Pintail, Sooty Grouse, Cooper's Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Black Phoebe, Gray Jay, Canyon Wren, Townsend's Warbler, and many shorebirds species, including Western and Least sandpipers.

Dave Irons and I spent quite a bit of time scouting our Big Day route over the ten days prior to our Big Day. John Sullivan had also done a Big Day in the Summer Lake area by bike a week previously. I believe that our combined scouting efforts and our collective knowledge of this route were key ingredients of our successful Big Day. Many of the birds we found while scouting were on territory and thus they were readily relocated during our Big Day.

This was the first Oregon Big Day I have ever done in June. Our 219 species total suggests that June may be the optimal month to run Big Days in Oregon, rather than around mid-May, which is when I have done almost all of my Big Days in previous years. Having run a number of Big Day routes in Oregon previously, I have come to the conclusion that the Yachats to Summer Lake route is the best Big Day route in Oregon and I think that a Big Day total over 220 species on this route is definitely possible in the future.

**OREGON #2** – 16 Jun 07- 0000 to 2350 – Species Totals 206/200; (Team/Shared): David Irons 204, Tim Janzen 203, Noah Strycker 203, Jay Withgott 204. 552 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Yachats, Florence, Fern Ridge Res., Gilchrist, Cabin Lake, Fort Rock, Summer Lake. *Species of note:* Northern Pintail (L), Downy Woodpecker (M), Barrow's Goldeneye (M).

On 16 June, Tim Janzen, Jay Withgott, Noah Strycker and I did a Big Day starting in Eugene at midnight working our way to Yachats by dawn and then traveling east to Summer Lake before ending our effort at about 2350 in the company of a wonderfully cooperative Flammulated Owl.

We tallied 206 species, which is the second highest June effort in Oregon and also the second best June Big Day ever run on the North American continent behind the 219 species we ran over the same route two weeks earlier. From the very beginning, including a normally cooperative Western Screech-Owl that took nearly eight minutes to respond, the overarching theme of this day was struggle. It seemed that nearly every species took just a few extra moments or in some cases minutes to nail down. We really had to push the pace through the mid-afternoon and early evening in order to make it to the Summer Lake basin with sufficient light to get the species we needed there. In some cases we left species behind knowing full well even a couple more minutes might have turned up the bird.

After initially struggling to get a response from our old reliable Western Screech-Owl (species number one), we then had to wait several minutes before the Spencer Butte Barred Owl responded. When it did finally call it was only about 50 feet away. The rest of the pre-dawn hours went pretty much as planned. One real highlight was being able to get the Grasshopper Sparrow in the East Coyote Unit of Fern Ridge Wildlife Management Area (found a few weeks before by Daniel Farrar) to respond to an iPod recording at 0100. It was fairly breezy when we were there and somehow we picked up on the high thin buzzy song over the wind and traffic noise.

Our coastal seawatching was the lowlight of our struggles. Fairly expectable species like Black Oystercatcher and Red-throated Loon took persistent searching to

find. Inshore acid numbers were actually far above average with small rafts of Common Murres, Rhinoceros Auklets and Marbled Murrelets dotting the ocean. Yet despite these good numbers, diversity was poor as we missed Cassin's Auklet and Tufted Puffin, and we did not luck out with Ancient Murrelet as we had two weeks earlier. As we left the coast a little behind on our intended schedule, we were already down seven coastal-specialty species that we had seen during our 2 June effort.

During stops in the Coast Range and Veneta area we picked up most everything we expected, but in some cases it took more than one stop to get a targeted species. Our two stops at Fern Ridge produced all the easy stuff and a mild surprise with a lingering Northern Pintail. However, we negated that gain by missing the Bonaparte's Gulls which have been a fixture there in recent weeks. We closed out our valley struggles by not finding the Eurasian Collared-Doves at Alvadore and then dipping on Lesser Scaup at the Lane Community College Ponds. I have visited these ponds probably 50 to 60 times during all months of the year and I am pretty certain this is my first ever visit without seeing Lesser Scaup among the assembled ducks. We salvaged a small dose of optimism by seeing Red-shouldered Hawks at Fern Ridge and after some extra effort finally hearing the Red-eyed Vireo at Elijah Bristow State Park.

From this point on our day went somewhat more as planned. Aside from missing Barrow's Goldeneye at Gold Lake (which was dotted with fisherman), we found our other target species in eastern Lane County. The goldeneye miss was offset by hearing a Gray Jay at Gold Lake. It was somewhat breezy to downright windy as we traveled down the east slope of the Cascades and out onto the high desert plateau. However, we still did well among the pine forest specialties other than woodpeckers (another story). Getting a Townsend's Warbler at a recently discovered site on Odell Butte was a nice addition. We had missed this species during our 2 June effort. We had little trouble picking up all the desert passerines and raptors. Blasting through the Paulina Marsh area we filled in the blanks on the roster of expected marsh birds with Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Snipe, Willet, Northern Shoveler and Sandhill Crane. Finding three Canvasbacks right next to the road eliminated having to scour Dutchy Lake at dusk for the one or two that are usually there. We once again missed Canyon Wren (a mass extinction is suspected). Up on Winter Ridge we managed to get a response from a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at 2010

PM making us all wonder... just how late do these little guys stay up?

We did a quick scope of Dutchy Lake to get Eared Grebe and we also cleaned up our earlier miss on Lesser Scaup when Jay picked one out as the rest of us were about to close up our tripods to move on. Hoping against hope we checked the feeding station at the Summer Lake Refuge HQ for Eurasian Collared-doves without success. We had three sites where these birds have been seen regularly of late and found them absent at all three. As daylight transitioned to twilight and then to total darkness, we made a dash through the auto tour loop on the north end of Summer Lake Wildlife Management Area. We added Great Egret (somehow missed two weeks ago), Black-crowned Night-Heron, Snowy Plover and American Avocet. The pair of Green-winged Teal that we found on Schoolhouse Lake two weeks ago were still around, pushing our total to 204 species. As darkness fell we had four species we could still reasonably expect. The first, Common Poorwill, took several stops before we finally heard one call a couple times. It was cool and breezy and these factors combined with a later sunset forced us to use more time than expected to track down this species, which we finally did at nearly 2145. Our final three possibilities, Burrowing Owl, Flammulated Owl and Yellow Rail were at three widely spaced sites. Some quick mental gymnastics, not easy after nearly 22 hours of non-stop birding, convinced us that getting all three would be nearly impossible in the remaining time before midnight. So we chose to go after the Burrowing Owl first and then go for Flammulated Owl. Since we were staying at Summer Lake Lodge, it made little sense to do over 100 miles of extra driving just to get Yellow Rail at Klamath Forest NWR.

In retrospect this decision allowed us to have one of those birding experiences none of us will soon forget. We would like to forget the 80 plus mile round trip to the Burrowing Owl spot. Apparently Burrowing Owls don't like cool breezy nights any better than Poorwills. We did not find this owl. However, the next owl we saw more than made up for any of the obstacles and misses we endured during the day. We arrived at the Flammulated Owl spot about 2300. After a little taping we heard at least two Flams calling. Though they sounded like they were a long way off, Jay and Tim both suggested that these birds were closer than they sounded. Since we didn't have anything else to do, we decided to see if they might be coaxed into view. We taped a few more times and then realized that one of the birds was right near us just off the side of the road. Scrambling around below the trees we triangulated until we finally determined which tree the bird was in as it called away. We tried to find it using flashlights for a couple minutes before it flew out of the tree overhead. As it did so Tim picked the bird up in his "Q-beam." It actually fluttered in place above the road for several moments in the beam of light before landing in plain view. We watched it for

nearly 15 minutes as it sat there and called very softly. Jay had never seen a Flam before, despite hearing them many times. I had only seen one other Flamulated Owl and that was a face in nest hole more than 20 years ago. It was a perfect end to an imperfect day. The invigoration of this experience made the normally bleary-eyed drive back to Summer Lake seem like it took about five minutes. Our heads all hit pillows by 0030.

As invariably happens with these cross state marches, we had some fairly ugly misses. Woodpeckers in particular kicked our backsides as we missed Downy Woodpecker (ouch), Pileated Woodpecker (almost as ouch) and Red-naped Sapsucker (a solid stakeout). Had Noah not somewhat whimsically played an iPod recording of Lewis's Woodpecker at Cabin Lake Guard Station, we would have missed that species as well. As expected for this time of year, shorebirds offered little support to our total. We did find Greater Yellowlegs at Fern Ridge, but aside from Killdeer we saw no shorebirds along the outer coast.

On the surface doing Big Days must seem a bit insane to most of you. However, the planning and scouting for these efforts creates an opportunity to learn a lot about areas of the state that would go un-birded otherwise. Sharing these experiences with others who are just as passionate about exploring the state and its potential produces an intense and memorable experience without fail. By the following morning we are usually already talking about next time, next year and how better planning and execution might improve the route. Jay, Noah and Tim and the others who've shared these adventures in the past are all great company, and days/weekends spent with them are always good ones. Big Days produce the best kind of tired there is and a bed never feels better.

**PENNSYLVANIA #1** – 10 Feb 07- 0410 to 1815 – Species Totals 77/77; (Team/Shared): Billy Weber 77, Mike Tanis 77, Chuck Chalfant 77. 207 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Mill Grove Audubon, Ridley Creek SP, John Heinz NWR, FDR Park, Glen Foerd, Chambers Lake, Coatesville Res., Nottingham CP, Octoraro Res., Wakefield grasslands. *Species of note:* Cackling Goose (R), Killdeer (M), Short-eared Owl (M), Northern Rough-winged Swallow (L,S), Golden-crowned Kinglet (M), White-crowned Sparrow (M), Painted Bunting (M,S), Common Grackle (M).

The word of the day was "cold." The breeze, which we noted as frigid even before dawn, only strengthened during the day. It was a battle to retain warmth and enthusiasm while birding in many of the exposed non-wooded areas on Saturday (10 February). But Billy Weber, Chuck Chalfant, and I (Mark Tanis) weathered the weather, and managed what we thought was for us a pretty good Big Day result for February in southeastern PA. The cold made it tough, and the wind certainly cost us at least a couple of birds. I'm sure some of the little birds that we hoped to find in the afternoon didn't really want to be out in that brutal gale either.

We had plenty of memorable highlights that made for a great day. Our pre-dawn owling, which was really only aimed at Great Horned and Eastern Screech-owls, was so successful that we had both of them within 30 minutes of leaving my house. We spent the next hour and a half lamely trying for Barred and Northern Saw-whet locally with the expected result—nothing. After killing a little time getting coffee and snacks at Wawa, we tried for Killdeer at a local llama farm (the first of two llama farms of the day). Luck turned with a distant woodcock at Walnut Hill. From there it was on to our planned route starting at Mill Grove. Passerines were found and tallied at a nice rate, with only a few holdouts after Ridley State Park and Tinicum contributed their goodies. Shortly after visiting the Northeast Philadelphia Midge Breeding Center to see the Rough-winged Swallows, we discovered a lovely Horned Grebe in the nearby creek.

It isn't too often that you can visit a new site on a Big Day, be pleasantly surprised by what it delivers, and not be disappointed by what it costs you in time. On a prior trip from Frank Windfelder, we added Glen Foerd to our route, putting a crunch on our afternoon schedule. However, Glen Foerd contributed four new birds to our list, two of which we found only there. A puzzling peeping had me searching the sand bank of the river for shorebirds for a while, until Billy shocked us all by finding the Peregrine who was also enjoying the same river view of avian wildlife. We got lost for a little while trying to find the Pennsylvania Turnpike in order to head west to Chester and Lancaster counties. But it wasn't a serious blunder, and we were on our way to the farms and fields by 1315.

This was Chuck's first Big Day attempt, but he more than paid for his seat in the car by getting us to and through Chester and Lancaster counties. Chuck got us to some good spots where we pulled out the late Horned Lark, Belted Kingfisher, and Great Blue Heron. It is true that we added "only" 11 new birds for the entire afternoon, but that is actually our personal afternoon record for a winter Big Day. In a backhanded way, it was something of an achievement for us.

The CREP grasslands and nearby fields at sundown gave up Savannah Sparrow

and a Northern Harrier, but no American Pipits, no Eastern Meadowlarks, and unfortunately no Short-eared Owls. We were a little deflated by missing the owls and completely frozen out by the wind at the grasslands, so we opted not to spend another weary hour trying to find Barred Owl at Octoraro and called it a day.

**PENNSYLVANIA #2** – 31 Mar 07- 0400 to 2000 – Species Totals 101/100; (Team/Shared): Devich Farbotnik 101, Billy Weber 100. 153 Miles by car, 2.5 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Bucks County only: Quakertown Swamp, Nockamixon SP, Peace Valley Park, Penn Warner Club. *Species of note:* Red-necked Grebe (R,S), Virginia Rail (E), Iceland Gull (R), Glaucous Gull (R), "Nelson's" Gull (uncounted presumed Herring x Glaucous), Marsh Wren (R,S), Lark Sparrow (V,S).

**PENNSYLVANIA #3** – 28 Apr 07- 0400 to 2130 – Species Totals 132/129; (Team/Shared): Devich Farbotnik 132, Billy Weber 129. 159 Miles by car, 2.5 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Bucks County only: Quakertown Swamp, Nockamixon SP, Peace Valley Park, Penn Warner Club. *Species of note:* Cattle Egret (R), Common Moorhen (R,S), Iceland Gull (L), Caspian Tern (E).

**PENNSYLVANIA #4** – 6 May 07- 0430 to 2359 – Species Totals 128/128; (Team/Shared): Billy Weber 128. 149 Miles by car, 1.5 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Northampton County only - School Road, Minsi Lake, Smith Gap/Graver's Hill, Jacobsburg SP, Nazareth Quarry, Green Pond, Koch WR, Martins Creek PP&L/Tekening Hiking Trails, Portland. *Species of note:* Black Swan (uncounted exotic), Northern Bobwhite (R), Great Horned Owl (M), Marsh Wren (M).

This impromptu effort tied the long-standing Big Day record for Northampton County. A Great Horned Owl before midnight would have pushed it over the top.

**PENNSYLVANIA #5** – 2 Jun 07- 0130 to 2030 – Species Totals 133/132; (Team/Shared): Billy Weber 133, Mike Tanis 132. 338 Miles by car, 4.5 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Quakertown Swamp, Owl Creek, Wild Creek & Penn Forest, Long Pond, Tobyhanna SP, Promised Land SP, Delaware Water Gap NRA, Lehigh Valley, John Heinz NWR. *Species of note:* Least Bittern (R), Semipalmated Plover (L,S), Northern Saw-whet Owl (R,S), Golden-winged Warbler (R,S), Mourning Warbler (R,S).

On Saturday, 2 June, Billy Weber and I (Mike Tanis) enjoyed a thrilling Big Day of birding in eastern Pennsylvania. We sensed that things were going well when we started off with three Golden-winged Warblers at Hatchery Road in Carbon County. When we cleaned up the Pocono specialties at Tobyhanna State Park, we knew things were going well. But the cherry on the top was finding an unscouted Winter Wren at Promised Land SP, which eliminated a time-consuming heat-of-the-afternoon walk to the only other known Winter Wren on our route. Billy deserves virtually all of the credit for planning this route, which was based on a day of birding that he and his father did a few days prior. Originally I felt that Ricketts Glen SP would have been an excellent starting place for a Big Day in June. But this route was far more compact, and allowed for a lot more birding and less morning driving than a start from Luzerne County.

Although we still missed several breeding birds that we had no excuse missing, we won't dwell on the negatives after such a day! Highlights: - Our first two woodpeckers were Pileated and sapsucker; our fourth was Red-headed Woodpecker. Ultimately we squeaked out a couple of Downies at Tinicum at the end of the day, but lacking a Hairy, we failed to sweep the woodpeckers. We got: Four wrens, including Marsh and Winter wrens; both nuthatches, although for probably the first time in our lives we resorted in desperation to playing the iPod for White-breasted; all 26 warbler species that we expected, including Canada, Nashville, Yellow-rumped, chat, Mourning, Cerulean (seen well for once), and the aforementioned Golden-winged group (we didn't have a scouted Kentucky Warbler which was accordingly missed); and Vesper & Savannah sparrows, Horned Lark, Bobolink, Meadowlark. The only hold-out of the grassland species was Grasshopper Sparrow, which we missed at two scouted locations.

Eight flycatcher species boosted the list; Willow Flycatchers were heard at several locations from the north to the south of our route. For the first time ever in several nighttime visits over a few years, I heard a rail (Virginia) at Quakertown Swamp; we also had Least Bittern cooing in the marsh there. Screech-owl and Whip-poor-will were present at Owl Creek. Surely the highlight of our day was receiving a response from a saw-whet! Bald Eagle, Peregrine, kestrel, Broad-winged, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, and Osprey filled out a good list of birds of prey. It was disappointing and a little surprising to find no accipiters at all. We got five swallows, missing Purple Martin for a sweep.

The only serious gaps in our list were shorebirds (only three recorded: Killdeer, Semipalmated Plover, Spotted Sandpiper) and gulls (only Ring-billed). Our next June attempt will certainly have to include a boat trip to the Conejohela Flats on the

Susquehanna River. But it was just a fantastic day of birding, in which most of the “expected” birds showed up just where we were looking for them.

**PENNSYLVANIA #6** – 13 Oct 07- 0500 to 2030 – Species Totals 116/115; (Team/Shared): Devich Farbotnik 116, Billy Weber 115. 155 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. *Visiting*: Bucks County only: Quakertown Swamp, Haycock Mt., Nockamixon SP, Pine Run Dam, Core Creek Park, Rohm & Haas, Penn Warner Club. *Species of note*: Brant (R), Great Cormorant (E), Dunlin (R), Swainson’s Thrush (L).

On Saturday the 13th, having many things better but nothing more addictive to do, Devich Farbotnik and I decided to declare war on the October Pennsylvania Big Day record of 112. I had set that record less than a week earlier with Mike Tanis and Mike Schall, but these things, as I said, are addictive. Unless you’ve likewise been bitten, you have no idea how good it feels to scratch the itch. Oh, we’re used to mixed reactions from friends, family, and other functional human beings. Some at least admire us for taking a crack at the numbers; others think we’re simply taking crack. Dev and I did the math and decided we could better the mark with a route limited to Bucks County, thus minimizing travel time and making optimal use of the waning daylight. It was the first time I had done math since high school. I’m more of a Lehigh Valley guy myself, but it’s hard to argue with someone who’s recorded Pink-footed Goose, Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, Yellow, Black, Clapper, and King rails, Long-billed Curlew, Curlew Sandpiper, Northern Wheatear, and Sage Thrasher on his home turf, among a number of other incredibly unfair things. I think I found a Surf Scoter in my county once. None of the above species appear in this report.

We met at the Quakertown Giant at 0530 and hopped over to Quakertown Swamp, where we both heard Barred Owl and Sora (with some coaxing), but where I was forced to smile dumbly until my sorry ears could finally register the Virginia Rails that Devich had dutifully pointed out about half a dozen times. It would be a problem throughout the day. Sometimes I think Devich has bionic hearing. Either that or I’ve been listening to the Spice Girls too loudly. I cringe to imagine what I miss when I’m birding alone. In any case, the Black Rail tape got a robust response from a Virginia, and we managed to put names to a pipping Purple Finch, White-throated and Swamp sparrows, and one indignant snipe. All the Black Rails were strangely silent.

Dawn at Haycock Mountain north of Lake Nockamixon found us in the company of hunters. Only Dev had an orange vest, but I figured if I had to, I could take one for the team. Immediately and simultaneously, Pileated and Red-bellied woodpeckers and a Northern Flicker trumpeted in our vicinity. A hilly hike through the slowly lightening woods to the Red-headed clearing finished our woodpecker sweep (we had multiple Hairies and sapsuckers), and Dev’s whinnying iPod summoned forth from the thickets, to quote an old Pete Dunne account, “the world and everything in it”: phoebe; Black-capped Chickadees with the Carolinas; one braying Red-breasted Nuthatch; a creeper; Winter Wrens; both kinglets; Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, and Blackpoll warblers; juncos; and a genuine screech-owl. Overhead were robins, waxwings, grackles, a Sharpie, more Purple Finches; by a stream was a faintly calling Swainson’s Thrush that Dev logged as the day’s only unshared bird. No, I couldn’t hear the stupid thing. Nor could I hear Dev’s first few White-breasted Nuthatches—which concerned me, because nuthatches do not normally call at a frequency difficult to detect. Like I said, it would be a problem. At least Devich had opted to walk this time. Back in May, he’d decided to sprint down the mountain. Some valiant lumbering on my part had kept the gap between us to several hundred yards, but upon my arrival at our vehicle, I’d discovered I’d apparently exhaled a number of internal organs onto the forest floor in route. By contrast, I finished Saturday’s hike more-or-less whole. It is a blessing to proceed gradually.

We could hardly have enjoyed a better passerine showing. Next came lakes Towhee and Nockamixon. The former proved the kind of experience Big Day birders will cheerily sacrifice health and mental wellness for, producing pintail among seven species of waterfowl, two Red-shouldered Hawks, kingfisher, a drop-in pipit, and pumpkin-breasted Rusty Blackbirds with the Red-winged. So the latter was a happy affair, even if Lake Nox itself held merely a Lesser Black-back and a smattering of cormorants. We got a kick out of some Black Vultures sitting like ducks in the grass, and besides, we pegged Osprey and Savannah Sparrow and pished Blue-headed Vireo, Black-throated Green Warbler, and Chipping Sparrow out of a pine stand. On the way out, I crashed into the underbrush to pursue a pheasant Dev had seen disappear, and was rewarded not only with the sneaky release, but with a distinctly uncomfortable sensation around my nether quarters. An astonishing quantity of small, fuzzy burs had evidently developed a fondness for my pants.

Intending to move north to south and stay south, we felt a side-trip to kestrel country was in order. It produced Cooper’s Hawk, Brown-headed Cowbirds, and House Finches in addition to the kestrels, but we would tally three more kestrels down on the river in the evening. Of course, we couldn’t have known that. Just as we could-

n’t have known that as we bypassed Peace Valley Nature Park, four birds we would ultimately miss were hanging out there. (For the record: Blue-winged Teal, Bald Eagle, Bonaparte’s Gull, and Hermit Thrush, but it hurts to talk about ‘em.) What mattered was that when we reached Pine Run Dam, both the clock and the species count were in our favor. Plus, I made it through the overgrown zone without accumulating on my person a single pod from that most irritating of weeds, which Devich tells me is called tickseed trefoil, but which I like to call The Evil Triangle Plant. A Marsh Wren and several Palm Warblers in the bag, we were, with the Carpenters, on top of the world. Remind me to reference tougher music next time.

Now that I’d made up goldfinch (whew) at Pine Run, I could rest easy to help Devich pad our total with further acquisitions. We were down to almost no unsharreds and up to...I don’t know...something good; so we were, as I remember Dev noting, “sitting pretty.” The problem with any Big Day from October through March is the relatively low ceiling on possibilities. We patched a few holes in our list between the Churchville (shoveler) and Core Creek (Great Egret, shorebirds) areas, even nailing swift and rough-winged swallow along a road whose identity now escapes me—and then our transit was o’er and we had gained the South. And our rate of day birds per hour began to decrease alarmingly.

In Bristol, we made short work of Great Black-backed and Laughing gulls and Great Cormorant, but the turnpike bridge peregrines had chosen (in a shocking display of bad taste) to prefer New Jersey. We gave a private shorebird hotspot the once-over, getting six species (Killdeer, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary/Spotted/Least/Pectoral [15-20] sandpipers), snagging two juvenile Semipalmated Plovers on the twice-over, and iced things with Field Sparrow and two extra pipits. Competent auditory performance continued to elude me. On my cell phone on the walk out, I interpreted a family member’s query of “Have you eaten?” as “Why are you an emu?” Confusion ensued.

The peregrines were still slumming on our way into Tullytown. It was crunch time. We would obtain only Herring Gull at our first private stop, but we did find some comic relief in suburbia. A bunch of bored teens were staging pratfalls to entertain passing traffic. We knew they just wanted a reaction, but at the sight of a somewhat hefty boy barreling face-first into an overhanging sign and wiping out flat on his back, we couldn’t help but forgive them. “Deliberate or not,” we guffawed, “that must have hurt!” We chortled all the way to the duck ponds, which had ducks, fortunately. Ruddies...wigeon...Ring-neckeds...Gadwall on the very last muck-hole we checked...plus coot. But it took a merganser-less detour to Morrisville just to hear a blamed Fish Crow. We had 105, needed 113, and were distressingly option-deprived. On the edge of that despair that not even the sight of children injuring themselves can alleviate, we located our Dunlin when we needed it most, on the edge of a Falls Township park pond, with Killdeer. Me: “Are these all Killdeer?” Dev: “...No.” Back in business, baby!

Devich didn’t know I was about to strangle him when he decided we needed to “swing by” the turnpike bridge a third time, but the third really WAS a charm, since the lovably helmeted falcons had returned to their senses (Pennsylvania). Number 107. We had one site remaining—Dev’s private overgrown dredge-spoil impoundment of recent Connecticut Warbler reliability—and less than an hour of sun. Six songbirds? This late? Into the ragweed we hacked....

Number 108 was a House Wren that joined a Blackpoll in harassing Dev’s thirty-gigabyte screech-owl. Number 109 was Common Yellowthroat. I should mention that between those successes, Dev got me on a catbird and a flock of turkeys, both of which I’d missed earlier. Wild Turkey was new for him on the property. It was ugly, pushing through weeds the shape and height of young larch trees, but when we reached the low patch that had hosted a Nelson’s Sharp-tailed Sparrow the weekend prior, we flushed a number of (#110) meadowlarks—and they were new for Dev on the property!

Out of light and desperate for three more species, we hauled ourselves up on the dirt berm of the impoundment and attacked the rank growth below with all manner of noise. “Lincoln’s Sparrow!” shouted Devich. “Get the heck out! ... Got it!” “White-crowned Sparrow, singing!” “Get the HECK out! ... GOT IT!” “IIIIIIINDIGOOO BUU-UNTIING—SINGING!” It had no business singing, but it was.

It was past sunset, and we were past 112. Black-crowned Night-Heron, heard and vaguely seen, was number 114. No sooner had it flapped into obscurity than a Great Horned Owl sounded off in fine baritone. We became greedy. Number 116, the dainty silhouette of a Brant in a line of Canadas, went down smooth. We would try a wild card or two, but as it turned out, that goose was our swan song. Well, a fine finish it had been! A great, taut conclusion to a day most deserving of a detailed account. We celebrated at Chick-fil-A, where I knew God was on our side, because that accursed cow mascot was nowhere to be seen. [addendum: The next morning, Devich found Surf Scoter, Common Merganser, Common Loon, Common Moorhen, Hermit

Thrush, and Ovenbird—all which we'd missed—in the areas we'd "covered" the night before. Upon learning this at the high school where I teach, I dealt with my frustration constructively by sending a random student to the principal's office.]

**PENNSYLVANIA #7** – 11 Nov 07- 0400 to 1715 – Species Totals 104/102; (Team/Shared): Devich Farbotnik 104, Billy Weber 102. 148 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. *Visiting*: Bucks County only: Quakertown Swamp, Haycock Mt., Nockamixon SP, Peace Valley Park, Penn Warner Club. *Species of note*: Brant (R,S), Cackling Goose (R), Osprey (L), Vesper Sparrow (R), Pine Siskin (R).

**TEXAS** - 27 Feb 06–0250 to 1100 - Species Totals 181/176 (Team/Shared): Dick Peake 181, Ron Weeks 177, Brad Lirette 177. 487 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. *Visiting*: Choke Canyon SP, Victoria area, Bay City area, San Bernard NWR, Quintana, San Luis Pass. *Species of Note*: Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (S), Black Phoebe (S), Green-tailed Towhee (S), Seaside Sparrow (M), Wild Turkey (M), Stilt Sandpiper (E).

*Comments*: This is a new national record for February, breaking the old Texas and California records by six species!

Our day began full of promise as we had taken the entire previous day to work on last minute scouting in the Choke Canyon SP area. That effort had yielded us several species that we were hoping would again be present and singing after a winter hiatus. These included such goodies as White-tipped Dove, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher and Cassin's Sparrow along with others such as Black Phoebe and Green Kingfisher which were known were wintering in the area.

We started out on a moonlight light leaving the hotel at 0300 headed out for some owling. By 0500, we had Great Horned, Barred, Barn and Eastern-Screech. Nightjars proved to be tougher but we managed to hear many Common Paurques and one Common Poorwill calling before sunrise. Dawn found us at Choke Canyon's Calliham unit where tallied the expected Rio Grande specialties such as Green Jay, Great Kiskadee, Long-billed Thrasher and Olive Sparrow. The pleasant surprise was the water bird diversity which included Least and Eared grebes, all three teal, Northern Pintail, many Canvasback, Ring-necked Duck, and Bufflehead. A quick trip to get the Black Phoebe by the swimming pool was fortuitous as we also got a pair of Audubon's Orioles and our only Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks of the year.

We moved west to cover the nearby brush country and the South Shore unit of the park. Here our luck was not quite so good. The White-tipped Dove and Cassin's Sparrow were not singing like the day before. The scouted Ash-throated Flycatcher and Spotted Towhee also made no appearance. However, we did end up filling out most of our sparrow list including Green-tailed Towhee. Greater Roadrunner, Golden-crowned Kinglet, the aforementioned Black-tailed Gnatcatcher and House Finch were also welcome additions. We left the Three Rivers area at 1000 hours with an unprecedented 106 species already in the bag.

The species came more slowly as we moved out of the brush country into the coastal prairie. Our next major stop was Brent Ortego's residence near Victoria where 160 individual hummers of nine species had been banded over the past four months. We could only find three in our brief run through the yard, but also added singing Field Sparrow and several others to the list. Then it was off to two properties owned by David & Marilyn Sitz near Markham. In the Markham area, we added three species of geese, Wood Duck, White-tailed Hawk and Bald Eagle. We now had 135 species – still well below the national record for February of 175 shared by Texas and California – and we found ourselves 25 minutes behind schedule.

Then it was off to San Bernard NWR to work on shorebirds. A drought-lowered moist soil unit paid off handsomely with American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Dunlin and some early Stilt Sandpipers. A nearby field was filled with LeConte's Sparrows. Then, it was time to hit the beach at Quintana. We found a Lesser Black-backed Gull among the Ring-billeds and Herrings along with some Red-breasted Mergansers in the old river channel. We left Quintana with 161 species and having put ourselves back on schedule. After some stops in Freeport, we headed to Surfside where we added Yellow-crowned Night-Heron and Long-billed Curlew to push our total to 167 with just 30 minutes left before sunset.

We drove some more beach as we headed down Follet's Island adding Black-bellied and Piping Plovers (but no Snowy) and Ruddy Turnstone. We swung over to the bay side and quickly added White-tailed Kite, Redhead, Reddish Egret, Marbled Godwit and American Oystercatcher – the latter two pushed up by the high tides. We had tied the record but the sun was nearly down! We raced for San Luis Pass hoping to get there with some useful light remaining. In that last light, we broke the record with Black Skimmer and later added Clapper Rail, Sedge Wren and Caspian Tern. After adding a King Rail, we finished our day by banding Yellow Rails (species #181) with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist, Jennifer Wilson, back at San Bernard NWR. A perfect ending to a record-setting Big Day!

**VERMONT #1** – 14 Jan 07 – 0606 to 1210 – Species Totals 58/58; (Team/Shared): Allan Strong 58, Ted Murin 58, Dick Park 58. 246 Miles by car, 1 mile by foot. *Visiting*: Champlain Valley from Colchester to Dead Creek WMA. *Species of note*: Canvasback (R), Winter Wren (L), Gray Catbird (L,S).

This is a new January Big Day record for Vermont, but more importantly, it bests the current February record, returning order to the avian world.

**VERMONT #2** – 28 May 07- 0000 to 2254 – Species Totals 154/154; (Team/Shared): Dan Strong 154, Peter Jones 154, Allan Strong 154, Scott Schwenk 154. 463 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting*: Mud Creek WMA, Silvio Conte NWR, Wenlock WMA, Champlain Valley from Missisquoi NWR to Dead Creek WMA. *Species of note*: Snow Goose (L), Redhead (R,L), Greater Scaup (L), Fish Crow (R), Eastern Phoebe (M), Clay-colored Sparrow (R).

We were a little disappointed with our total, but were hindered by light rain throughout much of the morning which slowed our progress in the Northeast Kingdom. Few shorebirds in the Champlain Valley also hurt our final tally.

**VERMONT #3** - 10 Nov 07 – 0600 to 1730 – Species Totals 60/58; (Team/Shared): Allan Strong 60, Ted Murin 60, Dick Park 58. 97 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting*: Champlain Valley from Crown Point to Burlington. *Species of Note*: None.

This breaks the old November record of zero, which wasn't hard to do, although we didn't find much of interest. Bohemian Waxwings, Common Redpolls, and Northern Shrike were nice harbingers of things to come later in the winter.

**WEST VIRGINIA** – 22 May 06- 0117 to 2048 – Species Totals 146/139; (Team/Shared): John Blomberg 142, Gary Felton 144, Matt Orsie 145, John Tharp 144. 481 Miles by car, 0.75 mile by foot. *Visiting*: Hardy County, Canaan Valley NWR, Blackwater Falls SP, Randolph County, Jackson's Mill Historic area, Stonewall Jackson SP/WMA, Mason County, Greenbottom WMA, Robert C. Byrd Locks & Dam, McClintic WMA. *Species of note*: Little Blue Heron (R), Snow Goose (S,R,L), Least Flycatcher (S), American Pipit (R,L), Prairie Warbler (S), Prothonotary Warbler (S), Yellow-breasted Chat (S), Henslow's Sparrow (R).

This establishes a new all-time record Big Day for West Virginia. This was the third consecutive Big Bird Day following approximately the same route for John Blomberg and John Tharp II. The 2004 team which was comprised of the two John's along with Dick Esker and John Benedetti found 137 species. The 2005 team consisted of the two John's with Matt Orsie located 132 species.

Based on the birds found in 2004 and 2005 it was decided to try a later date in 2006 in hopes of catching some of the later flycatcher species and shorebirds. This would hopefully be a good trade off for White-throated / White-crowned sparrows and a possible early warbler migrant or two. The date of 18 May was chosen. Scouting was done for a couple of days focusing on the Canaan Valley NWR / Blackwater Falls SP locations in the high elevations of Tucker County. Scouting was also done for a day along the high elevations of Randolph county (Fire Road 91 "Stuart Parkway") and Jackson's Mill / Stonewall Jackson SP/WMA. May was unseasonably cool and as the Big Bird Day approached a pesky upper level low pressure system moved in around May 14th and spent a week providing rain, snow and wind to the high country. We had to delay the attempt until the weather conditions improved and it looked like 22 May would be our next chance. The low exited on 21 May with an accompanying cold front. After the frontal passage we wondered if there would be a push of birds that had been "bottled up" for a week? Would the winds die down enough to hear owls and others? Would this end up being too late? These questions would be answered one by one as the day progressed.

We started from Canaan Valley at 0117 with the temperature hovering around 35° F. Unique to this Big Day was that our first target birds were Snow and Canada Geese. We felt this was somewhat historical since, as far as we were aware, no team in the annals of Big Days had targeted geese as the first birds of the day. As most Big-Dayers know, normal fare for first-of-the-day target birds are owls, nightjars, rails, or passerines that call at night. A juvenile Snow Goose had appeared ten days prior on a pond which was on our proposed route and we had been praying to the Big Day gods that it would stick. For a Snow Goose (rare in WV anyway) to show up late in the year, appear on a pond which is practically on the doorstep of the starting point and to stick for ten days, was way more positive karma than anyone could hope to ask for. Bird #1 Snow Goose, #2 Canada Goose.

Bolstered by this unprecedented start we headed off to Hardy County with the intent of finding owls. The primary focus was Bam Owl which breeds in the valley around Moorefield. The first stop was a couple miles north of Moorefield near a large bam where the owls have been known to roost. Within 10 minutes we saw a Bam Owl flying above the car. Pressing on we proceeded to pick up Great Horned Owl,

Eastern Screech-Owl and Whip-poor-will. It was time to head back towards Canaan Valley. On the way we stopped at a local 24 hour convenience store in Petersburg to grab some snacks and caffeine. A pair of Common Nighthawks were heard and then seen flying overhead. Apparently they were looking for some snacks also. Driving over Dolly Sods was pretty uneventful but we managed to pick up a couple more calling species. We arrived back in Canaan Valley NWR around 0415, stopped at the Freeland Road, parking lot and immediately heard an American Woodcock. Pressing on we drove up Fire Road 80 and stopped and called for Barred Owl. Two owls responded off in the distance and a third flew into the trees above us. We proceeded to the end of Fire Road 80 where a Northern Saw-whet owl had been reported off and on since late April. We missed this bird and headed back down the gravel road to open fields in the general vicinity where we had found the Barred Owls. It was now around 0515 and the star lit sky was beginning to give way to twilight. The wind had been a friend thus far blowing around 5 mph but picked up slightly as dawn approached. At the fields we heard a couple of sparrows ushering in the twilight with the highlight being Henslow's. The next stop was at the Freeland road observation deck in the NWR. Beavers had recently built a dam so that water surrounded three quarters of the platform. Birds located here were Wilson's Snipe (flushed), Bobolink calling from the nearby fields and Swamp Sparrows.

It was time to head over to Blackwater Falls SP in search of pre sunrise thrushes. We arrived just before 0600 and heard Veery, Hermit and Wood Thrushes calling. John II and I (Matt) sat in the front of the car and kept the windows opened as we drove along slow. We detected the chattering of teeth from John and Gary in the back seat as the temperature now hit the lowest of the day at 31 degrees. It would remain cold and chilly until we left the mountain region around noon. We birded the areas just south of the state park lodge, the lodge itself, the stables and Pendleton Lake before leaving. Notables from here were: Winter Wren, both Kinglets, warblers such as Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Canada, and Pine Siskin. We missed a pretty sure bet of Northern Waterthrush. This was to be the only location to look for that species. Next on the agenda was Canaan Valley including portions of the NWR to look for more grassland species. This is one of the best locations in West Virginia for sparrows. Gary alerted us to the only House Finch of the day on one of the first stops. At the Bead Tract of the NWR we found Field, Vesper, Savannah and Grasshopper sparrows along with Eastern Meadowlarks. We continued birding the valley picking up one species here, another one there until we finally left Canaan Valley / Tucker county at 0920 which put us slightly behind schedule. The good news was we had found 80 species by then. This was six more than the previous year and eleven more than the 2004 effort. Encouraged, we headed for some of the high mountain roads in Randolph County.

Now came executive decision number one. "Stuart Parkway" (Fire Road 91) is a ten mile, high elevation gravel road with accesses from West Virginia State Route 33. This is located between Harman and Elkins. It would take almost an hour to bird the entire length. Since we had already found most of the high mountain species it was decided to drive to the west end (closest to Elkins) and back track 2.7 miles for some lower elevation warblers we still needed. This saved a lot of time and worked out great. In the process some of the birds we added were: Hairy Woodpecker, Least Flycatcher, and warblers such as Golden-winged, Cerulean, and Black-and-white. Next stop on the list was Jackson's Mill Historic area in Lewis County. In recent years Summer Tanager have been making a comeback of sorts so it was worth the 45 minute effort (including drive time) to locate the uncommon bird before heading over to Stonewall Jackson SP/WMA. Along the way we found our only Northern Rough-winged Swallows flying over the West Fork river in Weston. It was now 1215 and things were beginning to slow down. We still needed to find successional growth species and hawks. Up to this point we only had Red-tailed Hawk and American Kestrel representing the raptors. Ospreys nest at Stonewall Jackson so we had that to look forward to. Temperatures had now climbed into the upper 60's. John B and Gary were finally thawing out. We searched a long time before finally locating a Blue-winged Warbler on a hillside across the road from where the two John's had staked out a Yellow-breasted Chat the day before. Both orioles (Baltimore and Orchard) were easily found further on. Then luck came our way has more raptors were seen with the first being a Cooper's Hawk. This was followed by Broad-winged Hawk and our second Red-tailed Hawk of the day. A lone Wild Turkey was spotted standing in an open grassy pathway. At 1445 we left Stonewall Jackson SP/WMA after birding over two hours there. We were now 45 minutes behind schedule but the birding had been steady and very productive with 30 additional species being found. Our tally was now at 122. We were cautiously optimistic but still knew we would need an exceptional shorebird count at locations along the Ohio River if we were going to crack the current state record of 140 species. Some of the notables found at Stonewall Jackson SP/WMA: Spotted Sandpiper, Acadian Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, White-eyed

Vireo, and warblers such as Prairie, American Redstart, Worm-eating, Ovenbird, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky, Hooded.

We drove down I-79 for the 2.5 hours drive through Charleston into Cabell and Mason counties. Along the way (Braxton County) we spied a small grouping of vultures flying over one of the ridges. After pulling safely over, we found that two of the seven were Black Vultures. We had pretty much given up hope for them as they are tougher to find the further west in the state you go. It became clear that we needed to make up for the extra time spent at Stonewall Jackson SP/WMA. Executive decision number two was made to bypass Winfield Locks & Dam and concentrate solely on the Ohio River locations. We did however make a couple of quick stops along the ridges of Mason county to find Pine Warbler and Red-headed Woodpeckers where those species are known to hang out. We arrived at Greenbottom WMA in Cabell County around 1800. This would have to be a fast and hopefully productive stop. The temperature was now registering the high of the day at 72 degrees. After nothing was found at the south end of the WMA we headed up route 2 to the Jenkins's house (birth place of Confederate Civil War General, Albert Gallatin Jenkins). Gary found one of the better birds of the day when he spotted a Little Blue Heron standing in the marsh. Young John's ears alerted us to a singing Warbling Vireo on the SW side of the house in the trees. Before we left Greenbottom WMA we added Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Blue-winged Teal, Greater Yellowlegs and Herring Gull. We now totaled 132 species with Robert C. Byrd Locks & Dam still to go. We were getting excited knowing a good variety of shorebirds could put us over the top. We piled into the car and headed north on route 2 chanting "shorebirds... swallows... shorebirds... swallows".

It was getting late so we immediately went to the impoundments at the Locks where swallows were flying around. Driving slowly along the narrow roads we spotted the first new bird, a Lesser Yellowlegs (133) followed by Cliff (134) and Bank (135) swallows. Many Spotted Sandpipers were also seen. Next up was Least Sandpiper (136). Then we hit the mother lode at two impoundments that were empty except for a few small ponds in each. Dozens of shorebirds filled the dry areas, feeding and then flying to another spot and repeating the cycle over again. "Please stay", we were thinking to ourselves, "until we've had a chance to scan you". We started scanning the birds. Most were Least Sandpipers. It was very important that all of us see any new bird to avoid and more "unshared" species. Little did we know at that time that we could not afford to have anymore unshared species as we were at the 95% threshold already. A Semipalmated Sandpiper (137) was located. Three White-rumped Sandpipers (138) and a Dunlin (139) were mixed in the group. At the next dry impoundment more Least Sandpipers and what was initially thought to be a Horned Lark were seen standing on the edge. But no! This was not a Horned Lark but a rare and very late American Pipit (140). We had tied the record! No more new birds were discovered so we went over to the Locks and walked up to the "lagoon" area. Hmm...no new birds here. Oh Man.... how can there not be another new species? Then, overhead, a Purple Martin called (141). We looked up to see a pair flying together and calling. We did it!! We didn't find anything else except more Herring Gulls so we went over to the Park area where the ball fields and "Goose Ponds" are. Nothing new was in the field but Horned Larks (142) were being heard. After scanning we located a pair near a trash can on the parking lot. Suddenly one or two of the guys yelled "Gulls on the river!". We looked up to see our first pair of Ring-billed Gulls (143) flying upriver towards the Locks. Also coming up quickly from behind the gulls was a single Double-crested Cormorant (144).

We knew we had a couple more stops pending before daylight was gone so we left Robert C. Byrd Locks & Dam...all smiles. We still wanted to get up to McClintic WMA north of Point Pleasant to locate the Prothonotary Warblers reported there the previous week. Heading north on route 2 we stopped for 10 minutes at the Crab Creek backwater. In the backwater we saw a Great Egret (145). OK.... off to McClintic. We arrived at 2030. The sun was about to set. We managed to find a pair of Prothonotary Warblers (146) in the area that both John's had scouted the previous week. As it turned out these were the last new birds for the day. After unsuccessful attempts for Black-billed Cuckoo we called it quits at 2048. Exhausted, we had a bite to eat in Ripley before heading up to Parkersburg for a well deserved nights sleep.

In summary, the gamble to go late had paid off. Shorebirds were at the Locks and they more then made up for any migrant species we may have seen earlier in the month. We did miss the common Rails (Sora and Virginia Rail had been at Greenbottom WMA a couple of weeks before but the water levels were lowered and they left), Alder Flycatcher (had not arrived yet), Blue Grosbeak and Belted Kingfisher. A "Perfect Storm" BBD would yield over 150 species. With 146 species and a new West Virginia state record.... we're not complaining.

The team wishes to thank and acknowledge our birding friends who contributed information in the days prior to the BBD.

## 2007 INTERNATIONAL BIG DAYS

**ANTIGUA** – 10 Apr 07- 0530 to 1630 – Species Totals 66/66; (Team/Shared): Simon Buckingham 66. 75 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* McKinnons Salt Pond, Jolly Harbour Pools, Wallings Forest, Christian Valley, Darkwood Salt Pond, Potworks dam, North Sound, St. Johns. *Species of note:* Masked Duck (R), Sora (R), Purple Gallinule (V), Lesser Black-backed Gull (R).

**BAHRAIN** – 5 Feb 07- 0700 to 1900 – Species Totals 81/81; a(Team/Shared): Andrew Shell 81, Howard King 81. 100 Kilometers by car, 2 kilometers by foot. *Visiting:* none provided. *Species of note:* Hypocolius, Socotra Cormorant.

**CAMBODIA** – 3 Jan 07- 0500 to 1930 – Species Totals 69/69; (Team/Shared): Bernard F. Master 69, Susan Myers 69. 5 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Tmat Boey and various Trapiengs in area. *Species of note:* Giant Ibis, White-shouldered Ibis, White-rumped Falconet.

**DOMINICA** – 29 Jun 07- 0600 to 1300 – Species Totals 47/45; (Team/Shared): Stephen J. Dinsmore 47, James J. Dinsmore 45, Gordon Brown 46, George Brown 45, Jay Gilliam 46. 60 Miles by car, one mile by foot. *Visiting:* Morning Bird Hotel, Morne Diablotin NP, Layou River Valley, Marigot. *Species of note:* Bare-eyed Thrush (R).

**ECUADOR** – 10 Feb 07- 0600 to 1800 – Species Totals 173/173; (Team/Shared): Bernard F. Master 173, Forrest Rowland 173. 60 Kilometers by car, 5 kilometers by foot. *Visiting:* Rio Silanche Reserve, Milpe Reserve (both Mindo Cloud Forest Foundation Reserves). *Species of note:* Choco Woodpecker (R), Griscom's Antwren (R), Esmeralda's Antbird (R), Traill's Flycatcher (R), Bronze-green Euphonia (R).

This Big Day was accomplished in 10 hours entirely in two Mindo Cloud Forest Reserves in northwestern Ecuador. Two extensively large flocks made up 130 species of the final 173.

**ITALY** – 26 May 05- 0700 to 1830 – Species Totals 87/84; (Team/Shared): Wilhelm Firas 87, Wolfgang Lindinger 84, Walter Smetana 85, Heinrich Walter 84. 95 Kilome-

ters by car, 10 kilometers by foot. *Visiting:* Delta of the River Po - Valli di Comacchio, Valle Mandriole, Punta Albarete, Argine Reno. *Species of note:* Pygmy Cormorant (new breeder).

A four day visit to the Comacchio area at the delta of the river Po gave us insight in different habitats: the vast lagoons (valli), salt pans (salinas), lowland forest and lakes with reed beds. On our big day with a party of five began with a visit of the Adriatic coasts with its tourist centers and continued right

**NEW CALEDONIA** – 24 Nov 07- 0600 to 1800 – Species Totals 40/40; (Team/Shared): Bernard F. Master 40. 7 Miles by car, one mile by foot. *Visiting:* Noumea, Riviere Bleu Reserve. *Species of note:* Cloven-feathered Dove (R).

**SOLOMON ISLANDS** – 13 Nov 07- 0700 to 1800 – Species Totals 49/49; (Team/Shared): Bernard F. Master 49. 2 Miles by foot, 5 miles by ship. *Visiting:* Gizo, Kolombangara. *Species of note:* Heinroth's Shearwater (M), Gizo White-eye (M).

**SRI LANKA** – 1 Jan 06 – 0600 to 1800 – Species Totals 95/95; (Team/Shared): Bernard F. Master 95, Susan Myers 95. 15 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Yala Village Beach Hotel grounds, Tissa, Yala NP, Debrawiss. *Species of note:* none.

**ST. LUCIA** – 1 July 07- 0600 to 1830 – Species Totals 53/51; (Team/Shared): Stephen J. Dinsmore 54, James J. Dinsmore 53, Gordon Brown 53, George Brown 52, Jay Gilliam 53. 86 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. *Visiting:* Fox Grove Inn, Vieux Fort, Boriel's Pond, Cape Moule a Chique, Dennery area. *Species of note:* Greater Shearwater (V), Forest Thrush (R). Comments: Our actual total was 53, but to conform to the 95% rule, we removed one species from our list.

**TURKEY** – 12 Jun 07- 0500 to 2100 – Species Totals 113/108; (Team/Shared): Soner Bekir 113, Byron Swift 109, Matt Swift 108. 150 Kilometers by car, 2 kilometers by foot. *Visiting:* Nallihan Bird Paradise, Mihallizik, Sivrihisar, Intervillage, Lake Kalin. *Species of note:* Slender-billed Gull, Masked Shrike, White-tailed Eagle.

## ABA CHAMPION TOP TEN BIG DAYS

### CANADIAN PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES

#### EXPLANATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

2007 Target Total = the average of the three highest Big Day totals for each state up to the end of 2006. Totals have been adjusted in some cases to reflect the 95% rule.

#### ALBERTA (2007 Target Total=168.0)

178	31-May-01	T. Palath, P. Pratt, T. Hince
163	24-May-96	B.Elder, B.Maybank, B.Storms
163	30-May-04	Y.Attia, J.Allair, P.Bulman
160	29-May-00	B.Carroll, B.Ritchie, T.Thormin
156	27-May-98	B.Carroll, B.Ritchie, P.Marklevitz, T.Thormin
156	28-May-99	B.Carroll, B.Ritchie, P.Marklevitz
155	27-May-95	R.Carroll, B.Ritchie, R.Chabayeo
153	5-Jun-06	B. Elder, P. Cram, M. Spitzer
153	24-May-98	B.Elder, B.Storms, C.Sialfa
150	1-Jun-95	B.Elder, M.Harrison, B.Storms
150	15-Jul-96	T.R.Kemp, M.Kemp
150	29-May-99	B.Elder, C.Sialfa

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA (2007 Target Total=187.7)

196	23-May-95	R.Cannings, B.Maybank, A.Jaramillo, T.Plath
187	23-May-98	T.Plath, K.McPherson, M.Force, D.Tyson
180	12-May-97	T.Plath, M.Bentley
177	21-May-86	R.Cannings, M.Force
174	21-May-95	R.Cannings, B.Maybank, A.Jaramillo, G.Sirk (Okanagan)
168	19-May-96	R.Cannings, Russell Cannings, B.Maybank, F.Cooke, M.Force (Okanagan)
167	22-May-88	R.Cannings, M.Gebauer, X.Lambin, L.Rockwell (Okanagan)
164	26-May-85	R.Cannings, R.Howie, M.Collins (Okanagan)
163	29-Apr-02	T. Plath, J. Osterhold, D. Knopp

163 21-May-00 R.Cannings, A.Bezener, L.Neish, R.Foxall

#### MANITOBA (2007 Target Total=206.3) \*New 212 record uses 2005 TT

212	2-Jun-06	T.Hince, P.Pratt
205	23-May-87	R.F.Koes, G.Grieff, R.Tkachuk, G.Holland
202	1-Jun-04	K.DeSmet, A. Walley
198	21-May-88	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, P.Taylor, G.Holland
198	21-May-94	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, G.Grieff, P.Taylor
198	28-May-94	R.F.Koes, G.Grieff, P.Taylor, R.Tkachuk
198	24-May-07	C.Cuthbert, K.De Smet, R.Koes, P.Taylor
196	27-May-89	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, G.Grieff, P.Taylor
195	23-May-98	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, G.Grieff, P.Taylor
194	29-May-82	D.Fast, P.Taylor, H.Lane, D.Hatch

#### NEW BRUNSWICK (2007 Target Total=132.6)

138	18-Jun-06	T.Hince, P.Pratt
136	6-Jun-92	J.Edsall, D.Gibson, D.Miles
124	1-Jun-91	J.Edsall, P.Pearce, D.Gibson
100	26-Aug-89	B.Maybank, B.Dalzell
82	18-May-05	T.Woodrow
75	13-Sep-98	T.Woodrow, F.Woodrow (single-island)
20	20-Mar-01	T.Woodrow, F.Woodrow

#### NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (2007 Target Total=92.3)

117	11-Jul-07	T.Hince, P.Pratt
106	2-Sep-84	B.Maybank, R.Burrows, M.Masse

93	17-Jul-98	C.Stevens II, L.Bateman, J.Briffett, M.Vassallo
78	20-May-84	B.Maybank, R.Burrows
78	13-Oct-85	B.Maybank, B.Mactavish
76	7-Jun-86	B.Maybank
64	29-Aug-87	B.Maybank
38	26-Mar-95	B.Maybank, B.Mactavish
31	26-Apr-97	B.Maybank, B.Mactavish, K.Knowles, J.Wells, P.Linegar
27	28-Feb-87	B.Maybank, B.Mactavish, J.Wells
27	18-Dec-85	B.Maybank, M.Dufresne

**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES (2007 Target Total=55.0)**

64	18-Jun-98	P.Hamel, M.Hearne
54	18-Jun-95	R.Tymstra, D.Parsons
47	24-Jun-93	R.Tymstra, D.Parsons
41	18-Aug-91	D.M.Forsythe, C.Kersting
40	19-Aug-90	D.M.Forsythe, J.Lasley
40	13 Aug 98	E.Burroughs, C.Burroughs
37	18-Aug-88	R.M.Odear, C.Bender, P.Landry

**NOVA SCOTIA (2007 Target Total=143.0)**

145	21-Jun-99	S.Yetman, C.Stevens Jr.
144	10-Jun-98	F.Lavender, C.Stevens Jr, S.Yetman
140	5-Jun-94	B.Maybank, F.Lavender, J.Waldron
137	6-Jun-92	B.Maybank, F.Lavender, J.Taylor, K.McKenna
137	5-Jun-93	B.Maybank, F.Lavender, J.Taylor, K.McKenna, C.Brennan
135	1-Jun-91	B.Maybank, F.Lavender, J.Taylor, B.Sarty
131	26-May-89	B.Maybank, F.Lavender
123	29-May-93	B.Maybank, R.Foxall
121	9-Jun-71	E.L.Mills, D.W.Finch
118	31-May-98	B.Maybank, M.Newell, W.Atwood

**NUNAVUT**

36	10-Jul-04	R.Knapton, C.Sidler, C.Kersting, T.Molter
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**ONTARIO (2007 Target Total=193.3)**

200	29-May-99	T.Hince, P.D.Pratt
194	24-May-94	T.Hince, P.D.Pratt
186	11-May-79	A.Wormington, T.Hince, D.Sunderland, M.Runtz
182	18-May-96	M.Bain, R.Tozer, D.Barry (Durham region)
181	28-May-94	M.Bain, D.Beadle, B.Henshaw (Durham region)
180	17-May-80	A.Wormington, P.D.Pratt, D.McCorquodale
180	22-May-93	R.Tozer, D.Tozer, D.Barry, M.Carney (Durham region)
180	3-Jun-97	T.Hince, P.Pratt
178	20-May-95	M.Bain, D.Barry, M.Carney, P.Holder (Durham region)
173	22-May-77	R.Curry, A.Wormington, B.Wylie

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND (2007 Target Total=122.0)**

141	6-Jun-04	R.Cooke, E.Marcum, D.Seeler
128	28-May-94	R.Cooke, D.G.Stewart, B.Maybank
121	29-May-93	R.Cooke, D.McAskill, B.Bowerbank, R.Palmer, L.Thomas, J.Watts
117	31-May-92	R.Cooke, D.McAskill, R.Palmer, S.Stevenson
109	3-Jun-95	R.Cooke, D.G.Stewart, G.MacDonald
108	2-Sep-91	R.Cooke, D.McAskill, B.Bowerbank
104	21-Aug-85	B.Maybank, S.Tingley
100	13-Aug-84	P.Lehman, J.Langham
69	19-Nov-05	D.McAskill, D.Seeler
63	3-Dec-06	D.Seeler, D.Oakley

**QUÉBEC (2007 Target Total=163.3)**

166	2-Jun-03	T.Hince, P.Pratt
163	28-May-05	D.Bird, R.Titman, M.Gahbauer, R.Gregson, M.Dennis
161	27-May-02	O.Barden, N.Barden
158	28-May-88	G.Gendron, D.Ruest
155	22-May-93	J.Lachance, A.Côté, G.Lemelin
155	3-Jun-94	G.Gendron, D.Ruest
153	28-May-84	G.Gendron, Y.Gauthier, T.Rheinallt
152	31-May-85	G.Gendron, D.Ruest, Y.Gauthier, T.Rheinallt
151	27-May-86	C.Vachon, G.Bouchard, L.Messely
147	1-Jun-95	G.Gendron, D.Ruest

**SASKATCHEWAN (2007 Target Total=166.7)**

174	21-May-88	R.Kreba, B.Ewart, T.Herriot, C.Pollock
165	23-May-87	R.Kreba, B.Ewart, T.Herriot, L.Bjorklund
161	5-Aug-99	P.A.Stutesman
160	1-Jun-86	C.Escott, H.Lane
141	26-May-95	T.Herriot, B.Maybank
78	4-Sep-90	B.Korol, G.Wapple
70	21-Jul-96	T.R.Kemp

**YUKON TERRITORIES (2007 Target Total=73.3)**

82	23-Jun-92	T.Greenfield
71	25-Jun-99	P.Hamel, M.Hearne
67	22-Aug-92	R.Cannings
59	10-Aug-94	R.H.Johnson, S.Johnson
50	7-Jul-91	B.Maybank
40	26-May-92	R.H.Johnson, S.Johnson, L.Johnson
38	14-Jun-02	D.C.Chaffin
33	14-Aug-98	E.Burroughs, C.Burroughs
29	12-May-97	D.C.Chaffin

## U.S. STATES

**EXPLANATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING TABLE:**

2007 Target Total = the average of the three highest Big Day totals for each state up to the end of 2006. Totals have been adjusted in some cases to reflect the 95% rule..

**ALABAMA (2007 Target Total=186.0)**

202	24-Apr-83	M.Brown, C.D.Cooley
181	23-Apr-91	G.D.Jackson, R.A.Duncan, W.J.Bremser, P.Tetlow
175	16-Apr-88	R.A.Duncan, P.Tetlow, J.Pfeiffer, K.Wright
172	16-Apr-84	M.Brown, C.D.Cooley, J.Tucker
171	22-Apr-83	G.D.Jackson, L.Peavler
170	24-Apr-85	G.D.Jackson, J.V.Peavy Jr.
167	30-Apr-83	G.D.Jackson, J.V.Peavy Jr.
166	13-Apr-02	L.Gardella, S.Reed, G.Beaton, S.McConnell
166	16-Apr-82	M.Brown, C.D.Cooley
166	17-Apr-87	G.D.Jackson, J.V.Peavy Jr., C.D.Cooley

**ALASKA (2007 Target Total=110.6)**

119	19-May-07	B.Meiklejohn, S.Hauser, R.Ambrose
117	20-May-06	S.Hauser, C.Mannix, R.Ambrose, D.Porter
110	16-May-98	G.J.Tans, R.Foley, D.F.Delap
105	18-May-96	G.J.Tans, R.Foley, H.H.S.Scott, J.Scott
104	22-May-94	G.J.Tans, R.Foley, H.H.S.Scott

104	22-May-93	G.J.Tans, R.Foley, H.H.S.Scott
102	19-May-95	G.J.Tans, R.Foley, H.H.S.Scott
98	24-May-86	D.F.Delap, S.Wulkowicz
98	27-May-87	M.R.Dalton, M.C.T.Smith
98	21-May-97	G.J.Tans, R.Foley, D.F.Delap

**Using commercial aircraft (2007 Target Total=117.3)**

125	4-Jun-93	M.R.Dalton, M.C.T.Smith
119	6-Jun-92	M.R.Dalton, M.C.T.Smith
108	23-May-89	M.R.Dalton, M.C.T.Smith

**ARIZONA (2007 Target Total=196.6)**

199	25-Aug-98	J.Withgott, J.Taylor, C.Gordon, G.Rosenberg
196	18-Aug-92	D.Stejskal, K.Kaufman, G.Rosenberg, C.Benesh, W.Russell
196	6-May-07	S.Schuetz, K.Kamper
195	18-Aug-89	J.Coons, D.Stejskal, G.Rosenberg, J.Kingery
191	27-Apr-84	K.Kaufman, D.Stejskal
190	30-Apr-77	D.Stotz, T.Parker, S.Parker

189	25-Apr-07	S.Schuette, P.Hosner, J.Yerger	172	14-May-93	N.J.Pulcinella, A.N.Guarente, J.Lockyer, J.Ginaven
185	28-Apr-90	S.Ganley, R.Ferguson, D.Stejskal, B.Norton	172	14-May-96	A.P.Ednie, K.Zeitler, B.Lego, E.Short
182	26-Apr-98	J.Withgott, J.Taylor, C.Gordon	166	10-May-93	A.P.Ednie, C.Campbell, J.Swertinski, J.White
178	4-May-97	J.Withgott, J.Taylor, F.Gallo			
<b>ARKANSAS (2007 Target Total=164.3)</b>			<b>WASHINGTON, D.C. (2007 Target Total=125.7)</b>		
168	9-May-99	K.Nichols, B.Verser	134	6-May-89	D.Czaplak, G.Gough, O.Janni, M.Jennison
165	8-May-99	J.R.Wilson, M.Greene	126	2-May-81	D.Czaplak, F.Hayes, B.Hayes
164	4-May-07	K.Nichols, D.Baxter	117	3-May-86	D.Czaplak, G.Gough, M.O'Brien
160	9-May-92	G.Knight, S.Knight, J.R.Wilson	116	5-May-84	D.Czaplak
154	9-May-98	J.R.Wilson, M.Greene	113	9-May-98	B.Swift, O.Janni, M.Parr
153	8-May-99	K.Nichols, L.Nichols	113	1-May-93	O.Janni, M.O'Brien, G.Gough
150	2-May-92	G.Knight, J.R.Wilson	112	2-May-92	O.Janni, G.Gough
145	11-May-97	K.Nichols, B.Verser	111	9-May-87	D.Czaplak
142	5-May-92	J.Withgott	106	7-May-88	D.Czaplak, G.Gough
140	30-Apr-88	M.Davis, M.F.Hodges Jr, T.Schiefer	102	4-May-85	D.Czaplak
			102	19-May-84	D.Czaplak
<b>CALIFORNIA (2007 Target Total=221.0)</b>			<b>FLORIDA (2007 Target Total=174.7)</b>		
231	29-Apr-78	J.Dunn, K.Garrett, V.Remsen, R.Webster	179	23-Apr-83	R.Carter, S.Howell, C.Nesmith, G.Graves
217	01-May-05	D.Easterla, T.Easterla, S.Glover, G.Hazard, J.Sterling (single-county)	173	15-Apr-04	D.Simpson
215	24-Apr-05	J.Feestra, T.McGrath, M.San Miguel, M.San Miguel, Jr.	172	18-Apr-04	D.Simpson
209	26-Apr-86	J.Parmeter, B.Keelan	171	10-Apr-71	J.Edscorn, D.Edscorn, P.J.Fellers
208	1-May-99	J.Sterling, S.Terrill, S.Rovell (single-county)	171	26-Apr-04	D.Simpson
207	25-Apr-76	J.Dunn, K.Garrett, P.Lehman, V.Remsen	170	3-May-04	D.Simpson
202	1-May-82	D.Roberson, B.D.Parmeter, L.C.Binford, J.Parmeter, K.Van Vuren (single county)	167	21-Apr-87	R.A.Duncan, S.Duncan, L.Duncan, B.Bremser
201	26-Apr-74	V.Remsen, L.C.Binford, K.Barrett, R.Stallcup	166	14-Apr-73	J.B.Edscorn, P.J.Fellers, H.B.Herbert, K.Edscorn
201	2-May-75	L.C.Binford, R.Stallcup, B.D.Parmeter, G.L.Bolander	166	13-Apr-04	D.Simpson
200	25-Apr-78	J.Dunn, V.Remsen (single-county)	165	2-May-03	D.Simpson
200	26-Apr-97	S.Rovell, S.Terrill, T.Easterla, J.Sterling (single-county)	<b>GEORGIA (2007 Target Total=188.7)</b>		
Using Chartered Aircraft/Helicopters			193	27-Apr-04	G.Beaton, J.Flynn, M.F.Hodges, E.Horn
243	28-Apr-84	D.Roberson, L.C.Binford, J.Langham, B.D.Parmeter, J.Parmeter	190	25-Apr-02	G.Beaton, J.Flynn, T.Egan
235	30-Apr-83	D.Roberson, L.C.Binford, J.Langham, B.D.Parmeter, J.Parmeter, R.T.Peterson	183	24-Apr-96	P.W.Sykes Jr., G.Beaton, M.F.Hodges Jr., B.Blakeslee
<b>COLORADO (2007 Target Total=199.3)</b>			181	27-Apr-95	P.W.Sykes Jr., C.Perry, M.F.Hodges Jr.
204	4-May-00	C.L.Wood, T.Leukering, L.Semo	176	27-Apr-94	P.W.Sykes Jr., C.Perry, M.F.Hodges Jr.
202	13-May-04	B.Percival, C.L.Wood, T.Leukering	174	1-May-03	G.Beaton, J.Flynn, E.Horn
192	10-May-97	S.J.Dinsmore, R.L.Bunn	174	1-May-97	G.Beaton, J.Flynn, M.F.Hodges Jr.
177	15-May-94	J.Kellner, C.L.Wood	173	30-Apr-93	P.W.Sykes Jr., C.Perry, T.Leukering
176	1-Aug-98	C.L.Wood, B.K.Percival, T.Leukering	169	27-Apr-91	P.W.Sykes Jr., B.Dunning, C.Perry, P.Yaukey
174	13-May-89	W.Leitner, L.Halsey, C.Haynie, D.Nelson	168	24-Apr-00	G.Beaton, J.Flynn, P.W.Sykes Jr.
174	6-May-95	P.Sandstrom-Smith, C.Smith	<b>HAWAII (2007 Target Total=58.7)</b>		
171	10-May-97	P.Sandstrom-Smith, C.Smith	O'ahu only		
166	13-May-95	R.L.Bunn, T.Leukering, B.Maynard	59	27-Oct-85	A.Engilis, A.Newman, B.Pitman, L.Spear
165	15-May-88	J.Cairo, B.Prather, J.Prather	59	26-Sept-04	R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
<b>CONNECTICUT (2007 Target Total=177.0)</b>			58	26-Sep-93	R.Pyle, A.Engilis, T.McCafferty
186	20-May-94	E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr, C.Wood, G.Hanisek	57	20-Nov-04	K.Pohlman
173	19-May-92	E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr, D.Tripp	56	2-Feb-00	K.Pohlman
172	18-May-90	E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr	56	11-Dec-05	R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
170	19-May-89	E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr, C.Wood	54	26-Sep-81	R.Pyle, P.Donaldson, M.Ord, C.Vinsonhaler
170	17-May-92	S.Mayo, T.McGrath, K.Murphy, D.Rosgen	53	1-Feb-04	R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
168	21-May-93	E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr, C.Wood	52	23-Oct-76	R.Pyle, M.Ord, R.Shallenberger
167	22-May-88	F.W.Mantlik, F.Purnell, T.Baptist	52	16-Sep-79	R.Pyle, M.Ord
164	18-May-86	S.Kellogg, C.Withgott, Jay Withgott, James Withgott	52	24-Jan-04	R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
163	18-May-90	F.W.Mantlik, T.Baptist, L.Bevier	52	28-Mar-04	R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
162	18-May-86	M.Szantyr, D.Varza, B.Devine, F.W.Mantlik	52	20-Nov-05	P.Taylor, R.Stephens, J.Morris, J.Guadoso, J.Cooper
<b>DELAWARE (2007 Target Total=194.7)</b>			Maui only		
199	15-May-97	D.Cutler, J.Armstead, C.Perry, H.Brokaw	43	12-Jan-05	K.Pohlman
195	13-May-97	A.P.Ednie, J.White, E.Short, J.Gordon	Multi-island, using commercial aircraft		
190	16-May-95	D.Cutler, J.Armstead, C.Perry, H.Brokaw	81	19-Oct-87	R.Pyle, R.David, A.Engilis
188	11-May-95	N.J.Pulcinella, A.N.Guarente, J.Lockyer, J.Ginaven	<b>IDAHO (2007 Target Total=178.3)</b>		
186	11-May-95	A.P.Ednie, J.White, K.Zeitler, M.Barnhill	183	6-Jun-06	B.Kemp, R.Weeks, S.Gross
186	14-May-81	C.Perry, H.Armistead, D.B&H Cutler, J.Gordon	176	11-Jun-99	J.F.Gatchet, T.Edwards
182	15-May-96	N.J.Pulcinella, A.N.Guarente, J.Lockyer, J.Ginaven	176	9-June-05	B.Kemp, R.Weeks, S.Gross
			173	12-Jun-99	C.H.Trost, J.Paruk, M.Collar
			169	12-Jun-98	C.H.Trost, W.E.Harper
			168	6-Jun-98	C.H.Trost, J.Paruk, R.Clark, M.Collar
			167	17-Jun-97	J.F.Gatchet, D.L.Edwards
			158	18-Jun-91	W.E.Harper, C.H.Trost, S.M.Scott, J.Tinsley

158 21-Jun-97 W.E.Harper, C.H.Trost, S.M.Scott  
 157 7-Jun-98 J.F.Gatchet, D.Lawrence  
 157 9-Jun-01 M. Collar, D. Mead, J. Moodie, C. Trost

**ILLINOIS (2007 Target Total=178.3)**  
 184 17-May-97 J.O'Brien, R.Hughes, D.Mandell, S.Bailey, S.Mlodinow, S.Patti  
 176 16-May-05 V.Kleen, A.Frohlich, K.McKay  
 175 9-May-94 V.M.Kleen, H.D.Bohlen, R.Randall, M.Ward, P.M.Ward  
 175 5-May-97 K.A.McMullen, D.Kassebaum, J.DeNeal  
 175 13-May-97 V.M.Kleen, H.D.Bohlen, M.Ward, P.M.Ward, T.Ward  
 174 11-May-96 J.O'Brien, R.Hughes, D.Mandell, S.Bailey, S.Mlodinow, S.Patti  
 173 6-May-86 R.Q.Randall, H.D.Bohlen, P.M.Ward, R.Mudd  
 173 13-May-95 J.O'Brien, R.Hughes, D.Mandell, S.Patti  
 172 10-May-89 V.M.Kleen, H.D.Bohlen, P.M.Ward, S.Robinson  
 171 16-May-98 J.O'Brien, R.Hughes, D.Mandell, S.Bailey, S.Mlodinow, S.Patti

**INDIANA (2007 Target Total=184.3)**  
 193 17-May-05 J.McCoy, J.Cassady, B.Grube  
 189 16-May-04 J.McCoy, B.Grube  
 188 15-May-99 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw, B.Jackson, J.Cassady  
 176 17-May-96 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw, B.Jackson, J.Cassady  
 172 10-May-88 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw, B.Jackson  
 170 17-May-03 J.Cassady, J.McCoy, B.Grube, B.Palmer-Ball  
 170 17-May-93 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw  
 167 16-May-03 L. Casebere, C. Chapman, C. Hedge, R. Hedge  
 166 14-May-90 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw  
 165 10-May-79 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, T.T.Cable, A. Bruner

**IOWA (2007 Target Total=196.3)**  
 204 13-May-96 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller  
 195 7-May-92 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins  
 190 11-May-95 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller  
 186 11-May-93 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller  
 183 10-May-94 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller  
 182 11-May-90 S.J.Dinsmore, G.Brown, A.Fix  
 182 8-May-91 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller  
 173 8-May-90 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller  
 171 10-May-86 S.J.Dinsmore, G.Brown, E.Munson  
 171 11-May-96 S.J.Dinsmore, B.Engelbretsen

**KANSAS (2007 Target Total=218.3)**  
 225 13-May-02 M.Robbins, R.McNeil, M.Rader  
 220 13-May-03 M. Robbins, R. McNeill, S. Patti, M. Rader  
 210 10-May-00 C.D.Hobbs, S.Patti, M.Robbins, M.D.Rader  
 205 14-May-96 C.D.Hobbs, S.Patti, M.Robbins, T.Peterson, R.Prum  
 204 11-May-97 C.D.Hobbs, S.Patti, M.Robbins, R.Prum, V.Laux  
 200 12-May-91 C.D.Hobbs, M.McHugh, S.Patti, G.L.Pittman  
 178 9-May-86 C.D.Hobbs, M.McHugh, M.Cooksy, K.Hollinga  
 172 11-May-84 C.D.Hobbs, M.McHugh  
 171 3-May-97 P.C.Wedge, D.Seibel, G.L.Pittman, M.McHugh  
 164 29-Apr-99 M.D.Rader, S.Seltman

**KENTUCKY (2007 Target Total=174.0)**  
 176 6-May-02 M.Bierly, M.Monroe, B.Palmer-Ball, Jr.  
 174 30-Apr-03 M.Monroe, B. Palmer-Ball, Jr.  
 172 6-May-03 L.McNeely, M.Monroe, B.Palmer-Bell, Jr.  
 171 7-May-97 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.Elmore  
 168 6-May-96 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., B.L.Monroe Jr., M.Monroe, R.Healy Jr., D.Parker  
 168 6-May-99 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., B.L.Monroe Jr., M.Monroe, D.Parker  
 165 7-May-92 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.T.Erwin, D.Parker, C.B.Elmore  
 165 6-May-00 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.Elmore, M.Monroe, D.Parker  
 162 7-May-90 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.T.Erwin, D.Parker  
 159 6-May-98 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.Elmore, D.Parker

**LOUISIANA (2007 Target Total=201.3)**  
 209 25-Apr-01 C. Witt, D. Christian, J. Weckstien  
 204 27-Apr-07 R.Gibbons, A.Cuervo, J.Maley, B.Oshea  
 202 21-Apr-87 V.Remsen, S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittmann, T.Parker  
 193 28-Apr-97 S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittman  
 193 18-Apr-01 C. Witt, D. Christian, R. Moyle, J. Weckstien  
 189 3-May-97 S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittman  
 183 26-Apr-80 P.MacKenzie, B.Crider  
 182 17-Apr-85 P.MacKenzie, M.Swan  
 178 27-Apr-96 S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittmann  
 176 18-Apr-84 P.MacKenzie, M.Swan, D.Krider  
 176 30-Mar-01 S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittman  
 176 1-May-05 J.V.Remsen, P.Benham, D.Bosler, J.Bosler

**MAINE (2007 Target Total=168.7)**  
 178 22-May-99 L.R.Brinker, D.Ladd, W.Sheehan, R.Lambert  
 165 19-May-96 L.R.Brinker, D.Ladd, W.Sheehan, R.Joseph  
 163 22-May-93 L.R.Brinker, R.Humphrey, D.Ladd, W.Sheehan  
 162 21-May-94 L.R.Brinker, R.Humphrey, D.Ladd, W.Sheehan  
 141 28-May-05 J.Smith, C.Hardy, J.Wyatt, J.Hinds  
 140 21-May-95 W.Howes, W.Sumner  
 140 28-May-00 R.M.Milardo, J.K.Markowsky, B.Barker  
 138 24-May-93 R.M.Milardo, J.K.Markowsky, B.Barker  
 133 25-May-90 R.M.Milardo, J.K.Markowsky, B.Barker  
 132 31-May-03 B.Duchesne, S.Duchesne, L.Vernon, N.Larson  
 132 28-May-95 R.M.Milardo, J.K.Markowsky, B.Barker

**MARYLAND (2007 Target Total=201.7)**  
 206 18-May-96 M.O'Brien, J.O'Brien, P.Pisano, O.Janni  
 206 18-May-98 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, P.Pisano, O.Janni, W.Russell  
 193 26-May-99 M.J.Iliff, A.Farnsworth  
 189 6-May-95 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, P.Pisano, O.Janni  
 188 17-May-90 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, P.Pisano, G.Gough  
 186 14-May-88 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, P.Pisano  
 185 12-May-89 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, P.Pisano, G.Gough  
 182 18-May-91 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, G.Gough  
 181 10-May-86 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, P.Pisano, G.Gough  
 177 1-Jun-92 M.O'Brien, P.Pisano, O.Janni

**MASSACHUSETTS (2007 Target Total=169.3)**  
 185 22-May-04 P.Trimble, J.Trimble, V.Laux  
 162 27-May-02 Barrett Lawson, Bob Lawson, S.Wheelock  
 161 25-May-87 G.d'Entremont, D.Brown, S.J.Dinsmore  
 155 15-May-99 S.Wheelock, Barrett Lawson, Bob Lawson, K.Rodman  
 154 20-May-02 S. Kellogg, T. Swochak, J. Weeks, J. Zepko  
 154 25-May-80 R.Stymeist, T.Lawrence  
 152 5-Jun-99 S.Wheelock, D.Furbish  
 150 21-May-04 S.Kellogg, T.Swochak, J.Zepko, J.Weeks  
 147 17-May-04 S.Kellogg, T.Swochak, J.Zepko, J.Weeks  
 143 19-May-03 S.Kellogg, J.Weeks, J.Zepko

**MICHIGAN (2007 Target Total=194.3)**  
 203 26-May-95 R.J.Weeks, T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp  
 191 20-May-92 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, T.Walsh, R.J.Weeks  
 189 6-Jun-00 K.S.Thomas, B.Murphy  
 185 27-May-93 R.J.Weeks, T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp  
 184 29-May-94 J.Reinoehl, B.Bouton, A.Byrne, J.Granlund  
 183 21-May-91 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp  
 182 21-May-89 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp  
 179 22-May-91 R.J.Weeks, T.Walsh  
 178 19-May-89 R.J.Weeks, T.Walsh, C.Francke  
 176 26-May-90 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp

**MINNESOTA (2007 Target Total=193.3)**  
 204 26-May-02 A.Hertzel, P.Svingen  
 192 21-May-83 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, T.Savaloja  
 184 23-May-85 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, P.Backstrom  
 183 19-May-73 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, T.Savaloja  
 182 27-May-86 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, F.Lesher  
 181 18-May-74 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, T.Savaloja, K.Martell

181 23-May-81 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, S.Millard  
 181 18-May-99 P.Svingen, A.Hertzel (single-county)  
 179 22-May-76 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, T.Savaloja, B.Jansen  
 178 25-May-84 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, K.Camburn

**MISSISSIPPI (2007 Target Total=172.7)**

175 16-Apr-89 T.Schiefer, M.F.Hodges Jr.  
 172 23-Apr-83 J.Toups, E.Johnson, C.Roemer  
 171 2-May-89 J.Toups, C.Cassibry, G.Morgan, J.Pennell  
 165 28-Apr-79 L.Gates, J.Toups  
 158 7-May-03 S.Dinsmore, P.Barbour  
 156 5-May-86 J.Toups, D.King, C.Roerner  
 153 4-May-78 L.Gates  
 140 28-Mar-85 J.Toups, M.F.Hodges Jr, D.Ruple  
 134 30-Apr-89 T.Schiefer, M.F.Hodges Jr.  
 132 3-May-86 M.Davis, G.C.Knight

**MISSOURI (2007 Target Total=196.0)**

208 11-May-91 P.McKenzie, T.Barksdale  
 192 11-May-91 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins, T.B.Easterla  
 188 11-May-90 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins, T.B.Easterla  
 177 11-May-89 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins, T.B.Easterla  
 174 8-May-06 K.Mayo, D.Willis  
 174 13-May-06 J.Eades, J.Malone, J.Uffman  
 174 14-May-88 T.Barksdale, M.Corder, R.Brundage, W.Leitner  
 169 15-May-79 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins, T.Barksdale  
 166 15-May-75 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins  
 166 11-May-78 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins

**MONTANA (2007 Target Total=182.7)**

192 2-June-03 B.Kemp, R.Weeks  
 181 4-Jun-02 R.Weeks, B.Kemp  
 175 10-Jun-00 J.Rogers, D.Casey, S.Jones, S.Casey, J.Marks, B.Petty  
 174 6-Jun-92 J.Rogers, D.Casey, S.Jones, S.Casey  
 174 16-Jul-99 S.J.Dinsmore, A.S.Fix, T.Hanks  
 172 5-Jun-99 D.Casey, J.Marks, B.Petty, J.Rogers  
 170 6-Jul-98 S.J.Dinsmore, J.G.Jorgensen, J.Sullivan  
 162 9-Jul-91 W.E.Harper, S.M.Scott  
 161 8-Jun-96 D.Casey, S.Casey, A.Dumin, P.Bodewald  
 159 1-Jun-91 J.Rogers, D.Casey, S.Jones, S.Casey

**NEBRASKA (2007 Target Total=183.7)**

203 14-May-03 S.J.Dinsmore, R.Silcock, A.Brees  
 175 14-May-00 S.J.Dinsmore, J.Fontaine, R.Silcock  
 173 12-May-99 S.J.Dinsmore, J.Fontaine, D.C.Ely  
 162 15-May-93 M.A.Brogie, P.Wickham  
 157 20-May-89 S.J.Dinsmore, R.Silcock  
 150 12-May-90 M.A.Brogie, B.Huser  
 148 8-May-99 J.Sullivan, M.Orsag, E.Bachel  
 146 13-May-89 B.J.Rose, D.Rose, R.Rose  
 143 18-May-84 T.Bray, B.Padelford, T.Kent, R.Silcock  
 142 16-May-81 B.J.Rose, S.Rose

**NEVADA (2007 Target Total=152.0)**

162 10-May-97 L.A.Neel, G.Chisholm, K.Geluso, B.Flores  
 150 3-May-96 L.A.Neel, G.Chisholm, K.Geluso, B.Flores  
 144 14-May-78 G.Clifton, K.Knittle  
 139 26-Mar-04 P.Ward, K.Ward  
 136 15-May-95 R.Schlageter, J.J.Eidel, S.Mills  
 133 19-Jun-77 E.W.Tillay, G.Clifton, K.Knittle  
 133 11-May-94 C.Titus, R.McArthur, R.Rucker (single-county)  
 132 8-May-93 C.Titus, R.McArthur, J.Kaplan, R.Rucker  
 129 4-May-96 J.J.Eidel, A.Gubanich, B.Moore, A.Gross  
 127 11-Jul-76 E.W.Tillay, G.Clifton, K.Knittle

**NEW HAMPSHIRE (2007 Target Total=167.7)**

170 27-May-97 P.D.Hunt, S.Mirick, A.Strong, D.Strong  
 168 28-May-06 I.MacLeod, R.Woodward, E.Masterson, P.Brown  
 165 28-May-05 I.MacLeod, R.Woodward, E.Masterson  
 163 24-May-96 P.D.Hunt, S.Mirick, M.Suomala

158 30-May-04 I.MacLeod, G.Robbins, R.Woodward  
 156 25-May-02 S.Mirick, J.Lawrence, P.Lacourse, D.Donsker  
 156 23-May-99 P.D.Hunt, A.Strong, D.Strong  
 156 21-May-00 R.Woodward, I.MacLeod, G.Robbins  
 153 19-May-02 I.MacLeod, G.Robbins, R.Woodward  
 153 27-May-02 I.MacLeod, G.Robbins, R.Woodward

**NEW JERSEY (2007 Target Total=225.0)**

229 11-May-96 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler  
 225 13-May-95 T.Hince, P.D.Pratt, B.Dilabio  
 221 13-May-95 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler  
 218 15-May-99 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler  
 218 14-May-94 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler  
 215 15-May-93 T.Hince, P.D.Pratt, B.Dilabio  
 211 10-May-97 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler  
 210 19-May-90 P.Pacinski, P.Dunne, L.Dunne, R.Radis, D.Friday  
 210 14-May-94 P.Pacinski, P.Dunne, L.Dunne, R.Radis, D.Friday  
 210 14-May-94 T.Hince, P.D.Pratt, B.Dilabio

**NEW MEXICO (2007 Target Total=194.0)**

200 3-May-97 B.R.Zimmer, J.Paton  
 198 6-May-99 B.R.Zimmer, J.Paton  
 188 3-May-07 J.Black, B.West, C.Black, B.Foy  
 184 1-May-06 J.Black, B.West, C.Black, B.Foy  
 183 4-May-05 J.Black, B.West, C.Black, B.Foy  
 179 11-May-96 B.Neville, D.Emkalns, J.Paton  
 178 30-Apr-04 J.Black, B.West, B.Foy  
 177 31-Aug-92 B.R.Zimmer, J.Gordon  
 173 4-May-91 J.Parmeter, A.Kraynik, L.Gorbet  
 170 10-May-84 K.Zimmer, B.R.Zimmer  
 170 11-Sep-86 B.R.Zimmer, J.Donaldson

**NEW YORK (2007 Target Total=199.3)**

202 18-May-03 D.Harris, B.Klick  
 201 26-May-02 D.Tetlow, J.Barry, K.Fox  
 195 22-May-99 K.C.Griffith, K.Fox, D.Tetlow  
 192 25-May-97 B.E.Ewald, M.Davids, K.Fox, D.Tetlow  
 181 18-May-92 R.J.Kurtz, H.McGuinness, A.Baldelli  
 179 23-May-93 J.Skelly, D.Tetlow, M.Davids  
 175 24-May-02 D.Harris, B.Klick  
 173 19-May-74 T.Davis, P.Lehman, D.Finch, R.Smart  
 173 19-May-86 K.Griffith, M.Davids, C.Taylor  
 173 19-May-02 Jessi Barry, Jim Barry, K.Griffith

**NORTH CAROLINA (2007 Target Total=175.0)**

184 3-May-87 J.M.Lynch, D.Carter, J.Fussell, R.Davis, A.Bryan  
 174 6-May-93 S.J.Dinsmore, J.Nance  
 167 20-Apr-87 J.Nance, G.Massey  
 157 3-May-03 R.Van Epps, T.Piephoff, J.Pippen, B.Carlson  
 156 4-May-81 M.Tove, J.Fussell, R.Davis  
 155 5-May-02 T.Piephoff, R.VanEpps  
 151 7-May-99 C.A.Eley, G.Brown  
 140 6-May-80 S.Graves  
 126 8-May-76 R.Carter, C.M.Eastman, A.Capparella  
 122 3-Jun-06 E.Dean, G.Howe

**NORTH DAKOTA (2007 Target Total=158.0)**

167 17-May-81 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, G.S.Lambeth  
 154 23-May-92 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, P.Svingen, K.Risen  
 153 19-May-79 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, G.S.Lambeth  
 150 18-May-80 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, G.S.Lambeth, J.F.Kelly  
 131 7-Aug-04 K.Corriss, M.Otnes  
 127 14-May-78 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, G.S.Lambeth  
 126 8-June-03 C.Ellingson, C.Talkington  
 122 23-Jul-77 K.J.Zimmer, B.R.Zimmer  
 118 23-May-76 K.J.Johnson, A.G.Johnson  
 118 7-Aug-99 P.A.Stutesman

**OHIO (2007 Target Total=191.7)**

205 11-May-87 J.Pogacnik, J.K.Alexander

186	10-May-85	J.Pogacnik, J.K.Alexander, M.Anderson
184	11-May-02	D.Sanders, J.McCormac, B.Master
182	16-May-92	T.R.Kemp, M.Anderson, E.Tramer, S.Lauer, C.Anderson
179	9-May-81	T.Bartlett, B.Peterjohn, D.Tumblin, E.Pierce
173	19-May-78	T.Thompson
173	14-May-97	B.F.Master, M.Dawson
172	14-May-96	B.F.Master, M.Dawson
171	13-May-95	B.F.Master, M.Dawson
170	14-May-94	B.F.Master, M.Dawson, S.Smith

**OKLAHOMA (2007 Target Total=179.7)**

182	9-May-05	J.Woodward, T.Mitchell, B.Carrell
180	3-May-01	J. Cox, J. Arterburn, K. Kaufman
177	4-May-96	J.A.Cox, K.Kaufman, J.Arterburn
177	29-Apr-99	M.B.Kamp, J.Loyd, P.L.Seibert
169	2-May-96	M.B.Kamp, J.Loyd, P.L.Seibert
167	1-May-93	J.Woodard, T.Mitchell, B.Griffen
161	3-May-92	M.Droege, D.Verser, M.Vogh
160	5-May-90	G.Guinan, S.Metz
154	4-May-91	S.Metz, D.King, T.Moses
154	9-May-94	J.Withgott, J.Norman

**OREGON (2007 Target Total=214.0)**

219	2-Jun-07	T.Janzen, D.Irons, J.Sullivan, N.Strycker
216	11-May-02	T. Janzen, T. Love, D. Mandell, C. Roberts
213	1-July-06	D.Irons, T.Janzen, J.Withgott, T.Rodenkirk
213	12-May-01	T. Janzen, T. Love, F. Schrok, S. Steinberg
212	10-May-86	J.Gilligan, D.Fix, S.Hein, D.Irons
212	14-May-05	T.Janzen, J.Withgott, N.Strycker, H.Herlyn
208	9-May-01	C. Miller, D. Mandell, T. Janzen
206	13-May-97	T. Janzen, C. Miller, D. van den Broek
206	13-May-03	T.Janzen, H.Herlyn, M.Miller, R.Hoyer
206	16-Jun-07	D.Irons, T.Janzen, N.Strycker, J.Withgott

**PENNSYLVANIA (2007 Target Total=170.3)**

178	15-May-99	J.G.Fedak, J.Horn
170	15-May-98	T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, G.M.Links
163	12-May-89	T.Amico, D.Heathcote, S.Santner, B.Schutsky, E.Witmer
161	16-May-87	J.D.Peplinski, B.Peplinski, T.Schiefer
159	17-May-97	T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, G.M.Links
157	12-May-78	D.Snyder, D.Steadman, J.Stull, S.Stull
157	7-May-83	G.Wilhelm, D.Hoskins, M.Starker
156	20-May-78	N.J.Pulcinella, J.Miller, C.Richards, K.Richards
154	12-May-90	J.D.Peplinski, B.Peplinski, T.Schiefer
151	19-May-83	F.Haas, B.Haas

**RHODE ISLAND (2007 Target Total=154.7)**

159	19-May-84	R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby
154	29-May-03	S.Wheelock, Bo.Lawson, Ba.Lawson
151	15-May-83	R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby
147	17-May-80	R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby, G.Gerdts
147	15-May-82	R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, G.Gerdts
144	12-May-79	R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby, G.Gerdts
141	15-May-76	R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby
141	13-May-78	R.M.Bushnell, H.Willoughby, G.Gerdts
132	17-May-77	S.C.Tsagarakis, H.Willoughby
131	14-May-77	R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby

**SOUTH CAROLINA (2007 Target Total=177.3)**

179	28-Apr-92	R.Carter, R.Clark
177	1-May-89	R.Carter, D.Forsythe, S.Thompson
176	26-Apr-98	R.Carter, D.Forsythe
175	30-Apr-88	R.Carter, D.Forsythe, B.Odear
175	1-May-96	R.Carter, D.Forsythe, K.Kaufman
174	1-May-05	R.Carter, D.Forsythe, S.Calver
173	26-Apr-86	R.Carter, D.Forsythe, B.Odear, K.Kaufman
172	22-Apr-90	R.Carter, S.Compton, R.Clark, D.Forsythe
172	4-May-92	R.Carter, D.Forsythe, T.Kalbach
172	1-May-95	R.Carter, C.M.Eastman
172	1-May-99	R.Carter, D.Forsythe

**SOUTH DAKOTA (2007 Target Total=170.3)**

175	14-May-03	J.S.Palmer, R.F.Schenck
170	15-May-00	J.S.Palmer, R.F.Schenck
166	19-May-97	J.S.Palmer, O.Selchert, R.F.Schenck
161	14-May-99	J.S.Palmer, O.Selchert, R.F.Schenck
158	15-May-02	J.S.Palmer, R.Schenck
158	16-May-96	D.L.Swanson, K.Dean, S. Van Sickle, E.Liknes
155	16-May-96	J.S.Palmer, O.Selchert, C.Vande Voorde
154	8-Jul-93	T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, E.Durbin
151	19-May-98	J.S.Palmer, R.F.Schenck
149	16-May-95	J.S.Palmer, O.Selchert

**TENNESSEE (2007 Target Total=168.3)**

174	10-May-97	J.R.Wilson, M.A.Greene
169	7-May-94	J.R.Wilson, G.Knight, S.Knight, M.A.Greene
162	8-May-89	J.Drewry, M.Bierly, B.Palmer-Ball Jr.
161	8-May-98	J.R.Wilson, M.A.Greene
155	9-May-84	M.Bierly, B.Palmer-Ball Jr.
151	24-Apr-99	J.R.Wilson, M.A.Greene
149	5-May-02	J.Desgrosellier, C.Sloan
148	4-May-81	C.Swafford, C.Haney
145	8-May-97	S.M.McConnell, J.Garner, D.Simbeck
144	29-Apr-89	M.Davis, K.Myers, D.Simbeck, J.Wilson

**TEXAS (2007 Target Total=244.7)**

Land only

258	24-Apr-01	A. Byrne, G. Beaton, D. Peake, R. Weeks, B.Kemp
239	21-Apr-03	D.Peake, B.Kemp, R.Weeks
237	22-Apr-02	A. Byrne, G. Beaton, D. Peake, R. Weeks, B.Kemp
233	18-Apr-01	T. Hince, P. Pratt, B. DiLabio
230	27-Apr-98	O.Carmona, W.Carter, B.McKinney, W.Sekula
223	29-Apr-98	M.A.Elwonger, P.Petra-Hockey, B.Freeman
222	24-Apr-99	O.Carmona, W.Carter, B.McKinney, W.Sekula
215	9-Apr-00	O.Carmona, W.Carter, B.McKinney, W.Sekula
214	23-Apr-97	M.Cooksey, A.Cooksey, C.D.Hobbs
213	24-Apr-99	T.Hince, B.Dilabio, P.D.Pratt
213	31-Mar-01	B. Kemp, R. Weeks

Using Chartered Aircraft/Helicopters

244	1-May-85	V.Emanuel, R.T.Peterson, J.Tucker, G.W.Lasley
238	1-May-84	V.Emanuel, J.Rowlett, R.A.Rowlett, J.Tucker, J.Vardaman
234	27-Apr-82	V.Emanuel, R.T.Peterson, T.Parker, J.Rowlett
223	23-Apr-84	V.Emanuel, J.Rowlett, R.A.Rowlett, J.Tucker, J.Vardaman
221	25-May-90	V.Emanuel, K.Zimmer, G.W.Lasley, G.Plampton

**UTAH (2007 Target Total=196.3)**

202	13-May-01	M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler, C. Neuman
200	16-May-99	M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler
187	16-May-98	M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler
184	19-May-96	M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler, L.Lockhart
180	7-May-95	M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler, L.Lockhart
178	18-May-97	M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler
173	10-May-98	M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler, A.Godwin
169	6-May-93	R.Bond, S.P.Hedges, T.Sadler
166	4-May-90	R.Bond, S.P.Hedges
165	1-May-98	R.Bond, G.Bond, T.Sadler

**VERMONT**

**(2007 Target Total=159.3)**

162	6-June-04	P.Ward, K.Ward
159	4-Jun-01	P.Ward, K. Ward
157	26-May-01	A.Strong, S.Schwenk
157	26-May-03	D.Strong, M.Hughes, A.Strong, P.Jones
156	21-May-04	P.Ward, K.Ward
154	22-May-95	T.Johansson, D.Cooper, A.Farnsworth, W.Hutcheson
154	22-May-99	A.Strong, D.Strong
154	28-May-07	D.Strong, P.Jones, A.Strong, S.Schwenk
151	20-May-95	S.W.Morrical, J.Appleton, T.Hall, T.Murin
151	7-Aug-03	P.Ward, K.Ward

**VIRGINIA (2007 Target Total=169.7)**

178	7-May-05	M.Ribaudo, K.Gaskill, J.Keller, R.Rieger
167	6-May-86	P.Bedell, W.Ealding, C.Foster, M.Iwanik, D.Peterson
164	10-May-86	T.Finnell, G.Stubbs
161	11-May-83	F.Day, P.Cabe, J.Garvin
158	5-May-03	D.Clark, T.Gwynn, D.Hughes, C.Smith
152	5-May-74	W.W.Fogleman, R.L.Ake, G.S.Grant
147	21-Sep-96	E.S.Brinkley, T.M.Gwynn III, D.Schwab
143	8-May-76	B.W.Keelan, B.A.Lund, L.K.Malone
140	18-Sept-03	B.Taber, B.Williams, F.Day
138	16-Sept-03	B.Taber, B.Williams, F.Day, T.Armour

**WASHINGTON (2007 Target Total=199.0)**

201	15-May-88	D.Hutchinson, D.Reusser, B.Tweit
198	16-May-86	B.Hayes, F.Hayes, D.Schmidt, D.Wright
198	16-May-89	D.Hutchinson, B.Tweit, S.Ray
195	5-May-87	D.Hutchinson, D.Reusser, B.Tweit
186	6-May-84	D.Paulson, J.Erckmann, J.Van Os
184	9-May-92	M.Denny, M.L.Denny, J.Nestler, J.Wasmer
180	13-May-89	J.F.Gatchet, K.Knittle, M.Denny, M.L.Denny
174	20-May-83	B.Hayes, M.Denny, P.Rasmussen
174	15-May-89	T.Hass, K.Aanerud, P.Cozens
169	8-May-81	W.Sumner, K.Knittle

**WEST VIRGINIA (2007 Target Total=136.7)**

146	22-May-06	J.Blomberg, G.Felton, M.Orsie, J.Tharp
140	10-May-02	B.Kemp, T.Kemp
137	7-May-04	J.Benedetti, J.Blomberg, D.Esker, J.Tharp II
133	7-May-93	T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, E.Durbin
133	15-May-04	G.Felton, M.Orsie
132	10-May-05	J.Blomberg, M.Orsie, J.Tharp II

129	8-May-96	J.R.Blomberg, L.Barnhart, J.Beneditti, P.Calise, L.Rolfeson
124	5-May-89	J.R.Blomberg, L.Barnhart, J.Beneditti
124	5-May-91	W.Argabrite, J.Fletcher, M.Griffith, A.Thorne
122	8-May-93	W.Argabrite, M.Griffith

**WISCONSIN (2007 Target Total=216.0)**

230	19-May-02	R.Hoffman, A.Shea
210	20-May-00	R.Hoffman, A.Shea
208	17-May-97	R.Hoffman, A.Shea
206	17-May-99	R.Hoffman, A.Shea
194	2-Sept-01	R.Hoffman
193	16-May-98	R.Hoffman, A.Shea
191	22-May-97	J.L.Baughman, T.Schultz, S.Baughman, D.D.Tessen, C.Wood
187	26-May-00	R.Hoffman, D.Tessen, M.Peterson
186	31-Aug-02	R.Hoffman
185	21-May-90	J.L.Baughman, T.Schultz, W.Schultz, W.Stott

**WYOMING (2007 Target Total=158.3)**

180	25-May-01	S. Dinsmoor, J. Fontaine
149	17-May-90	B.Hayes, J.Nestler, W.Bruce-Miller
146	20-May-89	M.Adams, S.Fitton, F.Luke, R.Steenberg, W.Bruce-Miller
141	21-Jul-86	W.E.Harper, S.Scott, B.Hallett
135	24-May-86	M.Adams, F.Luke
128	24-May-86	W.E.Harper, S.Scott
122	7-Jul-80	W.E.Harper, C.Harper
112	26-Aug-06	D.Faulkner, L.Semo
111	16-Jul-79	W.E.Harper, C.Harper
109	30-Jun-78	W.E.Harper

**COUNTRIES / REGIONS**

COUNTRY/ REGION	#	DATE (d/m/y)	PARTICIPANTS
Antarctica	24	4-Dec-95	N.Brinkley, S.Tingley
	20	29-Dec-04	G.Mackiernan, B.Cooper, P.Clement, A.Quinn, P.Colston
	17	19-Dec-87	D.Paulson
	17	29-Jan-98	G.Lasley
Antigua	66	10-Apr-07	S.Buckingham
	43	24-Jul-95	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall
Argentina	149	8-Nov-03	R.Batchelder, A.Earnshaw
	142	20-Jan-93	A.Jaramillo
	120	6-Dec-05	F.Toldi, J.Toldi
	52	5-Feb-03	C.Campbell
Aruba	72	12-Mar-05	S.Mlodinow
Australia	249	13-Oct-96	A.P.Anderson, J.Grant, E.Sticklen, G.Holmes
	202	12-Dec-82	H.Beste, R.Dunkerton
	182	17-Jul-81	H.Beste, R.Dunkerton
Austria	108	6-May-90	W.Firbas, U.Firbas
Bahamas	80	24-Jan-01	S.Mlodinow
	76	17-Jan-02	S.L.Doud, M.Duffey
	74	12-Oct-99	B.Hallett, T.White, A.Bainton, W.Bracey
	71	10-Jan-00	S.L.Doud, J.E.Sweeten (Andros)
Bahrain	81	5-Feb-07	A.Shell, H.King
Barbuda	47	8-Dec-99	J.Marshall, M.Marshall
Belize	202	30-Apr-99	L.Jones, S.Tillett, M.England
	177	19-Mar-00	A.Guarente, G.Crawford, J.Ginaven, K.Loughlin, N.Pulcinella, D.Washabaugh
	133	26-Feb-00	J.Marshall
Bermuda	72	16-Oct-99	M.Allaire, A.Dobson, L.Walker
Bhutan	96	22-Feb-05	G.Mackiernan, P.Clement, B.Cooper, R.Jagus
Bolivia	160	21-Dec-76	V.Remsen
Botswana	107	1-Nov-81	B.A.Allen, J.Wilson
Brazil	180	6-Dec-03	P.Kaestner
	167	21-Nov-91	D.Stotz, W.Silva
	142	7-Nov-03	B.F.Master, P.Bono
	135	25-Feb-00	B.F.Master, P.Bono
Brunei	124	10-Nov-96	P.Kaestner
Bulgaria	97	13-May-97	H.Turner, D.Georgiev, R.Walton, J.Schmidt, F.Brazier
	49	5-Aug-92	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall, D.Gosney
Cambodia	69	3-Jan-07	B.F.Master, S.Myers
Cameroon	135	11-Oct-97	P.Kaestner
Cameroon	121	12-Sep-94	P.D.Burtch, R.Quantril, B.Quantril
Cayman Islands	64	4-Apr-01	B.F.Master
	46	24-Jun-00	C.H.Gambill
	41	7-Mar-99	M.McHugh, L.Hart. (Grand Cayman Is.)
	34	10-Nov-96	T.Fitzpatrick
Chile	83	5-Nov-02	B.Master, S.Howell
	75	2-Nov-99	A.Jaramillo, T.Witt, D.Donsker
	62	10-May-90	B.Swift, A.Hade, M.Rodriguez
Colombia	144	3-Feb-84	S.Hilty, J.Vardaman
Comoros Islands	20	13-Feb-99	P.Kaestner
Costa Rica	308	2-Apr-00	D.Rogers, J.Vandergaast, J.Fossani
	306	8-Apr-99	D.Rogers, J.Zook, J.Vandergaast
	292	18-Apr-98	D.Rogers, J.Zook
	162	8-Oct-63	R.Ryan, N.Boyajian (on foot)
Croatia	78	16-Apr-01	S. Lister, M. Hall
Cuba	112	6-Apr-00	P.Kaestner
	87	5-Apr-00	P.Kaestner; H.Kaestner

Cyprus	42	23-Dec-98	B.Maybank, J.Waldron	Ireland	122	29-Apr-89	C.Murphy, C.Brewster, D.Knight, S.Foster
	103	21-Apr-95	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall		120	8-May-91	C.Murphy, S.McKee, R.Chambers, C.Mellon
	84	20-Apr-87	S.M.Lister				
Djibouti	95	2-Sep-01	P. Kaestner	Italy	87	26-May-05	W.Firbas, W.Lindinger, W.Smetana, H.Walter
	85	1-Sep-01	P. Kaestner		64	23-Aug-95	W.Firbas, E.Mader
Dominica	47	29-Jun-07	S.J.Dinsmore, J.J.Dinsmore, Go.Brown, Ge.Brown, J.Gilliam		Ivory Coast	73	27-Dec-05
	39	17-Jan-98	J.Meyer	25	27-Nov-78	P.Kaestner	
	32	28-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright, K.Garwood	Jamaica	109	23-Mar-93	P.P.Marra, J.I.Lovette
Dominican Republic	66	10-Apr-95	B.F.Master, S.Master, A.Hill, A.Small, T.Eastman,	Japan	76	10-Mar-92	M.Lysinger, J.Arnett
					74	10-Mar-91	P.D.Hunt, P.Marra
					148	10-Aug-64	C.R.Johnson, A.Sasaki
Ecuador	181	13-Nov-96	P.Coopmans, B.J.Rose, S.Rose, Donald Traver, Donna Traver	Kenya	290	25-Feb-84	D.Turner, T.Stevenson, D.Richards
	173	10-Feb-07	B.F.Master, F.Rowland		264	2-Dec-79	J.Gerhart, D.Turner
	109	27-Jul-93	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Levy, A.Hill		248	19-Nov-78	J.Gerhart, J.Miskell, S.Wallace
Egypt	80	17-Sept-04	P.Kaestner	Madagascar	58	21-Dec-93	B.F.Master, B.Finch
	69	19-Apr-64	H.C.Kyillingstad	Malaysia	94	3-Mar-03	B.Master, J.Dunn, D.Young
	66	31-Dec-89	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall	73	16-Aug-99	S.Rajathurai (Big Sit)	
El Salvador	44	8-Jul-04	L.Hintz, M.Vimmerstedt	Mali	76	27-Dec-03	M.Cri.Lckmore
England	147	11-May-96	D.W.Taylor, D.H.Tomlinson, M.Sutherland, B.Davison	Marianas Islands	63	10-Aug-90	T.Cable, R.Marshall
	145	7-May-89	D.W.Taylor, D.H.Tomlinson, B.Bland, A.Henderson		23	15-Sep-82	P.Kaestner
	144	8-May-94	D.W.Taylor, B.Bland, A.Henderson, I.Hodgson		16	18-Feb-77	D.Anderson
	115	11-May-96	J.Cantello, D.Wrathell, S.Wrathell, D.Allen (bicycle/foot)	14	20-Apr-76	D.Anderson	
	84	5-May-95	P.Larkin (Big Sit)	13	1-Apr-76	D.Anderson	
	77	10-May-99	D.Taylor, D.Wilson, B.Boleans (Big Sit)	30	25-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright,	
	75	17-May-00	D.Taylor, R.Thompson, D.Wilson (Big Sit)	Martinique	229	18-Oct-02	J.Montejo, R.Straub, A.McAndrews
	109	7-Jun-94	B.F.Master, D.Master		201	23-Dec-01	K. Kaufman, R. Taylor, C. Green, K.Garwood
	189	10-Sep-01	P. Kaestner, M. Gebremichael		191	16-Nov-89	R. Taylor, C. Green
Ethiopia	174	19-Aug-01	P. Kaestner, M. Gebremichael	Morocco	108	1-Jan-94	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall, D.Gosney
	181	7-May-94	J-P.Sible, L.Spanneut, B.Bougeard	99	30-Dec-93	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall, D.Gosney	
	153	15-May-93	J-P.Sible, L.Spanneut, B.Bougeard, J-P.Delapré	Namibia	217	26-Nov-94	C.Hines, D.Farr, M.Paxton, P.Lane
France	145	20-May-99	D.W.Taylor, D.H.Tomlinson, B.Bland, I.Hodgson	Nepal	158	26-Feb-84	B.King, J.Vardaman, K.Ram
	47	14-Aug-84	F.Hayes, W.Baker, G.Bennett, T.Rochester	Netherlands	190	10-May-03	R.Haas, W.Leurs, L.Heemshelk, J.van der Laan
	127	31-Mar-91	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall, Y.Jaiteh	176	15-May-96	J.van der Laan, R.de Haas, L.Heemskerck, W.Leurs	
Gambia	122	1-Jul-82	N.Brinkley	Galapagos	163	15-May-89	B.Pieterse, J.W.de Roever, W.E.M.van der Schot
Germany					161	19-May-91	M.Berlign, T.Kompier, T.Luijendijk, A.Meijer
Grand Cayman Islands				New Caledonia	40	24-Nov-07	B.F.Master
Greece	74	27-Oct-02	N.Norman, T.Baxter, B.Harlett	Nicaragua	56	12-Mar-98	M.E.Petrucha, G.R.Urquhart
	77	28-Sept-05	P.Ward, K.Ward	53	3-Feb-01	P. Kaestner, J. Carlos, M. Sanchez	
Grenada	61	19-Apr-03	G.Olioso	Niger	57	24-Jan-04	M.Crickmore
	36	18-Jul-95	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall	Nigeria	76	11-Mar-02	K.Burton
	30	21-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright, K.Garwood	63	10-Mar-02	K.Burton	
Guadeloupe	29	30-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright,		61	5-Sep-87	P.Kaestner
	150	6-Jan-99	R.Ryan, K.Garwood, B.Davidson	N. Ireland	133	8-May-93	C.Murphy, S.McKee, C.Mellon, D.Hunter
Guyana	225	7-Apr-02	P.Kaestner, J.Berry		122	29-Apr-89	C.Murphy, C.Brewster, D.Knight, S.Foster
	208	1-Apr-01	P. Kaestner, W. Plomp	Oman	117	2-Nov-97	D.Sargeant, M.Sargeant
	192	18-Nov-01	P. Kaestner, J. Barry	Panama	300	22-Mar-97	W.D.Robinson, D.Christian
Honduras	149	6-Jan-01	P. Kaestner	255	25-Jan-84	R.Ridgely, J.Vardaman	
Hungary	144	13-May-01	G. Magavar, A. Schmidt, E. Sos	P.New Guinea	215	7-May-83	P.Kaestner, B.Finch
	49	27-Jul-95	N.Brinkley, B.Cary, J.Nussman, J&M.Cressman.	208	13-Mar-83	P.Kaestner, B.Finch	
India	166	14-Nov-81	P.Kaestner, H.Kaestner	Paraguay	180	21-Oct-89	F.Hayes, P.Scharf, J.E.Argana
	161	21-Dec-94	B.F.Master, P.Holt, B.Behrstock, J.Bangma	162	20-Oct-89	F.Hayes, P.Scharf, J.E.Argana	
	146	22-Feb-84	B.King, J.Vardaman	148	9-Dec-88	F.Hayes, D.Snider, T.E.Perrin	
Indonesia	105	7-Jun-79	C.Escott	Peru	331	5-Sep-82	T.Parker, S.Robinson
				278	16-Oct-81	T.Parker, J.Vardaman	
				Portugal	113	14-Oct-96	M.Bolton, C.Beale, M.Roberts, G.Rawcliffe

	108	24-Feb-96	G.Elias, C.C.Moore	South Korea	42	3-Oct-81	H.H.Puppe, Y.Moo-boo
	104	2-Aug-96	G.Elias, J.Braga		34	4-Oct-81	H.H.Puppe, Y.Moo-boo
Poland	108	25-Jun-01	S. Gaulin, B. Hince	Spain	97	27-May-04	G.Mackiernan, B.Cooper
Puerto Rico	94	23-Apr-74	H.Snyder, S.Den, P.Lehman		95	18-Jun-89	J.Parmeter, J.Strauss, E.Strauss
	74	22-Jan-96	P.D.Hunt, S.Burson, B.Steele, L.Gates		74	21-Jun-85	D.Mark, B.Feltner
Quatar	43	8-Nov-05	B.Hallady, I.Halladay	Sri Lanka	95	13-Nov-07	B.F.Master
	30	5-Nov-04	I.Halladay, B.Halladay		85	10-Jul-97	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall
Rwanda	41	6-Aug-86	N.Brinkely, D.Scotts	Sudan	54	2-Apr-92	R.Holbrook, J.Lewis
St. Kitts	33	24-Jul-99	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall	Suriname	173	2-Jan-84	R.Ridgely, J.Vardaman
St. Lucia	53	1-Jul-07	S.J.Dinsmore, J.J.Dinsmore, Go.Brown, Ge.Brown, J.Gilliam	Switzerland	75	28-May-87	B.Swift, L.Maumary
	43	24-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, L.John, M.Flieg, H.Davidson	Tanzania	146	28-Sep-98	P.Kaestner
	36	12-Jan-98	J.Meyer, D.Albright, K.Garwood	Thailand	180	2-Mar-84	B.King, P.Round, J.Vardaman
	31	16-Apr-95	B.F.Master, S.Master, A.Hill, A.Small, B.J.Rose, S.Rose	Trinidad	177	23-Sep-01	M. Kenefick, F. Hayes, B. Hayes
St. Vincent	39	22-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright,		167	7-Sep-00	F.Hayes, M.Kenefick, B.Sanasie
					151	25-May-77	J.Funk, R.Randall, D.Heller, L.Calderon
Sao Tome & Principe	44	26-Sep-97	P.Kaestner, J.Gerhart, K.Garwood, B.Davidson	Tobago	113	8-Oct-01	N.George, F.Ahyes, M.Kenefick
					100	16-Oct-00	F.Hayes, M.Kenefick, B.Sanasie, B.Hayes
Saudi Arabia	112	6-Sep-01	G. Bletsch		86	26-Dec-93	B.Maybank, T.Yip-Hoi, J.Taylor, J.Waldron, K&M Allsebrook
	106	7-Apr-83	J&T.Heindel, C&W.Peterson	Turkey	129	29-Apr-95	J-P Sibley, B.Couronne
	103	7-Sep-00	G.Bletsch, P.Webb, A.Webb		113	12-Jun-07	S.Bekir, B.Swift, M.Swift
Sechelles	33	22-Nov-98	B.F.Master, S.Master, A.Skerritt	Uganda	260	16-Nov-70	M.Fogden
	32	3-Sep-99	K.Lefriede, K.Selima		61	13-Aug-86	N.Brinkely, D.Scotts
Senegal	105	31-Jan-93	B.Maybank, S.Finnegan	Uruguay	33	23-Nov-03	R.Batchelder
Singapore	129	30-Jan-99	S.Rajathurai, M.Landenburger	U.S. Virgin Islands	64	13-Oct-02	F.Hayes, B.Hayes
	128	1-Jan-99	S.Rajathurai, W.L.Keng		30	15-Nov-97	T.Fitzpatrick
	125	23-Oct-99	S.Rajathurai, B.McCartney, R.McCartney	Vanuatu	33	15-Jun-85	P.Kaestner
	59	2-Apr-99	S.Rajathurai, S.Subaraj (Big Sit)	Venezuela	192	30-Oct-85	C.Parrish, B.Swift
Solomon Islands	49	13-Nov-07	B.F.Master		160	30-Aug-86	B.Swift, I.Branger, E.Cartaya
	40	16-Jun-02	B.F.Master	Vietnam	85	16-Sep-65	C.R.Johnson, R.DeWitt, D.Long
South Africa	247	7-Nov-87	D.Cyrus, N.Robson, H.Chitenden, P.Outhwaite (Natal)	Yemen	110	8-Mar-06	P.Kaestner, H.Kaestner
	232	11-Sep-85	D.Cyrus, G.Nichols, N.Robson (Natal)		81	24-Oct-04	T.Witt, D.Farrow
	230	8-Nov-86	D.Cyrus, N.Robson, H.Chitenden, P.Outhwaite (Natal)	Zambia	288	6-Dec-75	R.Dowsett, D.Aspinwall, T.Osborne
					273	2-Nov-74	R.J.Dewsett, D.R.Aspinwall, W.F.Bruce-Miller, T.O.Osborne
					273	30-Nov-75	R.J.Dowsett, T.O.Osborne
				Zaire	135	20-Jul-78	P.Kaestner
				Zimbabwe	196	30-Jan-88	S.L.James, B.Wright, L.Schwab



# PROVINCIAL & STATE RECORD BIG DAYS BY MONTH

AREA	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
ABA	176	175	213	258	230	202	213	199	177	178	178	176
CAN	127	109	105	163	205	202	182	167	154	121	117	121
48	176	175	213	258	230	189	213	199	177	178	178	176

PROVS	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
AB	27				178	153	150	80	<b>118</b>	80	56	41
BC	127	109	105	163	196	162	176	120	136	121	117	121
MB	31	41			205	<b>212</b>	182	167	154	105	73	33
NB	22		20	55	82	138		100	75			
NL	22	27	37	31	78	76	<b>117</b>	64	106	78		27
NT						64		41				
NS	39	80	72	72	131	145	93	106	101	85	62	70
NU							36					
ON	81	64	86	102	200	180	165	135	100	110	91	52
PI	40	<b>40</b>	35		128	141		104	108	51	69	63
PQ			13	77	163	166	42	51	78	101		
SK					174	160	70	161				
YT					40	82	50	67				

STATE	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
AL	128	129	132	202	157	112	114	<b>102</b>	151	131	140	89
AK	39	40	54	63	117	125	61	72	63	29	60	48
AZ	110	113	134	191	<b>196</b>	136	131	199	158	147	114	137
AR	64		64	140	168		76	118			115	
CA	176	175	178	231	217	178	170	170	177	178	178	166
CO	98	100	100	<b>141</b>	204	149	160	176	151	120	105	<b>107</b>
CT	103	86	112	140	186	145	136	132	131	<b>92</b>	102	<b>104</b>
DE	100	97	102	159	199	105	109	<b>133</b>	130	<b>107</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>114</b>
DC		68	81	101	134						60	57
FL	159	156	163	179	170	144	148	137	140	158	161	163
GA	142	146	139	192	174	147	132	147	157	154	141	145
HI	52	56	52	51	50		53	46	59	81	57	56
ID	75	93	102	125	156	183	132	105	104	75	81	80
IL	103	97	118	168	184	136	128	123	141	127	105	100

IN	<u>80</u>	77	86	125	<u>193</u>	139	119	107	125	121	81	72
IA	36	64	81	121	204	114	103	109	112	91	73	68
KS	102	102	122	164	225	139	146	155	136	144	103	103
KY	100	102	111	174	176	134	126	130	123	118	100	102
LA	<u>158</u>	141	176	209	189	143	149	143	160	157	165	161
ME	57	44	49	68	178	123	91	65	81	85	74	61
MD	135	83	136	108	206	177	174	99	115		120	
MA	83	91	101	101	185	151	128	98	102	108	94	90
MI	<u>75</u>	91	102	121	203	189	149	141	152	124	<u>100</u>	<u>85</u>
MN	63		92		204	151	90	148	136	56	46	
MS			140	175	171	125		74			102	
MO	87	88	115	155	208	125	117	133	109	115	102	93
MT	71	76		91	147	192	174	<u>132</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>70</u>	
NE	83	79	98	129	203	133		88	135	115	97	86
NV	76	80	139	124	162	133	127	109	117	91	121	99
NH	78	75	77	118	170	151	141	<u>114</u>	116	109	92	71
NJ	109	96	116	146	229	164	148	141	144	128	125	118
NM	116	113	112	178	200	111	138	177	170	<u>125</u>	112	100
NY	80	64	94	126	202	158	131	128	118	118	<u>93</u>	69
NC	82	94	87	167	184	141	106	110	80	97	113	89
ND				106	167	126	122	131				
OH	82	87	98	159	205	152	141	135	138	121	98	85
OK	85	95	104	177	182	78	76	105	129	117	92	75
OR	112		107	143	216	<u>219</u>	213	116	151			
PA	70	<u>77</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>132</u>	178	<u>133</u>	110	114	109	<u>116</u>	<u>104</u>	80
RI	92	87	88	105	159	123	113	85	88	106	98	90
SC	121	110	141	179	177	148	129	131	134	137	128	126
SD	42	41	82	89	175	107	154	102	108	91	69	49
TN	100	107	111	151	174	115	116	120	117	117	102	100
TX	174	<u>181</u>	213	258	203	165	163	165	161	176	175	176
UT		84	89	117	202	148	147	128	92			
VT	53	55	72	122	162	162	139	151	132	107	<u>60</u>	74
VA	77	86	89	94	178	106	91	95	<u>159</u>	101	105	110
WA	110	112	121	143	201	157	119	120	121	113	100	102
WV	54	40	53		<u>146</u>	115	68	46	64	44	51	52
WI	76	94	112	172	230	147	157	186	194	158	137	93
WY	46	47	49	103	180	109	141	112	81	76	70	