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## Central Flyway Review: Fall, 1983

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# Central Flyway Review: Fall, 1983

## ***Greg W. Lasley, Coordinator***

5103 Turnabout Lane  
Austin, Texas 78731

Ten stations contributed banding data to the fall report. Again, the large area included in the IBBA area makes evaluation of the banding reports difficult at best. Capture ratios ranged from a low of 12 birds per 100 net hours at Driftwood, Texas to a high of almost 567 birds per 100 net hours at Olive Park in Chicago, Illinois. The banding station accounts below will reflect a wide variety of trends and capture rates.

Due to other commitments this will be the last flyway review that I will coordinate. When a new coordinator is selected all contributors will be notified. The IBBA is fortunate to have many fine banders and banding stations operating within its area and I hope that contributors will continue to support the CFR when a new coordinator is selected.

## **Arlington Heights, Illinois 420-0875**

***Terry Carter***

I was only able to band on 18 days this fall between 8 August and 13 October. This station has been in operation for nine years and 31 species of warblers have been captured. A new fall season bird this year was a Kentucky Warbler.

## **Olive Park, Chicago, Illinois 415-0873**

***Sebastian Patti***

This was the second fall season that the Olive Park Station has been in operation. Unfortunately it was necessary to conclude banding by mid-October; some prime sparrow migration was missed.

There were several unusual captures for this urban park including 2 Soras, 1 American Woodcock, 1 American Kestrel, 1 Saw-whet Owl, and 1 Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

This station continued to record an extraordinary capture rate. Olive Park is a staging area for large numbers of migrants; sparrows and thrushes can be particularly abundant at times.

This station received notification of its first foreign recovery, a Brown Thrasher #1423-67519, banded 28 April 1982 was found dead 26 September 1982 on a barrier island off the coast of Mississippi.

The largest daily catch was on 1 October when 53 birds were netted during 6.5 net hours for a capture rate of 815 birds per 100 net-hours.

## **Oak Harbor, Ohio 413-0830**

***Mark C. Shieldcastle***

The 1983 fall migration began a little late but ended normally in mid-November. Weather patterns were basically normal but dry until mid-September.

Very little banding was done due to weekend weather patterns. While actual banding time was slight, observations showed numbers and species composition to be normal throughout the fall period. High numbers were noted in Lincoln's Sparrows, Gray-cheeked Thrushes, and Ovenbirds.

The best day of the season for banding was 16 October when 173 birds were captured for a rate of 494.3 birds per 100 net-hours. I recorded one return, a Gray Catbird. Three Carolina Wrens were captured which were the first since the blizzards of 1978.

## **Locust Point, Ottawa County, Ohio 413-0830**

***John Pogacnik***

My banding station is located in a small woodlot 1 meter south of Lake Erie and 10 meters northeast of Oak Harbor, Ohio. The area has an overstory of oak, hickory, and maple with an understorey of grape and elderberry. I have been banding at this location for 2 years but this was the first complete fall season. Weather was hot and dry during early September and little banding was done. From mid-September until late November nearly half the days had measurable precipitation which also limited banding.

Most species were up in numbers especially Gray-cheeked Thrushes, kinglets, and White-throated Sparrows. Species noted in low numbers included Nashville Warblers and most flycatchers.

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Major banding days were 11 October (310 birds; 554 birds per 100 net-hours), 17 October (128 birds; 877 birds per 100 net-hours), and 10 November (155 birds; 738 birds per 100 net-hours). On 12 of the banding days over 100 birds were caught. In contrast, my best day during the fall of 1982 was 48 birds.

Unusual captures included 10 Connecticut Warblers (5 on 25 September), 4 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 1 Cooper's Hawk, 1 Long-eared Owl, and 1 Red-headed Woodpecker. An Ovenbird and a Gray-cheeked Thrush on 10 November were very late.

**Austin Springs, Washington County, Tennessee**  
**362-0822**  
**Rick Knight**

The Austin Springs Banding Station is operated only during the fall migration. This year banding was carried out on 34 days between 8 September and 9 November for the fourth consecutive fall season. Nets were open from dawn until late morning or early afternoon. The 388 birds of 36 species banded brings the cumulative total to 1665 birds of 51 species. Although the number of birds banded closely approaches that of 1982, the number of net-hours increased 63% and the resulting ratio of birds per 100 net-hours dropped from 163 to 94. Peak capture dates were 11 October with 33 birds, 17 and 18 October with 23 birds each, and 24 October with 27 birds.

Song Sparrows were again the most abundant species banded, comprising 33% of the total. American Goldfinches dropped to third with 9% of the total. Both these figures are below average, however, this is more likely a reflection of the increase in Palm Warblers and Common Yellowthroats rather than a decline in the goldfinches or sparrows. Both of the above warblers were banded in record high numbers. White-crowned Sparrows were late and in very low numbers. Least Flycatcher, Carolina Chickadee, Wilson's Warbler and Fox Sparrow were new for the station.

There were 9 returns this fall. The most interesting was a Common Yellowthroat banded 3 October 1981 (AHY-M) that was recaptured 3 October 1983. Other returns included American Goldfinch, Field Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, and Song Sparrow. There have now been 23 returns, or 1.4% of the total number of birds banded.

Several members of the Lee R. Herndon Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society visited the station. My thanks to Vernon Humphreys for permission to band on his property.

**Walton, Kentucky 385-0843**  
**Ezra E. Ditterline**

My banding station is located on my farm in a rural area 32 km south of Cincinnati, Ohio. My net numbers and placement are the same as previously reported. I usually band from dawn until mid-morning or until the wind gets too strong.

The activity at my station was about the same this year as it was last year except that I noted fewer warblers passing through. My best day was 14 October when 15 new birds were captured.

**Driftwood Bird Banding Station, Texas 300-0980**  
**Don Connell, Greg and Becky Lasley**

Once again our season was characterized by having a broad range of species with only a few large numbers. We had 31 of our 68 fall species banded represented by only 1 or 2 individuals. We felt amply rewarded by a new net placement over a creek that borders our station. Not only did we capture both species of kingfishers that occur in our area (Belted and Green), but we caught them on the same day. We were also impressed with the capture of a Veery, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and a Magnolia Warbler which are all very uncommon in this area during the fall.

Coming research projects for the spring that we are looking forward to include a study of nesting and reproductive strategies of Painted Buntings and a population study involving hummingbirds.

**Baldwin City, Kansas 384-0951**  
**Katharine B. Kelley**

My banding station is located in my backyard in Baldwin City, Kansas. As in previous reports, almost all birds were captured in traps; only 1 net was used. I operate the traps whenever I am home and able to check them.

The weather was warmer and drier than last year, and the first killing frost was late. My total of 137 new birds was almost double that of 1982.

**Table 1. Central Flyway Summary, Fall 1983**

	Arlington Hts. IL	Olive Park IL	Oak Harbor OH	Locust Point OH	Austin Springs TN	Walton KY	Indepen- dence MO	Baldwin City KS	Driftwood TX	Bracken- ridge Lab. TX
Days of Operation	18	40	7	24	34	44	—	42	45	53
Number of Nets	7	1-2	4-6	7-8	2-4	2-4	3-12	—	10-30	3-33
Total Net Hours	485	145	133	585	414	109	480	—	5125	6232
Largest Daily Catch	—	53	173	310	33	17	85	21	35	—
Birds Banded 1983	191	809	324	2265	388	182	390	137	613	792
Birds Banded 1982	452	—	—	—	414	71	—	72	510	—
Total Species 1983	33	59	44	73	36	34	46	14	68	75
Total Species 1982	50	—	—	—	36	21	—	20	71	—
Birds per 100/net- hours 1983	39.4	557	245	387	94	167	81.3	—	12	12.7
Birds per 100/net- hours 1982	30.7	—	—	—	163	51.4	—	—	17.5	—

**Table 2. Most commonly banded species at each station, fall 1983**

Arlington Heights IL		Olive Park IL		Oak Harbor OH		Locust Point OH	
American Redstart	63	White-throated Sparrow	135	White-throated Sparrow	99	White-throated Sparrow	302
Magnolia Warbler	21	Hermit Thrush	78	Swainson's Thrush	39	Golden-crowned Kinglet	169
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	14	Lincoln's Sparrow	62	Gray-cheeked Thrush	16	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	151
Blackpoll	11	Northern Waterthrush	48	Golden-crowned Kinglet	16	Bay-breasted Warbler	150
		Swainson's Thrush	43	Hermit Thrush	16	Myrtle Warbler	140
		Swamp Sparrow	42	Brown Creeper	13	Swainson's Thrush	118
		Common Yellowthroat	39	Swamp Sparrow	10	Slate-colored Junco	117
		Gray-cheeked Thrush	36			Gray-cheeked Thrush	113
		Wilson's Warbler	28			Hermit Thrush	110
		Song Sparrow	26			Ovenbird	91
Austin Springs TN		Independence MO		Walton KY		Baldwin City KS	
Song Sparrow	127	Slate-colored Junco	93	American Robin	45	American Goldfinch	43
Palm Warbler	49	Savannah Sparrow	65	Song Sparrow	30	American Robin	42
American Goldfinch	36	Swamp Sparrow	33	Field Sparrow	22	Slate-colored Junco	21
Common Yellowthroat	35	Black-capped Chickadee	22				
Swamp Sparrow	32	Lincoln's Sparrow	17				
Field Sparrow	25	White-throated Sparrow	11				
Savannah Sparrow	12	Northern Cardinal	10				
		Driftwood TX		Brackenridge Lab TX			
		Nashville Warbler	98	Northern Cardinal	84		
		Lincoln's Sparrow	55	Nashville Warbler	68		
		Ruby-crowned Kinglet	32	Northern Mockingbird	53		
		Orange-crowned Warbler	28	Wilson's Warbler	47		
		Field Sparrow	26	Orange-crowned Warbler	36		
		Painted Bunting	23	"Traill's" Flycatcher	35		
		White-crowned Sparrow	22	Mourning Warbler	33		
		Savannah Sparrow	21	White-throated Sparrow	33		
		American Robin	19	Lincoln's Sparrow	33		
		Northern Cardinal	18	Least Flycatcher	27		

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