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## Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 54, no. 4)

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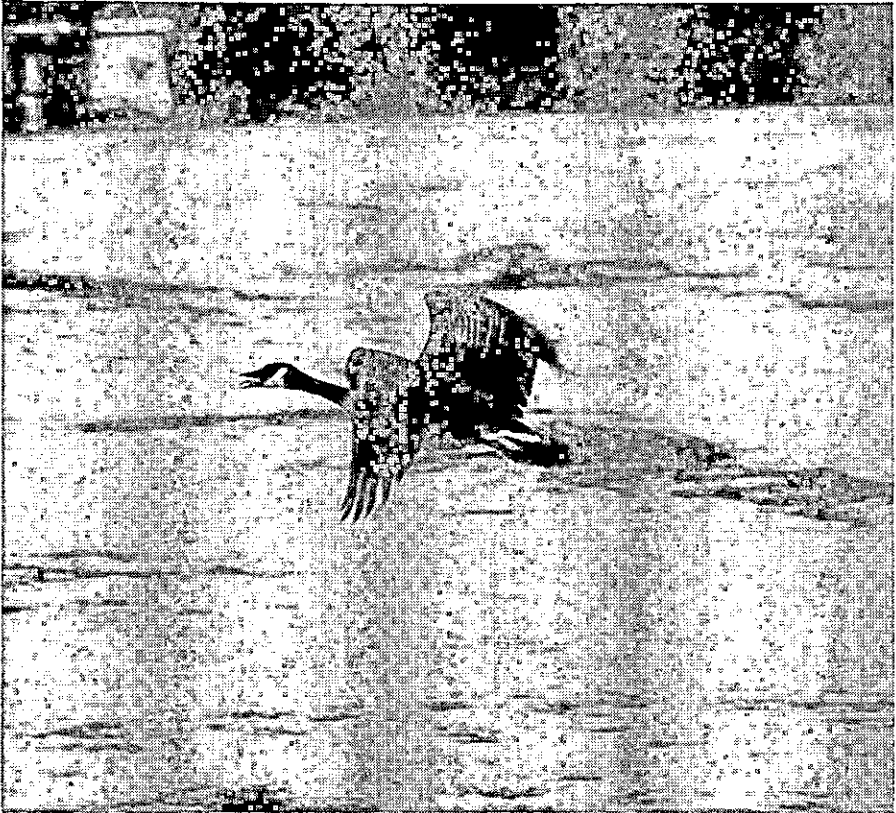
# The Kentucky Warbler

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### THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Editor ..... H. E. Shadowen, Biology Department, Western Kentucky Univ.,  
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#### OUR COVER

The photograph of the Canada Goose in flight was taken by K.O.S. member David Berry at the Ballard Game Management Area.

## SUMMER AVIFAUNA OF CENTER HILL RESERVOIR AND BARREN RIVER RESERVOIR

H. E. SHADOWEN

The purpose of this study is a preliminary comparison of the bird species observed during summer at two impoundments.

During five consecutive summers from 1972 through 1976 and again in 1978 a five-week course in Ornithology has been offered at Tech Aqua Biological Station on Center Hill Reservoir. The reservoir is located in the Eastern Highland Rim region of middle Tennessee at an elevation of 648 feet above sea level; it was formed in 1950 by the construction on Caney Fork River of Center Hill dam by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, inundating an area of 14,590 acres at minimum pool level and a maximum area of 23,060 acres. The shoreline of over 400 miles is for most part sloping and rocky with formations of limestone and shale. The reservoir is a multipurpose impoundment for flood control, electric power production, and recreation so that the water level is fluctuated greatly from season to season and even within short periods of time. Pleasure boats create considerable wave action along the shoreline; thus, the riparian ecotone does not provide a stable habitat for aquatic bird species and shore birds. Vegetation, consisting primarily of second-growth deciduous trees, surrounds the reservoir except for a few overgrown fields, residences, and boat docks.

Tech Aqua Biological Station is located on a 550-acre tract of land on the southern side of Center Hill Reservoir in Dekalb County eight miles north of Smithville. Most of the land is wooded; there are several buildings and a boat dock. The growth of the facility and construction in the surrounding area has resulted in the partial clearing of some forests and a gradual shift from forest-type bird species to species associated with forest clearings and old fields. Thus, the Pileated Woodpecker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Kentucky Warbler, and Scarlet Tanager are now less frequently seen, and the Common Flicker, Eastern Kingbird, Yellow Warbler, and Eastern Bluebird have increased in number. Field species, such as the Killdeer, American Kestrel, and Eastern Meadowlark, are not observed at the station but are seen in fields along the highway just outside the station.

Barren River Reservoir is located in the limestone area of south-central Kentucky approximately 15 miles north of the Kentucky-Tennessee border at an elevation of 520 feet above sea level. It was created in 1964 by the construction of a dam on Barren River by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, inundating an area of 3,440 acres at minimum pool level and a maximum area of 20,150 acres. It — like Center Hill Reservoir — is a multipurpose impoundment. Its primary purpose is flood control; the impoundment is maintained at minimum pool level during winter months and seasonal pool level in the summer. Obviously the amount of fluctuation combined with heavy pleasure boat traffic is not conducive to aquatic summer bird residents.

Ornithology classes have taken many field trips on Center Hill Res-

ervoir and the surrounding region to identify birds and become better acquainted with the many facets of birdlife. However, my field trips to Barren River Reservoir have been limited to the summer of 1978. Dr. Russell Starr and Mr. Wayne Mason have been most helpful in providing me with lists of birds they have recorded during the past summer, and their knowledge of bird life in the area and their assistance is acknowledged with appreciation.

In no way should this report be considered as an exhaustive list of the birds to be seen in the vicinity of these impoundments, but rather an introductory reference to be expanded and quantified by future field trips. In Tennessee only those birds within a ten-mile radius of Tech Aqua Biological Station were included. Other species of wrens, warblers, and sparrows may be found in these regions but were not positively identified and therefore are not included. Neither should the fact that a species is listed be construed as an indication that the species is a summer resident; for example, the Common Loon observed several times at Center Hill Reservoir during the summer of 1975 was obviously an injured bird incapable of flying to its usual summer home. Several birding areas on Barren River Reservoir were not visited during the past summer, and those birding trips by me were during the latter half of the summer.

Following each species listed below is the summer or summers in which that species was observed at Center Hill Reservoir and an indication of the frequency of observation (C = common; U = uncommon, not seen every week; and R = rare, not seen more than twice during the five-week period). Preceding the species listed below is the same kind of information for birds observed at Barren River Reservoir for the summer of 1978.

R Common Loon '75 R	U Screech Owl '72, '76 U
U Pied-billed Grebe	U Great Horned Owl '72, '75, '78 U
U Great Blue Heron '78 R	C Barred Owl '72, '75-76, '78 C
C Green Heron '72-76, '78 C	C Chuck-will's-widow
Bl.-crowned Night Heron '76 R	U Whip-poor-will '72-76, '78 C
Mallard '74-76, '78 U	C Common Nighthawk '75-76 C
C Wood Duck '73-76 '78 U	C Chimney Swift '72-76, '78 C
C Turkey Vulture '72-76, '78 C	C Ruby-th. Hummingbird '72-76,
U Black Vulture '73-76 U, '78 R	'78 C
R Cooper's Hawk '72-76, '78 U	C Belted Kingfisher '72-76, '78 C
R Sharp-shinned Hawk '76 R	C Common Flicker '72-76, '78 C
C Red-tailed Hawk '72-76, '78 C	C Pileated Woodpecker '72-76, '78
U Red-shouldered Hawk '75 U	C
U Broad-winged Hawk '72-76, '78 C	C Red-bel. Woodpecker '72-76, '78
R Osprey '72, '75 R	C
C American Kestrel '72-76 C, '78 U	U Red-headed Woodpecker '72-76,
C Bobwhite '72-76, '78 C	'78 U
C Killdeer '72-76, '78 U	U Hairy Woodpecker '72-76, '78 C
R American Woodcock	C Downy Woodpecker '72-76, '78 C
C Rock Dove '72-76, '78 C	C Eastern Kingbird '72-76, '78 C
C Mourning Dove '72-76, '78 C	C Gr. Crested Flycatcher '72-76,
C Yellow-bil. Cuckoo '72-76, '78 C	'78 C
Black-bil. Cuckoo '74-75 U	C Eastern Phoebe '72-76, '78 C

- C Acadian Flycatcher '72-76, '78 C  
 Willow Flycatcher '72-76, '78 R  
 Least Flycatcher '73 R
- C Eastern Wood Pewee '72-76, '78  
 C
- U Horned Lark
- C Bank Swallow '74-76, '78 U
- C Cliff Swallow
- C Rough-winged Swallow '73-76,  
 '78 C
- C Barn Swallow '72-76, '78 C
- C Purple Martin '72-76, '78 C
- C Blue Jay '72-76, '78 C
- C Common Crow '72-76, '78 C
- C Carolina Chickadee '72-76, '78 C
- C Tufted Titmouse '72-76, '78 C
- U White-br. Nuthatch '72-76, '78 C
- U House Wren '72, '74, '78 U
- R Bewick's Wren '72-73 U, '78 R
- R Carolina Wren '72-76 C, '79 U
- C Mockingbird '72-76, '78 C
- C Gray Catbird '72-76, '78 C
- C Brown Thrasher '72-76, '78 C
- C American Robin '72-76, '78 C
- C Wood Thrush '72-76, '78 C
- U Eastern Bluebird '72-76, '78 C
- C Blue-gray Knatcatcher '72-7\*,  
 78 C
- U Cedar Waxwing '72, '76 U
- U Loggerhead Shrike '72-76 U
- C Starling '72-76, '78 C
- C White-eyed Vireo '72-76, '78 C
- U Yellow-thr. Vireo '72-76, '78 C
- Solitary Vireo '74-76, '78 U
- C Red-eyed Vireo '72-76, '78 C
- R Warbling Vireo '72, '75-76 U
- U Black-and-Wh. War. '72-76, '78  
 U
- U Prothonotary Warbler '72- 76 C,  
 '78 U
- Swainson's Warbler '78 U
- R Worm-eating Warbler '75-76, '78  
 U
- Blue-winged Warbler '73 R
- Parula Warbler '73-76, '78 U
- U Yellow Warbler '72-76, '78 C
- Blk.-th. Blue Warbler '74-75 R
- Blk.-th. Green Warbler '76, '78 R
- R Cerulean Warbler '74, '76, '78 U
- C Yel.-throated Warbler '76, '78 U
- Pine Warbler '78 R
- C Prairie Warbler '72-76, '78 C
- U Ovenbird '72, '74, '76 U
- U La. Waterthrush '75-76, '78 U
- C Kentucky Warbler '72-76, '78 C
- C Common Yellowthroat '72-76, '78  
 C
- C Yellow-br. Chat '72-76, '78 C
- C Hooded Warbler '74-76 U, '78 C
- C American Redstart '74-75 U, '78  
 C
- C House Sparrow '72-76, '78 C
- C Eastern Meadowlark '72-76, '78  
 C
- C Red-winged Blackbird '72-76, '78  
 C
- C Orchard Oriole '72-76, '78 C
- R Northern Oriole '72-73 R
- C Common Grackle '72-76, '78 C
- C Br.-headed Cowbird '72-76, '78 C
- U Scarlet Tanager '72-76, '78 U
- C Summer Tanager '72-76, '78 C
- C Cardinal '72-76, '78 C
- U Blue Grosbeak '72, '75-76 U
- U Indigo Bunting '72-76, '78 C
- R Dickcissel '73 U
- C American Goldfinch '72-76, '78 C
- C Rufous-sided Towhee '72-76, '78  
 C
- Grasshopper Sparrow '75-76 R
- Vesper Sparrow '75-76 R
- C Chipping Sparrow '72-76, '78 C
- C Field Sparrow '72-76, '78 C
- Song Sparrow '72-74, 76, '78 U

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## THE NESTING SEASON, SUMMER 1978

ANNE L. STAMM

June was hot and dry throughout most of the state. The temperature in the Louisville area was 90 degrees or above on 12 days, with the highest at 97 on June 27. Precipitation was below normal for the month. July was also hot but humid, and temperatures ranged in the nineties for 12 days. Rainfall measured slightly above normal. Severe thunderstorms were frequent in most of the state and because of uprooted trees, broken limbs, etc., some destruction to nests was observed. Also, the high water which covered the rock ledge at the Falls of the Ohio for most of the period undoubtedly interfered with ground nesting species such as Killdeer and the Spotted Sandpiper.

One of the noticeable features of the period was the sharp decline in the breeding population of the Bobwhite, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Meadowlark, Field and Song Sparrows.

It was disappointing that the reports contained little data on actual breeding activities of the birds of the state. Few nest-record cards for the K.O.S. permanent file and the Cornell University nest-card project have been received at the time of this writing.

Hawk nests of various species were reported, but contained little precise data on nest content or on the outcome.

Yellow-billed Cuckoos were reported in good numbers in most areas. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers and Red-eyed Vireos are no longer observed in the numbers of some years ago. Pine Siskins lingered well into June, and Blue Grosbeaks were more numerous than in previous years. The latter species is now becoming well established as a breeding bird in many parts of the state.

*Cormorants through Ducks* — Double-crested Cormorants figured in only one report of a single bird flying over the Ohio River at Louisville on July 16 (BPB). An active colony of Great Blue Herons (seven nests with young) was found in West Kentucky near the Mississippi River in early July (JEr); single birds were noted from July 9 through the period at the Falls of the Ohio, with three on July 28 (BPB, ALS). Green Herons were definitely down from previous years at the Falls of the Ohio and in Seneca Park, Louisville (ALS). Two adult Little Blue Herons were observed at the Falls of the Ohio on July 2 (JEl); two adults there, possibly the same birds on July 8 (LR) and July 9 (BPB); one immature there on July 21 (LR) and July 30 (BPB); and one adult on July 28 (ALS, FS). Black-crowned Night Herons were seen in small to fair numbers at the Falls of the Ohio regularly throughout the period (BPB, ALS), with a peak number of 118 birds on June 30, with 10% immatures (LR). Yellow-crowned Night Herons were found nesting in Fayette County, June 2 (GH); both adult and immatures were at the Falls of the Ohio in July

(BPB, ALS), with a peak of about 12 immatures and two adults on July 9 (BPB). Two small flocks of Mallards of about 20 birds were on the small lake at Simpsonville on June 29 (ALS, FS); and about 150 birds — mostly immatures — on the Ohio River at Louisville, July 16, were likely early migrants (BPB).

*Hawks.* — On the morning of June 29, 32 Turkey Vultures were seen on a radio tower in eastern Jefferson County (ALS, FS). A single Sharp-shinned Hawk was reported at Falls of Rough on July 11-15 (KWC, HC). Two Mississippi Kites were seen in the Ballard Waterfowl Management area in early June (JEr); and one observed on the Cedar Grove Breeding survey in June (HS, JS, WM). Few nests of the Broad-winged Hawk were reported and the one under construction in Franklin County on May 16 was of special interest (WB). However, it was disappointing that no follow up was made. A number of Red-tailed Hawk nests were reported in the following Counties: two in Oldham, three in Shelby and one in Franklin (WB); one nest with one young and one with two on June 2 in Fayette County (GH); another on June 2, with one young in Nicholas County (GH). The American Kestrel appeared to be doing well in the Louisville area where fair numbers were seen (ALS); adult birds were observed feeding young in a nest in Oldham County on May 30 (WB); breeding also observed in Fayette County (GH).

*Bobwhite through Shorebirds.* — Due to the severe winter it was not surprising to find that a number of the reports reflected a sharp decline in the Bobwhite population. On the Radcliff breeding survey the Bobwhite was down "from an average of 30 birds to 10 birds" (IaS); on the Hodgenville survey "down from an average of 55 birds or so to four birds" (LaS); on the Shelbyville census down 87% from the 1977 figures and down 93.6% from 1976 (ALS); and "scarce" on Iles farm in McLean County (RI). However, on the Merrimac, Taylor County route, the Bobwhite "seemed to compare favorably to past years" (BPB). The Killdeer was not as common in the Louisville area as in past years; young were out of the nest at Long Run State Park, Jefferson County, June 29 (ALS, FS). The reports had little information on shorebirds. However, the return migration appeared to be slightly later than in most seasons. In the Louisville area the high water covered the rock ledge in the early part of the season at Falls of the Ohio and may have kept the birds from stopping off as they moved southward. A nest of the American Woodcock was reported from western Kentucky (no date given — CP). On July 29, a few Spotted, Baird's, Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers were observed on islands in the Land Between the Lakes area (CP, JEr, MM). A dowitcher (sp?) was rather early at the Falls of the Ohio on July 9 (BPB, LR). Two Stilt Sandpipers, never common in fall in the Louisville area, were on schedule July 23 (JEL, BPB, LR). The arrival of three American Avocets at the Falls of the Ohio on July 31 was of great interest and established an early record (JEL, BPB).

*Doves through Swallows.* — Small flocks of 35 to 40 Mourning Doves were observed in fields in Muhlenberg and Christian Counties on July 22



(PH); they seemed unusually common in the Louisville area (ALS). Yellow-billed Cuckoos were "doubled in numbers over last year" on the Radcliff and Hodgenville breeding bird surveys (LaS); and were "more common than usual" in Springfield (JB); also common on Pine Mountain Settlement School property (SM). Black-billed Cuckos were also reported from Pine Mountain, Bell County, in early June (SM). A young Screech Owl fledged from a nest on June 2 in Jeffersontown. The parent birds were one in the gray and one in the red phase (RMa, WM). Two Great Horned Owls fledged at a nest in Springfield (JB). The Ruby-throated Hummingbird was reported as "practically rare now" at Madisonville (JH); only one observed at Hopkinsville this season (PH). Hummingbirds usually gather in August at some favorite feeding place before leaving for the south, and 10 were seen around a mimosa tree as early as July 26 at Louisville (BPB); in the Anchorage area, where previously numbers had been observed in the late summer, none were seen this season (EP). A *Western Kingbird* on June 23 in Louisville was an unusual find (BPB). The plaintive notes of the Wood Pewee were heard less frequently this year in Louisville (ALS, BPB). A Tree Swallow in Ballard County in early June (JEr) and one near Merrimac, Taylor County, June 15, (BPB) were either unusually late migrants or possibly breeding birds; and three birds were observed on June 29 in eastern Jefferson County, where they nested the past several years (ALS, FS). The Rough-winged Swallow was considered "more numerous this year than in past years" at Springfield (JB). Purple Martins appeared to leave earlier than in most seasons: adults and young left the nesting area at the end of June at Springfield (JB); migration, in small numbers, was noted at Louisville during July 15-19 (ALS); an estimated 1250 observed on electrical wires along the Ohio River, near the Falls of the Ohio, July 25, and 10,000 there on July 31 (BPB, LR).

*Titmice through Starlings.* — Titmice appeared to be "scarce" in Owensboro (RI). House Wrens were thought to have increased "quite noticeably" at Springfield (JB). Only one Bewick's Wren was reported and observed at Hopkinsville (PH). The species continues to be absent in most places. The severe winter in Kentucky the past two years was hard on the Carolina Wren population. Reports mentioned "a few around", but in most cases the birds were entirely "absent". However, it was encouraging to note that the species "recovered slightly" from last year's figures on the Hodgenville and Radcliff breeding surveys (LaS) and a "few more were found this summer than last" in the Kentucky Lake area (JEr). Few comments on the Mockingbird were made, but a slight decline was noticed on the Shelbyville census, where the decrease began in June 1972 (ALS); on the Hodgenville breeding survey a decline over the last three years showed 18 birds in 1975 and two in 1978 (LaS); on the Radcliff survey, seven birds this year, as opposed to 19 in 1977 (LaS). More Catbirds than normal were noticed on the Iles farm in McLean County (RI). Robins declined on the Shelbyville breeding survey by 21.6% from the 1977 figures (ALS). A Swainson's Thrush was heard as late as June 8 in Jefferson County (LaS). The Eastern Bluebird reached a new low in population throughout Kentucky; the species was practically non-existent and most observers reported not seeing any or "one or a few pairs" (m.o.b.). Two nests of the Cedar waxwing were active during late

July in the Louisville area (BPB). No Loggerhead Shrikes were seen in Louisville (ALS), but a nest, with a parent bird incubating on May 26, was reported in Lyon County (WB); and a nest with seven young and all fledged was observed at Cadiz (fide IK). Lawrence D. Smith reported a steady decline in Starlings on the Radcliff breeding survey (which he has taken over a period of years) from a high of 300 birds in 1973 to 65 in 1978, while on the Hodgenville survey he noted "some recovery over a similar decline through last year." Also, some decrease in the Starling population was found on the Shelbyville breeding bird survey for the past two years (ALS).

*Vireos through Blackbirds.* — The Red-eyed Vireo showed "some improvement in numbers" with 12 birds on the Hodgenville and six on the Radcliff surveys, both up from one bird in 1974 (LaS). A pair of Warbling Vireos was observed feeding young at Springfield during the period (JB); there was a slight increase in numbers over last year in the Shelbyville survey (ALS). Little, if any, mention was made of breeding warblers, although many species nest in Kentucky. Two Golden-winged Warblers were recorded on June 1 in Bell County and three singing males were observed on Brownies Creek, Bell County, near the Harlan County line on route 217, June 4 (SM). A Blue-winged Warbler was heard "singing consistently" on June 14 in Union County and was assumed to be a breeder (AS). Few Yellow Warblers were heard in the Louisville parks (ALS). A singing male Pine Warbler was recorded at Kenlake State Park on August 1 (CP). James W. Hancock mentioned that the Louisiana Waterthrush was now "rather rare" in the Madisonville area, but still found at Loch Mary, Earlington. Small numbers of Bobolinks were again found in Oldham County in mid-June, where they have nested in recent years (m.o.b.); also nesting reported at Masterstation Park, Lexington (RM). The Meadowlark took a "nose dive" this year! The species was down 66% from 1977 on the Shelbyville breeding survey and down 81% from 1976 figures (ALS, FS); a steady decline noted "over the past three years" on the Hodgenville survey from 125 birds to 54 and on the Radcliff survey down from 93 birds to 40 (LaS); and a "definite decrease" on the Wilson farm in Sorgho (LW); also down in Madisonville (JH) and on the Palmer-Ball farm (BPB). Red-winged Blackbirds were fairly stable on the Shelbyville survey (ALS) and showed "improvement in populations on both the Radcliff and Hodgenville routes" (LaS). However, there was a "continued decline" in both the latter route surveys for the Common Grackle (LaS) and oddly enough, the Shelbyville census indicated a considerable increase, but was possibly due to a large flock on one of the stops (ALS, FS).

*Tanagers through Sparrows.* — A male Scarlet Tanager had been seen on a farm in McLean County during the period and was last observed on July 25 (RI). The observation was of interest since the species is uncommon as a summer resident in that area. Blue Grosbeaks have been extending their range eastward and were recorded from Calloway County to Anderson and Washington Counties; some increase was observed on the Shiloh breeding census (western Kentucky), with seven birds on five stops (CP, JEr); eight male and one female were recorded on the Elizabethtown breeding survey (BM); one recorded at Madisonville on July

2 and 16 (JH); two on June 25 on the Johnsville breeding survey and one in Nelson County on June 28 and 29 (JC); two in Taylor County (BPB); and June observations in Washington County (JB). No Dickeyseals were seen in Louisville (S, BPB); or Shelbyville (WB); and only one observed at Springfield (JB); also scarce at Lexington this season (RM). No reports from the western sections of the state were received where Dickeyseals should be more numerous. Pine Siskins remained daily at Jeffersonton until June 6 (RMa, WM); and until June 10 at Louisville (KWC). The American Goldfinch was thought to be "definitely on the decline" at Madisonville this year (JH); a July nest about 35 feet up in a white pine at Louisville was considered rather high (BPB). Savannah Sparrows were recorded singing on the Hickman farm, Goshen (m.o.b.) and at Masterstation Park, Lexington (RM). There has been a gradual decline over the past 10 years of Grasshopper Sparrows in the Louisville area (ALS), but were considered in greater numbers this summer at Springfield (JB) and in fair numbers at Lexington (RM). Henslow's Sparrows were observed breeding at Lexington (RM). Few Chipping Sparrows were seen at Murray (JEr, CP) and at Louisville, where the species has been declining over the past few seasons (ALS). An obvious decline was noted in the Field Sparrow population at Madisonville (JH), on the Shelbyville breeding survey (ALS), and on the Merrimac, Taylor County routes (BPB); while no decrease was apparent at Springfield (JB). Song Sparrows declined over the past two years on the Radcliff and Hodgenville surveys, but "enjoyed growth there from 1972 to 1977 (LaS); and were down 62.5% from the 1977 figures on the Shelbyville breeding survey (ALS).

*CORRECTION.* — In the list of contributors for The Spring Season of 1978, *Ky. Warbler* 54:47, 1978, add (SM) Steve McKee. The name was inadvertently omitted.

*Contributors.* — (JB) John Barber; (WB) William H. Brown; (KWC) Kathryn W. Clay; (HC) Herbert L. Clay, Jr.; (JC) Joseph E. Croft; (JEl) Jackie Elmore, Sr.; (JEr) Joe Tom Erwin; (JH) James W. Hancock; (GH) Given Harper; (PH) Phillip Hyatt; (RI) Ramon Iles; (IK) Irene Kemper; (RMa) Ruth Mathes; (WM) William Mathes; (SM) Steve McKee; (MM) Michael Miller; (BM) Burt L. Monroe, Jr.; (RM) Robert Morris; (BPB) Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.; (CP) Clell Peterson; (EP) Mrs. Edwin Porter; (LR) Lene Rauth; (HS) Herbert E. Shadowen; (LaS) Lawrence D. Smith; (ALS) Anne L. Stamm; (FS) Frederick W. Stamm; (AS) Allen Stickley; (LW) L. C. Wilson. Other abbreviations — (m.o.b.) many observers.

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## THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING

September 29, 30, October 1, 1978

The Annual Fall Meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held September 29, 30, and October 1, 1978 with headquarters at the Holiday Inn at Danville, Kentucky. Folders and maps of interesting areas of the vicinity were handed out.

At the opening session at 7:30 p.m., President Uterhart welcomed the members and called on Mrs. Heck of Danville to give a bit of history of Danville, especially the establishment of the Wildlife Refuge in the area. The idea of preserving the Knob region in its natural state was born at a gathering of local citizens at a dinner table including Mrs. Myers, Bill and Pat Kemper, Roy Ellis, Mary Ashby Cheek and others. This led to the formation of a "conservation group" or a corporation which purchased 500 acres of land for \$32,500. This area was renovated, replanted and several ponds were built by the members and, by working in various fields, such as cattle and tobacco raising, selling of works of art donated by Ray Harm and Chauncey Alcock, and by donations and bequests, the debt of the land was paid by 1973 — in 8 years. Centre College serves as the Board of Directors with Dr. Frederick Loetscher as Technical Director. Many of the local citizens, students, and fraternities at the college donate their time to the upkeep of the Refuge, also known as the Sanctuary, which is used for nature programs, ecological studies etc.

Ramon Iles, Program Director, introduced Jim Gentry, a native of Danville, who showed slides of usual and unusual wild flowers around southern Boyle County and northern Casey County.

Pierre Allaire followed with a slide-illustrated report on his continuing study of the potential distribution changes of certain Kentucky birds resulting from strip mining and reclamation.

Mark Bennet, a graduate student of Prof. Whitt at Eastern Kentucky University at Richmond, summarized his extensive three-year research on the nesting habits of the Red-tailed Hawk.

Mrs. Anne Stamm called attention to the new book by Jon Rickert, *A Guide to North American Bird Clubs*. She also called attention to *The Birding News Survey* published quarterly by the Avian Publications of Elizabethtown.

A printed list of the times, leaders, guides, and several areas for the field trips were distributed to all the members. The areas included not only the Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge with its Bluebird Trail, Cross Trail, and Brooks Hollow, but also Children's Center of the Christian Church, Shakertown and Kentucky River and the Danville Youth Development Center. Leaders and Guides included Dr. Frederick Loetscher, John Cheek, Chauncey Alcock, Mr. Whitt, John Stamper, John Nichols, Bert Powell, Dr. and Mrs. Harry Caldwell, Mike Flynn and Moseill Jester.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

In spite of the nippy morning Saturday, September 30, the lobby and the area in front of the lobby were alive with some 100 eager "birders".

The afternoon was left open for the members to choose areas if they wished to go on additional trips.

The banquet was held at the Holiday Inn at 6:30 p.m. The main speaker of the evening was Joe E. Knight, a nature and bird photographer of Louisville, a member of the Beckham Bird Club and the K.O.S., who had spent his summer photographing birds in Michigan. His topic, "Moments in Nature" was a most unusual, fascinating, multimedia presentation. A total of 160 birds, wild flowers, and scenes was presented to a very attentive audience.

The General Business Meeting followed the banquet. Mr. Fred Stamm moved that we thank the local people for the marvelous efficiency in planning the three-day meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Flynn and enthusiastically passed.

Mrs. Jean Jones gave the Treasurer's report which was accepted as read.

Dr. Uterhart announced that the Spring Meeting would be held as usual at Mammoth Cave National Park on April 27, 28, 29 with the Fall Meeting being tentatively set for Owensboro, October 5, 6, 7, 1979.

Mr. Pierre Allaire explained the Warbler Award Program worked out by the Award Committee consisting of Pierre Allaire, Dr. Herb Shadowen and Howard Jones to increase membership in the K.O.S. especially among young people. A motion was made by Mike Flynn and seconded by Mr. Whitt that the members accept the proposed Warbler Award Program. Motion carried. The Program will be published in detail in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

Dr. Shadowen called attention to the faithful work of Mrs. Anne Stamm in writing The Season articles for *The Kentucky Warbler* and asked for contributions from the members of field notes and black and white glossy photographs for publication in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

The Nominating Committee presented the following list of candidates for offices in the K.O.S., for the coming year:

Dr. Andrew Uterhart, President  
Ramon Iles, Vice-President  
Ruth Mathes, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer  
Sister Casimir Czurlis, Recording Secretary

Councillors:

Mrs. Molly Caldwell  
Ed Wilson

Since no further nominations were made from the floor, Dr. Heck moved that the presented list of candidates be accepted. This was seconded by Mr. Whitt and the motion carried.

Dr. Uterhart announced that the Nature Conservancy Meeting would be held at Natural Bridge, October 4, and anyone interested could attend even if not a member. He then explained the Nature Hot Line established

by Jon Rickert of Elizabethtown. This is the first state toll free bird alert in the U.S., the number to call being 1-800-372-2998 to receive the latest report on any unusual or special nature phenomena or observation. Anyone may call to give any unusual sightings of his own after the regular taped information.

Dr. Shadowen checked the list of birds sighted on the various trips, 79 being reported.

Dr. Shadowen invited any interested members to the Symposium on the blackbird problem to be headed by Mr. Stickley at the Student Center at Western Kentucky University at Bowling Green October 4.

The Sunday Field Trips were left open to the decision of members.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sister Casimir Czurlles  
Recording Secretary

## BIRDS REPORTED ON FIELD TRIPS AT THE FALL MEETING AT DANVILLE

September 30, October 1, 1978

Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Merlin, American Kestrel, Ruffed Grouse, Bobwhite, Killdeer, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Great Horned Owl, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Wood Pewee, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black-and-White Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson's Warbler, American Redstart, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow. — Total species: 81.

**ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS  
AT THE FALL MEETING, 1978**

BLANDVILLE: Newton Belt.

BOWLING GREEN: Dick and Priscilla Ferrell, Dr. and Mrs. Herb Shadowen.

BURLINGTON: Mr. and Mrs. Lee McNeely.

CALIFORNIA: Tom and Elinor Rambo.

CARLISLE: Given Harper.

DANVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Alcock, Dr. and Mrs. Harry Caldwell, Mary Ashley Cheek, Frank and Edna Heck, William Kemper, Dr. and Mrs. F. W. Loetscher, Mrs. Bowman Myers, Paul Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Carlile Nichols, Mrs. Wilbur Robinson.

FRANKFORT: J. Hill Hamon, Scott Hankla, Howard and Jean Jones, Clifton and Sally Rice.

HARRODSBURG: Mrs. Mary Ingram.

JACKSON: Mrs. Price Sewell, Cornelia and Tom Smith.

JEFFERSONTOWN: Mrs. Fred Zuercher.

LEXINGTON: Dennis and Faith Coskren, Ruth Davis, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Flynn, Mary Pat Flynn, Robert Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Poundstone, Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Uterhart, Mr. and Mrs. James Williams.

LOUISVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Allaire, Bess Douthitt, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Fisher, Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Hectorne, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Knight, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Mathes, Holly Oldham, Dorothy Peil, Larry Sanders, Evelyn Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Shannon, F. W. and Anne Stamm.

MACEO: Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Powell

MADISONVILLE: Thelma Gentry, Mr. and Mrs. N. M. Travis.

MAYFIELD: David Berry.

MURRAY: Hunter and Christine Hancock.

NICHOLASVILLE: Betty Maxon.

OWENSBORO: Ann, Ed, and Ted Bowne, Sister Casimir Czurlas, Mary L. Greenwell, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Emogene Lashbrook, Anna Marion Potts, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson.

PADUCAH: Damon and Bernice Caddell, Shirley Rhea.  
 RICHMOND: Bill and Jane Householder, Marcia Trodahl, Mr. and Mrs.  
 Allie Whitt.  
 SPRINGFIELD: John R. Barber, Jr.  
 WILLIAMSBURG: Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Olsen.  
 SUNMAN, IND.: Jim Medderman.  
 CINCINNATI, OHIO: Frances and Ralph Carpenter.  
 ANN ARBOR, MICH.: Mr. and Mrs. John A. Cheek

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER  
 SEPTEMBER 30, 1978**

**GENERAL FUND**

Bank Balance as shown by last report, October 1, 1977 ..... \$1,162.18

**Receipts**

Membership Dues .....	\$1,587.00	
Interest Income:		
Certificates (2) of Deposit (Endowment Fund) ....	136.20	
Colonial Federal Savings & Loan Assoc.		
Spring Meeting .....	543.00	
Fall Meeting .....	763.60	
Sales - Checklists, badges, Occurrences, etc. ....	80.60	3,110.40
	Total Receipts .....	\$4,272.58

**Disbursements**

Printing: Kentucky Warbler, 4 issues .....	\$1,306.52	
Bulk Mail & Mailing Permit .....	90.00	
Supplies: Envelopes, stamps, etc. ....	242.17	
Expenses — Fall Meeting .....	775.56	
Expenses — Spring Meeting .....	511.30	
Dues — Nature Conservancy .....	15.00	
Life Memberships (2) to Endowment Fund (Jefferson Federal Savings & Loan Assoc.) .....	100.00	
Miscellaneous .....	27.49	3,068.04
	Balance, State National Bank, Frankfort, Kentucky ..	\$1,204.54
		\$4,272.58



**ENDOWMENT FUND**

Balance in Savings Account, Jefferson Federal Savings & Loan Assoc., Louisville, Kentucky .....	\$1,440.45	
Certificates (2) of Deposit, Colonial Federal Savings & Loan Assoc., Louisville, Kentucky .....	2,000.00	
		<u>\$3,440.45</u>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Interest Income:		
Certificate, Colonial .....	136.20	
Savings Account, Jefferson Federal (3 quarters) ..	61.16	
Two Life Memberships (Smith & Cassell) .....	100.00	
Total Receipts .....		297.36
		<u>\$3,737.81</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Transfer of Interest on Certificate to General Fund .....	136.20	
Total Disbursements .....		136.20
		<u>\$3,601.61</u>
Balance in Endowment Fund, September 30, 1978:		
Savings Account, Jefferson Federal .....	1,601.61	
Certificates (2), Colonial Federal .....	2,000.00	
Total .....		<u>\$3,601.61</u>

**THE GORDON WILSON FUND FOR ORNITHOLOGY**

Balance in Savings Account, Greater Louisville Savings & Loan Association, October 1, 1977 .....	\$ 775.59	
Certificate, Colonial Federal Savings & Loan Association .....	1,000.00	\$1,775.59
<b>Receipts</b>		
Interest on Savings Account .....	\$ 43.13	
Interest on Certificate .....	68.10	111.23
		<u>\$1,886.82</u>
Balance in Savings Account, Greater Louisville Savings & Loan Assoc. ....	886.82	
Certificate, Colonial Federal Savings & Loan Assoc. ....	1,000.00	
		<u>\$1,886.82</u>

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**September 30, 1978**

**Assets:**

Cash, State National Bank, Frankfort, Kentucky .....	\$1,204.54
Savings Account, Jefferson Federal Savings & Loan Assoc.	1,601.61
Certificates (2), Endowment Fund, Colonial Federal Savings & Loan Association .....	2,000.00
Savings Account, Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology, Greater Louisville Savings & Loan Assoc. ....	886.82
Certificate, Gordon Wilson Fund, Colonial Federal Savings & Loan Association .....	1,000.00
Net Worth, September 30, 1978 .....	6,692.97

Jean P. Jones, Treasurer

**BOOK REVIEW**

*A GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN BIRD CLUBS*, compiled and edited by Jon E. Rickert, Sr. with foreword by Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 310, Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42701, 1978; pp. xiii & 565, and 64 outline maps. \$15.00 postpaid. American funds.

This reference book lists data on more than 835 bird clubs throughout North America. However, it is more than a guide to bird clubs which are extant in an area reaching from Alaska to Newfoundland and south to Mexico, Central America and the islands of the Atlantic and the Caribbean. This book is, in effect, a new kind of bird finding guide. It does not describe how to get to various birding places and it does not list what can be seen there — information which, in our time of rapidly changing environments, may be all too ephemeral. Instead, this guide details information which enables a birder to get directly in touch with the local bird club in an area he plans to visit. The local bird club is the key to a successful birding experience in an unfamiliar area. Mr. Rickert believes that the many local bird clubs in North America and the host of birders eager to explore birding in areas new to them can have a profitable mutual relationship. Bird clubs can make available to visiting birders information on bird species and favorite birding areas and, in return, appreciative birders can become members or subscribe to the clubs' publications. It was with the intention of providing a source for up-to-date bird finding information and of strengthening bird clubs and bird-oriented general nature clubs that Mr. Rickert undertook the work of compiling and editing *A GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN BIRD CLUBS*. The concept is a brilliant one and a unique idea for a bird finding guide.

Mr. Rickert is well qualified by experience to have reached his conclusions and to have undertaken the tremendous task. His interest in birding extends over a period of thirty years. It has taken him to forty-

four states and three provinces and led him to membership in more than seventy-five ornithological organizations throughout North America.

The amount of data concerning bird clubs collected in this volume is impressive and certainly indicates exhaustive research. No less impressive is the clear, concise organization of the data for each club, so that there is consistency and easy reference. The name and permanent address, if the club has one, is given, with the names of at least two responsible people as contacts. This is followed by information pertinent to the headings "Birding Report," "Publications," "Field Trips" and "Meetings." "Birding Report" lists the names and telephone numbers of local field experts or of anchor people in the local rare bird alert and, also, the number of the birding "hotline," if there is one. "Publications" details information concerning any newsletter, magazine, local bird finding guide, checklist or other publication, including availability and price. It also includes information on membership and fees. "Field Trips" lists the frequency of field trips and the favorite birding areas. "Meetings" contains information on the date, place and time of the club's meetings.

As far as I have been able to judge, by checking data on the half-dozen or so clubs in Florida with which I am quite familiar, information concerning the clubs is accurate and up-to-date.

The organization of this guide book is very logical. Generally, club descriptions are grouped and arranged in order according to the places where the clubs are located. There is one exception. National organizations of the United States and Canada are listed in a single section and arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the organization.

The user must have a clear understanding of how this guide is organized, because there is no index to it. The table of contents is scanty and does not help in finding the outline maps which are the key to locating most of the clubs listed in the guide. The editor has provided a "Plan Of The Book And How To Use It." It should be read carefully before attempting to search in this volume. Even so, the user of this guide will find himself riffling through pages trying to find the outline maps he wants. The lack of any index is the one criticism I have to make of *A GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN BIRD CLUBS*. At the very least, the outline maps should have been indexed.

The format of the book is pleasing. It is well bound with an attractive hard cover. The print is clear and black. Typographical errors are few and not serious. The price is modest for a reference book.

Mr. Rickert has indeed succeeded in providing a comprehensive source-book for up-to-date bird finding information that will be very useful. The book will certainly find its way into most libraries. But those who bird, or hope to bird, in unfamiliar areas anywhere in North America will want to have their own copies. They should not hold back from purchase because of a fear that this guide will soon be outdated. It is probable that at least one of the many persons named as contacts for each club can be reached for some years into the future. Besides, while fields and swamps described in bird finding guides may disappear, bird clubs endure. — BERNICE B. SHANNON, 3021 Eagle Pass, Louisville 40217.

## FIELD NOTES

### Birds of the Higher Mountains by Wayne H. Davis and Charles K. Smith

Lovell (1950) discussed the northern species of birds which are summer residents of Kentucky and concluded that, with the possible exception of the Blue-headed Vireo, all were restricted to the higher slopes of Big Black Mountain, generally above 3000 feet elevation, in Harlan and Letcher counties. However, Croft (1969) explored the higher reaches of Pine, Log and Cumberland Mountains in Bell County and reported several northern species.

Davis and Barbour (1978) reviewed the known distribution of northern flora and fauna in the Kentucky high country. They mentioned a series of peaks and ridges in the vicinity of Alva, Harlan County, most of which are nearly inaccessible. Apparently none has been visited by a naturalist.

On June 20, 1978, we visited Chunklick Spur, which rises to an elevation of 3420 feet 2 miles east of Alva. This peak is accessible via a road owned by the Pathfork-Harlan Coal Co. Mr. Douglas Jones, Superintendent, was very cooperative with our request to investigate the mountain for a northern fauna. We drove to an inactive strip mine bench at 3300 feet where we spent the night.

Chestnut-sided Warblers (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) were heard singing along the road and along the strip mine bench which runs about 400 meters along the western slope of the mountain. At the end of the broad strip mine bench a narrow exploratory cut extends about 500 meters through a northern hardwood forest. Along this trail we recorded 5 Veeries (*Hylotrichia fusescens*), 4 Solitary Vireos (*Vireo solitarius*), and a single Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*).

These species are all summer residents of Big Black Mountain and the higher portions of Cumberland Mountain in Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Croft (1969) found Chestnut-sided Warblers and Solitary Vireos on Log Mountain, and Lovell (1950) found the latter species on Pine Mountain.

#### Literature Cited

- Croft, J. E. 1969 Notes from the southeastern mountains. *Ky. Warbler*, 45: 67-81.  
Davis, W. H. and R. W. Barbour 1978 Kentucky's high country — a biological treasure. *Trans. Ky. Acad. Sci.*, 39: 138-141.  
Lovell, H. B. 1950 Breeding birds of Big Black Mountain. *Ky. Warbler*, 26: 57-66.  
— School of Biological Sciences, Univ. of Kentucky, Lexington 40506.

### MIGRATING BROAD-WINGED HAWKS IN LEXINGTON

On September 23, 1978 at 3:00 p.m. while viewing the Kentucky-Baylor football game in Lexington, Kentucky, I observed a flock of approximately 50 Broad-winged Hawks (*Buteo platypterus*).

The flock was 300-400 yards east of Commonwealth stadium at a high altitude and was steadily soaring in a southerly direction, although they were constantly circling. — W. H. BROWN, 527½ Main Street, Shelbyville, 40065.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### KENTUCKY NATURE HOTLINE

Through the courtesy of Don Harker, Director of the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission, each K.O.S. member attending the dinner meeting at Danville was given a leaflet explaining the Commission's work and information about the new bird-alert hotline. The Leaflet stated: "For the latest in natural history happenings around the Commonwealth, dial this toll free number in Kentucky 1-800-372-2998 or this toll number outside Kentucky 1-502-564-3516. Up-to-date information on rare bird sightings, wildflower bloomings and other news of timely natural history is available on a recorded message at the above numbers." K.O.S. members may leave messages about rare bird sightings, where seen, and other pertinent bird information at the conclusion of the recording.

This hotline is sponsored by the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission and is experimental for one year. If you find the recordings helpful to you and your bird chapter, please let the editorial staff know. The editorial staff of the *Kentucky Warbler* (H. E. Shadowen, Anne L. Stamm, and Burt L. Monroe, Jr.) is enthusiastic about this concept which is new for Kentucky and commends Jon Rickert, Chairman of the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission, for the idea.

### MIDWINTER BIRD COUNTS

If you are interested in participating in the Midwinter (Christmas) Bird Count contact the editor for pertinent information and forms if you have not already received them.

### CORRECTION

The photograph of the Wilson's Phalarope on the front of the August issue of *The Kentucky Warbler* was inadvertently misidentified as a Northern Phalarope.

### NOTE OF THANKS

We express our appreciation to Frederick W. Stamm for his recent audit of the accounts of the Kentucky Ornithological Society and also for the many times he has performed this necessary service in past years.