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THE MIGRANT

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MARCH, 1975

NO. 1

COMMON GALLINULE NESTING IN EAST TENNESSEE

MORRIS D. WILLIAMS

On 26 May 1970 Fred Alsop and I located a nest containing seven eggs and one downy young in a small marsh at the Powell Airport in Knox County, Tennessee. We were aware that J. C. Howell had found King Rails (*Rallus elegans*) nesting in this area in the early 1950's (Howell and Monroe, 1957). Although we never saw an adult bird around this nest, I doubt that it ever occurred to either of us that we had found anything other than a King Rail nest. Subsequently, Alsop (1970) published a note describing this as the first King Rail nest in Knox County in 18 years (see this article for more details regarding the nest and nest site).

In the years following this discovery, I located and photographed about seven clutches of King Rail eggs in the Alcoa Marshes of Blount County. A comparison of these photographs with those that I had made of the Knox County nest showed that the Knox County eggs had a much darker background color than any of the other King Rail eggs; furthermore the young from the Knox County nest fit the published descriptions of the young Common Gallinule (Gallinula chloropus) better than the descriptions of other marsh birds. The young bird as depicted in my photographs had black down which was rather sparse on the crown. The skin at the base of the bill was bright red; the bill was white. The feathers on the chin were orange. The feet and legs were pink, or flesh-colored. Bent (1926) described the downy young Common Gallinule as ". . . nearly bald, the crown being very scantily covered with black hairlike down; the skin at the base of the bill is bright red; the black down on the chin and throat is tipped with curly whitish hairs. . . ." Roberts (1955) described it as, "Black, with curly hair-like feathers on throat and around base of bill tipped with white; top of head largely bare . . . skin about base of bill reddish. Bill red, tipped with black."

To corroborate my reidentification of this nest, I sent copies of the photographs along with all the information I had regarding the nest, including a copy of Alsop's article, to several authorities. A reply from Marshall A. Howe, Acting Chief, Bird Section, U. S. National Museum, dated 13 January 1975, stated in part, "The information supplied is not adequate for us to make a positive identification, but Common Gallinule seems to be the likeliest possibility." Howe was puzzled by the orange feathers on the chin; he questioned whether this color might have been due to egg volk. A letter from Brooke Meanley, Research Biologist, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, dated 24 January 1975, said, "The photographs are of young gallinules, and probably Common Gallinules. They certainly are not of King Rails." A reply from John Farrand, Jr., Dept. of Ornithology, American Museum of Natural History, dated 18 February 1975 stated in part, "The nest, eggs and downy young in the two photographs are, as you suspected, those of the Common Gallinule . . . the photograph of the newly-hatched young bird leaves no doubt as to the identification. The red flesh at the base of the bill, the light-colored down on the chin, and the fact that the down on the crown is sparse and 'plastered down' are all diagnostic characters of the downy young Common Gallinule." Farrand, too, was puzzled by the color of the down on the chin. In all of the American Museum specimens this down was whitish. Farrand suggested that the color might have faded in the museum specimens. He also suggested that the various published descriptions might have been based on museum specimens. An alternate suggestion was that newly-hatched birds have orange down on the chin which fades to whitish within a few days.

I would appreciate receiving information regarding down color from anyone who has seen newly-hatched Common Gallinules.

The Common Gallinule has been found breeding previously in Tennessee only at Reelfoot Lake. Several records of nests and young exist for that region (Ganier, 1933; Whittemore, 1937; Pickering, 1941; Spofford, 1941; Mengel, 1965:233). In addition, Rhoads (1895:473) considered the "lead-colored dumpy duck," which Benjamin Miles included among the breeding species of the Brownsville area, to be the Common Gallinule.

I have located 14 published records of the Common Gallinule in East Tennessee. Nine of these records were made between 14 April and 20 May (Howell and Monroe, 1957; Comstock, 1961; Nevius, 1963a, 1963b; Owen, 1967; Campbell, 1971 [this date should be 29 April 1971, not 24 April as stated]; Rowell, 1972; Nicholson, 1973). There are three late spring and summer records for the area. Nevius and Nevius (1957) recorded one in Greene County on 10 June 1957. Howell and Monroe (1957) presented two summer records for Knox County, one each on 25 June and 1 July 1950. The two remaining East Tennessee records were made in October (Herndon, 1951; Howell and Monroe, 1957). In the future Common Gallinules should be regarded as possible breeding birds rather than only as migrants or stragglers.

Extreme caution should be exercised in identifying unfamiliar nests when the adult birds are not seen. The importance of photography in field ornithology is once again manifested. Without color photographs this record would never have been uncovered.

I am grateful to the individuals and institutions mentioned who examined my photographs.

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Department of Zoology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville 37916.

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CORRECTIONS

The Migrant 45:31, 1974. Line 13 should read 30 October at WSM, not 26 October.

The Migrant 45:58, 1974. Line 21 of Table 1 opposite Tennessee Warbler add the following dates: 5 Oct. (2); 6 Oct. (1, 7); 8 Oct. (1); 15 Oct. (1); 17 Oct. (1).

[Vol. 46, 1975]

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EASTERN BLUEBIRD NESTING AT ASHLAND CITY, 1974

MARTHA F. HERBERT AND MARY ANN STEPHENS

This report is a continuation of the reports on the nestings of Eastern Bluebirds (Sialia sialis) in the Neptune community of Ashland City 1968-1973 by Amelia R. Laskey and Martha F. Herbert.

Nest building started in late March with the first nest being complete on 22 March. On 31 March, there were five eggs in the nest. The last active nest in the fall was on 4 August. The last young for the season were banded on 3 September.

This year there were sixty-nine boxes available for occupation and sixtyseven of these were active sometime during the nesting season of March to September. Twenty of these boxes had three nestings, 34 of the boxes had two nestings and 14 of the boxes had only one nesting. This left two boxes not being occupied at all. One of these was probably empty due to the cats living in the area near by. There is no obvious reason for the other.

In the sixty-seven active boxes, there was a total of 596 eggs laid. Of this number, 408 of the eggs developed young that were banded. This shows a success rate of 67 percent. There were a total of 126 clutches laid and 96 of these were successful. Of the 596 eggs, 575 of them were the usual blue common to bluebird eggs, but 21 of these were pure white. These white eggs were found in five separate clutches, three of the clutches being in the same box. Three of these five clutches were successful, one disappeared completely and the other was abandoned. One nest about the middle of the season contained one small egg about half the size of the three other normal-sized eggs in the nest with it. This egg was the usual blue color natural to bluebird eggs.

There was one nest of Carolina Chickadee (*Parus carolinensis*) producing six young in one bluebird box. Encroachment by the House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) was limited to two boxes this year. Both boxes later produced successful bluebird nests. In addition to the 69 boxes available, some of the bluebirds nested in Purple Martin houses in the area. These are not included in the above statistics. One bluebird nest was found in an old Thermos bottle hanging on a porch by the front door. This has been used for several years and this year produced three eggs and three young were banded. There were two instances, in completely different parts of the area included in the report, where clutches of eggs were laid on the bottom of the boxes with no nest at all. Both of these clutches were abandoned and did not hatch.

There were six instances of snake predation on bluebird nests. One box contained two snakes at the same time. Upon checking another box, the snake was found to still be inside. The hole was closed up to prevent the snake from leaving, but it forced the cover from the opening and escaped.

Vandalism to the boxes was not as noticeable this year as in some past. One box was completely removed, post and all, and carried away. At another box young children were suspected of disturbing the nest which was deserted, but there was another successful nest built there later in the season. There was one possibility of insecticide poisoning in a box near a garden where the female and three young were found dead on the nest.

On 8 July, an immature bluebird was observed flying down from a powerline with food in its beak and entering a bluebird box occupied by two nestlings. It then flew away from the box without the material in its beak.

Route 5, Box 167, Ashland City 37015; 1262 Hillwood Drive, Clarksville 37040.

NINTH ANNUAL

SYMPOSIUM AND FALL MEETING TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

10-11-12 OCTOBER, 1975

HOLIDAY HILLS RESORT, CROSSVILLE, TENNESSEE 38555

Thirty-two rooms with two double beds each are reserved. A few cabins are also being held at Cumberland State Park. TOS members should make their own individual reservations. To be sure you get accommodations make your reservations early. Be sure to state that you are with TOS. All meetings will be at Holiday Hills Resort. Holiday Hills Resort ph. 484-1017; Cumberland State Park ph. 484-6138.

11 October, Saturday

08:00 - Field trip from Holiday Hills parking lot.

13:30-15:00 - Board of Directors Meeting.

15:00-17:00 - Paper session.

17:30-19:00 — Supper.

19:00-22:00 - Paper session.

12 October, Sunday

08:00 - Field trip from Holiday Hills parking lot.

For further details about the meeting contact Kenneth H. Dubke, Route 1, Box 134-D, Ooltewah, Tennessee 37363 or George R. Mayfield, Jr., Maury County Hospital, Columbia, Tennessee 38401.

1975

THE 1974 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

MORRIS D. WILLIAMS

Approximately 375 observers participated in 24 organized counts across the state between 14 December 1974 and 5 January 1975 during the 44th annual Christmas Bird Count in Tennessee. About 15 million birds representing 131 species were recorded. The species total is the third highest ever recorded in Tennessee on the Christmas Counts.

The Yellow-breasted Chat and the Indigo Bunting appear on the Christmas Counts for the first time. Both of these species, however, have been recorded previously in Tennessee in the winter.

Counts were conducted in Ashland City and Manchester for the first time this year. For the first time in recent years a count was not made at Savannah.

In some instances in order to fit the data into the columns, I have rounded the figures and used symbols.

One should realize that the high numbers of Starlings, blackbirds, and Common Grackles are crude estimates and are subject to a high degree of error.

As usual the counts are tabulated in the order of their occurrence from west to east across the state.

INFORMATION ON THE COUNTS

MEMPHIS—15 Dec.; 06:30 to 17:00; mostly clear; temp. 43° to 51°; wind NW, 0-7 mph; 25 observers in 8 parties. 58 party-hours (38 on foot, 20 by car); 142 party-miles (41 on foot, 101 by car).

LeConte's Sparrow by BBC. Harris' Sparrow by NS.

Seen in count period: Rough-legged Hawk, House Wren.

David Brown, Tiny and Ed Carpenter, Lula and Ben B. Coffey (compilers-672 N. Belvedere, Memphis 38107), Julian Darlington, Mary Davant, Fred Dickson, Helen and Henry Dinkelspiel, Frances Dowdy, John Embury, Billy Grimm, Lee Johnson, Allan Larrabee, Jerald Ledbetter, Ernest Restivo, Harry Sayle, Alice Smith, Arlo and Noreen Smith, Richard Taylor, Martha Waldron, Wendell Whittemore, Richard Whittington.

REELFOOT—21 Dec.; 07:00 to 16:30; clear; temp. 35° to 50° ; wind NW, 7-12 mph; 12 observers in 6 parties; 50 party-hours (16 on foot, $29\frac{1}{2}$ by car, $4\frac{1}{2}$ by boat) plus 1 observer at feeder for 4 hours; 363 party-miles (22 on foot, 329 by car, 12 by boat).

White-fronted Goose by Mannings. Rough-legged Hawk by GM and BS. Common Yellowthroat by GL. Indigo Bunting by DP.

Seen in count week: Osprey, Common Snipe, Fish Crow (3 identified by call by DM, I omitted two Fish Crows from the count because they were identified by size alone—MDW), Vesper Sparrow.

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THE 1974 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

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M-1.000 # - a rotal of 264 cbickadees of both species were seen.

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Fourteen of the Bald Eagles were immature.

Wendell Crews, Gerald Ledbetter, Don and Gina Manning (compilers-103 Stonewall Circle, McKenzie 38024), David Pitts, Alice Smith, Arlo and Noreen Smith, Harry Smith, Martha Smith, Bettie Sumara, Martha Waldron, Richard Wallace.

DOVER—31 Dec.; 06:30 to 16:00; cloudy with showers; temp. 56° to 64°; two observers in 1 party; 74 party-miles (72 by car, 2 on foot).

Seen in count period: Redhead, Canvasback, Barred Owl, Pine Siskin.

John W. Sexton (compiler-Route 1, Dover 37058), Gary O. Wallace.

CLARKSVILLE—21 Dec.; 06:45 to 16:30; mostly clear; temp. 30° to 50° ; wind SW, 5-10 mph; 21 observers in 5 parties; 44 party-hours (21-2/3 on foot, $22\frac{1}{2}$ by car) plus 12 observers at feeders for a total of 12 hours; 279 party-miles (19 on foot, 260 by car).

Joe Allen, Andy Barrass, Gabriele Black, David Chiles, Adney Cross, Mike Dinsmore, Mike Filson, Floyd Ford, Scott Gunn, Jerold Harris, Nita Heilman, Kathy Lee, Tony Mahoney, James Majors, Bill and Gloria Milliken, Millie Perry, David Snyder (compiler—Dept. of Biology, Austin Peay State Univ., Clarksville 37040), Juanita Snyder, Mary Ann Stephens, Juaquin Walling.

LAWRENCE COUNTY-26 Dec.; 07:00 to 17:00; mostly cloudy with light rain in p.m.; temp. 25° to 37°; wind, light and variable; 11 observers in 4 parties; 42 party-hours (15 on foot, 27 by car) plus 1 observer at feeder for four hours; 190 party-miles (13 on foot, 177 by car).

Lloyd Clayton (compiler-Route 4, Box 175A, Lawrenceburg 38464). Helen Clayton, Tom Hull, David Ihrie, George Mayfield, Jr., Delton Porter, Paul Porter, Ralph Ring, Don Simbeck, Morris Williams, Wylie Willis.

ASHLAND CITY—(new count) 36° 19'N, 87° 7'W, centered at bridge on state hwy. 12 over Sycamore Creek, 4 miles NW of Ashland City Court House. Habitat coverage: lakes and riversides 30%, brushy fields 20%, cultivated fields 18%, woodland 16%, pastures 6%, swamps 7%, residential 3%.

21 Dec.; 06:00 to 18:30; clear; temp. 25° to 45°; wind SSW, 5-15 mph; 6 observers in 4 parties; $49\frac{1}{2}$ party-hours (43 on foot, $6\frac{1}{2}$ by car); 50 party-miles (18 on foot, 32 by car).

Seen count week: Sharp-shinned Hawk, Long-eared Owl, Horned Lark, White-breasted Nuthatch.

Craig Empson, Johnny Herbert, James Holt, Richard Holt, Robert Milburn, Rocky Milburn (compiler-R. R. 1, Hwy. 49, Ashland City 37015).

COLUMBIA—28 Dec.; 05:00-22:00; overcast; temp. 45° to 52°; wind, E, 0-5 mph; 13 observers in 4 parties (1 at feeder); 28 party-hours (20 on foot, 8 by car); 201 party-miles (18 on foot, 183 by car).

Seen in count period: White-breasted Nuthatch, Cedar Waxwing, Vesper Sparrow.

Kenneth Anderson, Ed Byassee, Barbara Finney, William Fugua, Dan Gray, Jr. (compiler—Maury County Hospital, Columbia 38401), Mark Mayfield, Rad Mayfield III.

NASHVILLE—28 Dec.; 06:00 to 21:00; overcast, intermittent light rain; temp. 40° to 48°; wind NW, 4 mph; 34 observers in 13 parties; 102 partyhours (36 on foot, 66 by car) plus 6 observers at feeders for a total of 48 hours; 353 party-miles (36 on foot, 317 by car).

Yellow-breasted Chat carefully identified by William and Lucy Finch. Seen count week: Mallard, Common Goldeneye.

Clyde and Vivian Anderson, Sue Bell, Michael Bierly, Ruth Castles, Elizabeth Collins, Paul and Dot Crawford, Annella Creech, Milbrey Dugger, Mrs. Nelson Elam, John and Evelyn Ellis, Lou and Louann Farrell, William and Lucy Finch, Katherine Goodpasture, Ben Groce, John Herbert, Louise Jackson, Margaret Mann, Randy Martin, Oscar and Marjorie Patrick, Shirley Patterson, Win Shaughnessy (compiler—6413 Currywood Dr., Nashville 37205), Pat Stallings, Anna Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Walkup, Virginia Workman.

SPRINGFIELD—22 Dec.; 06:30 to 18:30; clear; temp. 30° to 56°; wind SE, 5-15 mph; 17 observers in 10 parties; 47 party-hours (9 on foot, 38 by car); 221 party-miles (10 on foot, 211 by car).

Seen count period: Cedar Waxwing.

Nancy and Richard Coleman, Robert Fitz, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gunn, James Holt (compiler—Box 250, Springfield 37172), Richard Holt, Robert Holt, Irene Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. George Laughlin, Charles Ralph, Russell Sawyers, Betty and Odis Swallows, Barbara and Jack Werner.

HICKORY-PRIEST—21 Dec.; 04:00 to 17:00; clear, temp. 31° to 52°; wind SW, 0-20 mph; 16 observers in 6 parties; 56 party-hours (20 on foot, 28 by car, 8 by boat) plus 3 observers at feeders for a total of 5 hours; 219 party-miles (21 on foot, 183 by car, 15 by boat).

Seen count week: Barred Owl.

Vivian Anderson, Sue Bell, Michael Bierly (compiler—2415 Crestmoor Rd., Nashville 37215). Annella Creech, Milbrey Dugger, Charles Farrell, Sally Fintel, William Fintel, Carol Knauth, Margaret Mann, Randy Martin, Elizabeth Murray, Marge and Oscar Patrick, Virginia Price, Betty Richards, Pat Stallings, Ann Tarbell, Lawrence Trabue.

MURFREESBORO—28 Dec.; 08:00 to 17:00; overcast, intermittent showers, windy; temp. 45° to 50°; two parties by car, 110 miles; one party on foot; 20 feeder observers.

Dickcissel seen by Alberta Spence and later by Anne Hettish.

Josephine Cantrell, Patrick Doyle, Cleo Edwards, Lou Erwin, Helen Greever, Edith Haynes, Anne Hettish (compiler—108 Lawndale, Murfreesboro 37130), Bob Hettish, Linda Johnson, Maxie Jones, Pat Martin, Maud McClain, Ruth Odum, Elizabeth Pendleton, Alberta Spence. LEBANON—21 Dec.; 06:00 to 22:00; clear; temp. 38° to 52°; wind W, 5-20 mph; 10 observers in 9 parties; $33\frac{1}{2}$ party-hours ($17\frac{1}{2}$ on foot, $15\frac{1}{2}$ by car, $\frac{1}{2}$ by airplane) plus 12 observers at feeders for a total of 15 hours; 305 party-miles (13 on foot, 247 by car, 12 by airplane).

I omitted 2 Broad-winged Hawks from the count after talking with the observer who agreed that she could have been in error-MDW.

Seen count week: Ring-necked Pheasant, American Woodcock, Common Snipe, Red-winged Blackbird, Rusty Blackbird, Fox Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow.

Mrs. R. L. Bain, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bailey, Margaret Bouton, Lucille Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Cunningham, Bobby Gamble, Mildred Gaston, Marjorie Loyd, Mr. and Mrs. Reid McKee, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Osborne, Ray Pope, Nina Reed, Bill Sellars, John Sellars, Loula Mae Sellars, Rev. William Senter (compiler—313 West Hills Drive, Lebanon 37087), Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Smith, Grace Speck, George Suddarth, Willie Taylor, Tressa Waters, Mary Wharton, Dr. and Mrs. Dean Wilkinson.

MANCHESTER—22 Dec.; 07:00 to 16:30; clear; temp. 30° to 56°; wind NE, 0-15 mph; 12 observers in 4 parties; $22\frac{1}{2}$ party-hours (6 on foot, $16\frac{1}{2}$ by car); 267 party-miles (11 on foot, 255 by car).

Carroll Barr, Stanley Barr (compiler—Rt. 2, Box 475A-1, Estill Springs 37330), Becky Bingham, Ron Bingham, David Boyd, Effi Boyd, Marjory Harper, Dennis Horn, Ruth Luckado, Susi Millaney, Sanford McGee, Monty Wanamaker.

COOKEVILLE-27 Dec.; 08:00 to 16:00; rainy; temp. 45° to 55°.

Beulah Clark, Dr. and Mrs. J. O. Cummings, Ernest Halzhauser, R. D. High, Mr. and Mrs. Frazier Jacques, Amy Johnson, Dr. and Mrs. Sidney McGee, M. R. Richmond (compiler—519 N. Jefferson Ave., Cookeville 38501), Roy Sullivan, Thelma Tinnon, F. R. Toline.

CHATTANOOGA—22 Dec.; clear; temp. 30° to 60°; wind, 0-10 mph; 15 observers in 7 parties, plus 6 observers at feeders; 72 party-hours (42 by foot, 30 by car); 606 party-miles (38 by foot, 568 by car).

David and Lloyd Anderson, Christine and Gary Baynes, Daniel Beckner, David Beckner, Buster Boswell, Jon and Nancy DeVore, Ken and Lil Dubke (compilers—Route 1, Box 134 D, Ooltewah 37363), Jonathan Gibson, Chris Haney, Frank Hixon, Daniel Jacobson, Lemuel Jacobson, Jack and Ruth Lothers, J. Hunter Patterson, Lee Shafer, Mary Tunsberg.

HIWASSEE—1 Jan.; 08:00 to 16:00; cloudy, intermittent rain in a.m., clear p.m.; temp. 58° to 50° in p.m.; wind N, 5-20 mph in p.m.; 3 observers in 1 party; 8 party-hours (5 on foot, 3 by car); 50 party-miles (5 on foot, 45 by car).

Jon E. DeVore (compiler—4922 Sarasota Drive, Hixon 37343), Nancy A. DeVore, Lillian Dubke.

NORRIS—22 Dec.; Greater Knoxville Area Audubon Chapter Members, Mrs. Don Hammer (compiler—809 Medaris St., Clinton 3-716). KNOXVILLE—15 Dec.; 06:45 to 17:30; overcast, intermittent rain; temp. 34° to 50° ; wind, variable, 0-40 mph; 10 observers in 7 parties; $57\frac{1}{2}$ party-hours ($33\frac{1}{2}$ on foot, 24 by car); 252 party-miles (30 on foot, 222 by car).

John Elson, J. C. Howell, Terry McGown, Gary Muffly, Holly Overton, Boyd Sharp, Johneta and Louis Smith, James T. Tanner (compiler-Route 28, Box 155, Knoxville 37920), Morris Williams.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS—29 Dec.; 16:45 to 17:30; overcast to partly cloudy; temp. 42° to 59°; wind, variable, 1-7 mph, up to 35 mph at higher elevations in a.m.; 25 observers in 11 parties; 83 party-hours (37 on foot, 46 by car) plus 2 observers at feeders for a total of 14 hours; 309 partymiles (44 on foot, 265 by car).

Winnifred Brown, James Campbell, Glenn Cardwell, Don DeFoe (compiler —Headquarters, G.S.M.N.P., Gatlinburg 37738), Jay DeFoe, Lori DeFoe, Elizabeth French, James Graves, Maurice Grigsby, Joseph C. Howell, Bruk McDonald, Boyd Sharp, Jr., Johneta Smith, Louis Smith, Arthur Stupka, James Tanner, Joe Watson, Clara Mae Wodtke, Bill Williams, Irene Williams.

GREENEVILLE-5 Jan.; 08:00 to 18:00; clear; temp. 22° to 45°; wind, 0-6 mph.

O. C. Armitage, B. Barnes, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Charles Earnest, Mr. and Mrs. William Fischer, Mr. and Mrs. King Gaut, S. B. McGuire, Richard Nevius (compiler—Route 6, Greeneville 37743), Helen Reed, Dr. and Mrs. Royal B. Spees.

KINGSPORT—28 Dec.; 07:30 to 21:00; overcast to partly cloudy, intermittent rain; temp. 42° to 46°; wind N, 0-25 mph; 14 observers in 12 parties; 54 party-hours (40 on foot, 11 by car, 2 in motorboat, 1 in canoe) plus 2 observers at feeders for a total of 6 hours; 142 party-miles (42 on foot, 80 by car, 20 by boat).

Green Herons were seen by Eugene Scott and Tom Gannaway in different localities.

Roy Allen, Tom Bowman (compiler—Bays Mt. Park Nature Interpretive Center, Route 4, Kingsport 37660), Perry Cleveland, David Coat, Charlotte Finucane, Dick Finucane, Tom Finucane, Tom Gannaway, Ed Gift, Hayden Hannabass, Jeff Lappin, Betsy Oglesby, John Peirce, John Peirce, Jr., Eugene Scott, Ann Switzer.

ELIZABETHTON-14 Dec.; 06:30 to 17:30; clear to partly cloudy; temp. 34° to 51°; no wind; 15 observers in 7 parties; 66 party-hours (43 on foot, 23 by car); 337 party-miles (30 on foot, 307 by car).

J. C. Browning, Joy Dillenbeck, Martha Dillenbeck, Mrs. George Dove, Glen D. Eller (compiler-Route 3, Grandview Terrace, Elizabethton 37643), Harry Farthing, Sally Goodin, Lee R. Herndon, Richard Lewis, John Martin, Jake Slonaker, Alan Smith, Maxie and Tommy Swindell, Gary O. Wallace.

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BRISTOL-28 Dec.; temp. 41° to 54°; rainy to partly cloudy; 13 observers in 5 parties and 1 feeder observer.

F. Rockwell Bingham (compiler-216 Melody Lane, Bristol 37620).

ROAN MOUNTAIN—24 Dec.; 07:00 to 16:00; cloudy, fog; temp. 41° to 57°; wind SSW, 5-35 mph; snow, trace to 8 inches; 7 observers in 3 parties; 20 party-hours (12 on foot, 8 by car); 78 party-miles (16 on foot, 62 by car).

Glen D. Eller (compiler—Route 3, Grandview Terrace, Elizabethton 37643), John W. Gray, Bob Herndon, Lee R. Herndon, Alan Smith, Maxie and Tommy Swindell. Sharp-shinned Hawk (1), Cooper's Hawk (1), Hairy Woodpecker (2), Downy Woodpecker (9), Eastern Phoebe (1), Blue Jay (6), Common Raven (5), Common Crow (25), Carolina Chickadee (29), Tufted Titmouse (15), White-breasted Nuthatch (10), Red-breasted Nuthatch (46), Carolina Wren (8), Robin (7), Eastern Bluebird (2), Golden-crowned Kinglet (4), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1), House Sparrow (12), Cardinal (5), Evening Grosbeak (91), Purple Finch (3), Pine Siskin (56), American Gold-finch (27), Rufous-sided Towhee (1), Dark-eyed Junco (71), Field Sparrow (16), White-throated Sparrow (6), Song Sparrow (18). Total 28 species.

BIRDS OF THE NASHVILLE AREA

Third Edition, 1975

Compiled originally by Henry E. Palmer

Now available to TOS Members at \$1.50 plus postage (16ϕ) , to non-members at \$2.00. Write Miss Pat Stallings, Box 1301, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.



14

A NEW SPECIES FOR TENNESSEE

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD IN MEMPHIS—A male Yellowheaded Blackbird (Xantbocephalus xantbocephalus) appeared at a feeder in eastern Memphis on 10 March 1975, remaining thru 3 May 1975. Mrs. Alice Sims (at 3572 Northwood Dr.) advised member Genevieve Geren of the bird on 30 March and the latter, on seeing the bird, at once notified other members. Identification was further verified the next morning by Lula and Ben Coffey, Helen and Henry Dinkelspiel. Thru the kindness of Mrs. Sims, many members from Memphis and points East, were free to observe the bird at any time. She reported that it arrived early and remained late, each day, indicating that it roosted at no great distance. It was last seen, all day, 3 May. A watch was kept for it, 4 and 5 May and later. Apparently, this is the first corroborated report of this species for Tennessee.

BEN B. COFFEY, JR., 672 N. Belvedere, Memphis 38107.

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BOOK REVIEW

BEHAVIOR AS AN ECOLOGICAL FACTOR. Edited by David E. Davis. Dowden, Hutchinson & Ross, Inc., Stroudsburg, Pa., 1974. 390 pp. \$24.00.—This book is part of the Benchmark Books Publishing Program. It consists of a collection of 27 papers which have significantly influenced the direction of the study of animal behavior as it relates to the environment. The papers in the book consist of both classic and recent papers representing the important developments within the field of animal behavior as an ecological factor. Through the arrangement of the papers the development of this subject is traced from the time of narrow focus on the organism to the point where the whole population's behavior is treated as a unit with other ecological factors. Although other organisms are considered, the emphasis is on birds.

The papers have been arranged in five sections: Behavioral Adjustments to Habitat, Reproductive Behavior, Social Behavior, Behavior of Populations, and Applied Behavior. The readings show that behavior as an ecological factor is very complex. This book will be a valuable addition to the library of people working in such fields as animal behavior, biology, ecology, ornithology, and wildlife management.

GARY O. WALLACE

ROUND TABLE NOTES

APPARENT DOUBLE NESTING OF THE AMERICAN KESTREL— In the 27 May, 1973 issue of the Chattanooga News-Free Press, a picture and story featured the fledging of three American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*) from a hole between the 8th and 9th floor in the all glass and concrete Blue Cross-Blue Shield Building, downtown Chattanooga. These birds had drifted to the street below and were picked up by passersby. In the wild the young hawks, upon fledging are capable of flying to a nearby perch. In this situation there were no perches nearby, only heavy automotive traffic and numerous pedestrians.

This was the first positive evidence of the American Kestrel nesting in the Chattanooga area other than a female specimen taken on Lookout Mountain 31 March, 1882. This bird had one egg ready to be laid (Wetmore, Alexander, 1939. Notes on the Birds of Tennessee. Proceedings of the United States National Museum (Washington) Vol. 86, No. 3050:183.)

A great deal of time and effort has been spent in verifying the nesting of this species in the Chattanooga area and all of it appears to be negative with only an occasional bird being found in the nesting season.

On 3 August a telephone call was received that there were three more young a few days old (eyes not yet open), in the same nest hole. The birds were allowed to fledge.

Although the adults were not color marked, this appears to be very strong circumstantional evidence of a double nesting of a pair of American Kestrels. A possible stimulus for the above described behavior could be the sudden loss of the young when they fledged. It is a well known fact that when a nest is destroyed or otherwise disrupted early in the reproductive cycle, the pair will attempt to renest. Perhaps this is what happened with these birds, but at a much later period in their cycle.

Oliver Irwin (*The Migrant*, Vol. 30:39) reported a similar experience with a pair in a dead tree at Memphis.

KENNETH AND LILLIAN H. DUBKE, Route 1, Box 134-D, Ooltewah 37363.

PIPING PLOVER SEEN IN COCKE COUNTY—While searching for shorebirds and herons at the confluence of the French Broad and Nolichucky Rivers, Cocke County, on 1 September 1974 one Piping Plover (*Charadius melodus*) was found at 16:00 EDT by Tony Koella. The bird was feeding among 6 Semipalmated Plovers (*Charadius semipalatus*) and several sandpipers which aided identification because of the comparative overall whiteness of the bird. The bird was in summer plumage with the single chest bar and the single black mark on the forehead to the eye. The bill was light colored with a black tip and the legs were light colored which marks would distinguish the bird from a Snowy Plover (*Charadius alexandrinus*) which is a strictly local breeding bird on the Gulf of Mexico Coast. The whiteness in the back and the distinctively different facial features between the Piping and Semipalmated Plover were quite evident.

I observed the bird first through $10 \ge 15$ binoculars and then followed up by observing the bird through a Bausch and Lomb $30 \ge 30$ scope. I observed the bird about 150 feet away in excellent lighting as I was west of the bird facing east with the sun behind me. The weather was in the 70's and clear skies.

At the confluence of the two rivers, I also observed besides the plovers, 4 Solitary Sandpipers (*Tringa solitaria*), 3 Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*), 5 Short-billed Dowitchers (*Limnodromus griseus*), 1 White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fusciollis*), 10 Least Sandpipers (*Calidris minutilla*), 90 Semipalmated Sandpipers (*Calidris pusillus*), and 4 Pectoral Sandpipers (*Calidris melanotos*). After leaving the confluence of the French Broad and Nolichucky, I went approximately 2 miles on down the river to Douglas Lake where I spotted another Piping Plover also in summer plumage but by himself except for some Killdeers (*Charadrius vociferus*). It physically could be only one bird as it would have had time to fly the two miles down stream, but I would think that it would have stayed with the group described above instead of striking out on its own. Also on Douglas Lake, there were 28 Black Terns (*Chlidonias niger*).

The observer has had previous experience with all of the above mentioned plovers as well as the Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) on the gulf and Atlantic Coasts.

There have been at least 12 previous records of the Piping Plover in Tennessee. The first record was sighted by Ben B. Coffey, Jr. on 5 May 1935 South of Memphis (*The Migrant*, 1935, 6:35). The next record did not occur until the 1950's during which decade there were 3 or 4 sightings in the state. There were none during the 1960's but there have been 9 sightings (including mine) during the 1970's. Mike Bierley of Nashville was kind enough to search back issues of *The Migrant* to get a count of sightings for which I am most grateful.

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Daniel R. Jacobson, Box 6, Wildwood, GA 30757, has replaced Charles P. Nicholson as the regional compiler of the season report for the Eastern Ridge and Valley Region. He will begin with the Spring Migration Season Report (16 Mar - 15 May), which will appear in the Sept., 1975 issue of *The Migrant*. Support Daniel by reporting your records to him. Our thanks to Chuck for his work with the T.O.S. He will be attending the University of Maine.

THE SEASON

FRED J. ALSOP, III, Editor



FALL MIGRATION: 1 AUGUST - 31 OCTOBER

Shorebirds perhaps are the most outstanding feature of this fall migration report. They are not only indicated in good numbers in the regions across the state but several species which have been of uncommon occurrence in Tennessee are being reported with greater regularity, possibly reflecting a more active watch in shorebird habitat at the proper seasons by the State's birders than an increased presence of the species. Ruddy Turnstones are again reported from the Western Coastal Plain where an American Avocet was also found. Sanderlings were observed in the Western Coastal Plain and in the Eastern Ridge and Valley Regions. Wilson's Phalaropes and Baird's Sandpipers were seen in both the Central Plateau and Basin and the Eastern Ridge and Valley Regions, and a flock of 30 Willets was only one of five reports of this species from the latter region.

Other water associated birds were some of the more noteworthy species reported this Fall. A Louisiana Heron was found in the Western Coastal Plain. A Brant was observed by many birders in late October at Hiwassee Island, and a White Ibis and a Snowy Egret were also reported from the Eastern Ridge and Valley.

Raptorial species were represented by many observations including those of a Golden Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon in the Eastern Ridge and Valley, and a Rough-legged Hawk and a Merlin (Pigeon Hawk) in the Central Plateau and Basin Regions. Several Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were reported and some were banded in the Central Plateau and Basin. In the Eastern Mountain Region a very late Black-billed Cuckoo was observed in early November (three days after this reporting period ended).

These are but a few of the many observations reported this Fall Migration season. The Regional Compilers continue to request your observations, especially from those birders in the Eastern Mountain Region and the Western Coastal Plain Region. Send us your records so we may have the fullest picture possible of the seasonal status of the birds of Tennessee.

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION—Heron-Tern: LOUISIANA HERON: 27 Aug. (1) DRU (JL). Black-crowned Night Heron: 5 Sept. (5) DRU (JL), 7 Sept. (4) DRU (MCTOS). Turkey Vulture: 3 Oct. (15) M (BM). Sora: 5 Sept. (1) DRU (JL). RUDDY TURNSTONE: 3 Aug. (1) Island 13, Lake Co. (MLB, GJ). Common Snipe: 19 Oct. (1) HWR (JL). Upland Sandpiper: 7 Sept. (1) DRU (JL). Short-billed Dowitcher: 4 Aug. (1) Island 13, Lake Co. (MLB, GJ). Sanderling: 3 Aug. - 4 Aug. (3) Island 13, Lake Co. (MLB, GJ). AMERICAN AVOCET: 14 Sept. (2) Medal of Honor Lake, South of Memphis within Shelby Co. Third record for Shelby Co. (NS, MD, ER, BG, TW, MW). Forester's Tern: 3 Aug. (1) Lake Co. (MLB, GJ). Black Tern: 3 Aug. and 27 Aug. (1-3) DRU (JL).

Cuckoo-Sparrow: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 18 Oct. (1) M (TC). Common Nighthawk: 12 Oct. (8-10) M (ANS, HHD, MD), 16 Oct. (50) Olive Branch, MS, Approx. 5 miles south of M (BS). Red-bellied Woodpecker: 12 Oct. (1 imm.) M (MD). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 29 Sept. (1) M (TC). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 13 Sept. (1) HWR (JL). White-breasted Nuthatch: 31 Oct. (2) T. O. Fuller (BM). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 31 Oct. (4) T. O. Fuller (BM). Brown Creeper: 4 Oct. (1) M (HD, MW). Winter Wren: 14 Oct. (1) M (HD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 8 Oct. (1) M (TC). Solitary Vireo: 26 Oct. (1) M (HD). Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler: 2 Oct. (1) M (TC). Black-throated Green Warbler; 26 Oct. (1) M (TC). Blackburnian Warbler: 25 Oct. (1) M (TC). Ovenbird: 14 Oct. (1) M (HD, TC). Orchard Oriole: 26 Sept. (1) M (TC). Scarlet Tanager: 12 Oct. (1) M (TC). Summer Tanager: 19 Oct. (1) M (HD), 22 Oct. (1) M (TC) 31 Oct. (2) T. O. Fuller (BM). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 16 Oct. (1) M (TC). Dark-eyed Junco: 19 Oct. (2) HWR (MCTOS). Swamp Sparrow: 19 Oct. (1) HWR (JL). Song Sparrow: 19 Oct. (1) HWR (JL).

Locations: DRU—Duck River Refuge, Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, Hutsburg, TN. M—Memphis. HWR—Hatchie Wildlife Refuge. T. O. Fuller— T. O. Fuller State Park, Southeast Shelby Co.

Observers: MCTOS—Memphis Chapter, TOS. JL—Jerald Ledbetter. MLB —Mike L. Bierly. GJ—Greg Jackson. ANS—Arlo and Noreen Smith, NS— Noreen Smith. HHD—Henry and Helen Dinkelspiel, HD—Helen Dinkelspiel. MD—Mary Davant. ER—Ernie Restivo. BG—Billy Grimm. TW—Ted Wilson. MW—Martha Waldron. TC—Tiny Carpenter. BM—Bob McGowan. BS—Bill Sparenberger.

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CENTRAL PLATEAU AND BASIN REGION—Loon-Rail: Common Loon: 2 Sept. (1, early) PPL (MLM). Horned Grebe: 20 Oct. (3) OHL (BF, SF). DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: 6 Oct. (2) GSP (DC, PC); 6 Oct. (1) OHL (BF, SF). Great Blue Heron: 29 Oct. (19) GSP (DC, PC). Little Blue Heron: 10 and 11 Aug. (4, imm.) G (DC, PC). Great Egret: 29 Sept. (1) GSP (MPS); 1 Oct. (20) PPL (Anne and Bob Hettish). American Bittern: 29 Sept. (1) BV (MLB). Snow Goose: 8 Oct. (2) OHL (Wick Comer). Black Duck: 1 Sept. (1, early) GSP (DC, PC). Green-winged Teal: 22 Sept. (1) BV (MLB). Redhead: 23 Oct. (3) RL (MLB). Ruddy Duck: 21 Oct. (1) RL (MLB). Common Merganser: 26 Oct. (8) OHL (BF, SF). Red-breasted Merganser: 29 Sept. (1, early) PPL (BF, SF). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 28 Sept. (2) OHL (MPS); 29 Sept. (2) BV (MLB); 9 Oct. (1) G

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(DC, PC). Cooper's Hawk: 28 Sept. (1) F (JOE); 6 Oct. (1) GSP (DC, PC). Broad-winged Hawk: 28 and 29 Sept. (70, Nash. fall count). ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: 13 Oct. (1) BS (KAG, Mel Garland). Osprey: 1 Sept.-13 Oct. (at least 7 sightings of single birds, NA). MERLIN: 28 Aug. (1) N (HR). Virginia Rail: 17 Sept. (1, casualty, WSM Tower) (KAG); 19 and 20 Sept. (1) FP (MDW). Sora: 5 Aug. (1) BV (MLB); 14 and 22 Sept. (1, casualty, WNGE Tower) (MLB).

Killdeer-Nuthatch: Killdeer: 27 Oct. (118) GSP (PC). UPLAND SAND-PIPER: 31 Aug. (1, last) Nash. Metro Airport (MLB). Solitary Sandpiper: 16 Oct. (3) LHL (LC). Greater Yellowlegs: 16 Oct. (3) LHL (LC); 25 Oct. - 27 Oct. (1) GSP (PC). BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: 19 Sept. (1) GSP (PC). Dunlin: 29 Oct. (4) and 30 Oct. (8) GSP (DC, PC). Dowitcher (sp?): 21 Aug. (1) BV (Tony Koella). Stilt Sandpiper: 22 Sept. - 29 Sept. (1) BV (MLB). Sanderling: 18 and 19 Sept. (1) GSP (PC): 23 Sept. - 30 Sept. (up to 4) OHL (BF, SF). WILSON'S PHALAROPE: 10 Aug. (1) G (DC, PC). Bonaparte's Gull: 26 Oct. (2) OHL (BF, SF). Forster's Tern: 21 Sept. (2) OHL (BF, SF); 21 Sept. (1) GSP (PC). Caspian Tern: 14 Sept. (7) PPL (MLB, MPS); 14 Sept. (2) OHL (BF, SF). Black Tern: 1 Sept. (100) OHL (MLM). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 20 Oct. (2 fresh road-kills, 1 Lawrence Co. and 1 Wilson Co.) (MDW). Black-billed Cuckoo: 6 Aug. (1) N (HR); 6 Oct. (1) G (PC); 10 Oct. (1) LC (LC). Common Nighthawk: 31 Aug. (231) N (JR). Eastern Kingbird: 13 Oct. (1, late) LC (LC). YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER: 7 and 15 Sept. (1) BS (KAG). 7 and 28 Sept. (1, banded) 2JS (HR, JR). Traill's Flycatcher (sp?): 25 Aug. (1, banded) and 14 Sept. (4, banded) 2JS (HR, JR). Least Flycatcher: 14 Sept. (3, banded) and 28 Sept. (2, banded) 2JS (HR, JR). Horned Lark: 14 Sept. (60) FP (MDW). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 Oct. (1) LC (Helen Clayton).

Wrens-Sparrows: House Wren: 20 Sept. (1) FP (MDW). Bewick's Wren: 24 Aug. (1 banded, repeated 5 Oct.) 2JS (HR, JR). Long-billed Marsh Wren: 28 and 29 Sept. (1 each day, fall count, NTOS). Short-billed Marsh Wren: 28 Sept. (2) and 29 Sept. (1), fall count (NTOS). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 19 Oct. (1, banded, late) 2JS (HR, JR). Veery: 14 Sept. (1) Ashland City Marsh (JH, RM); 16 Sept. (1) RL (MLB, MDW). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 9 Sept. (1, early) NA (MLM); 26 Sept. - 8 Nov. (75, banded) N (KAG). Water Pipit: 10 Oct. (10) OHL Laurence Trabue; 30 Oct. (3) GSP (DC, PC). Yellow-throated Vireo: 26 Oct. (1, late) NA (BF, SF). PHILADEL-PHIA VIREO: 12 Sept. (1, early) FP (MDW). Orange-crowned Warbler: 4 Oct. (2, banded) 2JS (HR, JR). 21 Oct. (1) NA (KAG). Black-throated Blue Warbler: 29 Sept. (1) F (JOE). Blackpoll Warbler: 16 Oct. (1, casualty, WSM Tower) late (KAG). Mourning Warbler: 12 Sept. (2, banded) 2JS (HR, JR); 14 Sept. (1) G (DC); 20 Oct. (1, road-kill, dead several days) Maury Co. (MDW). Bobolink: 14 Sept. (220) Cheatham Lake (JH, RM). Grasshopper Sparrow: 23 Aug. (9) Springfield (JH). Lincoln's Sparrow: 4 Oct. (2, banded) 2JS (HR, JR).

Locations: BS—Basin Springs, BV—Buena Vista, F—Fernvale, FP—Five Points (Lawrence Co.), G—Gallatin, GSP—Gallatin Steam Plant, LC— Lawrence Co., LHL—Laurel Hill Lake, N—Nashville, NA—Nashville Area, OHL—Old Hickory Lake, PPL—Percy Priest Lake, RL—Radnor Lake, 2JS— Two Jays Sanctuary.

Observers: MLB-Mike Bierly, LC-Lloyd Clayton, DC-Dot Crawford, PC-Paul Crawford (Compiler, Nashville Area), JOE-John Ellis, BF-Bill Fintel, SF-Sally Fintel, KAG-Katherine Goodpasture, JH-James Holt, MLM-Margaret Mann, RM-Rocky Milburn, HR-Heather Riggins, JR-John Riggins, MPS-Pat Stallings, NTOS-Nash. T.O.S. Chapter, MDW-Morris Williams.

MORRIS D. WILLIAMS, Five Points 38457.

EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION—The weather for the period was average, except for earlier than usual frosts in October.

The shorebird migration was very good in the Chattanooga and Upper East Tenn. areas. Several Willets were recorded; other unusual species were Stilt Sandpipers, a Baird's Sandpiper, Western Sandpipers, and a Wilson's Phalarope. Due to a lack of suitable habitat (and of observers?) there were few shorebirds reported from the Knoxville area.

One of the most unusual birds reported was a Brant, at Hiwassee Island in late October. Also reported were a White-fronted Goose and both color morphs of the Snow Goose.

A large tower kill occurred in Knox County on September 14. Over 1500 individuals, comprising 47 species, were gathered by Fred Alsop and Chester Massey. Included in the kill were 247 Red-eye Vireos, 1 Philadelphia Vireo, 122 Kentucky Warblers, and 115 Veeries.

The Knoxville Chapters' fall count, held on September 29, listed 116 species.

Loon-Ibis: Common Loon: first 5 Oct. (1) BL (JD, MD). Horned Grebe: 19 Oct. (7) NL (DRJ). DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: 26 Oct. (3) HRA (JND, LD); 29 Oct. (1) HRA (KLD). Green Heron: 15 and 24 Oct. (1) SB (KLD); 20 Oct. (1) Warrior Path State Park (DJL). Little Blue Heron: 6 Aug. (1) HRA (DRJ); 30 Aug. (1) HRA (KLD); 21 Oct. (2) HRA (KLD). Great Egret: 4-24 Aug. (2) SeV (LSF); 11-21 Sept. (1) AS (ETOS); 1-12 occasional at HRA thru 16 Oct. (KLD, DRJ). SNOWY EGRET: 20-31 Aug. (1) HRA (KLD, DRJ, LMJ). Black-cr. Night Heron: 11 Aug. - 4 Oct. (3-5 imm., 2 ad.) AS (ETOS); 11 Aug. (1 imm.) CC (JMC, JCH); 31 Aug. (2) SB (KLD). Yellow-cr. Night Heron: 31 Aug. (2) SB (LD); 18 Sept. (1 imm.), 5 Oct. (1 imm.) AS (MD, SG). Least Bittern: 3 Sept. (1) SB (KD). American Bittern: 3 Sept. (1) SB (KD). WHITE IBIS: 29 Aug. (1 imm.). AlM (MDW); 30 Aug. (1) HRA (KLD).

Goose-Hawk: Canada Goose: first 24 Sept. (18) HRA (KLD); 30 Oct. (5) AS (MD, SG). AMERICAN BRANT: 29 Oct. to end of period (1) HRA (KLD, et al). Snow Goose: 29 Oct. to end of period (1) HRA (KLD). Blue (morph) Goose: 30 Sept. (3) HRA (KLD); 29 Oct. (20) HRA (KLD). Pintail: first 24 Sept. (3) HRA (KLD). Green-winged Teal: 15 Sept. (2) CC (JMC, JCH). Blue-winged Teal: 31 Aug. (300) SB (KLD). Wood Duck: max 450 HRA (KLD, DRJ). Redhead: 28 Oct. (4) BWP (KLD). Lesser

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Scaup: 28 Oct. (11) BWP (KLD). Black Vulture: 6 Aug. (2 young about grown banded). Grindstone Mtn. (Carl Swafford). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 29 Sept. (9) K (KTOS); 12 Oct. (3) Harriman (CPN). Cooper's Hawk: 29 Sept. (1) K (KTOS); 5 Oct. (1) Erwin (HD). GOLDEN EAGLE: 26 Oct. (1 ad.) HRA (JND, LD). Marsh Hawk: 29 Sept. (1) K (KTOS); 5 Oct. (1) Erwin (GE, HF). Osprey: 1 Sept. (1) CC (JMC, JCH); 15 Sept. (1) AS (GE, HF); 29 Sept. (4) K (KTOS); 5 Oct. (1) AS (MD, JD, SG). PEREGRINE FALCON: 21 Sept. (1) K (KTOS).

Rail-Tern: King Rail: 9 Sept. (1) HRA (DRJ). Virginia Rail: 3 Sept. (1) SB (KD); 29 Sept. (1) AS (GE, LRH). Sora: 5 Oct. (1) Blountville (JD, MD); 10 Oct. (1) AM (KD). Semipalmated Plover: 24 Aug. - 21 Sept. (1) AS (ETOS); 6 Aug. (2) HRA (KLD, DRJ); 16 and 30 Aug. (1) HRA (KLD). American Golden Plover: 16 Oct. (1) SB (KD). Black-bellied Plover: 30 Aug. (2) SB (LD). Common Snipe: first 3 Sept. (1) SB (KLD); 15 Sept. (1) AS (GE). Spotted Sandpiper: 11 Aug. (1) CC (JMC, JCH, JH); 1-3 reg. thru 20 Sept. at SB (KLD); 29 Sept. (2) K (KTOS). Solitary Sandpiper: thru 20 Aug. (1-2) SB (KLD); 29 Sept. (1) K (KTOS). WILLET: 3 Aug. (30) SB (KLD); 3 Aug. (6) SeV (LSF); 11 Aug. (1) CC (JMC, JCH, JH); 11 Aug. (1) AS (GE, HF)-only 2nd upper E. T. record, last in 1968; 17 Aug. (1) WW (DRJ). Greater Yellowlegs: 1-3 reg. thru period, max. 16 Oct. (15) at HRA (KLD); 25 Aug. (1) CC (JMC, JCH, JH). Lesser Yellowlegs: 1-4 reg. thru 21 Oct. at HRA, SB (KLD); 25 Aug. (2) CC (JMC, JCH, JH); 24 Oct. (1) AS (DJL). Pectoral Sandpiper: reg. thru 26 Oct. at HRA, SB (KLD, DRJ) Least Sandpiper: 1-26 reg. from 3 Aug. thru period at SB and HRA (KLD, DRJ); 11 Aug. (1), 25 Aug. (2) CC (JMC, ICH, IH). Dunlin: first 30 Sept. (35) HRA (KLD); 17 Oct. (14) AS (GE, LRH). Short-billed Dowitcher: (by call note) 25-31 Aug. (1) SB (KLD); 18 Aug. (2) HRA (KLD). Stilt Sandpiper: 29 Aug. (1) HRA (KLD, DRJ); 29 Sept. (1) K (Bill Williams). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 3 Aug. (6) SB (KLD); 8 Aug. (4), 22 Aug. (5) SB (KLD); 25 Aug. (1) CC (JMC, JCH, JH); 16 Sept. (8) HRA (KLD). BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: 22 Sept. (1) CC (JMC, JCH, J. Nieme). Western Sandpiper: 2-3 irreg. at AS from 2 Aug. -14 Oct. (ETOS); 22 Aug. (2) SB (LD); 30 Aug. (1) HRA (KLD). SANDERLING: 19 Aug. - 23 Aug. (1) AS (ETOS); 30 Aug. (2) HRA (KLD). WILSON'S PHALAROPE: 11 Sept. (1) SB (KLD, et al). Ringbilled Gull: first 21 Oct. (1) HRA (KLD). Bonaparte's Gull: 13 Oct. (1) BL (DJL). Forster's Tern: 8 Aug. (1) HRA (DRJ, LMJ); 28 Aug. (5), 3 Sept. (2) NL (DRJ); 29 Sept. (1) K (Jim Tanner); 3 Oct. (3), 6 Oct. (1) SB (KLD); 14 Oct. (4) HRA (KLD). Common Tern: 1 Sept. (3), 15 Sept. (2) NL (LSF); 16 Sept. (3) HRA (KLD). Least Tern: 29 Sept. (1) K (Terry McGowan). Black Tern: 1-22 reg. to 5 Sept. at HRA, SB, NL (KLD, LSF, DRJ); 3 Sept. (52) NL (DRJ).

Owl-Pipit: Barn Owl: 20 Aug. (1) AM (DRJ). Common Nighthawk: 13 Sept. (migratory flock of 125+) K (CPN); 15 Sept. (709) Da (LSF), 11 Oct. (2) K (JGH). Chimney Swift: 14 Oct. (200 Chatt. (KLD) Redheaded Woodpecker: 22 Sept. (2) CC (JMC, JCH, J. Nieme); 29 Sept. (2) K (CPN, MDW); 14 Oct. (1) K (WKJ, CPN). Eastern Kingbird: 70-80 at

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roost, to 2 Sept. at SB (KLD). Wood Pewee: last 20 Oct. (1) JC (SG). Tree Swallow: 25 Oct. (1) LM (GLB). Barn Swallow: last 12 Oct. (1) SB (KLD). Blue Jay: heavy migration noted on: 29 Sept. (240), 30 Sept. (225), 1 Oct. (200), 2 Oct. (6) all Missionary Ridge, Chat. (AG). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 10 Oct. (1) Collegedale (LS); 13 and 14 Oct. (1-3) Hamilton Co. Park (JND); 28 Oct. (6) BWP (KLD). Winter Wren: first 5 Oct. (1) HM (MDW). Long-billed Marsh Wren: 29 Sept. (1) K (CPN, MDW). Water Pipit: 12 Oct. (2) SB (LD, TF, DRJ); 29 Oct. (50) HRA (KLD).

Vireo-Sparrow: Solitary Vireo: 17 Oct. (1) K (JGH). PHILADELPHIA VIREO: 22 Sept. (1) CC (JMC, JCH); 26 Sept. - 5 Oct. (1) JC (SG); 5 Oct. (3) HM (MDW). Orange-crowned Warbler: 29 Sept. (1) K (KTOS); 2 Oct. (1) JC (MD); 5 Oct. - 28 Oct. (1-2) K (JGH). Blackpoll Warbler: 14-18 Oct. (1-2) K (JGH). Louisiana Waterthrush: 5 Oct. (1) Er (HF). Wilson's Warbler: 29 Sept. (1) K (CPN, MDW). Bobolink: 29 Sept. (29) K (KTOS); 8 Oct. (8) K (WKJ, CPN). Orchard Oriole: last 10 Sept. (3) Hixson (JND). Scarlet Tanager: last 17 Oct. (1) K (JGH). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 27 Oct. (1) BL (MD, SG). Blue Grosbeak: 8 Oct. (3) K (CPN). Purple Finch: first 26 Oct. (4) WW (DRJ). Vesper Sparrow: 19 Oct. (4) NL (DRJ). White-crowned Sparrow: first 17 Oct. (12) AS (GE, LRH). White-throated Sparrow: 29 Sept. (1) K (KTOS). Lincoln's Sparrow: 29 Oct. (1) HRA (KLD).

Locations: AlM—Alcoa Marsh; AM—Amnicola Marsh; AS—Austin Springs; BL—Boone Lake; BWP—Booker T. Washington State Park; CC—Campbell Co.; Chat—Chattanooga area; DA—Daus; Er—Erwin; HRA—Hiwassee River Area; HM—House Mtn.; K—Knoxville area; JC—Johnson City; LM—Lookout Mtn., Ga.; NL—Nickajack Lake; SB—Savannah Bay; SeV—Sequatchie Valley; WW—Wildwood, Ga.

Observers: GLB—Gary L. Bayne; JMC—James M. Campbell; JND—Jon and Nancy DeVore; JD—Joy Dillenbeck; MD—Martha Dillenbeck; HD— Helenhill Dove; KD—Ken Dubke; LD—Lil Dubke; KLD—Ken and Lil Dubke; GE—Glen Eller; ETOS—Elizabethton Chapter, TOS; HF—Harry Farthing; AG—Ann Gibson; SG—Sally Goodin; LRH—Lee R. Herndon; JGH—James G. Holt; JCH—J. C. Howell; JH—J. Hubbard; DRJ—Daniel R. Jacobson; LMJ—Lemuel M. Jacobson; WKJ—Wesley K. James; KTOS—Knoxville Chapter, TOS; DJL—Dick and Joyce Lura; CPN—Charles P. Nicholson; LSF— Lee Shafer family; MDW—Morris D. Williams.

C. P. NICHOLSON, 6806 Haverhill Drive, Knoxville 37919.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION—The overall weather for the period could best be described as mild and dry. August and September were near normal in all aspects. October was the driest on record since 1968 with only 2.6 inches of rainfall recorded. We had two very early "killing" frosts on 2 and 3 Oct. These frosts were almost two weeks earlier than usual. Several late stragglers were reported and most of the waterfowl were a few days early, due mostly to the earlier than last year's colder weather here and to the north of us.

Loon-Hawk: Common Loon: 27 Oct. (2) WatL (GE); Green Heron: last seen 5 Oct. (1) RC (LRH); Yellow-crowned Night Heron: 16 and 24 Aug.

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(1) WatR (GE, MD); Black Duck: 19 Oct. (8) WibL (GE) first return; Green-winged Teal: 6 Oct. (4) WibL (HF) and 19 thru 27 Oct. (1-2) WibL (GW); Blue-winged Teal: 10 Sept. (3) WatR (LRH) first return; American Wigeon: 19 Oct. (2) WibL (GE) first return; Ring-necked Duck: 5 Oct. (5) WatL (GW, DJL) first return; Bufflehead: 20 Oct. (1) WibL (GW) first return; Black Vulture: 22 Sept. (2) HM (GE, FWB); Cooper's Hawk: 15 Sept. (2) IMG (SG); 22 Sept. (1) HM (GE, FWB); 6 Oct. (5) RM (TMS); Broad-winged Hawk: 18 Sept. (500) and 22 Sept. (600) HM (FWB, GE); Marsh Hawk: 5 Oct. (1) RC (Lois Herndon).

Snipe-Swallow: Common Snipe: 11 Oct. (1) WatR (GE) first return; Least Sandpiper: 7 Sept. (2) RC (GW, GE); Semipalmated Sandpiper: 7 Sept. (4) RC (GW, GE); Ring-billed Gull: 28 Sept. (1) WatL (GW) first return; Forester's Tern: 13 Sept. (1) RC (LRH) and 29 Sept. (1) WatL (GW); BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: 3 Nov. (1) very late IMG (SG); Great Horned Owl: 26 Aug. (1) HM (FWB) and 12 Oct. (1) HC (TMS); Barred Owl: 22 Sept. (1) HM (FWB) and 5 Oct. (2) HM (GW); Common Nighthawk: 6 Oct. (2) Eliz. (HF) last seen; Chimney Swift: 10 Oct. (3) Eliz. (GE) last seen; Tree Swallow: 22 Sept. (2) HM (GE, FWB); Bank Swallow: 3 Aug. (3) WatR (GW); Cliff Swallow: 15 Aug. (75-100) SV (LRH, GE).

Nuthatch-Sparrow: Red-breasted Nuthatch: all thru period (15-25) very plentiful on RM (FWB); Brown Creeper: 5 Oct. (1) RC (LRH) and 20 Oct. (2) HC (TMS); Long-billed Marsh Wren: 7 Oct. (1 banded) Eliz. (LRH); Water Pipit: 5 Oct. (1) RM (FWB); Solitary Vireo: 21 Oct. (1) RM (FWB) last seen; Swainson's Warbler: 25 Aug. (1) HM (SG); Orangecrowned Warbler: 18 Sept. (1) HC (TMS); Purple Finch: 5 Oct. (3) RC (LRH) first return; Savannah Sparrow: 19 Sept. (12) SV (GW); Grasshopper Sparrow: 5 Oct. (1) late SV (GW, DJL); White-crowned Sparrow: 9 Oct. (2) Eliz. (LRH); White-throated Sparrow: 5 Oct. (2) SV (GW) first return; Lincoln's Sparrow: 5 Oct. (7) WatL (LRH).

Locations: Eliz.—Elizabethton area, HC—Heaton Creek (RM), HM— Holston Mountain, IMG—Iron Mountain Gap near Erwin, RC—Roans Creek, RM—Roan Mountain, SV—Siam Valley near Eliz., WatL—Watauga Lake; WatR—Watauga River, WibL—Wilbur Lake.

Observers: FWB—Fred Behrend; MD—Martha Dillenbeck; GE—Glen Eller; HF—Harry Farthing; SG—Sally Goodin; LRH—Lee Herndon; DJL— Dick and Joyce Lura; TMS—Tommy and Maxie Swindell and GW—Gary Wallace.

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PREPARATION OF COPY FOR PUBLICATION

The purpose of THE MIGRANT is the recording of observations and original information derived from the study of birds, primarily in the state of Tennessee or the area immediately adjacent to its borders. Articles for publication originate almost exclusively from T.O.S. members.

Contributors should prepare manuscripts and submit them in a form acceptable to the printer, after editorial approval. Both articles and short notes are solicited but their format should be somewhat different.

Some suggestions to authors for the preparation of papers for publication are given herewith.

MATERIAL: The subject matter should relate to some phase of Tennessee Ornithology. It should be original, factual, concise, scientifically accurate, and not submitted for publication elsewhere.

TITLE: The title should be concise, specific, and descriptive.

STYLE: Recent issues of THE MIGRANT should be used as a guide in the preparation of manuscripts. Where more detail is needed reference should be made to the *Style Manual for Biological Journals* available from the American Institute of Biological Sciences, 3900 Wisconsin Avenue N. W., Washington, D. C. 20016.

COPY: Manuscripts should be typed double spaced on $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11''$ paper with adequate margins, for editorial notations, and should contain only entries intended for setting in type, except the serial page number. Tabular data should be entered on separate sheets with appropriate title and column headings. Photographs intended for reproduction should be sharp with good contrast on glossy white paper in black and white (not in color). Instructions to the editors should be given on a separate sheet. Weights and measurements should be in metric units. Dating should be in "continental" form (e.g., 7 March 1968).

NOMENCLATURE: Common names should be capitalized followed by binomial scientific name in italics only after the first occurrence in the text for both regular articles and ROUND TABLE NOTES, and should conform to the A.O.U. Check-list 5th edition, 1957. Trinomial should be used only after the specimen has been measured or compared with typical specimens.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: When there are more than five references in an article, they should be placed at the end of the article, otherwise they should be appropriately included in the text.

SUMMARY: Articles of five or more pages in length should be summarized briefly, drawing attention to the main conclusions resulting from the work performed.

IDENTIFICATION: Rare or unusual species identification to be acceptable must be accompanied by verifying evidence. This should include: date, time, light and weather conditions, exact location, habitat, optical equipment, distance, behavior of bird, comparison with other similar species, characteristic markings, experience of observer, other observers verifying observation and reference works consulted.

REPRINTS: Reprints are available on request. Reprint requests should accompany article at the time of submission. Billing to authors will be through the state T.O.S. Treasurer.

Books for review and articles for publication should be submitted to the editor. Seasonal reports and items should be forwarded to the appropriate departmental editor whose name and address will be found on the inside front cover.

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