



# THE MIGRANT



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DEVOTED TO TENNESSEE BIRDS

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### NOTICE TO RESEARCHERS AND LIBRARIES

Volume 68, Numbers 1-4, has preceded this issue. Volume 67, Numbers 1-4, is printed in this single issue. Several references in this issue include dates later than the cover date of 1996. The journal is behind schedule and it has been necessary to use material which, in some cases, was submitted and accepted later in the year.

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## THE RAPTOR REHABILITATION PROGRAM AT THE MEMPHIS ZOO: 1995, A YEAR IN REVIEW

KNOX MARTIN  
1176 Dearing Road  
Memphis, TN 38117

The Raptor Rehabilitation Program of the Memphis Zoo and Aquarium was started almost 20 years ago when a single bird was brought in for treatment. The growth of the program is evidenced by the count of 161 birds brought in during 1995, a record setting year. Included were birds not only from Tennessee, but also Mississippi, Arkansas, and Kentucky. The total includes 54 orphaned or abandoned raptors, starting with a young Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) on 18 March and concluding with a young Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) on 30 October. In numbers of raptors treated, the program is now one of the largest in the U.S.

A total of 11 species of raptors and both vultures came through the program in 1995, including Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), and Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). In terms of individuals brought in, there was a tie between the Barn Owl and American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) with 28 of each. This is an unusually high number of Barn Owls for the Mid-South area, but included three broods of young: five from a blown-down tree in Ripley, Mississippi, on 11 April; seven from a grain silo in Oakland, Fayette County, Tennessee, on 7 May; and three more from Fayette County on 7 June. Among injured birds, collision injuries were the most frequent, but gunshot wounds, barbed wire wounds, oilings, poisonings, and entanglements were encountered also.

By the end of the year a total of 81 birds had been released back into the wild. All were banded with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service bands. As of 31 December there were a few more pending release, possibly pushing the release rate to 55-60% of the birds brought in during 1995. Some of the remaining non-releaseable raptors were placed in educational programs around the area. Besides retaining some at the Memphis Zoo, other birds went to State Parks at Reelfoot Lake, Paris Landing, Natchez Trace, and Meeman Shelby Forest, as well as to the Nashville Zoo. Education plays an important part of the raptor program, with 27 talks presented to over 7,000 people in 1995. Many civic groups, scouts, and school groups enjoyed seeing live raptors up close and learning about the role of birds of prey in the web of nature.

## THE 1995 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

FRANK D. HIXON

Nineteen individual counts were conducted in Tennessee for the 1995-1996 Christmas Bird Count season with a total of 148 species seen. Over 300 observers took part in counts across Tennessee. Species of note included American White Pelican, Great Egret, Tundra Swan, Greater White-fronted Goose, Surf and White-winged Scoters, Golden Eagle, four sightings of Virginia Rail, Sora, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Least Tern, Black-legged Kittiwake, Eurasian Collared Dove, Rufous Hummingbird, Fish Crow, Bewick's Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Indigo Bunting, Henslow's Sparrow, LeConte's Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Lapland Longspur, Western Meadowlark, and Northern Oriole (count week only). In the table, CW indicates species seen during the count week (three days before or after the day of the actual count).

### INFORMATION ON THE COUNTS

MEMPHIS: 17 Dec.; 0500-1745; cloudy and rain; wind ENE 10-15 mph; temp. 48-56F; 31 observers in 6-10 parties; 163 party hours (93 on foot, 70 by car); 118 party miles (27 on foot, 91 by car); 96 species; 22,893 individuals not including about 1 million Red-winged Blackbirds. The Common Nighthawks were observed throughout the Fall until 18 December. The Northern Oriole was still present into January. Carolyn H. Bullock, Fred Carney, Lula C. Coffey, Bob Cooper, Helen B. Dinkelspiel, James A. Ferguson, Robert P. Ford, William B. Fowler, Murray L. Gardler, Harry Gayden, Adam Griffin, Ron Griffin, Van Harris, Martha Heinemann, Ginger L. Iardi, Robert L. Iardi, Keith Kunkel, Selma S. Lewis, Sarah McBryde, N. P. McWhirter, Susan N. McWhirter, George R. Payne, Jeanne B. Payne, William R. Peeples, Dick D. Preston, Ernest Restivo, Virginia B. Reynolds, Martha Waldron (compiler- 1626 Yorkshire Drive, Memphis, TN 38119), Barbara H. Wilson, Linda V. Zempel.

REELFOOT LAKE: 16 Dec.; 0500-1800; partly cloudy to clear; wind SW 5-10 mph; temp 35-56F; 19 observers in 6-7 parties; 61 party hours (18 on foot, 39 by car, 4 by boat), plus 2.5 owling; 540.5 party miles (12 on foot, 522 by car, 6.5 by boat), plus 15 owling; 113 species; 422,603 individuals. Details provided on Merlin, Short-eared Owl, Fish Crow, American Tree Sparrow, Brewer's Blackbird, Greater Scaup, Orange-crowned Warbler, LeConte's Sparrow, Marsh Wren, Lapland Longspur, Tundra Swan, Golden Eagle, Western Meadowlark, Rough-legged Hawk (with photo). Gilbert Beaver, Jerry Drewry, Bob Foehring, Bob Ford, Joe Francis, Rena Fugate, Mark Greene (compiler-81 Trenton Hwy, Humboldt, TN 38343), Joe Guinn, Jim Johnson, Gene Knight, Shannon Knight, Jack Markin, Nancy Moore, Dick Preston, Don Preston, Joe Stone, Bettie Sumara, Sabin Thompson, Jeff Wilson.

JACKSON: 23 Dec.; 0500-1730; cloudy and light snow; wind NW 10-15 mph; temp 27-35F; 8 observers in 3-4 parties; 22 party hours (4.5 on foot and 17.5 by car), plus 1 owling; 391.5 party miles (3.5 on foot and 388 by car), plus 10 owling; 82 species; 144,038 individuals. Details provided on Fish Crow, Brewer's Blackbird, Rough-legged Hawk, Sandhill Crane, Indigo Bunting. Mark Greene (compiler-81 Trenton Hwy, Humboldt, TN 38343), Paul Hertzell, Bill Reinke, Joyce Reinke, Polly Rooker, Jackie Utley, Donna Ward, Lynn Williams.

SAVANNAH: 30 Dec.; 0245-1715; clear to mostly cloudy; wind SW 0-10 mph; temp 19-55F; 9 observers in 6 parties plus 1 at feeders; 61.25 party hours (31 on foot

and 30.25 by car), plus 4.25 owling and 4 at feeders; 392.3 party miles (24.2 on foot and 368.1 by car), plus 67.5 owling; 100 species; 55,509 individuals. Details provided on Merlin, Virginia Rail, Lesser Black-backed Gull, House Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Palm Warbler, and Henslow's Sparrow. Lisa Allen, Jeff Garner, Mark Greene, Tom Haggerty, Lois Johnson, Francis Markine, Gary Markine, Floyd Sherrod, Elizabeth Sherrod, Damien Simbeck (compiler-Rt. 1, Box 264, Killen, AL 35645).

BUFFALO RIVER: 28 Dec.; 0630-1700; partly clear; wind N 5-15 mph; temp 24-36F; 13 observers in 6 parties; 59.5 party hours (22.5 on foot and 37 by car), plus 3.5 owling; 389 party miles (19 on foot and 370 by car), plus 28 owling; 87 species; 10,266 individuals. Details provided on American Tree Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, and Surf Scoter. Michael Beuerlein, Connie Hollman, David Ihrie, Nathan Kuhnert, Chester McConnell, Dorothy McConnell, Royce Neidert, Jane Newell, Betty Perry, Donette Sellers, Harlie Sides, Don Simbeck (compiler-424 Riddle Lane, Loretta, TN 38469), Morris Williams.

COLUMBIA: 29 Dec.; 0430-1700; clear; wind S 0-5 mph; temp 19-42F; 7 observers in 5 parties, plus 3 at feeders; 29 party hours (20.5 on foot and 8.5 by car), plus 4 owling; 223 party miles (17 on foot and 206 by car), plus 16 owling; 90 species; 36,559 individuals. Steven Brinkley, Nancy Byer, Mary Lucy Fuqua, William Fuqua, Phyllis Herrman, William Jernigan, Allyn Lay, Cleo Mayfield, George Mayfield (compiler-999 Sunnyside Dr., Columbia, TN 38401), Chris Sloan.

NASHVILLE: 16 Dec.; 0630-1700; partly cloudy to clear; wind variable; temp 40-55F; 41 observers in 9 parties, plus 10 feeder watchers; 72 party hours (39.5 by foot and 32.5 by car), plus 1.5 owling; 314 party miles (33 by foot and 281 by car), plus 1.5 owling; 77 species; 19,759 individuals. This was the 30th Nashville Count for this circle. The count included two firsts, Bald Eagle and Pine Warbler. Ann Tarbell (compiler-6033 Sherwood Drive, Nashville, TN 37215), Judy Bivens, Sandy Bivens, David Buchanan, Hazel Cassel, Phillip Casteel, Ralph Cazort, Jeanne Cobb, Richard Connors, Linda Costello, Beth Creighton, Bob Cutis, Lucy Finch, Ed Gleaves, Boyd Goss, Barbara Harris, Bob Hatcher, Susan Hollyday, Linda Kelley, Laura Knox, George Kochler, Ed Landers, David Lundell, Ginny Lundell, Susan Marden, Jane Maynard, Scott McCarley, Joe McLaughlin, Diana McLusky, Gail Miller, Jenny Nehring, Elizabeth O'Conner, Bob Parrish, Marge Patrick, Mike Rodel, Cathy Schlessman, Janece Seals, Jan Shaw, Wanda Shotwell, Jay Thurman, Ed Toone, Janet Troup, Bob Van Kirk, Rita Venable, Greg Wathen, Linda Weiss, Janice Westerman, Joe Westerman.

HICKORY-PRIEST: 1 Jan.; 0542-1715; cloudy with light rain; wind calm; temp 10-40F; 13 observers in 5 parties; 51.75 party hours (33.25 by foot and 18.5 by car), plus 2.75 owling; 312.3 party miles (32.8 by foot and 279.5 by car), plus 11.3 owling; 89 species; 60,351 individuals. Minimal details provided on Sedge Wren, Common Yellowthroat, Evening Grosbeak, Merlin, and Selasphorus species. Linda Anderson, Hazel Cassel, Phillip Casteel, Richard Connors, Jerry Drewry, Susan Hollyday, Dan Jacobson, Joe McLaughlin, Wanda Shotwell, Chris Sloan (compiler-6312 Kingsbury Drive, Brentwood, TN 37027), Ann Tarbell, Sabin Thompson.

MURFREESBORO: 1 Jan.; time not stated; low clouds and rain; wind not stated; temp high 50F; 13 observers in 7 parties plus 1 feeder watcher; 67 party hours; 298 party miles; 68 species; 12,078 individuals. Jim Chrietzberg, Bertha Chrietzberg, Tony Halterlein, Renee Halterlein, Richard Hunter, Wilma Hunter (compiler-3659

Wilson-Overall Road, Murfreesboro, TN 37130), Pat Martin, David McCarroll, Ruth Odom, Gene Odom, Bob Sanders, Pat Sanders, Ferrell Wilson, Terry Witt.

NICKAJACK LAKE: 30 Dec.; time not stated; clear to partly cloudy; wind and temp not stated; 18 observers in 8 parties; 78.5 party hours (48.75 by foot and 29.75 by car), plus 6.75 owling; 402.5 party miles (22.5 on foot and 380 by car), plus 44 owling; 100 species; 24,604 individuals. Details provided on American Tree Sparrow and Golden Eagle. Nelson Bennett, John Clem, Jerry Drewry, Charles Durrin, Veronica Durrin, Danny Gaddy, Bill Haley, John Henderson, Dan Jacobson, Starr Klein, Johnny Parks (compiler-164 McDonald Drive, Ringgold, GA 30736), Pete Robinson, Ron Rogers, Tommie Rogers, Robin Rudd, Joe Stone, Sabin Thompson, David Vogt.

COOKEVILLE: 21 Dec.; 0505-1645; overcast and snow flurries; wind N 0-10 mph; temp 17-24F; 11 observers in five parties plus 4 feeder watchers; 45.5 party hours (9.25 by foot and 36.25 by car), plus 6 hours by feeder watchers and 2 hours owling; 379 party miles (7 by foot and 372 by car), plus 28 owling; 73 species; 6,981 individuals. Daniel Combs, Graham Kash, Michael O'Rourke, Suzanne Perry, Helen Redding, Michael Redding, JoAnne Schaefer, Shayne Schaefer, Richard Simmers, Barbara Stedman, Stephen Stedman (compiler), Evelyne Stites, John Stites, Katherine Walden, Winston Walden.

CHATTANOOGA: 16 Dec.; 0700-1800; cloudy with rain to partly cloudy; wind NW 0-20 mph; temp 52-57F; 20 observers in 13 parties; 108.5 party hours (61.25 on foot and 47.25 by car), plus 2 hours at feeders and 8 hours owling; 544 party miles (45.5 on foot and 498.5 by car), plus 65.5 owling; 106 species; 28,680 individuals. Mary Lynn Buttram, Kevin Calhoon, Ken Dubke, Lil Dubke, Bill Haley, John Henderson (compiler-7323 Fairington Circle, Hixson, TN 37343), Frank Hixon, Dan Jacobson, Al Jenkins, Jonnie Sue Lyons, Barbara McMahan, Mike McMahan, Bob Pierce, Peter Robinson, Ron Rogers, Tommie Rogers, Robin Rudd, David Vogt, Dan Williams, Libby Wolfe.

HIWASSEE: 1 Jan.; 0530-1800; cloudy, foggy, light rain; wind variable 0-10 mph; temp 42-54F; 19 observers in 10 parties; 73.5 party hours (40 on foot, 24.5 by car and 9 by boat), plus 2 hours owling; 365 party miles (40 on foot, 290 by car, and 35 by boat), plus 20 owling; 94 species; 21,826 individuals. Quen Avakian, Nelson Bennett, Clyde Blum, Mary Lynn Buttram, Kevin Calhoon (compiler-1185 Mountain Creek Road, Apt 715, Chattanooga, TN 37405), Ken Dubke, Lil Dubke, Danny Gaddy, Bill Haley, John Henderson, Laura Mitchell, Alberta Oliver, Ron Rogers, Tommie Rogers, Robin Rudd, Boyd Sharp, Allan Trently, David Trently, Chris Welsh.

KNOXVILLE: 17 Dec.; time not stated; weather not stated; 36 observers in 16 parties; 130.25 party hours (85.5 on foot and 44.75 by car), plus 4 owling; 466.75 party miles (69.25 on foot and 397.5 by car), plus .5 owling; 91 species; 30,171 individuals. Jane Beintema, Frank Bills, Sharon Bostick, James Brooks (compiler), Marcia Davis, Jeffrey Duncan, Maurice Grigsby, Jerry Hadder, Paul Hartigan, Ron Hoff, Jonathan Howe, Tom Howe, David Howell, Susan Hoyle, Jim Hughes, Kristine Johnson, Dev Joslin, Joel Keebler, Tony Koella, Bettie Mason, James Mason, Bill McNutt, Dollyann Myers, Chris Newbole, Charles Nicholson, Holly Overton, Andrew Redfearn, Roy Kelly, Martha Rudolph, Leslie Ryon, Michael Ryon, Debbie Searfass, Beth Schilling, Boyd Sharp, David Trently, Allan Trently, Christopher Welsh.

GREENEVILLE: 28 Dec.; 0730-1800; mostly cloudy becoming mostly sunny; wind NW 5 mph; temp 20-38F; 19 observers in 9 parties, plus 5 feeder watchers; 54 party

hours (21 on foot, 29 by car, 4 by boat), plus 21 hours at feeders; 319 party miles (10 on foot, 306 by car, and 3 by boat); 76 species; 35,773 individuals. Jennifer Childress, Harold Dobson, Margaret Dobson, Marjorie Earnest, Bill Foland, King Gaut, Margaret Gaut, Juanita Heckert, Lenard Heckert, Jim Holt (compiler, 311 Colonial Circle, Greeneville, TN 37745), Dick Jennings, Barbara Jennings, Rick Knight, Alice Loftin, Don Miller, Richard Nevius, Willie Ruth Nevius, Helen Reed, JoAnne Routledge, Larry Routledge, Isabell Sites, Helen Spees, Royal Spees, Virginia Williams.

ELIZABETHTON: 16 Dec.; 0545-1815; rain until sunrise, cloudy until mid-morning, then clear; wind light; temp 40-54F; 15 observers in 6 parties; 52.5 party hours (34.5 on foot, 18 by car), plus 1.25 hours owling; 298 party miles (9 on foot, 289 by car), plus 1 mile owling; 78 species; 5,448 individuals. New record-high number of species (old record 74 in 1973 and 1986). Details provided on Merlin sighting. Fred Alsop, James Brooks, Janet Brown, Kathy Brown, Wallace Coffey, Greg Harris, Danny Huffine, Teresa Hutson-Feliu, Brad Jones, Rick Knight (compiler-804 N. Hills Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604), Charles Moore, Jerry Nagel, Rick Phillips, Gary Wallace, Frank Ward.

KINGSPORT: 27 Dec.; time not stated; cloudy with snow flurries; wind not stated; temp 26-32F; observers not stated; 41 party hours (11 on foot, 30 by car), plus .5 owling; 216 party miles (6 on foot and 210 by car), plus 3 miles owling; 80 species; 7,868 individuals. George and Suzanne Larkins (compilers-124 Bloomingdale Pk., Apt A10, Kingsport, TN 37660).

BRISTOL: 31 Dec.; 0430-1730; partly cloudy to cloudy; wind variable 0-5 mph; temp 27-50F; 25 observers in 6-7 parties; 60.5 party hours (24.5 by foot and 36 by car), plus 5 hours owling; 477.5 party miles (15.5 by foot and 462 by car); 78 species; 9,855 individuals. Bob Biller, Ed Burke, Ron Carrico, Wallace Coffey, Jo Ann Detta, Jane Fleenor, Pat Galligher, Bert Hale, Ken Hale, Lindsey Hale, Loraine Hale, Ron Harrington, Greg Harris, Marty Hubber, Rick Knight, Geoff Larsen, Tom Laughlin, Phillip Lewis, Richard Lewis (compiler-407 VI Ranch Road, Bristol, TN 37620), Larry McDaniel, Rick Phillips, Karen Quesenberry, Bob Quillen, Randy Smith, Ramsey White.

ROAN MOUNTAIN: 17 Dec.; 0545-1800; clear to partly cloudy; wind calm; temp 20-61F; 8 observers in 3 parties; 21 party hours (15 on foot, 6 by car), plus 1 hour owling; 107 party miles (9 on foot and 98 by car), plus owling at two stationary points; 54 species; 1,091 individuals. Fred Alsop, James Brooks, Lisa Jones, Rick Knight (compiler-804 N. Hills Dr., Johnson City, TN 37604), Tom Laughlin, Jennifer Laughlin, Tom McNeil, Gary Wallace.



1995 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT																			
Species	Memp	Reel	Jack	Sav	Buff	Colu	Nash	Hk-Pr	Murf	Nick	Cooke	Chat	Hiwas	Knox	Green	Eliz	King	Bris	Roan
Common Loon	.	3	.	2	.	.	.	22	.	5	.	21	3	5	.	.	CW	2	.
Pied-billed Grebe	23	224	6	50	17	19	2	88	5	265	4	71	13	34	3	8	35	101	2
Horned Grebe	.	3	.	11	.	.	.	120	.	4	.	28	.	5	.	9	2	.	.
Amer. White Pelican	.	CW	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Dbl-crested Cormorant	65	88	.	2	2	.	.	2	.	21	.	1	129	6	.	.	13	.	.
Great Blue Heron	68	41	8	88	15	65	12	68	5	89	10	83	199	133	18	9	15	23	.
Great Egret	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Blk-crowned Night-Heron	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	12	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	3	.	.
Tundra Swan	.	8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Gr. White-fronted Goose	.	265	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	CW	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Snow Goose	101	9	.	.	1	2	.	1	.	.	1	1	.	.	4	.	597	.	.
Canada Goose	391	4,755	30	60	477	1,132	353	1,051	80	32	292	720	1,065	715	378	451	.	631	.
Wood Duck	35	2	4	8	.	4	.	.	3	24	9	21	7	55	2	1	2	2	.
Green-winged Teal	.	16	.	1	.	80	.	.	1	.	.	.	44	26	1	75	1	4	29
American Black Duck	1	405	7	.	4	28	10	2	2	27	.	4	290	2	38	.	21	8	16
Mallard	511	314,744	1,049	52	42	356	111	504	6	356	22	550	2,221	459	77	271	768	943	12
Northern Pintail	.	10,002	1	.	.	9	.	.	.	.	.	5	15	1	.	.	CW	.	.
Blue-winged Teal	.	CW	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Northern Shoveler	44	18	14	.	4	39	17	3	.	.	.	13	5	.	.	.	.	.	.
Gadwall	454	1,021	4	7	8	136	44	22	.	275	3	87	281	14	25	2	15	57	.
American Wigeon	8	182	.	5	4	65	50	2	.	2	1	13	58	.	8	1	22	59	.
Canvasback	71	169	1	.	.	.	44	1	.	22	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	2	.
Redhead	.	5	.	.	.	8	.	.	.	.	2	5	.	2	.	1	.	.	.
Ring-necked Duck	167	5,603	12	CW	45	153	112	.	1	63	.	6	.	10	.	23	12	22	.
Greater Scaup	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6	.	2	4	.	.	3	22	1	.
Lesser Scaup	405	1,013	.	1	4	12	43	13	.	75	.	14	13	.	.	.	59	2	.
Surf Scoter	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
White-winged Scoter	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Common Goldeneye	.	4	.	13	CW	.	.	12	.	92	.	46	.	1	.	.	CW	.	.
Bufflehead	1	110	.	7	.	4	27	96	1	92	12	77	18	1	.	120	3	109	16

Species	Memp	Reel	Jack	Sav	Buff	Colu	Nash	Hk-Pr	Murf	Nick	Cooke	Chat	Hiwas	Knox	Green	Eliz	King	Bris	Roan
Hooded Merganser	27	17	2	.	.	76	.	.	6	16	36	10	48	18	.	.	.	149	18
Common Merganser	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	9	1	.	.	.	.
Red-breasted Merganser	.	6	.	1	.	.	.	3	.	3	.	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ruddy Duck	61	4,718	.	.	6	10	1	2	.	84	.	2	.	.	1	1	.	4	.
<i>Duck species</i>	.	.	.	67	18	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Black Vulture	.	36	5	.	23	56	186	.	1	393	.	119	25	11	39	32	115	21	.
Turkey Vulture	.	3	7	19	281	1	39	.	.	53	2	442	.	1	27	7	42	21	1
Bald Eagle	.	321	.	3	1	.	1	.	.	3	.	11	9	CW	.	.	.	.	.
Northern Harrier	25	15	11	41	40	7	4	.	1	3	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	.	.
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4	5	CW	4	1	3	3	1	2	3	.	12	.	7	1	3	3	6	1
Cooper's Hawk	3	2	1	2	4	1	6	1	4	5	3	9	2	3	2	3	1	3	.
<i>Accipiter species</i>	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.
Red-shouldered Hawk	2	12	5	9	10	.	.	4	.	15	7	12	10	4	.	.	.	.	.
Red-tailed Hawk	78	63	56	43	56	35	66	18	42	40	30	44	22	26	19	10	15	21	3
Rough-legged Hawk	.	1	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Golden Eagle	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
American Kestrel	46	33	40	14	40	28	43	15	64	20	92	13	16	20	43	14	21	43	.
Merlin	1	1	.	CW	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.	.
Peregrine Falcon	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ruffed Grouse	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	2
Wild Turkey	.	CW	.	.	25	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	.	.	2
Northern Bobwhite	4	8	8	5	18	21	.	2	.	.	10	24	13	2	9	.	.	.	.
Virginia Rail	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
Sora	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
American Coot	44	15,211	4	111	1	114	138	1,227	2	4,088	.	140	3	403	2	.	209	85	.
Sandhill Crane	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	38	4,343	.	.	.	.	.	.
Killdeer	150	.	35	132	44	56	150	103	5	64	74	143	122	106	35	54	29	20	6
Solitary Sandpiper	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
Least Sandpiper	26	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.
Common Snipe	9	62	1	21	28	14	22	56	10	2	.	18	32	3	3	12	.	4	.
American Woodcock	.	1	.	1	.	.	3	3	.	7	1	3	3	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bonaparte's Gull	30	1,069	.	CW	.	.	.	10	.	6	.	665	92	60	.	CW	.	.	.
Ring-billed Gull	955	657	CW	440	.	20	11	3,156	500	533	7	5,976	3,619	1,267	.	6	848	611	.
Herring Gull	.	1	.	3	.	.	.	12	.	11	.	9	1	.	.	.	2	.	.
Lesser Black-backed Gull	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Species	Memp	Reel	Jack	Sav	Buff	Colu	Nash	Hk-Pr	Murf	Nick	Cooke	Chal	Hiwas	Knox	Green	Eliz	King	Bris	Roan
Least Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-legged Kittiwake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Rock Dove	666	63	741	192	51	86	152	279	500	166	317	993	12	1,034	244	340	221	454	85
Mourning Dove	881	224	519	186	191	91	247	362	127	182	264	614	323	567	273	248	268	1,020	47
Eurasian Collared Dove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barn Owl	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech Owl	-	4	1	2	5	12	-	3	3	5	7	6	6	2	2	5	2	19	1
Great Horned Owl	2	6	1	9	3	8	CW	9	1	10	2	4	6	1	1	2	2	22	1
Barred Owl	2	9	2	13	2	3	6	2	-	3	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	3
Short-eared Owl	1	2	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Nighthawk	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Archilochus species</i>	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Selasphorus species</i>	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	16	25	2	9	15	8	17	28	8	24	9	30	53	37	15	15	17	12	11
Red-headed Woodpecker	3	28	5	10	3	6	3	-	-	21	6	4	6	1	-	-	1	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	110	60	22	65	61	22	76	12	21	48	56	71	65	103	34	11	24	31	-
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	16	13	2	24	20	9	43	16	7	47	13	48	42	46	6	8	5	5	2
Downy Woodpecker	70	44	30	32	35	32	46	28	15	44	35	60	49	66	36	31	25	35	14
Hairy Woodpecker	19	5	9	4	8	7	13	5	4	8	4	7	4	18	4	7	4	7	3
Northern Flicker	105	84	21	74	49	18	29	37	7	40	32	92	76	79	25	18	31	17	2
Pileated Woodpecker	17	27	3	10	31	5	20	5	-	3	15	12	24	22	19	20	7	20	3
Eastern Phoebe	-	14	1	11	16	3	1	-	3	30	7	17	12	12	4	9	2	7	3
Horned Lark	146	247	15	87	91	30	-	1	CW	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	274	61	187	184	277	50	183	81	128	283	353	292	384	675	338	160	185	349	18
American Crow	190	256	30,100	468	569	115	1,426	167	115	629	762	762	736	1,006	694	757	525	536	175
Fish Crow	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Raven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	3	13
Carolina Chickadee	182	88	43	216	125	80	310	111	44	142	117	312	167	441	97	148	88	156	33
Tufted Titmouse	90	61	25	136	121	68	147	35	46	107	104	140	105	185	42	89	68	87	40
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5	1	CW	11	1	1	2	1	2	22	6	7	-	21	12	6	2	19	4
White-breasted Nuthatch	4	15	2	15	46	5	45	1	3	26	48	25	10	29	17	11	18	43	20

Species	Memp	Reel	Jack	Sav	Buff	Colu	Nash	Hk-Pr	Murf	Nick	Cooke	Chat	Hiwas	Knob	Green	Eliz	King	Bris	Roan
Brown-headed Nuthatch	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	23	15	.	.	.	.	.	.
Brown Creeper	15	12	2	12	4	.	7	9	2	5	5	7	4	13	4	6	1	3	4
Carolina Wren	152	78	32	143	67	52	140	60	12	97	60	202	106	255	98	111	54	93	10
Bewick's Wren	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
House Wren	6	3	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	2	12	.	.	2	1	.	.
Winter Wren	7	20	5	11	6	2	.	2	2	17	10	11	12	26	3	8	5	2	5
Sedge Wren	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Marsh Wren	.	6	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Golden-crowned Kinglet	39	51	4	28	36	9	38	40	1	66	22	72	51	80	14	24	21	89	19
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	75	26	12	64	16	5	24	19	.	77	5	88	45	33	3	5	5	7	.
Eastern Bluebird	53	117	33	262	174	100	170	62	89	191	210	239	260	328	159	89	58	119	26
Hermit Thrush	8	28	10	33	25	24	14	8	CW	69	12	32	60	27	8	13	4	8	1
American Robin	1,004	337	121	759	75	7,350	4,315	28,407	3,000	897	65	2,419	982	879	62	14	21	5	10
Northern Mockingbird	154	43	50	70	71	41	130	65	41	90	74	147	71	222	84	63	48	115	3
Brown Thrasher	17	11	9	11	15	2	6	12	2	46	9	31	22	15	.	1	1	3	.
American Pipit	5	14	.	9	.	5	.	.	.	28	.	.	81	.	.	.	CW	.	.
Cedar Waxwing	82	26	12	110	275	22	392	284	25	673	108	1,873	1,000	482	19	206	25	102	2
Loggerhead Shrike	10	23	4	4	12	7	9	1	2	2	5	.	4	7	3	.	.	5	.
European Starling	4,981	3,690	1,560	3,774	821	18,530	7,878	16,487	1,000	7,892	2,057	6,691	1,304	16,422	17,350	705	2,375	2,124	121
Orange-crowned Warbler	6	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Yellow-rumped Warbler	283	132	21	134	19	22	106	109	10	151	5	186	369	263	40	81	56	20	.
Pine Warbler	5	.	2	15	2	.	1	.	.	11	.	10	29	4	.	.	.	.	.
Palm Warbler	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	2	1	.	1	.	.
Common Yellowthroat	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Northern Cardinal	372	222	333	389	332	180	312	149	80	185	273	304	281	362	222	131	116	217	31
Indigo Bunting	CW	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Rufous-sided Towhee	34	13	15	51	73	40	78	33	11	117	35	98	81	138	24	11	21	39	2
American Tree Sparrow	.	19	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Chipping Sparrow	1	3	16	14	.	.	.	.	.	56	.	3	49	8	.	.	17	.	.
Field Sparrow	73	55	60	223	395	55	125	139	40	206	24	222	308	193	44	50	47	36	2
Vesper Sparrow	22	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Savannah Sparrow	56	32	6	356	11	5	.	8	15	43	1	26	47	2	.	22	.	.	.

Species	Memp	Reel	Jack	Sav	Buff	Colu	Nash	Hk-Pr	Murf	Nick	Cooke	Chat	Hiwas	Knox	Green	Eliz	King	Bris	Roan
Henslow's Sparrow	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
LeConte's Sparrow	4	1	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Fox Sparrow	46	22	2	23	8	1	5	1	2	8	8	15	5	9	1	.	.	4	.
Song Sparrow	467	184	48	573	219	61	134	299	33	348	234	632	415	396	86	231	74	153	52
Lincoln's Sparrow	3	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Swamp Sparrow	106	253	32	768	58	61	66	82	2	72	51	145	111	44	10	17	2	1	2
White-throated Sparrow	883	348	176	784	504	129	381	196	112	593	142	465	432	794	165	218	158	242	20
White-crowned Sparrow	98	3	46	3	11	17	20	40	28	13	17	.	26	47	12	42	21	123	.
Dark-eyed Junco	234	105	362	616	441	57	151	46	21	184	150	122	108	161	24	161	100	133	76
<i>Sparrow species</i>	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Lapland Longspur	.	20	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Red-winged Blackbird	1,191	27,523	4,000	26,329	854	350	235	140	60	2,981	1	481	325	52	85	12	.	.	.
Eastern Meadowlark	204	230	148	445	434	38	57	41	31	118	165	92	137	75	106	22	34	9	.
Western Meadowlark	.	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Rusty Blackbird	900	16	81	357	6	33	.	16	125	59	.	62	.	31	40	.	.	.	.
Brewer's Blackbird	2	6	6	525	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Common Grackle	2,839	20,081	102,450	14,065	1,574	5,650	209	151	2,000	74	36	47	43	112	14,022	1	12	.	2
Brown-headed Cowbird	1,232	6,150	1,200	1,217	118	190	11	5,230	3,000	99	21	84	50	1	20	.	25	.	.
Northern Oriole	CW	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Purple Finch	6	1	.	9	85	.	1	.	10	37	24	20	14	14	1	1	7	11	3
House Finch	378	119	60	227	103	185	317	253	506	189	224	432	68	560	146	87	77	150	48
Red Crossbill	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.
Pine Siskin	.	.	.	2	.	.	25	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	12
Common Redpoll	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
American Goldfinch	79	72	17	95	233	79	128	107	40	100	120	321	59	339	192	63	50	169	19
Evening Grosbeak	.	.	.	.	7	.	CW	1	.	31	.	.	11	2	3	26	.	.	9
House Sparrow	149	224	52	34	256	32	8	34	.	32	26	60	43	37	43	77	53	47	53
Total Species	96	113	82	101	86	90	77	89	68	100	73	106	94	91	76	78	80	78	54
Total Individuals	22,893	422,603	144,038	55,510	10,265	36,559	19,759	60,351	12,078	24,604	6,981	28,680	21,826	30,171	35,773	5,448	7,868	9,855	1,091

Table 1. 1996 Mid-winter Eagle Count - Tennessee (3-17 January, 1996)

	Agency	Adults	Immatures	Total
<b>Mississippi River Area</b>				
Tipton Co.	TOS	0	0	0
Lauderdale Co.	TWRA, TOS	1	0	1
Dyer Co.	TWRA	0	0	0
Lake Co.	FWS, TOS	4	3	7
Reelfoot Lake	USFWS	79	56	135
Lake Isom	USFWS	2	0	2
Chisholm Lake	TOS, TWRA	0	0	0
Open Lake	TOS	2	1	3
Obion Co.	TWRA	1	0	1
FK Deer Basin	TWRA	0	0	0
Chicksaw NWR	TOS	1	0	1
Hatchie NWR	USFW	1	1	2
Hatchie R (other)	TWRA	0	0	0
<b>KY Lake/TN River Area</b>				
LBL, KY Lake	TVA/LBL	27	20	47
LBL, Barkley Lake	TVA/LBL	3	1	4
Tenn. NWR (KY Lake)	USFW	22	29	51
KY Lake (non-federal)	TWRA	6	1	7
Pickwick Lake	TWRA	2	0	2
Beech River Basin	TWRA	1	0	1
<b>West Tenn. Bald Eagle</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>256</b>
<b>Middle Tennessee</b>				
Barkley L. (non-federal)	Corps Eng.	0	0	0
Cross Creeks NWR	USFWS	2	0	2
Golden Eagle		0	1	1
Cheatham Lake	TWRA, TOS	4	0	4
Old Hickory Lake	Corps, TOS	2	0	2
Percy Priest Lake	Corps Eng.	0	0	0
Cannon Co.	TWRA	0	0	0
Normandy Lake	TOS	2	0	2
Duck Basin (non-federal)	TWRA	0	0	0
Woods Reservoir	TOS, TWRA	1	0	1
Tims Ford Lake	TOS, TWRA	1	0	1
Warren Co.	TWRA	0	0	0
Center Hill	TOS	2	0	2
Cordell Hull	Corps, TWRA	4	0	4
Golden Eagle		2	0	0
Tansi Lake	TWRA	1	0	1
Dale Hollow Lake	Corps Eng.	50	17	68
<b>Middle Tennessee Bald Eagle</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>87</b>

Table 1. 1996 Mid-winter Eagle Count - Tennessee (3-17 January, 1996) cont.

	Agency	Adults	Immatures	Total
East Tennessee Area				
Sequatchie Valley	TOS	0	0	0
Grundy Co.	TWRA	0	0	0
Guntersville Lake	TOS	3	0	3
Nickajack Lake	TOS	3	1	4
Chickamauga Lake	TWRA	15	9	24
Golden Eagle		1	0	1
Hiwassee R. Bay	TWRA	7	9	16
Hiwassee R. (other)	TOS, USFS, TWRA	1	0	1
Watts Bar Lake	TWRA	9	2	11
Ft. Loudoun Lake	TOS	2	0	2
French Broad River	TWRA, TOS	2	0	2
Norris Lake	TWRA	2	0	2
Melton Hill	TWRA, TOS	3	2	5
South Holston Lake	USFS, TOS	2	3	5
John Sevier Lake	TOS	0	0	0
Cherokee Lake	TOS	2	0	2
Douglas Lake	TOS	0	1	1
Tellico Lake	TOS	2	0	2
Chillhowee Lake	TOS	0	0	0
Watauga Lake	<u>TOS, USFS</u>	1	0	1
<b>East Tennessee Bald Eagle TOTALS</b>		<b><u>54</u></b>	<b><u>27</u></b>	<b><u>81</u></b>
<b>STATEWIDE TOTALS</b>		<b>271</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>424</b>
<b>Statewide Golden Eagle</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

## MINUTES OF FALL 1995 MEETING

The fall meeting of the Tennessee Ornithological Society (TOS) was held on 20-22 October 1995 at the Ramada Inn in Crossville, Tennessee, with 82 paid registrations. The Chattanooga Chapter served as hosts. Field trips were taken on the mornings of 21 and 22 October to Catoosa Wildlife Management area, led by Clarence Coffey, and Westel, Tennessee, led by Boyd Sharp.

The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by President James Brooks. Jo Anne Routledge, seconded by Jim Campbell, moved that the minutes of the Spring 1995 meeting be approved as written. The motion was unanimously passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: There were no VICE PRESIDENTIAL or DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE REPORTS.

TREASURER'S REPORT: President James Brooks announced that he has accepted with regret the resignation of Barbara Finney due to ill health. In her absence, Audrey Hoff presented the Report. The Report was approved as presented.

CURATOR: No report.

MIGRANT EDITOR Wallace Coffey reported that the December 1993 issue of *The Migrant* was at the printer. The recent mailing numbered 899. Coffey announced that Dave Beuhler had been appointed to the editorial board and introduced Karen Quesenberry, the new editorial assistant (replacing Beth Hogan). Coffey expressed appreciation for Barbara Finney's help. He reported on the progress of the 1994 edition and asked for submissions to be made for publication in the journal. President Brooks asked if any of the presenters of the Symposium held today would be interested in submitting their material for publication.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The following members were appointed to the Finance Committee: George Payne, Jo Anne Routledge, Carol Coleman, Ken Dubke, and the new Treasurer (when elected).

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS: No report.

BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE: Rick Knight reported that the report will appear in the September 1993 *Migrant*. This report will contain updates from 1988 to 1993. Another update will be in the 1994 issue of *The Migrant*. New members of the committee include five voting members and one alternate. The terms of Rick Knight and Martha Waldron have concluded. Mark Greene, Don Davidson, Gilbert Foster, Terry Witt (originally an alternate, but moved to regular) and Bob Cooper are new members. Kevin Calhoun and Linda Northrup were appointed alternate members. A new chairman will be elected. Rick Knight reminded TOS members to document any sightings and include photographs when possible.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Ken Dubke reported on routine dealings regarding the TVA Shoreline Management Plan and working with others in support of the Endangered Species Act. President Brooks reported that several TOS members met recently with Tennessee Congressman James H. Quillen to discuss the TVA. Two positions expressed were that TVA should remain a public entity and that energy conservation should be a priority with TVA. TOS members were urged by George Mayfield to write to their congressman. Discussion included: the need for approval of the board of directors before members sponsor issues on behalf of



TOS; a National Bald Eagle Conference at Nashville on 30 March 1996 (and the search for sponsors). A motion was made and seconded that TOS as an organization support in name only the Bald Eagle Conference. Bob Hatcher reported that he had attended several such conferences and explained the meaning of the Bald Eagle Days. The motion passed unanimously.

**COLLATERAL MATERIALS COMMITTEE:** Chairman Barbara Mandrus reported on the cost of two needed projects: the printing of the TOS leaflet and a decal to be sold for profit. Graphic Creations in Knoxville will charge \$61.50 for 500 brochures or \$106.50 for 1,000. The charge for the decal is \$483 for 500. There was considerable discussion about this matter, including: the need to go to the expense; the potential for redundancy, since several chapters have their own brochures; the impracticability of using the brochure to include news of different chapters' dues structures; concern that no funds yet existed for the brochure though income from the decals would be forthcoming; the feasibility of removable, reusable vinyl decals; and a consensus not to create a committee to decide the issue. Two designs each for both brochure and decal were discussed. It was decided by consensus to use the kestrel design on the brochure and include a blank page on the back for local chapter information. A motion was made and seconded, and the membership voted 16-12 for the circular design, instead of a triangle.

**WARBLER EDITOR:** No report.

**PARTNERS IN FLIGHT:** Bob Ford reported that the national organization has hired a staff which includes David Ashley, headquartered in Washington, D.C., and Chuck Hunter, headquartered in Atlanta. The program will include all land birds in the study. The three-year goal is to have more formalized state working groups. Any TOS members interested in working on the committee should let Bob Ford or James Brooks know. A second goal of the Partners in Flight program is to create dialogue between states and a partner among the Caribbean countries south of the U.S.

**TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION:** No report.

**PROGRAM FUNDING:** Chairman Marcia Davis introduced a resolution to establish a program fund both to meet the need for guidelines in adopting programs and to provide a vessel for funds that are donated to the TOS to be used for worthwhile endeavors. Discussion included: types of organizations to be solicited for funds; the desirability of a project being chosen first and then funding found for it; the frustration occurring when an opportunity arises for research but no funds are available; the possibility of a reserve fund being set up to generate interest to be used for worthwhile projects; ideas for generating fundraising (such as osprey platforms on Ft. Loudoun Lake and a "paint ball throw"). Concern included the question if each project would be individually supported and the need for the committee. Discussion included: the committee would decide on the merit of specific projects; there would be no obligation on members to donate; it would provide a more proactive process; the fund would be apart from the TOS budget and enable the TOS to focus in an area previously neglected — education. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the resolution and form a seven-member committee, including the chairman (two members from each geographical section of the state) to support programs relating to Tennessee birds in the areas of Education, Scientific

Research, and Conservation. With a vote of 17 for and nine against, the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Bob Hatcher reported that information about pending LEGISLATIVE FUNDING of interest to TOS members was on the back table.

Rad Mayfield thanked the TOS for their support for his summer of research.

After deciding on a mid-winter meeting place, James Brooks will send a letter to chapter presidents and place the information in the next issue of *The Tennessee Warbler* (deadline November 15).

Forrest Priddy, president of the Memphis chapter, reported details for the Spring 1996 meeting to be held in Memphis. An information sheet was distributed to chapter presidents.

James Brooks reported that the Mississippi Ornithological Society wants to have a joint Fall meeting with TOS next year.

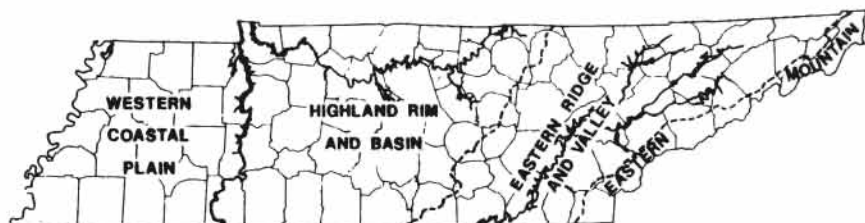
NEW BUSINESS: Wallace Coffey discussed that any costs for the setting up of the World Wide Web site so far have been insignificant. A motion was made and seconded to approve the web site as presented by Technology and Education Chairman Alice Kirby. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRIETTE L. SPIEGEL, Secretary

## THE SEASON

ROBERT P. FORD, Editor



FALL: 1 AUGUST - 30 NOVEMBER 1995

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION: *Loon-Scaup*: **Common Loon**: 16 Nov (1) Everett Lake (WGC). **Pied-billed Grebe**: 17 Nov (55) Reelfoot L. (MLG, VBR). **Horned Grebe**: 5 Nov (15) Paris Landing State Park, Henry Co. (CHB, WRP, VBR); 29 Nov (1) Lake Co. (WGC). **RED-NECKED GREBE**: 26 Nov (1) Reelfoot L., Obion Co. (Jon Dunn), third west TN record. **American White Pelican**: 12 Sep (1)- 2 Nov (789 max) Dyer Co. (WGC), early west TN arrival; 28 Oct-2 Nov (300 max) Lake Co. (WGC); 25 Oct (75) Open Lake, Lauderdale Co. & (1,000+/-) sandbar on Mississippi R., 1 mile nw of Open Lake, Lauderdale Co. (BJC, TWRA), high count for the state. **Double-crested Cormorant**: 9 Sep-EOP (600+ max) EARTH Complex; 19 Oct (3000) Mississippi River at Tiptonville, Lake Co. (WGC); 17 Nov (1110+) Reelfoot L., Lake Co. (MLG, VBR). **Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, and Green Heron** were reported from all of the river counties (WGC). Their numbers have increased proportionally with the increase of heronies. **Tricolored Heron**: 7 Sep (1 im) Black Bayou (WGC). **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 12 Sep (2 ad, 1 im) Moss Island (WGC). *Swan sp.*: 20 Nov (9) three different locations, Lauderdale, Dyer, Haywood (BJC). The swans were believed to be **Tundra**. Historically, the swans recorded in these counties since the early 70's have been **Tundra Swans**. **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 18 Oct/25 Nov (128 max) Lake Co. (WGC). Wintering species of ducks were first noted at Black Bayou with their numbers increasing as the season progressed (WGC). Species and numbers are available from the regional compiler. **Green-winged Teal**: 2 Oct-EOP (55 max) Shelby Farms (MLG). **Greater Scaup**: 17 Nov (26) Reelfoot L. Lake Co. (VBR, MLG). **Ruddy Duck**: 1 Nov (1000) Britton Ford (TJW).

*Vulture-Crane*: **Turkey Vulture**: 12/27 Sep (1) Shelby Farms (VBR); 14 Sep (1) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP); 4 Oct (1) Mud Island (CHB, LCC, LVZ). **Osprey**: 7/16 Sep (1) Lake Co. (WGC); 10 Sep (2) two locations, Decatur Co. (CHB); 25 Sep (1) Heloise (WGC); 23 Sep/1 Oct (1) EARTH Complex; 30 Sep (1) Davy Crockett Lake, Crockett Co. (MAG); 4 Oct (1) Mud Island (CHB, LCC, LVZ); 7 Oct (1) Dyer Co. (MAG); 1 Nov (1) Herb Parsons State Fish and Game Refuge, west Fayette Co. (CHB, HBD, VBR). **Mississippi Kite**: 6/14 Aug (3) Shelby Farms (VBR); 8 Aug (nest, 2 yg) e Shelby Co. (OKM); 8 Aug-4 Sep (1 yg being fed) Memphis Zoo (OKM); 10 Aug (nest, 1 yg) sw Shelby Co. (OKM); 20 Aug (nest, 2 yg) wsw Shelby Co. (OKM); 12/14 Sep (1) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **Bald Eagle**: Oct 25 (1 ad) Chickasaw NWR

(BJC); 5 Nov (1 ad, 1 im) Britton Ford (CHB, WRP, VBR). **Northern Harrier:** 6 Aug (1) Whites Lake (WGC), early west TN; 7 Aug (1) Shelby Farms (VBR, MLG, MGW), early Shelby Co.; 3 Sep (3) Dyer Co. (WGC); 7 Sep (1) Lake Co. (VBR, MLG, MGW). **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 5 Aug / 1/19 Oct (1) Lake Co. (WGC); 23 Sep (2) mid Memphis (LCC, MaH); (1) EARTH Complex (MAG, JRW); 5 Oct/2 Nov (1) Dyer Co. (WGC). **Cooper's Hawk:** 6 Aug (1) Lake Co. (WGC); 9 Aug (1) e Shelby Co. (GRP); 10 Sep-25 Nov (1) EARTH Complex; 27 Sep-22 Nov (1) Shelby Farms (CHB, HBD, MLG, NPM, SNM, VBR, BHW); 15 Oct/24 Nov (1) Beasley Tract (MTOS); 25 Oct (1) Dyer Co. (OKM); 28 Oct (1) Dyer Co. (WGC); 8 Nov (1) Madison Co. (MAG); 11 Nov (1 ad) e Shelby Co. (MLG); 17 Nov (1) Lauderdale WMA (MLG, VBR). **Red-shouldered Hawk:** 12/19 Sep (2/1) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **Broad-winged Hawk:** 29 Aug (1) e Shelby Co. (OKM); 3 Sep (2) Kennedy Park, Shelby Co. (BNG, RRS); 7 Oct (1) Island 13 (MAG). **"Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk:** 25 Nov (1) EARTH Complex (CHB, VBR, MGW). **Rough-legged Hawk:** 26 Nov (1 im) Reelfoot L., Lake Co. (Jon Dunn). **MERLIN:** 16 Sep (1) Island 13 (WGC); 23 Sep (3) EARTH Complex (MAG, JRW). **Peregrine Falcon:** 2 Sep (1) Martyr's Park, w Shelby Co. (LCC, MaH); 20 Sep (1) Lake Co. (WGC, Harley Heilman, AHH); 25 Sep (1 im) Heloise (WGC); 30 Sep (1) Shelby Farms (CHB); 23 Sep/25 Nov (1) EARTH Complex (CHB, MAG, VBR, JRW, MGW). Sora: 31 Aug (1) Mustin Bottoms (Randy Wilson); 3/7 Sep (2/1) Hwy 79W, Lake Co., (2) Black Bayou (WGC). **Common Moorhen:** 6-17 Sep (1) TVA Lake, Shelby Co. (CHB, MLG, VBR, MGW), 1st fall record for Shelby Co.; 26 Sep/10 Oct (1) Walnut Log (WGC). **SANDHILL CRANE:** 20 Nov (25) Weakley Co. (BJC).

*Sandpipers:* The Mississippi Flyway again was host to many shorebirds. **Black-bellied, American Golden, and Semipalmated Plovers; Greater Yellowlegs; Solitary, Spotted, and Semipalmated Sandpipers** were observed in Lake, Dyer and Shelby counties. CHB, MLG, VBR, JEW, MGW, and MTOS were at the EARTH Complex at least twice a week. **Piping Plover:** 2/26 Sep (1) Island 13 (CHB, WGC, MLG, DDP, Deanna Robinson, MGW). **Black-necked Stilt:** 31 Aug (2) Dyer Co. & 2/11 Sep (19 max) Lake Co. (WGC); 2 Aug-17 Sep (30 max, 8 yg) EARTH Complex; 14-16 Sep (1) Shelby Farms (CHB, MLG, VBR). **AMERICAN AVOCET:** 2 Sep (3) Hwy 103 and Gr River Rd (WGC, m. ob.); 13/14 Sep (1) Shelby Farms (CHB, MLG, VBR), 17-20 Oct (1) Shelby Farms (MLG), late Shelby Co.; 2 Nov (2) Dyer Co. (WGC). **Lesser Yellowlegs:** 1 Aug/4 Oct (80) Dyer Co. (WGC); 2 Aug-29 Oct (200 max) EARTH Complex. **Willet:** 5 Aug (2) Hwy 79 W, Lake Co. (WGC); 16 Sep (1) Shelby Farms (CHB, MLG, VBR, MGW), late Shelby Co. Upland Sandpiper: 27 Sep (2) EARTH Complex. **WHIMBREL:** 7 Sep (1) EARTH Complex (MTOS), fourth Shelby Co. record. **MARbled GODWIT:** 13 Aug (1) EARTH Complex (MLG), third Shelby Co. record. **Ruddy Turnstone:** 5 Aug (1) EARTH Complex (Aaron Gwin), early Shelby Co. record. **Sanderling:** 31 Aug-5 Oct (35 max) Island 13 (WGC); 26/29 Oct (2/3) EARTH Complex (CHB, MLG, VBR). **Western Sandpiper:** 1 Aug-15 Sep (11 max) Lake Co. (WGC); 3/12 Sep (2 max) Dyer Co. (WGC); 2 Aug-29 Oct (10 max) EARTH Complex; 12 Sep (1) Shelby Farms (MLG); 24 Oct (2) Heloise (JBG, MAG, JRW). **Least Sandpiper:** 1 Aug-29 Oct (3551 max, 10 Sep) EARTH Complex, high count for the state; 25 Nov (503) EARTH Complex (CHB, VBR, MGW). **White-rumped Sandpiper:** 23 Aug/29 Sep (1) EARTH Complex. **Baird's Sandpiper:** 3 Sep (1) Shelby Farms (VBR); 13 Aug/23 Sep (2) EARTH Complex; 21 Sep/5 Oct (3) Lake Co.; 2-29 Sep (16 max) Dyer Co. (WGC), high count for the state on 3 Sep; 1

Oct (1) EARTH Complex. **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 2 Aug-29 Oct (603 max) EARTH Complex; 4 Oct (13) Dyer Co. & 23 Oct (30) Lake Co. (WGC). **Dunlin**: 4 -29 Oct (7 max) Dyer Co. & 10/ 23 Oct (5) Lake Co. (WGC); 24 Oct (2) Shelby Farms (VBR); 29 Oct (20) EARTH Complex (MLG, VBR). **Stilt Sandpiper**: 1 Aug- 10 Oct (29 max) Lake Co. & 5 Aug-4 Oct (35) Dyer Co. (WGC); 10 Aug-1 Oct (117) EARTH Complex, high count for state on 27 Sep; 27/28 Oct (2) Shelby Farms (MLG). **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**: 1 Aug-15 Sep (4 max) Lake Co. & 2/12 Sep (2 max) Dyer Co. (WGC); 23 Sep/1 Oct (10 max) EARTH Complex. **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 1/5 Aug (2) Phillipy; 3- 20 Sep (1 im) Shelby Farms (MLG, VBR). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 12 Aug (1) Phillipy (MAG, JRW); 22/23 Sep (1) Shelby Farms (MLG); 23 Sep (1) EARTH Complex (MAG, JRW). **RED-NECKED PHALAROPE**: 3- 6 Sep (1) EARTH Complex (James Brooks\*, VBR, MGW), second Shelby Co. record. **Franklin's Gull**: 1 Nov (8) Britton Ford (TJW); 29 Nov (1 ad) Cypress Point, Reelfoot L. (WGC). **Laughing Gull**: 5/12 Aug (2, 1st year/1) Hwy 79W, Lake Co. (WGC/ MAG, JRW). **Bonaparte's Gull**: 5 Nov (2) Britton Ford (CHB, WRP, VBR); 17 Nov (30) Reelfoot L., Lake Co. (MLG, VBR); 21 Nov (1) EARTH Complex (MLG). **Caspian Tern**: 2 Aug/5 Oct (9 max) Lake Co. & 15 Sep (4) Heloise (WGC); 5 Aug-5 Sep/29 Oct (2 max) EARTH Complex; 2/27 Sep (2) Shelby Farms (MLG). **Common Tern**: 1 Oct (8) Spillway, Reelfoot L., Obion Co. (WGC). **Forster's Tern**: 31 Aug (4) Shelby Farms (MLG); 8 Sep (5) Shelby Farms (MLG); 15 Sep-1 Nov (1) Lake Co. (WGC, MAG); 26 Sep/29 Oct (50 max) Obion Co. (WGC). **Black Tern**: 2-23 Aug (2) EARTH Complex (CHB, MLG, VBR, Aaron Gwin, MGW); 5 Aug (2) Dyer Co. (WGC); 6 Aug (1) Shelby Farms (VBR); 2/7 Sep (2/5) Island 13 (WGC). **COMMON GROUND-DOVE**: 9 Aug (1) e Shelby Co. (GRP). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 5 Oct (1) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **Barn Owl**: 20 Sep (1 ad) Bolton, ne Shelby Co.; 24 Nov (1) Beasley Tract (VBR, MGW). **ARCHILOCHUS sp.**: 29 Oct (1) Shelby Forest S. P. (SNM, GRP, JBP, TMI, MGW); late Oct-11 Nov-EOP (1) east Memphis (Jo Levy, RWP). **Common Nighthawk**: 2 Sep-EOP (224 max) Memphis Study route (LCC, MaH); 1-20 Sep (25 max) ne Shelby Co. (SCF); 17 Sep (25) e Memphis (SNM); 5 Oct (60+) Humboldt, Gibson Co. (MAG); 29 Oct (1) Memphis (LCC, MaH).

*Flycatcher-Vireo*: **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 7 Oct (1) Island 13 (MAG). **Least Flycatcher**: 12/14 Sep (1) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **Tree Swallow**: 1/7 Oct (500/10,000+) Island 13/Reelfoot L., Lake/Obion Cos. (WGC, MAG). **Cliff Swallow**: 3 Aug (12) Shelby Farms (MLG). **Fish Crow**: 20 Sep (2) Overton Park (CHB, Sara Jones, SSL, VBR); 17 Nov (2) Everett Lake (MLG, VBR). **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 28 Sep-10 Oct (23 max) Shelby Farms (CHB, MLG, JEW, MGW); 1- 30 Sep (12 max) e Shelby Co. (MLG); most field and feeder reports indicate numbers ranging from two to six of this erratic species. **Bewick's Wren**: 28 Nov (1) e Memphis (SNM). **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: 12/14 Sep (1/6) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **Swainson's Thrush**: 6 Sep (1 found dead) Memphis (CHB) early Shelby Co.; 14 Sep (14) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **American Pipit**: 23 Sep (2) EARTH Complex (MAG, JRW), early Shelby Co. and west TN; 23 Oct-26 Nov (6 max) Lake Co. (WGC); 25 Nov (2) Lauderdale WMA (WGC); 12 Nov (1) Shelby Farms (MLG). **Solitary Vireo**: 12 Sep (1) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP), early west TN and Shelby Co. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 14 Sep/ 5 Oct (1) Shelby Forest S. P.(DDP), early west TN.

*Warbler-Grosbeak*: Warblers made their way south beginning the first week in September. Later, as cool weather made its way into the mid-south, the number of

species and individuals increased. Unusual species or a high count for an area are noted in this report. **Blue-winged Warbler:** 12-19 Sep (9 max) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP); 15 Sep (2) Shelby Farms (VBR). **Golden-winged Warbler:** 12-19 Sep (7 max) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **BREWSTER'S WARBLER:** 19 Sep (1) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **LAWRENCE'S WARBLER:** 1 Oct (1 male) Tipton Co. (DDP). **Chestnut-sided Warbler:** 12 Sep-5 Oct (15 max) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP). **BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER:** 30 Sep (1) Cypress Grove Park, Madison Co. (MAG). **Pine Warbler:** 10 Oct (25) Shelby Farms (DDP, DP). **Bay-breasted Warbler:** 12-19 Sep (19 max) Shelby Forest S. P. (DDP), early Shelby Co. **Cerulean Warbler:** 11 Oct (1) Tipton Co. (DDP), late state. **Mourning Warbler:** 5 Oct (3) Shelby Farms (DDP, DP); 7 Oct (1) Island 13 (MAG). **BLUE GROSBEAK:** 29 Oct (1 f) Shelby Forest S. P. (SNM\*, GRP, MGW), late state. **American Tree Sparrow:** 17 Nov (2) Reelfoot L., Lake Co. (MLG, VBR). **Chipping Sparrow:** 25 Oct (77) Shelby Forest S. P. (CHB, HBD). **Vesper Sparrow:** 2-3 Oct (3-11) Shelby Farms (MLG), 17 Nov (1) Reelfoot L., Lake Co. (MLG, VBR); 24 Nov (1) Beasley Tract (CHB); 29 Nov (1) President's Is. (CHB, HBD, SSL, JPM). **Grasshopper Sparrow:** 12 Aug (1) Lake Co. (MAG, JRW). **LeConte's Sparrow:** 18 Nov (1) Gibson Co. (MAG); 24 Nov (1) Beasley Tract (MGW). **Song Sparrow:** 2-27 Aug (16 max) EARTH Complex (CHB, MLG, VBR, MGW); 7 Sep (1) Black Slough (MLG, VBR, MGW); **Lincoln's Sparrow:** 28 Sep-19 Nov (2) Shelby Farms (MLG, VBR, MGW); 7 Oct (1) Whites Lake (MAG); 29 Oct (3) Shelby Forest S. P. (MTOS). **White-crowned Sparrow:** 4 Oct (1) Mud Island (CHB, LCC, LZV), early Shelby Co. **Lapland Longspur:** 14 Nov (2) Shelby Farms (MLG); 17 Nov (1) Lake Co. (MLG, VBR). **SMITH'S LONGSPUR:** 17 Nov (1) Hall's Airport, Lauderdale Co. (MLG, VBR). **Bobolink:** 29 Oct (3) Shelby Forest S. P. (GRP, SNM), late w TN & Shelby Co. **Rusty Blackbird:** 14 Nov (6) Shelby Farms (MLG); 17 Nov (6) Reelfoot L., Lake Co. (MLG, VBR). **Purple Finch:** 15 Nov-EOP (1-3) e Shelby Co. (MLG). **Evening Grosbeak:** 26 Nov (23) Clayton, Obion Co. (Jon Dunn).

*Locations:* See page 81.

MARTHA G. WALDRON, 1626 Yorkshire Dr., Memphis, TN 38119

**EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION:** It was one of the hottest Augusts on record, with 21 days of 90+° temperatures in the Tri-Cities area. October and November were a bit on the mild side. Overall, precipitation was above average. Two inches of snow in the Tri-Cities area on 14 November was early for the lower elevations.

A cold front on 23 September was productive, especially for terns. Remnants of Hurricane Erin passed through 5 August, as did the remains of Hurricane Opal on 5 October (see jaeger through skimmer).

Most regional birders (those that reported) proclaimed this a very good season for variety, numbers, and rarities. Ample evidence to back up this claim follows.

**Loon-Ibis:** **Common Loon:** 14 Oct (1) Fall Creek Falls S. P., Van Buren Co (Kevin & Jan Hollingsworth), ers. **Pied-billed Grebe:** a very good flight in northeast Tenn. in Oct & Nov; max, 15 Oct (135) Boone L (RLK), more than doubled the previous local high count. **Horned Grebe:** 8 Nov (24) Boone L (RLK), max. **American White Pelican:** 16 Oct (11) Soddy Mtn (WGH, KHD); the lingering individ in the Jhn City area remained thru the season, also spending time at Aus Spr & Kpt (m.ob.). **Double-crested Cormorant:** 6-24 Sep (max 48) Rkn Btm (RLK et al.); 14-30 Sep, 1 Nov (1-3)

Nolichucky Waterfowl Sanctuary, Greene Co (JBH, DHM, ACL); 22 Oct (4) Ktn Stn P (m.ob.); 26 Nov (4) Bennett L, Marion Co (KAC); 6 reports of 1-10 in the Tri-Cities area (m.ob.). **Great Egret:** 10 Aug (38) Rkn Btm (LN, JAR); 5, 15 Sep (5) near Jamestown, Fentress Co (SJS, Michael Sanders); 6-24 Sep (max 105) Rkn Bot (RLK et al.), a very high count for east Tenn.; 27 Aug, 30 Sep (1-2) Greene Co (DHM, ACL, JBH); 13-25 Sep, 15 Oct (1-2) Aus Spr (RLK); 21 Sep (21) Cher L, Hawkins & Hamblen Cos portion (RLK); 11 Nov (13) Meigs Co (TLR), Irs. **Snowy Egret:** 5 Aug (1) Baylor L, Hmlt Co (TLR); 18-24 Sep (1) Rkn Bot (RLK et al.). **Little Blue Heron:** 10 Aug (12 im) Rkn Bot (LN, JAR); 11 Aug (1 im) Greene Co (DHM, ACL); 21 Aug (2 im) Ktn Stn P (KAC). **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 6 Sep (4) Fort Loudon Dam, Loudon Co (KAC); 6-24 Sep (max 10) Rkn Bot (RLK et al.); 30 Sep (7) Nolichucky Waterfowl Sanctuary, Greene Co (JBH, DHM). **White Ibis:** 5 Aug (1 im) Bra Lev, Hmlt Co (Becky & John Dethero); 26-28 Aug (1 im) Kinser Park, Greene Co (DHM, ACL et al.).

*Goose-Crane:* **Greater White-fronted Goose:** 9 Nov (4) Hws R area, Meigs Co portion (Terry J. Witt). **Snow Goose:** 13 Nov (1) Watts Bar L, Meigs & Rhea Cos portion (TWRA). **American Black Duck:** 13 Nov (203) Hws R area, Meigs Co portion (TWRA), max. **Blue-winged Teal:** 24 Sep (400) Rkn Bot (RLK, JWC, JLS, LS, RB), max; 2 Nov (5) Sullivan Co (RLK), Irs. **Gadwall:** 15 Nov (300) Nick L (KAC), max. **American Wigeon:** 21 Sep (3) Aus Spr (RLK), Irs. **Canvasback:** 18 Nov (52) Bennett L, Marion Co (TLR), only report. **Ruddy Duck:** 26 Nov (500) Bennett L, Marion Co (KAC), max.

TABLE 1. Hawks — The Soddy Mtn. Hawkwatch (3 Sep-26 Nov) reported the following (WGH)

Osprey	7	
Bald Eagle	13	
Northern Harrier	16	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	202	
Cooper's Hawk	38	
Red-shouldered Hawk	22	
Broad-winged Hawk	3625	
Red-tailed Hawk	464	(92 on 12 Nov)
Golden Eagle	1	(19 Nov)
American Kestrel	37	
Merlin	1	(9 Oct)
Peregrine Falcon	4	

**Bald Eagle:** 10 Aug (2) Rkn Bot (LN, JAR); 5 Oct (1) Boone L (DEH). **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 6 Aug (2 recently fledged juv) Big South Fork NRRRA, Scott Co (\*SJS), scarce breeder in region. **Golden Eagle:** 9 Nov (1 im) Putnam Co (BHS), apparently first Co record. **Merlin:** 13 Sep (1) Jhn City (RLK); 24 Sep (1) Rkn Bot (RLK, JWC, JLS, LS, RB); 26 Sep (1) Bowater Pocket Wilderness, Hmlt Co (KAC); 6 Oct (1) Scott Co (SJS); 21 Oct (1) Catoosa WMA, Cumberland Co (FJA, James M.

Campbell); 22 Oct (1) Amn Marsh, Hmlt Co (KAC); impressive numbers, part of a major flight in the eastern U.S. **Peregrine Falcon**: 14 Sep (1) Chatt (KAC). **Sora**: 27 Sep (1) Amn Marsh, Hmlt Co (KAC, DFV); 22 Oct (1) Ktn Stm P (RLK, JWC). **Sandhill Crane**: 24 Nov (1) Greene Co (DHM, ACL), well east of their usual corridor.

**Shorebirds**: **American Avocet**: 2-7 Nov (8) Sav Bay (KHD, LHD, m.ob.). **Black-bellied Plover**: 13, 18 Sep (3, 1) Rkn Bot (RLK). **American Golden-Plover**: 13 Sep (4) Rkn Bot (RLK). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 4 Nov (7) Sav Bay (KHD, LHD), lrs. **Hudsonian Godwit**: 2-4 Nov (1) Sav Bay (KHD, LHD, m.ob.), 3rd Chatt area record & about 10th in state. **Sanderling**: 6 Aug (1) Ktn Stm P (TLR, LAW); 13 Sep (3) & 24 Sep (14) Rkn Bot (RLK et al.); 14 Sep (1) Cher L, Hamblen Co portion (RLK). **Semi-palmated Sandpiper**: 8 Oct (1) Aus Spr (RLK), late. **Western Sandpiper**: 6 Aug (1) Ktn Stm P (TLR, LAW); 13, 24 Sep (1) Rkn Bot (RLK). **Baird's Sandpiper**: 6 Sep (1) Ktn Stm P (KAC); 12-13 Sep (1) Wash Co (RLK); 18 Sep (1) Rkn Bot (RLK). **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 13 Sep (30) Rkn Bot (RLK), max. **Dunlin**: 29 Oct, 5 Nov (5, 1) Aus Spr (RLK); 3 Nov (1) Sav Bay (KHD). **Stilt Sandpiper**: 21 Aug (2) Ktn Stm P (KAC); 13 Sep (4) Rkn Bot (RLK). **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 21 Aug (1) Ktn Stm P (KAC). **American Woodcock**: 23 Sep (1) Greene Co (DHM, ACL); 22 Oct (1) Cumberland Co (Charles Nicholson et al.).

**Jaeger-Hummingbird**: **Pomarine Jaeger**: 5 Oct (1) Nick L (TLR, KAC), in wake of Hurricane Opal. **Laughing Gull**: 6 Aug (1) Ktn Stm P (TLR, LAW); 5 Oct (1) Nick L (KAC, DFV). **Ring-billed Gull**: 6 Sep (1) Rkn Bot (RLK), ers. **Herring Gull**: 4 Sep (1 im) Ktn Stm P (TLR), ers. **Caspian Tern**: 6 Aug (1) Ktn Stm P (TLR, LAW); 6, 24 Sep (1, 14) Rkn Bot (RLK et al.); 23 Sep (1) Nick L (RJH); 25 Sep (10) Aus Spr (RLK). **Common Tern**: 5 Oct (1) Nick L (KAC). **Forster's Tern**: 24 Sep (60) Rkn Bot (RLK, JWC, JLS, LS, RB); 25 Sep (8) Boone L (RLK); 5 Oct (18) Boone L (DEH); 5 Oct (22) Chick L, Hmlt Co (KAC, DFV). **Black Tern**: 6 Aug (1) Ktn Stm P (TLR, LAW); 5 Oct (1) Boone L (DEH), new late date in Jhn City area. **BLACK SKIMMER**: 5 Oct (1) Nick L (LAW et al., photo), in wake of Hurricane Opal, 2nd state record (first this century). **Yellow-billed Cuckoo**: 11 Oct (1) Hmlt Co (LAW), lrs. **Barn Owl**: 30 Sep (2) Greene Co (fide JBH); 14 Oct (1) Williams Is, Hmlt Co (KAC et al.). **Short-eared Owl**: 21 Nov (1) Raccoon Mtn, Marion Co (Lenny Kafka). **Northern Saw-whet Owl**: 17 Nov (1, netted & banded) Jhn City (RLK, JWC), details to be published. **Common Nighthawk**: 13 Oct (9) Jhn City (RLK), lrs. **Chimney Swift**: 15 Oct (2) Aus Spr (RLK), lrs. **Rufous Hummingbird**: 28 Aug-EOP (1 ad m) Chatt (MLB). **Selasphorus sp.**: 5 Oct (1 im) Chatt (Danny Gaddy); late Oct-9 Nov (1 im) Greeneville (fide Phine Britton, JAR); photo seen by RLK).

**Flycatcher-Vireo**: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 10 Aug (1) Rkn Bot (LN, JAR). **Great Crested Flycatcher**: 17 Sep (1) Aus Spr (RLK), lrs. **Tree Swallow**: 24 Sep (500) Rkn Bot (RLK, JWC, JLS, LS, RB), max. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 9 Nov (1) Hws R area, Meigs Co (Terry J. Witt); 15 Nov (1) Nick L (KAC, DFV); both quite late. **Blue Jay**: 9, 10, 17 Oct (146, 110, 236 respectively) Soddy Mtn (WGH), a migratory movement that is often overlooked. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 27 Sep (1) Jhn City (RLK), ers; by mid Oct this species had been found throughout the region, evidence of a major movement. **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 11 Aug (1) near Ocoee, Polk Co (SJS, BHS); June thru Oct (2+) Ktn Stm P (David Trently, Jerry Hadder, m.ob.), major extension from the growing Chatt area population. **Sedge Wren**: 30 Sep (1) Aus Spr (RLK); 22 Oct (1) Ktn Stm P (RLK). **Marsh Wren**: 30 Sep (1) Aus Spr



(RLK). **Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 22 Oct (53) Scott Co (SJS, Robert Emmott), max. **Swainson's Thrush:** 23 Sep (16) Lookout Mtn, Hmlt Co (KAC), max. **American Pipit:** 6 Nov (20) Wash Co (RLK). **White-eyed Vireo:** 18 Oct (1) Hmlt Co (LAW), lrs. **Solitary Vireo:** 24 Nov (1) Rhea Co (SJS, BHS), lrs. **Yellow-throated Vireo:** 8 Oct (1) Jhn City (RLK), lrs. **Philadelphia Vireo:** 21 Sep (1), 2 Oct (5) Chatt (KAC); 17-30 Sep (3) Jhn City (RLK). **Red-eyed Vireo:** 9 Nov (1) Greeneville (RLK, JAR), ties record late date in state.

**Warbler-Grosbeak:** **Blue-winged Warbler:** 3 Sep (1) Greene Co (DHM, ACL); 4 Sep (2), 14 Sep (1), 21 Sep (2) Hmlt Co (TLR, KAC). **Golden-winged Warbler:** 24 Sep (1) & 2 Oct (1) Hmlt Co (TLR, KAC); 7 Oct (1) Marion Co (RJH). **Tennessee Warbler:** 26 Oct (1) Hmlt Co (LAW), lrs. **Orange-crowned Warbler:** 7 Oct (1) Marion Co (RJH); 27-30 Oct (3) Wash Co (RLK). **Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 23 Sep (1) Hmlt Co (KAC); 26 Sep (1) Jhn City (JWN); 29 Sep (1) Scott Co (SJS, Michael Sanders); 30 Sep (1) Greene Co (fide JBH); all a bit early. **Black-throated Green Warbler:** 26 Oct (1) Hmlt Co (LAW), lrs. **Blackburnian Warbler:** 26 Oct (1) Hmlt Co (LAW), lrs. **Palm Warbler:** 18 Nov (1) Wash Co (JWN), lrs. **Bay-breasted Warbler:** 26 Oct (1) Hmlt Co (LAW), lrs. **Cerulean Warbler:** 16 Aug (1) Scott Co (SJS), only report. **Mourning Warbler:** 30 Sep (1) Greene Co (JBH, DHM). **Kentucky Warbler:** 31 Aug (1) Greeneville (JAR, Larry Routledge). **Wilson's Warbler:** 10 Aug (1) Moccasin Bend, Hmlt Co (RJH), quite early; 11, 24 Sep (1 each) Wash Co (JWB, JWN); 21 Sep (1) Hmlt Co (KAC). **Canada Warbler:** 27 Sep (2) Greene Co (JAR, Larry Routledge), lrs. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** 21 Sep (500) Lookout Mtn, Hmlt Co (KAC); 24 Sep (22) Greene Co (DHM, ACL); max. **Indigo Bunting:** 27 Oct (1) Sullivan Co (RLK), lrs. **Savannah Sparrow:** 17 Aug (2) Ktn Stm P (KAC), ers. **Grasshopper Sparrow:** 15 Oct (1) Aus Spr (RLK), lrs. **Fox Sparrow:** 15 Oct (1) Fentress Co (SJS), ers. **Lincoln's Sparrow:** 21 Oct (1) Catoosa WMA, Cumberland Co (Charles Nicholson et al.); 29 Oct, 6 Nov (1) Wash Co (RLK); 18 Nov (1) Jhn City (JWN), new late date in area. **Bobolink:** 24 Sep (12) Wash Co (RLK), only report. **Purple Finch:** 16 Oct (1) Wash Co (RLK), ers; more reports than any recent autumn, but still low numbers overall. **Evening Grosbeak:** 10 Nov (7) Greene Co (Richard & Ruth Nevius); 10 Nov (1+) Cumberland Co (SJS, BHS); 15 Nov (3) Hmlt Co (Bernie Tomkins); 19 Nov (10) Wash Co (Dee Eiklor); pattern of arrival.

*Addendum:* **Selasphorus sp.:** 30 Oct-27 Nov 1993 (1 im) Greeneville (Louise Coleman fide Phine Britton). **Snow Bunting:** 27 Nov (2) Roan Mtn balds (KAC).

*Locations:* See page 81.

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**EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION:** August was very dry with less than an inch of rain. It was the hottest August since 1953. September had above normal precipitation and the rest of the period was about normal.

One of the best sightings was a group of nine Eared Grebes that showed up on South Holston Lake the first of October and stayed through the end of the period. There were several sightings of Bald Eagles (adult and immature) at South Holston Lake. This could be due to the hacking program there over the last few years. Thrushes had a poor migrational flight; however, warblers had a pretty good one, overall.

*Loon-Owl*: **Common Loon**: 25 Sep (1) S. Hol. L. (RLK), ers. **Eared Grebe**: 2 Oct thru EOP (1-9) S. Hol. L. (LCM, RBB et al.), third area record. **Double-crested Cormorant**: 23 Sep (3) S. Hol. L. (RLK); 8 Oct (2) S. Hol. L. (DEH); 5 Nov thru EOP (1) Middlebrook L. (JWC et al.). **Redhead**: 23 Nov (7) S. Hol. L. (RMC, RBB). **Surf Scoter**: 23 Nov (1) S. Hol. L. (RMC et al.). **Common Goldeneye**: 4 Nov (65) S. Hol. L. (JWC). **Hooded Merganser**: 26 Nov (150) Middlebrook L. (RPL), max. **Common Merganser**: 23 Nov (1) S. Hol. L. (RMC, RBB). **Red-breasted Merganser**: 23 Nov (7) S. Hol. L. (RMC, RBB). **Ruddy Duck**: 1 Nov (7) S. Hol. L. (RLK). **Osprey**: several reports on area lakes and rivers; 23 Nov (1) S. Hol. L. (JWC, LCM), late. **Bald Eagle**: several sightings of 1 or 2 on S. Hol. L. **Northern Goshawk**: 26 Oct (1 ad) Unicoi Co. (FJA). **Red-shouldered Hawk**: 19 Nov (1) Cades Cove (RPL). **Merlin**: 28 Sep (1) Cades Cove (Mary Jane Erwin); 30 Sep (1) Unicoi Co. (GWS, BLC). **Sora**: 30 Sep (1) Unicoi Co. (BLC). **American Coot**: 4 Nov (1779) S. Hol. L. (JWC, RBB, RMC), max. **Ruddy Turnstone**: 5 Aug (1) S. Hol. L. (JWC), 5th area record. **Sanderling**: 5 Aug / 28 Aug (1/1) S. Hol. L. (JWC). **Bonaparte's Gull**: 30 Sep (3) Middlebrook L. (RPL); 1 Nov (4) S. Hol. L. (RLK). **Laughing Gull**: 5-12 Aug (1-3) S. Hol. L. (JWC), after Hurricane Erin. **Caspian Tern**: 20 Aug (3) S. Hol. L. (JWC, JLS); 25 Aug (2) Roan Creek, Johnson Co. (RLK). **Forster's Tern**: 6 Aug (3) S. Hol. L. (JWB, ARH); 25 Sep (46/42) Watauga L. / S. Hol. L. (RLK); 26 Sep (1) Great Lakes Pond, Carter Co. (CFW); 15 Oct (1) S. Hol. L. (RLK). **Black Tern**: 6-10 Aug (2) S. Hol. L. (JWB, ARH, JWC). **Northern Saw-whet Owl**: 30 Sep (1) Roan Mt. (JWB, ARH).

*Sapsucker-Grosbeak*: **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: 30 Sep (1) Eliz. (GOW), ers. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 2 Sep (1 banded) Unaka Mt. (RM). **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 5 Nov (1) Watauga River, Carter Co. (FJA), new late date by 7 days for area. **Carolina Chickadee**: 25 Oct (2) Roan Mt. (RLK), above 5800 ft. elev. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: numerous reports of 1-3 birds at all elevations in Oct-Nov. **Sedge Wren**: 7 Oct (1) S. Hol. L. (RLK). **Marsh Wren**: 15 Sep (1) near Butler, Johnson Co. (RLK). **Solitary Vireo**: 4 Nov (1) Friendship community, S. Hol. L. (RBB); 5 Nov (2) S. Hol. L. (FJA), lrs. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 18 Sep (3) Roan Mt. (RLK). **Blue-winged Warbler**: 15 Sep (1) Johnson Co. (RLK). **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 30 Sep (1) Eliz. (GOW); 25 Oct (1) Roan Mt. State Park, Carter Co. (RLK). **Wilson's Warbler**: 15 Sep (1) Johnson Co. (RLK); 30 Sep (2) Unicoi Co. (GWS). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 7 Oct (1) S. Hol. L. (RLK). **Swamp Sparrow**: 30 Sep (2) Unicoi Co. (RM), ers. **Bobolink**: 30 Sep (10) Limestone Cove, Unicoi Co. (RM). **Purple Finch**: 25 Oct (1) Roan Mt. (RLK), ers. **Pine Siskin**: 9 Sep / 9 Oct (3/4) Roan Mt. (RLK); 30 Sep (16) Roan Mt. (JWB, ARH); 12 Nov (20) S. Hol. L. (RPL), max. **Evening Grosbeak**: 30 Sep (3) Roan Mt. (JWB, ARH), ers; 10 Nov (40+) S. Hol. L. (RPL), max.

*Locations*: See page 81.

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*Observers*: See page 82.

# THE MIGRANT

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### NOTICE TO RESEARCHERS AND LIBRARIES

Volume 68, Numbers 1-4, has preceded this issue. Volume 67, Numbers 1-4, is printed in this single issue. Several references in this issue include dates later than the cover date of 1996. The journal is behind schedule and it has been necessary to use material which, in some cases, was submitted and accepted later in the year.  
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# THE MIGRANT

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VOL. 67

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*The Migrant*, 67 (2) 26-27, 1996.

## MIGRANT NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL BANDED IN NORTHEAST TENNESSEE

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On the evening of 17 November 1995 a migrant Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) was lured to and captured in a mist net in Washington County, Tennessee. Reports on the computer Internet of a heavy autumn flight of this species at owl banding stations in the Great Lakes region and mid-Atlantic states, even as far south as northeastern North Carolina, prompted the authors to search locally.

Winged Deer Park, on the northern edge of Johnson City, was selected as a trapping station due to its habitat and easy access. A partially open valley with numerous mid-sized red cedars (*Juniperus virginiana*), low shrubs, and scattered deciduous trees was chosen. Deciduous forest and old fields bordered the site. The elevation is about 450m (1475 ft). The Watauga River arm of Boone Lake was visible about 400m away.

Three 9m mist nets were set up end-to-end along the edge of a grassy strip through the cedar/shrub mix. A continuous-play tape recording of a Saw-whet Owl's "toot-toot-toot..." call served as a lure. The nets were set up at dusk (1800 hours EST), then checked at 2030, 2330, and 0300 hours, and taken down at sunrise (0645 hours). This method was used on the nights of 17-18 and 18-19 November 1995.

A single Saw-whet Owl was removed from the nets when they were checked at 2330 hours on 17 November. It was caught about 1m above the ground on the side opposite the tape recorder. The owl was banded, measured, and released. The wing chord was 145mm and the weight was 101g (about 3.5 oz). While the measurements suggest that this was a female, sex determination by this means apparently is unreliable (M. Rowe *pers. comm.*). We judged this owl to be an adult by its plumage.

We had no prior knowledge of a Saw-whet Owl in the vicinity and there has been only one previous fall or winter record (see below) in this area, away from their breeding sites on Roan and Unaka Mountains (both more than 40 km away). While possibly an altitudinal migrant from one of these sites, we feel that this bird was more likely a northern migrant and part of the aforementioned autumn flight.

There are two previous instances of migrant Saw-whet Owls banded in Tennessee. The first was an individual caught by two teenage boys at Nashville in March

1940 and later given to Amelia Laskey (1941). The other was found injured on a Washington County roadside on 9 November 1990 (*vide* Ken Ripley), rehabilitated, then banded and released on 20 December 1990 (R.L. Knight *pers. obs.*).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Matt Rowe (Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina) and Frank Enders (an owl bander from Halifax, North Carolina) kindly discussed methodology and owl behavior. Brad Jones (Johnson City Parks and Recreation) granted us permission to band at Winged Deer Park. Gary Wallace holds the master permit under which the senior author bands as a sub-permittee. Bernie Brouchaud (an owl bander from Manitowoc, Wisconsin) had used the same method at Winged Deer Park on two nights in December 1994 without success; however, discussions with the senior author were beneficial.

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NESTING BY THE YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER  
IN MONROE COUNTY, TENNESSEE

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With the scarcity of recent sight records, and in particular nesting records, for the Southern Appalachian population of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) in Tennessee (Robinson 1990), I have been encouraged to report this observation even though it is more than 20 years old. I have my written notes of the observation, so the details are those recorded at the time.

My wife Gloria and I were intrigued when we read of the forays by Ganier and Clebsch (1944, 1946) into the Unicoi Mountains near Tellico Plains. We also noted this species' restricted distribution in the nearby Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Stupka 1963).

During June 1973 we spent most of five days (3rd, 16th, 17th, 23rd, and 24th) birding in the Monroe County section of the Cherokee National Forest. We confined our birding to altitudes above 1220 m (4000 ft). One trip we made on three different dates was a drive from the North River Campground along a forest road to the area of Whigg Meadow, arriving there about daybreak. We then walked a round trip to Haw Knob on the Tennessee-North Carolina state line, a distance of about 14.5 km (9 miles). We heard sapsuckers on each of these trips, but not until 23 June did we have a sight record. As we returned from our walk to Haw Knob that morning we observed a sapsucker making frequent trips to feed young in a nest hole about 7.5 m (25 ft) up in an American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*). The top portion of this tree was dead, with a few of the lower limbs still living. The nest tree was just off the trail above Whigg Meadow at the edge of a small clearing. The elevation of this location is slightly over 1525 m (5000 ft). Unfortunately, this was our last weekend trip to the area and we were not able to observe the nest at a later date.

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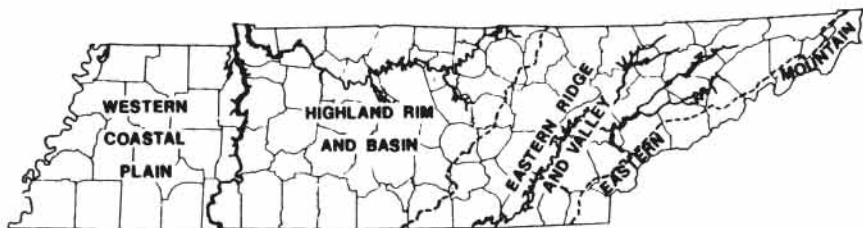
*The Migrant*, 67 (2): 29, 1996.

## 1996 SPRING FIELD DAYS

We regret that the Spring 1996 account is not available.

## THE SEASON

ROBERT P. FORD, Editor



WINTER: 1 DECEMBER 1995 - 28 FEBRUARY 1996

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION: *Grebe-Merganser*: **Horned Grebe**: 4 Dec (1) Reelfoot L. S. P. (WGC); 16 Dec (3) Reelfoot L. CBC. **American White Pelican**: 13 Dec (14) Shelby Forest (CHB, HBD, SSL, BHW); 24-25 Feb (110) Lake Co. (MTOS), a new winter record for Feb. **Tundra Swan**: 20 Nov (2) Lauderdale WMA & (2) Haywood Co. (BJC); 16 Dec (2 ad, 2 im) Reelfoot L. S. P.; 22 Dec (2) Dyer Co. (BJC). Field reports and surveys indicated higher than usual winter waterfowl numbers. **Snow, "Blue" Geese** were reported at all wildlife management areas, in flooded fields and overhead flocks. **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 4 Dec/15 Jan (15) Long Point & (5) Lauderdale WMA (WGC, MLG, VBR); 13 Dec (2) Shelby Forest S. P. (CHB, HBD, SSL, BHW); 16 Dec (265) Reelfoot L. CBC; 14 Jan (8) Lower Hatchie NWR (CHB, SRM, VBR, MGW); 17 Feb (7) Chickasaw NWR (CHB, VBR); 25 Feb (165) Lake Co. (MTOS). **Snow Goose**: 25 Feb (4400) Lake Co. (MTOS). **Canada Goose**: 24/25 Feb (10,000) Lake Co. (MTOS). **Greater Scaup**: 16 Dec (2 m, 2 f) Reelfoot L. CBC. **Red-breasted Merganser**: 16 Dec (6) Reelfoot L. CBC.

*Kite-Crane*: **MISSISSIPPI KITE**: 8 Feb (1) downtown Memphis (WOB, Jr.); 10 Feb (2) midtown Memphis (MaH); 10 Feb (5) MLK Park, sw Memphis (AIY, fide LCC), early state. **Bald Eagle**: 22 Dec/17 Feb (1 ad) Chickasaw NWR (CHB, BJC, VBR); 13/14 Jan (1) Lower Hatchie NWR, 8/14 Jan (2 ad, 1 im) Open Lake, Lauderdale Co. (CHB, BJC, SRM, VBR, MGW); 20 Jan (1 ad) Robinson Crusoe Island, Shelby Co. (MGW); 22 Dec (1 ad) Sunk Lake, Lauderdale Co. (TWRA). **Sharp-shinned Hawk**: 16 Dec (5) Reelfoot L. CBC; 17 Dec (4) Memphis CBC; 22 Dec (1) ne Shelby Co. (SRM); 31 Dec (1) e Shelby Co. (MLG); 13/14 Jan (1) e Shelby Co. (SRM). **Cooper's Hawk**: 1/5 Dec (1 ad) ne Shelby Co., 4 Dec (1 ad f) e Memphis (OKM); 8 Dec-11 Feb (1) Shelby Farms (CHB, MLG, SNM, MGW); 16 Dec (2) Reelfoot L. CBC; 17 Dec (3) Memphis CBC; 23 Dec (1) Jackson CBC; 23/25 Dec (1/1) two locations Memphis & 9 Jan (1) Memphis Zoo (OKM); 12 Jan (1) Haywood Co. (WBF); 14 Jan (1) Lower Hatchie NWR (CHB, SRM, VBR, MGW); 27 Jan (1/1) mid-town/ne Shelby Co. (BNG, OKM, RRS); 29 Jan (1 juv) e Memphis & 16 Feb (1 f) midtown Memphis (OKM). **Red-shouldered Hawk**: 21 Feb (on nest) Shelby Forest S. P. (CHB, HBD, SSL, VBR, BHW, ROW). **Rough-legged Hawk**: 16 Dec (1 ad) Reelfoot L. CBC; 23 Dec (1 im) Jackson CBC. **Golden Eagle**: 16 Dec (1) Reelfoot L. CBC. **Merlin**: 16 Dec (1 m) Reelfoot L. CBC; 17 Dec (1 m) Memphis CBC; 2 Feb (1) mid-Memphis (LCC, MaH). **Peregrine Falcon**: 13 Dec/20 Jan (1) downtown Memphis (LCC, MaH); 7 Jan (1)



Shelby Farms (MGW). **VIRGINIA RAIL**: 30 Dec (1) Gooch Rd. marsh, Hardin Co. (DJS). **SANDHILL CRANE**: 20 Nov (25) ne Obion Co. (BJC); 23 Dec (2 ad, 2 im) Jackson CBC; 21 Feb (25) Shelby Forest S. P. (CHB, HBD, SSL, VBR, BHW, ROW).

*Yellowlegs-Hummingbird*: **Greater Yellowlegs**: 29 Feb (2) Eagle Lake WMA (VBR). **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 29 Feb (18) Eagle Lake WMA (VBR). **WILLET**: 6 Dec (1) Ripley, Lauderdale Co. (VaH), late TN. **American Woodcock**: 3 Dec (1) Whites Lake (WGC); 25 Feb (3) Reelfoot L. S. P. (DDP). **Bonaparte's Gull**: 10 Dec (4) Memphis, riverfront (LCC, MaH); 16 Dec (1069) Reelfoot L. CBC. **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL**: 30 Dec (1) Pickwick Dam (DJS). **BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE**: 9 Feb (1) Pickwick Dam (DJS). **IVORY GULL**: 10-21 Feb (1 im) Pickwick Dam (JRW, m. ob.). **Barn Owl**: 26 Jan (1 juv) Shelby Farms (OKM); 18 Feb (1) Wolf River WMA (CHB, MLG, MGW). **Barred Owl**: 24/25 Feb (18) Reelfoot L. (MTOS). **Short-eared Owl**: 16 Dec (2) Reelfoot L. CBC; 17 Dec-17 Feb (1) EARTH Complex (MGW, DaY); 30 Dec (2/6) Shiloh/Gooch Rd. Marsh, Hardin Co., Savannah CBC; 5 Jan-26 Feb (5 max) Wolf River WMA (TWRA, SNM, VBR, MGW); 24/26 Feb (7) Reelfoot (MTOS). **COMMON NIGHTHAWK**: 3-18 Dec (3-2) e Memphis (LCC, MaH). *Archilochus sp.*: 1 Dec-8 Jan (1) e Memphis (JLL, JoK, WRP, ROW). *Selasphorus sp.*: 1 Dec-15 Dec (1) Memphis (JLL, JoK).

*Crow-Siskin*: **Fish Crow**: 16 Dec (3) Jackson CBC; 21 Feb (3) Shelby Forest S. P. (CHB, HBD, SSL, VBR, BHW, ROW). **House Wren**: 16 Dec (3) Reelfoot L. CBC; 17 Dec (6) Memphis CBC; 30 Dec (1)z Pickwick S. P., Savannah CBC. **Sedge Wren**: 30 Dec (3) Gooch Rd. Marsh, Hardin Co., Savannah CBC. **Marsh Wren**: 16 Dec (5) Reelfoot L. CBC; 30 Dec (3) Gooch Rd. marsh, Savannah CBC, tapes used. **Solitary Vireo**: 5 Dec (1) Whites Lake (WGC); 14 Jan (1) Lower Hatchie NWR (CHB, SRM, BR, MGW). **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 7 Dec-15 Dec (1) Tipton Co. (DDP); Dec (1) Reelfoot L. CBC. **Common Yellowthroat**: 17 Dec (1) Memphis CBC. **INDIGO BUNTING**: Dec 23 (1 m) Jackson CBC; 29 Dec 1 m) sw Shelby Co. (CiB, fide LCC). **American Tree Sparrow**: 5 Dec 1) Whites Lake (WGC); 17 Dec-EOP (8 max) Reelfoot L. S. P. MTOS); 15 Jan (3) Long Point (MLG, VBR). **Vesper Sparrow**: 8 Dec-EOP (13 max) Shelby Farms (VaH, EJO, SNM, MGW); 17 Dec 22) Memphis CBC; 30 Dec (1) Savannah CBC. **HENSLow'S SPARROW**: 30 Dec (1) Gooch Rd. marsh, Hardin Co. (DJS), third winter record. **LeConte's Sparrow**: 16 Dec (1) Reelfoot L. CBC; 17 Dec (4) Memphis CBC; 30 Dec (2/2) Gooch Rd. marsh/ Hwy 64, Hardin Co., Savannah CBC. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 8 Dec (1) Shelby Farms (SNM, MGW); 17 Dec (3) Memphis CBC. **Lapland Longspur**: 16 Dec (15+) Reelfoot L. CBC; 30 Dec (1) Hwy 64, Hardin Co., Savannah CBC. **BALTIMORE ORIOLE**: 26 Dec-EOP (1 m) e Memphis (CHB, LCC). **Western Meadowlark**: 16 Dec/24 Feb (2) Reelfoot L. CBC (WRP); 13 Jan (2) Shelby Farms (MGW). **Brewer's Blackbird**: 16 Dec (6) Reelfoot L. CBC; 19 Dec (2 f) Memphis (MLG); 23 Dec (6) Jackson CBC. **Purple Finch**: 9 Dec-17 Feb (2 m, 1 f) e Shelby Co. (WRP); 3-17 Feb (5) Jackson Co. (DoW, LoW); 12 Feb (12) Chickasaw S. P. (VaH); 12-18 Feb (2 max) n Shelby Co. (VaH). **Evening Grosbeak**: 14 Dec (3-5) Memphis (GeW); 21 Dec (2) Tipton Co. (WBF); 16 Jan/22 Feb (10 max) Memphis (VaH); 20 Jan (2 m, 1 f) Shelby Forest S. P. (MGW); 3/4 Feb (3) Jackson Co. (DoW, LoW); 12-18 Feb (4 max) n Shelby Co. (VaH). **Pine Siskin**: 31 Jan (1) e Shelby Co. (WRP).

*Locations*: See page 81.

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**EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION:** The winter of 1995-96 was a wild rollercoaster ride on the temperature scale. From a frigid low of -15°F on 5 Feb to a balmy high of 79°F on the 23rd — a range of 94 degrees within a three week span at Johnson City!

Overall, it was a cold, snowy winter. Two major snowstorms blanketed the region on 6-7 Jan (8-10 inches) and 1-3 Feb (13-15 inches). Perhaps the most significant aspect was the length of time that snowcover persisted. Total snowcover was present at Johnson City for 18 of 34 days (53%) from 7 Jan to 9 Feb, a much longer than normal amount of time. Three consecutive nights of 0°F or below from 4-6 Feb exacerbated conditions. December was comparatively mild and most Christmas Bird Counts fared well.

The harsh weather surely made survival tough, especially for ground feeders and "half-hardy" species. Comments on a few selected birds follow in the main list. Waterfowl and gulls were in good numbers, as might be expected whenever northern waters freeze. All told, a good mix of lingerers and rare visitors made for an exciting season of birding.

**Loon-Heron:** **Common Loon:** 5 Feb (31) Chick L (KAC); 10 Feb (32) Cher L (RLK), max. **Pied-billed Grebe:** 10 Feb (120) Cher L (RLK), max. **Horned Grebe:** 7 Dec (32) Chick L (KAC); 10 Feb (110) Cher L (RLK), max. **Red-necked Grebe:** 1-15 Feb (1) Boone L (RLK). **American White Pelican:** lingering individual in Kpt-Jhn City area present all season (m.ob.); 17 Feb (1) Fort Loudoun Dam, Loudon Co (Rusty Dunn). **Double-crested Cormorant:** 22 Jan (8) Hws R (KAC); 8+ wintered at Kpt (RLK). **American Bittern:** 13 Jan (1) Bra Lev (Barbara & Mike McMahan). **Great Egret:** 9 Dec (1) Hws R (DFV); 7-25 Feb (1) Sav Bay, Hmlt Co (KHD). **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** up to 16 wintered at Kpt (RLK).

**Waterfowl:** **Greater White-fronted Goose:** 2 Dec (4) Middlebrook L, Bristol (JWC et al.); 22 Jan/17 Feb (1/7) Hws R (KAC/Carl W. Campbell); 15-23 Feb (1) Wash Co (RLK et al.); excellent showing for region. **Snow Goose:** 22 Jan (2) Hws R (KAC); 17 Feb (8) Hws R (Carl W. Campbell); 16 Jan (1) Cher L (RLK, JWC, Susan Lapis). **Canada Goose:** 11 Dec (1481) Hws R (TWRA), max. **Green-winged Teal:** 10 Jan (83) Hws R (TWRA), max. **American Black Duck:** 11 Dec (1689) Hws R (TWRA), max. **Mallard:** 11 Dec (3793) Hws R (TWRA), max. **Northern Pintail:** 11 Dec (63) Hws R (TWRA), max. **Gadwall:** 12 Feb (386) Hws R (TWRA), max. **American Wigeon:** 11 Dec (128) Hws R (TWRA), max. **Canvasback:** above average number of sightings in the Tri-Cities and Gvl area (max. 12, m.ob.). **Redhead:** above average number of sightings throughout region (m.ob.); 10 Jan (33) Bra Lev (KAC), max. **Ring-necked Duck:** 12 Feb (216) Hws R (TWRA), max. **Greater Scaup:** above average number of sightings in northeast part of region late Dec-late Feb (up to 20) Kpt (m.ob.) & 17-19 Jan (4) Gvl (ACL, DHM); 5 Feb (68) Chick L (KAC), max. **Surf Scoter:** 22 Dec (4) Boone L (RLK). **White-winged Scoter:** 10 Feb (4) Cher L (RLK). **Common Goldeneye:** 10 Feb (300+) Cher L (RLK), max. **Ruddy Duck:** 30 Dec (80) Nick L (RJH), max.

**Vulture-Hummingbird:** **Turkey Vulture:** 28 Jan (500+) Chick L (Jim & Cynthia Wilkerson). **Rough-legged Hawk:** 31 Jan (1) Hmlt Co (MLB, LAW). **Golden Eagle:** 30 Dec (1 im) Nick L (RJH); 28 Jan (1 im) Hws R (KHD); 9 Feb (1) Hmlt Co (Cynthia Wilkerson). **Merlin:** 25 Dec (1) Baylor L, Hmlt co (RJH); 27 Jan (1) Bledsoe Co (RJH). **Peregrine Falcon:** 8 & 16 Dec (1) Chatt (KAC); 27 Jan (1) Hws R (RJH); 21 Feb (1)

Bra Lev (MLB, LAW). **Virginia Rail**: 16 Dec (1) Williams Is, Chatt CBC (DFV); 31 Dec (1) Bristol Industrial Park pond, Bristol CBC (RLK). **Sora**: 16 Feb (1) Hmlt Co (MLB, LAW). **Sandhill Crane**: present all season at Hws R, max on CBC 1 Jan (4343); 16 Dec (50) Boone L (Len Robertson), well east of usual migration corridor. **Least Sandpiper**: 1 Jan (2) Hws CBC (RJH). **Common Snipe**: 1 Jan (32) Hws CBC, max. **American Woodcock**: 29 Jan (1) Hmlt Co (MLB, LAW); 20-24 Feb (1-3) two Wash Co sites (RLK/JWB, Audrey Hoff); 22-26 Feb (1) Greene Co (ACL, DHM). **Bonaparte's Gull**: 10 Feb (300+) Cher L (RLK), max. **Ring-billed Gull**: 16 Dec (5000) Chatt CBC; late Dec-late Feb (up to 800+) Boone L (RLK), well above average there; 10 Feb (6000+) Cher L (RLK), also above average. **Black-legged Kittiwake**: 27 & 31 Dec, 1 Jan (1, first winter plumage) Boone Dam (Van Remsen, RL, JWC, Greg Harris/THF/RLK), photo, first local record. **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 30 Jan, 12 & 19 Feb (1-2) Chatt (Clyde Blum), same neighborhood where originally discovered. **Barn Owl**: 16 Dec (1) Williams Is, Chatt CBC (DFV); 21 Dec (1) Sav Bay, Hmlt Co (KHD); 1 Jan (1) Hws CBC (RJH); 8 Feb (1) western Greene Co (JAR), found dead in snow, specimen to ETSU. **Short-eared Owl**: 10 & 22 Feb (1) Phipps Bend, Hawkins Co (RLK, DEH). **Northern Saw-whet Owl**: 1 Jan (1) Hws CBC (TLR). **Rufous Hummingbird**: 1 ad m present from last season thru Feb in Chatt (MLB).

*Phoebe-Warbler*: **Eastern Phoebe**: survived the cold & extended snowcover in Tri-Cities area in fair numbers (RLK). **Horned Lark**: 17 & 21 Jan (40 & 64) separate Wash Co sites (RLK). **Common Raven**: 22 Dec (1) Boone Dam (RLK); 5 Jan (1) Conklin, Wash Co (RLK); 21 Jan (1) jct. I-81 & I-181 in Sullivan Co (FJA). **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: widespread thru season. **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 16 Dec (23) Chatt CBC, max. **Carolina Wren**: reduced numbers following cold & extended snowcover in Tri-Cities area (RLK). **House Wren**: recorded on the Chatt, Nick, & Kpt CBCs. **Sedge Wren**: 16 Dec (1) Williams Is, Chatt CBC (DFV). **Eastern Bluebird**: survived the cold & extended snowcover in good numbers. **Gray Catbird**: 31 Dec (1) Hmlt Co (KAC). **Cedar Waxwing**: 16 Dec (1873) Chatt CBC, max. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 12 Dec (1) Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant, Hmlt Co (LAW); 16 Dec (1) Williams Is, Chatt CBC (DFV). **Palm Warbler**: 16 Dec (1) Chatt CBC (RJH); 27 Dec (1) Kpt CBC (RLK et al.); 5 Jan (2) Wash Co (RLK); 6 Jan (1) Bra Lev (RJH); 13 Jan (1) Greene Co (ACL, DHM). **American Redstart**: 29 Dec (1 im m) Kpt (John Moyle fide JWC), first winter record in state.

*Sparrow-Grosbeak*: **American Tree Sparrow**: 30 Dec (1) Nick CBC (Johnny Parks); early Feb (1 at feeder) Chuckey, Greene Co (Lois Herndon). **Chipping Sparrow**: 23 Dec (1) Sullivan Co (RLK). **Savannah Sparrow**: up to 30 wintered at each of 4+ sites in Wash & Sullivan Cos (RLK). **Fox Sparrow**: many feeder reports throughout region during snowy period; 21 Jan (14, not at feeder) Conklin, Wash Co (RLK), new local high count. **Brewer's Blackbird**: 20 Dec-12 Feb (1-10) Greene Co (ACL, DHM); 17 Feb (1) Bra Lev (RJH). **Purple Finch**: widespread & fairly common at feeders after Christmas. **House Finch**: reports of conjunctivitis from Sullivan, Wash, Greene, & Hmlt Cos. (*?missing copy*) 8 Dec (5) Chatt (TLR), only report. **Common Redpoll**: early Feb-23 Feb (2 at feeder) Chuckey, Greene Co (Lois Herndon). **Evening Grosbeak**: numerous, but sporadic, sightings of up to 70 birds thru region.

*Locations*: See page 81.

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**EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION:** This was one of the coldest winters since the bad winters of the late 70's. Winter seemed to come in late fall and continue through this period with little break in cold temperature. Temperatures in early February reached -15°F to -20°F in the lowlands. Precipitation was a little below normal for December and February but the 6.25 inches in January was over 3 inches above normal. There was more snowfall this winter than in many years. There were two lowland snowfalls of over 20 inches with the overall total about 5 feet for the period.

**Loon-Gull:** **Red-throated Loon:** 1 Feb (1) Watauga L. (GOW). **Common Loon:** 2 all season on Watauga L. (RLK); 1 to 4 all season on S. Hol. L. (JHM, JWC, LCM). **Pied-billed Grebe:** 6 Dec (81) S. Hol. L. (JWC), max., wintered in unprecedented numbers on this lake. **RED-NECKED GREBE:** 21 Jan (1) Watauga L. (JWB, ARH). **Horned Grebe:** up to 10 present on Watauga L. all winter (RLK et al.); 14 Dec (10)/18 Jan (6) S. Hol. L. (LCM, JWC/RLK). **Eared Grebe:** from last season thru 17 Dec (up to 9)/18 Jan (4) S. Hol. L. (LCM, RBB, RMC, JWC/RLK). **Greater White-fronted Goose:** 2 Dec (4) Middlebrook L. (JWC et al.). **Canada Goose:** 11 Feb (2) Shady V. (JLS, LCM, JWC), only second record for this location. **Wood Duck:** thru period (2) Fishery Park, Erwin, Unicoi Co. (m. ob.). **Green-winged Teal:** 3 Dec-17 Dec (2) Bristol Industrial Park, Sullivan Co. (LCM, JWC). **American Black Duck:** 14 Dec (21) Weaver Pike, Sullivan Co. (JWC), max. **Northern Pintail:** 18 Feb (1) Middlebrook L. (JWC). **Gadwall:** 31 Dec (41) S. Hol. L. area (JWC, TFL, RAP), max.; 10 Feb (8) Middlebrook L. (JWC, JLS, Lorie Shumate). **American Wigeon:** thru period (up to 50) weir, S. Hol. L. (JWC, LCM). **Canvasback:** 4 Jan-late Feb (1) Wilbur L. (RLK et al.); mid Feb (1) Fishery Park, Erwin, Unicoi Co. (FJA et al.); 5 records of 1 to 3 in eastern Sullivan Co. (m. ob.). **Redhead:** 4 Jan-late Feb (up to 19) Wilbur L. (RLK et al.); mid Jan-late Feb (15-22) weir, S. Hol. L. (RLK, JWC et al.); mid Feb (6) Fishery Park, Erwin, Unicoi Co. (FJA et al.). **Ring-necked Duck:** 20 Jan (100) Bristol Industrial Park, Sullivan Co. (JWC), max. **Greater Scaup:** 14 Dec-late Feb (3-5) Wilbur L. (RLK et al.); 28-31 Dec (1) S. Hol. L. area (JWC, RAP, TFL). **Oldsquaw:** 17 Jan (1 m) Watauga L. (TSM). **Bufflehead:** 31 Dec (109) S. Hol. L. area (JWC, RAP, TFL), max there. **Hooded Merganser:** 25 Dec (171) Middlebrook L. (JWC), max. **Common Merganser:** 25 Dec (1) Middlebrook L. (JWC). **Red-breasted Merganser:** 14 Dec (1) S. Holston L. (LCM, JWC), only report. **Ruddy Duck:** 6 Dec-17 Dec (1) S. Hol. L. (JWC, LCM). **Bald Eagle:** 29 Feb (5) S. Hol. L. (JHM), max. **Red-shouldered Hawk:** 20 Jan (3) Cades Cove (FJA); 6 Feb (1) Holston Mountain, Sullivan Co. (JLS); 11 Feb (1) Shady V. (JWC, LCM). **Rough-legged Hawk:** 1 Dec/13-14 Jan (1 light morph) Holston V. (JLS et al.). **Bonaparte's Gull:** 14 Dec (5) Watauga L. (RLK); 17 Dec (10) S. Hol. L. (LCM, JWC). **Ring-billed Gull:** 17 Dec (400) Middlebrook L. (LCM, JWC), max there; 4 Jan (35) Watauga L. (RLK), max there. **Herring Gull:** 14 Dec (3) S. Hol. L. (LCM, JWC); 23 Dec (1) S. Hol. L. (LCM, JWC). **Horned Lark:** 17 Dec (40) S. Hol. L. (LCM, JWC); 12 Jan (33) Shady V. (JLS). **Red-breasted Nuthatch:** widespread, significant invasion. **American Pipit:** 14 Jan (1) Holston V. (JWC et al.). **Northern Cardinal:** 25 Feb (1 f, banded, with brood patch) Holston V. (RPL), an unusually early sign of nesting during a very cold winter. **American Tree Sparrow:** 13-14 Jan (3)/18 Feb (2) Holston V. (JLS, FJA, JWC, RMC/RLK). **Savannah Sparrow:** 14 Jan (12) Holston V. (JWC et al.). **Fox Sparrow:** during Dec (4 banded) Holston V. (RPL), widespread in small numbers at feeders. **Lincoln's Sparrow:** 9-13 Jan (1) near Mil-

-ligan College, Carter Co. (FJA). **Swamp Sparrow:** 14 Jan (8) Holston V. (JWC et al.). **Rusty Blackbird:** 14 Jan (10) Holston V. (JWC et al.). **Common Grackle:** 14 Jan (1) Holston V. (JWC et al.), ers. **Purple Finch:** thru period (up to 60 at feeder, 48 banded) Holston V. (RPL), smaller numbers and scattered at other sites. **House Finch:** thru period (up to 150) Shady V. (JLS), generally lower numbers elsewhere. **Red Crossbill:** 16 Dec (2) Eliz. CBC (JWC, RAP, Janet Brown). **Pine Siskin:** 15-26 Dec (up to 35) Milligan College, Carter Co. (FJA). **Common Redpoll:** 31 Dec (1) Holston Mountain, Sullivan Co. (\*RMC, RBB). **Evening Grosbeak:** 25 Feb (110) Roan Mt. (RLK); most of period (40-90) Shady V. (JLS), irregularly scattered elsewhere.

*Locations:* See page 81.

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*Observers:* See page 82.