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The Kentucky Warbler

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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THE COVER

We thank Kate Hannah for the image of the two Scissor-tailed Flycatcher fledglings (*Tyrannus forficatus*) taken near their nest 25 July 2014 in southern Daviess County (see p. 89). Financial support for color reproduction in this issue provided by the Daniel Boone National Forest.



SUMMER 2014 SEASON

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. and Lee McNeely

Weather conditions during June and July 2014 were somewhat variable across the state. The average monthly temperature at most stations was close to normal to slightly above-normal statewide during June, but during July average monthly temperature was a bit cooler than normal with most stations recording temperatures 2-3°F below normal. The amount of rainfall was variable during June; much of the state was close to normal, although Paducah received about one and a half times normal precipitation. During July, most of the state received a below-normal amount of rainfall, with Paducah receiving about one-half of normal; Jackson was the exception with much wetter than normal conditions. Rarity highlights included White-winged Dove, nesting Scissor-tailed Flycatchers in Daviess County, and nesting Brown Creepers in Wolfe County. Least Terns appeared to have a relatively successful nesting season, due primarily to the lack of high water events.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

Abbreviations – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ph.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vo.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the report was documented with voice recording; “+” next to an observer’s initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report; ad(s). = adult(s); juv(s). = juvenile(s); yg. = young. **Place names:** Adkins Swamp, Peabody WMA, Muhlenberg; Camp #9 = Camp #9 coal preparation plant, Union; Camp #11 = former Camp #11 mine, Union; Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson; Fishing Creek = Fishing Creek embayment, Lake Cumberland, Pulaski; Guthrie Swamp, Todd; Horseshoe Road = sloughs along Horseshoe Road, w. Henderson; Jacobson Park, Lexington, Fayette; Kuttawa = Lake Barkley near Old Kuttawa Recreation Area, Lyon; Ky Dam Village = Kentucky Dam Village SRP, Marshall; Melco = Melco flood retention basin, Jefferson; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan; nw. of Powderly = Muhlenberg County Rail Trail nw. of Powderly; Rock Bridge = Rock Bridge Trail, Daniel Boone National Forest, Wolfe; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson; SRP = State Resort Park; WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

- Mute Swan** – the family group at Adkins Swamp continued through the season (SG, TG et al.).
- Blue-winged Teal** – tardy males were observed nw. of Powderly 2 June (SG, TG); at Pumphouse Pond, Pulaski, 3 June (RD); and at Melco 14 June (EH).
- Gadwall** – an adult male was present on a pond in Whites Bottom, Cumberland 18 June (ph. RD).
- Northern Shoveler** – tardy males were seen at Sandy Watkins Park, Henderson, 4 June (CC) and at Melco from late May to 24 June (EH).
- Northern Pintail** – 1 at Camp #11 on 25 July (BP, EH) may have been an early migrant.
- Canvasback** – a female [perhaps injured?] was observed at the mouth of the Little Sandy River, Greenup, 12-26 July (†CT).
- Hooded Merganser** – a female or juv. on the Casey Creek embayment of Green River Lake, Adair, 12 June (RD) was unusual.
- Common Loon** – 1 was at Fishing Creek 15 July (RD).
- Pied-billed Grebe** – there were two reports: 1 at Brown Park, Louisville, 24 June

- (MBi, RF) and 1 at Sauerheber 15 July (CC).
- American White Pelican** – reports of interest included 2 at Horseshoe Road 9 June (ph. CC); 8 at Kuttawa 10 June (JS); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 17 June (ph. BWo); 1 at Lexington Reservoir #4 on 22 June (ph. EP); and 6 on Mitchell Lake, Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, on one occasion during the first week or two of July (SR).
- Least Bittern** – up to 8 (18 June) were seen/heard at Adkins Swamp during June and early July (SG, TG, JS).
- Great Egret** – reports of interest included 21 at Melco 9 June (CB, TB); 3 at Fishing Creek 16 July (RD); and at least 110 at Horseshoe Road 25 July (BP, EH, CC). An active nest was observed on Shippingport Island, Louisville, 20 June (BP et al.).
- Little Blue Heron** – 1 was at Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*, 6 June (ph. TN) with 3 there 27 June (ph. TN).
- Snowy Egret** – reports of interest included 1 at Melco to 19 June (EH) and 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 9-11 July (CB, TB, et al.).
- Cattle Egret** – reports of interest included 1 at Elk Run Golf Course, *Pike*, 4 June (LE *vide* JC); 1 on a farm pond along KY 169, *Jessamine*, 8 June (JS, CS); and 1 at Minor Clark 6 July (ph. JS).
- Black-crowned Night-Heron** – 25-30 active nests were counted on Shippingport Island, Louisville, 20 June (BP et al.).
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** – the only reports were from traditional breeding areas along Cypress Creek, *Marshall* (JS) and at the Highland Creek Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union* (CC), with 2 juvs. on a nest at the latter 27 June (CC).
- Osprey** – summer reports of birds away from known breeding territories continue to increase (eBird data), although there were no new nesting territories reported.
- Mississippi Kite** – 2 pairs apparently had nests at St. Matthews, *Jefferson*, this year as 2 juvs. were observed together during early August (MCo, ph. BWo, MY, et al.). Other reports of interest included 1 at Cherokee Park, Louisville, 15 June (MCo); 1-2 at Ryland Heights, *Kenton*, during the 3rd week of June (MBe, †EL, JL); 1 nw. of Powderly several times during the season (SG, TG); and 1-2 at the Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*, 8-25 June (SG, TG, VS).
- Northern Harrier** – 1 along I-64 ene. of Duckers, *Woodford*, 16 June (IH) was not near known breeding areas.
- Bald Eagle** – the upward trend in the number of occupied nesting territories continued with 131 territories, including 13 at new locales, documented during spring 2014 (Heyden 2014). Expansion of local populations was noted in several areas including along the Licking River, *Harrison/Pendleton*, and at Cave Run Lake, *Bath/Menifee/Morgan* (Heyden 2014). Notable new locales included along the Green River, *Casey*; at Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*; at Buckhorn Lake, *Perry*; and along the Kentucky River, *Woodford* (Heyden 2014).
- Virginia Rail** – 1 was heard at Adkins Swamp 18 June (JS, SG).
- Common Gallinule** – there was only one report: 1 at Minor Clark 6/8 June (BWu, VS).
- American Coot** – there were four reports of single birds as follows: at Pond Creek Marsh, Sauerheber 9 June (JM); at Adkins Swamp 13 June (SG, TG); at Mill Creek Lake, Tompkinsville, *Monroe*, 19 July (ph. RD); and at the Louisville Zoo 24 July (AH).
- Black-bellied Plover** – a presumed very tardy spring migrant was at the Falls of the Ohio 16 June (EH, DS, TB).
- Semipalmated Plover** – a tardy spring migrant was still at Sauerheber 1 June (RL) with 2 last seen at Melco 2 June (EH); 1 at Horseshoe Road 20 July (CC) was the earliest fall bird to be reported with individuals at a few locales by 24-27 July (eBird data).
- Killdeer** – 150 were at Horseshoe Road by 1 July (CC).

- Spotted Sandpiper** – 2 were seen on the Mississippi River downstream from Watson Point, *Fulton*, 5 June (JBr); there were three late June reports of probable early fall migrants: 1 at Horseshoe Road 22 June (CC); 1 at Melco 24 June (EH); and 1 at Guthrie Swamp, *Todd*, 28 June (FL).
- Greater Yellowlegs** – singles at Petros Pond 19 June (ph. JS) and at Horseshoe Road 22 June (ph. CC) were presumably very early fall migrants; 4 were at the latter locale by 28 July (CC).
- Lesser Yellowlegs** – a tardy bird lingered at Melco to 2 June (EH); 1 at Guthrie Swamp 9 July (FL) was the earliest returning fall migrant to be reported.
- Stilt Sandpiper** – 2 were at Horseshoe Road 15 July (ph. CC) with 1 there 28 July (CC); also reported was 1 at Minor Clark 26 July (MW *fide* BWu).
- Sanderling** – 1 was at the Falls of the Ohio 23 July (DS).
- Least Sandpiper** – 1 at Melco 24 June (EH) and 2 at Horseshoe Road 2 July (CC) were the earliest to be reported; 40-50 were at the latter locale by 25 July (CC, BP, EH).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** – 22 were still at Melco 2 June (EH); 4 at Horseshoe Road (CC, BP, EH) and at least 3 at Camp #9, both 25 July, were the earliest fall migrants to be reported.
- Baird's Sandpiper** – an ad. at Camp #9 on 25 July (ph. BP, ph. EH) was relatively early.
- Pectoral Sandpiper** – 1 at Horseshoe Road 9 July (CC) was the earliest fall migrant to be reported.
- Short-billed Dowitcher** – there were two reports: 1 at Horseshoe Road 9-25 July (ph. CC, BP) and 2 at Jacobson Park 20 July (SC).
- Long-billed Dowitcher** – 1 at Guthrie Swamp 9 July (ph. FL) was a very early returning fall migrant.
- Ring-billed Gull** – ca. 200 had returned to Ky Dam Village by 23 July (BP).
- Herring Gull** – a second-year bird was at the Falls of the Ohio 14 June & 15 July (ph. TB, CB) with a very early juv. there 29-31 July (ph. TB, CB, BP, DS).
- Least Tern** – 1 at Jacobson Park 7 July (†RO) was a local first and very far out of range for the time of year; 1 was on the Ohio River at Maceo, *Daviess*, 14 June (MY, BY); 2-3 were at Horseshoe Road 9-24 July (CC, RD, HC); and 6-7 ads. and 2 large chicks were at Camp #9 on 25 July (BP, EH) confirming breeding there for the first time in several years. On the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, nesting appeared to be relatively successful this year with 750-1000 active nests below Watson Point, *Fulton*, 250 active nests on the sandbar downstream from Middle Bar, *Hickman*, and 49 nests on the Ohio River upstream from Ledbetter, *Livingston*, during the season (CP, JBr). Nesting failures seemed to be relatively modest and were caused primarily by predation and rises in water level (CP, JBr).
- Caspian Tern** – 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 10 July (TB) was the earliest fall migrant reported.
- Black Tern** – 5 were on the Mississippi River downstream from Watson Point, *Fulton*, 12 June (JBr) with 3 at the same locale 9 July (JBr).
- Common Tern** – 3 were seen along the Mississippi River at the Middle Bar sandbar, *Hickman*, 4 June (†JBr).
- White-winged Dove** – 1 was at Murray, *Calloway*, 11-12 June (ph. ME). KBRC review required.
- Barn Owl** – there were two reports: 1 flushed from a barn along Pointer Creek Road, *Pulaski*, 13 July (RD) and 2 along Lampton Lane, *Adair*, 29 July (DC).
- Willow Flycatcher** – 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Christian*, 13 June (DM, SSo) was a local first.
- Least Flycatcher** – an *Empidonax* sp. at the Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 29 July (JBe, PB) was likely this species.
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** – a pair with an active nest was found along Greenbriar

Church Road se. of Utica, *Daviess*, 18 July (JH, ph. MBr, et al.) with the family group remaining in the area for a couple of weeks.

Bell's Vireo – reports of interest included up to 3 at Sandy Watkins Park, *Henderson*, during the season (CC); several on territory at scattered locales along KY 268 at and nw. of Sauerheber during the season (JM, CC, et al.); and 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 1 June (DM) with 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Christian*, 13 June (DM, SSo).

Purple Martin – by mid-July martin roosts were noted on National Weather Service radar at Glasgow, *Barren*; at Lexington, *Fayette*; at Hickman, *Fulton*; ne. of Warsaw, *Gallatin*; e. of Mortons Gap, *Hopkins*; at Covington, *Kenton*; at London, *Laurel*; at Morehead, *Rowan*; e. of Shelbyville, *Shelby*; and at Williamsburg, *Whitley* (BP). Ground checks of various roosts included the following: 4000 birds s. of Cannonsburg, *Boyd*, 25 July (SSw); ca 1000 at Morehead, *Rowan*, during the last week of July (FB *vide* SF); and ca. 10,000 at Williamsburg, *Whitley*, 30 July (BK).

Red-breasted Nuthatch – 2 were heard singing at Rock Bridge 1 June (BP) with singles seen/heard there a few more times during June (m. ob.).

Brown-headed Nuthatch – 1-2 birds were present at the Ky Dam Village nesting area during the season (m. ob.).

Brown Creeper – an active nest, the first documented for e. Kentucky, was found at Rock Bridge 5 June (ph. FR, ph. BP).

Sedge Wren – 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 28 July (BP) was the only one reported.

Swainson's Thrush – a tardy migrant lingered at Lexington to 2 June (MT).

Swainson's Warbler – 1 was heard s. of Greeley, *Lee*, 1 June (BP); otherwise the only reports were from traditionally known breeding areas (eBird data).

Bachman's Sparrow – the only report was for 1 at the traditional breeding area at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 4 June (DM).

Lark Sparrow – 1 was along West Franklin Road at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 24 June (CC) with 4 (including a juv.) along McDonald Landing Road, *Henderson*, 20 July (ph. CC) and at least 6 (including at least 1 juv.) there 25 July (BP, EH).

Savannah Sparrow – reports of interest included 2 (including a singing bird) along Butler Branch Road nne. of Columbia, *Adair*, 11 June (†RD); a singing bird at Valley Oak Cemetery, *Casey*, 30 June (vo. RD); 1 nw. of Powderly, *Muhlenberg*, 6 July (ph. SG, TG); and 1 heard along Hidden Lake Road e. of Glasgow, *Barren*, 29 July (†AX).

Henslow's Sparrow – reports of interest included 2 at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 1 June (DM) with 3 there 4 June (DM); 3 heard along Christine Road e. of Columbia, *Adair*, 9 June (RD) and 1 heard along Shirley Road nnw. of Columbia, *Adair*, 10 June (RD) that were local firsts, and 1 at Hisle Farm Park, *Fayette*, 17 July (TN).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak – an ad. male along Middle Creek Road, *Boone*, 7 June (KH, GF, et al.) may have been on territory or a tardy migrant.

Dickcissel – 3 were still on territory at the Eastpark Industrial Park, *Boyd/Greenup*, 7 June (CT) with 1 still there 13 July (CT).

Bobolink – territorial birds continued through the season at Camp Nelson Civil War Park, *Jessamine* (m. ob.); single males were noted at two different locales just w. of Midway, *Woodford*, 23-25 June (IH); 4 (possibly a family group) were at Hisle Farm Park, *Fayette*, 17 July (ph. TN) with 12 there 20 July (JS); a flock of 75 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 19 July (DL, ASK) must have contained multiple family groups from successful nesting nearby.

Brown-headed Cowbird – a fledgling was seen following an ad. Lark Sparrow along McDonald Landing Road, *Henderson*, 25 July (BP, EH) representing a first documented report of parasitism for the sparrow in Kentucky; a nestling in a Carolina Wren nest at Louisville fledged relatively late 27 July (BP).

Observers: Audubon Society of Kentucky (ASK), Colleen Becker (CB), Tom Becker (TB), Jane Bell (JBe), Pat Bell (PB), Mark Betcher (MBe), Melissa Bishop (MBi), Mike Brown (MBr), John Brunjes (JBr), Fred Busroe (FB), Mike Callan (MCA), Sam Carbo (SC), Joan Carr (JC), Hap Chambers (HC), Marge Constan (MCo), Derek Coomer (DC), Charlie Crawford (CC), Roseanna Denton (RD), Melissa Easley (ME), Les Estep (LE), Rand Falls (RF), Ginny Fantetti (GF), Scott Freidhof (SF), Steve Graham (SG), Teresa Graham (TG), Anna Hagood (AH), Ian Horn (IH), Janet Howard (JH), Eddie Huber (EH), Kathi Hutton (KH), Brett Kuss (BK), David Lang (DL), Richard Lee (RL), John Leon (JL), Evan Leon (EL), Frank Lyne (FL), John Meredig (JM), Daniel Moss (DM), multiple observers (m. ob.), Tina Nauman (TN), Ronan O'Carra (RO), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP), Eddie Pauley (EP), Constance Powell (CP), Scott Record (SR), Frank Renfrow (FR), Vicki Sandage (VS), Carol Sole (CS), Jeff Sole (JS), Scott Somershoe (SSo), Del Striegel (DS), Steve Sweeney (SSw), Charles Thompson (CT), Mark Tower (MT), Barbara Woerner (BWo), Mike Wright (MW), Brian Wulker (BWu), Antonio Xeira (AX), Ben Yandell (BY), Mary Yandell (MY).

Additional Source: Heyden, K. 2014. 2014 Bald Eagle Nesting Activity in Kentucky. Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Frankfort, KY. Aug 28, 2014. Unpub. rpt. —8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, KY, 40222 (brainard@mindspring.com) (Palmer-Ball) and P.O. Box 463, Burlington, KY, 41005 (lkmc9@aim.com) (McNeely).

15TH REPORT OF THE KENTUCKY BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Ben Yandell, KBRC Secretary-Chair

The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) maintains the official list of bird species documented as having occurred within the state. The committee reviews documentation of bird observations and takes formal votes to determine whether the documentation substantiates the natural occurrence of the species within state boundaries. Only rare, out-of-season, or out-of-area species require review by the KBRC. A list of species that require review ("Review List") can be found on p. 109 of this issue, and is also available online at <http://www.birdky.org/kentucky-birding-reports-and-archives.html>.

This report covers committee actions from April 2012 through November 2014. The last (14th) KBRC report was published two years ago (Yandell 2012). The principal effects of KBRC actions since the previous report are as follows: a) adds Western Tanager to the official Kentucky list and to the Review List; b) adds King Rail to the Review List; and c) deletes Red-throated Loon, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Rufous Hummingbird, Bachman's Sparrow, and Nelson's Sparrow from the Review List. The Kentucky state list now stands at 385 species, including extinct and extirpated species. Committee members [* = current member] participating in these actions were Hap Chambers, Roseanna Denton, Eddie Huber*, David Lang*, Mark Monroe*, Larry Peavler*, and Ben Yandell (Secretary-Chair)*.

The list below comprises 128 approved records. Ten reports are pending initial committee action, and 12 reports are pending a second round of voting. Each report listed below is displayed in the following sequence: *Scientific Name*. **English Name (# if >1)** [KBRC report #]; Date(s) present; Location, *County name* [Observer(s) († = written documentation; ph = photograph; vo = voice recording)]. Species nomenclature and order follow the American Ornithologists' Union (1998) and subsequent supplements through the 55th (AOU 2014).

Accepted Reports:

Dendrocygna autumnalis. **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (10)** [#2011.010] 14-16 May 2011; sw. of Rumsey, *McLean* [MGa (ph), m. ob.]

- Dendrocygna autumnalis*. **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (2)** [#2012.014] 23 Jun–20 July 2012; Elizabethtown, *Hardin* [TS (ph), m. ob.]
- Dendrocygna autumnalis*. **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (4)** [#2013.033] circa 15 July–7 Aug 2013; n. of Mosely Pond, *Logan* [FL (ph), m. ob.]
- Dendrocygna autumnalis*. **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (2)** [#2013.036] 21-25 May & Sep 2013; Frogue Lake, *Todd* [JoB (†)]
- Anas cyanoptera*. **Cinnamon Teal** [#2013.010] 28 Mar–7 Apr 2013; Ironworks Pike n. of Lexington, *Fayette* [JSo (ph), CS, m. ob.]
- Anas cyanoptera*. **Cinnamon Teal** [#2014.006] 12-15 Feb 2014; McElroy Lake, *Warren* [TD (†), BF (ph)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2011.028] 24 Nov 2011; Holmes Bend, Green River Lake, *Adair* [DC (†)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2012.039] 17 Nov 2012; Green River Lake, *Adair* [BP, EH (ph), RD]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2013.011] 31 Mar 2013; Cave Run Lake, *Bath/Rowan* [BW (†)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2013.019] 8 Feb 2013; Freeman Lake, *Hardin* [RH, BP (ph), EH, HC]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2013.044] 12-13 Nov 2013; Green River Lake, *Adair* [RD (ph), JSo]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2014.014] 7 Mar 2014; Lexington Reservoir #3, *Fayette* [RO (ph)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2014.015] 10 Mar 2014; Lexington Reservoir #2, *Fayette* [JL (ph)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2014.016] 28 Mar 2014; Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren* [JaB (†), MB]
- Gavia pacifica*. **Pacific Loon** [#2011.006] 2 Apr 2011; Vickers Bay, Kentucky Lake, *Lyon* [HC (†), AN, TT]
- Podiceps grisegena*. **Red-necked Grebe** [#2010.045] 27 Nov–5 Dec 2010; Jacobson Park, *Fayette* [JP (ph), EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Aechmophorus occidentalis*. **Western Grebe** [#2013.008] 15 Mar–12 Apr 2013; Ohio River at Louisville, *Jefferson* [EH (ph), m.ob.]
- Aechmophorus occidentalis*. **Western Grebe** [#2013.014] 18 Apr 2013; Kentucky Lake above Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall* [BP (†), EH]
- Mycteria americana*. **Wood Stork (4)** [#2012.016] 23-24 July 2012; Flat Lake Swamp, Boatwright WMA, *Ballard* [RCo, GB (ph), KK]
- Mycteria americana*. **Wood Stork** [#2012.017] 30 July–23 Aug 2012; Anchorage, *Jefferson* [J&PB (ph), m. ob.]
- Phalacrocorax brasilianus*. **Neotropic Cormorant (up to 4)** [#2011.015] 19 June–30 July 2011; Lake No. 9, *Fulton* [JW (ph), MY (ph), BY (ph), m. ob.]
- Phalacrocorax brasilianus*. **Neotropic Cormorant** [#2013.006] 2 Mar 2013; Kuttawa, *Lyon* [BP (†), EH (ph), MA, BW]
- Phalacrocorax brasilianus*. **Neotropic Cormorant** [#2013.031] 25 Jun 2013; Lake No. 9, *Fulton* [BP (†/ph), EH (ph)]
- Anhinga anhinga*. **Anhinga (2)** [#2011.021] 23 Sep 2011; Swan Lake vicinity, *Ballard* [MMo, EH, BP (†)]
- Anhinga anhinga*. **Anhinga** [#2013.023] 10 May 2013; Mayfield Creek se. of Blandville, *Ballard/Carlisle* [JSo (†), AR (ph)]
- Anhinga anhinga*. **Anhinga** [#2013.024] 11-13 May 2013; Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg* [EH (ph), (BP (ph))]
- Ardea herodias*. **Great Blue Heron (white morph)** [#2012.021] 29 Aug–22 Sept 2012; Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson* [TB, BP (†/ph), m. ob.]
- Ardea herodias*. **Great Blue Heron (white morph)** [#2013.040] 23 Oct 2013; Freeman Lake, *Hardin* [BP (†/ph)]
- Egretta tricolor*. **Tricolored Heron** [#2011.017] 22 Jul 2011; Fishing Creek embayment, Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski* [RD (ph)]
- Egretta tricolor*. **Tricolored Heron** [#2012.018] 4 Aug 2012; Honker Lake, LBL, *Trigg/Lyon* [BP (ph), MMo, N&RP]
- Egretta tricolor*. **Tricolored Heron** [#2012.019] 11-13 Aug 2012; Mitchell Lake, *Ballard* [RCr (ph), SR]

- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis** [#2010.015] 10-11 May 2010; along Clear Creek n. of Rabbit Ridge, Hopkins [AK, TJ (ph)]
- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis** [#2010.039] 5-9 Oct 2010; Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan [MW LHy (ph), SBo (ph)]
- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis** [#2012.022] 31 Aug 2012; former Camp #11 Mine, Union [BP (ph)]
- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis** [#2013.016] 28 Apr 2013; Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan [BW (ph), DL (ph), MY (ph), m. ob.]
- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis (1-2)** [#2013.026] 18-24 May 2013; Long Creek Refuge, LBL, Trigg [MCu (ph), m. ob.]
- Plegadis chihi*. **White-faced Ibis (2)** [#2011.012] 17 May 2011; w. of Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson [JM (†)]
- Plegadis chihi*. **White-faced Ibis** [#2011.014] 26-27 May 2011; McElroy Lake, Warren [TD (†)]
- Plegadis chihi*. **White-faced Ibis** [#2013.029] 24 May 2013; Long Creek, LBL, Trigg [MCu (ph)]
- Platalea ajaja*. **Roseate Spoonbill** [#2013.037] 4-13 Sep 2013; Guist Creek Lake, Shelby [ToC, TeC (ph), m. ob.]
- Platalea ajaja*. **Roseate Spoonbill** [#2014.022] 3-12 Aug 2014; LBL, Long Creek Refuge, Trigg [MMo (ph), BP (ph), m. ob.]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite** [#2011.016] 15 Aug 2011; Puncheon Creek s. of Mt. Zion, Allen [MB (†), JaB (†), m. ob.]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite** [#2012.007] 22-23 Apr 2012; nr. Rockfield, Warren [MMe (ph)]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite** [#2012.010] 5 May 2012; Hancock Biological Station, Calloway [SW (†), DSt (ph), LP]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite (2)** [#2012.020] 13-19 Aug 2012; Belleview Bottoms, Boone [SO, LO, AC (ph), m. ob.]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite** [#2013.034] 12 Aug 2013; se of Mt. Zion, Allen [MB (†), m. ob.]
- Buteo swainsoni*. **Swainson's Hawk** [#2011.009] 5 May 2011; Natural Arch Scenic Area, Daniel Boone National Forest, McCreary [RD (†)]
- Coturnicops noveboracensis*. **Yellow Rail** [#2010.042] 19 Oct 2010; Surrey Hills Farm, Jefferson [BP (†), WG]
- Coturnicops noveboracensis*. **Yellow Rail** [#2011.005] 29 Mar 2011; Surrey Hills Farm, Jefferson [BP (ph), m. ob.]
- Porphyrio martinicus*. **Purple Gallinule** [#2012.015] 5-16 July 2012; nr. Sharkey, Rowan [MW, JSo, CS (ph)]
- Porphyrio martinicus*. **Purple Gallinule** [#2014.018] 10-13 May 2014; s. of Mt. Zion, Allen [MB (†), JaB, MkB, MrB]
- Numenius phaeopus*. **Whimbrel (2)** [#2012.012] 11 May 2012; Kentucky Lake at Hamlin, Calloway [HC (ph), ME]
- Numenius phaeopus*. **Whimbrel** [#2013.027] 19 May 2013; Ky. Bend, Fulton [BP (ph), EH (ph)]
- Numenius phaeopus*. **Whimbrel** [#2013.028] 22 May 2013; McElroy Lake, Warren [EH (ph), BP (ph)]
- Numenius phaeopus*. **Whimbrel** [#2013.032] 21-25 July 2013; Upper Hickman Bottoms, Fulton [BP (ph), EH]
- Limosa fedoa*. **Marbled Godwit** [#2010.038] 25 Sep 2010; Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson [DC (†)]
- Limosa haemastica*. **Hudsonian Godwit** [#2014.023] 30 Aug 2014; former Camp #11 Mine, Union [BP (ph), MY (ph), BY (ph), m. ob.]
- Limosa haemastica*. **Hudsonian Godwit** [#2014.027] 11 Sep 2014; Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan [MW (ph)]
- Phalaropus lobatus*. **Red-necked Phalarope** [#2010.035] 12 Sept 2010; Blood River embayment, Kentucky Lake, Calloway [HC (ph)]
- Phalaropus lobatus*. **Red-necked Phalarope** [#2010.037] 24-25 Sept 2010; former Camp #11 Mine, Union [BP (ph), m. ob.]
- Phalaropus fulicarius*. **Red Phalarope (2)** [#2013.022] 8 May 2013; Melco, Jefferson [J&PB, CBs, RL, EH (ph), BP (ph), m. ob.]
- Phalaropus fulicarius*. **Red Phalarope** [#2013.041] 25 Oct 2013; Mississippi River at Campbell Dikes, Carlisle [BP (†/ph)]
- Stercorarius pomarinus*. **Pomarine Jaeger** [#2014.007] 14-22 Feb 2014; Green River Lake, Taylor [RD (†/ph), m. ob.]

- Stercorarius longicaudus*. **Long-tailed Jaeger** [#2012.023] 2 Sep 2012; Kentucky Lake above Kentucky Dam, *Livingston* [MMo, EH (ph), BP, m. ob.]
- Rissa tridactyla*. **Black-legged Kittiwake** [#2010.043] 4 Nov 2010; Kentucky Lake above Kentucky Dam, *Marshall* [BP (†), EH]
- Rissa tridactyla*. **Black-legged Kittiwake** [#2012.031] 7 Nov 2012; Waitsboro Rec. Area, Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski* [RD (ph)]
- Rissa tridactyla*. **Black-legged Kittiwake** [#2012.035] 11-13 Nov 2012; Ohio River at Louisville, *Jefferson* [MA, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Xema sabini*. **Sabine's Gull** [#2012.024] 21 Sep 2012; Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren* [AH (†), m.ob.]
- Xema sabini*. **Sabine's Gull** [#2013.039] 18-19 Sep 2013; Kentucky Lake, *Marshall* [BP, EH (ph)]
- Xema sabini*. **Sabine's Gull** [#2014.025] 20 Sep 2014; Kentucky Lake, *Marshall* [BP (†), m. ob.]
- Hydrocoloeus minutus*. **Little Gull** [#2012.046] 5 Dec 2012; Blood River embayment, Kentucky Lake, *Calloway* [HC (†)]
- Larus californicus*. **California Gull** [#2013.005] 1-7 Mar 2013; Lake Barkley, *Lyon* [EH (ph), BP (†/ph), BW, MA]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2011.003] 27 Mar 2011; Ohio River, Louisville, *Jefferson* [EH (†/ph), m. ob.]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2011.004] 27-31 Mar 2011; McElroy Lake, *Warren* [TD, BP (ph), EH]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2012.002] 5 Mar 2012; Jacobson Park, *Fayette* [SH (ph), HJ, FH (ph), m. ob.]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2013.018] 25-27 Jan 2013; Meldahl Dam, *Bracken* [BH, BW(†), GW, DW]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2013.043] 3-5 Nov 2013; Green River Lake, *Adair* [BP (†), EH, RD (ph)]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.008] 14 Feb 2014; Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson* [BP (†), m.ob.]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.010] 15-16 Feb 2014; Green River Lake, *Taylor* [BP (†/ph), MA, m. ob.]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.011] 16 Feb 2014; Meldahl Dam, *Bracken* [EB (ph)]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.013] 5-7 Mar 2014; Ohio River at Craig's Creek, *Gallatin* [BP (ph), EH]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.024] 11-13 Sept 2014; Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan* [RD (†/ph), BW (ph)]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2010.030] 26 Feb 2010; Kentucky Dam, *Marshall* [BP (†), HC, EH]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2010.031] 25 Mar 2010; Green Turtle Bay Marina, Lake Barkley, *Lyon* [MMo, EH, BP (ph)]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2010.047] 19 Dec 2010–11 Feb 2011; Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall* [BP (†), EH (ph), m. o.b]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2011.029] 13 Feb 2011; Markland Dam, *Gallatin* [JkS (†/ph), JyS, MGi]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2014.004] 2 Feb 2014; Ohio River at the mouth of the Licking River, *Campbell/Kenton* [EB (ph)]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull (2)** [#2014.009] 14-16 Feb 2014; Meldahl Dam, *Bracken* [JF (ph), SFr, SFi, TCz]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2011.013] 22 May 2011; Panorama Shores, *Calloway* [KC (†), MCo]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2012.004] 2-6 Apr 2012; s. of Sharkey, *Rowan* [MW (†), EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2012.011] 6 May 2012; Lexington, *Fayette* [C> (ph)]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2013.025] 12 May 2013; Henderson, *Henderson* [CC (ph), m.ob.]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2014.020] 11-12 Jun 2014; Murray, *Calloway* [ME (†/ph)]
- Bubo scandiacus*. **Snowy Owl** [#2012.033] 10-15 Nov 2012; Louisville, *Jefferson* [EM, JC, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Bubo scandiacus*. **Snowy Owl** [#2013.045] 26 Nov–3 Dec 2013; Louisville International Airport, *Jefferson* [SBu, KT (ph), m. ob.]

- Bubo scandiacus*. **Snowy Owl** [#2013.048] 24–27 Dec 2013; I-265, ne. *Jefferson* [LY (ph), RROKI (ph)]
- Falco mexicanus*. **Prairie Falcon** [#2013.046] 11 Dec 2013–11 Jan 2014; Elk Creek Bottoms, *Hopkins* [BP (†/ph), m. ob.]
- Sayornis saya*. **Say's Phoebe** [#2013.001] 4 Jan–7 Mar 2013; ne. of Almo, *Calloway* [MSc, AY, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike** [#2012.047] 17 Dec 2012–14 Jan 2013; nr. Helm's Junction, *Russell* [RD (†/ph), SD]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike (juv.)** [#2012.051] 30 Dec 2012–27 Jan 2013; Ken Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio* [MS, EH (ph), BY (ph), m. ob.]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike (ad.)** [#2013.003] 16 Feb 2013; Ken Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio* [AF (ph)]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike** [#2013.007] 19 Jan–8 Mar 2013; Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA *Muhlenberg* [BY (ph), DL (ph), m. ob.]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike** [#2013.009] 23 Mar 2013; former Gibraltar Mine, *Muhlenberg* [BP (†/ph), DL (ph), m. ob.]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike** [#2013.042] 2 Nov 2013; former Camp #11 Mine, *Union* [AB, EH (ph), BP]
- Sitta pusilla*. **Brown-headed Nuthatch (up to 4)** [#2013.002] 18 Jan 2013+; Kentucky Dam Village SRP, *Marshall* [BP, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Ixoreus naevius*. **Varied Thrush** [#2011.002] 4 Feb–14 Mar 2011; nw of Sharpe, *Marshall* [LHe (ph), m. ob.]
- Pipilo maculatus*. **Spotted Towhee** [#2012.048] 18 Dec 2012–30 Jan 2013; West Kentucky WMA, *McCracken* [EH, BP (ph), RCr (ph), m. ob.]
- Spizella pallida*. **Clay-colored Sparrow** [#2011.011] 8 May 2011; Shippingport Island, Louisville, *Jefferson* [KB (ph)]
- Ammodramus nelsoni*. **Nelson's Sparrow** [#2012.026] 6 Oct 2012; Cedar Creek Industrial Park, *Bullitt* [MA (ph), m. ob.]
- Zonotrichia querula*. **Harris's Sparrow** [#2011.030] 19 Dec 2011–23 Feb 2012; just e. of Blue Spring, *Trigg* [CH (ph), m. ob.]
- Piranga ludoviciana*. **Western Tanager** [#2013.015] 27–29 Mar 2013; s. of Lawrenceburg, *Anderson* [BS (ph)]
- Piranga ludoviciana*. **Western Tanager** [#2013.017] 29 Apr 2013; Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette* [TN (ph), DL (ph)]
- Passerina ciris*. **Painted Bunting** [#2012.008] 26 Apr 2012; Crestwood, *Oldham* [TF, NG (ph)]
- Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** [#2013.021] 30 Apr 2013; Elbow Slough Road, *Fulton* [BM (ph), BL]
- Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** [#2013.047] 20 Dec 2013; KY 862, nw. of Elk Creek Bottoms, *Hopkins* [BP (†), EH]
- Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** [#2014.026] 25 Sep 2014; nr. Bagdad, *Shelby* [RHi (†)]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill** [#2012.040] 17 Nov 2012; Red River Gorge, *Powell* [JF (†)]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill (up to 12)** [#2012.041] 22 Nov 2012–24 Mar 2013; Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette* [MT, EH (ph), RD (vo), m. ob.]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill (up to 26)** [#2012.043] 24 Nov 2012–20 Mar 2013; Cave Hill Cemetery, *Jefferson* [RL, BP (vo/ph), m. ob.]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill** [#2012.052] 11 Dec 2012; Pulaski County Park [RD (†/ph/vo)]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill** [#2013.030] 16 Jun 2013; Dan Dunn River Road, *Larue* [BP (†)]
- Loxia leucoptera*. **White-winged Crossbill (up to ca. 40)** [#2012.042] 22 Nov 2012–26 Mar 2013; Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette* [DSv, DL (ph), m. ob.]
- Loxia leucoptera*. **White-winged Crossbill** [#2012.044] 24 Nov–1 Dec 2012; Cave Hill Cemetery, *Jefferson* [RL, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Acanthis flammea*. **Common Redpoll** [#2012.001] 12 Feb 2012; Independence, *Kenton* [RCr (ph)]
- Acanthis flammea*. **Common Redpoll** [#2012.036] 11 Nov 2012; n. of Berry, *Pendleton* [LHg (ph)]
- Coccothraustes vespertinus*. **Evening Grosbeak** [#2012.034] 10 Nov 2012; Ashland, *Boyd* [VS (ph)]
- Coccothraustes vespertinus*. **Evening Grosbeak (6)** [#2012.049] 18 Dec 2012; Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson* [BF (ph), m. ob.]
- Coccothraustes vespertinus*. **Evening Grosbeak (up to 15)** [#2012.050] circa 26 Dec 2012–26 Apr 2013; Woodsbend, *Morgan* [B&BA (†), EH (ph)]

Observers: Brenda & Bud Angus (B&BA), Michael Autin (MA), Alan Barron (AB), Jamin Beachy (JaB), John Beachy (JoB), Makaya Beachy (MkB), Marena Beachy (MrB), Matthan Beachy (MB), Tom Becker (TB), Jane & Pat Bell (J&PB), Carol Besse (CBs), Steve Bonney (SBo), Karen Bonsell (KB), Eric Burkholder (EB), Gerald Burnett (GB), Sean Burns (SBu), Joel Ray Campbell (JC), Hap Chambers (HC), Allan Claybon (AC), Kathy Cohen (KC), Michael Cohen (MCo), Robert Colvis (RCo), Derek Coomer (DC), Charles Crawford (CC), Rodney Crice (RCr), Ted Critchfield (TeC), Tom Critchfield (ToC), Melodie Cunningham (MCu), Thomas Czubek (TCz), Roseanna Denton (RD), Steve Denton (SD), Tom Durbin (TD), Melissa Easley (ME), Blaine Ferrell (BF), Alex Fish (AF), Sam Fitton (SFi), Jonathan Frodge (JF), Samantha Frodge (SFr), Teresa Fultz (TF), Melissa Gaitner (MGa), Mark Gilsdorf (MGi), Steve Graham (SG), Teresa Graham (TG), Nick Gregory (NG), Wallace Gullett (WG), Laura Haggarty (LHg), Curtis Hart (CH), Stratton Hatfield (SH), Lana Hays (LHy), Richard Healy (RH), Larry Heavrin (LHe), Rick Hill (RHi), Eddie Huber (EH), Frank Huggins (FH), Bill Hull (BH), Aaron Hulsey (AH), Tim Johnson (TJ), Heather Jordan (HJ), Kory Knight (KK), Amy Krzton-Presson (AK), Rob Lane (RL), David Lang (DL), Bill Lisowsky (BL), Judy Lundquist (JL), Frank Lyne (FL), Mark Meador (MMe), John Meredig (JM), Ellen Mershon (EM), Bobby Metz (BM), Mark Monroe (MMo), multiple observers (m. ob.), Tina Nauman (TN), Jacob Neace (JN), Susan Neace (SN), Anne Newberry (AN), Ronan O'Carra (RO), Linda Osterhage (LO), Susan Osterhage (SO), Brainard Palmer-Ball (BP), Nicole & Richard Pollitt (N&RP), Leslie Potts (LP), Joe Pulliam (JP), Andy Radomski (AR), Raptor Rehabilitation of Kentucky, Inc. (RROKI), Scott Record (SR), Vicki Sandage (VS), Mary Schmidt (MSc), Tony Smith (TS), Bob Snow (BS), Carol Sole (CS), Jeff Sole (JSO), Jack Stenger (JkS), Jay Stenger (JyS), Daniel Stephens (DSt), Matt Stickel (MS), David Svetich (DSv), Teresa Thomas (TT), Mark Tower (MT), Charles & Gretchen Tremoulet (C>), Kevin Turner (KT), Steve White (SW), Jeff Wilson (JW), Mike Wright (MW), Brian Wulker (BW), Dave Wulker (DW), Gale Wulker (GW), Ben Yandell (BY), Mary Yandell (MY), Aviva Yasgur (AY), Lauren Young (LY).

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- 513 Lymington Ct., Louisville, KY, 40243; (secy@kybirdrecords.org)

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL 2014 MEETING

Lake Barkley State Resort Park, Cadiz, Kentucky
September 19-21, 2014

Blaine Ferrell, Recording Secretary

The fall 2014 meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society at Lake Barkley State Resort Park began with a Friday afternoon field trip for early arrivals led by Jane and Pat Bell. Registration for the meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. Vice-President Pat Bell convened the Friday evening meeting at 7:03 p.m. and welcomed new members. Linda Craiger is spearheading a membership drive to increase KOS membership. She handed out Society brochures and free copies of the *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky* to non-members

who were in attendance. Carol Besse reported on the recently created Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship and the two young birders who attended the American Birding Association camp in Delaware on Kingsolver scholarships this past summer.

Tanner Shepard, one of the two Kingsolver Fund grant recipients, opened the evening's program by providing a report on his experience at Camp Avocet. He participated in field trips to Prime Hook and Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuges, and took a ferry trip to Cape May, New Jersey. Camp participants also attended daily talks and seminars about birding. Tanner added 55 birds to his life list during his stay at the camp. Pat then introduced Steve Kistler who conducted a bird quiz. He showed small portions of each bird and asked the audience to identify it. Steve then led the group through an eBird primer and encouraged members to submit sightings to this citizen science birding portal. Individuals can use the site to submit and track their own observations and to explore data submitted by other birders across the world. Data can be sorted by geographic region or by species. A new feature shows seasonal occurrence bar-graphs by location, helping birders know what to expect at each time of year for each geographic area. In order for eBird to reach its full potential of providing historically accurate data, birders will need to submit their observations regularly. Steve encouraged everyone to do so.

Pat Bell then introduced the main speaker for the evening, Bob Peak, who gave a presentation titled *Bluebirds Over Western Kentucky*. Bob and his wife, Judy, have studied Eastern Bluebirds for over 25 years and are members of the North American Bluebird Society, Friends of LBL, and Friends of Audubon. They started bluebird trails, series of nest boxes along specific routes, at Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area (170 nest boxes) and Lake Barkley State Resort Park (60 nest boxes) in 1990. The Peaks also added a bluebird trail at John James Audubon State Park (20 boxes) in 2005 and a Prothonotary Warbler trail (12 boxes) there in 2010. Bob and Judy check the boxes once a month from March through August. They documented their 30,000th bluebird fledgling during 2014, highlighting the impact that just a couple of dedicated people can have on songbird conservation. Bob thanked Arlene Ripley for many of the photographs he used in his presentation. Pat Bell thanked Bob for his talk and thanked Bob and Judy for their longstanding work to preserve bluebirds in western Kentucky.

Pat Bell then went over proper etiquette for bird walks including turning off cell phones, staying with the leader, and taking a quick look in telescopes so others can get a chance to see the bird. She warned everyone to watch for chiggers, use sunscreen, and take plenty of water. Details for six different field trips for Saturday were announced. The Friday evening meeting concluded at 8:33 p.m. and was followed by a social hour.

On Saturday morning, four field trips departed the Park lodge at 8:00 a.m. Jeff Sole led a trip to Long Creek Refuge in LBL, Rob Lane led a field trip to the LBL Nature Station, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., led a trip to Jonathan Creek, and Steve Kistler led a trip for beginners in the Park. After lunch Dr. Wayne Chester led a plant identification field trip to Hematite Lake and Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., led a birding trip to overlooks at the northern ends of Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley.

Society President Steve Kistler convened the Saturday evening meeting at 7:05 p.m. Blaine Ferrell tallied the list of birds seen on the Friday and Saturday field trips. The annual business meeting followed. Steve Kistler announced the slate of officers submitted by the Nominating Committee, and it passed unanimously. All Executive Board Members (President Steve Kistler, Vice-President Pat Bell, Treasurer Lee McNeely, Recording Secretary Blaine Ferrell, and Corresponding Secretary Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.) were elected to renewing terms. Rob Lane and Teresa Graham were elected as incoming Councillors. Steve thanked outgoing Councillors Linda Craiger and Wendell Kingsolver for their service. The business meeting was then adjourned.

Steve Kistler introduced the featured speaker, Tim Gallagher, of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. He presented *Imperial Dreams: Tracking the Imperial Woodpecker*

through the Wild Sierra Madre. While working at the Cornell Lab, Tim spent many years looking for Ivory-billed Woodpeckers and interviewing people who reported seeing them during the 1950s. After hearing of a credible sighting in the swamps of Arkansas in 2004, Tim and his friend Bobby Harrison spent a week floating in the Cache River NWR trying to locate an Ivory-bill. Tim went on to describe the Lab's efforts to find an Ivory-billed Woodpecker in Arkansas and the surrounding states in 2005. Then Tim moved on to describe how he and Bobby embarked on a quest to find the Imperial Woodpecker in Mexico. The Imperial Woodpecker is the largest known species of woodpecker. It required a very specific habitat that was found only in the high country of Mexico's Sierra Madre Mountains. In addition to describing his search for any remaining woodpeckers, Tim told of many famous people who have lived in the region and how drug gangs have made it extremely dangerous to travel there. The last documented sighting of Imperial Woodpeckers was in 1956 and is documented by photographs by William Rhein. Tim suspects there may still be a few of the birds left, however due to the multiple threats to their habitat, he doesn't believe the species can be saved.

Following several questions, President Kistler wrapped up the meeting with a few items of business. Carol Besse asked for members to help find teenage birders to apply for the 2015 Kingsolver Scholarship. Details of Sunday morning field trips were announced. The spring 2015 meeting of the Society will be held at Cumberland Falls State Resort Park. Steve thanked Pat Bell for organizing the current meeting. The Saturday evening meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. On Sunday morning, Hap Chambers led a field trip to Jonathan Creek, Lee McNeely led a field trip to Hematite Lake, and David Lang led a field trip around the Lake Barkley lodge. Sunday field trips added several species to the weekend list.

Attendance at the Fall 2014 K.O.S. Meeting

Ashland:	Vicki Sandage
Bagdad:	Horace Brown
Benton:	Josh Powell
Berea:	Rebecca Bates, Rob Foster
Bowling Green:	Valerie Brown, Blaine Ferrell, Marilyn Mattingly
Burlington:	Lee McNeely
Carlisle:	Eva Lee & Wendell Kingsolver
Central City:	Kelvin & Vivian Clark
Frankfort:	Kay Harker, Carol & Jeff Sole
Glasgow:	Linda Craiger, David & Sandra Moss
Georgetown:	David Lang
Greenville:	Steve & Teresa Graham
Lawrenceburg:	Terry Anderson
Lexington:	Rhonda Bryant, Scott Marsh, Marie Sutton, Gail & Joe Swanson, Jim Williams, Antonio Xeira
Louisville:	Tom Ackerson, Jane & Pat Bell, Carol Besse, Rob Lane, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Pam Spaulding, Ben & Mary Yandell
Morehead:	Fred & Katie Busroe, Brian Reeder
Mount Sterling:	Gerald Robe
Munfordville:	Janet & Steve Kistler
Murray:	Hap Chambers, Melissa Easley
Owensboro:	Marilee & Wendell Thompson
Prospect:	Win Ahrens
Science Hill:	Roseanna Denton
Waddy:	Tanner Shepard
Cincinnati, OH:	Brian Wolker

**Birds Observed at the Fall 2014 K.O.S. Meeting
Lake Barkley State Resort Park, Land Between the Lakes, and vicinity**

The following species were observed during the weekend of 19-21 September 2014: Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Gadwall, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Wild Turkey, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, American White Pelican, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Sanderling, Least Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, Franklin's Gull, Laughing Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Sabine's Gull, Black Tern, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Screech-Owl, Barred Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, American Kestrel, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Eastern Bluebird, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Golden-winged Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Hooded Warbler, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Pine Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch, and House Sparrow.

FIELD NOTE

**Brown Creepers Nesting in Wolfe County:
A First Record for Kentucky's Cumberland Plateau**

Introduction

The Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) breeds primarily, but not exclusively, in coniferous forests throughout much of North America. This range extends as far north as southeastern Alaska and as far south as Nicaragua (Hejl et al. 2002). There have been several documented records of nesting Brown Creepers from wetland sites in western Kentucky (Palmer-Ball 1996) and western Tennessee (Nicholson 1997). In addition, there is a summer record, 20-21 July 1999, from Bullitt County in central Kentucky (Palmer-Ball 2003) and a few reports from the Cumberland Plateau and Cumberland Mountains of the eastern portion of the state (see below).

Within the Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia, the Brown Creeper breeds commonly in high elevation spruce-fir forests and is also known to breed more sparingly in mixed white pine-hemlock-deciduous forest at lower elevations (Holt 1974). Breeding range expansion of the Brown Creeper into lower elevation areas of the Blue Ridge in Georgia and South Carolina has also been recently documented (Renfrow and Blankenship 2008). North of the Ohio River in Ohio, the Cumberland Plateau transitions into the Allegheny Plateau; this area has yielded a few breeding-season records of Brown Creepers in mixed hemlock-deciduous forests as far south as Hocking County (Renfrow 2002).

The occurrence of the Brown Creeper in eastern Kentucky during summer was first reported on Black Mountain, Harlan County, 5-6 July 1944 (Breiding 1947). However, this

record was later considered possibly erroneous due to the lack of any other observations of the species during field studies conducted by other observers on the mountain during that period (Mengel 1965). There is also the distinct possibility that these were post-breeding migrants from Virginia, where this species is known to breed at higher elevations in at least seven counties, with a record of young found in the nest for 3 June (Kain 1987). A late summer report from Cumberland Falls State Resort Park, Whitley County, 20 August 1972, likely represented a post-breeding disperser (Kleen and Bush 1973). Thus, the discovery of a Brown Creeper nest in Wolfe County during 2014 represents a first confirmed breeding record for the Cumberland Plateau in Kentucky.

Initial Reports of Brown Creepers at Rock Bridge During the Breeding Season

On 9 June 1999 I heard the song of a Brown Creeper coming from the far side of Swift Camp Creek from the trail at the Rock Bridge natural arch formation in the Clifty Wilderness Area of the Red River Gorge, Daniel Boone National Forest, Wolfe County (Palmer-Ball 2003). More recently, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and others observed a Brown Creeper singing in relatively open mid-story of old growth White pines (*Pinus strobus*) at different points along the Rock Bridge Trail 7 and 8 May 2012. Two years later, Palmer-Ball and others observed a Brown Creeper carrying food near the Rock Bridge and Swift Camp Creek trail junction 8 May 2014. Palmer-Ball and others returned the next day and again found a Brown Creeper, this time a little farther northwest along the Swift Camp Creek Trail.

A First Brown Creeper Nest for the Cumberland Plateau

On 5 June 2014 I arrived at the Rock Bridge Trail at mid-day, principally in search of Red-breasted Nuthatches (*Sitta canadensis*), but with the recent sightings of Brown Creepers in mind. I sat down for a rest break on a log not far from Rock Bridge, itself, and played an audio clip of a calling Brown Creeper. Very soon afterwards a creeper appeared on the trunk of a large White pine directly in front of me. I followed the bird as it continued to feed from tree to tree while also calling and occasionally singing its distinctive tinkling song. After about 15 minutes, the creeper came to rest for a considerable period on the moss-and-lichen-covered trunk of a small Red maple (*Acer rubrum*) (Fig. 1, p. 112), very close to or possibly even the same tree in which I had previously found the first record of an active Red-breasted Nuthatch nest for Kentucky (Renfrow 1999). There was a hollow area in the trunk of the maple where the creeper disappeared, and I first thought this might be where it was nesting. Upon continued observation, however, I noticed two creepers (possibly a pair) repeatedly vocalizing and returning to an area about 60 ft (18.5 m) away near a large double-trunked White pine (Fig. 2, next page). One of the trunks was dead, and on that one some loose bark still adhered. I soon noticed a mass of pine needles, twigs, and leaf matter protruding from behind the lower end of a loose slab of bark about 20 ft (6 m) above the ground (Fig. 3, p. 112). As this is a typical creeper nest feature, I was thoroughly convinced that this was, indeed, the nest site. I settled down to watch the nest as the daylight began to wane. After about an hour had passed, I saw a creeper slip in several times from around the back and go under the loose bark. Unfortunately, it disappeared so quickly that I could not obtain a photograph.

That night I contacted Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and he was able to meet me at mid-morning the following day. Shortly after he arrived, we both observed a creeper come to the nest several times with either food or nesting material in its bill. We also both heard a second creeper calling occasionally nearby. Light conditions were poor, but Palmer-Ball was able to get a documenting photo of the Brown Creeper going to the nest (Fig. 3, p. 112). Palmer-Ball then went on to search the area where he had found the creepers the previous month. I continued to watch the nest for quite a while, but the creeper only returned a few more times and always approached the nest in a very stealthy manner. During much of the time that I was observing the creeper nest, several Red-breasted

Nuthatches could be heard calling nearby. In fact it was near the top of this very same large White pine tree that I observed a Red-breasted Nuthatch at a nest hole 22 May 2003 (Palmer-Ball and McNeely 2003).

Habitat Discussion

Outside of the high elevation spruce-fir forests in the Appalachian Mountains, the Brown Creeper has been found to nest in mixed hemlock-deciduous forests in both Tennessee and North Carolina (Holt 1974, Nicholson 1997, Kendeigh and Fawver 1981). At the Rock Bridge location as well as in other lower elevation breeding locations within the southeastern United States, I have observed that the Brown Creeper shows a marked preference for areas of mature mixed white pine-hemlock-deciduous forest.

Much of the habitat at the Rock Bridge portion of the Clifty Wilderness Area contains a dominant element of White pine within the deciduous forest. The abundance of White pine in Wolfe County has apparently been overlooked in most Kentucky ornithological literature. There is little or no specific mention of White pine as differentiated from other pine species by Mengel (1965), who had obtained much of his information on forest vegetation from Braun (1950), who also did not differentiate the pine species in a majority of her writings. There is one old source on eastern Kentucky that does stress the dominance of White pine, mentioning "a vast forest of the finest White pine" within Wolfe County in particular (Thomas 1926).

A considerable threat to the Eastern hemlock has recently appeared in the form of the hemlock woolly adelgid. This non-native insect threatens to eliminate Eastern hemlock from the forest ecosystem throughout eastern North America including eastern Kentucky. This highlights the future importance of the role of White pine in providing a continued coniferous element within the deciduous forests of the Cumberland Plateau (Renfrow 2005).



Fig. 2. Brown Creeper nest site on dead White pine trunk
Wolfe County, 6 June 2014
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

Conclusions

The white pine-hemlock-deciduous forest habitat preference of the Brown Creeper is also shared by the Red-breasted Nuthatch, a species that has been documented nesting in the vicinity of Rock Bridge but nowhere else in Kentucky (Renfrow 1999, Renfrow 2005). It is possible that these species could be present as breeders in other parts of the Cumberland Plateau, but there are few areas within that region that approach the Rock Bridge area in terms of the predominance of White pine within the forest ecosystem.

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The names of contributors to the Seasonal Reports have not been included in this index. The names of bird species recorded on Mid-winter Bird Counts, at Spring and Fall Society Meetings, and in the Seasonal Reports also have not been listed. Place names lying outside the state of Kentucky and names of species included in lengthy tables typically do not appear as well. Page references to photos of Kentucky Bird Records Committee review-list species are included.

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**KENTUCKY BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE
Species Review List, November 2014**

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Whimbrel	Say's Phoebe
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Hudsonian Godwit	Vermilion Flycatcher
Brant	Red Knot	Ash-throated Flycatcher
Eurasian Wigeon	Ruff	Western Kingbird
Mottled Duck	Curlew Sandpiper	Gray Kingbird
Cinnamon Teal	Little Stint	Northern Shrike
Tufted Duck	Red Phalarope	Black-capped Chickadee
King Eider	Pomarine Jaeger	Brown-headed Nuthatch
Harlequin Duck	Parasitic Jaeger	Rock Wren
Pacific Loon	Long-tailed Jaeger	Bewick's Wren
Yellow-billed Loon	Long-billed Murrelet	Mountain Bluebird
Western Grebe	Black-legged Kittiwake	Varied Thrush
Black-capped Petrel	Sabine's Gull	Smith's Longspur
Audubon's Shearwater	Black-headed Gull	Black-throated Gray Warbler
Band-rumped Storm-Petrel	Little Gull	Green-tailed Towhee
Northern Gannet	Mew Gull	Spotted Towhee
Neotropic Cormorant	Wood Stork	Clay-colored Sparrow
Anhinga	California Gull	Sagebrush Sparrow
Brown Pelican	Iceland Gull	Harris's Sparrow
Tricolored Heron	Sooty Tern	Painted Bunting
Reddish Egret	Gull-billed Tern	Western Tanager
Glossy Ibis	Sandwich Tern	Black-headed Grosbeak
White-faced Ibis	Black Skimmer	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Roseate Spoonbill	Band-tailed Pigeon	Hooded Oriole
Swallow-tailed Kite	White-winged Dove	Bullock's Oriole
White-tailed Kite	Inca Dove	Scott's Oriole
Northern Goshawk	Common Ground-Dove	Red Crossbill
Swainson's Hawk	Groove-billed Ani	White-winged Crossbill
Ferruginous Hawk	Snowy Owl	Common Redpoll
Yellow Rail	Green Violetear	Lesser Goldfinch
King Rail	Black-chinned Hummingbird	Evening Grosbeak
Purple Gallinule	Prairie Falcon	Eurasian Tree Sparrow

Footnotes: Banded birds do not require review unless requested by KBRC; during species irruptions, only initial reports will require review.

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

**Statement of Financial Position
September 8, 2014**

Depository	Account	Balance
PNC Bank, Louisville	General Fund (Checking)	\$15,134.99
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Burt Monroe, Jr., Avian Research Fund (Checking)	\$3,421.56
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Gordon Wilson Fund (CD)	\$21,816.58
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Gordon Wilson Fund (Savings)	\$2,242.23
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund (Savings)	\$6,643.80
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Endowment Fund (CD)	\$18,615.00
Total assets		\$67,874.16

Submitted by Lee McNeely, Treasurer, September 8, 2014 (unaudited)

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY		
Operating Statement		
September 26, 2013 — September 8, 2014		
Beginning Balance (September 26, 2013)		\$15,037.20
Receipts		
Dues (Renewals and New Memberships)	\$2,770.00	
CD interest from Endowment Fund	\$72.19	
Meeting Registrations (Fall 2013)	\$400.00	
Meeting Registrations (Spring 2014)	\$579.00	
Donations for Speakers	\$1000.00	
Sales (<i>Annotated Checklists</i> , Field Cards, etc.)	\$276.00	
Anne Stamm Fund Donations	\$660.00	
Burt Monroe Fund Donations	\$625.00	
Gordon Wilson Fund Donations	\$135.00	
Kingsolver Fund Donations	\$2,505.00	
Endowment Fund Donations	\$900.00	
Burt Monroe Fund Reimbursement	\$910.00	
U.S. Forest Service Grants (for <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i> support) (2)	\$800.00	
Postage Reimbursement	\$9.31	
Silent Auction Proceeds	\$85.00	
Total Receipts		\$11,726.50
Disbursements		
Printing – November 2013 issue <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$370.53	
Printing – February 2014 issue <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$531.32	
Printing – May 2014 issue <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$494.67	
Printing – August 2014 issue <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$389.05	
Meeting Speaker (Nate Swick)	\$1,100.00	
Meeting Speaker (Mark Wiland)	\$100.00	
Meeting Speaker (David Buehler)	\$1,331.19	
Transfer to Anne Stamm Fund	\$660.00	
Transfer to Burt Monroe Fund	\$625.00	
Transfer to Gordon Wilson Fund	\$135.00	
Transfer to Endowment Fund	\$600.00	
Kingsolver Fund Award (American Birding Association)	\$2,290.00	
Burt Monroe Avian Research Fund Award (Julie Dahl)	\$910.00	
General Grant Award (North Star Science; Barn Owl tracking project)	\$1,000.00	
Projector and Web Site Development (Steve Kistler)	\$767.12	
Mtg. expenses (Reimburse Treasurer)	\$324.83	
Total Disbursements		\$11,628.71
Net Receipts		\$97.79
Ending Balance (September 8, 2014)		\$15,134.99

Submitted by Lee McNeely, Treasurer, September 8, 2014 (unaudited)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Visit the NEW K.O.S. Web Site!

You may now find information about the Society on our new web site at the following address: www.birdky.org. Please bookmark this web site address, as the former web site will be removed when the migration of all information is completed.

Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to K.O.S. and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to a young birder between the ages of 13 and 18 who lives in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition for a young birder to attend an American Birding Association Summer Camp. Details about the A.B.A. camps can be found on the A.B.A. website. To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the K.O.S. web site (<http://birdky.org/wendell-and-ginny-kingsolver-fund.html>), write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend, and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to K.O.S. at a meeting, or in writing. The deadline to apply for a 2015 Kingsolver Scholarship is 1 May 2015.

K.O.S. Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to \$500, please contact Scott Marsh by mail at 4401 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY, 40509, or via email at scott.marsh@twc.com.

Kentucky Bird Records Committee

The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) is charged with determining the validity of records of rare and out-of-season birds in Kentucky. Sightings of such birds should be documented with information supporting the identification and promptly submitted to the KBRC. Photographic evidence is desirable but not essential. Electronic documentation is preferred and should be submitted to KBRC Secretary, Ben Yandell, via e-mail at secy@kybirdrecords.org. If electronic submission is not feasible, paper documentation can be mailed to Ben Yandell, KBRC Secretary, 513 Lymington Ct., Louisville, KY 40243.

The Kentucky Warbler Available in PDF Format

Members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society who wish to receive quarterly issues of the Society's journal, *The Kentucky Warbler*, in electronic format rather than hard copy through the mail may now receive them by email. If you wish to receive future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler* in digital PDF format, email the Society's Corresponding Secretary, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., at brainard@mindspring.com.

It's Time to Renew Your Membership for 2015!

Enclosed with this issue of *The Kentucky Warbler* is a membership renewal sheet and addressed envelope. Life members will receive a sheet listing opportunities to donate to the Society's various funds that are used for specific bird conservation activities.



Fig. 1 (p. 100) Brown Creeper near nest, *Wolfe*
5 June 2014
Frank Renfrow



Fig. 3 (p. 100) Brown Creeper at nest (loose material
behind flake of bark), *Wolfe*, 6 June 2014
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Mississippi Kites (adult & chick), *Jefferson*
10 July 2014
Barbara Woerner & Marge Constan



Mute Swan family, *Muhlenberg*
18 June 2014
Jeff Sole



Baird's Sandpiper (adult), *Union*
25 July 2014
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Least Terns (adult & chick), *Union*
25 July 2014
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.