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## Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 38, no. 4)

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# The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

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NOVEMBER, 1962

No. 4



Young Traill's Flycatcher, July 15, 1962

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### THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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## NEWS AND VIEWS

### K. O. S. MOURNS THE LOSS OF TWO MEMBERS

Word has just come that Miss Helen G. Browning died on October 4. Miss Browning, who lived in Louisville, had been ill for over a year. She had long been an active and loyal member of KOS. She served the society in many ways: acted as secretary-treasurer during the period 1944 through 1947, and also was recording secretary from October, 1959, to October, 1961. Helen, who had been secretary to principals of two Louis-

(Continued on page 65)

## NESTING RECORDS OF TRAILL'S FLYCATCHER

By Joseph Croft, Louisville

Traill's Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) continued its spread into the Louisville region during the summer of 1962. After last year's discovery of the first known nest (*Ky. Warbler*, 37:63-70, 1961), this year six nests were located and there were indications that a total of eleven pairs may have bred in the region. Nine of these pairs were on previously occupied areas in Jefferson County, while two were on a new area in northern Bullitt County. For convenience of reference, observations will be summarized by locality.

## Caperton's Swamp

My first observation of Traill's Flycatcher this summer was on the evening of June 2, when six birds were found in the Caperton's Swamp area. Four of these birds, two of them singing occasionally and two silent, were in the marshy field along the Louisville Country Club Road, where the first nest was found last year; the other two birds, both singing, were in a shrubby area along the private drive through the Swamp, where the species has been observed repeatedly in previous years.

Taking into account experiences of other years, when careful searching for the flycatchers' nests in June was always unsuccessful, I waited until July 1 before looking for the nests. On that date two nests, each containing one egg, were found near the Country Club Road. It was evident that a third pair was also present in the area, for at a spot well separated from the two nests a flycatcher was flitting about in a willow thicket and calling excitedly; however, at this time there was no nest in the thicket. The area along the private drive was next visited, but an hour's careful search revealed neither the flycatchers nor any evidence of their nests.

On July 10 Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm and I visited the Country Club Road area, and at this time Mrs. Stamm found a third nest, completed but holding no eggs, in a maple at the edge of the willow thicket mentioned above.

Finally, on September 6 while the Stamms and I were looking for birds along the private drive through the Swamp, we found an empty nest of this species only a few yards from the roadway. Evidently the flycatchers had remained in the locality, despite my failure to find them on July 1. (In regard to the sometimes considerable difficulty of locating this species even in areas where it is known to be present, it might be well to note here that the Traill's Flycatchers of the Country Club Road breeding area regularly feed in an adjoining swampy wooded area more characteristic of Acadian Flycatcher [*E. virescens*] habitat, indicating that the species may to some extent be more wide-ranging than is generally believed.)

All four of these nests were very similar to the one found last year, and previously described (*Ky. Warbler*, 37:67-68). Other information on the four nests is recorded below.

Nest 1. Found July 1; 6½ feet up in willow, on edge of willow

thicket; contained one egg, creamy buff with darker spots around the large end. July 10, contained three eggs. July 22, three small nestlings (Stamms). July 27, nestlings banded (Mrs. Stamm). August 2, nest empty, two birds heard calling nearby.

Nest 2. Found July 1; about 100 yards from Nest 1; 3 feet up in sapling in small, low-growing clump of maples; contained one egg. July 10, four eggs. August 2, nest found destroyed; only a small part of it remained in the sapling. Neither the rest of the nest nor any feathers or egg shells could be found in the vicinity. The adult birds were not observed.

Nest 3. Found July 10; about 75 yards from the closer of the other two nests; 4 feet up in maple, at edge of willow thicket; contained no eggs (Mrs. Stamm). July 14, no eggs yet (Stamms). July 19, still no eggs (Stamms). August 2, no eggs. The field was drying up during this period and by the July 19 visit had been plowed to within a few feet of the nest; this may have caused the birds to abandon the nest.

Nest 4. Found September 6; 8 feet up in ash sapling; empty.

#### Falls of the Ohio

On July 15, while Mr. and Mrs. Stamm and I were looking for shorebirds on the Falls of the Ohio, we found four Trail's Flycatchers calling at widely separated points of the extensive willow growth at the base of the dam. This is the same area where Haven Wiley and I had observed two birds in 1960 (Ky. Warbler, 37:66). One nest was found. Another nest, making a total of six for the Louisville area this year, was found on July 28 by Mrs. Stamm.

Both these nests were rather different in appearance from those found in the Caperton's Swamp area, suggesting that a similarly situated used nest found by Wiley at the Falls on July 31, 1960, may have been of this species. If such was in fact the case, then this latter nest would be the first for our area.

The dimensions of the Falls nests were similar to those of the other nests, but the construction was in general much more ragged, lacking the beautifully compact appearance of those other nests. The most distinctive feature of both nests at the Falls was the long piece of polyethylene partially worked into each of them. In one of the nests this material formed a 15-inch streamer hanging from the nest wall, while the other nest had a streamer about half this length. The use of this material was very suggestive of the use of cast snake-skins, which has not to my knowledge been reported in the genus *Empidonax*. Another distinctive feature of these two nests was the use of several feathers, up to three inches long, in the nest wall. Other information on these nests is given below.

Nest 5. Found July 15; 9 feet up in willow, in a long, narrow thicket of 15-foot willows, on a sand deposit surrounded by shallow water; one young bird standing on rim of nest; another, somewhat larger young bird nearby. The bird still in the nest was banded by Mrs. Stamm and photographed by Mr. Stamm. July 22, nest empty.

Nest 6. Found July 28; 7 feet up in willow; one egg (Mrs. Stamm). August 2, still one egg; Mrs. Stamm considered this a used nest, with an addled egg left, rather than an uncompleted nesting.

### Barralton

Trail's Flycatchers were also observed this summer in northwestern Bullitt County; on June 7 I found two of them singing behind the Sunnyside Baptist Church, which is on Knob Creek Road (KY 1526) near the Barralton community. This is two miles southwest of the Pendleton Road location (Jefferson County) where Trail's Flycatcher was found in 1961 (*Ky. Warbler*, 37:68). The elevation of the Bullitt County location is approximately 475 feet. The birds were in thickets situated about 75 yards apart in a large grassy field where Eastern Meadowlarks (*Sturnella magna*) and Redwinged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) were nesting. One of the thickets was about 15 by 100 yards, the other half that size. Both had a thick growth of sumac bushes, about eight feet high, and blackberry briars, with some willow and sycamore saplings mixed in. A small stream ran through the edge of the larger thicket. These two thickets are, however, the driest places where Trail's Flycatcher has thus far been found in the Louisville region.

I did not attempt to locate a nest on June 7, and my only other visit to the spot was a very brief one on the evening of July 4, when I did not see either of the birds. Accordingly, our records of definite nesting are still confined to Jefferson County.

### Other Observations

No observations were obtained this summer at the other spots where Trail's Flycatcher has been observed. The Pendleton Road area, mentioned above, was visited on June 7 but no flycatchers were found. The Clark County, Indiana, area near the Falls of the Ohio where the species was seen last year (*Ky. Warbler*, 37:68) was not visited this summer. At the spot along the Muddy Fork (incorrectly given as Middle Fork in my previous paper on this species, *Ky. Warbler*, 37:66) of Beargrass Creek, where the flycatcher was found once in 1958, the species was not observed this year.

Departure dates for Trail's Flycatcher are difficult to obtain. It appears, however, that the birds desert their nesting areas towards the end of August, soon after the young are able to care for themselves. Unless collected, the species is generally impossible to record on fall migration, when it is ordinarily silent. However, on September 15 this year I had the good fortune of coming upon a Trail's singing in Cherokee Park about sunset. The bird's performance was somewhat disjointed, but easily recognizable as coming from this species; I have frequently heard the species sing in the same manner on its breeding areas. Also, it might be noted here that on September 9 Wiley and I found about a dozen *Empidonax* flycatchers at Caperton's Swamp, in some willow thickets where Trail's Flycatchers have been heard in spring; some or all of these birds may well have been Trail's.

\* \* \* \*

## NOTES ON THE DICKCISSEL IN THE LOUISVILLE AREA

By Anne L. Stamm

The paucity of published breeding data concerning the Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) in Kentucky has prompted this paper. In 1948, Mabel Slack and I began to study the species' nesting habits and, in 1949, published what we believed to be the first description of a Kentucky nest (*Ky. Warbler* 25:31-32). We found several nests during the period from 1948 through the 5th of June, 1951, when Miss Slack left the city for a western vacation; I have been collecting breeding data since then, and although my notes over a fourteen-year period do not contain everything desired, it may be well to record some of these observations.

The Dickcissel may usually be found near alfalfa, timothy, rye, and vetch fields. In Louisville, Jefferson County, the birds arrive around May 1; my earliest record is for April 29 (1951) and (1953); my latest, August 18 (1956). In *Birds of the Louisville Region* by the Monroes' (*Ky. Warbler* 37:33-42) the extreme dates are April 24 (1955) and September 17 (1955). Very few birds as a rule are observed after the middle of August. I have never seen the birds in flocks with the exception of one time, August 18, 1956, when Joseph E. Croft and I observed sixty birds in a field on Chamberlain Lane, where I had found a nest earlier in the season.

I believe the Dickcissel is more common in some years than others; in 1951 Slack and I found them numerous in the fields along Springdale and Chamberlain Roads; we estimated ten pairs on territory within a quarter of a mile. The birds were more common that year than in 1948, 1949, or 1950. The species was also quite common in proper habitats in 1953, 1956, 1958, 1959, and 1960; it was rather scarce in the Louisville area in 1955 and 1957.

The male birds begin singing as soon as they arrive on territory. Nest building takes place the middle of May; I have not observed this before May 14, although some birds apparently begin earlier, as I have a record of a nest with five fresh eggs on May 18, 1950. In 1951, three pairs were noted carrying nesting material on May 20. The height of the breeding season seems to be the latter part of May and early June; this statement is based on twenty breeding observations and nests. Nest building was observed in 1951 and 1953; the female appeared to build the nest while the male busied himself with singing and accompanied his mate to and from the nest as she carried plant material. The male used fence posts, weed stalks, or telephone wires as singing perches. A few pairs were observed copulating, and this was done on telephone wires. Copulation took place during the nest-building period and was not seen at any other time. The male fluttered each time he approached his singing perch and spent most of the time singing while his mate was incubating the eggs. On many occasions the male frequently flew to a spot above the nest or on a weed stem near by and cautiously peered into the nest, perhaps to see if the female were there; then they would fly off together. He would then return to his singing perch and again take up his unmusical, monotonous, *dick-dick-dick-cis-cissel* song. The female appeared to be more cautious about revealing the whereabouts of her nest than any other species I have ever watched. She sat for long periods of time on a fence wire or weed stem before going to the nest; her lookout

perch may be some distance from the nest, too. The female's pattern to a nest is by way of alighting on a weed stalk near the nest, yet, at a great enough distance to throw the observer off guard, then gradually working closer to the nest by means of flying to another weed stalk and then finally dropping down to the side and hopping over to the nest.

Nests were found on the ground, in blackberry bushes, hackberry shoots, clumps of clover, orchard grass, and fleabane plants. The bush nests were not high, the highest being twenty inches above the ground; all nests contained some leaves at the base and were in an upright position; they were difficult to find, as they were well concealed with plant foliage, and often poison ivy vines were entwined around the stalks that braced them. There was some variation between the ground nests and those found in bushes or weed stalks. The ground nests were sturdy and made of coarser weed stems and grasses, while the bush nests contained fine grass and were often "decorated" on the exterior with shepherd's purse and other lacy-type plants. An interesting ground nest with one fresh egg was found in a pasture on May 21, 1949, and was located at the base of a clump of wild aster, plantain, and iron weed; it was fairly well concealed by the eight-inch-high plants that surrounded it. The foundation was made up of leaves and wide-leaved grasses, weed stems, and lighter grasses in the main body of the nest, while finer materials were fixed in the lining. The rim of the nest was four inches above the ground. The clutch was completed with five eggs on May 25. Several cows grazed in the field. On May 28, one egg was found broken; it appeared as though the edge of the nest had been tramped on. The female sat on a weed stalk nearby and uttered a chip note, indicating alarm at our presence. The nest was abandoned on June 5 and was collected. Slack and Stamm described previously two bush nests (see reference above), and additional nests were of similar construction. It may be well to mention that most nests were in field edges or in fence rows, although a few birds were seen carrying nesting material in meadows perhaps 500 feet from the edges.

In Table No. 1 breeding observations and nests are given with dates, location, and contents. Because of a thirty-mile round trip to the breeding area, nests were not followed regularly.

The egg dates were from May 18 to June 14, and four to five eggs were in a clutch. No data were collected on incubation periods; although the May 18, 1950, nest with five fresh eggs was the only one that furnished a clue on the matter. Two of the eggs had hatched on June 1, indicating at least a fourteen-day incubation period, providing the last egg had been laid on the 18th, and that the other eggs hatched the 1st of June. It is doubtful whether the incubation period is less than fourteen days, although some bird books state, "about twelve days or more."

Both parents fed the young; the food observed was green caterpillar worms and insects.

There was no evidence of parasitism by the Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) in any of the nests observed.

Some birds sing rather late; on July 31, 1960, three singing males were in a field that leads to the Pound Farm. The field had been cut by

**BREEDING RECORDS OF THE DICKCISSEL,  
LOUISVILLE, JEFFERSON COUNTY**

Table 1

No.	Date found	Contents of nest	Hght. above ground	Nest-site	Remarks
			inches		
1.	May 22, '48	3 eggs	9	Blackberry	5 eggs May 24; nest empty May 29
2.	May 24, '48	1 egg	9	Blackberry	Nest deserted May 25
3.	May 21, '49	1 egg	4 to rim of nest	Base of wild aster, iron weed & plantain	May 26, 5 eggs; abandoned June 5
4.	June 5, '49				Female with food in bill
5.	June 8, '49				Female with strand of dried plant stem in bill
6.	June 13, '49	2 eggs, 2 young	20	Blackberry	
7.	May 18, '50	5 fresh eggs	14	Fleabane	2 hatched June 1
8.	May 20, '51	Building			Carrying nesting material to meadow (3 birds)
9.	May 22, '51	Building	8	Blackberry	Nest almost complete
10.	May 27, '51	2 eggs			
11.	May 27, '51				Carrying nesting material
12.	June 6, '51	3 young		Orchard grass & clover	Young about three days old; an unhatched egg in nest June 10, possibly overlooked on June 6
13.	June 10, '51	5 young	2	Fleabane	In timothy field; young about three days old; June 14, field cut, one nestling beside nest
14.	July 7, '51				Female observed feeding young out of nest
15.	May 31, '53	5 eggs	10	Hedge row	
16.	May 14, '53	Building			Carrying nesting material
17.	June 24, '54	Young			Naked dead nestling found on ground after grass was cut
18.	June 14, '56	2 eggs, 2 young	8	Hackberry	Newly hatched young; nest in fence row
19.	June 23, '61				Female with food in her bill goes to field
20.	June 6, '62				Female with food in bill

(Nests 1, 2, 3, 6, and 10 observed with Slack)

August 3 and we could not see, or hear the Dickcissel. This past summer, 1962, during the entire month of July several males were observed singing daily in a fallow field on Westport Road as well as lanes leading from there. The species may nest later than my records would indicate, as in this same field mentioned above I tried in vain to find a nest that evidently was there; a male and female kept returning to a blackberry stalk again and again in the hour I spent there looking around; the birds acted as nesting pairs do.

Birds that nest in fields often meet with disaster because of mowing operations. Fields in Jefferson and Oldham Counties are cut around the latter part of May to mid-June; this is the height of nesting activity for the Dickcissel. On June 14, 1951, I reached the field where I had previously found a nest with five young and was surprised to find the grass cut. The pair of Dickcissels were still on territory. My husband and I found the nest empty, but not crushed, as the grass had been cut eight inches above the top of the nest. One young nestling was nearby, and as I picked it up to band, the male flew at me and then flew away with his wings outspread in a sort of dragging fashion. He flew at me each time the young bird called. The female with food in her bill went to two other places in the cut field, and it is possible that three of the originally five nestlings survived the cutting. On June 24, 1954, I found a naked dead Dickcissel probably two days old lying on the bare ground in a cut-over field. I was attracted to this nestling by watching the parent bird's uneasiness with a worm in its bill.

Other species found nesting in the fields with the Dickcissel were the Redwinged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*), and the Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*).

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#### NEWS AND VIEWS (continued)

ville high schools for many years, enjoyed field trips and always carried besides her binoculars a small magnifying glass to see the details of plants and flowers. Her reports in the *Kentucky Warbler* always contained some of the more interesting birds or nests found while on these trips. KOS has lost a valued member, and she will be missed by her many friends.

Dr. Arch Cole of Louisville met with an automobile accident in Ohio that resulted in his death on July 13. Dr. Cole had been a professor of anatomy at the Medical School, University of Louisville, and at the time of his death was head of the department. He was active in the Louisville Chapter, the Beckham Bird Club, and was one of its directors. His talks and lectures were highlights on all programs. He had a great interest in birds and in his earlier years had taught a class in ornithology at Northwestern University. His valued paper, "The Song-Production Mechanism of Birds" published in the *KENTUCKY WARBLER*, will be used by many interested in bird song. KOS shares with his family his great loss.

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## FIELD NOTES

## AN UNUSUALLY SMALL SNOW GOOSE

On 21 November, 1959, Mr. Eugene Wenz of Louisville collected a lone Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea*) on the Ohio River two miles above Westport, Oldham County, Kentucky. At the time the specimen was taken, it was suspected of being a Ross' Goose (*C. rossii*) because of the small size and weight (the latter an even three pounds). Subsequent examination and comparison with skins in the Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has shown the specimen to be a Snow Goose, one of the smallest ever recorded. The specimen is presently mounted in the collection of Mr. Wenz.

The bird is an immature with much gray in the dorsal plumage but without any trace of orange wash, often present in young Snow Geese. However, there are a number of specimens that match this plumage. Measurements of the specimen are as follows: wing, 389 mm.; tarsus, 85 mm.; exposed culmen, 48 mm.; depth of bill at base, 31 mm.; weight, 3 pounds. The wing, tarsus, and bill depth measurements are all within the extremes known for the Snow Goose (but all at the lower end) and also above the maximums known for the Ross' Goose. The minimum weight recorded by Kortright (1942, *The Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America*, p. 383) for the Snow Goose is 4 pounds, 3 ounces; the minimum culmen length recorded by Brodkorb (1957, in Blair, Blair, Brodkorb, Cagle, and Moore, *Vertebrates of the United States*, p. 398) is 49 mm. It is quite likely that the low weight is due to immaturity and possible emaciation after a long flight.

It should be added that identification of the two species in any plumage is positive by reference to the bill tomsia. The characteristic "grinning patch" of the Snow Goose is quite evident in the present specimen. — BURT L. MONROE, JR., Anchorage.

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## A SIGHT RECORD OF A WHITE IBIS AT WENDOVER

We have had a most exciting thing occur with us. This Saturday, August 3, 1962, I had a call from Miss Margaret Willson at Wendover, Leslie County. She said she had seen an immature White Ibis (*Guara alba*) in the Middle Fork of the Kentucky River below Wendover. So, I went over as quickly as I could after work. We went down to the river where the water is rather rapid over the shoals and where lots of water weeds grow. Up from the weeds rose two Green Herons (*Butorides virescens*), and I began to feel the other stranger would not show up. We sat and sat, and finally I saw it. Far up the river a branch from a willow hung low over a deep place in the river, and on the end of this limb was our bird. There could not have been a mistake. We watched through the glasses while it turned, stretched its wings, and bowed and dipped. Then the ibis became startled and flew down the river, right beside us. We saw the curved beak quite well; it had a mottled look. We also saw the white back as it flew on past, plus every other marking of a young White Ibis—dark wings and white underneath. The ibis was seen for about a week—August 3 through 9, by various people at Wendover. Needless to say, I was quite thrilled to see this bird. — HOPE MUNCY, Hyden.

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## COMMON NIGHTHAWK MIGRATION OBSERVED

Nighthawk migration was very evident on the evening of September 2. We were sitting on the porch at 6:30 p.m., when I chanced to see three

Common Nighthawks (*Chordeiles minor*) flying over our yard; as we seldom see this species in our new country surroundings here at Spokane Way, in the extreme eastern section of Jefferson County, I hurried to the yard to watch them. These birds were flying about in circles as we usually see them above flat-roofed buildings in the city. As we scanned the sky, we saw four more nighthawks flying straight abreast and heading due south; they were very high. These birds were followed by four more, and a few minutes later a flock of forty-eight were counted; they were in a sort of battalion formation. I knew now that they were migrating; so my husband and I continued to watch. The large flock was followed by groups of four, six, and ten birds; all were very high, and all spread out in a fairly straight line going on due course and not circling. During the period from 6:40 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., we counted 144 nighthawks, all flying in a southerly direction. Undoubtedly, we missed many (that may have been on their migratory route) prior to our first observation at 6:40. It may be of interest that the day had been hot, humid, the sky overcast, and occasionally some of the birds sighted appeared to be hidden by the clouds. This was three days in advance of a cold front that sent low temperatures down twenty degrees to a low of 49. — ANNE L. STAMM, Louisville.

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#### AN UNUSUAL NESTING SITE OF THE CAROLINA WREN

On July 18, 1962, I found in our garden a partially built nest that was placed in a tomato bush twenty-one inches above the ground and built at an angle. Up to this time I had not seen the bird or observed the nest building. On July 23, two eggs were in the nest, and one egg was laid each day until the clutch was completed on July 26, with five eggs; the fifth egg was laid by 8:45 in the morning. I asked Mrs. Frederick W. Stamm to check on the nest, and she identified it as belonging to the Carolina Wren (*Thryothrus ludovicianus*). Most nests of this species reported seem to be placed in cavities, tin cans, wood stumps, under rootlets of decayed tree stumps, in nest boxes, or on the ground under dense cover. I thought the tomato patch a rather unusual place for the wrens to build a nest. The entire exterior of the nest was covered with moss. It was quite compact and felt soft and spongy. It was placed between the tomato stake and one of the plant stalks and had for the most part of its support two large green tomatoes. The body of the nest consisted of weed stems, dried grass, feathers, bits of rabbit fur, and small pieces of cellophane and was lined with horse hair. The measurements were: inside depth, two and one half inches; outside depth, five inches; diameter across the top, five inches.

The Carolina Wren was seen incubating the eggs for several days. Then, one evening, a neighbor's cat was observed in the tomato patch; a few days later there was no activity at the nest, and the birds were not seen. There was no apparent damage to the nest; the five eggs remained, and were cold. I believe the bird (the female) was a victim of the cat, although I have no way of knowing for sure. — JULIA E. BUSTETTER, Louisville.

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#### A SIGHT RECORD OF THE SWAINSON'S WARBLER IN EASTERN KENTUCKY

On May 7, 1961, in a rhododendron thicket just below our tiny dam, I heard the notes of a new bird voice. I sat down for at least one half hour

before discovering the singer. The bird was quite close, and I had a clear (and startled) look before it moved; it was a Swainson's Warbler (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*). I went back the next morning and saw another Swainson's, or maybe it was the same bird; on additional trips no others were found. This past spring (1962) no Swainson's were recorded. The area where the birds were observed is in Letcher County, at an elevation of 2,600 feet, and six miles from Whitesburg.

It may be of interest to mention that in a note from Dr. Gordon Meade, Washington, D. C., he told of hearing the Swainson's Warbler in the area back of the Memorial Hospital in Pikeville, on June 19, 1961. — EDITH CLARK, Whitesburg.

\* \* \* \*

### THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL FALL MEETING OCTOBER 19-21, 1962

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its 39th Annual Fall Meeting on October 19-21, 1962, at Mammoth Cave National Park. Registration began on Friday afternoon.

The president, A. H. Mayfield, opened the Friday evening program with a warm welcome and introduced those present from out of the state, after which the other members and guests introduced themselves. Gordon Wilson gave a resume of the field trips planned for Saturday and Sunday, and Mr. Mayfield urged full attendance at the business session Saturday afternoon.

The program consisted of two motion pictures procured by Miss Mabel Slack: (1) **The Bird Community**, which explained the nature of a "community" and showed many of the species of birds native to the Island of Midway in the Pacific Ocean, including the Sooty Tern, Frigate (Man-of-War) Bird, Fairy Tern, but stressed the Laysan Albatross; (2) **Wild Fowl in Slow Motion**, which showed the flight of many of the shore birds (Western Sandpiper, Dowitcher, Marbled Godwit, Willet, Avocet), ducks (Canvasback, Redhead, Pintail, Shoveller, Baldpate, Scaup, Blue-winged Teal), the Canada and the Snow Goose, and the White Pelican.

On Saturday morning Dr. Wilson led the group to the Great Onyx Cave area, opened to the K.O.S. by courtesy of the park management, for field trips. During the period between lunch and the business session many members explored various areas of the park to make their own field observations. A number enjoyed the launch trip down the Green River.

At the Business Session, called to order by the President, Mr. Mayfield, at 4:00 p.m., the minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in **The Kentucky Warbler**. Under old business, Mr. Mayfield called for a report from the Corresponding Secretary regarding a model Hawk and Owl Law for Kentucky. Mrs. Gillenwater reported on the letters she had written to all the commissioners of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the replies received. In order to change the present law it would be necessary to draw up a bill and find a senator or representative to introduce it in the state legislature. Then active support for the bill must be found among various citizens' groups to urge its passage. The report was accepted and discussion followed.

The report on life membership, also given by Mrs. Gillenwater, stated that no additional such memberships were taken out during the past year, and that the sum of \$1,425.00 continues to draw interest.

Mr. Mayfield then asked the secretary to read the report of the Checklist Committee (attached to these minutes). Discussion on the criteria for placing a species on the list, reasons for omitting certain species and adding others in the next revision followed. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Wild Turkey, although re-introduced, be added. All other suggestions and comments were referred back to the Committee, consisting of Dr. Harvey B. Lovell, Burt L. Monroe, Sr., and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Chairman, with power to make decisions.

Mr. Ganier mentioned that the Tennessee Ornithological Society interested the State Department of Conservation in printing the Tennessee checklist for free distribution. Mr. Stamm pointed out that the K.O.S. sends copies of the Checklist to people throughout the country who look upon the K.O.S. as the source of ornithological information, and also that since the checklists are sold at near cost, the Society recovers the initial expense and eventually a bit more. It was agreed that there are definite advantages in the Society's publishing the Checklist and that identity with it should be retained. Mr. Reece suggested adding, "Founded 1923", after "Kentucky Ornithological Society". This suggestion was referred back to the Committee since the matter of space was involved.

Mr. Carpenter spoke of the efforts of Representative Burke of Kentucky (Louisville) and Representative Denton of Indiana (Evansville) to make the Ohio River Falls a national park or a national monument or possibly a recreation area in order to preserve this unique region and moved that the K.O.S. write Representative Burke approving this project and offering our support. After a second by Dr. L. Y. Lancaster and considerable discussion the motion failed to carry by a small margin. The motion made by Mr. Stamm that a committee be appointed to investigate and study the situation and to find out whether Nature Conservancy would be interested in the area was passed unanimously.

The president mentioned the 40th anniversary of the K.O.S. in the spring of 1963 and the recommendation of the Board of Directors that appropriate recognition be given. Dr. Russell Starr issued an invitation to Glasgow after the field meeting at the Bowling Green lakes and suggested a field trip to his tract of land on Sunday. It was agreed that the new Board of Directors make the plans.

Dr. Gordon Wilson mentioned the recent death of Helen Browning, Louisville, for a number of years secretary of the K.O.S., and recommended the appointment of a committee to draw up appropriate resolutions. The president appointed Dr. Wilson, Chairman, Dr. Lancaster, and Mrs. Gillenwater. Upon mention of the deaths of Dr. Arch Cole, Louisville, and Ben Harbison, Paris, the same committee was asked to recognize these members in like manner.

Mr. Cypert announced that paintings of Mr. E. W. Stephens, a member of the Iowa Ornithological Society and a guest in the park, were on display in the hotel lobby.

The report of the Nominating Committee was given by A. L. Powell, Chairman, the other members being Dr. Robert Pace, Dr. Clell T. Peterson, and A. M. Reece. The following slate was proposed:

President—Dr. Clell T. Peterson, Murray; Vice-President—Dr. Russell Starr, Glasgow; Corresponding Secretary-treasurer—Mrs. James Gillenwater, Glasgow; Recording Secretary—Evelyn J. Schneider, Louisville; Councillors—W. G. Duncan, Louisville; Mike Flynn, Lexington. (Howard P. Jones, Stamping Ground, and Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, Bowling

Green, continue to serve another year as Councillors.) The slate was unanimously elected.

A. L. Powell moved a rising vote of thanks to the president, A. H. Mayfield, for his efforts in behalf of the Society during the past year.

The Business Session then adjourned.

The Treasurer's annual report is attached to these minutes.

The Annual Dinner was held at 6:30 p.m., Mr. Mayfield presiding. After introducing those at the speaker's table and other officers, he called on A. L. Powell who presented the speaker, Dr. Franklin McCamey of Frostburg, Md. Dr. McCamey spoke of his intensive study over a period of five years at Stoers, Connecticut, of the population structure of the Chickadee. He discussed the methods used and the verification by different means of the resulting statistics of the life span, population density, size of territory, etc.

The field trip on Sunday morning was led by Dr. Wilson in areas across Green River, again made available to the group by the park management. A total of 49 species was recorded.

Respectfully submitted,  
Evelyn J. Schneider  
Recording Secretary

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#### Report of Treasurer

October 15, 1962

#### GENERAL FUND

Bank balance as shown by last report dated	
November 1, 1961 .....	\$ 249.21

#### Receipts

Membership dues .....	\$ 723.00
Interest Income—Jefferson Federal Savings & Loan Association .....	28.00
Contributions to the Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology .....	5.00
Sale of <b>The Kentucky Warbler</b> .....	3.25
Sale of reprints .....	4.35
Sale of sleeve patches .....	1.25
Sale of bibliographies, check lists and profit on books .....	19.65
Collected for Audubon Society for Mammoth Cave Christmas Count .....	10.50
Receipts—Fall Meeting—Mammoth Cave .....	225.50
Receipts—Spring Meeting—Bowling Green .....	148.00
Check returned by bank made good .....	3.50
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b> .....	<b>\$1,172.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$1,421.21</b>

**Disbursements**

Printing costs—The Kentucky Warbler .....	\$ 600.42	
Treasurer's expenses:		
Postage, envelopes, stationery, rubber stamps, etc. ....	109.13	
State of Kentucky—Corporation filing fee .....	2.00	
Expenses—Fall Meeting—Mammoth Cave .....	169.00	
Expenses—Spring Meeting—Bowling Green .....	120.00	
Transfer to Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology ....	5.00	
Audubon Society—Mammoth Cave Christmas Count .....	10.50	
Dues—Nature Conservancy .....	5.00	
Book for resale .....	3.66	
Refunds to members for duplication and overpayment .....	2.50	
Check returned by bank .....	3.50	
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b> .....		<u>\$1,030.71</u>
Balance on hand in New Farmers' National Bank, Glasgow, Kentucky, October 15, 1962 .....		<u>\$ 390.50</u>

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**ENDOWMENT FUND**

Balance in Savings Account, as shown by last report, dated November 1, 1961—Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association .....	\$ 725.00
Seven (7) full paid shares—Jefferson Federal Sav- ings and Loan Association .....	<u>\$ 700.00</u>
<b>TOTAL—Balance in Fund, November 1, 1961</b> ....	<u>\$1,425.00</u>

**Receipts**

Interest on full paid shares .....	\$ 28.00
Interest on Savings Account .....	27.79
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b> .....	<u>55.79</u>
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<u>\$1,480.79</u>

**Disbursements**

Transfer of interest on full paid shares to to General Fund .....	\$ 28.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b> .....	<u>28.00</u>

Balance in Endowment Fund, October 15, 1962 .....	\$1,452.79
(Seven full-paid shares \$700.00; Savings account balance \$725.00; Accumulated interest on savings account \$27.79—\$1,452.79; Jefferson Federal Sav- ings and Loan Association, Louisville, Kentucky)	

**GORDON WILSON FUND FOR ORNITHOLOGY**

Balance in Savings Account as shown by last report,  
dated November 1, 1961 ..... \$ 604.86

**Receipts**

Contributions to Fund, 1962 .....\$ 5.00  
Interest on Savings Account ..... 22.92

**TOTAL RECEIPTS** ..... 27.92

Balance in Savings Account, October 15, 1962, in  
Greater Louisville First Federal Savings and Loan  
Association, Louisville, Kentucky ..... \$ 632.78

(Principal of Fund, \$558.00; Accumulated Interest,  
74.78—\$632.78)

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**BALANCE SHEET**

as of

October 15, 1962

**Assets:**

Cash in bank, General Fund .....	\$ 390.50
Endowment Fund .....	1,452.79
Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology .....	632.78
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b> .....	<u>\$2,476.07</u>
Net Worth of Society .....	<u>\$2,476.07</u>

Marquita Gillenwater, Treasurer