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## Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 40, no. 3)

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# The Kentucky Warbler

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Vol. XL

August, 1964

No. 3



*Henslow's Bunting—Plate 70 of John James Audubon's Birds of America*

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## THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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## NEWS AND VIEWS

### HENSLOW'S SPARROW AS SEEN BY JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

The cover picture is a photograph of the Henslow's Bunting (Henslow's Sparrow) as drawn by John James Audubon in his **Birds of America** (folio), Vol. 1, Pl. 70, 1829, and represents the bird he obtained in northern Kentucky in 1820. Because the original edition of his **Ornithological Biography** is not readily available, it might be well to include

(Continued on page 56)

**ECOLOGICAL NOTES ON HENSLOW'S SPARROWS  
NEAR LOUISVILLE**

HAVEN WILEY AND JOSEPH CROFT

During the summer of 1963 unusually large numbers of Henslow's Sparrows (*Passerherbulus henslowii*) were found in Jefferson and Oldham Counties by us and in Meade County by William Rowe. The Jefferson and Oldham County colonies were discovered on July 13, and the largest, which was in Jefferson County, was visited the following day in order to trap and band the sparrows. In addition, the Jefferson County sites were censused more accurately on July 18 by Wiley. The Meade County birds were discovered in mid-July by Rowe, and the colony was subsequently visited by the authors and Rowe on July 21 and censused by Rowe on July 28.

The habitat frequented by singing Henslow's Sparrows was somewhat variable. Two fields in Jefferson County (both at the intersection of Chamberlain Lane and Brownsboro Road near Sleepy Hollow — 4 and 5 singing birds respectively) were entirely orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*), which by mid-July had been harvested for the tall seed-stalks. The third in Jefferson County (on Chamberlain Lane north of Wolf Pen Branch Road—7 singing birds) was almost an equal mixture of orchard grass and clover (*Trifolium* sp.) with scattered patches of much taller Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus Carota*). In Oldham County one field (about one mile north-west of La Grange—4 singing birds) had a thick, low matting of grass and short weeds which was covered in turn with much Queen Anne's Lace and tall, white field daisies (*Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*), while the second field (in upland about a mile west of the Sleepy Hollow bridge — 6 singing birds) was an uneven weed field with occasional small bushes and many waist-high weeds projecting. In Meade County (several fields off Ky. Route 333 in south-east Meade County north of Big Spring), Rowe found this species in a similar assortment of habitats, from almost entirely orchard grass, to orchard grass mixed with taller field daisies and other plants, to predominantly taller plants.

The Henslow's Sparrow seemed to require for habitat (1) a thick ground cover of grass, weeds or clover and (2) tall stalks of weeds or flowers projecting two or three feet above this ground cover. Orchard grass, before the seed stalks are harvested, may fill both requirements. Tall stalks may be needed by the sparrows for singing posts, since the tops of tall weeds and the flower-heads of field daisies and Queen Anne's Lace were favorite singing sites. The birds were also heard singing in the grass, although infrequently. Indeed, on July 14 when almost an entire afternoon was spent in one field in Jefferson County (the third listed above), the singing birds were invariably heard from the tops of weed stalks projecting above the thick grass and clover. When the orchard grass seed stalks are harvested, the thick ground covering which could hide the nest is left intact, but the stalks used for singing perches are cut. In such harvested fields, the sparrows were seen singing from the tops of the sheaves of drying stalks or, when these were removed, from the highest vantage left them in the grass. None was ever seen singing from a fence or a fence-post.

The Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) habitat preference seems to differ from the Henslow's Sparrow preference in the

second requirement above. The former species often inhabits grass or clover fields with many fewer or no projecting tall plants, although fields with scattered to thick stands of Queen Anne's Lace, tall field daisies and weeds are used. The only Henslow's locality which had habitat apparently never frequented by the Grasshopper in this area was the old field of thick weeds with occasional bushes found above Sleepy Hollow in Oldham County. Henslow's Sparrows had been in this field in a previous year, 1960. Tentative conclusions then are (1) the two species of sparrow both need the thick ground mat of grass or clover, but (2)<sup>a</sup> the Henslow's prefers more tall plants while the Grasshopper often requires fewer or none. The Grasshopper Sparrow in clover fields regularly sings close to the ground from tops of clover stalks and everywhere frequently from fences and fence-posts.

Density of Henslow's Sparrows in a field was difficult to assess. The only practical means was to estimate the approximate distance between singing males. A.S. Hyde (1939. The life history of Henslow's Sparrow. Misc. Publ. Univ. of Mich. Museum of Zoology, no. 41, pp. 44-5) indicates that this species is at least loosely territorial and probably monogamous. On July 14 when an entire afternoon was spent in one field banding the sparrows, the singing birds did appear territorial. By dragging a rope between us a sparrow was repeatedly chased from its singing perch to a specific limit beyond which it would not go and where it always flew back over the rope. Also, birds were seen singing from the same perch on a number of separate occasions. So, on this evidence territoriality was assumed for the purpose of censusing, and the approximate distance between neighboring singing birds was estimated by pacing.

In the field in which sparrows were banded (the third listed at the beginning of the article), the distance between singing birds was apparently 200 to 300 feet (7 singing birds located); in the first two fields listed the distance was usually greater, 300 to 400 feet (4 singing birds located). At the time of censusing, however, these latter, entirely orchard grass fields had been harvested, which may have caused some birds originally present to leave. The singing Henslow's were also relatively close at the second Oldham County field listed above (6 singing birds). The Grasshopper Sparrow seems always to space itself at least as far apart as the 300-400 foot maximum distance of the Henslow's. Also the least number of Henslow's Sparrows heard in any continuous area of occupied habitat was four singing birds, while the Grasshopper was often heard singly or at least widely separated. Tentative conclusions are (1) Henslow's Sparrows are rarely found alone or widely separated from neighboring birds of the same species, (2) 200 to 300 feet may be a typical average distance between singing birds in mixed orchard grass habitat, (3) the Grasshopper Sparrow, although individuals are more widely separated, is more regular in available habitat. The Henslow's Sparrow is a well-known colonial nester.

The Henslow's Sparrows were usually in the same fields in which Grasshopper Sparrows, Dickcissels (*Spiza americana*) and Short-billed Marsh Wrens (*Cistothorus platensis*) were found. At the Meade County locality wrens and Dickcissels were the most common associates of the Henslow's Sparrows, while in Jefferson County wrens and Grasshopper Sparrows were more common. In Oldham County, though, none of these three species was observed at the Henslow's Sparrow localities. Instead,

in the locality above Sleepy Hollow, Field Sparrows (*Spizella pusilla*) and Yellowthroats (*Geothlypis trichas*) were found. Both in Meade County and in Jefferson County the Grasshopper Sparrow seemed in close contact with the Henslow's and often sang within a couple hundred feet of the latter birds. The relationships between these two species need to be explored further — particularly the extent to which their territories overlap and the possibility of competition between the two species for territories, singing perches and habitat. At the third Jefferson County field listed above there is a possibility that the Grasshopper Sparrows never actually sang within the area occupied by the singing Henslow's; however, this is not certain, and the large ranges of the individual Grasshopper Sparrows added confusion.

On July 14 at this third Jefferson County field we undertook to capture sparrows for banding. The only effective nets used were placed in an 80-foot line in the middle of the large field, and sparrows were chased into the nets by dragging a rope through the field. Eight times sparrows escaped, but three birds were caught for banding. The data on these follow:

Band No.	Species	Age	Sex	Wing Length (chord)	Amount of Fat	Tail length
103-10257	Henslow's Sp.	Ad.	F.	49.1 mm.	Moderate	44.8 mm.
103-10258	Grasshopper Sp.	Ad.	F.	50.2 mm.	Little	34.6 mm.
103-10259	Henslow's Sp.	Ad.	M.	52.8 mm.	Little	43.6 mm.

The female Grasshopper Sparrow was captured in the middle of the Henslow's Sparrow colony. All were in breeding condition, the females with brood patches and the male with a large cloacal protuberance. So, although no nest was found by us, the sparrows were breeding birds.

Henslow's Sparrows were found in the Louisville area as late as early September in 1963. Mrs. Frederick W. Stamm and Croft found four singing along Hall's Hill Road on September 2, and Croft and Rowe flushed one at the same place on September 7.

\* \* \*

## NOTES ON THE LONG-EARED OWL IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

HOWARD P. JONES

Since there has been little published concerning the Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) in Kentucky, my four observations made in Franklin County may be of interest. Apparently this species will not be found often, for since 1957 I have on 37 different occasions (involving all months except June, July, and August) very carefully searched the specific areas these owls frequent, and have found them only four times.

On February 12, 1960, at about 11:00 a.m., I found four Long-eared Owls in a small dense thicket of red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*). These were young cedars about 20 feet in height with their tops leaning together and intertwined. The owls were facing outward from dark recesses in the densest part of the thicket. On February 22, 1960, in the afternoon, I again returned and found three in the same location. On December 24, 1961, and December 30, 1962, I flushed single individuals from a dense mature stand of red cedars on another hillside some three miles from the first area. These owls flew from the densest part of the trees and alighted

in another cedar some one hundred feet away where they could be observed. I have not found them close to the trunk of trees as others have described. This difference may be due to the fact that the densest portion of a cedar ordinarily is found out in the branches of the crown.

My best observation came on February 22, 1960, when I carefully viewed one individual from about 25 feet with 7X binoculars. This owl sat up quite straight and observed me just as carefully. It appeared generally smaller and slimmer than the Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*). There were pronounced ear tufts set rather close together. The breast was light with heavy brownish-gray streaks running lengthwise. Upper parts and sides were grayish-brown. The facial discs were rich reddish-brown. The eyes were quite yellow and the bill was black. In flight they were silent, appeared generally gray, and looked much larger. In leaving their perch there was a great fluttering about as they struck the cedar branches.

I have not heard any of these individuals sound any call or note. I have returned at night to the vicinity but have heard only the Great Horned Owl and the Screech Owl (*Otus asio*). Surprisingly, I could find no pellets on the ground under the thicket, although bird droppings were numerous. In the same thicket were found a Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), a Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), and a Myrtle Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*). The Myrtle Warbler was hopping from branch to branch only a few feet from one of the owls.

\* \* \*

#### 1964 BIG SPRING LISTS

WOODLANDS (Approximately same area as covered in other censuses).—May 3; bright; no wind; temp. 65° to 80°. Many of the winter residents had already migrated. Only two species of ducks were recorded: Blue-winged Teal and Wood Duck. Warblers seemed to be in good numbers and 18 species were listed. Total, 83 species. Starred forms were found on April 25.—Mickey Buzzard, Willard Gray, James W. Hancock, Edwin Larson, Jr., Richard Larson, Clell Peterson (compiler).

\* \* \*

MADISONVILLE (W. W. Hancock Farm, Brown Road, Elk Creek, Highway 892, four lakes at Madisonville, and one at Earlington).—May 1; 4:15 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Clear; light S. W. wind; temp. 55° to 77°. Total miles, 68 (6 on foot, 62 by car). Total, 91 species.

The Bewick's Wren has shown a notable increase this spring while the House Wren appears to be less common.

Getting a big spring list in Hopkins County is much more difficult than it used to be. In part, this may be due to strip-mining, aerial spraying of insecticides, and pollution.—James W. Hancock.

\* \* \*

HENDERSON (Henderson County).—May 3; 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Clear and warm. Ten observers. Some waterfowl remained in the area, thus increasing the count of species. Total, 135 species.—King Benson, Mrs. Lora Clark, Ray Harm, David Jenkins, J. W. Parker, Mrs. Ross Parsons, W. P. Rhoads (compiler), Virginia Smith, Mrs. Nat Stanley, Jr., Edna Vogel.

BOWLING GREEN (Chaney Farm, McElroy's, Burton Memorial, Hadley, Grider's Limestone Lake, Mouth of Gasper area).—April 11-12; April 11, clear, warm; April 12, cloudy, rain. Some 50 K. O. S. members and guests were on one or more of the outings. Total, 112 species.—Gordon Wilson.

\* \* \*

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK (Most of the park area covered).—May 3; all day. Eastern Bluebirds were nesting in a tree in the meadow at Great Onyx. Mrs. Altscheler found an American Redstart's nest in a maple at the edge of the parking lot at the Ferry. Total, 97 species—this includes the birds observed by Mr. and Mrs. Yancey Altscheler, who spent the week-end at the park. We regret we did not have the assistance of Dr. Gordon Wilson this year.—Mrs. George Ellis, Jr., Mrs. James Gillenwater, George McKinley, Mrs. Mary Clyde Nuchols, Faye Starr, Russell Starr (compiler).

\* \* \*

LOUISVILLE (Louisville and its environs, including the Ohio River, woodlands, meadows, and Caperton's Swamp).—May 3; 5:30 a.m. until dark. Total, 113 species. Temp. about 55° to 75°; clear most of the day. Most waterfowl had departed the area, thus lowering the count of species. Only the Mallard and Wood Duck were recorded. Warblers were few in numbers but the total of 23 species was good. Field birds were also low in numbers, particularly the Dickcissel and Bobolink. The best find of the day was the Evening Grosbeak.—Leonard C. Brêchêr, Floyd Carpenter, Mary Louise Daubard, Amy Deane, Paxton Gibbs, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Horner, Mrs. Harry Hummel, Dr. and Mrs. Harvey B. Lovell, Burt L. Monroe, Sr. (compiler), Mrs. H. V. Noland, Louis Pieper, Marie Pieper, Joe Proctor, Evelyn Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Shannon, Mabel Slack, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Mrs. Charles Thacher, James Thomas, Mrs. Arthur Wicker, Raymond Zollner.—BECKHAM BIRD CLUB.

\* \* \*

### BIG SPRING LISTS, 1964

W—Woodlands; M—Madisonville; H—Henderson; B—Bowling Green; MC—Mammoth Cave National Park; L—Louisville; \* after a letter—recorded near count date.

Common Loon—M*	Gadwall—H, B
Horned Grebe—B	Green-winged Teal—B
Pied-billed Grebe—M, H, B	Blue-winged Teal—W, M*, H, B, L
Great Blue Heron—H, B	American Widgeon—B
Green Heron—W, M, H, B, MC, L	Shoveler—W*, H, B
Black-crowned Night Heron—H, B	Wood Duck—W, H, B, MC, L
Yellow-crowned Night Heron—L	Redhead—H, B
Least Bittern—H	Ring-necked Duck—H, B
Mallard—H, B, L	Canvasback—B
Black Duck—B	Lesser Scaup—M, H, B

- Bufflehead—B  
 Oldsquaw—B  
 Ruddy Duck—M, B  
 Hooded Merganser—B  
 Red-breasted Merganser—M, H  
 Turkey Vulture—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Black Vulture—H, B, MC, L  
 Sharp-shinned Hawk—H  
 Cooper's Hawk—W\*, H, B, L  
 Red-tailed Hawk—W, H, B, MC, L  
 Red-shouldered Hawk—W, H, B  
 Broad-winged Hawk—B  
 Rough-legged Hawk—B  
 Marsh Hawk—H, B  
 Osprey—M\*, B  
 Sparrow Hawk—M\*, H, B, MC, L  
 Bobwhite—W, M, H, B, L  
 American Coot—W, M, H, B  
 Killdeer—W, M, H, B, L  
 American Woodcock—M, H  
 Common Snipe—H, B  
 Spotted Sandpiper—W, M, B  
 Solitary Sandpiper—W\*, M, B, L  
 Willet—H  
 Greater Yellowlegs—H, B  
 Lesser Yellowlegs—W, H, B  
 Pectoral Sandpiper—B  
 Dowitcher—H  
 Stilt Sandpiper—H  
 Herring Gull—H  
 Ring-billed Gull—M, L  
 Common Tern—M  
 Black Tern—M\*  
 Mourning Dove—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Yellow-billed  
   Cuckoo—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Black-billed Cuckoo—H, M\*, L  
 Barn Owl—H  
 Screech Owl—H  
 Great Horned Owl—H, B  
 Barred Owl—W, H, L  
 Chuck-will's-widow—M, H  
 Whip-poor-will—M, H, MC, L  
 Common Nighthawk—M, H, MC, L  
 Chimney Swift—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Ruby-throated  
   Hummingbird—M, H, MC, L  
 Belted Kingfisher—M\*, H, B, L  
 Yellow-shafted  
   Flicker—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Pileated  
   Woodpecker—W, H, B, MC, L  
 Red-bellied  
   Woodpecker—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
   Red-headed  
     Woodpecker—W\*, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Yellow-bellied  
   Sapsucker—H, B, MC  
 Hairy Woodpecker—M, H, B, MC, L  
 Downy  
   Woodpecker—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Eastern Kingbird—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Great Crested  
   Flycatcher—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Eastern Phoebe—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—L  
 Acadian  
   Flycatcher—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Traill's Flycatcher—H  
 Least Flycatcher—M\*, H, MC  
 Eastern Wood  
   Pewee—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Horned Lark—M, B, L  
 Tree Swallow—B  
 Bank Swallow—L  
 Rough-winged  
   Swallow—H, B, MC, L  
 Barn Swallow—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Purple Martin—M, H, B, L  
 Blue Jay—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Common Crow—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Carolina  
   Chickadee—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Tufted  
   Titmouse—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 White-breasted  
   Nuthatch—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch—B  
 Brown Creeper—B  
 House Wren—M\*, H, L  
 Winter Wren—B  
 Bewick's Wren—W, M, H, B  
 Carolina Wren—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Mockingbird—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Catbird—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Brown  
   Thrasher—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Robin—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Wood Thrush—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Hermit Thrush—L  
 Swainson's  
   Thrush—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Gray-cheeked  
   Thrush—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Veery—H, MC  
 Eastern  
   Bluebird—W, M, H, B, MC, L

- Blue-gray  
 Gnatcatcher—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Golden-crowned Kinglet—B  
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet—W  
 Water Pipit—B  
 Cedar Waxwing—M\*, H, MC, L  
 Loggerhead Shrike—H, B, L  
 Starling—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 White-eyed  
 Vireo—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Bell's Vireo—MC  
 Yellow-throated  
 Vireo—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Red-eyed Vireo—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Warbling Vireo—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Black-and-white  
 Warbler—W, H, B, MC, L  
 Phrothonotary  
 Warbler—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Swainson's Warbler—MC  
 Worm-eating Warbler—W, H, MC  
 Golden-winged Warbler—MC  
 Blue-winged Warbler—W, MC, L  
 Tennessee  
 Warbler—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Nashville Warbler—M, H, L  
 Parula Warbler—H, MC  
 Yellow  
 Warbler—W, M\*, H, B, MC, L  
 Magnolia Warbler—M, L  
 Cape May Warbler—M\*, H, MC, L  
 Black-throated Blue Warbler—MC  
 Myrtle  
 Warbler—W\*, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Black-throated Green  
 Warbler—W, H, B, MC, L  
 Cerulean  
 Warbler—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Blackburnian Warbler—L  
 Yellow-throated  
 Warbler—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler—W, H, L  
 Bay-breasted Warbler—M\*, H, L  
 Blackpoll Warbler—W, M, MC  
 Pine Warbler—MC  
 Prairie Warbler—W, M, MC, L  
 Palm Warbler—W, M, MC, L  
 Ovenbird—M\*, H, MC, L  
 Northern  
 Waterthrush—M, H, MC, L  
 Louisiana  
 Waterthrush—W, M, H, B, MC, L
- Kentucky  
 Warbler—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Yellowthroat—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Yellow-breasted  
 Chat—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Hooded Warbler—W, H, MC  
 Wilson's Warbler—M\*, MC  
 Canada Warbler—M\*, H, MC  
 American Redstart—H, MC  
 House Sparrow—W, M, H, B, L  
 Bobolink—H, L  
 Eastern  
 Meadowlark—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Redwinged  
 Blackbird—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Orchard Oriole—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Baltimore  
 Oriole—W\*, M\*, H, MC, L  
 Rusty Blackbird—B  
 Common  
 Grackle—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Brown-headed  
 Cowbird—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Scarlet Tanager—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Summer Tanager—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Cardinal—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Rose-breasted <sup>THORN</sup>  
 Grosbeak—W, M, H, MC, L  
 Indigo Bunting—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Dickcissel—M, H, L  
 Evening Grosbeak—L  
 Purple Finch—B, MC  
 American  
 Goldfinch—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Rufous-sided  
 Towhee—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Savannah Sparrow—W, M, B, L  
 Grasshopper Sparrow—H, L  
 Henslow's Sparrow—L  
 Vesper Sparrow—H, B  
 Bachman's Sparrow—B  
 Slate-colored Junco—B, MC  
 Chipping  
 Sparrow—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Field Sparrow—W, M, H, B, MC, L  
 White-crowned  
 Sparrow—M, H, B, L  
 White-throated  
 Sparrow—W\*, M, H, B, MC, L  
 Fox Sparrow—H  
 Swamp Sparrow—M, B  
 Song Sparrow—W, M, H, B, L  
**Total Species on Counts .....184**

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE KENTUCKY  
ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INCORPORATED**

We, the undersigned, our associates and successors, for the purpose of forming a corporation under and pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky set out in Chapter 273 in the Revised Kentucky Statutes, certify as follows:

1. The name of the corporation is the **KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INCORPORATED.**
2. The location and principal office of the corporation and the place where its principal business is to be transacted is Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky.
3. The purposes for which the corporation is formed are:
  - A. To promote interest in the science of ornithology and to further the knowledge of bird-life.
  - B. To furnish an opportunity for those interested in birds to meet and exchange ideas and to develop a bond of mutual interest.
  - C. To stand for the enactment and enforcement of wise and judicious laws for bird protection and the conservation of our natural resources.
  - D. To publish as funds become available the results of the studies of its members in ornithology and allied fields.
  - E. To further the interest of the public at large in birds by any other means advisable.
  - F. To buy, receive, and hold such property, real and personal, including corporate stock and other securities, whether obtained by gift, purchase, devise, contract, lease, or otherwise, as may be necessary to carry on and promote the objects of the corporation; and to lease, mortgage, sell or otherwise dispose of such property at pleasure, unless the property has been received as a gift or devise for some special purpose, and if so received, it shall be used for and applied to such purpose only.
4.
  - A. The corporation may adopt by-laws and rules for its government and operation, not inconsistent with law, as its directors or members may from time to time deem proper.
  - B. The corporation may have and possess generally all power incidental to its purpose herein set out and all such incidental powers as are permitted by the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to corporations formed under the act referred to in the caption hereof.
5. The corporation shall have no capital stock, and no pecuniary profit shall be derived by it, its members, or directors.
6. The corporation shall begin its business when its certificate is issued by the Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The corporation shall have unlimited duration, unless dissolved by action of its members.
7. The affairs of the corporation shall be conducted and managed by a Board of Directors of such members and their numbers as may be provided in its by-laws, and by such officers as its by-laws may

provide, until their successors are elected and qualified. The incorporators shall serve as the Board of Directors until the successors are elected at the first annual meeting following the incorporation. The agent upon whom process may be served shall be Charles Strull, 318 Armory Place, Louisville, Kentucky.

- 8. The highest amount of indebtedness or liability which the corporation may at any time incur shall be Two Hundred Fifty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$250,000.00). The private property of the directors, officers, and members is expressly exempt from the debts and liabilities of the corporation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, witness our signatures this 28th day of August, 1951. (Signed)

Leonard C. Brecher, 1900 Spring Drive, Louisville, Ky.  
 Helen Browning, 206 W. Oak St., Louisville, Ky.  
 Harvey B. Lovell, 3011 Meade Ave., Louisville, Ky.  
 Burt L. Monroe, Ridge Road, Anchorage, Ky.  
 Evelyn J. Schneider, 2207 Alta Ave., Louisville, Ky.  
 Charles Strull, 2100 Murray Ave., Louisville, Ky.  
 Mrs. Charles Thacher, 2918 Brownsboro Rd., Louisville, Ky.

State of Kentucky }  
 County of Jefferson } SCT

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, certify that the foregoing Articles of Incorporation were this day produced to me in said county and acknowledged by Leonard C. Brecher, Helen Browning, Harvey B. Lovell, Burt L. Monroe, Evelyn J. Schneider, Charles Strull, and Mrs. Charles Thacher, to be their act and deed.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL this 28th day of August, 1951.

My commission expires June 9, 1952.

(SEAL)

Morris B. Levy  
 Notary Public Jefferson County, Ky.  
 ORIGINAL COPY  
 Filed and recorded  
 Sept. 21, 1951  
 Bk. 79-P. 59  
 George Glenn Hatcher  
 Secretary of State of Kentucky  
 Frankfort, Kentucky

Lodged by C. Strull  
 and recorded  
 1951 SEP 24 P.M. 2:53  
 PAID Inc. Tax  
 JAMES F. QUEENAN, J.C.C.  
 By H. Butler D. C.  
 A.K.F.

**KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.****BY-LAWS****ARTICLE I - Membership**

**Section A.** Membership in this society shall be open to all persons interested in any phase of bird life and shall consist of Active, Contributing, Life, Student, Corresponding, and Honorary Members.

**Section B. Active Membership** shall consist of those persons who pay the active membership fee, and who desire to cooperate in the work of the Society and wish to receive its publications.

**Section C. Contributing Membership** shall consist of those persons who pay the contributing membership fee. They shall be accorded all the privileges and duties of an Active Member.

**Section D. Life Membership** shall consist of those persons who pay the life membership fee. Life Members shall be accorded the privileges and duties of an Active Member.

**Section E. Student Membership** shall include bona fide full-time students of schools and colleges. Each student shall pay the student membership dues annually as long as he comes within this classification. He is entitled to all the privileges of Active Membership, but shall not be eligible for office.

**Section F. Corresponding Membership** shall consist of institutions subscribing to THE KENTUCKY WARBLER and those individuals residing outside Kentucky who wish to subscribe to THE KENTUCKY WARBLER without having the status of Active Membership.

**Section G. Honorary Membership** shall consist of those persons who because of special merit have been elected to such status by the Board of Directors after recommendation by five (5) members.

**ARTICLE II - Dues**

**Section A.** The annual dues for Active Membership shall be \$3.00, for Contributing Membership \$5.00, for Student Membership \$2.00, for Corresponding Membership \$2.50. The fee for Life Membership shall be \$50.00. The Board of Directors shall have the power to change dues of each class of membership if necessary.

**Section B.** Dues from Life Members shall be placed in a special fund at income. The Board of Directors may appropriate from that fund for each Life Member a sum to be used for current needs equivalent to the amount of dues paid by Active Members. The Board may pay the unused funds of a deceased member into the Endowment Fund.

**Section C.** Dues are payable for the fiscal year, which shall run from January first through December thirty-first.

### ARTICLE III - Government

**Section A.** The governing body of this corporation shall be a Board of Directors composed of nine persons. This Board shall consist of four officers: a President, a Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, and a Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer; four Councilors, two of whom shall be elected each year; and the immediate past President.

**Section B.** The President shall appoint a nominating committee who shall nominate one member for each of the offices and two members as Councilors. The committee shall make its report at the annual meeting of the Society in the fall, and shall place such names in nomination. Nominations for both Officers and Councilors may also be made from the floor by members present at the annual meeting. The four Officers and two Councilors shall be elected by ballot of the majority of the members present, provided that a quorum, as hereinafter defined, be present. All Officers and Councilors shall take office at the close of the meeting and shall remain in office until their successors are elected and qualified.

**Section C.** Officers shall be elected for one year, and they may be re-elected to the same office for not more than four successive terms. Councilors shall be elected for two years, and may be re-elected.

**Section D.** Vacancies occurring in any office shall be filled by the Board. Any person so selected shall act until the next annual meeting, at which time a person shall be elected to fill any unexpired term.

**Section E.** There shall be two appointive officers, an Editor and a Curator, who shall be appointed annually by the Board of Directors immediately after the fall meeting. Either one or both appointees may be an elected Officer or a Councilor.

### ARTICLE IV - Duties of Officers

**Section A.** The Board of Directors shall have power to carry on any necessary business in the interim between meetings. It shall advise, assist, and cooperate with the various individual officers and committees in the performance of their duties. It shall make appointments to fill out the unexpired term of any office in which a vacancy occurs.

**Section B.** The duties of the officers shall be such as pertain to their respective offices in similar organizations. The President shall be chairman of the Board of Directors and shall appoint all committees.

**Section C.** The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his absence.

**Section D.** The Recording Secretary shall record the proceedings of the Corporation and of its Board of Directors in books kept for that purpose, and shall have charge of the records of the Corporation.

**Section E.** The Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct the correspondence of the Corporation and keep a record thereof; shall give notice of all meetings; shall take care of the accounts and funds of

the Corporation; shall pay from the funds of the Corporation all bills duly approved by the President or the Board of Directors; shall send bills for dues; shall collect all bills due the Corporation; and at the annual meeting shall furnish a statement of the financial condition of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall not pay any sum greater than one hundred dollars for any one purpose, unless such expenditure has been approved by the Board of Directors.

**Section F.** The four Councilors, besides serving as members of the Board of Directors, shall act as advisors to the members of the Society, and shall not only endeavor to be familiar with the species of birds occurring in their own section of the state, but shall also foster activities in their section.

**Section G.** The Editor shall edit four (4) seasonal issues of a journal to be known as THE KENTUCKY WARBLER. This journal shall be sent to all members in good standing.

**Section H.** The Curator shall have charge of all scientific records and all collections of birds, their nests and eggs, that may come into the possession of the Society.

#### ARTICLE V - Meetings

**Section A.** The Society shall hold one regular meeting in the spring and one regular meeting in the fall. The location for the meetings shall be selected by the Board of Directors. The fall meeting shall be the annual meeting, alternating between locations in the eastern and western sections of the state as far as practicable.

**Section B.** Special meetings may be called at any time by action of the Board of Directors, or upon written petition of fifteen (15) Active, Contributing or Life Members to the President, who shall thereupon call the meeting. Two weeks notice of such meeting must be given in writing, stating the purpose of the call, to the members by the Corresponding Secretary.

**Section C.** A quorum at any meeting shall consist of fifteen (15) Active, Contributing, or Life Members.

#### ARTICLE VI - Affiliated Chapters

**Section A.** This society shall encourage the formation of local chapters in all interested centers. These local units shall have their own autonomous organization to facilitate their activities, but shall act in cooperation with the KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

#### ARTICLE VII - Endowment Fund

**Section A.** An Endowment Fund shall be established from which the income only may be used for current needs. All monies obtained

from bequests, gifts etc., given for endowment purposes, shall be placed in this fund. Such monies shall be invested in accordance with the laws of the State of Kentucky governing investments by fiduciaries.

#### ARTICLE VIII - Library

**Section A.** The Library of the University of Louisville shall be the repository of all books and manuscripts acquired by the Society, the files of other ornithological journals accumulated through exchanges, and the stock of back issues of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER.

#### ARTICLE IX - Amendments

**Section A.** These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any legal meeting, provided that a written notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member by the secretary at least two weeks before the meeting in which it is to be voted upon.

#### ARTICLE X - Rules of Order

**Section A.** The rules of parliamentary procedure as laid down in ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER shall govern all meetings of the Society.

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## FIELD NOTES

### A CONCENTRATION OF ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS

On the morning of December 20, 1963, John Westerman and I were birding by car through rather hilly farming country just south of Lexington. A dark bird of prey flew low across the road in front of us, and the ensuing chase proved it to be a black-phase Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*). A little farther down the road another was seen, and then more: a total of seven birds within a radius of one and one-half miles or less. Two more were in the general vicinity but away from the area of concentration, making nine altogether. All nine were at least predominantly dark; those we watched closely or at leisure (about four) were in typical dark phase, appearing quite black at a distance, with striking white flight feathers ventrally and little or no white on the tail dorsally. The hawks were hunting actively by two main methods: quartering back and forth fairly low with alternate flapping and sailing, and soaring high with spread tail.

On December 22, Westerman saw a light-phase Rough-leg about ten miles east of Lexington.

The birds we saw on December 20 may have been just passing through, as only one Rough-leg was seen on the Lexington Christmas Bird Count, December 28.—WILLIAM ROWE, Brandenburg.

### RED-HEADED WOODPECKERS COMMON AT LAKE CUMBERLAND

In early December, 1963, while measuring trails at Lake Cumberland State Park, I noticed Red-headed Woodpeckers (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) in groups of eight to 20 all along the trails. The birds were feeding on beech nuts. Later in the day I rode around the park in my car, and every place I stopped near beech trees there were Red-headed Woodpeckers. I estimated seeing at least 100 of this species in an area of 300 to 400 acres.—CLETIS W. WELLER, Deatsville.

\* \* \*

### RED CROSSBILLS IN CHRISTIAN COUNTY

December 29, 1963, Willard Gray and I were fortunate in finding six Red Crossbills (*Loxia curvirostra*) while assisting in taking a Mid-Winter Bird Count at Pennyryle Forest State Park (Ky. Warbler, 40:10, 1964). No further records were made at Pennyryle but I was delighted to find the species show up again later within the county.

At Outwood Hospital, about five miles north of Pennyryle, there is a great deal of Virginia Pine (*Pinus virginiana*) growing. This year there is a good crop of cones, which seems to be the principal food of the crossbills. The remaining records were made at Outwood.

On December 31, 1963, I saw seven of these birds in a pine; more were heard. On January 2, 1964, twenty-five were counted as they stopped feeding in one pine and flew to another; again more were heard. Later the same day 10 were seen sitting in an elm.

Lastly, on January 19, 1964, after searching the campus for a while, Willard Gray, Maurice Hancock, James W. Hancock, and I located a flock of 15 feeding near the top of a pine. They called to one another and worked at the cones, but soon the entire flock took flight. We have been unable to find them since that date, either here or elsewhere.—MICKEY BUZZARD, Dawson Springs.

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### SECOND WINTER RECORD OF THE BROWN THRASHER AT BOWLING GREEN

In mid-November, 1963, I saw a Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) in our yard. I wanted to keep the bird in the area, so I immediately put out a mixture of corn meal and bacon grease. The bird ate heartily and stayed until the first big snow on December 22. I checked with Dr. Gordon Wilson, author of *Birds of South Central Kentucky* (Ky. Warbler, 38: 3-24, 1962), and he said that he had known of only one other Brown Thrasher to be present at this time of year in the Bowling Green area.—MRS. W. G. THOMAS, Bowling Green.

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### NOTES ON WINTER BIRDS FROM EASTERN KENTUCKY

A Christmas Count from Mrs. Wm. E. Gavland, Paintsville, Johnson

County, and one from Mrs. J. W. Rees, Majestic, Pike County, came too late to be included in the compiled state list published in the February issue. The observation of two Bewick's Wrens (*Thryomanes bewickii*) on the latter list was the most interesting of the 15 species. Among the most noteworthy on the Paintsville list were the following: two Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), two Black Ducks (*Anas rubripes*), two Pileated Woodpeckers (*Dryocopus pileatus*), and two Redwinged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*).

\* \* \*

### GOLDEN PLOVERS AT LOUISVILLE IN SPRING

American Golden Plovers (*Pluvialis dominica*) are rarely observed during the spring season in the Louisville area, and our observations on March 30, 1964, may therefore be of some interest. Stamm observed one bird standing quietly in a large grassy field along Old Brownsboro Road, Jefferson County, while Croft was in another field looking for snipe; it remained for about 10 minutes and then flew out of sight. Later we stopped along Route #329 in Oldham County, and there in a plowed field 10 birds of this species walked and flew about casually; we had good looks at their markings. All birds with the exception of one were in winter plumage; one showed some black feathers on the belly and lower breast. Stamm checked this same field on April 1 and found the plovers in a pasture directly across the road. On April 4, the birds were still in the same vicinity, but seemed more wary; they were shown to a group from the Beckham Bird Club who were on their way homeward from a field trip to the University of Louisville Wildlife Sanctuary. The plovers could not be found two days later.

There are very few published spring records for the Louisville area; we know of only two April records of single birds (*Ky. Warbler*, 37: 30, 1961) and the two flocks observed on March 27, and the one flock on March 28, 1955 (*Ky. Warbler*, 31:28, 1955).—ANNE L. STAMM and JOSEPH E. CROFT, Louisville.

\* \* \*

### SOME EARLY MIGRATION DATES

The 1964 spring migration brought several strange upsets in arrival dates. With the exception of 1929, when I was out of the state in graduate work, I have an unbroken record of migrations for 1917-1964; hence it is somewhat unusual when more than two or three records are broken in one year.

Ten species that appear on nearly every list arrived earlier than ever before: Black-billed Cuckoo, April 23; Gray-cheeked Thrush, April 12; Tennessee Warbler, April 18; Nashville Warbler, April 16; Cerulean Warbler, April 7; Blackburnian Warbler, April 16; Blackpoll Warbler, April 22; Yellow-breasted Chat, April 19; Orchard Oriole, April 11; and Indigo Bunting, April 11. The Catbird, April 11, was the earliest since 1922; the Brown Thrasher, March 9, earliest since 1946; and the Baltimore

Oriole, April 17, earliest since 1927. Sixteen other species, all but the Orange-crowned Warbler found every year, were from three days to two weeks ahead of schedule. The warblers were unusually early and were also brief in their spring visits.

A few species set some late departure dates. The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, May 3, was the latest ever recorded except for 1957, May 5; the Myrtle Warbler, May 16, tied with 1956 for the latest spring record; and the Slate-colored Junco, May 3, was among the three latest records, the others being 1958, May 4, and 1940, May 5. A single Snow Goose on April 18 was the latest of the few records of that species; the Oldsquaw, recorded on April 11 at Chaney's by Dr. Russell Starr, was the latest of just five records for that species. The Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, seen only occasionally in spring migrations, set a new late record on May 31, when one was seen and heard often in my yard.—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green

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#### AN EARLY OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER

In the forenoon of April 24, 1964, my attention was attracted by a bird sitting high in a red oak tree not more than fifty feet or so from the window through which I was looking. It proved to be an Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Nuttallornis borealis*) — full head, drab color, large white spots and all. While several nearby trees were almost fully leafed, this oak was just beginning to come out, so I had an excellent view. I have seen the Olive-sided in Massachusetts but had never seen one in Kentucky.

It stayed around some fifteen or twenty minutes, flying out and back, returning to the same perch. And then he was gone.—MRS. CHARLES HORNER, Louisville.

(Ed. note: We have one other early record for the same date in 1961, when a single bird was observed by Floyd Carpenter. We are glad for these dates as this rather rare migrant is usually not observed before the first week of May.)

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#### BLUE GROSBEEK BREEDING AT BOWLING GREEN

Early on the morning of June 25, 1964, as we were starting for a walk on the farm of Mr. D. E. Fishburn, near the Mouth of Gasper, Lancaster heard a strange bird song. When we stopped to listen, the bird became silent. When we returned to the car, parked near where we had heard the bird, we again heard the song and soon saw a male Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*). He would fly from a maple tree at an old house site, some hundred yards from Mr. Fishburn's modern house, to the truck patch and gardens near by, or would fly to another maple in a fence-row. We got a number of good views of the bird in bright light and once were sure that we had found its grayish mate. Late that afternoon we returned to the same place and again heard and saw the bird. We looked for a nest but were not satisfied with the ones we had found. Lancaster returned to the area on June 27 but did not see or hear the bird. Early on June 28 he went again and was doubly or trebly rewarded, for he

saw the male, the female, and both of them feeding two young that were large enough to be out of the nest but not mature enough to fly more than a few yards at a time. Lancaster called Wilson by telephone, and soon both of them were seeing this strange bird family in action. So far as we know, this is the first Kentucky record of the bird's breeding within the state.

Since Dr. Jess Funk found the species at Bowling Green on April 25, 1958, and Dr. George McKinley recorded it at Mammoth Cave National Park on April 28, 1959, it has appeared every season in the area. The only previous summer record was of one that Wilson heard in full song near the Historic Entrance of Mammoth Cave on July 11, 1962.—L. Y. LANCASTER and GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

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### SOME UNUSUAL JUNE RECORDS

On June 20, 1964, Evelyn Schneider and I saw a female Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and four young ducks in first feathering; they were on Harrod's Creek near the River Road bridge. They swam slowly out of the way of my boat—later they were resting on a floating log. Mr. Finnegan, who works at a nearby boat dock, told me that he had seen the ducks several times and that they were wild and not domesticated birds. The ducks made no attempt to fly or dive but leisurely swam out of the way of my boat, so I do not know if the adult duck could fly. I saw them again on July 14; they had grown considerably, and again swam out of my way. Many boats pass this location, so a boat is a familiar object.

About 6:00 p.m., June 17, 1964, Miss Schneider and I saw two American Coots (*Fulica americana*) perched on a log at the edge of Six Mile Island. One coot was standing on one leg with its head under a wing; the other saw us and dropped into the water, swam a little and then returned to the log. This species is rare in summer.

On June 23, 1964, Louis Pieper and I saw an adult Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) at the foot of the Ohio Falls; it was on a sand bar part of the time and then waded into shallow water to bathe, swim, and feed. It did not fly, but seemed to be free from injury. This appears to be an unusually late date for the Herring Gull in the Louisville area.—FLOYD CARPENTER, Louisville.

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### PURPLE GALLINULE AT HENDERSON

J. W. Parker, Field Agent, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, saw a Purple Gallinule (*Porphyryla martinica*) on May 5, 1964, while checking the Ohio River. The bird was found in a small slough on the west side of Horse Shoe Bend.

Mr. Parker and David Jenkins, Kentucky Agent, had worked together in the morning; in the afternoon, going by boats, Parker took the northern or upper bottoms and Jenkins the lower. The water had receded but re-

mained in many low spots, thus exposing mud flats. Parker spotted the gallinule at a distance of about 20 yards. The bird looked up and then went on feeding in the shallow water. The yellow legs, purple neck, and yellow-tipped bill all were carefully noted. Parker signaled his Labrador retriever to move forward — he uses the well-trained dog when working this type of terrain—and the bird flushed and flew away showing the full white under tail feathers. Many additional trips were made to the same area but the bird was not seen again.—W. P. RHOADS, Henderson.

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### HIGH NEST OF THE ROBIN

A pair of Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) built a nest in a large Kentucky coffee-tree (*Gymnocladus dioica*) in our yard. The nest was built in July and the fledglings (at least two) left in mid-August. The interesting thing about this nest was its height; it was in a fork of an outer branch approximately 80 feet above the ground. I believe in all my birding observations this is the highest nest I have found. On the one side, the nest was rather exposed, and the young nestlings at one time were preyed upon by a Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius*). The parent birds pursued the hawk, calling loudly all the while; it is doubtful that they could have kept the predator away if it had not been for my assistance.—ANNE L. STAMM, Louisville.

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## NEWS AND VIEWS

(Continued from page 38)

here Audubon's own account of Henslow's Sparrow just as it appeared in Volume 1 (1831) of his notable work.

"HENSLOW'S BUNTING"  
EMBERIZA HENSLOWII  
Plate LXX

"I obtained the bird represented in this plate opposite Cincinnati, in the State of Kentucky, in the year 1820, whilst in the company of Mr. Robert Best, then Curator of the Western Museum. It was on the ground, amongst tall grass, and exhibited the usual habits of its tribe. Perceiving it to be different from any which I had seen, I immediately shot it, and the same day made an accurate drawing of it.

"In naming it after the Rev. Professor HENSLOW of Cambridge, a gentlemen so well known to the scientific world, and who has permitted me so to designate it, my object has been to manifest my gratitude for the many kind attentions which he has shewn towards me. Its history and habits are unknown. In appearance it differs so little from the Buntings, that, for the present, I shall refer it to that genus."

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### FALL MEETING

The annual fall meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society will take place on October 9-11, 1964, at Cumberland Lake. Announcements with full details of program, reservation information, etc., will be mailed to members well in advance of the meeting.