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The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

Vol. XL

November, 1964

No. 4



Bald Eagles from a painting by Ray Harm

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(Founded in 1923 by B. C. Bacon, L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson)

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Editor Anne L. (Mrs. F. W.) Stamm, 9101 Spokane Way,
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Joseph E. Croft	Gordon Wilson

NEWS AND VIEWS

OUR COVER

The pair of Bald Eagles watching over young nestlings is a photograph of another painting by staff artist Ray Harm. Here is Harm's own comment on this painting: "I would like to think that in this picture I have reflected my deep impression of the majestic dignity of this bird. One cannot help but think of them as our national emblem when observing them in life."

(Continued on page 73)

BALD EAGLES IN KENTUCKY WOODLANDS

CLELL T. PETERSON

In previous papers (*Ky. Warbler*, 38:43-44, 1962; 39:35-45, 1963) I reported on wintering Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) in the Kentucky Woodlands National Wildlife Refuge, and I wish to bring the story up to date by summarizing my notes for the winter of 1963-64.

The work of clearing the Cumberland River bottoms in preparation for the eventual flooding of Barkley Lake began in earnest in the spring of 1963. Crews of workmen cut trees and brush and bulldozed the ground clean for thousands of acres. No water has yet been impounded, but present plans call for the first stage of the flooding to begin late in 1964. In addition to the preparations for the flooding in the river bottom, there was a good deal of other work in the area. A campground and visitor's center has just about been completed, this spring of 1964, not far from the old Center Furnace and Hematite Lake. Brush and timber have been cleared here and there, and the Silver Trail has been widened and the forest cleared back. Other and more drastic changes are in store for the area. TVA has been given authority to take over the refuge and acquire additional land to the extent of about 200,000 acres for the purpose of creating a vast recreational area in what is now called The Land Between the Lakes. TVA officials plan to continue wildlife management in the area, to some extent, but they propose major changes, including the wholesale shifting of wildlife from the northern part of the area, the present refuge, to newly acquired land in the southern part of the area. What this will mean to permanent population of Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), Virginia Deer, and Fallow Deer is hard to predict, but it seems unfortunate that TVA has felt that this redistribution of wildlife is necessary to its conception of "maximum use." I have heard, and it may be a sheer rumor, that TVA plans to construct an athletic field on the present Hematite Range, but since it may not be used in the winter, eagles may still perch and hunt the athletic field for the truest kind of "maximum use."

The effects of the work already done have made themselves felt. The acres of cleared land adjacent to the Cumberland River brought in numbers of Marsh Hawks (*Circus cyaneus*) who probably found a population explosion in various species of mice, and there was also a predictable increase of Horned Larks (*Eremophila alpestris*). Previously the Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) in the refuge were restricted largely to the woods along the Cumberland River that have been cleared. Apparently the loss of a favored habitat, together with a general increase in numbers, has resulted in their dispersal; for example, Bluebirds are relatively common now along the shore of Hematite Lake where, in the past few years, I never found them. The cleared area was full of great old trees (including one of the largest sycamores in the country) with woodpeckers in abundance and variety. I attribute the general decline of woodpeckers in the Woodlands the past year, in part, at least, to the destruction of that fine old forest, much of which was cut in the breeding season of 1963.

Not all changes in wildlife in the Woodlands can be connected with the clearing for Barkley Lake, however. Turkeys were more abundant this year than in past years. I repeatedly saw flocks of them this winter, but I can see no particular reason for their increase. Also, Golden Eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) (immature) were very much in evidence in the Woodlands this year. I made numerous observations of individuals, both

soaring over the cleared land near the Cumberland and perching and soaring along the various ranges. Paul Sturm, refuge manager, reported seeing three immature Golden Eagles at one time on Hematite Range (known also locally as Barn Hollow). In the past I have wondered to what extent Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles intermingle. Twice this year I observed immature Golden Eagles soaring in company with immature Bald Eagles.

Unhappily aware of the changes taking place in the Woodlands, I was apprehensive that the wintering population of Bald Eagles might be severely reduced from its numbers of past years. As a consequence I was delighted to discover, as the season progressed, that generally there was no change from the previous year; approximately the same numbers of mature and immature Bald Eagles (and an increased number of Golden Eagles) were in the Woodlands in 1963-64 as in 1962-63.

To recount this briefly, the first eagles I saw this season were a mature and an immature Bald Eagle at Hematite Lake on November 17, although J. J. Blackard, assistant refuge manager, reported a mature Bald Eagle at the head of Duncan Bay on November 3. Judging from my observations at Hematite Lake, which were less satisfactory for various reasons this year than in the past, the eagle population built up at about the usual rate, reaching an apparent peak of 15 Bald Eagles (4m, 11imm) on February 1. In previous years, the peak was reached somewhat later: February 18, 1962 (20 eagles) and February 22, 1963 (15 eagles). It is impossible, however, to tell very much by these figures. The fact is that Bald Eagles are present in substantial numbers in the Woodlands, and elsewhere along Kentucky Lake, through January, February, and early March; and regardless of sightings on particular dates, the overall evidence indicates that approximately the same numbers were present this year as last, and the ratio of mature to immature birds remained also about the same. My last trip to the Woodlands was on March 29, but as late as April 12 I saw an eagle soaring over the bridge across the Cumberland on U. S. 68. I was unable to stop for a careful look, but because of its rather dark, uniform color and because I had frequently found immature Golden Eagles in that area, I assumed it was one of that species.

Although numbers of eagles remained more or less constant, there were changes in locations and movements. To begin with, the combination of timber and brush clearing and a long, dry fall reduced Empire Lake to a small puddle and kept Honker Lake dry until late spring, 1964. Hematite Lake was also down, but it was never in such sorry condition as the other two lakes. The consequence of these factors was a reduction in the geese and ducks that winter in the Woodlands. Also the trees surrounding parts of Empire and Honker Lake had been cut down, and there were no roosts for hunting eagles in those areas. The only eagles I saw this season in what used to be a richly wooded, game-filled area were immature Golden Eagles soaring over the bleak, unlovely land. On one occasion I found an immature Golden Eagle perching on the lowest horizontal member of a power pylon surveying the cleared ground.

Under these circumstances, it was inevitable that Hematite Lake should carry more than the usual numbers of ducks and geese, and it continued to be used, although to a lesser extent, as a roost for the Bald Eagles in the Woodlands.

Last year I noted a pattern of behavior in which the Bald Eagles, especially the immature ones, roosted in fair numbers at Hematite Lake, spent the morning hours hunting in different areas, gathered at the lake

in the afternoon, reaching a peak of concentration approximately two hours before sundown, after which some left the lake and others settled down for the night. In general this pattern of behavior continued, but several times, including once at sunrise and once late in the afternoon, I found no eagles at all at the lake. On other occasions I found only two or three at a time when, in theory, I should have found a dozen. Nevertheless, my observations this year generally corroborated the pattern which I discerned and reported on last year. Eagles did spend the night at the lake: on February 2, I found 5 Bald Eagles (1m, 4imm) perching at the lake in the first light of a cold, clear morning. And although several times I found few eagles at the lake, at other times I found them in such numbers as almost to remind me of the large concentrations of 1961-62. The largest number I observed was on February 1 (the afternoon of the day before the observations just reported) when there was a total of 15 (4m, 11imm) or perhaps 16, with an additional mature Bald Eagle. On February 8 I found a fine gathering of eagles at Hematite Lake. There were eight birds in a single tree on the south shore of the lake, and after I stirred them up by my presence, there were 11 (3m, 8imm) soaring over the lake at the same time.

During the past three seasons, the eagles at Hematite Lake have grown increasingly nervous. This winter they usually left their perches as soon as I appeared on the lake shore. I assume that some part of this nervousness may have been the result of increased traffic in the area and of visitors to the lake. To prepare for the flooding of the new lake, workmen built a new road, linking the Mulberry Flat Road with the Silver Trail near Center Furnace. In the course of this construction, the barrier to Hematite Lake was removed, and even the sign indicating that the lake was a closed area was taken down. Despite the increased traffic in the area — prompted in part by newspaper stories about the development of a TVA recreational area — on some occasions an eagle or two remained perching inconspicuously on the south shore of the lake, ignoring the visitors and, in turn, unobserved.

Because of the tendency of the eagles to quit the lake promptly on my arrival, I was especially pleased to watch a concentration build up on February 22. I had arrived at the west end of the lake about 2:30 p.m. on a cool (40°), still day. Despite a partial overcast, the light was excellent. A mature Bald Eagle was perching toward the east on the favored south shore of the lake, and about a hundred yards west of it there was an immature Bald Eagle, almost hidden behind branches. Ten minutes had elapsed when a second immature Bald Eagle flew in and landed near the first immature bird. Five minutes later the mature eagle dropped down from its perch, made a low sweeping flight, and landed directly beside the newcomer. Ten minutes elapsed, and I had about decided that the half-hidden eagle really was a tangle of twigs and leaves when it displayed, and the mature eagle returned to the perch it had been on previously. In the following half hour there was a little movement, ending with all three eagles once more in the same tree. I began to think of leaving the lake, but at this moment an immature Bald Eagle appeared from the west, flying along the tree tops of the south shore. It was followed at a distance by a second immature Bald Eagle behind whom came a mature Bald Eagle. The three arrivals soared among the tree tops for a few minutes; then the two immature eagles flew down to perch, one joining the three already perching and the other landing in a tree all by itself a short distance away. The mature

Bald Eagle still soaring flew northeast across the lake, whereupon three of the perching eagles left their perches to follow it. There were then three eagles soaring (1m, 2imm) and three perching (1m, 2imm). From nowhere in particular a fourth mature Bald Eagle appeared and joined those flying. All four rose upward in a "chimney," their spirals widening as they ascended. From high in the air floated down the shrill, strangely musical "eagle talk." Soon all four drifted out of sight, very high, to the northeast. When I left the lake, at this point, three eagles were still perching.

One of the most interesting aspects of my observations this year was the discovery of numbers of eagles at various places along Kentucky Lake. I had assumed that eagles in considerable numbers could be found along the lake, but the prolonged cold in 1962-63 had frozen the water in bays and inlets and I had, understandably, found no eagles in the areas I could reach by car and by foot. This season I several times covered a number of more or less isolated spots and on each occasion found Bald Eagles in sufficient numbers to justify my earlier opinion. On February 16, the day of the Mississippi River Winter Study count, I saw a pair of eagles soaring over the lake out from the point where the canal will eventually link Barkley and Kentucky Lakes. This was the most northern observation. Just a week earlier I had seen an immature Bald Eagle over the lake near the Eggner Ferry Bridge. I assume that eagles may be found almost anywhere between these points, and I have credible reports of eagles being seen at various places along the lake, all the way south to Paris Landing. The Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, still further south and on the lake, also has a winter population of Bald Eagles.

My own observations were largely limited to the areas of Pisgah Bay, Smith Bay, and Duncan Bay. Covering this territory by car and by foot presented obvious difficulties, and it is by no means certain that every eagle sighted was a different eagle. On the day of the Mississippi River Winter Study count, Mickey Buzzard, Willard Gray, and I scouted the area from Duncan Bay north to the Barkley-Kentucky Lake canal, and in less than two and a half hours, we sighted 15 Bald Eagles. Somewhat later we saw another away from the lake on Duncan Range and three more at Hematite Lake. I have to concede that there may have been some duplication in these sightings, but at the same time I am convinced that this count, covering only a small part of the area, must represent no more than a fraction, certainly less than half, of the Bald Eagles wintering in Kentucky along Kentucky Lake.

An obvious question had to do with the eagles that either did not appear at Hematite Lake or left upon my arrival and did not, as far as I could discover, return thereafter on that same day. I had in the past assumed that there were probably other roosts, and I had heard of numbers of eagles roosting at other places, but I had never found them anywhere save at Hematite Lake or on Hematite Range in the afternoon and in sufficient numbers to justify calling a gathering a roost. On March 29, at a time when I expected to find few if any eagles, I found myself just before noon in my car in the middle of Duncan Range. I had planned to drive all the way to the head of the bay, but a heavy rain a few days earlier had washed out the ford at Duncan Creek. While I sat in my car, I was surprised and delighted to see an immature Bald Eagle soar over the range just in front of me. A second one soon joined the first, and the two rose on a thermal updraft. A third and a fourth

appeared at brief intervals, and from different directions, and for a time all four soared at a great height. One descended in a great circle, flew along the trees bordering the range, and swooped up to a perch in a tree just outside my line of vision. Meanwhile the other three had spiraled off to the southeast. After a time I crossed the range to inspect the tree in which I had assumed the one eagle had perched, and I discovered three immature Bald Eagles in it. I could only speculate upon the possibility that three were members of the original four. Correlating what I had seen with what I knew of eagle behavior, I inclined to the opinion that two of the eagles had been perching in the tree all the while and that I had observed a total of six immature Bald Eagles. (An hour later I found an immature Bald Eagle soaring in company — more or less — with three Turkey Vultures two miles west-northwest of the earlier observation: still another eagle?)

In any case the behavior of the eagles in gathering and perching together seemed to offer confirmation of the view that they do form other roosts in the area. Certain questions remain: do they gather in a perfectly random way and roost almost anywhere? What factors determine choices in roosts (aside from quiet)? I assumed that the three eagles in the same tree on Duncan Range, although a small number, probably indicated a roost more than half a mile from the head of Duncan Bay. Is it possible that they may roost even further from water?

No doubt these questions and others will find partial answers another year. Meanwhile, of course, conditions in the Woodlands will change. I anticipate that in a year or two eagles will be found on both shores of the Land Between the Lakes. I hope that I will find it possible to continue this study as the area changes.

* * *

NOTES ON THE BALD EAGLES SIGHTED ON COUNT DAY

COMPILED BY THE EDITOR

Again, members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society searched for Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) on February 16, 1964, the day of the Mississippi Valley Eagle Count. This count is taken in cooperation with the research program being carried on by the National Audubon Society in its Continental Bald Eagle Project. Kentucky did not have as good a coverage this year as in 1963, but 22 Bald Eagles were sighted; 6 birds were mature, 12 immature, and 4 were indeterminate eagles. These figures show an increase of eight birds over last year's count. Quite naturally, most of the eagles were from western Kentucky. The following areas were checked and reports received:

(1) **Ohio River near Harmony Landing, north of Prospect.** Kenneth Able checked the area for a three-hour period but did not see any eagles.

(2) **Ohio River from West Point to below Otter Creek Park Area.** Frederick W. Stamm and Anne L. Stamm spent six and one-half hours along the river and found two adult Bald Eagles. The temperature was between 34° and 43° with a strong northwest wind. One eagle perched occasionally on a large sycamore tree opposite a bend in the river where a small flock of ducks swam about in an inlet.

(3) **Ohio River in the Henderson area.** Miss Virginia Smith reported that William Parker, Federal Agent, found one immature Bald Eagle on Slim Island in Henderson County, on the line that borders Union County.

(4) **Kentucky Woodlands National Wildlife Refuge.** Clell Peterson

with the assistance of Mickey Buzzard and Willard Gray found 19 Bald Eagles. According to Peterson, "The area covered with some thoroughness was that part of the refuge lying in Lyon County, but extending south of the county line to include also Hematite Range and Lake and the refuge headquarters area." The temperature was between 33° to 40°, and the wind was south to southwest at 2-4 m.p.h. The 19 birds were made up of 4 mature, 11 immature, and 4 indeterminate.

(5) **Lake Cumberland.** Claudia E. Smith did not report any eagles for count day, but it is of special interest that she observed an immature on February 10, and an adult five days after the count, on February 21.

It is hoped that in 1965 we may have greater coverage along the Ohio River. Members in four additional areas were alerted of the count day but no reports have been received.

* * *

FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL FALL MEETING

October 9-11, 1964

Lake Cumberland State Park

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its Forty-first Annual Fall Meeting at Lake Cumberland State Park, October 9-11, 1964.

The first session, on Friday evening in the dining room extension of Lure Lodge, was opened by Dr. Clell Peterson, President. After welcoming members and guests, he presented the guests of honor, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stupka of Gatlinburg, Tennessee. He then introduced Mr. Cletis Weller of the state park system, who spoke of the notable development of the state parks due to an expansion program begun four years ago, told of the history of Lake Cumberland Park and also of the work of the state park naturalist program. Since all the parks have a great deal to offer in the way of nature interpretation, this phase in particular needed to be widely developed, he said.

Mr. Weller then showed a color-sound film, "The Bald Eagle," made under the auspices of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society. Filmed in Florida and Alaska, it showed the Bald Eagle nesting in tall trees or low mangroves in the south and along the island coastline of southeast Alaska. Among the enemies of the eagle—95% of all bands recovered were from birds killed within four months of leaving the nest—were hurricanes, severe storms, and the Great Horned Owl, but chiefly Man as the worst predator, with his bulldozer and axe cutting down trees from under nesting birds. In Alaska, where the eagle feeds on dying fish which have already spawned, thousands are killed every year. A forceful plea for an active concern for the declining numbers of this age-long symbol of freedom, strength, and independence closed this well photographed and well documented film.

Mr. Weller showed slides on which could be seen the location of the proposed dam above the falls in Cumberland Falls State Park. Visible from the patio of DuPont Lodge, the dam and its access lines, wholly within the park, would use about 10% of the park property. Other slides included some of nature's oddities, such as a pair of Pileated Woodpecker holes, one immediately above the other in a solid green walnut tree, an Evening Grosbeak in Nelson County, and a Chipping Sparrow hanged by a horse hair.

Mr. Stamm showed a series of slides taken at K.O.S. meetings as far back as 1934, with commentary by Miss Mabel Slack. Mr. Ganier

had furnished many of the earlier ones as well as an exhibit of black and white photographs. They recalled many happy times to the old timers and probably showed more recent members that these old timers were once young and slim.

After announcements regarding the field trips and meetings the following day, the meeting was adjourned.

On Saturday morning two auto caravans left at 7:45 for field trips in the area near Wolf Creek Dam and at Rock House, a natural bridge close to the Cumberland River about four miles below the dam. Other members walked in the park to make their count.

The business session was called to order at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday by the president. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed in *The Kentucky Warbler*. Made by F. W. Stamm, seconded by L. C. Brecher, the motion was passed.

The Treasurer, Mrs. Gillenwater, made her report, a copy of which is attached. Mrs. Gillenwater recommended the appointment of a committee to inspect and review the Endowment Fund, the Gordon Wilson Fund, and the Society's investment. Her report was approved as read.

Among items of old business, Dr. Peterson stated that the design for and the printing of the new K.O.S. letterhead was well under way and that the Board of Directors would soon have reached a decision. He then called on Leonard Brecher to report on the future of the Falls of the Ohio for birding purposes. Mr. Brecher explained that due to the completion of the McAlpine Dam, virtually water proof, all water now goes into the main channel of the river, that the area formerly supplied by water flowing over the dam, providing algae and other food for birds and fish, is now dry, and that after a hot summer no food or water exists for wildlife. The sandbars below the dam have become a mecca for motor boats, further adding to the sparsity of birds. It is likely that the silt which accumulates in February and March will remain to cover the entire coral reef, ruining the area for geologists as well, unless water can be supplied over or through the dam. The report was accepted as given.

Miss Virginia Smith, Chairman of the Membership Committee, reported on new memberships gotten by inviting people who had attended bird walks in state parks, and asked for names of prospective members. Dr. Peterson asked that all members consider themselves a part of the Membership Committee and stated that a folder of information about the K.O.S. would soon be available to give to any one interested.

Under new business, Dr. Peterson called for a report of the Nominating Committee. Willard Gray, Chairman, offered the following:

President	Howard P. Jones, Frankfort
Vice-President	Cletis Weller, Deatsville
Corr. Sec.-Treas.	Mrs. James E. Gillenwater, Glasgow
Recording Sec.	Evelyn J. Schneider, Louisville
Councillors	Herbert E. Shadowen, Bowling Green, Charles S. Guthrie, Burkesville

(A. H. Mayfield, Winchester, and Virginia Smith, Henderson, remain as Councillors to serve another year.)

Mrs. Stamm moved that nominations be closed and that the slate be accepted by acclamation. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Stamm was asked to present a proposal from Mrs. Harvey Lovell made to her by Dr. O. Ray Jordon, Director of the Kentucky Jun-

ior Academy of Science. Dr. Jordon asked whether the K.O.S. wished to resume its former project of offering a prize for the best paper on original observations in bird study submitted by members of the Junior Academy. The suggestion was approved with the agreement that three prizes be offered: the first to consist of \$5.00 in cash, a copy of Peterson's **Field Guide**, a year's subscription to **The Kentucky Warber**, with a sleeve patch; the second to consist of a copy of Peterson's **Field Guide** and a year's subscription to **The Kentucky Warbler**, with a sleeve patch, the third to consist of a year's subscription to **The Kentucky Warber** and a sleeve patch. Mrs. Gillenwater was instructed so to inform Dr. Jordon.

The president asked Mr. Weller to present two items of interest, the first being the need for help from K.O.S. members for the naturalist program in the state parks in compiling a list of birds for each park, if possible, but especially for those where a nature interpretation program is carried on. Wanted are lists of birds, trees, the most spectacular flowers, and mammals. Mr. Brecher suggested that members give to Mr. Weller whatever information they have of this nature, and Mr. Ganier recommended that the designation migrant, permanent, summer, or winter resident be included for each species as well as common, fairly common, rare, very rare, to indicate numbers.

His second item was the status of the proposed dam to be built above the falls in Cumberland Falls State Park, a project vigorously opposed by the K.O.S. at its meeting last year. He mentioned Senator Cooper's statement in a letter that Congress has no authority to authorize funds for the project until approved by both House and Senate. The Bureau of the Budget and the President must also approve the allocation of funds. Up to the present, the House had been inclined to refuse approval where only power development is involved without flood control, as is the case in this proposal. The report of Col. Newman of the Corps of Engineers recommends a dam above the falls and a power plant below the falls with a connecting tunnel at a cost of \$75 million, this for power and recreation purposes only, since no flood control is involved in this area. The 80 foot dam would be seen from the patio of the Lodge, and all access roads would be completely within the park, taking 10% of the entire park area. After much discussion Dr. Peterson asked Howard Jones, newly elected president, to write to the Chief of Engineers, expressing the opposition of the K.O.S. to this project.

Dr. Peterson announced that the suggestion had been made that the 1965 fall meeting be held at Kentucky Dam Village the first week-end in November since both Bald and Golden Eagles as well as a variety of ducks and geese are likely to be present then. Mrs. Gillenwater was asked to check this date to avoid conflict with the Kentucky Academy of Science meeting, and Mr. Brecher moved that the K.O.S. meeting be held either the first or second weekend in November at Kentucky Dam Village.

Mr. Stamm paid tribute to Dr. Peterson for his two years of efficient, faithful, and progressive service as president and asked for a rising vote of thanks and appreciation.

The meeting then adjourned.

The dinner meeting held Saturday evening at seven o'clock in the Lodge dining room was presided over by Dr. Peterson. Mr. Arthur Stupka presented "Some Birding Highlights in the Great Smoky Mountains," where until his recent retirement he had been for many years Chief

Naturalist. His slides of scenes, habitat, and birds covered the seasons of the year in the several life zones encompassed in the park, giving great variety in all forms of life.

On Sunday morning groups again visited Rock House and the Dam. The final bird count included 73 species recorded during the three day period.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn J. Schneider,
Recording Secretary

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Report of Treasurer

October 8, 1964

Bank balance as shown by last report, dated
October 10, 1963 \$ 411.11

Receipts

Annual membership dues	\$ 683.50
Regular members	\$543.00
Contributing members	35.00
Student members	18.00
Corresponding members	87.50
Life membership payments	87.50
Interest income—Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association—Endowment Fund	28.00
Contributions to the Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology	55.00
Sale of publications	22.16
Sale of sleeve patches	10.00
Sale of check lists	14.27
Receipts—1963 Fall Meeting, Mammoth Cave	267.50
Receipts—1964 Spring Meeting, Bowling Green	176.50

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$1,344.43

TOTAL \$1,755.54

Disbursements

Printing costs — The Kentucky Warbler (including mailing costs from printer to treasurer	672.30
Treasurer's expenses:	
Postage—73.04	
Stationery, mimeographing—25.46	98.50
State of Kentucky corporation filing fee	2.00
Refunds of over-payment by members	3.00
Expenses—1963 Fall Meeting, Mammoth Cave	208.04
Expenses—1964 Spring Meeting, Bowling Green ...	159.12
Transfer to Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology ...	55.00
Transfer to Endowment Fund	62.50
Dues, Nature Conservancy	5.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$1,265.46

Balance on hand in New Farmers' National Bank,
 Glasgow, Kentucky, October 8, 1964 \$ 490.08

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in Savings Account, as shown by last report, dated October 10, 1963—Jefferson Federal Sav- ings and Loan Association	\$ 783.21
Seven (7) full paid shares—Jefferson Federal Sav- ings and Loan Association	700.00
TOTAL—Balance in Fund October 10, 1963	\$1,483.21

Receipts

Interest on full paid shares	\$ 28.00	
Interest on Savings Account	31.64	
Life memberships paid in:		
Mrs. Austin Gresham	\$50.00	
C. S. Guthrie	12.50	
	<u>62.50</u>	
		122.14
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$1,605.35

Disbursements

Transfer of interest on full paid shares to General Fund	\$ 28.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		28.00

Balance in Endowment Fund, October 8, 1964		\$1,577.35
(Seven full paid shares	\$ 700.00	
Savings Account Balance, October 10, 1963	783.21	
Life memberships paid in during 1964	62.50	
Accumulated interest during 1964	31.64	
	<u>\$1,577.35</u>	
Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association, Louisville, Kentucky)		

GORDON WILSON FUND FOR ORNITHOLOGY

Balance in Savings Account as shown by last report, dated October 10, 1963		\$ 668.52
Receipts		
Contributions to Fund, 1964	\$ 55.00	
Interest on Savings Account	27.89	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		82.89
		<u>\$751.41</u>

No Disbursements

Balance in Savings Account, October 8, 1964, in Greater Louisville First Federal Savings and Loan Association, Louisville, Kentucky		\$ 751.41
(Principal of Fund	\$ 623.00	
Accumulated Interest	128.41	
	<u>\$751.41</u>	

BALANCE SHEET AS OF OCTOBER 8, 1964

Assets:

Cash in New Farmers' National Bank, Glasgow, Ky. (of which a part-payment of \$25.00 on a life membership is to be transferred to Endowment Fund)	\$ 490.08
Endowment Fund	1,577.35
Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology	751.41

 \$2,818.84

NET WORTH OF SOCIETY \$2,818.84

 Respectfully submitted,
 Mrs. James Gillenwater
 Treasurer

* * * *

MEMBERS AND GUESTS ATTENDING THE MEETINGS

- BOWLING GREEN:** Mrs. Harry Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. Roy P. Milliken, Dr. Herbert E. Shadowen, Mike Shadowen, Mrs. Eugene Wilson, Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Wilson
- BURKESVILLE:** Charles S. Guthrie
- COLUMBIA:** Mrs. Ray Montgomery
- DANVILLE:** Mr. and Mrs. West T. Hill, Jr.
- DAWSON SPRINGS:** Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Buzzard
- DEATSVILLE:** Cletis Weller
- FRANKFORT:** Howard P. Jones, Mrs. W. P. Ringo
- GLASGOW:** Mrs. James Gillenwater, Tim Gillenwater, Dr. and Mrs. George McKinley, George Franklin McKinley, Tommy McKinley, Dr. and Mrs. Russell Starr
- HENDERSON:** Mary Helen Carroll, Virginia Smith, Edna Vogel
- JAMESTOWN:** Mrs. Joyce Flanagan, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin A. Smith
- LAWRENCEBURG:** Elizabeth Satterly
- LEXINGTON:** Dr. Roger W. Barbour, Jim Barbour, Mrs. G. L. Burns, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Davis, Mrs. J. A. Heaton, Mrs. Robert Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred M. Reece, Jr.
- LOUISVILLE:** Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Brecher, Barbara Burns, Floyd S. Carpenter, Esther Clark, Joseph Croft, Mrs. Mary Louise Daubard, Amy Deane, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Duncan, Mrs. Harry H. Hummel, Andrew Lewis, Mrs. Horace McDonald, Dorothy Peil, Kate Peil, Evelyn J. Schneider, Mrs. Eugene Short, Mabel Slack, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Mrs. Elsie P. Stewart, Mrs. Louise K. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Lester C. Wetherell, Audrey A. Wright
- MADISONVILLE:** James W. Hancock
- MURRAY:** Willard Gray, Dr. Clell T. Peterson
- NICHOLASVILLE:** Mrs. Woodrow Feck, Tommy Feck
- RICHMOND:** Mrs. Alvin McGlasson, A. L. Whitt, Jr.
- SOMERSET:** Katherine Smith
- VALLEY STATION:** Mr. and Mrs. Donald Summerfield, Donald Summerfield, Jr.
- VERSAILLES:** Mrs. George Gregory
- WINCHESTER:** Mr. and Mrs. Al H. Mayfield
- WHITE PIGEON, MICHIGAN:** Oscar McKinley Bryens
- GATLINBURG, TENNESSEE:** Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stupka
- NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE:** Albert F. Ganier

BIRDS OBSERVED AT LAKE CUMBERLAND, OCTOBER 9-11

Here is the list of birds observed in the Lake Cumberland area during the weekend of October 9-11, 1964. Birds were scarce on Saturday—the strong wind may have played a part—but Sunday the various groups found winter migrants as well as some summer stragglers. The number of individuals was not large, but we saw 73 species. The list is as follows: Common Loon, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Bald Eagle, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Killdeer, Ring-billed Gull, Mourning Dove, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Empidonax, sp., Eastern Wood Pewee, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Winter Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Hermit Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Starling, Philadelphia Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Pine Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Palm Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, American Redstart, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Slate-colored Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

* * * *

FIELD NOTES

ANHINGA AT LOUISVILLE

On June 4, 1964, Morrison Hicks and I were boating on the Ohio River, about 200 yards below the foot of Six Mile Island, Jefferson County, when we saw what appeared to be a stick floating in a vertical position; that was a strange way for it to be unless it was part of a big snag. Impelled by curiosity or wanting to know if there was a snag to be avoided during future trips, we motored closer to get a better look; we found that it was a long neck of a bird whose body was completely submerged. When we were about 200 feet from the bird, it suddenly popped straight up from the water to a height of about five feet, and flew rapidly away. We had no field glasses with us but the bird appeared to be dark all over and I wondered at the time if it were an Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*). After a flight of about 100 yards it alighted easily on the water, and took the same position as before. When we came near, the bird again sprang straight up about four or five feet scarcely rippling the water, but this time flew out of sight.

About one-half hour later after circling the island, we saw the bird in the same location. This time we approached it very slowly and were able to get within 75 feet from it. The sun was behind us and shining toward the bird. The neck was long and dark; the bill was long, yellow, and straight. Once more the bird jumped straight up and flew away.

I felt that it was an Anhinga but to be sure that it was not a cormorant, I searched through 20 books. I found, as I already knew, that a cormorant has great difficulty in taking flight from the water and has to taxi over the surface like a loon or sea duck. Anhingas fly easily, at times soar like a vulture, and take off easily from a tree top; there was no reference as to how they start to fly from the surface of the water.

Mr. Burt L. Monroe, Sr., told me that while in Florida, he had seen an Anhinga pop up from the surface of the water to the top of a pile about six feet. Leonard C. Brecher said he had seen an Anhinga come straight up from the water and start flying. Considering all these facts, I am certain that the bird was an Anhinga.

A single Anhinga was seen October 23, 1961, on Carpenter's Lake near Owensboro, by A. L. Powell (*Ky. Warbler*, 38:29, 1962), and there are a few records from western Kentucky, but as far as I know, this is the only Anhinga sighted in the central part of the state.—FLOYD CARPENTER, Louisville.

* * * *

WINTER SNIPE COUNTS

I have been taking a winter census of the Common Snipe (*Capella gallinago*) for the past 11 years; this has been done in cooperation with the Migratory Bird Population Station at Laurel, Maryland. The censused area includes Rhodes Creek, Gilles Ditch, part of Katy Meadow Slough, Bartlett's Lake, and various springs, all in Daviess County. The usual procedure has been to spend about seven hours in the field, using the car only to drive to and from the different areas, usually about ten miles. I have walked approximately 10 to 12 miles in making each count.

In the 11 year period, the greatest number of snipe (31) found was in 1963, and that year, Federal Conservation Officer William Parker, Henderson, assisted me. Below are the totals for the 11-year counts.

Snipe Abundance Index, 1954-1964

1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
1	4	0	10	0	1	13	4	8	31	7

This past winter the census was taken on February 1, 1964. The weather was mild and the sky clear. The wind was from the west at about five miles per hour. Temperature ranged from 40° to 60°. A total of seven snipe was found. The early part of the winter was mild and may have caused greater dispersal of the birds. The decrease in the count may be the result of more birds being shot by hunters than in previous years.—JOSEPH M. FORD, Owensboro.

* * * *

BOOK REVIEWS

THE WORLD OF BIRDS, by James Fisher, and Roger Tory Peterson. Bird Paintings by Roger Peterson. Paulton (Somerset) and London: Purnell and Sons Limited. Pre-Christmas price, \$17.95, after Christmas, \$22.95.

When John Dryden, poet and literary critic of the latter part of the seventeenth century, became interested in the works of Geoffrey Chaucer, of three centuries earlier, he said, "Here's God's plenty." Dryden's words are very appropriate when one turns through the encyclopedic *The World*

of Birds. Here are presented the 8,500 species of birds, with hundreds of illustrations in color, with nearly a hundred color maps that show the range of the 199 families. And every family is listed as living, recently extinct, or fossil; and the same is true of the species. The whole field of ornithology as a science is presented, briefly but plainly; the bird is placed in its niche in evolution; and the bird as an entity is shown in its relation to mankind. A practical section deals with methods of studying birds, in the field or in the laboratory; the bird-watcher, often the butt of ridicule for the outsiders, is placed in the important position that he has made for himself in the science of ornithology.

James Fisher and Roger Tory Peterson as partners attracted wide attention in scientific circles with their joint *Wild America*, a running account of their continent-covering journey to see birds. There they were the outdoor men that they have always been, with the zeal of youngsters enjoying a thrilling boat ride or a first airplane journey. Here they are the same two outdoor men, but they are much more the careful, meticulous scholars, who have spent decades in getting acquainted with the literature in all languages that deals with birds and their relation to man. Within this one large volume is presented in compact form the treasures of whole libraries. And the bibliography alone occupies eight triple-columned pages. A Red List includes the names and present location of 143 species of birds that are in danger of extinction. A Black List includes the names of some 87 species that have become extinct since 1680, the year before the Dodo was last seen. In addition to Peterson's color plates there are numerous black and white pictures and numerous diagrams. The jacket has three pictures that arrest one's attention: the front of the jacket, the male Wood Duck and the male Mandarin Duck in full color; the spine of the jacket has the Cardinal; the back of the jacket has seven Galahs in flight, the Roseate Cockatoos of Australia. In all my life as a lover of fine books I can think of none finer than this one: in format, in solid content, in illustrations. It is, like Chaucer's work, "God's plenty."—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green.

* * * *

NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK by Arthur Stupka. University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville, Tennessee. 1963: price, \$3.00.

NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, by Arthur Stupka, is "essentially a compilation" of some twenty-eight years of recorded observations, made by himself and other ornithologists. The primary objective, as stated in the preface, is "to present as accurate a picture of the birds of the park as possible." Mr. Stupka is in an excellent position to do this, having served as Park Naturalist from 1935 to 1960 and as Biologist from 1960 to his retirement in 1963.

The introduction includes a description of the area, its geology, climate, and flora. Earlier ornithological activities are discussed. (K.O.S. members will enjoy reading of the contributions made by some of their southern acquaintances and friends.)

Following the introduction is an annotated species list which comprises most of the book. The author has concerned himself with birds as to the status of each species, its altitudinal range, dates of arrival and departure, and nesting data. The four forest types found in the park and the birds associated with each type are discussed. The impact on

species and numbers of birds by the presence or absence of human activities is ecologically interesting and noteworthy. As an example of this, the attention of the reader is called to the accounts of the Turkey Vulture, Ruffed Grouse, Bobwhite, Turkey, Starling, and Eastern Meadowlark.

This book, like others of its type, is a valuable contribution to our knowledge of bird life of the region being considered. Its author devoted many years to careful observation and recording so that he might share this knowledge. The publication would have been enhanced by the addition of maps of the region indicating points of interest, altitudes, and streams and bodies of water. The inclusion of photographs and the development of a summarizing seasonal occurrence chart would have added interest for one planning to visit the park. However, the author set before himself an objective, and readers will agree that he attained it.—HERBERT E. SHADOWEN, Department of Zoology, Western Kentucky State College, Bowling Green.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

(Continued from page 58)

CHARLES STRULL DIES

Mr. Charles Strull, a "regular" at meetings of The Kentucky Ornithological Society prior to his failing health, died on September 12, 1964; he was eighty-one years old. Although Mr. Strull received a doctor of jurisprudence degree from the University of Chicago, and was admitted to the bar in 1911, he never practiced law. Though very busy in real-estate financing for more than a half-century, he took time to see birds and to assist in a national project, under the direction of the natural science department of Louisiana State University, to count birds across the moon during spring and fall migrations. He supervised the data collected from the Louisville area during the 1952 Fall Moon-watching Project and all observation records were sent to Louisiana State University where the data were interpreted. In February, 1955 Mr. Strull was presented the Beckham Bird Club Award for his constructive contribution to Kentucky Ornithology.

* * * *

CORRECTION

The editor has received the following information and members will want to make the necessary correction. "In my paper 'Short-billed Marsh Wrens in Meade County' (*Ky. Warbler*, 40:29-31, 1964), every reference to 'Johnson grass' should read 'fescue'. I regret the error, which is entirely mine. William Rowe, Brandenburg."

* * * *

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The editor takes this opportunity of expressing her great appreciation to the Editorial Advisory Board members for their varied assistances and helpfulness in producing volume 40 of the *Kentucky Warbler*.

* * * *

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