

11-1967

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 43, no. 4)

Kentucky Library Research Collections
Western Kentucky University, spcol@wku.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ky_warbler



Part of the [Ornithology Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kentucky Library Research Collections, "Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 43, no. 4)" (1967). *Kentucky Warbler*. Paper 130.
http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ky_warbler/130

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kentucky Warbler by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.

The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

VOL. XLIII

NOVEMBER, 1967

NO. 4



Young Pileated Woodpecker. Photograph by Mabel Slack

IN THIS ISSUE

NEWS AND VIEWS	62
PARULA WARBLERS IN MEADE COUNTY, William Rowe	63
FIELD NOTES:	
Harlequin Duck at Louisville, Mrs. Austin Gresham and Mrs. Condict Moore	65
Some Banding Notes, James B. Young	65
Notes on the Red-headed Woodpecker, A. L. Whitt, Jr.	66
Blue Grosbeak and Cattle Egret, Marvin Russell, Ernest Beal, Herbert Shadowen, and Gordon Wilson	67
Summer Records of the Blue Grosbeak, Joseph Croft	67
Pigeon Hawks in Marion County, Kenneth H. Dubke	68
BIRDS RECORDED AT OUR SPRING OUTING AT BOWLING GREEN	69
FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL FALL MEETING	70

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

President Herbert E. Shadowen, Bowling Green
 Vice-President Charles S. Guthrie, Burkesville
 Corr. Sec.-Treasurer Barbara Burns, Lexington
 Recording Secretary Mrs. James Gillenwater, Glasgow

Councillors:

Willard Gray, La Center 1965-1967
 Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Louisville 1965-1967
 Albert L. Powell, Maceo 1966-1968
 Alfred M. Reece, Lexington 1966-1968

Retiring President Howard P. Jones, Frankfort
 Librarian Evelyn Schneider, Louisville
 Curator Burt L. Monroe, Sr., Ridge Road, Anchorage
 Staff Artist Ray Harm, Cox's Creek

THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Organ of the **Kentucky Ornithological Society**. Published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. The **KENTUCKY WARBLER** is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Membership dues are: Active or Regular, \$3.00; Contributing, \$5.00; Student, \$2.00; Corresponding, \$2.50; Life, \$50.00. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions, memberships, and requests for back issues should be sent to the treasurer.

Editor Anne L. (Mrs. F. W.) Stamm, 9101 Spokane Way,
 Louisville 40222
 Assistant Editor Joseph E. Croft, 2366 Gladstone Avenue,
 Louisville 40205

Editorial Advisory Board

Roger W. Barbour Harvey B. Lovell
 Leonard C. Brecher Herbert E. Shadowen
 Gordon Wilson

NEWS AND VIEWS

OUR COVER

The Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) depicted on our cover is one of the few examples of a typical forest bird that has fared surprisingly well despite widespread destruction of favored habitat. These birds, once virtually extirpated in the vicinity of our larger towns, are now appearing with increasing frequency in many suburban areas.

(Continued on Page 76)

PARULA WARBLERS IN MEADE COUNTY

WILLIAM ROWE

In Kentucky the Parula Warbler (*Parula americana*) has an odd distribution as a breeding bird: it is common on the rugged Cumberland Plateau to the east and in the river bottomlands to the west, but it is missing from most of central Kentucky. The exceptions are listed in Mengel's *Birds of Kentucky* (1965, pp. 399-400); for example, at Mammoth Cave it is scarce but regular in summer. Recently Jones and others discovered the first Kentucky nest in another atypical area, a creek valley near Frankfort (*Ky. Warbler*, 42:56-57, 1960).

John Westerman, Joseph Croft, and I have found Parula Warblers in midsummer at two places in Meade County and one in nearby Hardin County. In one of these places the birds may have nested.

1. The Hardin County area is a deep, wooded ravine on the Fort Knox Military Reservation just east of Muldraugh. This ravine and its bird life call to mind the "mixed mesophytic" forest ravines of the Cumberland Plateau: Westerman and I have found it a good area for Black-and-white Warblers (*Mniotilta varia*), Worm-eating Warblers (*Helminthos vermivorus*), and Hooded Warblers (*Wilsonia citrina*). To our surprise we heard a Parula singing there on June 29, 1962, and again at the same spot on June 24, 1963. We have found none since, but because the ravine is large, we may have missed them.

2. Twice we have seen Parulas along Doe Run, three miles southeast of Brandenburg. At the Doe Run Inn on July 12, 1962, Westerman and I came upon a male and a female moving along a row of middle-sized trees fifty yards from the creek. The male sang both the usual rising buzz and an alternate song much like that of the Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*). About a mile downstream, near an old tumbledown mill, Croft and I heard and watched a male Parula on July 4, 1963; it was singing persistently on July 8.

Doe Run resembles several other Meade County creeks. Sycamores (*Platanus occidentalis*) line the shrubby banks. The Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*) and the Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*) are common, but all the warblers mentioned above are absent.

3. The third area, interesting in its own right, surrounds a part of Flipping Creek, which rises two miles east of Brandenburg and empties into the Ohio River near town. An east-west ridge parallels this creek on the south and slopes down sharply to the creek bottom 150 feet below. This slope is shady and moist, and heavily forested. Common trees are Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), Black Maple (*Acer nigrum*), Tulip-tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), Bitternut Hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), and Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*). The understory, often dense, consists of shrubs and smaller trees like Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) and Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*). Toward the base of the slope some typical streamside trees become numerous: Sycamore, Common Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), and Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*). Some of these are 75 feet or more in height. Right along the creek there are strips and patches of flat bottomland; those that have not been cleared (no more than ten acres total) support a thick forest with much fallen timber and a dense ground cover of herbs and shrubs. Since these patches and the lower part of the slope may be flooded for weeks in early spring,

when the creek becomes a backwater, they form a little alluvial forest.

Although the following quotation from Mengel (*op. cit.*, p. 54) describes areas somewhat farther west, it comes close to fitting this one: "In the western parts of the Shawnee Section the forests become particularly complex in their relationships, as do the avifaunas inhabiting them. Upland woods . . . are largely occupied by oak-hickory forest, with more mesic associations in the ravines; both of these tend to merge gradually with bottomland forests closely related to the Mississippi alluvial forests. . . ."

The bird life of this woods (third area) reflects the mixture of forest types. The warblers, for example: standing in one spot on a June morning, it is possible to hear the Black-and-white, Prothonotary (*Protonotaria citrea*), Cerulean, and Yellow-throated Warblers; the Louisiana Waterthrush; the Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*), Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*), Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*), Hooded Warbler, and American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*). The Redstart is unusual, for it is "very rare to uncommon in most of central Kentucky" and is not known to nest this close to Louisville—fifty miles (Mengel, *op. cit.*, p. 435). However, I have found a few pairs along the creek every summer since 1964. I believe their presence shows similarity between this creek bottom and the floodplain forests of western Kentucky, where redstarts are common.

So this woods seems to be a blend of mesophytic ravine and river bottom, two habitats preferred by the Parula. It is no surprise that the Parula is there. All of my records have been made on the Brandenburg River Road, which runs along the slope above the creek. On a quarter-mile stretch of this road just east of Buttermilk Falls, I recorded single Parulas on July 7, 1962; June 23, 1963; June 6, 9, 17, 19, and 22, 1964; and July 6, 1965. On June 22, 1964, I also heard a second Parula singing the usual song one-half mile east of this stretch.

On June 9, 1964, I noted that the territory seemed to center around a few very tall Sycamores growing from the bank of the creek, with a sizable cottonwood and two large hickories nearby. The bird sang continually six to eight times a minute for the hour or more I was there, as it moved along the creek and up and down the slope.

On June 17, 1964, I studied at short range a Parula whose breast was all yellow, with just a hint of a reddish band. Now, the breast bands of males may be skimpy; but then again, females may have slight breast markings of either red or blue. (See "Nesting of the Parula Warbler in Michigan," by Richard and Jean Graber, *Wilson Bulletin* 63:75-83). Whatever the sex of this bird, it was singing in a way I have heard no Parula sing before or since: like a Prothonotary Warbler, but more rapidly and less vigorously (*tweet-tweet-tweet-tweet- . . .*). I could detect no buzzy quality at all. For the next hour and a half I kept hearing this song and occasionally the usual buzzy song, which may have come from a different bird.

The Parula Warbler should be called a rare summer resident in these parts. Whether these summering birds nest is another question; but their regularity along Flipping Creek and the observation of one or two females suggest that they do nest.

Names of trees are taken from *A Field Guide to Trees and Shrubs* by George Petrides (Houghton Mifflin, 1958).

FIELD NOTES

HARLEQUIN DUCK AT LOUISVILLE

On the morning of March 8, 1967, we were looking for ducks on the various bodies of water from the Municipal Boat Harbor to Harrod's Creek on Upper River Road in northeastern Jefferson County. Heavy snow had fallen two days previously; the Ohio River was less than five feet from flood stage, and water was standing in adjacent low-lying farmland. At Lentz's Pond, not yet out of its banks, there were Red-heads (*Aythya americana*), Ring-necked Ducks (*Aythya collaris*), and Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*), as well as one bird which seemed to have the markings of a Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*). Mrs. Hulbert Noland responded immediately to a phone call asking for her identification. She then put out the Beckham Bird Club's "Bird Alert." Consequently, the Harlequin Duck was observed that same afternoon by a number of additional Club members, including Kenneth P. Able, Floyd S. Carpenter, Mrs. Spencer Martin, Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Evelyn Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ricketts, and Mrs. Frederick Stamm.

The Harlequin Duck, a male in spring plumage, swam about and fed at the edge of the flooded area, remaining apart from the other ducks. About dusk, a young boy entered the pond with a motor boat. The ducks flew away; some returned later, but the Harlequin was not noted thereafter.

This far-northern duck has never to our knowledge been previously reported from Kentucky.—MRS. AUSTIN GRESHAM and MRS. CON-DICT MOORE, Louisville.

SOME BANDING NOTES

During the year 1965, through the cooperation and kind assistance of the owner, Nathan Lord, I was able to maintain a banding sub-station at his home in Oldham County, near Brownsboro, Kentucky. While the bulk of the birds banded were wintering White-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*), I did make a few unusual catches.

On March 13, 1965, I caught and banded a Harris' Sparrow (*Z. querula*).

On July 5, 1965, I caught and banded a White-crowned Sparrow in full adult plumage. This bird appeared to me to be in perfect health.

On November 6, 1965, I caught and banded an adult Gambel's Sparrow (*Z. leucophrys gambeli*).

On November 20, 1965, I caught and banded another Gambel's Sparrow; it was also in adult plumage.

One of the most unusual occurrences during the fall of 1965 was the return of White-crowned Sparrows which I had banded that spring. I was using six single-cell traps, placed on a rock ledge some 200 yards from the residence. My practice was to wait until all traps had been filled or tripped before going down to place the birds in a gathering cage to be carried back to the house for banding.

On February 27, 1965, I had banded two White-crowned Sparrows with consecutive band numbers. On March 20, 1965, I did the same thing with two other White-crowned Sparrows. On November 13, 1965, I captured and brought back to the house at one gathering the same two birds I had banded on February 27. Later, the same day, I captured and brought back at the same time the two birds I had banded on March 20.

Obviously all four of these birds had gone to their nesting grounds and returned (one of them was banded in immature plumage and had returned in adult plumage). To find them in the fall so closely associated allows one to speculate that there may be a closer relationship between birds in winter flocks than I had thought possible.—JAMES B. YOUNG, Louisville.

NOTES ON THE RED-HEADED WOODPECKER

One of the most handsome and most conspicuously colored woodpeckers, the Red-headed (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*), has in the past enjoyed a wide distribution range over much of North America. However, in Kentucky at the present time, the number is greatly reduced except for certain restricted areas where there are still fairly heavy concentrations of these birds.

The Red-headed is principally found in open country which lies adjacent to heavily forested areas. At one time Kentucky was abundant in "new ground"—charred, burned-over areas containing dead stumps, half-dead trees, girthed trees and slashes. Regions like these were once numerous when timber was being wastefully cleared for tillable farm use.

There was a day when the farmers furnished the burned, cut-over areas for both nesting and feeding; also, patches of corn in and around these "new-ground" plots furnished the birds with food. Due to the raids by the woodpeckers on the farmer's corn, these birds became pests to the farmer, and they were shot in great numbers.

I can recall as a youngster hearing the expression, "That gun wouldn't shoot hard enough to kill a shirt-tail woodpecker." The saying came from the name the farmers of Western Kentucky gave these woodpeckers due to the white that shows from beneath the black feathers when the bird alights on a tree trunk. The idea of the gun not shooting hard came from the men with muzzle loaders who put in just enough powder to kill these birds in and around "new ground" corn patches.

The Red-head is one of the most resourceful feeders of all of the woodpecker group and has a greatly varied diet. Stomach collections have shown about fifty percent animal matter, forty-seven percent vegetable matter, and three percent mineral matter. The animal matter consists mostly of insects of numerous types. The vegetable matter consists of corn, acorns, beechnuts, and seeds, as well as available fruits of great varieties.

The Red-head seems to show little fear of man. On many occasions I have seen these birds in Levi Jackson State Park fly down to picnic tables in the camping area and feed on scraps of food left by campers, and fly within a few feet of a person seated at one of the tables.

It seems that the abundance of these birds, especially during the winter months, depends upon the amount of acorns and beechnuts present, as well as the great numbers of dead and dying oak trees in which they can roost and find shelter during the cold winter nights. Also, there have been reports that these birds store acorns and beechnuts for winter use when conditions are too severe for foraging for food in the open.

On May 5, 1967, from 5 to 6 p.m., E.S.T., in walking around Levi Jackson State Park, we spotted ten different Red-heads. On May 6, 1967, at 6:15 a.m., we could see seven birds from the breakfast table

and, by walking approximately a hundred yards, five more were spotted.

Although the birds are scattered over the entire park, they seemed to be concentrated in the somewhat open area of the campsites. It is difficult to estimate, but I would guess that there are at least one hundred breeding pairs of these birds in the entire park area.

The fall migration is well marked in the northern part of the bird's range, but in Kentucky, they seem to stay in the same area around the calendar as long as the food is available.—A. L. WHITT, JR., Richmond.

* * * *

BLUE GROSBEAK AND CATTLE EGRET

On our first Breeding Bird Survey of 1967, on June 1, our first stop was at Cedar Bluff Baptist Church, on Ky. 1083 in Warren County. Almost at once, even though it was a half hour before sunrise and a mist was falling, we heard across the road from the church the song of a Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*). The bird continued to sing all through our three-minute count period and for several more minutes after as we tried to locate it through the mist. At two other stops we heard the bird and, between stops, saw one on a telephone wire at very close range. All of the stops were in Warren County. On the second count day, June 6, 1967, we found it on three stops, all in western Allen County. Just after one of our stops ended, when we had found a male sitting on a telephone wire and had heard another one singing a few yards away, a female joined the one on the wire. This species had been recorded on both these routes last year.

On June 6, after we had come back into Warren County, in the Motley area, we saw a white bird by a good-sized farm pond and approached it cautiously. It remained in plain view until we were within a few yards of it, allowing us to get all its markings; when it walked, we observed its distinctive way of holding its head and its shortish neck. In flight it also showed all its markings. It proved to be a male Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) in full breeding plumage. This is the second record of the species for Warren and adjoining counties; see *Ky. Warbler*, 36:72, 1960, for first record, November 9, 1960.—MARVIN RUSSELL, ERNEST BEAL, HERBERT SHADOWEN, and GORDON WILSON, all of Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green.

SUMMER RECORDS OF THE BLUE GROSBEAK

The recent increase in summer observations of the Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*)—see Dubke, *Ky. Warbler*, 42:55, 1966; Able, *Ky. Warbler*, 43:29, 1967; Wilson, *Ky. Warbler*, 43:59-60, 1967—prompts me to record the following observations as further evidence of the spread of this species.

On June 30, 1967, while visiting briefly in Paducah, I took the opportunity to cruise along a few of the country roads west of town. Along one of these, in open farming country with a rather heavy roadside border of such vegetation as sassafras, honeysuckle, and blackberry bushes, I noted a dark-appearing bird, somewhat reminiscent of a cowbird, perched on a telephone wire. A check with 7 x 35 binoculars quickly confirmed my suspicion that the bird was a male Blue Grosbeak. The dark blue coloration, brown wing bars, notably large bill, size, and general conformation left no doubt of the bird's identity. At one point a male Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) perched briefly only a few feet away

on the same wire, affording an unexpected field-guide-type comparison of the two species.

After I had observed this bird for several minutes, a female Blue Grosbeak made her appearance on the wire some yards further down along the hedgerow. The presence of a pair, the season, and the fact that the male was observed carrying a grub of some sort in his bill suggested the likelihood of the birds' nesting in the vicinity. I made a partial search of the hedgerow, but the only nest found was apparently that of a Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*).

During the half hour I spent in the vicinity, the male grosbeak frequently uttered a distinctive metallic call note, commonly attended by an exaggerated and rather awkward-appearing flicking of the tail. At no time, however, did I hear the bird sing.

A few days later, on July 4, some 150 miles to the northeast, in the Hardin County portion of the Fort Knox Military Reservation, I found another Blue Grosbeak. This bird, a male, was perched on a utility wire in an area extensively overgrown with low scrub. After I had observed the bird with binoculars for perhaps a minute, it flew down to the top of a bush, gave two renditions of a rather soft warbled song, and then flew off a few hundred yards or so, where I did not follow it.

Late in the afternoon following this early-morning observation, I again passed through this area but did not see or hear the bird again, nor did Lt.-Col. Austin R. Lawrence and I find further evidence of it when we visited the area on July 26. Possibly, despite the date, this bird was only a wanderer, without mate or territory.

This seems to be only the third published record of the Blue Grosbeak in the Louisville region, the previous observations, both in Jefferson County, being of single birds seen, respectively, by Roderic W. Sommers on May 7, 1960 (*Ky. Warbler*, 36:44, 1960) and by Marley Martin on May 5, 1966 (*Audubon Field Notes*, 20:515, 1966). So far as I am aware, the observation reported here seems also to be the northernmost summer record of this species in Kentucky. It will be interesting to see whether this bird increases and establishes itself as a nesting species here, as it appears now to be doing in some more southerly parts of Kentucky.—JOSEPH CROFT, Louisville.

PIGEON HAWKS IN MARION COUNTY

Since Mengel in *Birds of Kentucky* (1965) mentions few spring sightings of the Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius*) and there are no subsequent published records in *The Kentucky Warbler*, it may be of interest to record an experience of mine which took place in the Highview community, Marion County, April 13, 1966.

As I was driving slowly along a tree-lined country road, with open fields on either side, a small hawk came into view; it was perched on a tree limb, just about 80-100 feet ahead of the car. The bird sat motionless, affording me a good opportunity to study its size, heavily streaked breast, dark back, and banded tail. I studied the bird with my 7x50 binoculars from the car window. Upon satisfying myself that the bird was a Pigeon Hawk, I decided to make it fly to observe flight silhouette and pattern. The bird remained motionless, even though I opened the car door, stood outside, and set up my 35x scope. The hawk remained sphinx-like for several minutes, then flew about 100 yards to another tree, thus affording further observation. When the hawk departed, it flew in a northward direction.

My venture down this road was prompted by an earlier conversation with a lady in a country store. She suggested that I go to their farm and speak to her husband about my interest in locating nesting hawks. I followed her advice. When I reached the farm, the gentleman mentioned shooting a small hawk only the day before. He said it was probably in the same location where it had dropped. At my insistence he agreed to take me to the bird; we ended up only about 100 yards from my earlier hawk sighting. My astonishment was readily apparent when we located the hawk, with a neat hole in its head, and more so when I identified it as a Pigeon Hawk.

It may be well to mention that the weather on April 12 and 13 had been rather unsettled, with the sky dark and overcast. There were periods of mist and rain. It is quite possible that what I observed was a halt in the migration because of these weather conditions. I noted that many newly arrived birds were in the area, including two Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) in a field.

The dead hawk is now in my possession and will be turned over to the University of Louisville for its study collection.—KENNETH H. DUBKE, Hodgenville.

BIRDS RECORDED AT OUR SPRING OUTING AT BOWLING GREEN

April 15-16, 1967

Many of our K. O. S. members have wanted a complete list of our finds at the spring outing. Therefore, we are printing it below. Dr. Gordon Wilson, compiler of the list, made the following comments:

"In spite of the lake's being so low on April 15, our 21 species of water birds is a rather good average, far below our best, in 1956—37 species—but about normal for most recent years. Nothing spectacular occurred among these water species, however.

"Among land birds for April 15 and 16, fourteen species broke a lot of records:

The Yellow-billed Cuckoo on April 15 and the Black-billed on April 16 broke all previous records of early arrival. The following species were from 3 to 10 days ahead of previous averages of arrival dates, back to 1917: Great Crested Flycatcher, Catbird, Solitary Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Indigo Bunting.

The Hermit Thrush had remained a week and more past its usual departure date."

Starred species were added the second day, at Dr. and Mrs. Russell Starr's Farm, Brigadoon, south of Glasgow. Horned Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, American Bittern, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveler, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Hooded Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk*, Cooper's Hawk*, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bobwhite, American Coot, Killdeer, American Woodcock, Common Snipe, Upland Plover, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo*, Great Horned Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird*, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied

Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher*, Eastern Phoebe, Horned Lark, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch*, Winter Wren*, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush*, Hermit Thrush*, Gray-cheeked Thrush*, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet*, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Solitary Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler*, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler*, Orange-crowned Warbler*, Nashville Warbler*, Yellow Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler*, Cerulean Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler*, Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler*, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Redwinged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Summer Tanager*, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak*, Indigo Bunting*, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow*, Grasshopper Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total for the two days, 112 species. Approximately 60 members of the K. O. S. participated in these field trips.

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL FALL MEETING

October 13-15, 1967

The Kentucky Ornithological Society opened its 44th annual fall meeting at Rough River State Park, Falls of Rough, Kentucky on October 13, 1967.

President Herbert E. Shadowen opened the Friday-evening session with a welcome to members and guests and an explanation of field trips for Saturday. The program consisted of papers prepared by K. O. S. members from field observations and studies during the year. The papers were: "The Henslow's Sparrow" by Kenneth P. Able; "Observations on the Blue Grosbeak" by Willard Gray; "The Nest of the Black-billed Cuckoo" by Howard P. Jones; "The Nest of the Least Tern" by F. W. Stamm; and "Feeding Habits of the Starling" by H. E. Shadowen. All papers except Dr. Shadowen's were accompanied by slides. These excellent papers, showing the real contribution K. O. S. members are making to the knowledge of bird life in Kentucky, were heard with interest and pride by the group.

After the session, most of the group stayed to join a meeting of The Nature Conservancy and hear a talk by wildlife artist Ray Harm.

On Saturday morning the members divided into three parties for field trips. Dr. Gordon Wilson led one party on trails around the lodge; Mrs. H. V. Noland headed a group which toured the Noland farm on the edge of the lake; and Dr. Shadowen led a party in the area near the Falls of Rough.

Dr. Shadowen opened the general business meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. A motion to dispense with the reading of the 1966 minutes and approve the minutes as published in *The Kentucky Warbler* was seconded and carried. The treasurer, Barbara Burns Ruff, summarized the treasurer's report (a complete copy of which is attached). She reported

182 regular members, 24 contributing members, 11 student members and 17 corresponding members. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made, seconded, and carried.

The president then called for committee reports.

Mr. Leonard Brecher, chairman of the Committee for Preservation of the Falls of the Ohio, reported this project to be moving steadily along. The Indiana legislature has chosen a committee to work with a similar one to be appointed by the next Kentucky legislature toward the bi-state park, already supported by the park commissioners and governors of both states and by the U. S. Corps of Engineers. United States senators from both states are also still working through the Department of the Interior to have the site declared a national monument, so that in one way or the other the preservation of the area appears certain.

Mrs. F. W. Stamm was asked to comment concerning **The Kentucky Warbler** and the nesting study which the K. O. S. is continuing in cooperation with the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology. In connection with the nesting study, she said that the past year is expected to be a banner one, and advised members who have records not yet turned in that they may still obtain cards from any of the area coordinators. She also suggested that the record cards be prepared in duplicate, one copy to be retained in the state. Concerning the **Warbler**, Mrs. Stamm reminded the Society that this publication is what the members make it and that as editor she will appreciate receiving any reports of observations or studies. She also noted that Secretary of the Interior Udall had been sent a copy of the issue containing the study on the Falls of the Ohio (February, 1967).

Mr. Brecher moved that the Society recognize the general excellence of the **Warbler** and express appreciation for the publication of the nesting records in the August, 1967, issue. The president commended Mrs. Stamm, the editor, and the assistant editor, Joseph E. Croft, for the consistently high quality of the publication.

The recommendation of the Executive Board that the 1968 spring meeting be held in Bowling Green on the week-end following the K.E.A. meeting was accepted, as was the Board's recommendation that the 1968 fall meeting be held at Natural Bridge State Park on the first week-end in October.

The president reported the appointment of a committee, composed of A. L. Powell, chairman, and Burt L. Monroe, Jr., to prepare the necessary by-law changes to provide for family membership in the K.O.S. Notice of this proposed change is to be submitted to members prior to the 1968 spring meeting.

The president reported the action of the Executive Board in making plans for a state-wide list of birds to be compiled by the Beckham Bird Club under the direction of Dr. Monroe, Jr. The list, in bar-graph form, is to be based on records, through 1967, of species found within the state, the dates within which each species has been found, and nesting records. Members having records, outside those found in Mengel's **Birds of Kentucky**, should send them to Dr. Monroe at the University of Louisville. The president noted that the proposed lists of birds to be found in the several Kentucky state parks, a project under discussion by the Society for some time, could be based on this state-wide compilation.

Mr. F. W. Stamm brought to the Society's attention the imminent

destruction of the Red River Gorge through the proposed construction of a dam by the Corps of Engineers. He suggested that the members, as an organization and as individuals, should make an attempt to prevent this, especially through letters expressing opposition to the construction to Senators Cooper and Morton. The president requested that Mr. Stamm draw up a resolution reflecting the organization's opposition to present to the Saturday evening meeting. Mr. Stamm agreed to do so, and requested and secured the assistance of Dr. Gordon Wilson for the drafting of such a resolution. Dr. Roger Barbour, who voiced doubt that expressions of opposition were too late and suggested that the resolution include alternatives to the Corps of Engineers proposal, was also appointed to the Resolution Committee.

The president asked for the report of the nominating committee. Mr. Joseph E. Croft, chairman, gave the report of the committee, whose other members were Howard P. Jones and Dr. Clell T. Peterson. The committee proposed as nominees the following persons for the various posts:

President—Dr. H. E. Shadowen

Vice-President—Mrs. James Gillenwater

Recording Secretary—Willard Gray

Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer—Donald Summerfield

Councillors for 1967-1969—Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Dr. Ray Nall

Mr. Croft noted that councillors whose terms have not expired are Mr. A. L. Powell and Mr. Alfred M. Reece. It was moved, seconded, and carried that the nominations be closed and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the slate.

Mr. Brecher moved a vote of appreciation to the retiring officers for their year's work, and also a vote of appreciation for the fine papers given at the Friday evening session, both of which motions carried with applause.

The annual dinner was held at 6:30 p.m. in the lodge dining room. It was highlighted by the presentation of a cake and birthday greetings in song to Dr. Gordon Wilson on his 79th birthday.

At the after-dinner meeting, Dr. Shadowen introduced the new officers. Mrs. Stamm told the group of the Audubon exhibit scheduled for Locust Grove, the restored home of George Rogers Clark, for December 1 through December 10: The exhibit, sponsored by the Board of Directors of Locust Grove in cooperation with K.O.S. and which Mrs. Irvin Abell and Mrs. Stamm have coordinated, will consist of original Audubon publications, sketches, colorful folio prints, etc. Lectures are scheduled December 2-3, one by Waldemar Fries, who has spent many years in tracing the original editions of the Audubon prints.

The president expressed the regret of the members at the absence of two valued members usually present at the fall meeting, Mr. Albert F. Ganier and Mr. Oscar McKinley Bryens. He thanked Dr. and Mrs. H. V. Noland for allowing the Society to take advantage of the good birding on their lakeside farm.

The bird list for the day was compiled by Dr. Gordon Wilson.

The following resolution, prepared by Messrs. Stamm, Wilson, and Barbour, expressing the Society's opposition to the dam on the Red River, was read:

"Whereas, the United States Corps of Engineers has been authorized to construct a multi-purpose dam in the lower reaches of Red

River Gorge near Clay City, Powell County, Kentucky; and
 Whereas, said impoundment would destroy one of the few **wild**
rivers and its attendant flora and fauna and seriously impair the
 scenic grandeur of the area; and
 Whereas, it would inundate the present scenic drive which is utilized
 by thousands of visitors annually; and
 Whereas, the topography is such that it would not be feasible to
 construct an equivalent scenic drive; and
 Whereas, there are alternative sites for dams to supply water to
 down-river cities; and
 Whereas, there are alternative methods for protecting cities and
 towns in the lower Red River Valley from flooding,

Therefore, be it resolved:

That the proposed construction of said dam be held in abeyance
 pending an impartial investigation of values and alternatives.
 Further be it resolved that a copy of this resolution be spread on the
 minutes of the Society, and the secretary of the Society be in-
 structed to send copies of the resolution to Kentucky members of
 the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the Secretary
 of the Interior, and the Commanding Officer of the United States
 Corps of Engineers."

The adoption of the resolution was moved by Mr. Stamm, seconded
 by Dr. Monroe, and unanimously carried.

Mr. Stamm then introduced the evening's speaker, Dr. Harvey I.
 Fisher, chairman of the Department of Zoology of the University of
 Southern Illinois. Dr. Fisher, who has spent many years on a study of
 the Laysan Albatross, gave a fascinating lecture, accompanied by slides,
 on his experiences, experiments, and findings in work with this species
 on Sand and Eastern Islands, the two islands together known as Midway.

After some birding in the park area on Sunday morning by indi-
 viduals and small groups, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
 Marquita P. Gillenwater
 Recording Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT THE FALL MEETING, 1967

ANCHORAGE: Dr. and Mrs. Burt L. Monroe, Jr.

BOWLING GREEN: Mrs. Harry Bowman, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert
 Shadowen and children, Mrs. Eugene Wilson, Dr. Gordon Wilson.

FRANKFORT: Miss Louise Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jones and
 Joel Jones, Miss Pinkie May Richardson, Mrs. W. P. Ringo, Mr. and
 Mrs. Forest Smith.

GLASGOW: Mrs. George Ellis, Mrs. James Gillenwater, and Molly
 Gillenwater.

GREENVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brizendine, Charles Dyer, Ed Dyer.
LA CENTER: Mr. and Mrs. Willard Gray.

LEXINGTON: Dr. Roger Barbour, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Burns, Carl
 Ernst, Mrs. Lida Feck, Dr. Richard Keuhne, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred
 M. Reece, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. John Douglas Ruff.

- LOUISVILLE: Kenneth Able, Miss Amelia B. Alford, Dr. and Mrs. Austin Bloch, Miss Janet Borders, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Brecher, Joseph E. Croft, Mrs. Mary Louise Daubard, Miss Amy Deane, Mrs. Harry H. Hummel, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Jackson, Mrs. Martha Jordan, Miss Janice Lewis, Dr. and Mrs. Harvey B. Lovell, Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth McConnell, Dr. and Mrs. H. V. Noland, Miss Dorothy Peil, Miss Evelyn Schneider, Miss Mabel Slack, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Stamm.
- MACEO: Lawanda Elliot, Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Powell, George Ray, Mrs. Wallace Whalen.
- MADISONVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Hancock, Darrell and Greg Hancock.
- MURRAY: Miss Evelyn Cole, Dr. and Mrs. Hunter M. Hancock, Edwin Larson, Dr. Raymond Nall, Dr. Clell Peterson, Ed Ray.
- OWENSBORO: Frank Abrams, Sister Casimir Czurlis, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson.
- RICHMOND: Ronald Houpp, Mrs. Alvin McGlasson, James Wallace, A. L. Whitt, Jr.
- SHELBYVILLE: Mrs. Ben Allen Thomas.
- STURGIS: Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Buzzard.
- VALLEY STATION: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Summerfield, Don Summerfield, Jr.
- CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS: Dr. and Mrs. Harvey I. Fisher.
- DYERSBURG, TENNESSEE: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leggett.
- WASHINGTON, D.C.: Oakes Plimpton.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

October 14, 1967

GENERAL FUND

Bank balance as shown by last report, dated October 14, 1966 \$ 624.64

Receipts

Annual Membership Dues for 1967:	\$730.50
182 Regular members @ \$3.00	\$546.00
24 Contributing members @ \$5.00	120.00
11 Student members @ \$2.00	22.00
17 Corresponding members @ \$2.50	42.50
Annual Membership Dues for 1966, Paid Late:	15.00
5 Regular members @ \$3.00	15.00
Life Membership Payments	12.50
Interest Income, Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association (Endowment Fund)	32.38
Contributions to Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology	10.00
Sale of Publications	3.20
Sale of Sleeve Patches	17.40
Sale of Checklists	20.87
Receipts, Fall Meeting, October, 1966	283.00
Receipts, Spring Meeting, April, 1967	192.00
Total Receipts	1,316.85
TOTAL	<u>\$1,941.49</u>

Disbursements

Printing Costs, The Kentucky Warbler	678.66	
Postage, including mailing The Kentucky Warbler	51.06	
Original Prints for the Warbler (to Larry Spitzer)	8.00	
Envelopes (for mailing Warbler , meeting notices)....	8.75	
Mailing Labels	1.75	
Rubber Stamp	2.83	
State of Kentucky, Corporation Filing Fee	2.00	
Transfer to the Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology	10.00	
Transfer to Endowment Fund	12.50	
Return of Overpayment of Dues	2.00	
Dues, The Nature Conservancy	5.00	
Expenses, Fall Meeting, October, 1966	255.40	
Expenses, Spring Meeting, April, 1967	138.00	
Total Disbursements	1,175.95	1,175.95
Balance on hand, First Security National Bank and Trust Co., Lexington		\$ 765.54

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in Savings Account, Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association, Louisville, Ky., Oct. 14, 1966		\$1,083.53
Seven (7) full-paid shares in the above		700.00
Total balance in Fund, October 14, 1966		<u>\$1,783.53</u>

Receipts

Interest on full-paid shares	32.38	
Interest on Savings Account	49.86	
Total receipts		82.24
TOTAL		<u>\$1,865.77</u>

Disbursements

Transfer of interest on full-paid shares to General Fund	32.38	
Total disbursements		32.38
Total balance in Fund, October 14, 1967		<u>1,833.39</u>
TOTAL		<u>\$1,865.77</u>

Total Assets

Seven (7) full-paid shares	700.00	
Savings Account balance, October 14, 1966	1,083.53	
Interest on Savings Account	49.86	
TOTAL ASSETS, October 14, 1967	1,833.39	\$1,833.39

GORDON WILSON FUND FOR ORNITHOLOGY

Balance in Savings Account, Greater Louisville First Federal Savings and Loan Association, October 14, 1966		874.32
---	--	--------

Receipts

Contributions, 1967	10.00	
Interest on Savings Account	41.04	
Total Receipts		51.04
TOTAL		<u>\$ 925.36</u>

Disbursements

None		
Total balance in Fund, October 14, 1967		\$ 925.36
Principal Fund	678.00	
Accumulated interest	247.36	
TOTAL	925.36	

BALANCE SHEET

October 14, 1967

Assets:

Cash in General Fund	\$ 765.54
Endowment Fund	1,833.39
Gordon Wilson Fund	925.36
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,524.29

Barbara Burns Ruff
Treasurer

NEWS AND VIEWS

(Continued from Page 62)

BALD EAGLE BROCHURE

A new brochure, "Bald Eagles in Land Between the Lakes," written by Clell T. Peterson and printed by Tennessee Valley Authority, contains useful information on status, behavior, distribution, identification, and where and when to see these large birds. The pamphlet is intended for distribution to interested visitors at the Land Between the Lakes Project. The K.O.S. is proud of the many eagle records and studies Dr. Peterson has made for this section of Kentucky, also.

* * * *

STATE BIRD LIST

The Kentucky Ornithological Society is making plans for a state-wide list of birds, to be in bar-graph form, and to include the dates within which each species has been found. President Herbert Shadowen suggested the list be compiled by the Beckham Bird Club (Louisville Chapter) in cooperation with K.O.S. members across the state and under the direction of Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr.

Members having earlier or later dates of bird records than those listed in *Birds of Kentucky* (Mengel, 1965) are urged to send them to Dr. Monroe, Department of Biology, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky 40208. The list is to be based on records through 1967.

* * * *

K.O.S. IN THE NEWS

K.O.S. has recently made the news in the unexpected area of Army journalism. An article in the October 6 issue of the Fort Knox newspaper described the bird studies there of two of our members, Lt.-Col. Austin R. Lawrence and Spec. 4 Joseph E. Croft. A condensed version of the story was later carried in *Army Times*. Colonel Lawrence has since been reassigned to the Military District of Washington. K.O.S. wishes him well in his new assignment.