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The Kentucky Warbler

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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THE COVER

We thank Jeff Flam for the photograph of the Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*) taken on July 29, 1989 at Honker Lake in the Land Between the Lakes.

THE NESTING SEASON, SUMMER 1989

ANNE L. STAMM

The summer temperature in Kentucky during June was about normal while in July it averaged slightly above normal and humidity was unusually high during much of the month. Rainfall was above normal in both months over much of the state. In Bowling Green the heavy rainfall raised the water levels at McElroy and Chaney Lakes. The lakes and rivers in western Kentucky were high too, thus limiting shorebird habitat. The Falls of the Ohio was inundated for much of the summer period, causing herons to disperse and probably limiting breeding of ground nesting species until later in July.

One feature of the season was that a number of birds lingered beyond their normal departure dates, and some species of ducks summered at the transient lakes. The increase in field work during the nesting season resulted in the finding of new breeding locations for some species of birds. The find of the season goes to Jeff Flam for the observation of a Roseate Spoonbill at Honker Lake in LBL.

Abbreviations — BWMA = Ballard Waterfowl Management Area, Ballard County; BBC = Beckham Bird Club; BPS = Big Pond Sanctuary, Grayson County; BBS = Breeding Bird Survey; CGNHP = Cumberland Gap National Historical Park; Duck Island WMA = Duck Island Wildlife Management Area, Trigg County on Lake Barkley; LBL = Land Between the Lakes; LP = Lake Pewee; PHSM = Peabody Homestead Surface Mine, Ohio County; Reelfoot NWR = Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge, Fulton County; SWMA = Sauerheber Wildlife Management Area, Henderson County; Swan Lake WMA = Swan Lake Wildlife Management Area, Ballard County. The transient lakes are Chaney and McElroy Lakes, Bowling Green, Warren County.

Grebes through Spoonbills — A Pied-billed Grebe was noted at Martin's Fork Lake, Harlan County on June 20 (AB, AM); up to three birds summered at McElroy Lake, Warren County and an immature appeared there on July 4 (BPB). A single Horned Grebe, with an injured wing, was present at McElroy Lake throughout the period (BPB). Five Double-crested Cormorants were observed at McAlpine Dam, Louisville on June 10 (LR) and two were present during most of June and July at Kentucky Lake Islands near Hamlin, Calloway County (J. T. Erwin *vide* CP). Two Least Bitterns were observed on the cattail marsh on PHSM on July 16 (KC, HCL) and again on July 17 (KC, A. Wilson), but seven (4 adults, 3 appeared to be birds of the year) there on August 3 (BPB, AB); and one noted at McElroy Lake on July 16 (BPB, DP, D. Ebel).

No censuses of the Great Blue Heron rookeries were taken this summer. This species was reported from various locations in the state, but the four birds at Rock Springs, Bracken County on June 8 (LMc) were of special interest since we have few records, if any, from that county. A single Great Egret was seen flying over Hebron, Boone County on June 7 (LMc) while the next report was of 100 birds observed in three ponds along the levee in Fulton County on July 17 (SK, MS); three birds at BWMA on July 28 (BPB) and fewer than usual were at Peal Land Wildlife Area (CP). Single post-breeding birds began showing up on July 28-30 on a slough along the Ohio River above Cairo, Illinois (BPB); and at Mayfair Basins, Louisville (LR, BPB). A single Snowy Egret was seen at Dix Dam, Mercer County on July 3 and is the first record for that area (WK, C. Kohler *vide* FL). Another bird observed flying over the

channel below McAlpine Dam on July 19 (LR) and at least eight noted at Swan Lake WMA, and a total of 17 in a nearby flooded slough along the Ohio River above Cairo, Illinois, Ballard County (BPB). In three ponds along the levee in Fulton County, approximately 200 Little Blue Herons (both adults and immatures) were seen on July 17 (SK, MS); 30 adults and 20 immatures were present at BWMA on July 28, and 15 (8 adults and 7 immatures), plus two calicos were seen at Swan Lake WMA on the same date (BPB). Also, 12 immatures and one adult bird were noted at Kentucky Lake near Hamlin (no date given — J. T. Edwin *vide* CP); up to six immatures and four adults observed near Shippingport Island and the Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson County on July 18-28 (LR); and one at Duck Island WMA, Trigg County on Lake Barkley on July 28 (BPB). Although there was no mention of breeding Cattle Egrets, several small groups were observed as follows: four in flight in Graves County on July 10 (CP), 11 in Hickman County on July 19 (CP); two or three at Peal Land Wildlife Area during most of the period (CP) and small groups in Ballard/Carlisle counties on July 28 (BPB). A pair of Green-backed Herons nested at BPS (KC); singles were observed at Wysox Lake, Ohio County and at Caneyville, Grayson County on June 18 and 19, respectively (KC); and one to three birds at three locations in Jefferson County July 15-29 (LR). The species continued to remain in low numbers. The high water on the Ohio River at Louisville caused the Black-crowned Night-Herons to disperse all over the Louisville area. Although small numbers were seen feeding along the shores of Lake Barkley, Trigg/Lyon counties, the Lake Barkley rookery was abandoned when visited on July 27. It was assumed the rookery had relocated elsewhere on the lake (BPB) since Black-crown's continued to be numerous on the lake. An adult Black-crowned Night-Heron was also observed at McElroy Lake on June 29 (BPB). Three nests of the Yellow-crowned Night-Heron were found in a new location in the Louisville area, Jefferson County on June 15: one nest had five young, another had two young and the third nest had adults nearby, but the nest contents could not be seen because of the heavy foliage (KC). Also, adults and immatures were seen during late July in southern Jefferson County near the Outer Loop Landfill (T. Love, M. Stinson) and to the NE off Fern Valley Road (DP *vide* BPB), and one noted at the Falls of the Ohio on July 28 (LR). There was no report of the small colony of Yellow-crowned Night-Herons at Lexington. The surprise of the summer was the finding of a *Roseate Spoonbill* at Honker Lake in LBL on July 29 by Jeff Flam. This is, of course, the first record for Kentucky. The bird apparently only stayed for a short time as it could not be found on July 30, but was observed again in the general area by a couple from Florida on August 18 (W. Brines). See photograph on cover page.

Waterfowl — Canada Geese were noted with young at East Bend and at Union, Boone County during the period (LMc) and a pair raised young this summer at McElroy Lake (BPB). Wood Ducks had a good year. Adult birds with young were found at Mammoth Cave National Park (MS), Petersburg and East Bend in Boone County (LMc), near Wellsburg, Bracken County (LMc), Big Pond Sanctuary (KC), McElroy and Chaney Lakes (BPB), numerous small young at Reelfoot NWR (CP), and a brood at Marsh Creek, McCreary County — an uncommon Cumberland Plateau nesting record (BPB). American Black Ducks summered at McElroy Lake (BPB). A Mallard nest with five eggs was found at the edge of a private lake in Ten Broeck, Jefferson County on June 9, but was abandoned later with seven eggs (S, FS). Numerous broods were observed at McElroy Lake and a few at Chaney Lake (BPB). An adult male Green-winged Teal lingered at a slough near Harrodsburg, Mercer County and was still present on June 8 (WK *vide* FL). Ten to 12 broods of young Blue-winged

Teal were raised at McElroy Lake during the period and although no young were found on Chaney Lake, some adults remained there throughout the summer (BPB). The Blue-winged Teal was also found nesting in two new counties: Simpson and Trigg (BPB). A pair of Northern Shovelers lingered at McElroy Lake until June 13, and four birds showed up at the transient lakes on the early date of July 22 (BPB). Nonbreeding waterfowl provided some unusual records. Noteworthy summering reports at McElroy Lake included at least three Gadwall (a pair and a lone drake) and two male American Wigeons through early July (BPB), a Ring-necked Duck (drake — perhaps injured) throughout June and July (BPB), three Lesser Scaups (a pair and a lone drake) throughout June and July (BPB), and five Lesser Scaup at Towhead Island along the Ohio River at Louisville in mid-July (Kerry Prather), but only one observed there on July 30 (BPB), and a female Bufflehead, apparently with an injured wing, at McElroy Lake throughout June and July (BPB). A single Hooded Merganser ("thought to be a first-year male") was seen at McElroy Lake throughout June and July (BPB). Two Ruddy Ducks lingered at McElroy Lake through June 6 (BPB).

Hawks — Two downy young Black Vultures were found in an abandoned house about three miles WNW of Epleys in northern Todd County on June 7 (BPB). Noteworthy sightings of the Black Vulture included two birds over White Rocks in CGNHP, Harlan County on June 17 (BPB), single birds on two occasions in southeastern McCreary County near Wolf Knob (BPB, Lee Andrews), two birds near Wellsburg, Bracken County on June 8, and one near Fiskburg, Kenton County on June 10, (LMc). A Turkey Vulture nest with two downy young was found on June 7 along a cliffline, 0.9 mile SW of Mt. Vernon Church and approximately three miles NNW of Sharon Grove in northern Todd County (BPB). Eleven Turkey Vultures were seen in the vicinity of Bondurant, Fulton County on July 7 and seven in Calloway County on June 24 (CP). Of the three Osprey nests which were built in the LBL area and on Lake Barkley, one was not used, one near Empire Farm fledged two birds (CP) and one was still being attended by adults in late July (Ed. Ray *vide* BPB). A single Osprey was noted soaring over Rough River near Harrell Bend on June 9 (BPB). Six Mississippi Kites were reported in southern Fulton County on June 17 (SK, MS); and two were seen along Obion Creek, Hickman County on June 19. The latter two may have been a nesting pair since "both perched near us and seemed to be carrying food" (CP). An adult Bald Eagle was reported west of Lake Pewee, Hopkins County on July 13 (G. James *vide* JH). The Northern Harrier nest found on the Peabody Coal Company's Sinclair Surface Mine in eastern Muhlenberg County on May 26 reported in the Spring Season Report 1989 (*Ky. War.*, 65:65, 1989) was checked on June 8 and found abandoned (BPB). Also, the nest of five downy young located on Peabody's Coal Company Ken Surface Mine in western Ohio County on May 26 previously reported (same references as above) was not visited until July 16, but no evidence of the nest or young were found (BPB). Other harriers reported included a male east of Nelson in eastern Muhlenberg County on May 26 (AB, BPB); another in northern Todd County on June 7; a pair in eastern McLean County on June 15 and in northern Ohio County during the period — no date given — (BPB). It was interesting to note that four to six Northern Harriers were seen going to roost on the Homestead Mine in southern Ohio County on July 10 and again on July 24 (KC, HCL). An adult Sharp-shinned Hawk feeding young was reported from 1.25 miles east of Skyline, Letcher County on July 22 (AB), while adult singles were observed 1.25 miles south of Chad, Harlan County on June 21 (AB), south of Winifred, Johnson County, July 17 (AB), north of Dunlap, Pike County on July 27 (AB), and in eastern

McCreary County, approximately 1.5 miles NNW of Hollyhill on July 7 (BPB) and from Wolf Knob, in southeastern McCreary County on June 21 (Lee Andrews *vide* BPB). Cooper's Hawks apparently had a good year and were widespread during this period. A nest with at least three young was found in a pine plantation about 1.5 miles SW of Pottertown, Calloway County on June 25 (BPB); two fledglings begging for food near Rural, Pike County on July 31 (AB); a fledgling 3 miles west of Helton, Leslie County on July 24 (AB); two young at BPS during July (KC); and an immature noted 2.5 miles west of Mare Creek (Stanville) on July 14 (AB). There were numerous sightings of adult Cooper's Hawks made in the following counties: Edmonson/Grayson County line, Warren, Butler, Metcalfe, Green, Ohio, Taylor, Boone, Grayson, and Johnson. Also, three fledglings (*Accipiter* spp. probably Cooper's) just out of the nest, were seen just NW of Pigeon, Floyd County on July 14 (AB). Red-shouldered Hawks were reported only from near Carrollton, Carroll County on June 24 (LMc). A nest of Broad-winged Hawks containing young birds was found along Little South Fork Cumberland River near Green Ford Church in Wayne County on July 6 (BPB). Single Broad-wings sighted in the following counties: Boone (two locations), Carroll (LMc), Pulaski (JEl), and Fulton (CP) during June and July were probably breeding birds. Active nests of Red-tailed Hawks were found in two locations in Boone County during the spring (LMc). The species was seen regularly in southern Ohio County (KC, HLC); two at the transient lakes on July 27 (KC *et al.*); and frequently in the Ten Broeck area in east Louisville (S, FS). American Kestrels remain fairly common; adults were observed feeding young at Mallard Creek Crossing, Louisville on June 2 (KC); at least 13 on the Homestead Mine area, with some feeding young on July 17 (KC, A. Wilson).

Grouse through Coots — Three male Ruffed Grouse were still heard drumming in McCreary County on July 7 (BPB). Two of the *Common Moorhens* that were found on the cattail marsh on the Peabody Homestead Surface Mine in southern Ohio County during May apparently remained to nest as four half-grown downy young were seen there on July 16 (BPB, DP, D. Ebel). A Wild Turkey was seen on Cumberland Mountain near Hensley Settlement in CGNHP, Bell County on June 17 (BPB, R. Cassell). At least five non-breeding American Coots summered at McElroy Lake and two birds summered on the cattail marsh on the Homestead Surface Mine, southern Ohio County (BPB).

Shorebirds — As usual, some late spring migrants lingered well into June. Small numbers of fall migrants began appearing by late June and early July, particularly at the transient lakes. There were no large concentration of shorebirds reported this season with the exception of Killdeers at Louisville and McElroy Lake. Habitat was limited. The water levels in western Kentucky were too high for good habitat, and the Falls of the Ohio was inundated for much of the period, but by mid-July some of the rock ledge was exposed. Chaney Lake was just right for shorebirds by the end of July while McElroy was still a little too high. A Lesser Golden-Plover was observed on the shore of McElroy Lake on June 13 and was unusually late in its northward movement (BPB). A Semipalmated Plover lingered at McElroy Lake until June 6 while the first fall migrant appeared at nearby Chaney Lake on July 22 (BPB). One hundred and four Killdeers were seen at Wave Rock, Louisville on July 18 (LR) and 100+ observed around McElroy Lake, where large numbers nested (BPB). Three Greater Yellowlegs had reached McElroy Lake by July 4 (BPB, AB) and 12 Lesser Yellowlegs were seen there as early as June 29, with a larger

number of birds on smaller bodies of water nearby on July 16 (BPB). A Lesser Yellowlegs remained at McElroy Lake throughout the summer; its wing drooped slightly but it could fly well (BPB). A single Solitary Sandpiper returned to McElroy Lake on July 4 and numbers increased in the area by July 16 (BPB). An adult Willet at Duck Island WMA on Lake Barkley, Trigg County on July 27 was the only one reported (BPB *et al.*). Three Spotted Sandpipers summered at McElroy Lake and although a pair was seen copulating on June 6 and two males observed performing courtship flights, no nest or young were located (BPB). Up to four were present at the Falls of the Ohio by July 30. Two Upland Sandpipers (one a bird of the year) were noted at Chaney Lake on July 28 and four Sanderlings were present at the Falls of the Ohio on July 23 (BPB). Spring migrant Semipalmated Sandpipers (5 birds) lingered at McElroy Lake until June 6. Fall migrants (approximately 10 birds) arrived at Chaney Lake on July 22 (BPB). A single "peep" was noted at McElroy Lake on June 19 and appeared to be a Least, but identification was unconfirmed. Fall migrant Least Sandpipers returned to Chaney Lake as early as July 16 (BPB). White-rumped Sandpipers lingered at McElroy Lake until June 13 when 15 were still observed there (BPB). Small numbers of Pectoral Sandpipers arrived in southern Warren County, a couple miles north of the transient lakes on July 16 (BPB, D. Ebel, D. Parker), and at SWMA, Henderson County on July 23 (LR). Six Stilt Sandpipers were seen at the transient lakes on July 23 (JEL). Single Short-billed Dowitchers appeared at McElroy Lake throughout July with the earliest there on July 4 (BPB); five were seen but not heard at McElroy on July 22 (BBC) and a pair was seen and heard calling at Duck Island WMA on July 27 (BPB). A single Common Snipe was carefully studied at McElroy Lake on June 19 and is our first June record for Kentucky (BPB). A Red-necked Phalarope was observed on McElroy Lake on July 4 (BPB, AB).

Gulls through Terns — Two Laughing Gulls were reported: one second-year bird below McAlpine Dam on July 7 (LR) and an adult on Lake Barkley above the dam on July 27 (BPB). A few Ring-billed Gulls were scattered about on Lake Barkley above the dam on July 27 and two were observed at Towhead Island on the Ohio River at Louisville on July 30 (BPB and with D. Ebel on the latter date). A second-year Herring Gull was noted at the Falls of the Ohio on July 23 (BPB). The only Forster's Tern reported was an adult at Mitchell Lake, BWMA on July 28 (BPB). Least Terns had difficulty with nesting since the Mississippi River rose above normal levels in late June. Sandbars were inundated and John Smith of the Missouri Department of Conservation reported that more than 300 of over 500 documented nests were lost (*vide* BPB). On July 28 at least three adults and three juvenile Least Terns were seen on a slough next to the Ohio River above Cairo, Illinois, and 15 birds including at least 5 juveniles were noted below Smithland Dam, and six adult birds were at Mitchell Lake, BWMA (BPB).

Cuckoos through Woodpeckers — No nests of the Black-billed Cuckoo were found, but interesting records were reported: one bird heard calling on a reclaimed strip mine in eastern McLean County, 1.25 miles ENE of Island on June 15, and another found in rural farmland approximately 2.0 miles NE of Beaver Dam in Ohio County on June 28 (BPB). Both of these sightings were in areas where the birds had not been previously recorded in summer. Nest building of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo was observed at Green River, near Rochester Dam, in southern Ohio County (BE, TE); a young fledgling was seen at BPS on July 13 (KC, HLC). A Great Horned Owl nest with two young was found near Burlington, Boone County in

late March (T. Stephens *vide* LMc). The *Short-eared Owl* nest found on May 25 as listed in the Spring Season Report, 1989 (*Ky. War.*, 65:69, 1989) was found with six downy young on the Peabody Coal Company's Sinclair Surface Mine in eastern Muhlenberg County, near Paradise (AB, BPB). The nest was checked on June 8 and found empty, however, a "defensive owl was flying in the vicinity" (BPB). In southern Ohio County on the Homestead Mine both Dr. and Mrs. Clay and Palmer-Ball reported seeing small groups of three to five young *Short-eared Owls* with an adult in mid-June and mid-July and were believed to be family groups. Also, late in the evening on July 16 a *Short-eared Owl* was seen harrassing a female *Red-tailed Hawk* that was sitting on a telephone pole (KC) on the Homestead Mine. Chuck-will's-widows were heard calling during June at BPS (KC) and heard along Little South Fork Cumberland River near Erwin, Wayne County on July 19 (BPB). A nest of *Whip-poor-wills* containing one egg was found in late May in Grant County. The nest held two eggs on June 3 and one egg had hatched by mid-June (Joe and Kathy Caminiti *vide* LMc); four birds were heard at BPS during June (KC). A few observers wondered where the *Ruby-throated Hummingbirds* were this season since their feeders were not visited. However, two pairs were seen coming to a feeder at Science Hill, Pulaski County (JEl); six birds at BPS (KC), a nest under construction near Carrolton, Carroll County on June 24 (LMc), several birds fed at feeders at the Nature Center in LBL, and up to 30 were noted at feeders in a yard in Cadiz, Trigg County (WB). *Red-headed Woodpeckers* received mixed reports from "making a comeback" in central Kentucky to "seemed scarce" in northern Kentucky. Active nests of the *Red-cockaded* were located at least two sites in southern Daniel Boone National Forest (Steve Phillips *vide* BPB).

Flycatchers through Horned Larks — A fair number of *Willow Flycatchers* were reported during the period. They were observed at the Cincinnati Airport on June 5 and throughout June and July at Petersburg, Boone County (LMc) where at least three singing males were heard and adults were feeding young out of the nest on July 20 (LMc). A territorial male and nest under construction were located on a reclaimed strip mine in eastern McLean County, 1.25 miles ENE of Island on June 15 for a new county nesting record (BPB); also "a singing, apparently territorial male" on June 27 along Caney Creek, near Steff, Grayson County (BPB); and two singing birds at Fourmile, Bell County on June 14, probably a new location (AB, A. Mullen). Two singing *Least Flycatchers* and one silent bird was observed between them at Chenoa (1400 feet elevation) in Bell County on June 7, 9, and 18 (AB); and two singing birds at Black Mountain lookout tower, Harlan County on June 21, 23 and 25 (AB). An active nest of *Eastern Phoebe*s was observed on a shed in Bernheim Forest, Bullitt County on April 22 (BM, BBC); also early nesting observed in the Glasgow area (RS). Other active nests were found in the following counties: Boone, Carroll, Kenton and Bracken (LMc). *Territorial Horned Larks* were present in Grant County during June (LMc); many adult birds were seen carrying food to young in several locations in southern Ohio County on the Homestead Mine during June (KC, HLC, S, FS).

Martins through Nuthatches — Little information was received on the *Purple Martin*. The colony in Seneca Park, Louisville was reduced to two pairs (S, FS); a few present at Rough River, Grayson County (KC); several pairs nested in a new box which was erected south of Versailles, Woodford County (SH); and the 50+ with several young at Science Hill, Pulaski County on July 17 were probably getting ready to migrate south (JEl). *Tree Swallows* continued their expansion through the state with

nests in dead trees over the lakes at the Army Depot in Richmond, Madison County and in two bluebird boxes in the uplands (WD); West Hickman Sewage Treatment Plant in Jessamine County for a new breeding county record (WD); and near Crittenden, Grant County (K. Caminiti *vide* LMc). Other breeding observations included adult birds entering cavities in trees and fledglings nearby, on a strip mine north of Centertown, western Ohio County on June 28 (BPB); in a nest box near Union, Boone County (LMc); and adult birds observed at Cimarron Marsh, Hopkins County on June 1 (JH). Bank Swallows were found in gravel pits again in Petersburg and Belleview while a third colony was found in another gravel pit near Taylorsport also in Boone County (LMc). The two Bank Swallow colonies in Carroll County were not visited this summer (S). New breeding colonies of the Cliff Swallow were found and established new county records in Bracken County at Mehdahl Dam (10 nests) and at Rock Springs (60 nests — LMc), and in Ohio County on Caney Creek at US 62, about 1.5 miles NE of Horse Branch (BPB). Also, new nesting colonies were located as follows: Rough River Reservoir at KY 259, Grayson/Breckinridge County line (about 30+ nests), Caney Creek at US 62, about 2.5 miles E of Steff, and Caney Creek at Goffs-Neafus Road, both with 25+ nests on June 27 (BPB). Other nesting colonies were noted at Markland Dam in Gallatin County and Wolper Creek in Boone County (LMc). The Gunpowder Creek colony in Boone County was not used this year for the first time in five years (LMc). An apparent migrant flock of 50+ Cliff Swallows was observed at East Bend, Boone County on July 29 (LMc). An active nest of American Crows was observed at Camp Ernest, near Burlington; Boone County on April 24 (LMc). Two Common Ravens were heard calling from a cliffline on the north side of Cumberland Mountain in CGNHP, Bell County on June 17 (BPB, R. Cassell); and the two birds noted near Larkslane and one at Vest, Knott County on July 12 were noteworthy (AB). An adult White-breasted Nuthatch was noted feeding young in the nest at Burlington on May 15 (LMc).

Wrens through Shrikes — Successful nesting of the Carolina Wren was noted at BPS (KC), Glasgow in Barren County (RS), two locations in east Louisville: one in a mail box on Redleaf Drive (DN), and one on a rafter in a carport, Spokane Way (FS, S). Bewick's Wrens continued to be scarce with only two birds reported: one singing bird appeared territorial in rural Warren County, about 1.5 miles NE of Girkin on June 2 (BPB) and one near Fiskburg in Kenton County on June 10 (LMc). A Sedge Wren was heard singing in rural Warren County just SE of McElroy Lake on July 22 (BPB, BBC). Improved numbers of Eastern Bluebirds were evident in most areas. The nest box project at Prospect, Jefferson County was quite successful (JK). Increases of the Eastern Bluebird population were also noted at the University of Kentucky Agriculture Farm, Fayette County and at the Army Depot at Richmond (WD). Several Veeries were heard singing along upper Cumberland Mountain along the Ridge Trail from Hensley Settlement to White Rocks, Bell/Harlan County line in CGNHP on June 17 (BPB, R. Cassell). The Wood Thrush was scarce at BPS and at Louisville (KC and S, respectively); only one nest reported — an incubating bird near Hebron, Boone County on June 7 (LMc). The Brown Thrasher and Gray Catbird were again in low numbers especially in the Louisville area. Cedar Waxwings were not as widespread this summer; at least 25 present at BPS during June, but left after the mulberries were gone (KC). An active nest was located north of Gilstrap, Butler County on June 29 (BPB). Other summer sightings of pairs were made in the following counties: Breckinridge, Edmonson (2 locales), Logan, Metcalfe, Ohio (2 locales), Todd (2 locales), and War-

ren (2 locales — BPB). Increased sightings of Loggerhead Shrikes were encouraging. They were noted in Bracken (LMc), Grant (LMc), Grayson (KC), Pulaski (JEL), and Warren counties (KC). Nests and/or recently fledged groups of young were located while doing Breeding Bird Atlas surveys in the following counties (# of sites): Breckinridge (1), Butler (1), Christian (1), Edmonson (1), Logan (1), McLean (1), Metcalfe (1), Muhlenberg (3), Ohio (2), Simpson (5), Todd (3), and Warren (2 — BPB). Eight Loggerhead Shrikes were also seen in one hour while driving in Fulton County on July 17 (SK, MS).

Vireos through Warblers — The Bell's Vireo nest previously reported (*Ky. War.*, 65:71, 1989) was found on the Peabody Coal Company Homestead Surface Mine, Ohio County and contained eggs in late May, and nearly-fledged young on June 14 (BPB); two to three territorial males were still in full song there on July 16. The Muhlenberg County nest site on Peabody's Martwick Surface Mine was not revisited (BPB). Five male Solitary Vireos were noted singing on June 15 along a four mile stretch of road #221 starting west of the town of Pine Mountain, Harlan County where the elevation is 1700-2500 feet (AB); a singing male along Railroad Fork, about four miles NNE of Whitley City, McCreary County on July 17 and scattered singing males along the Ridge Trail in CGNHP, Bell/Harlan County line on June 17 (BPB, R. Cassell). Two or three pairs of Solitary Vireos with young were seen along one mile stretch of Road #1780, three miles west and slightly south of Helton, Leslie County (elevation 1500 feet) on July 24 (AB). A pair of Golden-winged Warblers noted on Black Mountain (elevation 3000+ feet), 2.5 miles SW of Cumberland, Harlan County on June 21, 23 and 25 (AB). Summering Northern Parulas were observed at three locations in Boone County and one location each in Carroll and Kenton counties (LMc). An adult Chestnut-sided Warbler was observed feeding a young bird, 1.25 miles east of Sizerock, Leslie County (elevation 1400 feet) on July 7 (AB); and singing birds were heard in all appropriate habitats along the crest of Cumberland Mountain in CGNHP, Bell/Harlan counties on June 17 (BPB, R. Cassell). Black-throated Blue Warblers were heard at scattered points along the Ridge Trail in CGNHP from Hensley Settlement, Bell County to White Rocks, Harlan County on June 17 (BPB, R. Cassell). Pine Warblers were again recorded on several occasions during June in pines at Madisonville, Hopkins County (JH), where they probably are nesting birds. Other summer sightings from areas where records are few included a singing male, south of Gilstrap on June 29, a male carrying food at Lake Blythe, north of Hopkinsville, Christian County on June 22, and an adult feeding a Brown-headed Cowbird, about 2 miles N of Pleasant Hill, Butler County on June 14 (BPB). Cerulean Warblers were observed in family groups (adults and fledglings) along Rock Creek, McCreary County, July 6 (BPB). Worm-eating Warblers were common during the period at Boone County Cliffs Nature Preserve, while a pair was also present north of Carrolton, Carroll County during June (LMc); and fledged young were near Sharon Grove, Todd County on June 7 (BPB). Alan Barron located a good number of Swainson's Warblers (mostly singing males) in eastern Kentucky as follows: one near Sampson, Harlan County on June 20, a pair, 2 miles south of Slemp, Perry County July 6, one at 1.25 miles east of Sizemore, Leslie County on July 7, one at Day, Letcher County July 15, a pair, and another male singing at some distance behind them, 2 miles west of Flat Gap, Virginia along Hwy. 932, July 22, one, one-half mile northeast of Skyline, Letcher County July 22, and one, one-half mile southeast of Skyline, Letcher County, July 22. Another was present at Sugar Run Picnic Area in CGNHP, Bell County on June 17 (BPB, AB, AM), and still there on June 25 (AB). An adult

Ovenbird was observed carrying food in southern Butler County on June 1 (BPB), and an adult was seen feeding a fledgling on June 6 at the Boone County Cliffs (LMc). Singing Canada Warblers were heard at several points along the Ridge Trail on CGNHP from the upper portion of Shillalah Creek near Hensley Settlement to White Rocks on June 17 (BPB, R. Cassell).

Tanagers through Dickcissels — A Summer Tanager nest with young was found on June 16 at General Butler State Park, Carroll County (LMc). Scarlet Tanagers were widespread during the period in northern Kentucky (LMc); a female noted feeding two young Brown-headed Cowbirds out of the nest in rural Carroll County on June 24 (LMc); and two birds were near Brazzle Bridge in Madisonville on June 9 (JH). There were three reports of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks on June 17 in CGNHP: two singing males on Cumberland Mountain, one along upper Shillalah Creek, and one along the Ridge Trail (BPB, R. Cassell). Blue Grosbeaks were widespread and they continued their expansion in the state with new county breeding records established. Three young fledged from a nest near Munfordville, Hart County (SK); and an adult was observed carrying food to young on the Homestead Mine in Ohio County on July 16 and 23 (KC). Two male Blue Grosbeaks and a female were in a yard at Science Hill, Pulaski County from June 17 throughout July (JEl) while singing was noted in a yard in Danville, Boyle County all during July (FL). Other summer sightings included two birds along the road at SWMA on July 23 (LR), recorded at five locations in Hopkins County (JH), several locations in Barren County (RS), increased numbers noted on the BBS in Casey County (FL), and 12 birds were heard on July 21 in the following counties: Logan, Todd and Warren (BM, MM). A female Dickcissel was observed building a nest in eastern McLean County on June 15 (BPB); and adults carrying food to young were found on the Homestead Mine on June 1 (S, FS) numerous there during June and July (KC). Dickcissels were also heard at SWMA on July 23 (LR).

Sparrows through Finches — Bachman's Sparrows were not found this summer at the traditional Blood River site (J. T. Erwin *vide* CP). However, a singing male was seen and heard in rural Calloway County, about 1.5 miles SW of Pottertown, some 5 miles from the Blood River site where it was formerly observed for the past number of years (J. T. Erwin, BPB). The Savannah Sparrow observed near Danville on July 15 was the only one reported (FL). Grasshopper Sparrows were noted during June in Bracken, Grant and Pendleton counties (LMc); and a small colony on a reclaimed strip mine in southwestern Whitley County on July 7 (BPB), and unusually common on the reclaimed strip mine land (Homestead Mine) during the period (KC, S), and three birds singing at reclaimed strip mines in SE Bell County, north of CGNHP (AB). A colony of Henslow's Sparrows was found in Pendleton County near Knoxville on June 3 (LMc), also a small colony in Grant County near Mason during June (Joe and Kathy Caminiti *vide* LMc), and a nesting colony on Peabody's Ken Surface Mine in western Ohio County during June and July; nesting evidence observed by food being carried in the bill of an adult on July 16 (BPB). Song Sparrows were recorded at six locations in Hopkins County in June and July, where it is not common in summer (JH). A few pairs of Bobolinks remained in a field near Danville through July 3 when the field was cut (FL). American Goldfinches were numerous at BPS during the summer with 25 or more present (KC). Several pairs of House Finches nested again in southwestern Jefferson County (WJ), and were present at feeders in eastern Jefferson County during the summer period (S, FS); and numbrs were increasing in the Madisonville area (JH).

Contributors — Alan Barron (AB), Wally Brines (WB), Kathryn Clay (KC), Herbert L. Clay, Jr. (HLC), Wayne Davis (WD), Brenda Eaden (BE), Tony Eaden (TE), Jackie Elmore (JEL), James W. Hancock (JH), Smith Hundley (SH), Wilbur Jackson (WJ), Steve Kistler (SK), John Krull (JK), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Mark Monroe (MM), Andrew Mullen (AM), Doxie Noonan (DN), B. Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), D. Parker (DP), Clell Peterson (CP), Lene Rauth (LR), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Mitchel Sturgeon (MS), Russell Starr (RS).

--9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40241.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING

September 22-24, 1989

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its 66th annual Fall Meeting at Cumberland Falls State Park on September 22-24, 1989.

Jim Williams opened the Friday evening session with a welcome to members, guests and those attending for the first time. Virginia Kingsolver outlined the field trips for Saturday morning and introduced the evening speakers. Steve Phillips updated the current status of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker in the Cumberland Falls area. Paul Kalisz spoke on the characteristics of forest utilized by the Red-cockaded Woodpecker in Kentucky. Clell Peterson proposed a bird photography salon by members at future K.O.S. meetings. Brad Andres discussed the use of tape playbacks in searching for breeding rails. Brainard Palmer-Ball Jr. concluded the program with a review of the present status and future plans for the Kentucky Breeding Bird Atlas project. Members were invited to a social hour following the program at the Kingsolver's cabin.

Rain greeted birders on Saturday morning field trips. Steve Kickert led one group to a Red-cockaded Woodpecker roost site, Jackie Elmore led a trip to the Natural Arch area and Bert Powell led a group around the lodge area.

The Board of Directors met in the lodge at 4:00 p.m.

The Saturday evening program was held in the lodge meeting room beginning at 7:30 p.m. Fred Busroe led in compiling the day's bird list, which totalled 55 species. The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers for the coming year: President - Virginia Kingsolver, Vice-President - Lee McNeely, Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer - Kathryn Mudd, Recording Secretary - Donnie Spencer, and new Councillors - Clell Peterson and Bert Powell. All were approved as presented. Thanks were extended to Jim Williams and John Krull for their recent service as officers. Sunday morning trips were announced, followed by a tape of the calls of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Dr. Wendell Kingsolver presented the evening program, an entertaining look at "New World Migration, a Bird's Eye View."

Cool, sunny weather was present on Sunday, with several more birders getting good views of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker. No additional species were reported by participants on Sunday field trips. Total registrations for the Fall Meeting were 54.

Respectfully submitted,
Lee McNeely
Recording Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT THE FALL MEETING AT CUMBERLAND FALLS STATE PARK

BOWLING GREEN: Blaine Ferrell, Jeff Jones, Mr. and Mrs. William Mathes
 BURLINGTON: Mr. and Mrs. Lee McNeely
 CALVERT CITY: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lecky
 CARLISLE: Dr. and Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver
 CRITTENDEN: Joe and Kathy Caminiti
 ELIZABETHTOWN: Joan Noel
 FRANKFORT: Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jones
 HODGENVILLE: Susan Cruse
 LEXINGTON: Susan Boeltcher, Jim Williams, Charles Elliott
 LOUISVILLE: Edwin Ahrens, Richard Cassell, Kathryn Clay, John Krull, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Don Parker, Mr. and Mrs. F.W. Stamm
 MACEO: Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Powell
 MOREHEAD: Mr. Fred Busroe
 MUNFORDVILLE: Cap Middleton
 MURRAY: Dr. Clell Peterson
 OWENSBORO: Margaret Craig, Lydia Greenwell, Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Wilson, William Perkins
 PADUCAH: Bernice Caddell
 SOMERSET: Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Elmore, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hines, Gary Sherman
 STANLEY: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stevenson
 CLARKSVILLE, IND: Lene Rauth
 DYERSBURG, TN: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leggett
 COLUMBUS, OH: Mr. and Mrs. Brad Andres, Wendell Haag
 PENNEY FARM, FLA: Mr. and Mrs. John Cheeks
 EUGENE, OR: Rick Ahrens

BIRDS RECORDED ON FIELD TRIPS AT THE FALL MEETING AT CUMBERLAND FALLS STATE PARK

September 22-24, 1989

Turkey Vulture, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Solitary Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-and-White Warbler, American Redstart, Worm-eating Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Summer Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow and American Goldfinch. The species total for the weekend was 55. It was raining in the morning on Saturday during the field trips, but the skies began to clear in the afternoon and temperatures began to drop with the approach of a cold front.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER
FISCAL YEAR 1988-1989**

GENERAL FUND

Bank Balance as of September 28, 1988 \$3,164.71

Receipts

Membership Dues	\$2,294.00	
Interest Income:		
Endowment Fund	400.26	
Gordon Wilson Fund	84.15	
Meetings	215.00	
Gifts (Owensboro Nature Club)	20.00	
Sale of Patches, etc.	78.65	
Sale of Annotated Checklists	2,023.85	
Transfer from G. Wilson Fund — Postage	48.91	
Transfer from G. Wilson Fund — Taxes	67.09	
Adjustment — Overcredit from G. Wilson Fund	5.00	
		5,236.91

8,401.62

Disbursements

Printing Cost (Warbler — 3 Issues)	2,244.49	
Envelopes	148.20	
Postage	287.50	
Meetings	128.54	
Nature Conservancy Dues	15.00	
Transfer of Interest to G. Wilson Fund	84.15	
Transfer of Checklist Sales to G. Wilson Fund	2,028.85	
KY State Tax Filing Fee	10.00	
KY State Sales Tax	67.09	
Postage for Mailing Checklists	48.91	
Transfer of Life Membership to Endowment Fund (2)	150.00	5,212.73

Bank Balance as of September 19, 1989 \$3,188.89

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in Savings Account, September 29, 1988 \$2,202.17

Certificates of Deposit:

2 @ \$1,000 each — Greater Financial Federal	2,000.00
1 @ \$1,500 — Future Federal	1,500.00
1 @ \$1,000 — Future Federal	1,000.00

TOTAL

\$6,702.17

Receipts:

Interest on Certificates of Deposit	\$ 400.26	
Interest on Savings Account	93.81	
Life Memberships (2)	150.00	
		644.07

\$7,346.24

Disbursements:

Transfer of Interest to General Fund	400.26
Balance in Fund, September 28, 1989	\$6,945.98
Certificates of Deposit (4)	\$4,500.00
Balance in Savings Account	2,445.98
TOTAL	\$6,945.98

GORDON WILSON FUND

Balance in Savings Account, September 29, 1988	\$1,188.95
Certificates of Deposit: 2 @ \$1,000 each	2,000.00
TOTAL	\$3,188.95

Receipts:

Interest on Certificates of Deposit	\$ 84.15	
Interest on Savings Account	56.87	
Sale of Annotated Checklists	2,028.85	2,169.87
		5,358.82

Disbursements:

Transfer of Postage to General Fund	48.91	
Transfer of Taxes to General Fund	67.09	
Adjustment of Overcredit	5.00	121.00
Balance in Fund, September 28, 1989		\$5,237.82
Balance in Savings Account, September 28, 1989		\$3,237.82
Certificates of Deposit (2)		2,000.00
TOTAL		\$5,237.82

BALANCE SHEET
As of September 28, 1989

Assets:

Balance in General Fund	\$ 3,188.89
Balance in Endowment Fund	6,945.98
Balance in Gordon Wilson Fund	5,237.82
TOTAL (Net Worth)	\$15,372.69

FIELD NOTE

FIRST KENTUCKY RECORD OF THE ROSEATE SPOONBILL

On 29 July 1989 Jean Steinhauser and I were canoeing on Honker Lake located in Land Between the Lakes, Lyon County, Kentucky. The weather was hot and humid. Around 10:30 a.m. two Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*) caught my attention as they flew from a dead snag approximately 30 yards from us. In this same tree I saw what appeared to be a Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*). When it turned its head so that the bill was easily in view, the shape could be seen as long, flattened on the top and bottom and with a round tip. From this observation, I knew we were looking at a Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*).

I took several photographs of the perched spoonbill with a 29-200 mm zoom lens which was set on 200mm. As it flew from its perch, its pink underwings were obvious. The upper surface of the wings, body, neck and head appeared white.

We followed the bird to another part of the lake where it landed on the bank. It fed in a shallow pool until around 12:00 p.m. At this time it flew out of Honker Lake toward Lake Barkley. I took several more photographs while it was feeding and in flight.

When we got back to the truck, I consulted the *National Geographic Field Guide* to confirm the sighting and check its range. Since it was well out of its normal range, we reported the sighting to Wally Brines at Woodlands Nature Center.

JEFF FLAM, 100 Van Morgan Drive, Golden Pond, Kentucky 42211-9001.

NEWS AND VIEWS

K.O.S. MEMBER BECOMES A.O.U.'s PRESIDENT

Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., who is President-Elect of the American Ornithologists' Union, will take office as president at the A.O.U.'s 108th Stated Meeting at Los Angeles, California in June 1990. K.O.S. salutes Dr. Monroe for this outstanding recognition. At the present time Dr. Charles G. Sibley, Tiburon, California and Dr. Monroe are completing a book on *The Classification and Distribution of Recent Birds of the World*.

PROJECT FEEDERWATCH

Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology is sponsoring Project FeederWatch. This project is designed to monitor bird distribution across the United States through observations made on a regular basis at backyard feeders. You do not have to be an expert bird-watcher to participate. If you are interested in more information, write: Project FeederWatch, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, New York 14850.

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNTS

Those members who have participated in the mid-winter bird counts previously should already have received count forms for this year's count. The counts should be conducted between December 16 and January 3. If you are interested in conducting a count and would like additional information, please contact the editor.