

5-1992

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 68, no. 2)

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The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

VOL. 68

MAY, 1992

NO. 2



IN THIS ISSUE

THE WINTER SEASON, 1991-1992, Anne L. Stamm and Burt L. Monroe, Jr.	31
THE K.O.S. SPRING MEETING	36
BOOK REVIEW, C. Michael Stinson	39
NEWS AND VIEWS	39

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

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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, \$8.00; Contributing, \$15.00; Student, \$4.00; Life, \$100.00; Family, \$2.00 in addition to Regular, Contributing, or Life Membership dues; Corporate. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions, memberships and requests for back issues should be sent to the treasurer.

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THE COVER

We thank Ray Harm, our staff artist, for this excellent painting of Kentucky Warblers (*Oporornis formosus*).

THE WINTER SEASON, 1991-92

ANNE L. STAMM AND BURT L. MONROE, JR.

This was a very mild winter season with little snow. In December the temperature averaged out four degrees above normal at Louisville. The rainfall was 5.23 inches, according to the Weather Bureau, which was almost two inches above normal, while in January the precipitation was below normal and the temperature above normal. February was warm. Paducah had a record of 70 degrees on February 3 while in Louisville the thermometer hit 71 degrees on February 18 and 22. The temperature averaged out for the month at Louisville 7.8 degrees above normal, and the precipitation was below normal. The ponds at MCFH were frozen for only three or four days during the winter period.

Abbreviations: BWMA = Ballard Waterfowl Management Area, Ballard County; BPS = Big Pond Sanctuary, Grayson County; CRL = Cave Run Lake, Rowan County; CBC = Christmas Bird Count; KOS = Kentucky Ornithological Society; LBL = Land Between the Lakes, Trigg/Lyon counties; LPew = Lake Pewee, Hopkins County; Lex = Lexington Reservoir, Fayette County; MCNP = Mammoth Cave National Park, Edmonson County; McA = McAlpine Dam (Falls of the Ohio), Louisville, Jefferson County; MCFH = Minor E. Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan County; SWMA = Sauerheber Wildlife Management Area, Henderson County; ThP = Thurston's Pond, near Monticello, Wayne County; Tow = Towhead Island, Louisville, Jefferson County.

Loons through Herons — Although 12 Common Loons were present on five of the CBCs, only a few remained in January: one at Lake Linville, Rockcastle Co., January 9 (AR) and six at Lake Barkley on January 19; eight were on CRL, December 5, declining to three on December 30, two on December 31 and January 10, and one on February 1 and 9 (FB); there were also singles reported in Boone and Gallatin counties, December 1 and 21, respectively (LMc). Pied-billed Grebes were more numerous in late December this year than last year by slightly more than 100%. In January, three birds were present at Owsley Fork Lake, Jackson Co., on January 2 (AR, TR); four at Jonathan Creek, Marshall Co., January 17 (CP); six at Energy Lake-LBL, January 19 (JB, PB); and one at Bowling Green, Warren Co., January 31 (JB, PB). Two Horned Grebes were on CRL on December 21, one on December 27, and four on January 10 (FB); one was at Lex, February 9 (AR), and three at LPew February 27 (KC, LR). Large numbers of about 200 Double-crested Cormorants were present through December until early January at LBL and Lake Barkley (CP); at Louisville, singles were at the McA, December 4 (BM) and February 4 (BM, CMS), 12 on the north side of Shippingport Island, December 23 (LR), ten at Tow, January 29 (LR), and one there on February 10 (BM, CMS); and one was at Lex, February 9 (AR). Great Blue Herons were more numerous in late December than last year in Kentucky. The high water at Silo Overlook (LBL) drove the large concentration southward, and unusual numbers had not returned, even though lake levels were down (CP). Numbers increased noticeably in Boyle and Mercer counties (FL); 15-18 birds were at MCFH during the period except for 47 on January 20 (FB); seven birds were noted in Ohio Co., December 7 (KC); and four birds were at LPew on December 7-13, three on January 13, and one on February 11 (JH), while eight were noted there on February 27 (LR, KC); one to three occurred at McA, between January 28 and February 26 (BM, CMS),

while 24 were seen there on February 14 (LR); two wintered at BPS (KC); singles were noted in Rockcastle and Madison counties on January 9 and February 3, respectively (AR); and two were seen at Ky. Lake, January 19 (JB, PB). Two Great Egrets lingered and were seen at ThP, Wayne Co. near Monticello on December 14 (JEL) and one on the Warsaw CBC, December 21, at Craig's Creek, Gallatin Co. (several observers).

Waterfowl — A careful estimate of 3000 Snow Geese was made at Barlow Bottoms, Ballard Co., December 14 (MM); an adult blue morph and an adult white morph were present at MCFH, December 5-20, with the white phase individual remaining to December 31 (FB); an adult blue morph and subadult white morph observed at Dix Dam, Mercer Co., January 18 (WK, *vide* FL). It was said to be a poor winter for geese in Mercer and Boyle counties (FL). Geese moved north from BWMA the week of February 17-24 (CW). At the end of February about 150 Canada Geese were still present at BWMA (CW). Some 500+ were present near Wysox Lake, Ohio Co., December 7 (KC); 145 was the high count at LPew, December 7, and 50 still there on January 11 (JH); 50 birds were seen flying south over Madisonville, Hopkins Co., February 27 (JH); 30 at SWMA, February 27 (KC, LR); 19 was the largest group at a small pond near Northern Junior High School at Somerset, Pulaski Co., January 15 (JEL); numbers peaked at Herrington Lake, Mercer County, January 21, with 700 (RH); and counts at MCFH were higher than normal due to an influx of migratory birds (FB).

The duck population was stable during the winter at BWMA. There was not the diversity of ducks this year from the northward movement (CW). Most ducks had moved out by the end of February with about 600-700 remaining, and they were mostly Mallards, Am. Black Ducks and Hooded Mergansers (CW). Wood Ducks were unusually high in numbers on the Louisville CBC (237) on December 15; very few were reported in January or February. Thirty Green-winged Teal were present at ThP, December 14 (JEL); 11, in Mercer Co., January 1 (FL); 10, Lex, February 9 (AR); and 1 male, Tow, January 29-February 19 (BM, CMS). Eighty-five Am. Black Ducks was the maximum number in Mercer Co., January 20 (FL, WK); 2, Lake Barkley, January 19 (JB, PB); 250+ at a strip mine lake in eastern Pulaski Co., near Ano, Clifty Church Road, January 18 (JEL); 92 on the Ohio River between Milton, Trimble Co., and Louisville, January 21 (RH); 24, Lex, February 9 (AR); 1, LPew, Feb. 11 (JH); and about 20 at SWMA, February 27 (KC, LR). A Northern Shoveler was still present in Mercer Co., December 5 (FL); one male and two females were at MCFH, December 5 (FB); six, December 14 on Lexington CBC and one on the Louisville CBC, December 15. Spring migrants appeared at Lentz's Pond, Louisville, February 7, with a male accompanied by three females; this group remained, with females varying from three to five, through February 26 (BM). 400 Gadwall were seen at Bailey Hollow, Calloway Co., December 5 (CP); 30, ThP, December 14 (JEL); 27 on December 14, with some present all winter in Boyle Co. (FL); singles in Ohio Co., December 7 (KC) and LPew, January 1 (JH); 6 males, 15 females at McA, February 7 (BM, CMS); and 7, Lex, February 9 (AR). Am. Wigeons were found in seven counties with the largest concentration (100+) at ThP (JEL). One to six birds at all other locations except Lentz's Pond, where they ranged from 1-9 birds from February 4-24; one of the four males on February 7 had a creamy forehead extending around the bill and through the malar, throat and chin area (BM). There was one Redhead in Mercer County in mid-January (WK, *vide* FL); up

to 14 males and four females on CRL, February 8-19 with a single male remaining February 21-22 (FB); and four males and one female on Owsley Fork Lake, February 29 (AR, TR). Canvasbacks were more common this winter than usual: 18, LPew, December 26, and 25 on January 11 (JH); 30, Jonathan Creek, Marshall Co., January 11 (MM), 51, January 17 (MM, CP), 55, January 24 and 27 (CP); at Louisville, 8-12 at McA or Tow, January 28-February 12 (BM, CMS); and 1 drake near Ano, Pulaski Co., January 18 (JEL). The Ring-necked Duck high count at LPew was 410 on December 7, 79 on January 13, and no records there in February (JH); 50, University of Kentucky Agricultural Farm, Fayette Co., January 5 (WD); 125+, near Ano, Pulaski Co., January 18, and 100 at ThP, December 24 (JEL); 22 was the high count at Tow, January 29 (BM, CMS); 28, Marshall Co., February 13, and ± 28 , LBL, February 29 (CP); 1-4 at Middletown quarry, Jefferson Co., January 28-February 27 (BM); 1, Crescent Hill Reservoir, Louisville, January 29 (BM, CMS); 6, Madison Co., January 5 (AR); 3, Mercer Co., December 5, but none in winter (FL); and 5 in Ohio Co., December 7 (KC). There were ± 360 Greater Scaup above Barkley Dam, February 8 (CMS). Lesser Scaup were reported in low numbers all across the state. In fact, there were only 59 birds on the 24 CBCs. At Tow, numbers ranged from 20-41, January 29-February 27 (BM, CMS). There were only four reports of Common Goldeneye: 3 in Mercer Co., January 20 (FL); 2, Lex, February 9 (AR); 35 at Hardy Slough, SWMA, February 27 (LR); and more than 70, Silo Overlook, LBL, Lyon Co., February 29 (CP). Relatively few reports of Bufflehead were made this winter: an average of 25 per visit were present on MCFH during the period, with normal numbers also observed on CRL (FB) and a report of 35 on January 11 (AR); 2, Mercer Co., December 5, but none in winter (FL); 2, Ohio Co., December 17 (KC); regularly small numbers (2-5) in western Kentucky (CP); 6, Lake Barkley, January 19 (JB, PB); 1-2 females, Tow, January 29-February 27 (BM, CMS); and 1, McA, February 7 (BM, CMS). The largest concentration of Hooded Mergansers was ± 200 south of Bailey Hollow, Calloway Co., January 21 (CP); 30, Lex, February 9 (AR); 1, Mercer Co., December 14 (FL); 2, Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville, January 25 (JB, PB); 4, Tow, January 29 and February 12 (BM, CMS); 8, Freeman Lake, Elizabethtown, Hardin Co., February 9 (KC, LR); and an average of 12 per visit during the period was noted at MCFH (FB). A concentration of 120 Common Mergansers was noted at Lake Barkley, January 19 (JB, PB); 1 or 2, Tow, January 28-February 12 (BM, CMS); two males, near the dam at CRL, February 15 (FB). Thirty-nine Red-breasted Mergansers were reported at Owsley Fork Lake, Madison Co., December 10 (DCh), 4 there on February 29 (AR); one male, near dam at CRL, February 19-22 (FB); and 2 males on Ohio River south of Warsaw, Gallatin Co., February 29 (LMc). Ruddy Ducks were present at LPew December 7-February 18, peaked at 50 on December 26, one there on the latter date (JH); only small numbers elsewhere (1(6)).

Hawks through Cranes — Black Vultures were present in fair numbers in December, with 33 near Monticello, Wayne Co., December 18 (JEL); winter roosts of 67 at Ghent Power Plant, Carroll Co., on the Warsaw CBC, December 21, and 64 at the East Bend Power Plant, Boone Co., Burlington CBC, December 28 (LMc); 100+ vultures, about half Black and half Turkey, were along the Ky. River at the Jessamine-Mercer Co. line, January 12 (CMS); 4, Ohio Co., December 7 (KC); 8, Grayson Co., (KC); and 1, Madison Co., February 12 (AR). Although 143 Turkey Vultures were on the 13 CBCs, the 14 birds between junction of Hwy 841 and Shelbyville Road along I-64, Jefferson Co., February 29, were early migrants (DS); 1, Russell Co., February 7 (AR). At

the time we went to press, the Fish and Wildlife Resources biologists were still trying to total up the number of Bald Eagles sighted on the January annual survey. Approximately 207 were reported this year in Kentucky (JD). Single adults were present at MCFH between December 8 and February 15, an immature on February 29; four adults were there on December 20, and 1 immature at CRL on January 20; on January 10, the eagle count day, the combined count of MCFH and CRL included all four adults and the immature (FB). Nine birds were counted at LBL on January 19 (JB, PB), and a fourth-year bird (white head, some white on wing linings, tail dark) was noted at McA, February 7 (BM, CMS). The high count of Northern Harriers in the strip mine area of Ohio County was 15, December 7 (KC); 1-2 birds in Boyle and Mercer counties, and at 3 locations in Pulaski Co. (FL, WK, JEL). Single Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported from only four counties: Jefferson (CMS), Madison (AR), Jackson (AR), and Pulaski (JEL). However, the species was on 16 of the 24 CBCs with an increase of 10 birds over last year CBCs. Single Cooper's Hawks were observed in Berea, Madison Co., January 9 (AR), Science Hill, Pulaski Co., December 18 (JEL), and Morehead, January 7 and February 29 (FB); "observed a number of times" in Boyle and Mercer counties during the period (FL, WK); two were at CRL, January 10 (FB). There were only four reports of single Red-shouldered Hawks in Ohio (KC), Hopkins (JH), Fayette (LR) and Clinton (JEL) counties. Red-tailed Hawks were in stable numbers: a total of 435 birds on the 24 Kentucky CBCs. Rough-legged Hawks were in good numbers this year, and appeared on 11 CBCs. Danville reported the best season they ever had (FL); 2 (1 dark phase), Mercer Co., January 12 (CMS); 6 (1 dark phase), Ohio Co., December 7 (KC). Although few reports of Am. Kestrel were received, the species is doing well and stable. One male *Merlin* was encountered near Bernheim Forest, Bullitt Co., December 29 (Martha Pike, Tim Love) and verified the following day (JB, PB, KC, LR, *et al.*, photo by Love). A Peregrine Falcon was seen in the vicinity of McA, January 8 (LR).

Wild Turkey is increasing in northern Kentucky, with 30 birds at East Bend, Boone County, February 1 (LMc), and reported on 9 CBCs. Am. Coots were present at LPew, December 7-February 18, and peaked there with 260 on December 7 tapered off in mid-January, but built up to 195 on February 11 (JH); peak number at Dale Hollow Lake, Clinton Co., was 900, December 10, with 400 still there January 7 (RH); 40, Lake Linville, Rockcastle Co., December 12 (AR); and numbers down from last year at Bailey Hollow, Calloway Co. (CP). Migrating Sandhill Cranes during December included 16 over Windsor Forest Lake, southwestern Jefferson Co., December 2 (DS), 150, Oldham Co., December 4 (Nancy Theiss, *vide* BM), 75, over Ten Broeck subdivision, Jefferson Co., December 6 (F. Williams, *vide* FS), 30, Pulaski Co., December 11 (JEL). Spring migrants appeared at Prospect, Jefferson Co., by February 14, with 10 birds (*vide* JK), 18 over BPS, February 28 (KC), and 4-5 arrived at BWMA during February (CW). Two birds have been seen during the season flying over BPS and over to Falls of the Rough (KC, *et al.*).

Shorebirds through Gulls — Five Greater Yellowlegs, rather early spring migrants, were in a flooded field near Hardy Slough, SWMA, February 27 (LR). Five Pectoral Sandpipers had arrived at Hardy Slough, SWMA, February 27 (LR). Heavy rains in December raised the lakes (LBL) to summer pool and ruined shorebird habitat for would-be lingering birds. A few Common Snipe were reported; 1, Madison Co., January 1 (AR), and MCFH, December 27 (FB); 3, LPew, February 3, but 12 there February 11 (JH); 5 near SWMA,

February 27 (LR). Four to five Am. Woodcock were observed and heard off Hwy. 70E near Eubank, Pulaski Co., February 20 (JEl); 2 were at BPS, February 24 (KC). Thirty plus Bonaparte's Gulls were still present at McA, December 4 (BM); 105+, Fishing Creek Recreational Area, Pulaski Co., December 17 (JEl); 1, the latest observed at Dix Dam, Mercer Co., was December 20 (FL); 1-3, McA, January 28-29 (BM, CMS); well above normal numbers at MCFH between December 5 and February 29, peaking with 75 on December 21 (FB). CP reports one of the largest flocks of Ring-billed Gulls on Ky. Lake and Barkley Lake that he has ever seen. "Thousands on every bar from the dams to the Tennessee line, thousands upon thousands roosting." Approximately 280 at Sledd Creek, Ky. Lake embayment, Marshall Co., February 9 and 15 (MM); 300+, McA, December 4 (BM); poor numbers in Danville area (FL). The Warsaw CBC had 700 birds; the LBL CBC had 5,421 birds. Well above normal numbers were present at MCFH through the period, with the highest number about 400 on February 1 (FB). Ten Herring Gulls at Rabbit Hash, Boone Co. was the high count there, January 20 (LMc); three, McA, January 28-29, and two, February 27 (BM, CMS); at MCFH, two on January 3, six on February 9, and three on February 15 (FB); none at Dix Dam area (FL).

Owls through Kinglets. — A single Long-eared Owl was found at the Mayfair basins, Louisville, Jefferson Co., December 15, on Louisville CBC (CMS, F. Mansmith). Four Short-eared Owls were observed near Wysox Lake, Ohio Co., January 25 (KOS field trip, KC). Numbers of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were much improved over last year in late December. Numbers of Northern Flickers greatly increased over last year in late December. There were 29 Eastern Phoebes on 14 of the 24 Kentucky CBCs; 1, Owsley Fork Lake, Jackson Co., December 10 (AR); and 1, Disputanta, Rockcastle Co., January 9 (AR). Numbers of Golden-crowned Kinglets were good in late December, more so than last year, and the species was recorded on 20 of the 24 Kentucky CBCs; 4, all season at BPS, and 4 in the strip mine area, Ohio Co., December 17 (KC); and 1, Berea, Madison Co., January 2 (AR).

Thrushes through Warblers — Hermit Thrushes were present in slightly improved numbers over last December and appeared on 10 CBCs as compared to 7 last year; only report in January was for 4 birds at LBL, January 10 (JB, PB). Am. Robins were unusually numerous during the entire period. A total of 22 Brown Thrashers was on 11 CBCs; single birds at BPS, January 14 (HC), CRL, January 10 (FB), and Morehead, January 20 and February 22 (FB). Cedar Waxwings were numerous in late December and widespread, but few reports were received for January and February: 2, LBL, January 19 (JB, PB); 9, MCNP, January 31 (JB, PB); and 25, LPew, February 11 (JH). Single Loggerhead Shrikes were noted at Beaver Dam, Ohio Co., December 7 (JB, PB), Bullitt Co., December 29 (JB, PB), and at Short Creek and at Hopewell Church Road, Grayson Co., all season (KC); 3, on Hwy. 79 to Caneyville, Grayson Co., January 19 (KC); and 1, along the road 1.5 miles from Hardy Slough, SWMA, February 27 (LR). Yellow-rumped Warblers were present in good numbers in late December primarily in central Kentucky; the 32 in Lincoln Co., February 8, was a good number for this time of year (FL). Two Pine Warblers were seen at BPS, February 29 (KC); and 1 singing male was at Laurel River Lake, Laurel Co., February 29 (JEl). A Palm Warbler was seen December 5 and January 6, Danville, Boyle Co. (FL).

Sparrows through Siskins — In Boone and Gallatin counties, Am. Tree Sparrows were up slightly from last year's figures in late December (LMc). Single Fox Sparrows were noted at the following locations: Anchorage, Jefferson Co., on 9 dates between January 18 and February 26 (BM, MMo); Cherokee Park, Louisville, January 25 (JB, PB); and Danville, Boyle Co., January 7 (DCh). White-throated Sparrows were in good numbers this winter and widespread, although not reflected in the reports. Twenty-five male Red-winged Blackbirds at a feeder in Morehead, February 22, was probably a group of migrants (FB). A male *Yellow-headed Blackbird* was encountered on the ground at the edge of an enormous flock of blackbirds (mostly grackles), north of Burgin, Mercer Co., January 10 (FL, WK). Three hundred plus Rusty Blackbirds were seen in a flooded field near Hardy Slough, SWMA, February 27 (LR). A large roost of blackbirds was found February 8 near Stanford, Lincoln Co. (WK). The roost contained an estimated 750,000 Common Grackles, 500,000 Eur. Starlings, a few Red-winged Blackbirds and Brown-headed Cowbirds, but Rusty Blackbirds were not noted in the flock (FL, WK). Purple Finches were reported only in small numbers, with the exception of 31 at a feeder in Cox's Creek, Bullitt Co., January 26 (DC); 30 at MCNP, January 31 (JB, PB); and 10 at BPS, February 29 (KC). Pine Siskins were scarce in western Kentucky and when present elsewhere were found in low numbers: 11, BPS in the month of December (KC); 3, Berea, December 1 and January 1 (AR); 2, southwestern Jefferson Co., January 16 (DS); 20, Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville, January 25 (JB, PB), also 2 there on January 18 and 26 (CMS); at feeder in Anchorage, Jefferson Co., through period until February 28, highest number 17 on February 12 (BM, MMo).

Thanks to all the contributors (listed below), who sent notes, records, etc. for the Winter Season. We appreciate your participation in making this report possible, and we look forward to your continued support.

Contributors — Jane Bell (JB), Pat Bell (PB), Fred Busroe (FB), David Chaffin (DCh), Herbert L. Clay, Jr. (HC), Kathryn Clay (KC), Dona Coates (DC), Wayne Davis (WD), Jim Durell (JD), Jackie Elmore (JEI), James W. Hancock (JH), Richard Hines (RH), William Kemper (WK), John Krull (JK), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Michael Miller (MM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Mark Monroe (MMo), Clell Peterson (CP), Lene Rauth (LR), Art Ricketts (AR), Teena Ricketts (TR), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), C. Michael Stinson (CMS), Donald Summerfield (DS), Charles Wilkins (CW), Alita Wilson (AW).

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

SPRING MEETING — APRIL 24-26, 1992

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its 1992 spring meeting 24-26 April at the Executive Inn-Rivermont in Owensboro. Fifty-two individuals registered for the meeting.

President Lee McNeely welcomed members and guests to the meeting at the opening session Friday evening. Vice-president Fred Busroe introduced Joe Ford, retired director of the Owensboro Area Museum, who gave an introduction to local history and attractions. A brief presentation of slides taken

by K.O.S. members followed, after which field trip leaders described the trips they had planned for Saturday morning. An informal social hour followed the conclusion of the session.

Saturday morning was cool and breezy when members gathered for field trips at 8 a.m. Four groups visited various areas near Owensboro, including Yellow Creek, Panther Creek, Ben Hawes State Park, and Newburgh Dam and vicinity. Another group visited reclaimed strip mine areas in southern Ohio County.

In response to a petition signed by seventeen members, a discussion session was convened Saturday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. Following brief comments on the morning field trips, those present spent about two hours discussing several topics of concern. These included the operation of the Kentucky Bird Hotline, the process by which K.O.S. members may address their concerns to the Board, the status of the Gordon Wilson and Endowment funds and their intended uses, the role of the Curator as understood in the past and present, possible ways to increase the level of interest and activity among the membership, the status of the Kentucky Breeding Bird Atlas, and the functioning of the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. After the discussion session ended, the K.O.S. Board met until about 5:30 p.m.

The Saturday evening program began at 7:30 p.m. President Lee McNeely introduced the speaker, Dr. Lowell Ford. His presentation "The Sacred Sands," featured slides of birds, flowers, shells, and shorelines taken on Sanibel Island, Florida. Dr. Ford delivered an original narrative to accompany the slides. After the presentation Mike Stinson compiled a list of the day's bird sightings, with 122 species reported. A business meeting scheduled to follow the program was cancelled.

Before leaving the area on Sunday morning, one group visited the Ohio River bottoms in eastern Daviess County while another birded the Sauerheber unit of Sloughs Wildlife Management Area near Henderson.

— C. MICHAEL STINSON, Recording Secretary

BIRDS OBSERVED AT THE SPRING MEETING

Birds observed on Saturday field trips within a 15-mile diameter circle centered at the Executive Inn-Rivermont, Owensboro and at a reclaimed strip mine in Ohio County (indicated by an "o") included: Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret^o, Cattle Egret, Green-backed Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Canada Goose, Wood Duck, American Black Duck, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Turkey Vulture, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Northern Bobwhite, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Common Snipe, Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Forster's Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Barred Owl, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Great-crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Horned Lark, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow^o, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, House Wren, Ruby-crowned

Kinglet, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Eastern Bluebird, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Water Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, European Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue-winged Warbler°, Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warbler°, Prairie Warbler°, Palm Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak°, Indigo Bunting, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow°, Henslow's Sparrow°, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Orchard Oriole, Northern Oriole, House Finch, American Goldfinch and House Sparrow for a total of 122 species. Birds added on the Sunday trip to Saueheber included: Sora, Semipalmated Plover, Dunlin, and Stilt Sandpiper for a total of 126 species.

ATTENDANCE AT THE SPRING MEETING

BOWLING GREEN:	Blaine Ferrell, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Shadowen
BURLINGTON:	Joe and Cathy Caminiti, Mr. and Mrs. Lee McNeely
CARLISLE:	Dr. and Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver
COX CREEK:	Dona Coates
ELIZABETHTOWN:	Joan M. Noel
FALLS OF ROUGH:	Joyce L. Porter, Dora Lee St. Clair
GLASGOW:	Marquita Gillenwater, Dr. Russell Starr
HODGENVILLE:	Susan L. Cruse
LEXINGTON:	Jean and Mike Flynn, Gerry and Jim Williams
LEITCHFIELD:	Alita Wilson
LOUISVILLE:	Bob Brown and Judi Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Clay, Dr. and Mrs. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Mark Monroe, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Martha Pike, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Stamm, C. Michael Stinson
MACEO:	Bert and Millie Powell
MOREHEAD:	Fred Busroe
OWENSBORO:	Joe Ford, Mary Lydia Greenwell, Janet Howard, Larry and Donna Phillips, Wendell and Marilee Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wilson
PADUCAH:	Bernice Caddell
STANLEY:	Tom and Anna Stevenson
UTICA:	Tony and Brenda Eaden
DYERSBURG, TN:	Ken and Betty Leggett

BOOK REVIEW

A GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF THE NEW RIVER GORGE AREA, by Gary Worthington, James D. Phillips, and Don Kodak. Published by the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. 52 pages, \$2.00. 1990.

This inexpensive publication summarizes the occurrence of birds along the West Virginia section of the New River, famed for its deep gorge and rushing whitewater. The booklet begins with a brief introduction to birding in the New River region. This is followed by a series of 27 site guides to birding spots which form the heart of the text. The main value of this publication is the detailed information contained in these site guides.

The birding locales included are scattered along the course of the New River from where it crosses into the state at the Virginia border to its junction with the Gauley River to form the Kanawha at Gauley Bridge. Each account contains directions accurate to one-tenth of a mile for driving to a birding area, along with notes on the birds likely to be seen upon arrival. When appropriate, warnings are given concerning rough roads, and brief notes on local flora, other fauna, and history are also occasionally included. Maps are also provided to locate each birding spot in relation to nearby roads and communities.

A rough but usable bar graph follows the bird-finding section. It indicates on a month-by-month basis the occurrence of all but the rarest species found in the New River Gorge area; species which have been found only a few times in recent decades are mentioned in a separate list. The graph does not include exact or average dates for the earliest or latest occurrences of species, and might be a bit ambiguous as a result — for instance, if a reader is trying to decide whether Blackburnian Warblers should appear in mid-April, late April, or early May. I also noticed that the graph does not show Cliff Swallows as summer residents in the area, though I observed a colony in June 1990 at Gauley Bridge, a location included in the text. Nevertheless, the graph is serviceable, and provides a convenient checklist of bird species likely to be found in the area.

Using this booklet can help make a birding trip to West Virginia productive. For birders visiting the state, it can suggest where to spend a brief stop or an extended stay. The bird-finding information it presents is a welcome complement to George Hall's monograph on West Virginia birds (*West Virginia Birds: Distribution and Ecology*, Carnegie Museum of Natural History Special Publication No. 7, 1983). I have used the booklet once in the field, on a brief visit to the lower New River Gorge, and I plan to do so again. It helped me put my limited time to best use, and I believe it can do the same for others.

—C MICHAEL STINSON, Department of Biology, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky 40292

NEWS AND VIEWS

K.O.S. Field Trips

A trip is scheduled for Saturday, June 13-Sunday, June 14 to southeast Kentucky for rare Kentucky breeders including the Common Raven, Swainson's Warbler, Canada Warbler and Veery. We will leave from Parkway Inn, Route

15 in Whitesburg at 7:00 a.m. EDT, Saturday for Black Mountain. Sunday will be a half-day trip to Bad Branch. For more information call C. Michael Stinson at (502) 897-6048.

Owl Reprints Wanted

Authors of articles or publications dealing with owls and wishing them to be listed in the second edition of a *Working Bibliography of Owls of the World* are asked to send reprints to: Richard J. Clark, The Owl Bibliography, c/o Department of Biology, York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA 17405-7199.

Rare Bird Alert Hotline Alert

Just a reminder that the K.O.S. sponsored Kentucky Rare Bird Alert hotline is in service at (502) 894-9538. Mike Stinson will be updating the tapes with your reports of unusual sightings from around the state. If you would like to report a rare bird sighting without listening to the entire tape, press the asterisk on your touchtone phone.