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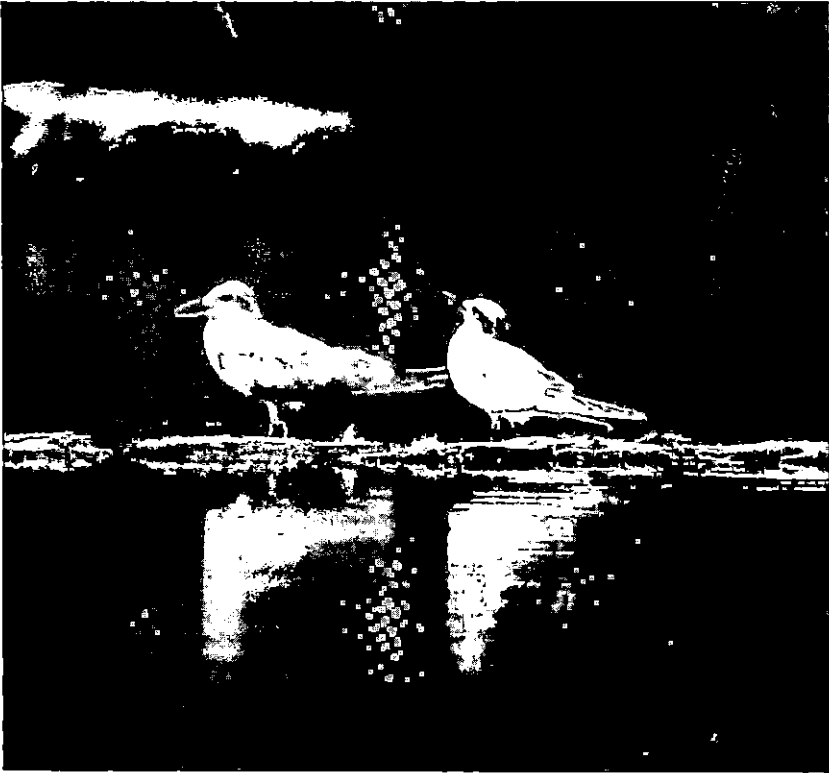
The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

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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 request for back issues should be sent to the Treasurer.

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THE COVER

Thanks go to Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. for the cover photograph of the Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*) and the Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) (see FIELD NOTES).

THE NESTING SEASON, SUMMER, 1994

ANNE L. STAMM

The weather in June and July was unusually warm. The state's "hot spot" on June 13 was Louisville with a high of 91 degrees. In fact, from June 12 through June 23 the temperature in Louisville ranged from 90 to 98 degrees, and for the month averaged out 4.3 degrees above normal. Rainfall for the month was below normal. Two rather severe electrical and wind storms occurred in north central Kentucky on July 6 and 8 uprooting trees. This probably resulted in some loss of tree-nesting species.

Field work was slightly more extensive than in some previous nesting seasons. A distributional study was again carried out in Hopkins County by James W. Hancock. Also, a number of breeding censuses were taken across the state. These studies help to give us more adequate information on the current status and relative abundance of breeding birds of the state. It is interesting to note that considerable attention was given to various groups of birds, particularly in eastern Kentucky (vireos and warblers, for example). A notable feature was the finding of singing Solitary Vireos at lower elevations during the breeding seasons than previously reported. Also, Chestnut-sided Warblers were found at lower elevations in southwestern Whitley and southern McCreary counties. One bird in the former county was observed searching for nesting material (S. Stedman). This observation would add another county in which the species breeds.

There were no reports on the heron colonies. Habitat was good in the McElroy lake area in late July for returning shorebirds. Details are given in the notes below.

Abbreviations: BPS = Big Pond Sanctuary, Grayson County; BCCNP = Boone County Cliffs Nature Preserve, Boone County; Bur = Burlington, Boone County; BBS = Breeding Bird Survey; Car = Carrollton, Carroll County; CRL = Cave Run Lake, Rowan County; DinW = Dinsmore Woods, Boone County; GPP = Ghent Power Plant, Boone County; Fl - Florence, Boone County; Hick = Hickman, Fulton County; HWMA = Homestead Wildlife Management Area, Ohio County; Hopk = Hopkins County; LPew = Lake Pewee, Hopkins County; Lou = Louisville, Jefferson County; Mad = Madisonville, Hopkins County; McEL = McElroy Lake, Warren County; MCP = Middle Creek Park, Boone County; Pet = Petersburg, Boone County. The "transient lakes" are Chaney and McElroy lakes, south of Bowling Green in Warren County.

GREAT BLUE HERON — One at Elk Creek, Hopkins County, July 11 (JH); 26 (many immatures) in McEL area, July 23 (SK, MS); four at Island Lake, HWMA, July 31 (KC, HC); one each night at BPS during July (KC).

GREEN-BACKED HERON — One in Nelson County on BBS, June 12 (KC, HC); two at BPS, all season (KC, HC); two at HWMA (Marsh Road), July 31 (KC, HC); none on four BBS in Bell, Hartan, Knott, Pike and Wayne Counties, during June.

GREAT EGRET — Three present in shallow ponds, south of Bowling Green (SK, MS); small groups south of Hick between the levee and Fish Pond, July 23 (CP, S. Sanders).

CANADA GOOSE — Adult bird on nest containing six eggs in Ten Broeck subdivision, northeast Jefferson County, April 4 (AS); adult birds with young at GPP, May 6 and at two locations in Bur during May (LMc).

WOOD DUCK — Female with five ducklings in slough near Shanty Hollow Lake, north Warren Co., May 19 (WM); adults with broods at Warsaw Sewage Ponds, Gallatin County, and at East Bend Power Plant, Boone County, May 7 (LMc); young present near Pet during June (LMc); three in Nelson County on BBS, June 12 (KC, HC) and five to six, all season at BPS (KC, HC).

MALLARD — Female with 14 young at Brown Park, Louisville, April 19 (JB, PB); two at LPew, June 6 (JH).

OSPREY — One at HWMA, July 31 (KC, HC).

BLACK VULTURE — Twenty three between the levee and Fish Pond, about four miles south of Hick, July 23, also seven at some distance (CP, S. Sanders).

NORTHERN HARRIER — Two birds at HWMA, June 4 (HC, KC).

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK — A pair nesting in north Warren County, May 19 (WM).

RED-TAILED HAWK — Active nests were noted during April along Gunpowder Creek and Wolper Creek, both in Boone County (LMc); nest with two young at Somerset Country Club grounds, Pulaski County, during July (Somerset Bird Club *vide* JEL).

WILD TURKEY — Nest with eight eggs found in old cemetery, near Union, Boone County, May 30 (Tom Stephen *vide* LMc).

SEMI-PALMATED PLOVER — One in shallow water in the area of McEL, July 23 (SK, MS).

KILLDEER — Nest with four eggs at Bur, May 15 (LMc); hundreds noted in the McE area, July 23 (SK, MS); several in Boyle County, July 28 (FL).

LESSER YELLOWLEGS — "Hundreds" noted at McEL, July 23 (SK, MS); also, observed in Boyle Co., no number given (FL, WK).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER — Hundreds present in the McEL area, July 23 (SK, MS); also observed in Boyle County, July 28 (FL).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER/SANDERLING — One of each species at McEL, July 23 (SK, MS).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER — "Dozens (possible hundreds - hard to count)" in area of McEL, July 23 (SK, MS).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER — Also "hundreds" in same area as above, July 23 (SK, MS).

CURLEW SANDPIPER — This rarity showed up at McElroy Lake, Warren County, July 9, and furnished the first record for Kentucky. The Beckham Bird Club put out a bird alert on July 10 and many drove to Bowling Green to see this shorebird (JEL, m.ob.). The bird could not be found on July 12.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER — Ten at McEL, July 23 (SK, MS).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE — One at the transient lakes, south of Bowling Green, Warren County, July 12 (KC, HC).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO — One at BPS, June 12 (KC, HC); one singing in Knott County, June 18 on the Pippa Passes BBS (SS).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO — Eighteen recorded on seven of the 10 June bird counts in different areas of Hopkins County (JH); three birds, all season at BPS (KC, HC); eight in Wayne County, June 3 on the Sunnybrook BBS (SS).

COMMON BARN-OWL — Nest with young found in residential area in Car on July 17 (Cathy and Joe Caminiti, LMc).

EASTERN SCREECH-OWL — Four eggs in nest box at Middle Creek, Boone County, May 6, at least three fledged, the last young left the nest on June 11 (Joe and Cathy Caminiti *vide* LMc).

COMMON NIGHTHAWK — No nests were reported, but one to five birds were noted at five locations: BPS, Lou (two locations), Leitchfield, Grayson County, and Florence, Boone County.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD — Ten birds at BPS, during June, but 15 there in July (KC, HC); at least 10 at Elmore's feeders at Science Hill, Pulaski County (JEL); also five to 10 birds at other Science Hill feeders (JEL).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKERS — Ten adults at the Army Depot at Richmond, Madison County, May 9 and six at University of Kentucky Farms, Fayette Co., May 10 (WD); several

birds noted in the Hurstbourne Golf Course, Oxmoor Woods area, Jefferson County, and in the Industrial Park area during the period (FK); two pairs were nesting in northern Warren County, May 19 (WM); and one reported on the Wayne County, BBS, June 3 (SS).

EASTERN WOOD PEWEE — Twenty-four birds on eight June counts in different locations in Hopkins County.(JH).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER — One at Clear Creek Scatters, June 16, five at Coiltown, HWY 502 and two along Elk Creek Road, June 23, all in Hopkins County (JH); one or two at the Ano strip mines, eastern Pulaski County, June 4 (JEL).

EASTERN PHOEBE — Adult bird feeding young in a nest built under a boat dock at Rough River State Park, May 20 (KC, HC).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER — Three birds, all season, BPS (KC).

EASTERN KINGBIRD — *Twenty-one* on utility lines at HWMA, July 31 were apparently migrating rather early (KC); five in Wayne County, on June 3 BBS (SS).

TREE SWALLOW — Birds nested at Camp Ernst Lake in Burlington, Boone County for the second consecutive year (LMc). Nesting boxes were erected near ponds at two locations in Hart County. Eight to 10 pairs accepted the box at the one location and five pairs at the other site (*vide* SK). Four birds were using Bluebird boxes at the Ano strip mines, eastern Pulaski County, June 4 (JEL); eggs and young were found in two nest boxes at Pulaski County Park, June 8 (JEL).

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW — Sixteen at Rough River Lake, Grayson County, all season (KC); 12 found in June, along the cuts in the rock banks, while traveling from Leitchfield, Grayson County to Louisville (KC, HC).

BANK SWALLOW — Good numbers again present at Belleview gravel pits (LMc); female about two miles north of Monticello, Wayne County, June 2 (SS).

CLIFF SWALLOW — Fifty to 60 birds gathering mud, etc., for nest building under two bridges over Rough River Lake, Grayson and Breckinridge counties, May 20 (KC HC); birds nesting under bridge along HWY 88 over Nolin Lake, July 24 (SK).

COMMON RAVEN — One along Little Shepherd Trail, Harlan County, June 12 (JEL).

CAROLINA WREN — Thirty-two birds on 10 June counts in various locations in Hopk County, (JH); 11 birds in Hardin and Nelson counties, June 12 BBS (KC, HC).

BEWICK'S WREN — One heard on the Porter BBS in Owen County, June 1 (LMc).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER — Adult on nest at DinW, June 18 (LMc); no records on the 10 June counts in various areas of Hopk County (JH).

WOOD THRUSH — Two young in nest at MCP, June 4, and an adult feeding a young cowbird there on the same date (LMc); nine in Wayne County on June 3 BBS (SS); 15 in MCP, June 4 (LMc); nine in Hardin and Nelson Counties, June 12 BBS (KC, HC); 19 in Hopk County on eight June counts (JH).

GRAY CATBIRD — Three young in nest at DinW, May 31 (LMc); only four birds on three of the ten June counts in Hopk County (JH); one at Mad and also on four different streets, June 1 (JH); only two birds on the June 12 BBS in Hardin and Nelson counties, (KC, HC); and two at BPS all season (KC).

N. MOCKINGBIRD — Forty-seven birds on 10 June bird counts in Hopk County (JH).

BROWN THRASHER — Only eight birds on the BBS in Hardin and Nelson counties, June 12 (KC, HC); three on the Wayne County BBS, June 3 (SS); five birds at BPS, all season (KC).

CEDAR WAXWING — Fifty to 60 at BPS during June (KC, HC); and 19 on BBS in Wayne County, June 3 (SS).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE — None found on the 10 June bird counts in Hopk County (JH).

WHITE-EYED VIREO — Twenty two birds on seven June counts in Hopk County, and appears to be declining in the Dawson Springs area in southwestern Hopkins County (JH). Seven birds on the Sunnybrook BBS in Wayne County, June 3 (SS).

BELL'S VIREO — Two birds, HWMA, Ohio County, June 4 (KC, HC, with Jim Williams and Lexington group).

SOLITARY VIREO — One in extreme southwest Whitley County, June 4 and one singing there on June 15 (SS); three signing in Knott County, on Pippa Passes BBS, June 18 (SS).

WARBLING VIREO — Nest with young in red oak tree at Dewey Lake, Warren County (WM); three birds in Hardin County, June 12 on the BBS (KC, HC).

RED-EYED VIREO — Thirteen at MCP, June 4 (LMc); 12 on five June counts in Hopk County (JH); 15 on Sunnybrook BBS in Wayne County, June 3 (SS).

N. PARULA WARBLER — Birds present during June at BCCNP and at MCP (LMc); only four on four of the June counts in Hopk County (JH).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER — Two singing in extreme southwestern Whitley County June 3, three there on June 15 (SS); one singing in extreme southern McCreary County, at an elevation of 1500 feet, June 22 (SS); heard along Little Shepherd Trail, Harlan County, June 12 (JEI).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER — Three on the Pippa Passes BBS in Knott County, June 18 (SS); one on the Phelps BBS in Pike County, June 19 (SS).

PINE WARBLER — James Hancock heard this species at his home (Mad) on 25 days in June and last heard on July 9; two on HWY 1337 between Earlinton and Richland, Hopk County, June 8 (JH); two on the Paintsville BBS in Johnson County, June 18 (BS).

PRAIRIE WARBLER — Five in Wayne County, June 3 (SS); five in Hopk County, June 9-19 (JH); four in Hardin and Nelson counties, June 12 (KC, HC); seven in Johnson County, June 18 (BS).

CERULEAN WARBLER — Four at MCP, June 4 (LMc); smaller numbers at DinW and BCCNP, during June (LMc); three in Knott County, and four in Pike County June 18 and 19, respectively (SS).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER — Eleven on five June counts in Hopk County, however, lack of habitat may have been a factor (JH).

WORM-EATING WARBLER — Nesting pairs at Natural Bridge State Park, Powell County, May 28 (JB, PB); two in Pike County, June 19 (SS); five in Knott County, June 18 (SS); small numbers at BCCNP during June (LMc).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER — One heard along Chad's Branch, Harlan County, June 12 (JEI); one on the Paintsville BBS in Johnson County, June 18 (BS); one heard along Lick Branch, Cane Creek Wildlife Management Area, Laurel County, June 18 (JEI).

OVENBIRD — Two to four singing at MCP and BCCNP during the breeding season (LMc); 58 on the Pippa Passes BBS in Knott County, June 18 (SS); 38 in Pike County on the Phelps BBS, June 19 (SS); five in Johnson County, June 18 (BS); and four in Wayne County, June 3 (SS).

KENTUCKY WARBLER — Nineteen on six different June counts in Hopk County (JH); two to four singing at MCP and BCCNP, during the breeding season (LMc); nine on the Pippa Passes BBS in Knott County, June 18 (SS); four on the Paintsville BBS in Johnson County, June 18 (BS); 10 on the Phelps BBS in Pike County, June 19 (SS); and one in Wayne County, June 3 (SS).

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT — One hundred three on the 10 June counts in Hopk County, (JH); 13 on the Hardin and Nelson counties, BBS, June 12 (KC, HC); 21 on the Sunnybrook BBS in Wayne County, June 3 (SS); 19 on the Pippa Passes BBS in Knott County, June 18 (SS); 82 on the Paintsville BBS in Johnson County June 18 (BS).

HOODED WARBLER — Two to four singing at MCP and at BCCNP during the breeding season (LMc); one on June 3 in Wayne County (SS); 14 in Knott County, June 18 (SS); 14 in Pike County, June 19 (SS) and three in Johnson County, June 18 (BS).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT — Apparently doing well in Hopkins County with 51 tabulated on the 10 June counts (JH); only eight on the Sunnybrook BBS, Wayne County (SS).

SUMMER Tanager — Eleven on five June counts in Hopk County (JH); five including three young at BPS during June (KC); seven in Wayne County, June 3 (SS).

SCARLET Tanager — Five birds on three June counts in Hopk County (JH); five to six singing males at both MCP and BCCNP (no date - LMc); 16 in Knott County, June 18 (SS); two in Johnson County, June 18 (SS); two in Hardin and Nelson counties, June 12 (KC, HC); 11 in Pike County June 19 (SS).

N. CARDINAL — Ninety-five on the 10 June counts in Hopk Co. (JH); 26 on the Wayne County BBS, June 3 (SS); 119 in Johnson Co., June 18 (BS); 26 in Knott Co., June 16 (SS) and 19 in Pike Co., June 19 (SS).

BLUE GROSBEAK — Ten on six of the 10 June counts in Hopk County (JH); one in Scott County, near Porter and one in Owen County, June 1 (LMc); a pair in Owen County, near Lusby's Mill, and one male at Pet gravel pit, July 4 (LMc); two at HWMA, July 31 (KC, HC); one in Nelson County, June 12 (KC, HC); 10 in Johnson County, June 18 (BS); four in Wayne County, June 3 (SS). Also, fair numbers in the Danville, Boyle County area (FL).

INDIGO BUNTING — One hundred fifty-eight on the 10 June counts in Hopk County (JH); 50 on the BBS in Hardin and Nelson counties, June 12 (KC, HC); 56 on the Pippa Passes BBS in Knott County, June 18 (SS); 162 on the Paintsville BBS in Johnson County June 18 (BS); 39 on the Phelps BBS in Pike County, June 19 (SS); 44 in Wayne County, June 3 (SS); and two at BPS present all season (KC).

DICKCISSEL — Forty-one on six June counts in Hopk County (JH); 10 at HWMA, June 4 (KC, HC); "best year in Danville area for some time during June and July" (FL). Also, present at the Ano strip mines in eastern Pulaski County, June 4 (JEL); four signing in southern Edmonson County, June 20 (SK).

RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE — Fifty-three on the 10 June counts in Hopk County (JH); 14 in Wayne County, June 3 (SS); 46 in Johnson County, June 18 (BS); 10 in Knott County, June 18 (SS); and three in Pike County, June 19 (SS).

CHIPPING SPARROW — Twelve on five June counts in Hopk County (JH); 59 in Johnson County, June 18 (BS); 18 in Pike County, June 19 (SS); 11 in Knott County, June 18 (SS); and 19 in Wayne County, June 3 (SS).

FIELD SPARROW — Forty-seven on nine June counts in Hopk County, (JH); 11 in Wayne County, June 3 (SS); 22 in Johnson County, June 18 on a BBS (BS); two in Knott County, June 18 (SS).

LARK SPARROW — The birds were still in the same field in June and July as when first discovered in April and May (FL, WK).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW — Twenty-five at HWMA on June 4 (HC, KC); three singing, two miles east of Monticello, Wayne County, June 4 (SS); one in Wayne County, June 3 on the Sunnybrook BBS (SS).

SONG SPARROW — Eighteen on four June counts in Hopk County, (JH); 25 in Wayne County, June 3 (SS); 123 in Johnson County, June 18 on the Paintsville BBS (BS); 45 and 46 in Knott and Pike counties, June 18 and 19, respectively (SS).

BOBOLINK — At least seven fields in Boyle County had one or more pairs well into July (FL, WK).

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD — One hundred forty on 10 June counts in Hopk. County (JH); 30

in Wayne County, June 3 on a BBS (SS); nine in Johnson County, June 18 (BS); two in Knott County, June 18 (SS); one in Pike County, June 19 (SS).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK — Fifty-two on nine June counts in Hopk County (JH); 34 on the Sunnybrook BBS in Wayne County, June 3 (SS); and three in Johnson County, June 18 on the Paintsville BBS (BS).

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD — Twenty-seven on nine of the 10 June counts in Hopk County (JH).

ORCHARD ORIOLE — Nine birds on four June counts in Hopk County (JH). 11 found on BBS in Wayne County, June 3 (SS); 10 on BBS in Johnson County, June 18 (BS); one in Knott County, June 18 (SS) and four in Pike County, June 19 (SS).

N. ORIOLE — Three at BPS in June (KC); two at LPew, June 6 (JH); and an immature at BPS, June 24 (KC).

HOUSE FINCH — Nest in tree on Manslick Road, Lou during the season (VJ).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH — Nest with five eggs at Bur, July 28 (LMc); 20 on nine June counts in Hopk County (JH); 12 in Wayne County, June 3 on Sunnybrook BBS (SS); 14 in Johnson County, June 18 on Paintsville BBS (BS); 14 in Knott County, June 18 on Pippa Passes BBS (SS); and 25 in Pike County, June 19 on the Phelps BBS (SS).

Contributors — Jane Bell (JB), Pat Bell (PB), Fred Busroe (FB), Herbert Clay (HC), Kathryn Clay (KC), Wayne Davis (WD), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Frank Krull, Jr. (FK), James W. Hancock (JH), Violet Jackson (VJ), William Kemper (WK), Steve Kistler (SK), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Wayne Mason (WM), Clell Peterson (CP), Anne Stamm (AS), Barbara Stedman (BS), Steve Stedman (SS), Mitchell Sturgeon (MS).

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. BYLAWS

INTRODUCTION

The Kentucky Ornithological Society was established in April, 1923. The first meeting of the new organization took place the following April in Louisville, and the first issue of *The Kentucky Warbler*, a four-page leaflet, was published in January, 1925. The first bylaws (then called "constitution") were largely the work of Brasher C. Bacon in 1923 and governed the Society until 1940, when revised bylaws were adopted. They remained in effect, with amendments, until the bylaws recently adopted by the membership (1991) together with several amendments were also approved by the membership. These were incorporated into the main text which had not yet gone to the printer.

In 1951, the Society was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Articles of Incorporation and the current bylaws constitute the legal basis for all activities of the Kentucky Ornithological Society.

The preceding information was extracted from a brief history of the Society by Dr. Gordon Wilson published in *The Kentucky Warbler*, XXXIX (November, 1963). The *Articles of Incorporation* and the bylaws of 1940 were published in the same issue.

The Bylaws of 1991 and amendments to it made prior to this printing follow below. The Bylaws Committee was composed of Blaine R. Ferrell, Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Clell T. Peterson (Chairman) Herbert E. Shadowen, and Anne L. Stamm.

ARTICLE I — MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership in the Kentucky Ornithological Society, Inc. (hereafter, the Society, which includes Corporation, as used occasionally in earlier versions of the Bylaws) shall be open to all persons interested in any phase of bird life and shall consist of Active, Contributing, Life, Student, Honorary, and Corporate Members.

Section B. Active Membership shall consist of those persons who pay the active membership fee, and who desire to cooperate in the work of the Society and wish to receive its publications. They are entitled to participate in all the activities of the Society and to vote and hold office.

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

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

Section E. Student Membership shall include bona fide full-time students. This membership may continue as long as the individual satisfies the stated conditions. Such members are entitled to all the privileges of Active Members.

Section F. Honorary Membership shall consist of those persons who because of special merit have been elected to such status by the Board of Directors (hereafter the board) after recommendation by five members. They are entitled to all the privileges of Active Members.

Section G. Family Membership shall consist of the head or heads of a family and their children under eighteen years of age, who live at the same address, and who pay one Active, Contributing, or Life Membership fee plus an additional annual fee (see Art. II, Sec. A). All members within a Family Membership are entitled to the privileges of active members except: they will receive only one copy of *The Kentucky Warbler* and only one copy of notices of meetings or other information about the activities of the Society; they will be allowed only one vote at Society business meetings; and only one of the heads of a Family Membership may hold office at any one time.

Section H. Corporate Membership may be conferred by the Board upon any business organization that shows interest in the work of the Society by contributing to it, in money or other considerations, to assist it in carrying out its various activities. All contributions made under the provisions of this category of membership shall be appropriately recognized and membership will continue for the duration of such interest. It requires no regular dues and gives no right to vote or hold office. Corporate Members are entitled to *The Kentucky Warbler* if requested.

Section I. The anniversary date of every membership shall be January 1. New memberships will begin with January of the calendar year in which application and payment is dated, except that a new member whose application and payment is dated during or subsequent to the annual fall meeting of that year will become a member the following January 1, but will receive a courtesy copy of the last issue of *The Kentucky Warbler*, for the year in which payment is made.

ARTICLE—III DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Section A. The annual dues for the various classes of members may be established or changed by the Board with the concurrence of a majority of the members present at the business meeting announced as the occasion for a vote on the proposed action, provided that a quorum is present (see Art. V, Sec. C). The dues for life membership may be paid in two or three equal, consecutive monthly installments. The dues for family membership shall be a sum of not less than \$1.00 annually in addition to the regular dues for one Active, Contributing, or Life Membership.

Section B. Dues from Life Members shall be placed in the Endowment Fund (see Art. VII, Sec. A).

Section C. Dues are payable for the fiscal year which shall run from January 1 through December 31 (see Art. I, Sec. I). Members who have not paid their dues by March 1 shall be deemed not in good standing and will be reminded by mail. If dues are not paid within fifteen days after that notice, membership will lapse (see Art. IV, Sec. G.). Members are responsible for giving the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer prompt notice of any change of address.

Section D. Any organization or institution may subscribe to *The Kentucky Warbler* by paying a fee determined by the Board.

ARTICLE III—GOVERNMENT

Section A. The governing body of the Society shall be the Board, composed of eight elective officers, two appointed officers, the President of the Beckham Bird Club, or his delegate, and all living past Presidents of the Society. The elected officers shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer, and four Councillors, two of whom shall be elected each year. The appointed officers shall be the Editor of *The Kentucky Warbler*, the Curator, and the Chairman of the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. [Amended May 1, 1993].

Section B. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee which shall nominate one member for each of the offices, except that only two Councillors shall be nominated at each election unless additional vacancies have occurred. The committee shall submit its nominations to the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer 45 days before the annual meeting; the Secretary-Treasurer will send the names of the nominees to all members not less than two weeks prior to the meeting. Other nominations may be submitted for any office by three members in good standing; such nominations must also be received by the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer 45 days in advance of the annual meeting. The six officers shall be elected by ballot (show of hands or voice vote, at the discretion of the President) by a majority of the members present, provided that a quorum (as defined in Art. V, Sec. C.) be present. All officers, except the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer, shall take office the subsequent January 1. The Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer shall take office the subsequent March 15.

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

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

Section E. There shall be three appointed officers: The Editor of *The Kentucky Warbler*; a Curator, who shall be appointed annually by the Board at the fall meeting; and the Chairman of the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. [Approved May 1, 1993]. Appointed officers may also be elected officers.

Section F. There shall be a Standing Committee. The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC), which shall be governed by its own bylaws. The KBRC shall determine the validity of records of rare birds from Kentucky, publish annually in *The Kentucky Warbler* a report of accepted records, maintain documentation of these records, and keep the official Kentucky State List of Birds. The Secretary of the KBRC shall be appointed for a three-year term by the Board. The Secretary of the KBRC may be replaced at any time by either the unanimous consent of all other members of the KBRC or by a majority of the Board. Bird records resulting from the KBRC deliberations will be kept in the possession of the KBRC until such time as they are archived and turned over to the Curator of the Society [Approved by the members May 1, 1993].

ARTICLE IV—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

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

Section B. The duties of the officers shall be such as pertain to their respective offices in similar organizations. The President shall be the Chairperson of the Board and shall appoint all committees (but, see Art. III, Sec F)

Section C. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence. She/he shall be primarily responsible for planning the fall and spring meetings.

Section D. The Recording Secretary shall record the proceedings of the Society and of the Board in books kept for that purpose and shall have charge of the records of the Society.

Section E. The Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and keep a record thereof; shall give notice of all meetings; shall take care of the accounts and funds of the Society; shall pay from the funds of the Society all bills duly approved by the President or the board; shall collect all bills due the Society; and at the annual meeting shall furnish a statement of the financial condition of the Society. The Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer shall not pay any sum greater than \$250.00 for any one purpose, other than publication costs of *The Kentucky Warbler*, unless such expenditure has been approved by the Board.

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

Section G. The President of the Beckham Bird Club or his/her delegate shall have the rights and obligations of all officers and shall in addition maintain communications between; the Beckham Bird Club and the Society.

Section H. The Editor of *The Kentucky Warbler* shall edit four seasonal issues which will be sent to all members in good standing (see Art. II, Sec. C).

Section I. The Curator shall have charge of all scientific records (including archived records from KBRC) and all society documents as specified in Article VIII. The Curator shall also be responsible for the legal disposition of birds, nests, and eggs that may come into possession of the Society.

ARTICLE V—MEETINGS

Section A. The Society shall hold one regular meeting in the spring and one regular meeting in the fall. The location for the meetings shall be selected by the Board. The fall meeting shall be the annual meeting, and it shall alternate between locations in the eastern and western parts of the states as far as practicable. At this meeting the members of the Society will meet to discuss and act upon significant issues.

Section B. Special meetings may be called at any time by action of the Board, or upon written petition of fifteen Active, Contributing, or Life Members, which includes one adult from each Family Membership, to the president, who shall thereupon call the meeting. Two weeks notice of such meeting must be given in writing, stating the purpose of the call, to the members by the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer.

Section C. A quorum at any meeting shall consist of twenty-five Active, Contributing, or Life Members, which includes one adult from each Family Membership.

ARTICLE VI—AFFILIATED CHAPTERS

Section A. The Society shall encourage the formation of local chapters in any community or area of the state. All members of a local chapter must be members of the Society, and such chapters shall have autonomous organizations to facilitate their activities but shall act in cooperation with the Society.

ARTICLE VII—SPECIAL FUNDS

Section A. An Endowment Fund shall be established to further the work of the Society; from which the investment income only may be used for current needs. All monies obtained from bequests, gifts, etc., given for endowment purposes, and the dues of Life Members, shall be placed in this fund. Such monies shall be invested in accordance with the laws of the State of Kentucky governing investments by fiduciaries. The investment income from the Fund shall be transferred to the General Fund annually.

Section B. The Gordon Wilson Fund was established in honor of Dr. Wilson, one of the founders of the Society and an active member until his death in 1970. Monies in this fund are gifts to the Society designated for the fund. The Board may draw upon the fund for purposes covered by its original intention: to assist in publication of *The Kentucky Warbler*; to improve and expand it; to help finance and publish ornithological research in Kentucky; and help provide fellowships and scholarship in the study of ornithology. The Board will approve expenditures from the fund.

ARTICLE VIII—SOCIETY DOCUMENTS

The University of Louisville shall be the repository of all books, manuscripts, and works of art acquired by the Society, the files of other ornithological journals accumulated through exchanges, and the stock of back issues of *The Kentucky Warbler*.

ARTICLE IX—RULES OF ORDER

Section A. The rules of parliamentary procedure as laid down in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern all meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE X—AMENDMENTS

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

TREE SWALLOW, *TACHYGINETA BICOLOR*, NESTING IN THE BLUEGRASS

WAYNE H. DAVIS AND PAUL J. KALISZ

The Tree Swallow, *Tachycineta bicolor*, is a northern species which has been extending its range southward. The first nesting reported for Kentucky was in 1965 and Monroe et al. (1980) listed it as a rare to uncommon summer resident nesting at scattered localities throughout the state, mostly along lakes and rivers where there are many dead trees, but recently taking to nest boxes in open areas in Boone, Pulaski and Shelby Counties.

Tree Swallows have only recently become established as breeding birds in the Inner Bluegrass and their increasing numbers seem to be the result of the placement of numerous bluebird nest boxes. We first encountered them at the Bluegrass Army Ordnance Depot in Madison

County, near the boundary between the Inner and Outer Bluegrass, in 1987. There were several resident pairs at Gem Lake apparently nesting in trees left standing in a reservoir created by flooding a woodland. None of the nest boxes we erected at the Depot in 1987 were used by swallows. In 1988 and 1989 swallows occupied one and then two upland sites. Swallows used three sites in both 1992 and 1993, and 10 sites in 1994.

Other first nestings of Tree Swallows in nest boxes include one in Nelson County beside the Bluegrass Parkway in 1990; one beside highway I-75 in Scott County in 1991; and one in a gourd placed for martins at the Hickman Creek sewage treatment ponds in Jessamine County in 1991.

At the University of Kentucky Agricultural Experiment farms we have monitored at least 80 experimental boxes each nesting season since 1982. The first Tree Swallow nesting was in 1994 when a brood was raised in a nest box 300 m from a 4-ha artificial lake.

It seems likely that the range extensions and increased breeding populations of Tree Swallows may be a result of the organized campaigns to bring back the Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) population by erecting nest boxes. What we have described is similar to what Tuttle (1987) found in central Ohio. His boxes attracted no Tree Swallows from 1977 until 1979, after which the population increased over several successive years.

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- Monroe, Burt L. Jr., Anne L. Stamm, and Brainard L. Palmer-Ball, Jr. 1988. *Annotated checklist of the Birds of Kentucky*. Kentucky Ornithological Society. Commonwealth Printing, Louisville, KY
- Tuttle, Richard M. 1987. A six year study of nesting tree swallows in Delaware State Park, Delaware, Ohio 1979-1984. *Sialia* 9:3-7.
- School of Biological Sciences University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506 and Dept. of Forestry University of Kentucky Lexington, KY 40546.

1994 SURVEY OF KENTUCKY HERONRIES

BRAINARD PALMER-BALL, JR. AND TRACI WETHINGTON

In 1994 the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNPC) and the Nongame Wildlife Program of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) conducted a relatively thorough survey of Kentucky heronries. Most sites were checked during overflights in a fixed-wing aircraft May 18-19, 1994, but information on several additional sites was gathered through personal communication with individuals who visited heronries in 1994.

The 1994 effort was one of the most comprehensive ever undertaken by state conservation agencies. During the early to mid-1980s, the Tennessee Valley Authority conducted heronry counts in western Kentucky, but these were discontinued in 1988. KDFWR coordinated a comprehensive survey of heronries in 1984, and KDFWR and KSNPC cooperated in conducting partial surveys in 1986 and 1988. During the course of other field activities, a number of new heronries have been discovered by KSNPC and KDFWR since 1990.

Aerial surveys were accomplished by locating individual heronries and then circling around them several times. The number of nests was estimated and species composition checked. Heronries can be surveyed by air throughout the nesting season, but results vary depending upon the time of year. Most Kentucky heronries are composed primarily of Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*), which begin nesting in late February and early March. Aerial surveys undertaken in late March and early April yield satisfactory nest counts, but other species of waterbirds, most notably Great Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*), Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) and Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) would not be present. For this reason, later surveys yield better information on species composition, but accurate nest counts become difficult to impossible due to leaf cover.

In 1994 we opted to conduct an aerial survey of heronries in mid-May in an attempt to better document the presence or absence of other waterbird species. Due to the late date, however, we were not able to get an accurate estimate of the number of active nests at many sites. At heron-

ries where nests were situated in living broad-leaved trees like sycamore, water tupelo, oaks and hickories, nest counts were grossly estimated. In contrast, we were able to make fairly accurate counts of the number of active nests in heronries occupying dead trees and bald cypress.

Table 1 summarizes the 1994 survey effort. Active heronries were located at 26 individual sites. Only five sites where herons were known or thought to be nesting were not surveyed in 1994: Little Bayou de Chien, Fulton County; Tradewater River at Black Rough Bottom, Crittenden/Webster counties; Kentucky River at Steamboat Hollow, Franklin County, Winchester, Clark County, and Pond Run near the Ohio River, Greenup County. Heronries were expected to be present but were not found at nine sites: Bayou de Chien NE of Hickman, Fulton County; Murphy's Pond, Hickman County; Buck Lake, Ballard County; Clear Pond, Marshall County; Malcolm Creek, Marshall County; Tradewater River near mouth of Flynn Fork, Caldwell/Hopkins counties; Livingston Creek near its mouth, Crittenden/Lyon counties; and Elk Pond Creek, Muhlenberg County. It is likely that some of these heronries were simply missed during our overflight, but others were confirmed or believed to be abandoned (see Table 1 for further comments). We also checked the status of three abandoned locations, even though heronries were not expected to be found.

The numbers of nesting wading birds continues to increase in Kentucky subsequent to the banning of DDT in 1972. In the last several years the discovery of new heronries has occurred annually, and three new Great Blue Heron nesting colonies were located in 1994. The Great Blue Heron, in particular, has adapted very well to the presence of man-made impoundments, and recently they have been documented to be spreading eastward into central Kentucky. In addition, numbers continue to expand in the western third of the state, especially in the vicinity of larger reservoirs, wetlands in the Shawnee Hills, and the Ohio River. It seems likely that populations of nesting herons that were not found in 1994 have relocated to presently unknown sites or have been absorbed into known colonies rather than disappearing altogether.


The 1994 total of approximately 1750 nesting pairs of Great Blue Herons represents an increase of nearly 180% over the 1984 total of 628 and 42% over the 1986 total of 1230 pairs. Moreover, Great Blues were observed nesting at 24 sites in 1994 compared to only 5 in 1984 and 7 in 1986. Likewise, the number of nesting Great Egrets has continued to increase since the species was rediscovered nesting in Ballard County in 1986. It appeared that a total of at least 25 pairs nested at two sites in 1994. In contrast, the numbers of other nesting waterbirds has remained unchanged. Only two large Black-crowned Night-Heron nesting colonies continue to be active, although a new colony was located in northeastern Kentucky in 1993. Nesting of other species remains sporadic and in low numbers. While Double-crested Cormorants continue to increase across Kentucky, no nesting colonies have become reestablished.

We would like to thank Jackie Elmore (Kentucky Ornithological Society), Gwynn Henderson (University of Kentucky Program for Cultural Resource Assessment), Steve Kickert (U.S. Forest Service), Gary Michael (Louisville Zoo), Patty Morrison (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), and Margaret Shea (Kentucky Chapter of The Nature Conservancy) for their assistance in providing up-to-date information on individual heronries. Funding for this survey was provided in part by taxpayer donations received through the Nature and Wildlife Fund. — Ky. State Nature Preserves Commission, 801 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, 40601 (Palmer-Ball), and Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, 40601 (Wethington).

Table 1. 1994 Summary of Heronries in Kentucky.

Site	Date	Species	Number	Remarks
Bayou de Chien NE of Hickman, Fulton Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	--	A heronry containing 20± nests was discovered by KDFWR in this area in March 1992, but it could not be located during the 1994 overflight
Little Bayou de Chien, Fulton Co.	--	Great Blue Heron	--	This site was inadvertently omitted from the 1994 overflight; it was discovered by KSNPC in 1990 when it contained 5+ nests
Obion Creek SW of Hwy 58, Hickman Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	15-20	New heronry
Obion Creek NE of Hwy 123, Hickman Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	100±	Nest count seemed to be about the same as in 1991, when it was discovered by KSNPC and contained at least 100 nests
Middle Bar (near downstream end), Hickman Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron Great Egret	100-150 10+	This heronry was discovered by KDFWR in March 1993 (no nest count); this is the first report of Great Egrets here
Murphy's Pond, Hickman Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	--	An active heronry could not be located in the area; the site may have been abandoned; nesting activity was last observed in April 1991 when 25± nests were present
Fish Lake, Carlisle Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	100-150	Great Egrets nested here in the early 1950s, but they have not been observed since then; the number of GBH nests has remained fairly constant for about a decade.
Mayfield Creek, Ballard Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	50-75	Nest count comparable to past years' surveys
Buck Lake (Peal WMA), Ballard Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	--	A few nests were observed here by KSNPC in April 1991, but no nests were observed during 1994 overflight
Axe Lake, Ballard Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron Great Egret	250+ 15-20+	This was probably the largest heronry surveyed in 1994; the Great Egret nest total has increased significantly since the last overflight in 1988

Site	Date	Species	Number	Remarks
Kaler Bottoms WMA, Graves Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	50±	Heronry has moved since it was discovered in this area by KDFWR in 1991 when it contained 12-13 nests
Ohio River floodplain, McCracken Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	100+	Heronry was discovered by KSNPC in 1991; it remains stable
Tennessee River floodplain NE of Little Cypress, Marshall Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	65	Heronry was discovered by KSNPC in 1991; it remains stable
Clear Pond in Tennessee River floodplain, Marshall Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	—	Heronry contained 4 nests when discovered by KSNPC in 1991; no nests were observed during 1994 overflight and the site may be abandoned
Cypress Creek Swamp, Marshall Co.	3-94	Great Blue Heron	25	Heronry was active in March 1994 with at least 25 nests (<i>vide</i> Ky. Chapter of The Nature Conservancy); these nests could not be found during 1994 overflight, but they were likely missed
Malcolm Creek, Marshall Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	—	No nests were observed during the 1994 overflight; last activity observed April 1991 when 25-50 nests were observed; the heronry may have been abandoned in favor of Bear Creek site
Bear Creek (Cap Spring Branch), Marshall Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	200+	Heronry has grown in past few years; perhaps it has absorbed the Malcolm Creek population
Jonathan Creek, Calloway Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	—	Heronry was reported to KDFWR in 1989 when it contained 20± nests, but it has not been located since then
Blood River, Calloway Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	50+	Heronry was discovered by KSNPC in 1990 and has remained stable
Muddy Fork of Little River, Trigg Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	30-50	New heronry; it is located on backwater of embayment of Lake Barkley

Site	Date	Species	Number	Remarks
Lake Barkley at Taylor Bay, Trigg Co.	5-18-94	Black-crowned Night-Heron Cattle Egret	+ —	Heronry was not checked closely, but 1994 overflight revealed presence of birds on nests; it contained 100 + BCNH and 8-10 CE nests when last checked in July 1992
Sugarcamp Creek, Livingston Co.	5-19-94	Great Blue Heron	50±	Heronry has moved slightly, but it has remained stable since it was discovered by KSNPC in 1991
Claylick Creek near Cumberland River, Livingston Co.	5-19-94	Great Blue Heron	15-20	Heronry has moved slightly, but it has expanded since it was discovered by KSNPC in 1990 containing 6-8 nests
Blakely Bend Slough, Caldwell Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	30	New heronry; it was independently reported by staff of the UK Program for Cultural Resource Assessment and was apparently active in 1993
 Tradewater River near mouth of Flynn Fork, Caldwell/Hopkins cos.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	—	Heronry was discovered by KDFWR in 1992 (no nest count); it could not be located during 1994 overflight; it was likely missed, but it could be abandoned
Piney Creek, Crittenden Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	30±	Heronry has expanded since it was discovered by KSNPC in 1991 containing 20± nests
Livingston Creek SW of Fredonia, Crittenden Co.	5-19-94	Great Blue Heron	40+	Heronry has expanded and moved slightly (into two distinct, but nearby sites) since it was discovered by KSNPC in 1990 containing 3 nests
Livingston Creek near mouth, Crittenden/Lyon cos.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	—	Heronry was discovered by KDFWR in March 1992, when 20 active nests were present; it was not located during the 1994 overflight and may be abandoned in favor of the other Livingston Creek site
Tradewater River WSW of Providence, Crittenden/ Webster cos.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	70±	Heronry has decreased since it was last surveyed in 1991 (100+ nests); some birds may have relocated to Black Rough Bottom site

Site	Date	Species	Number	Remarks
Tradewater River at Black Rough Bottom, Crittenden/Webster cos.	—	Great Blue Heron	—	This heronry was discovered by KDFWR in 1992 when it contained 150± nests; the site was inadvertently skipped during the 1994 overflight
Knoblick Creek near mouth, Webster Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	45±	This heronry has remained stable since it was discovered by KDFWR in March 1992
Elk Pond Creek, Mullenberg Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	—	Heronry was discovered by KSNPC/TNC in 1990 when it contained 100± nests; old nests were observed at the site during the 1994 overflight, but the forest has been logged and no site of relocation could be found nearby
Bull Run, Ohio Co.	3-30-94	Great Blue Heron	2+	Despite heavy winter storm damage to the nesting area; two pairs were on nests and two additional pairs were present; this heronry has been active since at least 1987
Green River near Ashbyburg, McLean Co.	5-18-94	Great Blue Heron	10-15	This heronry was first reported by the Daviess County Audubon Society in 1991 when it contained 6 nests; the 1994 site appeared to be in a slightly different location than where it was originally described
Uniontown (Jenny Hole-Highland Creek Unit Sloughs WMA), Union Co.	5-19-94	Great Blue Heron	250±	Nest count was a guessimate due to heavy leaf cover; nest count did not seem as high as at Axe Lake this year
Shippingport Island, Jefferson Co.	6-94	Black-crowned Night-Heron Cattle Egret Little Blue Heron	—	This heronry was abandoned in 1992 and remains inactive
Louisville Zoo, Jefferson Co.	6-94	Black-crowned Night-Heron	200±	The Shippingport Island Black-crowned's relocated to the grounds of the Louisville Zoo in 1993, and the colony appears stable there; unfortunately, rarer species (Cattle Egret and Little Blue Heron) did not make the transition

Site	Date	Species	Number	Remarks
Kentucky River at Steamboat Hollow Bend, Franklin Co.	—	Great Blue Heron	—	This heronry was not surveyed in 1994; it was reported to KDFWR in 1993 when there were 5 active nests, but may have been present since the mid-1980s
Winchester, Clark Co.	—	Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	This heronry was not surveyed in 1994; it was reported to KDFWR in 1993 when there were two active nests; it is likely that this population is composed of birds that abandoned a site nearby in the mid-1980s
Lake Cumberland on White Oak Creek embayment, Pulaski Co.	6-94	Great Blue Heron	10+	This heronry has apparently been used since 1991; members of the Ky. Ornithological Society observed at least 7 nests in 1992 and 1993; 1994 information was provided by Lee Clue (adjacent landowner)
Laurel River Lake between Cane Branch and Craig Creek embayments, Laurel Co.	6-94	Great Blue Heron	—	This heronry was discovered by the U.S. Forest Service in 1992 when 17 nests were present; the site was abandoned in 1993 and no nests were observed there again in 1994, but the birds may have simply relocated (fide S. Kickert)
Pond Run near Ohio River, Greenup Co.	—	Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	This heronry was not surveyed in 1994; it was discovered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in May 1993, when it contained 15-20 nests; apparently it had been active for at least two years when first reported

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING, OCTOBER 7-9, 1994

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its annual fall meeting at Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park on October 7-9, 1994. President Herbert Clay, Jr. opened the meeting with a welcome to all present. He then introduced Douglas Hardgrove, Pennyrile's Recreational Director and Naturalist, who gave us information on the park and invited us all to enjoy it. Anne Stamm then gave us some information on Burt Monroe's new book, *The Birds of Kentucky*. Next, Dr. Clay introduced our speaker of the evening, Chris Schimmoeller of Kentucky Heartwood. After first discussing the mission of Heartwood, which is to monitor public forest land, Chris gave a very spirited presentation of her organization's opposition to continued logging on public land and their efforts to protect the Red-cockaded Woodpecker; a symbol of the biodiversity of the forest. This was followed by slides shown by Katherine Clay and Ginny and Neil Eklund. It was announced that the Saturday morning field trips would be led by Brainard Palmer-Ball and Blaine Ferrell. Dr. and Mrs. Clay hosted a social hour following the meeting.

The Board of Directors met Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in the lodge.

After an introduction by Dr. Clay, Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver presented a program titled "South with the Spring" which took us all along on their marvelous trip through Argentina.

The nominating committee presented the following slate of officers: President-Dr. Herbert Clay, Jr., Vice-President-Wayne Mason, Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer-Kay Parker, Recording Secretary-Herb Shadown, Councillors-Kathy Caminiti and Joyce Porter. The membership approved the slate. Sunday morning field trips were announced and Kathryn Clay conducted the drawing for Burt Monroe's new book. The meeting was concluded with Blaine Ferrell's announcement of the Beckham Bird Club's generous donation to the Avian Research Fund which was applauded by all present.

Saturday night's rain was followed by a beautiful morning which concluded a fine weekend and also improved our bird list. - Tina Ricketts, Recording Secretary.

BIRDS OBSERVED AT THE ANNUAL FALL MEETING, 1994

Birds observed on Friday and Saturday on field trips at Pennyrile State Resort Park and Lake Pewee (indicated by ";") were Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Wood Duck, Green-winged Teal, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite, American Coot, Killdeer, Common Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Winter Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Solitary Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Summer Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Brown-headed Cowbird, and American Goldfinch for a total of 66 species. Species added on Sunday field trips were Double-crested Cormorant, Little Blue Heron (adult), Sharp-shinned Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Eastern Screech-Owl, House Wren, Gray Catbird, Philadelphia Vireo, Palm Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco and Common Grackle. This brought the total to 82 species.

Birds observed during a K.O.S. field trip on the Peabody Sinclair Wildlife Management Area on Sunday, October 9 were Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Northern Harrier, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, American Coot, Killdeer, Pectoral Sandpiper, Ring-billed Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning

Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, American Crow, European Starling, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Palm Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, and American Goldfinch.

KENTUCKY 1994 MID-WINTER BALD EAGLE SURVEY

JIM DURELL, THERESA ANDERSON AND DAVID YANCY

Since 1979, the state Wildlife Department has coordinated the mid-winter Bald Eagle census for Kentucky. Target dates for 1994 were January 7 and 8, with alternate dates between January 1 and 15. Weather was unusually warm on the target dates, but was cold and foggy during part of the period. Ice cover varied from zero to 75%.

Final tabulation indicated 274 Bald Eagles, of which 198 (72%) were adults and 70 (26%) immatures. Six were not identified as to age. Bill Cambron reported an additional seven Bald Eagles on the north bank of the Ohio River. Five Golden Eagles were reported. These data are presented by route in Table I.

Table I. Summary of Kentucky Bald Eagle Census, January 1-15, 1994, with some earlier high counts.

() Eagles seen in a segment of the route.

ROUTE	1994			1993	Earlier records	
	Ad	Imm.	Total		High	Year
Land Between the Lakes	86	30	116	140	140	1993
West bank Ky. Lake	26	7	35*	28	28	1993
Below Barkley Dam	2		2			
Reelfoot Lake	1	3	4	9	9	1993
Mississippi River	6	1	7	23	72	1984
Ohio R., up to Carrsville	22	5	28*	42	89	1986
Ballard Wildlife Area	(16)	(5)	(21)	(21)	(21)	1993
Swan Lake, Ballard Co.	(3)		(3)	(4)		
Below Barkley Dam		(1)	(1)		(3)	1992
Ohio, Carrsville to Henderson	4		4	8	17	1989
Ohio, Henderson to Meade Co.	1	2	3	3	3	1993
Ohio, Meade to Louisville	1	1	2	2	5	1986
Oldham Co.	1		1	1		
Ohio, Cincinnati to Ashland				1	1	1993
Taylorsville Lake	1		1	1		
Bernheim Forest (2 golden)		1	1	4	4	1993
Rolling Fork R. Nelson	2		2			
Rough River Lake	1		1			
Nolin River Lake			1*	1	3	1990
Mammoth Cave	1		1			
Green River Lake	7	6	13	6	12	1986
Barren River Lake	1		1	1	3	1989
Dale Hollow, Ky portion	9	7	18*	29	38	1989
Cumberland River, above Burks.	3		3	8	8	1986
Lake Cumberland	10	2	12	14	26	1990
Laurel Lake	6	1	7	4	13	1992

ROUTE	1994			1993	Earlier records	
	Ad.	Imm.	Total		High	Year
Martin's Fork Lake	1		1	1	3	1988
Grayson Lake		1	1	3	1	1989
Cave Run Lake	6	3	9	3	10	1989
Total Bald Eagles	198	70	274*	289		
Golden Eagles	2	2	5*	7		
Cooperators 151, Census parties 75						
* Includes eagles, age unknown.						
Golden Eagles: 1 ad. Ballard Wildlife Area. 1 Yellowbank. 1 ad., 1 im. Bernheim Forest. 1 im. Rolling Fork, LaRue Co.						
Other areas where searchers found no eagles: Ohio River. Cincinnati to Ashland, Kentucky River, Guist Creek Lake, Beech Fork in Nelson Co., lower Green River, Lake Vega, and Herrington, Buckhorn, Carr Fork, Fishtrap, Yatesville and Paintsville Lakes.						

Thirty three cooperators in fifteen parties reported 107 other raptors: Ten year totals (1985-94) are shown in parentheses. Black Vulture 0 (171), Turkey Vulture 0 (90), Osprey 1 (3), Northern Harrier 0 (48), Sharp-shinned Hawk 0 (23), Cooper's Hawk 1 (23), Goshawk 0 (2), Red-shouldered Hawk 3 (32), Red-tailed Hawk 41 (746), Rough-legged Hawk 0 (17), American Kestrel 52 (810), Merlin 0 (1), Peregrine Falcon 0 (4), Common Barn-Owl 2 (3), Great Horned Owl 0 (1), Barred Owl 0 (1), unknown 7.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This census was made by 151 listed participants in 75 parties. They represented the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, Kentucky Ornithological Society, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Tennessee Valley Authority (Land Between the Lakes), U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army Bluegrass Ordnance Depot, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Bernheim Forest, Kentucky Department of Parks, and Buckley Hills Audubon Sanctuary.

308 Meadow Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601,
Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, 1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

FIELD NOTES

GULL-BILLED TERN AT THE FALLS OF THE OHIO

On the morning of August 27, 1994, the Beckham Bird Club, Louisville chapter of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, held a field trip to the Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson County. During the trip a Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*) was discovered resting with a small group of Forster's Terns (*Sterna forsteri*), Caspian Terns (*Sterna caspia*) and Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) on the outer fossil beds. Photographs clearly showing identifying characters were obtained during the late morning (see cover photo), and the bird remained at the Falls throughout the entire day and was studied by a number of observers from the Louisville area. The tern was reported in the area for a brief period during the middle of the following day, but it was not observed later in the afternoon, nor subsequently.

The Gull-billed Tern was most often observed perched with other terns, although it periodically flew off over the dam, disappearing for up to a half-hour or so at a time. The bird presumably foraged during these periods of absence, but the species' distinctive feeding behavior was

observed several times during the bird club field trip. Instead of diving into the water for fish as most other terns, this bird typically coursed across the exposed fossil beds and shallow pools, dipping to pick up prey from the rock or water. Never was it seen diving into the water.

The body of the Gull-billed Tern was slightly larger than nearby Forster's Terns, and its legs were noticeably longer. The distinctive bill was much thicker than those of the Forster's Terns, and entirely blackish. The black cap, characteristic of mature birds in breeding plumage, was absent, suggesting that it was not an adult. The head was whitish except for dark ear patches that were not connected on the nape. The rear part of the crown was lightly streaked with gray, and the forehead appeared white. The dark eye was highlighted by a light crescent in front and a tiny whitish ring behind.

The bird was presumed to be in first-year plumage because the back was entirely pale gray, with no trace of dark edgings. The underparts were entirely white, and the wings and back were very pale gray. The tail was whitish, relatively short, and not deeply forked. At rest the primaries appeared rather uniformly medium gray but slightly darker near the tips. In flight the wings were whitish below and pale gray above, except for dark edges to the outer primaries and dark tips to most or all of the primaries. The legs were blackish, although somewhat suffused with light gray or flesh color in varying lights.

This is the first fully documented record of Gull-billed Tern for Kentucky and one of only a few for the region. A previous report from the Ohio River near Maysville, Mason County, April 16, 1971, has been regarded as hypothetical in the absence of sufficient details. Likewise, most of the few reports from surrounding states have been regarded with skepticism. This is in large part due to the fact that the species does not exhibit a regular pattern of vagrancy away from coastal areas. The Falls of the Ohio record suggests that birds must at least occasionally wander inland, although it is unclear where this individual would have originated, *i.e.* the Atlantic Coast or the Gulf Coast. -- BRAINARD PALMER-BALL, JR., 8027 Old Westport Road, Louisville, KY, 40222.

FIRST KENTUCKY RECORD FOR CURLEW SANDPIPER

In the early evening of July 9, 1994, we were birding at McElroy Lake, Warren County, when we discovered an adult Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) near the lake's southwestern corner. The bird was feeding in the company of a mixed flock of more than a hundred shorebirds including many Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), Least Sandpipers (*Calidris minutilla*) and Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*).

The Curlew Sandpiper was immediately noticed due to its striking plumage. Most of the head, neck, breast and belly were a deep brick red, with little trace of white mottling or edging. Deep red feathers extended to the mid-belly, although feathering of the legs was white. Posterior to the legs the reddish feathers of the flanks were broadly tipped with whitish. The undertail was whitish, although the posterior flanks and sides of the undertail were marked with narrow dark brown or blackish bars. Feathers surrounding the base of the bill were paler, and there was a noticeable golden-brown supercilium, especially forward of the eye. The crown was streaked brown and blackish. The back feathers were mottled dark and rufous with some lighter edges or bars, while the wing coverts were light gray-brown with slightly lighter edges. Flight feathers were blackish, although in flight the wings showed a noticeable white stripe from above. The wing linings and underwing coverts were white, contrasting sharply with the brick red of the underparts. The tail feathers appeared light gray-brown, contrasting with a whitish rump.

In overall size, the Curlew Sandpiper was slightly smaller than nearby Pectoral Sandpipers, and somewhat slimmer. The bill was blackish, relatively long, and somewhat thicker at the base. It was noticeably down-curved. The legs were blackish and relatively long, somewhat reminiscent of a Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*). The bird appeared to prefer to feed in shallow water rather than on the mudflats, and it frequented several pools and edges. It typically fed in a manner somewhat similar to a Stilt Sandpiper, methodically jabbing its bill into the water in search of food. No call notes were heard during the time of our observations.

Fortunately the Curlew Sandpiper remained the following day, and it was seen by numerous observers from throughout the region. Photographs clearly identifying the bird were obtained late on the morning of July 10th. It was also reported by K.O.S. member Wayne Mason on the morning of July 11th, but was not seen later that day or on subsequent visits. Based on inspection of photographs and figures in several books, we believe the bird was an adult male. In fresh breeding plumage, the breast feathers are tipped with pale edges that more or less obscure the deep brick red color of the feather bases. The spectacular color of this bird was the result of wear of the light edgings, and is apparently typical of males in late breeding plumage immediately prior to the commencement of the fall molt into basic plumage.

This represents the first record of a Curlew Sandpiper for Kentucky, and one of only a few in the region. This species is a resident of Eurasia, nesting in Siberia and normally wintering from northern Africa eastward through southeast Asia. Small numbers may nest in northern Alaska, and a few birds turn up annually during migration in the lower United States, mostly on the east and west coasts. Although a few birds have been reported in spring, most eastern United States records have occurred from early July to mid-August. We wish to thank Michael Bierly of Nashville, Tennessee, for reviewing this note and contributing to its content. -- BRAINARD PALMER-BALL, JR., 8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, and ROBERT KLAPHEKE, 206 Westwood Drive, Middletown.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Reminder of the Kentucky Rare Bird Alert Hotline

Remember, the Kentucky Rare Bird Alert hotline is in service at (502) 894-9538. Mike Stinson regularly updates the tapes with your reports of unusual bird sightings from around the state. Help support this service with your reports.

K.O.S. Avian Research Grant Fund

The Kentucky Ornithological Society has initiated an Avian Research Grant Fund. Persons that need money (*i.e.*, up to \$500.00) to assist them in conducting research on birds in Kentucky should contact the Kentucky Ornithological Society Avian Research Grant Fund Committee c/o Blaine Ferrell, Department of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101 for a set of guidelines and an application form.

Mid-winter Bird Counts

The Mid-winter Bird Counts should be conducted between Saturday, December 17, 1994 and Monday, January 2, 1995. Compilers of past counts should have received information by now. If you would like to initiate a count, write or call (502-745-6005) the editor.