

11-1995

Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 71, no. 4)

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

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



Part of the [Ornithology Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kentucky Library Research Collections, "Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 71, no. 4)" (1995). *Kentucky Warbler*. Paper 287.
http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ky_warbler/287

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

The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

VOL. 71

NOVEMBER, 1995

NO. 4



IN THIS ISSUE

IN MEMORIAM: LACY EDWARD WILSON	67
IN MEMORIAM: JOHN ADAMSON CHEEK II	67
THE NESTING SEASON - 1995, Fred M. Busroe	67
PREY USE BY LONG-EARED OWLS AND EASTERN SCREECH-OWLS IN CENTRAL KENTUCKY, Verdie J. Abel and Gary Ritchison	72
THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 29, 1995, Herbert E. Shadowen	76
TREASURER'S REPORT, Kay Parker	78
FIELD NOTE	79
NEWS AND VIEWS	80

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

President	Herbert Clay, Jr., Falls of Rough
Vice-President	Wayne Mason, Bowling Green
Corr. Sec.-Treasurer	Kay Parker 4107 Ciremos Terrace, Louisville, KY 40241
Recording Secretary	Herbert E. Shadowen, Bowling Green
Councillors:	
Marilee Thompson, Owensboro	1993-1995
Art Ricketts, Berea	1993-1995
Kathy Caminiti, Crittenden	1994-1996
Joyce Porter, Falls of Rough	1994-1996
Retiring President	Lee McNeely, Burlington
Staff Artist	Ray Harm

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.

Editor

B.R. Ferrell, Biology Department, Western Kentucky Univ.
Bowling Green 42101

Editorial Advisory Board

Anne L. (Mrs. F.W. Stamm)
Secretary, Kentucky Bird Records Committee

Lee McNeely
P.O. Box 463, Burlington, KY 41005

THE COVER

We thank Ray Harm, our Staff Artist, for this excellent painting of Northern Bobwhites (*Colinus virginianus*).

IN MEMORIAM: LACY EDWARD WILSON

Ed Wilson died Monday, September 25, 1995 at the Owensboro - Daviess County Hospital. He served in the Army Air Corps for three and one-half years during World War II. He was a former school teacher and principal, and from 1950 until he retired in 1975, he was assistant superintendent of Daviess County Schools. Ed was a charter member of the Daviess County Lions Club and served as the club's president in 1975, a member of the Audubon Society and a dedicated member of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. Ed and Elinor participated in the Midwinter Bird Counts every year and attended K.O.S. meetings whenever possible. The local chapter and the statewide Kentucky Ornithological Society will miss very much the generous hospitality of Ed and Elinor during field trips at their farm in Sorgho. Ed will be missed by the K.O.S. members and K.O.S. extends sincere sympathy to his wife, Elinor.

IN MEMORIAM: JOHN ADAMSON CHEEK II

John Adamson Cheek II, a life member of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, died in the Olin Clinic at the Penney Retirement Community, Florida on May 3, 1995, at the age of 79. He was a native of Danville, Kentucky. He held degrees from Centre College and the University of Kentucky. At the latter institution he earned a Master's degree in zoology (1953) and his thesis was "Birds of Kentucky." In his early career he taught in local high schools, but joined the faculty in biology and chemistry at Pikeville College in 1956. He later joined the faculty at Lambuth College in Jackson, Tennessee and later joined the faculty in biology and anatomy at Eastern Kentucky University at Richmond, Kentucky. He also did additional graduate work at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

In 1966 he moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan where he did research work in the Museum of Zoology at the University of Michigan for 16 years. In 1982 he moved to Penney Retirement Community.

John joined K.O.S. in 1951 and when possible attended K.O.S. meetings. His last visit was at the Fall Meeting, September 22-24, 1989 at Cumberland Falls. He served on the Board of Directors as Councillor from 1956-60 representing eastern Kentucky. John will be missed and K.O.S. extends sincere sympathy to his wife, Annette.

THE NESTING SEASON - 1995

FRED M. BUSROE

Rather unusual weather occurred during the period, with precipitation below normal for June and July. Temperatures were moderately warm in much of the state in June but July had some regions with near record temperatures and humidity rates. The hot humid weather may have kept many observers out of the field as well as making the birds inactive.

Abbreviations - BBS = Breeding Bird Survey; Bad = Bad Branch Falls, Letcher County; BCNP = Boone County Cliffs Nature Preserve; Bell = Bellview, Boone County; BF = Bernheim Forest, Bullitt County; BBM = Big Black Mountain, Harlan

County; BNP = Beargrass Nature Preserve, Louisville, Jefferson County; Brz = Brazzle Bridge, McClean County; Bur = Burlington, Boone County; CP = Cherokee Park, Louisville, Jefferson County; DW = Dinsmore Woods, Boone County; Falls = Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson County; HCR = Hopewell Church Road, Ohio County; HAP = Hundred Acre Pond, Hart County; Har = Hardin County; Hop = Hopkins County; HWM = Homestead Wildlife Management Area (Peabody Mines), Ohio County; Jel = Jellico Mountain, Whitley County; KCP = Kingdom Come State Park, Harlan County; LC = Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County; LM = Lake Mary, Hopkin County; LPew = Lake Pewee, Hopkins County; LRD = Laurel River Dam, Laurel County; Mad = Madisonville, Hopkins County; MD = Markland Dam, Gallatin County; MSP = Masterson Park, Lexington, Fayette County; MC = Middle Creek, Boone County; MCFH = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan County; Mont = Montrey, Owen County; Nel = Nelson County; Nic = Nicholas County; ORB = Ohio River Basin, Louisville, Jefferson County; Pet = Petersburg, Boone County; Phel = Phelps, Pike County; PP = Pippa Passes, Knot County; Pro = Prospect, Jefferson County; PVM = Pleasant View Marsh, Hopkin County; SP = Sutherland Park, Prospect, Jefferson County; Sun = Sunny Brook, Wayne County; TBS = Ten Broeck Subdivision, Louisville, Jefferson County; WC = Wolpers Creek, Boone County.

COMMON LOON — One in breeding plumage at LRD on 27 June (CB).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT — One first year bird on 9 and 25 June at HWM study area (BF).

GREAT BLUE HERON — 16 to 19 birds at MCFH during the season (normal numbers) (FB).

GREAT EGRET — Three in Hart County on 5 July (SK); 23 at HAP 13 July (SK); 4 on 16 July at Falls (JB, PB); 6 at HAP on 29 July (SK); 16 on 23 July, 19 on 30 July (unusually high numbers) at MCFH (FB).

SNOWY EGRET — One at MCFH on 23 July (second record for Hatchery) (FB).

LITTLE BLUE HERON — One adult and 2 immatures at MCFH on 23 July (FB).

CATTLE EGRET — 12 in Hart County on 5 July (SK).

GREEN HERON — 12 at HAP on 13 July (SK); normal numbers at MCFH during the season (FB).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON — One adult on 30 July; one adult and two immatures on 30 July at MCFH (FB).

CANADA GOOSE — Nested in TBS, adult seen with six young (AS); adults with young in two areas during the season, Bur (LMc); adults with young at SP (FM).

WOOD DUCK — Several small broods were observed in early June in Pet area, (LMc); two on 16 July at ORB (JB, PB); 15 on 29 July at HAP (SK); female with young at Prospect (FM).

BLACK VULTURE — 41 birds on 11 June in Nelson County BBS (HC, KC).

TURKEY VULTURE — 12 at Falls on 16 July (JB, PB).

OSPREY — One at Falls on 30 June (JB, PB).

NORTHERN HARRIER — A pair nested and fledged four young near Hopwell Church Road, Ohio County. Observed throughout the period (KC, HC, JH, ST, MT).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK — A pair nested in the LC and fledged three young (JW).

RED-TAILED HAWK — Pair fledged 2 young in early June at Wolpers Creek, Boone County (LMc); One being harassed by Am. Kestrel on 28 July over Main Street, Mad (JWH).

AMERICAN KESTREL — 1 over Main Street, Mad on 28 July (JWH).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE — 2 on 17 July in e. Jefferson County (JB, PB).

KILLDEER — 19 at HAP on 29 July (SK).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS — 2 on 16 July at the Falls (JB, PB).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER — Three at HAP on 29 July (SK).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER — One on 16 July at Falls (JB, PB).

CASPIAN TERN — Five on 16 July at the Falls (JB, PB).

MOURNING DOVE — 42 on 29 June in n. Hopkins County (JWH).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO — One was heard on 1 June in se. Owen County (LMc).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO — 11 observed in June counts in Hopkins County (JWH); 3 present at BPS all season (KC, HC).

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW — 1 to 3 heard all season at BPS (KC, HC).

WHIP-POOR-WILL — One heard all season at BPS (KC, HC).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER — Two birds all season at BPS (KC, HC); One at BNP on 17 July (JB, PB).

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE — One bird all season at BPS (KC); 3 on 11 June in Nel (HC, KC); 1 on 18 June at CP (JB, PB).

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER — Two on 7 June at BF (JB, PB); 3 on 21 June on Highway 502, Coiltown, Hop and 2 on 21 June at Brz (JWH).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER — One on 30 June, Elk Creek Road, Hop (JWH).

EASTERN PHOEBE — Three in Har and 3 in Nel on 11 June (HC, KC).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER — Two all season at BPS (KC); 2 on 7 June at BF (JB, PB); two on 11 June in Nel (KC, HC).

HORNED LARK — One on 8 June in s. Owen County (LMc).

PURPLE MARTIN — Ten on 11 June, Har (HC, KC); 64 on 26 July LPew (JWH).

TREE SWALLOW — Five to six pairs nesting in Hart County (SK); 2 on 2 June at PVM (JWH); 1 on 7 June, BF (JB, PB); 130 birds fledged in the study area of HWM (BF).

BANK SWALLOW — Small numbers were present at Bel and Pet gravel pits through the season (LMc).

CLIFF SWALLOW — Five nesting pairs were at LRD on 26 June (CB); 30 on 4 July at Wolper Creek, Boone County and during the season about 50 nests were active at MD (LMc).

CAROLINA WREN — 36 recorded on June counts in Hop (JWH); nested in Pro during June (FM).

HOUSE WREN — Two birds until 10 July with 4 young - nest destroyed by snake at BPS (HC, KC).

WOOD THRUSH — Two nests at BCNP on 2 June with one nest containing 2 young (LMc); four on 7 June, BF (JB, PB); two on 18 June CP (JB, PB); 2 all season at BPS (HC, KC).

VEERY — Five at BBM on 28 June (FR).

GRAY CATBIRD — Two birds all season at BPS (HC, KC); none heard or seen on BBS on 11 June in Nel (HC, KC).

N. MOCKINGBIRD — 28 recorded on June counts in Hop (JWH).

BROWN THRASHER — 11 on June counts in Hop, fewer than normal (JWH); one on 7 June at BF (JB, PB).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE — One along Highway 892, Hop on 30 June (JWH).

WHITE-EYED VIREO — Two on 7 June at BF, one on 17 June at BNP (JB, PB).

SOLITARY VIREO — Two at Jell on 4 June; 4 heard at PP on 17 June; one at Phel BBS on 18 June (SS); 8 at BBM on 28 June (FR).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO — One on 7 June at BF (JB, PB); 4 on 11 June on Nel BBS also 2 at BPS (HC, KC); 9 during Phel BBS on 18 June (SS).

RED-EYED VIREO — Sixty-eight observed on Phel BBS on 18 June (SS).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER — One on Har BBS and one on Nel BBS on 11 June (HC, KC).

NORTHERN PARULA — One on 8 June at Brown Meadow Lake, Hop and one on Highway 1294, Dalton area, Hop (JWH).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER — Three at Jell on 4 June - found at this same location in June 1994 (SS); 20+ on BBM on 28 June (FR).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER — One near tower on BBM 28 June (FR).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER — Two at Bad on 27 June (FR).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER — One at LPew on 5 June and 2 at LM on 8 June (JWH).

PINE WARBLER — One at Pete Gibson Road Hop and one was heard singing 20 days in Mad (JWH).

PRAIRIE WARBLER — Two on Har BBS and one on Nel BBS, 11 June (HC, KC); two singing on 12 June Dalton area, Hop and one on 14 June Leroy Road, Hop (JWH).

CERULEAN WARBLER — 25 counted on Jell on 4 June (SS).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER — Only three observed in June in Hopkins County an apparent decline in numbers (JWH).

AMERICAN REDSTART — Four at BBM on 28 June (FR).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER — One heard during Phel BBS on 18 June (SS); 2 on 27

June in Bad (FR).

WORM-EATING WARBLER — 6 on 7 June at BF (JB, PB).

OVENBIRD — Good numbers at BCNP, MC and DW (LMc); 8 near Bad on 27 June and abundant at KCP on 27 June and 3 at BBM on 28 June (FR).

Louisiana WATERTHRUSH — Pair observed carrying food at MC - late May and early June (LMc).

KENTUCKY WARBLER — One on each BBS in Har and Nel, 11 June (HC, KC); good numbers at BCNP, MC, and DW (LMc).

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT — Total of 27 on 11 June BBS in Har and Nel, 2 all season at BPS (HC, KC); total of 74 recorded on ten Hop counts during June (JWH).

HOODED WARBLER — One at BF on 7 June (JB, PB); Good numbers at BCNP, MC, and DW (LMc); 10 at Bad on 27 June (FR); abundant at KCP on 27 June (FR); 4 at BBM on 28 June (FR).

CANADA WARBLER — Two at BBM on 28 June (FR).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT — Eight birds seen on 11 June Har and Nel BBS (HC, KC); a total of 36 recorded on eight June counts in Hop (JWH).

SUMMER Tanager — 2 all season BPS (HC, KC); 12 recorded in Hop during June surveys (JWH); Nest with young in late June at BCNP (JCa).

SCARLET Tanager — One on 11 June in Nel (HC, KC).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK — One heard singing on 1 June near Mont (LMc); 3 at BBM on 28 June (SS); a pair remained along MC through early July (JCa, KCa).

BLUE GROSBEAK — Two at different Owen Co. locations on June 1, one male on 8 June near Lusby's Mill, Owen County, and one male all season at Pet gravel pit (LMc); three pairs on 13 June in nw. Green County (SK); 1 adult near AA Highway, Maysville on 26 June (FR); 12 recorded on June counts in Hop (JWH).

INDIGO BUNTING — Numerous (129 total) on ten surveys, Hop (JWH); 6 at BBM on 28 June (FR).

RUFUS-SIDED TOWHEE — One near tower on BBM on 28 June (FR).

DICKCISSEL — None observed at MSP this season (JW); 25 on 29 June n. Hop, a total of 49 seen on June counts (JWH).

VESPER SPARROW — A single adult was observed near a pond in Nic on 26 June (VK, WK).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW — Two heard during Monticello BBS on 3 June; 8 during Sun BBS on 5 June (SS).

HENSLOW'S SPARROW — 3 to 4 birds +1 immature at HWM on 17, 19, and 27 June (KC, ST, MT).

DARK-EYED JUNCO — Four on BBM near tower on 28 June (FR).

BOBOLINK — Four pairs nested and some young observed at MSP (JW).

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD — 13 recorded in Hop surveys, probably more numerous than this indicated (JWH).

ORCHARD ORIOLE — Ten recorded on June surveys in Hop (JWH).

NORTHERN ORIOLE — Only one observed on ten surveys (8 June) in Hop (JWH); 5 on 17 June at BNP (JB, PB).

Contributors - Jane Bell (JB); Pat Bell (PB); Clay Black (CB); Fred Busroe (FB); Joe Caminiti (JCa); Kathy Caminiti (KCa); Herbert Clay (HC); Kathryn Clay (KC); Blaine Ferrell (BF); James W. Hancock (JWH); Janet Howard (JH); Wendell Kingsolver (WK); Virginia Kingsolver (VK); Steven Kistler (SK); Fred Mansmith (FM); Lee McNeely (LMc); Frank Renfrow (FR); Anne Stamm (AS); Stephen Stedman (SS); Scottie Theiss (ST); Marilee Thompson (MT); Jim Williams (JW).

-- UPO 1352, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY 40351.

Corrigendum: OFL = Owsley Fork Lake, Madison County in the Abbreviations section of THE SPRING SEASON - 1995 (Ky. Warb. 71:39) should have been in Rockcastle County.

PREY USE BY LONG-EARED OWLS AND EASTERN SCREECH-OWLS IN CENTRAL KENTUCKY

VERDIE J. ABEL¹ AND GARY RITCHISON
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
RICHMOND, KY 40475

INTRODUCTION

Although widely distributed throughout the northern United States (Johnsgard 1988) and temperate Canada (Godfrey 1986), there have been few reports of Long-eared Owls (*Asio otus*) in the southern United States. In Kentucky, Monroe *et al.* (1988:33) described the Long-eared Owl as an "extremely rare fall, winter and spring visitant" and noted that the species had been "recorded less than 25 times in the state." Although widely studied in the northern portions of its range, little is known about the behavior and ecology of Long-eared Owls in more southern areas. For example, most information about the food habits of Long-eared Owls in North America comes from the northern United States and Canada (Johnsgard 1988, Voous 1988). Little is known about the food habits of Long-eared Owls in more southern areas, including Kentucky.

Unlike Long-eared Owls, Eastern Screech-Owls (*Otus asio*) are commonly found throughout much of the eastern United States, and Monroe *et al.* (1988) describes this species as a "fairly common to common resident" in Kentucky. Despite this wide distribution, relatively few data are available concerning the food habits of screech-owls, particularly in the southeastern United States (Ritchison and Cavanagh 1992).

¹Present address: 485 Englander Court, Worthington, Ohio 43085

On 28 March 1991, two Long-eared Owls were found roosting in a dense clump of cedars on the Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (CKWMA) in Madison County, Kentucky. A search of the immediate area revealed 120 pellets and pellet fragments. The objective of this study was to examine the food habits of Long-eared Owls in Madison County, Kentucky, using those pellets. In addition, we provide information about the food habits of Eastern Screech-Owls (*O. asio*) occupying the same area.

METHODS

Preys use was examined by identifying the remains of prey in pellets. Long-eared Owl pellets were collected as described above. Eastern Screech-Owl pellets were collected from boxes and natural cavities on the CKWMA during the period from November 1987 through March 1991.

Most vertebrates were identified using skulls and other bones and most invertebrates using head capsules (Conant 1958, Burt and Grossenheider 1964, Borror and White 1970). Some birds and mammals were identified using feathers and hair, and these prey were quantified by assuming the fewest possible number of individuals (e.g., feathers from one species were assumed to represent one individual). Crayfish remains in pellets were highly fragmented so we assumed that a pellet containing crayfish contained one individual.

RESULTS

The pellets of Long-eared Owls yielded 111 prey items. One species, the Meadow Vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*), made up 75.7% (N = 84) of all prey, and a second vole species, the Prairie Vole (*M. ochrogaster*), made up an additional 17.1% (N = 19) of the prey items. Other prey of Long-eared Owls included four (3.6%) Harvest mice (*Reithrodontomys humulis*), three (2.7%) Short-tailed Shrews (*Blarina brevicauda*), and one unidentified bird (0.9%).

Eastern Screech-Owl pellets yielded 386 prey items (Table 1), including 226 invertebrates (58.5%), 145 mammals (37.5%), 13 birds (3.4%), one amphibian (0.3%), and one fish (0.3%). Among invertebrates, crayfish and beetles were the most common prey items. Screech-owls also preyed upon several species of small mammals, particularly voles (Table 1).

DISCUSSION

Long-eared Owls in Madison County preyed almost entirely on small mammals, particularly voles. Similarly, Marti (1976) reviewed several studies of prey use by Long-eared Owls in North America and reported that mammals constituted 98.2% of all prey (N = 23,888) and, further, that two genera, voles (*Microtus* spp.) and mice (*Peromyscus* spp.), accounted for 82.2% of the total prey. Further, voles were the most common prey in 21 of 28 North American studies, while mice were the most common prey in five (Marti 1976). Such results suggest that Long-eared Owls may be feeding selectively on voles. However, Marks (1984) pointed out that the "preponderance of *Microtus* in the diets of North American Long-eared Owls is related to the scarcity of food habits data. . ." from other habitats.

TABLE 1. Prey use by Eastern Screech-Owls at the CKWMA.

Prey	Occurrence	
	N	%
Mammals		
Short-tailed shrew (<i>Blarina brevicauda</i>)	28	7.3
Least shrew (<i>Cryptotis parva</i>)	3	0.8
Unident. bat	2	0.5
Harvest mouse (<i>Reithrodontomys humulis</i>)	1	0.3
White-footed mouse (<i>Peromyscus</i> spp.)	14	3.6
Voles (<i>Microtus</i> spp.)	23	5.9
Meadow vole (<i>M. pennsylvanicus</i>)	30	7.8
Prairie vole (<i>M. ochrogaster</i>)	13	3.3
House mouse (<i>Mus musculus</i>)	8	2.1
Unident. vole/mouse	23	5.9
Mammal subtotal	145	37.5
Birds		
Bluejay	1	0.3
Eastern Bluebird	2	0.5
American Robin	1	0.3
Northern Cardinal	2	0.5
Nothern Bobwhite	2	0.5
Unident. passerine	5	1.3
Bird subtotal	13	3.4
Amphibians		
Small-mouthed salamander (<i>Ambystoma texanum</i>)	1	0.3
Fish		
Striped shiner (<i>Notropis chrysocephalus</i>)	1	0.3
Insects		
Grasshoppers (Acrididae)	14	3.6
Unident. grasshopper	1	0.3
Beetles (Carabidae)	12	3.1
Beetles (Scarabidae)	6	1.5
Beetles (Tenebrionidae)	18	4.6
Beetles (unidentified)	61	15.8
Bees (Apidae)	4	1.0
Unident. insect	6	1.6
Crustaceans		
Crayfish (<i>Cambarus</i> spp.)	2	0.5
Unident. crayfish	101	26.2
Arachnids		
Unident. spider	1	0.3
Invertebrate subtotal	226	58.5
Overall total	386	100.0

For example, Marks (1984) noted that Long-eared Owls in desert areas of Arizona and Oregon fed primarily on pocket mice (*Perognathus* spp.) rather than voles. Rather than specializing on voles, Long-eared Owls apparently feed opportunistically, with prey size rather than prey type the most important factor in food selection (Marks 1984). Previous studies suggest that these owls typically prey on small mammals weighing between 25 and 50 grams (Marti 1976, Marks 1984). Thus, the high percentage of Meadow voles and Prairie voles in the diet of Long-eared Owls on our study area probably indicates that these are the most abundant small mammals in their size range on the CKWMA.

Our results indicate that Eastern Screech-Owls use a wide variety of prey, with invertebrates predominant in terms of total number. However, small mammals are typically larger than most invertebrates (e.g., beetles) and, as a result, may be the more important prey in terms of total biomass. Although we found that relatively few birds were preyed upon by screech-owls, investigators in other areas have reported that, particularly in early spring, birds may be a common prey item (e.g., Ohio; VanCap, and Henny 1975). Several investigators have noted that prey use by Eastern Screech-Owls varies with season (Ritchison and Cavanagh 1992), with small mammals used more frequently during the non-breeding period (September - February) and invertebrates and birds during the breeding period (March - August). On the CKWMA, screech-owls prey on small mammals more frequently during the non-breeding season and on invertebrates, especially beetles and crayfish, during the breeding season (Ritchison and Cavanagh 1992).

LITERATURE CITED

- Borror, D.J. and R.E. White. 1970. A field guide to the insects of America north of Mexico. Houghton Mifflin, Boston, Mass.
- Burt, W.H. and R.P. Grossenheider. 1964. A field guide to the mammals. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Mass.
- Conant, R. 1958. A field guide to reptiles and amphibians of eastern North America. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Mass.
- Marks, J.S. 1984. Feeding ecology of breeding Long-eared Owls in southwestern Idaho. *Can. J. Zool.* 62:1528-1533.
- Marti, C.D. 1976. A review of prey selection by the Long-eared Owl. *Condor* 78:331-336.
- Monroe, B.L., Jr., A.L. Stamm, and B.L. Palmer-Ball, Jr. 1988. Annotated checklist of the birds of Kentucky. Kentucky Ornithological Society, Louisville, KY.
- Ritchison, G. and P.M. Cavanagh. 1992. Prey use by Eastern Screech-Owls: seasonal variation in central Kentucky and a review of previous studies. *J. Raptor Res.* 26:66-73
- VanCamp, L.F. and C.J. Henny, 1975. The screech owl: its life history and population ecology in northern Ohio. North American Fauna No. 71, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Dept. of the Interior.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 29, 1995

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its annual fall meeting at Greenbo Lake State Park September 29, 30, and October 1, 1995. President Herbert Clay, Jr. welcomed members and guests to the Friday evening session at 7:30 P.M., and introduced one of our finest Friday evening sessions. Lee McNeely discussed procedures to be followed when completing documentation forms in reporting unusual bird sightings and illustrated his remarks with slides. He also discussed the N.A. Migration Count. Wayne Davis discussed his research on Bluebirds and Bluebird houses. Gary Ritchison presented the results of some of his studies of Screech Owl feeding habits, accompanied by some excellent photography. Mrs. Damon Caddell showed an amusing film of a Cardinal feeding Goldfish. Dr. and Mrs. Clay hosted a social hour at the end of the meeting. Hot cider and concoctions of persimmon were enjoyed by those attending.

Saturday morning field trips were taken in the park and also at the Jesse Stuart State Nature Preserve. The weather was ideal, and 74 species of birds were observed. The Board of Directors met at 3:30 in the lodge.

Dr. Blaine Ferrell presided at the Saturday evening program. The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers: President - Wayne Mason, Vice-President - Wendell Kingsolver, Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer - Kay Parker, Recording Secretary - Neil Eklund, and Councillors - Mark Bennett and Steve Kistler. The candidates were elected.

Although absent, Dr. Clay was praised for his dedicated service to the Kentucky Ornithological Society.

The evening program consisted of a recent videotape by Steven and Karl Maslowski entitled Birds, Birds, Birds. The photography was superb, and it was an excellent training tool, particularly for beginning birders.

The Fall meeting was concluded on Sunday with additional field trips. The total number of bird species observed during the weekend was 77.

-- Herb Shadown, Recording Secretary

ATTENDANCE AT THE FALL MEETING

BEREA: Art Ricketts and Tina Ricketts

BOWLING GREEN: Blaine Ferrell, Priscilla Ferrell, Herb Shadown, and Jacky Shadown

BURLINGTON: Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Lee McNeely, and Lynda McNeely

DANVILLE: Jenny Eklund and Neil Eklund

FALLS OF ROUGH: Herbert Clay, Kathryn Clay, and Joyce Porter

FRANKFORT: James Durell

GILBERTSVILLE: Rowena Cary

HAZARD: Dennis Sandlin and Eileen Sandlin

LEXINGTON: Gerry Williams, Jim Williams, Shirley Davis, and Wayne Davis

LOUISVILLE: Mary Bill Bauer, Richard Cassell, Doxie Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Kay Parker, and Anne Stamm

MACEO: Bert Powell and Millie Powell

MOREHEAD: Fred Busroe

MORGANTOWN: Carroll Tichenor and Doris Tichenor

OWENSBORO: Margaret Craig and Marilee Thompson

PADUCAH: Bernice (Mrs. Damon) Caddell

PROSPECT: Fred Mansmith

RICHMOND: Gary Ritchison, Tammy Ritchison, Brenda Thompson, and Pete Thompson

RUSSELLVILLE: Mark Bennett

UTICA: Brenda Eaden and Tony Eaden

WINCHESTER: Lowell Strine and Susan Strine

BIRDS OBSERVED AT THE FALL MEETING, 1995

Birds observed on Friday and Saturday on field trips at Greenbo Lake State Resort Park were Great Blue Heron, Green-backed Heron, Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mallard, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Merlin, Ruffed Grouse, Solitary Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Black-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 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, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, Solitary Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Northern Parula, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Black-and-White Warbler, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, Canada Warbler, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Common Grackle, House Finch, and American Goldfinch for a total of 74 species. An Osprey, Eastern Screech-Owl, and Great Horned Owl were added on Sunday morning bringing the species total to 77.

Species observed at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on Sunday included, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green-backed Heron, Canada Goose, American Black Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Pintail, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, American Kestrel, Wild Turkey, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Sanderling, Least Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Common Snipe, Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Blue Jay, American Crow, Brown Thrasher, Northern Cardinal, Song Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, American Goldfinch and House Sparrow. The 18 new species observed at the hatchery brought the total species count for the weekend to 95 species.

**KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT (UNAUDITED)**

APRIL 7, 1995 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7, 1995

KAY PARKER, SECRETARY-TREASURER

Starting balance \$4139.73

Receipts

Petty cash deposit (KOS Spring meeting)	100.00	
Membership dues	886.58	
Annotated checklists	136.97	
Spring 1995 KOS registration	115.00	
Sale of Burt Monroe's book	84.70	
KOS patches	5.00	
Gordon Wilson Fund	50.00	
Purchase of Warbler back issues	60.00	
Checklists	6.00	
	<u>1444.25</u>	<u>1444.25</u>
		<u>5583.98</u>

Disbursements

Petty cash for 1995 Spring meeting	100.00	
Auditor	150.00	
Postage	67.83	
Reimbursement to Brainard Palmer-Ball	215.13	
Endowment Fund (life memberships)	704.00	
Bank charges	5.00	
Phone reimbursement to Mike Stinson	120.09	
South Central Bell	162.20	
Kentucky Warbler & envelope printing	771.06	
Ky. State Treasurer	4.00	
Reimbursement to Kay Parker for copies, postage, supplies, etc. (Fall 94-95)	135.20	
	<u>2434.51</u>	<u>2434.51</u>
Ending bank balance		<u>3149.47</u>

**KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

<u>Financial Institution</u>	<u>Type of Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Great Financial Fed.	Cert. of Dep.	\$1150.08	Matures 11/29/96
Great Financial Fed.	Cert. of Dep.	1725.12	Matures 11/29/96
Great Financial Fed.	Cert. of Dep.	2721.67	Matures 11/02/95
Great Financial Fed.	Savings (Gordon Wilson Fund)	5272.97	
National City Bank	*Bus. Saving	751.02	
National City Bank	Checking	3149.47	
PNC Bank	Money Market (Endowment)	4328.36	
Republic Bank	Cert. of Dep.	1127.41	Matures 11/20/95
Republic Bank	Cert. of Dep.	1127.41	Matures 11/20/95
Republic Bank	Cert. of Dep.	1192.21	Matures 11/27/95

* Bus. Savings now called Business Exempt Checking with monthly service charged waived (\$5).
Also known as Burt Monroe Avain Research Fund

FIELD NOTE

ROSEATE SPOONBILL IN FULTON COUNTY

On September 13, 1994, we were birding at Lake No. 9 in western Fulton County, when we discovered a Roseate Spoonbill (*Ajaia ajaja*) with a large group of mixed wading birds that included at least 500 Great Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*), 150 Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*), 50 Snowy Egrets (*Egretta thula*), and a few Little Blue Herons (*Egretta caerulea*). The spoonbill was discovered as it loafed with the other waders near the lake's southern end, and it was studied until dusk. On the following day, we again observed the spoonbill as it rested and fed in the shallow water of the lake, and Palmer-Ball obtained several photographs. The bird was very noticeable due to the pinkish coloration of the wings and underparts, as well as the flattened, chalk-colored bill. It was intermediate in size between the larger Great Egrets and smaller Snowy Egrets standing nearby. The head, neck and breast were white, while the back was pale pink. In flight, the wings linings were bright pink and the neck was carried outstretched in front of the body. Wing beats were strong and the feet trailed noticeably behind the tail. In flight, the tail appeared to be pink. The legs were pinkish in color with dark knee joints and feet. The head appeared to be completely feathered, indicating that it was probably born earlier in the late winter/early spring breeding season of 1994.

During our periods of observation, the bird was normally observed resting, preening, or feeding in the shallow water, but it regularly flew up to perch in the scattered cypress trees, and was seen several times, by others to fly south into Tennessee where it also fed and rested with waders on nearby bodies of water. On September 14th we met Rick Eastridge, a student from the University of Tennessee, who actually was the first person to observe the Roseate Spoonbill in the area. He had observed the bird several days previous to the 13th as it fed on a small backwater area about a mile away in Tennessee.

Subsequent to our observations on the 14th, the Roseate Spoonbill was observed on several other occasions by a variety of birders from Kentucky and Tennessee. The best photographs of the bird were obtained late in the day on September 14th by Jeff Wilson of Memphis. It was apparently last observed at Lake No. 9 on September 17th by Mark Greene. Interestingly, on September 29, 1994, probably the same spoonbill was observed with a large flock of egrets on the Mississippi River near the community of Heloise, Tennessee, approximately 35 miles southwest of Lake No. 9 (Glenn Criswell, pers. comm.)

This represents the second documented record of Roseate Spoonbill for Kentucky and the second within five year. The first bird was observed at Honker Lake, Land Between the Lakes, in August 1989 (J. Flam, *Kentucky Warbler* 65:96, 1989). The Roseate Spoonbill may be becoming more regular in the region. Reports in *American Birds* (e.g. *AB* 43:1327, 1989; *AB* 47:105, 1993) indicate that there has been an increasing number of records in the lower Mississippi Valley, suggesting that we might expect the species to turn up with increasing regularity.

--Donald Parker, 5705 Midnight Lane, Louisville, 40229, Jackie Elmore, 1940 Heaton Ford Road, Science Hill, 42553, and Brainerd Palmer-Ball, Jr., 8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, 40222.

NEW AND VIEWS

Reminder of the Kentucky Rare Bird Alert Hotline

Remember, the Kentucky Rare Bird Alert hotline is in service at (502) 894-9538. Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 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.

K.O.S. is Grateful to Annette Cheek

K.O.S. thanks Annette Cheek for her generous gift of \$1,000 dollars to the Avian Research Fund in memory of her late husband (see IN MEMORIAM: JOHN ADAMSON CHEEK II).

Kentucky Birds Record Committee

Lee McNeely is the new secretary of the Kentucky Birds Record Committee (KBRC). Please send all reports and documentation of unusual sightings that need to be considered by the KBRC to Lee at P.O. Box 463, Burlington, Kentucky 41005.

Corrections to the K.O.S. Membership Roll

I thank those who took the time to write concerning corrections to the K.O.S. membership roll. The following listing includes corrected addresses or membership status.

Brad Andres, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Migratory Bird Management, 1101 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503-6199 (Life Member).

Hap Chambers, Rt. 7, Box 92, Murray, KY 442071.

Joyce Dawson, 3517 Windgate Way, N., Lexington, KY 40517.

Jerome A. Jackson, Department of Biological Sciences, Mississippi State University, Box Z, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

Larry W. Webb, 10730 Barren River Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101-9451 (Life Member).