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## Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 76, no. 4)

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# *The Kentucky Warbler*

(Published by 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, \$200.00; Family, \$2.00 in addition to Regular, Contributing or Life Membership dues; Corporate. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions and memberships should be sent to the Treasurer. Requests for back issues should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary.

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

### Editorial Advisory Board

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. and Wayne Mason

Secretary, Kentucky Bird Records Committee.....Lee McNeely  
P.O. Box 463, Burlington, KY 41005

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## THE COVER

We thank Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. for the photograph of the Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) observed near Olmstead, Logan County, Kentucky. (see Field Note section)

## THE NESTING SEASON, 2000

Fred M. Busroe

Rainfall for June and July was near normal to above normal, enough to relieve the drought conditions of last summer. Temperatures for the entire state were in the normal range. Interesting observations were provided from the state's highest elevation, Big Black Mountain, Harlan County, to the lowest elevation, Fulton County.

**Abbreviations** - KBRC = Kentucky Bird Records Committee; KOS = Kentucky Ornithological Society Field Trip; WMA = Wildlife Management Area; AWMA = Adair Wildlife Management Area, Boone County; AJP = A.J. Jolly Park, Campbell County; Ano = Ano Strip Mines, Pulaski County; Ash = E.W. Brown Ash Pond, Mercer County; Barn = Barren County; Bee = Bee Rock, Pulaski County; Bern = Bernheim Forest, Bullitt/Nelson counties; BCNP = Boone County Cliffs Nature Preserve, Boone County; BMt = Big Black Mountain, Harlan County; BSF = Big South Fork Recreation Area, McCreary/Whitley counties; Bur = Burlington, Boone County; Cane = Canewood Farm, Clark County; Cra = Craig's Creek, Gallatin County; Dan = Danville, Boyle County; Day = Dayton, Campbell County; Falls = Falls of Ohio, Jefferson County; Ful = Fulton County; GCA = Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport, Boone County; Hard = Hardin County; Hart = Hart County; Hic = Hickman, Fulton County; Hog = Hogue, Pulaski County; Hopv = Hopkinsville, Christian County; Idl = Idlewild Park, Boone County; JMF = Jefferson County Memorial Forest, Jefferson County; Mas = Masterson Station Park, Fayette County; Melb = Melbourne, Campbell County; Mel = Meldahl Dam, Bracken County; MCFH = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan County; MtZ = Mt. Zion, Pulaski County; Nigh = Nightingale Farm, Clark County; Par = Paradise, Muhlenburg County; PWMA = Peabody WMA, Muhlenburg/Ohio counties; Pet = Petersburg, Boone County; Pum = Pumphouse Pond, Pulaski County; SCCT = Swift's Camp Creek Trail, Wolfe County; Tod = Todd County; Wil = Willow Pond, Fulton County; Wol = Wolper's Creek, Boone County.

**Double-crested Cormorant** - 2 on June 2 at Ash (RD); 1 on July 22 and 30 at slag pond at Par (MB).

**Great Blue Heron** - 16 on July 14 at Ash (RD).

**Great Egret** - 3 on July 8 at PWMA, 1 on July 16 in Tod and 6 on July 30 at slag pond at Par (MB); 5 on July 30 at Ash (RD).

**Snowy Egret** - 15 on June 11 in Hickman and Fulton counties (Hap).

**Little Blue Heron** - 2 on June 11 in Fulton and Hickman counties (Hap).

**Green Heron** - 1 on July 2 in Hart (MS); 21 on July 30 at MCFH (RD).

**Black-crowned Night Heron** - 84 on June 27 at Falls (MB); 1 on June 24 at PWMA (KOS); 1 immature on July 15 at AJP (FR).

**Yellow-crowned Night Heron** - 2 on June 11 in Fulton and Hickman counties (Hap).

**Black Vulture** - 20 on June 11 in Fulton and Hickman counties (Hap).

**Wood Duck** - 2 broods (a female and seven young, plus a female and four young) on June 24 at Pet (LMc); 18 on July 27 at Pum (RD).

**Northern Shoveler** - 1 on July 22 at PWMA (MB).

**Ruddy Duck** - 1 male throughout the period at Ash (RD).

- Mississippi Kite** - 6 on June 11 in Hickman and Fulton counties (Hap); 2 on July 9 at Wil (GC, KL); 4 on July 22 in Ful (Hap).
- Bald Eagle** - 1 adult on July 26 at MCFH (RD).
- Northern Harrier** - 4 on June 24 at PWMA (KOS); 2 on July 9 and 2 on July 10 at Hic and near Wil (KL).
- Cooper's Hawk** - 1 on June 2 at Dan (RD); 2 on June 24 at BCNP and 2 immatures on July 29 at Mas (LMc).
- Broad-winged Hawk** - 1 on July 17 at JMF (DO).
- American Kestrel** - 2 on June 7 at MtZ (RD); 2 on July 23 at Wil (KL).
- Wild Turkey** - 3 adults and 10 poults on July 27 in Hart (MS).
- Common Moorhen** - 1 on June 3 at PWMA (Hap).
- American Golden-Plover** - 1 on July 9, 11 and 20 at Wil (KL); 5 on July 15 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 2 on July 22 in Ful (Hap); 2 on July 23 at Wil (Hap, KL).
- Semipalmated Plover** - 1 on July 15 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 1 on July 26 at Ash (RD); 6 on July 30 at slag pond at Par (MB).
- Killdeer** - 40 on July 20 at Wil (KL).
- Black-necked Stilt** - 1 on July 20 (KL) and 3 on July 23 at Wil (Hap, KL).
- Greater Yellowlegs** - 6 on July 11 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 1 on July 19 at Ash (RD); 20 on July 30 at slag pond Par (MB).
- Lesser Yellowlegs** - 4 on July 9 at Wil (KL); 2 on July 11 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 10 on July 30 at slag pond at Par (MB).
- Solitary Sandpiper** - 2 on July 11 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 2 on July 22 in Ful (Hap); 1 on July 23 at Wil (Hap, KL).
- Spotted Sandpiper** - 8 on July 15 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 1 on July 19 at Ash (RD); 2 on July 22 in Ful (Hap); 2 on July 23 at Wil (Hap, KL); 1 on July 30 at slag pond at Par (MB).
- Sanderling** - 3 on July 19 at Ash (RD).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** - 55 on June 2, 10 on June 10 and 1 on June 16 at Ash (RD); 20 on July 20 at Wil (KL); 2 on July 22 in Ful (Hap); 10 on July 23 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 30 on July 30 at slag pond at Par (MB).
- Western Sandpiper** - 4 on July 15 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 35 on July 20 at Wil (KL); 15 on July 22 in Ful (Hap); 90 on July 23 at Wil (Hap, KL); 1 on July 26 at Ash (RD).
- Least Sandpiper** - 1 on June 16 at Ash (RD); 5 on July 8 at slag pond at Par (MB); 20 on July 9 and 66 on July 20 at Wil (KL); 140 on July 15 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 2 on July 16 in Tod and 38 on July 22 at Par (MB), 32 on July 22 in Ful (Hap); 30 on July 23 at Wil (Hap, KL); 70 on July 30 at Par (MB).
- White-rumped Sandpiper** - 2 on June 2 at Ash (RD).
- Baird's Sandpiper** - 1 on July 22 at slag pond Par (MB).
- Pectoral Sandpiper** - 23 on July 15 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 1 on July 22 and 3 on July 30 at slag pond at Par (MB); 15 on July 22 in Ful (Hap); 15 on July 23 at Wil (Hap, KL); 1 on July 26 and 5 on July 30 at Ash (RD).
- Stilt Sandpiper** - 1 on July 11 at Wil (GC, KL, JW); 3 on July 22 in Ful (Hap); 6 on July 30 at slag pond at Par (MB).

- Short-billed Dowitcher** - 6 on July 11 at Wil (KL); 1 on July 30 at Ash (RD).
- Laughing Gull** - 1 from June 10 - 16 at Ash (RD).
- Ring-billed Gull** - 2 on June 2 at Ash (RD).
- Least Tern** - 2 on June 22 at slag pond at Par (MB).
- Black Tern** - 1 on July 19 at Ash (RD); 7 on July 30 at slag pond at Par (MB).
- Eurasian Collared-Dove** - 1 on June 11 in Ful (Hap); 2 on June 30 and 5 on July 16 at Trenton, Tod (MB); 10 on July 28 at Hopv (MB).
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** - 8 on June 3 at Bern (DO); 3 on June 16 at Bee (RD).
- Eastern Screech-Owl** - 1 on July 30 in Hart (MS).
- Great Horned Owl** - 1 on July 16 at Wil (KL).
- Barred Owl** - 2 on June 9 at BSF (RD).
- Whip-poor-will** - 5 on June 3 at Bern (DO); 12 on June 9 at BSF (RD).
- Red-headed Woodpecker** - 3 on July 15 at AJP (FR); 3 on July 27 at MtZ (RD).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** - 5 on June 7 at MtZ (RD), adult feeding young on July 18 at Bur (LMc).
- Acadian Flycatcher** - 8 on June 3 at Bee (RD); 2 on July 7 at Claysville Boat Ramp, Bracken County (FR).
- Willow Flycatcher** - 1 on June 23 at Day (FR); 2 on June 24 at GCA (LMc).
- Great Crested Flycatcher** - 2 on July 13 at MtZ (RD).
- Loggerhead Shrike** - 2 on June 7 at Hog (RD); 5 on June 11 in Hickman and Fulton counties (Hap); 4 on July 22 in Ful (Hap).
- White-eyed Vireo** - 6 on June 2 at Ano (RD).
- Bell's Vireo** - 4 on June 3 at PWMA (Hap); 4 on June 22 (MB) and 6+ on June 24 (KOS) at PWMA.
- Yellow-throated Vireo** - 1 on June 3 at Bee (RD); 1 on July 15 at AJP (FR).
- Blue-headed Vireo** - 1 on June 16 at Bee (RD); 1 on June 21 at BMt (MM).
- Warbling Vireo** - 2 on June 23 at Day (FR).
- Red-eyed Vireo** - 16 on June 17 at Bee (RD).
- Horned Lark** - 1 on June 3 at Ano (RD).
- Tree Swallow** - 3 on June 3 at Ano (RD); an adult feeding 2 young on June 17 at Idl (LMc).
- Cliff Swallow** - 6 on June 7 at Hog (RD); a small number on June 24 near bridge at Wol (LMc); 20 on July 7 at Mel and 10 at Foster Boat Ramp, Bracken County (FR); multiple nests active on July 22 at Cra (LMc).
- Bank Swallow** - 20+ birds on June 24 near Pet (LMc).
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** - A pair seen near nest hole on June 5 and 2 were seen about 3 mile from nest area on June 6 at SCCT (FR).
- Veery** - 5 on June 21 at BMt (MM).
- Wood Thrush** - 20 on June 3 at Bern (DO); 5 on June 17 at Bee (RD).
- American Robin** - 2 on June 21 at BMt (MM).
- Brown Thrasher** - 4 on June 4 at MtZ (RD).
- Blue-winged Warbler** - 2 on June 3 at Bern (DO); adult feeding young on June 17 AWMA (LMc).
- Northern Parula** - 2 on June 3 at Bern (DO); 5 on June 3 at Bee (RD); 2 on June 5 and 8 on June 6 at SCCT (FR).

- Chestnut-sided Warbler** - 4 on June 21 at BMt (MM).
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** - 3 on June 21 at BMt (MM).
- Black-throated Green Warbler** - 1 female on nest plus 6 others on June 5, and 12 on June 6 at SCCT (FR); 19 on June 17 at Bee (RD).
- Yellow-throated Warbler** - 6 on June 6 at SCCT (FR); 2 on June 16 at Bee (RD).
- Pine Warbler** - 1 on June 5, and 4 on June 6 at SCCT (FR); 3 on June 16 at Bee (RD).
- Prairie Warbler** - 10 on June 3 at Ano (RD).
- Cerulean Warbler** - 1 on June 17 at Bee (RD).
- Black-and-White Warbler** - 8 on June 3 at Bee (RD); 1 at nest on June 6 at SCCT (FR).
- Prothonotary Warbler** - 2 on June 3 at Bee (RD).
- Worm-eating Warbler** - 7 on June 3 at Bern (DO); 1 on June 5 at SCCT (FR); 8 on June 17 at Bee (RD).
- Swainson's Warbler** - 2 on June 5 at SCCT (FR); 4 on June 17 at Bee (RD).
- Ovenbird** - 12 on June 3 at Bee (RD); 15 on June 5 at SCCT (FR); 4 on June 21 at BMt (MM); just fledged young on June 24 at BCNP (LMc).
- Louisiana Waterthrush** - 1 on June 5, and 2 on June 6 at SCCT (FR); 3 on June 16 at Bee (RD).
- Kentucky Warbler** - 2 on June 3 at Bee (RD); 3 on June 3 at Melb (FR).
- Hooded Warbler** - 6 on June 3 at Bern (DO); 4 on June 5, and 16 on June 6 at SCCT (FR); 14 on June 17 at Bee (RD); adult feeding young on June 24 at BCNP (LMc).
- Canada Warbler** - 2 on June 21 at BMt (MM).
- Common Yellowthroat** - 1 female feeding 3 young Brown-headed Cowbirds on July 21 at MtZ (RD).
- Yellow-breasted Chat** - 5 on June 3 at Ano (RD); 3 on June 17 at AWMA (LMc).
- Scarlet Tanager** - 4 on June 17 at Bee (RD).
- Grasshopper Sparrow** - 8 on June 3 at Ano (RD); 2 on June 24 at GCA (LMc).
- Henslow's Sparrow** - 4 on June 1 in northern Pulaski County and 2 on June 3 at Ano (RD); 4 on June 24 at PWMA (KOS); 2 on June 24 in Hard (DO); 7 on July 27 at MtZ (RD).
- Dark-eyed Junco** - 15 on June 21 at BMt (MM).
- Blue Grosbeak** - 1 on June 13 at MtZ (RD); 1 male on June 24 at Pet (LMc); 1 observed on 11 days in June and July in Hart (MS); 15 individuals observed along the AA Highway in Campbell County (FR).
- Dickcissel** - 1 to 5 seen from July 5 - July 30 in Hart (MS).
- Bobolink** - 2 at Cane and 2 at Nigh on June 6 (FR).
- Baltimore Oriole** - 2 on July 21 at MtZ (RD).

**Contributors** - Mark Bennett (MB), Hap Chambers (Hap), Glen Criswell (GC), Roseanna Denton (RD), Ken Leggett (KL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Mike Miller (MM), Darrin O'Brien (DO), Frank Renfrow (FR), Mitchell Sturgeon (MS), Jeff R. Wilson (JW) .

--- 437 Sunset Lane, Morehead 40351

## KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## FALL MEETING, 2000

Barren River Lake State Resort Park

October 6-8

President Marilee Thompson welcomed everyone to the Friday evening meeting and asked for first time guests to raise their hands. She then turned the program over to the Vice President and program chair, Kathy Caminiti who introduced the speakers. Mark Monroe presented excellent video footage of nesting birds encountered during his summer 2000 work on nesting Henslow's Sparrows. Neil and Ginny Eklund presented videotape of a Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*) they encountered unexpectedly on a trip in Vermont. Bill Moore, non-game biologist for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, presented possible ways in which the KOS and KDFWR could partner to make the public more aware of birds. Gary Ritchison presented data, slides and video of Yellow-breasted Chats and Indigo Buntings that were part of two studies partially funded with money from the Burt L. Monroe Avian Research Fund.

Field trips were announced. David Roemer would lead a trip to points of interest around the reservoir and Wayne Mason would lead a trip to Brigadoon State Nature Preserve. The excellent Friday evening program was followed by a social hour hosted by Kathy and Joe Caminiti in their lodge room.

Bird trips began at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 7 and despite the cold weather, there was an excellent turnout.

The Kentucky Ornithological Society Board met at 3:00 p.m. at the lodge to consider business of the society.

The Saturday evening general business meeting began with an introduction of the guest speaker, Paul J. Baicich, nationally recognized speaker on birding, editor of *Birding*, and coauthor of "*A Guide to the Nests, Eggs, and Nestlings of North American Birds*". Paul's talk, "Bird Tasks for the Coming Century" outlined demographic data on who watches birds and the past history of conservation movements triggered by major bird catastrophes. He concluded his talk by challenging birders to find ways to improve public awareness of birds and conservation issues and be proactive rather than reactive. To be effective, he indicated birders needed to work collectively because future challenges to birds and their habitat are international in scope and involve complex issues.

Following the talk, Marilee Thompson presented the proposed bylaw revisions to the Constitution. A motion by Wendell Kingsolver and seconded by Fred Mansmith was made to accept all the revisions. The motion passed. Marilee pointed out that Life membership dues rose to \$200 from \$100 with the passage of the bylaw revisions.

Marilee presented the slate of officers for next year to the members in attendance. Those nominated were Marilee Thompson-President, Kathy Caminiti-Vice President, Mark Bennett-Recording Secretary, Brainard Palmer-Ball-Corresponding Secretary, Lee McNeely-Treasurer, Jackie Elmore-Councillor and Gerald Robe-Councillor. A motion was made to accept the nominated slate of officers as presented. The motion was seconded by Wendell Thompson, voted on, and passed.

Announcements were made regarding calling cards, the Hawk Watch event, the next meeting at Carter Caves, April 27-29, 2001 and that Sunday morning field trips would be organized at 8:00 a.m. in front of the lodge. There were 75 people in attendance at the meeting and 79 species of birds were recorded on field trips.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.



### ATTENDANCE AT THE FALL MEETING

BEREA: Jeni Hosfeld, Art Ricketts, Tina Ricketts  
 BOWLING GREEN: Lester Doyle, Diane Elmore, Jackie Elmore, Blaine Ferrell, Richard Lord, Marvin Russell, Ian Michael Mason, McKenzie Mason, Wayne Mason, David Roemer, Joan Roemer, Kurt Thielhorn  
 BURLINGTON: Joe Caminiti, Joey Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Lee McNeely  
 CANEYVILLE: Rebecca Foreman, Mary Harrel  
 CARLISLE: Virginia Kingsolver, Wendell Kingsolver  
 COX'S CREEK: Dona Coates  
 DANVILLE: Ginny Eklund, Neil Eklund  
 GILBERTSVILLE: Rowena Cary  
 LEXINGTON: Rhonda Bryant, Shirley Davis, Wayne Davis, Phyllis Deal, Elizabeth Hash, Hollianne Hash, Tony Hash, Scott Marsh, Bobbi Shain, Lou Shain, Jim Williams  
 LOUISVILLE: Robert Dever, Katharine Fulkerson, Celia Lawrence, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.  
 MADISONVILLE: Ann Morgan, Marin Morgan  
 MOREHEAD: Fred Busroe  
 MORGANTOWN: Carroll Tichenor, Doris Tichenor  
 MT. STERLING: Gerald Robe  
 MURRAY: Hap Chambers  
 OWENSBORO: Mary Hemil, Janet Howard, Cassie Knight, Marilee Thompson, Wendell Thompson, Bill Tyler, Susie Tyler  
 PADUCAH: Bernice Caddell  
 PRINCETON: John Niemi, Phyllis B. Niemi  
 PROSPECT: Fred Mansmith  
 RICHMOND: Angie Burkhart, Mark Monroe, Brandon Ritchison, Brianna Ritchison, Gary Ritchison, Tammy Ritchison, Pete Thompson  
 SOMERSET: Roseanna Denton, Linda McClendon  
 UTICA: Brenda Eaden, Tony Eaden  
 WILLIAMSBURG: Bill Moore  
 DYERSBURG, TENNESSEE: Betty Leggett, Ken Leggett  
 OXON HILL, MARYLAND: Paul J. Baicich

### BIRDS OBSERVED AT THE FALL MEETING

Bird species observed in the proximity of the Barren River Reservoir included: Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Northern Pintail, American Wigeon, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Wild Turkey, American Coot, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Ring-billed Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Winter Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler,

Black-throated Green Warbler, Pine Warbler, Palm Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Summer Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, American Goldfinch, and House Sparrow for a total of 79 species.

## FIELD NOTES

### Kentucky's Second Record of Say's Phoebe

On December 28, 1999, the authors were participating on the Olmstead, Kentucky, Christmas Bird Count, when we found a Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), on a farm pond on Charlie Lawrence Road, approximately 3 miles south of Olmstead, southwestern Logan County. The weather was sunny with only a few high cirrus clouds marring the perfectly blue sky. The count circle was composed mostly of grain farms and associated habitat but also included Mosley's Pond, Lake Herndon, the City of Russellville, and a few small hamlets such as the count namesake, Olmstead, and scattered small patches of woods. Most of the count circle was in the Pennyroyal Region of the Commonwealth and was gently rolling or gradually sloping in nature.

The observers were in the process of scanning a dairy farm pond on the Charlie Lawrence Road, south of Olmstead, when a Phoebe flew into the range of the spotting scope. Both authors observed the bird for about 30 minutes that afternoon before proceeding on with the Count. The observations were made approximately at a range of 100 yards through a KOWA TSN 824 spotting scope as well as binoculars. The scope utilized a 20x - 60x zoom lens and various magnifications were used during the observation. The bird was first observed on one of several fence posts along a fence that crossed the shallow pond used as drinking water for dairy cattle. The bird was observed numerous times "dipping" into the water, obviously feeding on something on or just below the surface. The flight was typical flycatcher style, a short burst into the air or a "dip" into the water, then a return to the same perch. During the observation, the Phoebe moved from post to post, repeating the feeding behavior frequently, and often pumping its tail vigorously.

The Say's Phoebe was instantly recognizable as a flycatcher by the typical shape, size and general color of that group of birds (see cover photograph). It was pronounced a Phoebe after noticing the tail pumping. The features recorded during the observation resulting in the Say's Phoebe identification, were as follows: The thin bill was all dark, the head gray, but darkest on the crown, changing gradually to a lighter gray down the side of the head to near the eye. The back was gray and contrasted strongly with the much darker gray wings, tail, crown and neck. The wings displayed whitish wing bars and whitish edges to the tertials and some secondaries. The tail was very dark, almost blackish, rather than true gray. The belly was a rich buff. The breast was gray at the upper regions transitioning into a light buff near the lower breast then into the rich buff observed on the belly. The under tail coverts were a very rich buff, and the eye was dark.

The bird was immediately reported to the Kentucky Bird Hotline and to Hap Chambers who promptly posted a notice to birdky (the KOS sponsored list serve).

On December 29, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Hap Chambers, David Roemer, Jackie Elmore, Diane Elmore, and Mark Monroe observed the bird. Palmer-Ball obtained photographs and

Chambers and Roemer obtained video on that date. Numerous individuals from Kentucky and Tennessee subsequently observed the bird on several dates.

Subsequent observations revealed that the bird inhabited a small territory that included the pond where it was originally located, the pasture surrounding the pond, a nearby pond surrounded by weeds, a patch of weeds dominated by Jimson Weed, and other unknown locations within the area. The bird lingered in the area of the pond for almost three weeks into January of 2000. Robert Dever made the last known observation on January 16, 2000.

This record represents the second for Say's Phoebe in Kentucky (*Annotated Checklist of Birds of Kentucky*, Monroe *et al.*, 1988), but the first documented by photographs. The only previous record of Say's Phoebe in Kentucky also came in late December. That record was made when a Say's Phoebe was observed on December 30, 1966 in Joppa, IL and was seen to enter Kentucky as it flew across the Ohio River into Ballard County. --- MARK BENNETT, Russellville, Ky and DAVID ROEMER, Bowling Green, Ky.

### BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES IN EASTERN KENTUCKY, WINTER 1999-2000 FIRST CONFIRMED RECORDS FOR KENTUCKY

The Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) is a common resident of southern Canada and the northern United States, occurring primarily in areas of deciduous or mixed coniferous-deciduous forest. In the eastern United States, the southern edge of its range roughly meets the northern edge of the range of its sister species of the southeast, the Carolina Chickadee (*P. carolinensis*). The two may occur sympatrically in the southern Appalachian Mountains, where some hybridization apparently occurs (Sattler and Braun 2000).

Black-capped Chickadees are not migratory in the normal sense, but large segments of the population sometimes move great distances, occasionally far beyond their expected range limits. These mass "irruptions" (or "eruptions" from the perspective of the source range) occur most often in a southwesterly direction and predominantly during October and November (Brooks 1991; banding data). Unlike most passerine migrants — which migrate at night — Black-capped Chickadees fly in the daytime during irruptive movements, making them conspicuous, especially along major barriers such as lakeshores. It has been shown that most of the individuals involved in these irruptions are hatch-year birds, although adults may also participate when the movements involve large numbers of birds (Bagg 1969; Brooks 1991; Smith 1991). Irruptions of various magnitudes seem to occur irregularly every 2+ years (Bagg 1969; Smith 1993; banding data), but may not be readily predictable (Brooks 1991; Hussell 1996). Once the birds have moved south for the winter, they appear to remain in place until early spring, with a peak in return movement northward from late March to mid-May (Brooks 1987; Smith 1991; banding data).

No one has been able to completely explain what causes these mass irruptions, although it seems that a reduction in food supply may be the most important factor (Smith 1991). For example, Bagg (1969) and Smith (1991) illustrate a strong correlation in northeastern North America between the Black-capped Chickadee irruption years and years with low seed crops from boreal forest trees. More recently it has been suggested that irruptions, at least in some European members of the chickadee family, may be more closely linked to high population densities that have resulted from unusually good food supplies during the previous 12-24 months (Brotons 2000).

Over the years, Black-capped Chickadees have been reported from Kentucky on a number of occasions, mostly in northeastern Kentucky (e.g., numerous Ashland, Boyd County Christmas Bird Count (CBC) reports from the mid-1950s to mid-1960s and several Willard, Carter County CBC reports from the mid-1960s to late 1970s). Mengel (1965) considered the species to have been reported from the state on inadequate grounds, although he noted a specimen record from as close as Cincinnati. Among the more recent sightings have been three from Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Bell and Harlan counties: one bird on 1 January 1969 (Croft 1969); two birds on 20 December 1975 (KW 52:18, 1976); and three birds on 15 December 1979 (KW 56:13, 1980). Due to its similarity with our common and widespread Carolina Chickadee, as well as the potential for the occurrence of hybrids, these sight records have continued to be regarded as lacking in details sufficient to include the species on Kentucky's avifaunal list.

During the fall of 1999, a large irruption of Black-capped Chickadees occurred in southeastern Canada and the northeastern United States. The magnitude of this movement was variously described by bird banders in the region as well above average and one of the more significant to have occurred since the early 1980s. During late October and early November 1999, reports of Black-capped Chickadees south of their normal range and at lower elevations than normally encountered within the Appalachian Mountains began to accumulate. About that time, Sweeney noticed at least two birds that appeared to be Black-capped Chickadees coming to feeders in his yard approximately five miles west-southwest of downtown Ashland, Boyd County (Fig. 1). During the first week of November 1999, he posted his observations on the internet. On 6 November 1999, Roemer visited Sweeney's yard and concurred with his assessment that at least two birds were Black-capped Chickadees; on this date Roemer also obtained videotape footage of one of the individuals. On 13 November 1999, Monroe, Palmer-Ball, and Jon Dunn visited this site and were successful in capturing one of the two birds in mistnets. This bird was measured, banded, and photographed (Table 1; Fig. 2). Although the measurements for this individual indicated a borderline Carolina/Black-capped bird, field marks were clearly indicative of Black-capped. Sweeney continued to note at least one of these birds at his feeders through mid-December 1999.

Soon after Sweeney's observations, Towler noted that the flock of chickadees coming to her feeders in the southwestern corner of Boyd County (approximately 13 miles south-southwest of Sweeney's yard; Fig. 1) included about five individuals that appeared to be Black-capped. Towler videotaped some of her chickadees and forwarded the tape to Roemer who concurred that at least one bird was, indeed, a Black-capped. Monroe and Palmer-Ball visited her yard on 16 January 2000 and also concurred, observing two birds that were clearly Black-capped by field marks and voice. Both of these birds were captured, measured, banded and photographed on 10 March 2000 (Table 1; Fig. 3). The larger number of individuals that Towler noted early in the season never returned, but these two chickadees remained in her yard through the surprisingly late date of 23 April 2000.

In late February 2000, Hosfeld told Monroe about a bird that had been frequenting the feeders in her yard, approximately five miles east-northeast of Berea, Madison County, all winter (Fig. 1). She had first noticed the bird on 22 November 1999 after hearing about the occurrence of Black-capped Chickadees in Boyd County. Monroe observed this bird on 23 February 2000 and concurred with her identification. He returned with Brian Leibacher on 27 February 2000, and they were successful in capturing, measuring, and banding it (Table 1). On 3 March 2000, Palmer-Ball was successful in obtaining photographs of this individual (Fig. 4). This chickadee continued to be observed in Hosfeld's yard through 7 March 2000.

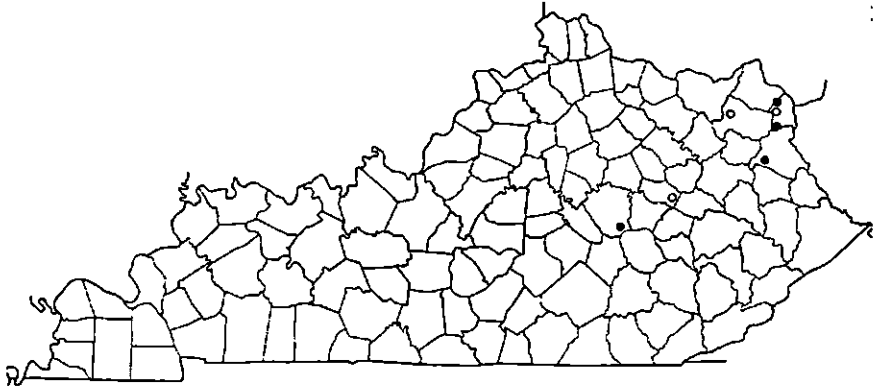


Figure 1. Locations of Black-capped Chickadees in eastern Kentucky, winter 1999-2000. Closed circles represent capture/photograph records whereas, open circles represent sight records.

Table 1. Black-capped Chickadee (BCCH) and Carolina Chickadee (CACH) Measurements from Eastern Kentucky, Winter 1999-2000.

Location	Wing chord (mm)	Tail length (mm)	tl-wg (ratio) (CACH<0.9<BCCH)	exp. culmen (mm)	(wing - tail) (mm)
<b>BCCH</b>					
Sweeney yard, Boyd Co. (11/13/99)	64	57.5	0.898	---	---
Hosfeld yard, Madison Co. (2/27/00)	63	61	0.968	7.5	2.0
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (3/10/00)	62	58	0.935	7.2	4.0
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (3/10/00)	62	58	0.935	7.8	4.0
Freidhof yard, Lawrence Co. (3/10/00)	62	57.5	0.927	7.4	4.5
Freidhof yard, Lawrence Co. (3/10/00)	65	60	0.923	8.1	5.0
Freidhof yard, Lawrence Co. (3/10/00)	66	62	0.939	7.9	4.0
<b>CACH</b>					
Sweeney yard, Boyd Co. (11/13/99)	60	52	0.867	---	---
Sweeney yard, Boyd Co. (11/13/99)	60	51	0.850	---	---
Sweeney yard, Boyd Co. (11/13/99)	62	50.5	0.815	---	---
Sweeney yard, Boyd Co. (11/13/99)	62	51.5	0.831	---	---
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (1/16/00)	65	53	0.815	7.2	12.0
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (2/12/00)	65	53	0.815	6.5	12.0
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (2/12/00)	58	49	0.845	5.5	9.0
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (2/12/00)	61	51	0.836	6.5	10.0
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (2/12/00)	60	53	0.883	7.0	7.0
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (2/12/00)	61	49	0.803	7.5	12.0
Towler yard, Boyd Co. (2/12/00)	60	49	0.817	7.0	11.0

In early March 2000, the Freidhofs reported chickadees frequenting the feeders in their yard in Blaine, Lawrence County (approximately 17 miles southwest of Towler's yard in Boyd County; Fig. 1), that were clearly marked as Black-capped. These birds had likely been present since at least the middle of January. On 10 March 2000, Monroe and Palmer-Ball visited their yard and were successful in capturing, measuring, banding, and photographing three individuals of a flock of Black-capped Chickadees comprised of at least six individuals (Table 1; Fig. 5). In subsequent weeks the number of Black-cappeds gradually decreased in the Freidhofs' yard, but at least one individual lingered through 12 April 2000.

In addition to the birds that were confirmed by measurements, Towler, Gerald Robe and Jennifer Michaels observed a bird in the yard of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Emmons near the community of Princess, Boyd County (approximately four miles south-southwest of Sweeney's yard; Fig. 1), that clearly appeared to be a Black-capped by field marks on 11 March 2000. Also, Monroe and Brian Leibacher noted a single Black-capped Chickadee at the feeders at the Natural Bridge State Resort Park lodge, Powell County, on 20 March 2000 (Fig. 1). Call notes were not heard, but all field marks were clearly indicative of the bird being a Black-capped. In addition, based on call notes heard and field marks observed, Palmer-Ball identified at least one individual within a small flock of chickadees as Black-capped at Carter Caves State Resort Park, Carter County, on 23 March 2000 (Fig. 1). These three reports cannot be considered to be as definitive as the records of captured and measured birds, but based on the experience the observers had gained with chickadee identification earlier in the winter, all were thought to be valid.

All of the birds captured and banded, as well as the three birds reported by sight only, were identified as Black-capped Chickadees based on the observation of extensive whitish or light gray edgings to the greater coverts and very pale (whitish) edgings to the secondaries and outer rectrices. Supplemental physical characters that sometimes assisted the identifications were the extent of bright white color on the rear portion of the cheek; the extent of pale, brownish wash on the flanks; a slightly more olive hue to the gray back color; and the raggedness of the lower edge of the black bib. Calls notes and songs were also heard from a number of the birds observed. Two-noted 'fee-bay' songs were heard from individuals at both of the Boyd County sites and the Lawrence County site. In addition, it was noted that contact notes and flight notes often reliably separated the Black-capped Chickadees from the local Carolinas at all four feeders where they were captured.

Captured birds were measured to confirm identification using a combination of wing length (wing chord), tail length, and exposed culmen. Black-capped Chickadees are overall a larger species than the Carolina, but there is much overlap; however, Black-cappeds have proportionately longer tails relative to wing chord than Carolinas with apparently very little overlap. Thus, calculation of this ratio is one of the better ways to distinguish the two. Wing chord:tail length is usually greater than 0.9 (0.886-1.032) in Black-capped and usually less than 0.9 (0.819-0.922) in Carolina (Pyle 1997). Also, wing chord minus tail length is greater than the length of the exposed culmen in Black-cappeds but less than the length of the exposed culmen in Carolinas. The results of these measurements and calculations are presented in Table 1. As can be seen, all fall within expected variation for each species and most lie beyond limits for the other species. As a side note, Monroe found aging these birds to be difficult and did not feel confident assigning age to them; therefore an assessment of age of the birds is not included in this summary.

The question of hybrids invariably enters into discussions of the separation between these two species and the appearance of any vagrant individuals. With overlap in songs and calls, field characters and measurements all possible, the problem is a difficult one to resolve in a

definitive manner. All that can be stated concerning Kentucky's 1999-2000 birds is that most appeared obviously different and measured well within limits for Black-capped, dispelling any substantial suspicion of the possibility of hybrids. Moreover, with an irruption documented to have occurred in the fall of 1999, it would seem that good Black-cappeds from well into the heart of the species' range were more likely involved in a movement into Kentucky than hybrids from the limited areas in the southern Appalachian Mountains where Black-cappeds occur.

The occurrence of so many Black-capped Chickadees in eastern Kentucky during the winter of 1999-2000 begs the obvious question . . . how often has such an event actually occurred in the past? Banding and observation data from a variety of locations in southeastern Canada and the northeastern United States indicate that moderate to large irruptions have occurred on the order of once every few years since the early-1960s (Bagg 1969; Brooks 1991; Hussell 1996). Hussell (1996) has presented one of the most complete synopses of fall Black-capped Chickadee irruptive movements over an extended period in southeastern Canada and the northeastern United States. He summarized moderate to extraordinary irruptive movements of Black-cappeds in the region from 1960-1994 based on a combination of 1) banding and observation data from the Long Point Bird Observatory, Ontario, on the northern shore of Lake Erie, 2) banding data from other localities, and/or 3) regional reports in *Audubon Field Notes/American Birds*. These sources indicated irruptive movements in the region for the following years: 1961, 1963, 1965, 1968, 1969, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1980, 1981, 1983, 1986, 1990, and 1993. However, these irruptions were documented largely from within the species' normal range, and appearances of Black-cappeds south of their normal range probably occur less frequently. For example, prior to the fall of 1999, Rick Blom (pers. comm.) had not noted the appearance of an unusual number of Black-cappeds south of their normal range in Maryland since 1983.

Because irruptive movements often involve birds from only a portion of the species' range, they may not be detected at any one location as frequently as the overall pattern suggests. A rough idea of the frequency of irruptive movements in any one part of the species' range might be illustrated by reviewing Hussell's Long Point Bird Observatory summary; from 1962-1994 extraordinary irruptive movements of Black-capped Chickadees were detected there in the fall seasons of 1965, 1972, 1973, 1980, 1983, and 1993; noticeable, although much smaller, movements were also noted in the fall seasons of 1963, 1969, 1981, and 1990. Interestingly, no movement of Black-cappeds was noted at Long Point during the fall 1999 or spring 2000 seasons (J. McCracken, pers. comm.). Farther west along the northern shore of Lake Erie, during the period 1983-99 Allen Chartier (pers. comm.) reported that major flights were noted at Holiday Beach Conservation Area, Ontario, in 1983 (1500 birds counted), 1986 (900), and 1993 (3894), but not in 1990 or 1999. In contrast, at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory along the southern shore of Lake Ontario near Rochester, NY, Betsy Brooks (pers. comm.) has noted above-average flight years during the period 1986-1999 in the following seasons: fall 1987, fall 1990/spring 1991, fall 1993/spring 1994, fall 1995/spring 1996, fall 1998, and fall 1999/spring 2000. While there are some consistencies in the trends between these locations, there are also obvious deviations. Bagg (1969) also illustrated some variation in irruption occurrence and magnitude between the eastern and western Great Lakes regions during the period 1956-68.

In summary, analysis of the combined body of information on Black-capped Chickadee movements yields several conclusions: 1) irruptions may occur across a wide portion of the species' range, but more typically may be focused within a particular part of the range, 2) irruptions vary widely in magnitude (*i.e.*, the numbers of individuals), and 3) the extent of

dispersal (*i.e.* in particular how far south birds move) is highly variable. The irruption of October-November 1999 was considered by several northeastern banders to be the largest to have occurred in the region since the mid-1980s, and Black-capped Chickadees were banded at least as far south as Bristol, Tennessee, during the fall and winter of 1999-2000 (R. Lewis, pers. comm.). Thus, it would seem reasonable to assume that the occurrence of Black-capped Chickadees in Kentucky was rather noteworthy. The lack of birds along the northern shore of Lake Erie in the fall of 1999 would indicate that birds from the western portion of the species' range in southeastern Canada were not involved in the irruption, probably explaining why birds were only showing up in the southern Appalachians, including eastern Kentucky.

As a side note of interest, news of the appearance of Black-capped Chickadees in eastern Kentucky in the winter of 1999-2000 spurred K.O.S. member Bill Kemper to dig up some old photographs that he had taken of a chickadee that frequented his feeders at Danville, Boyle County, during the winter of 1968-69. This individual is clearly a Black-capped by the characters noted above, and Kemper recalls hearing call notes and songs supportive of the identification. Interestingly, the winter of 1968-69 is the same time of Croft's sight record for Cumberland Gap National Historical Park and one of the flight years noted by Hussell (1996). In light of what is now known about the irruptions of Black-capped Chickadees, we would consider Kemper's photo record to constitute the first documented record of the species in Kentucky. Moreover, confirmation of Black-capped Chickadees in northeastern Kentucky during the winter of 1999-2000 suggests that past reports from that part of the state may be more reliable than previously thought. Northeastern Kentucky is geographically placed closer than the rest of the state to what may be one of the two most obvious points of entry of irruptive Black-capped Chickadees into the eastern United States — the eastern end of Lake Erie (the second being the eastern end of Lake Ontario). While birds may also come south from the western end of Lake Erie, it is possible that the extent of deforestation south of there may limit the penetration of irruptive birds southward; that being said, however, it seems possible that Black-capped Chickadees could reach just about any part of the state in years of unusually large movements.

We wish to thank the following individuals for providing useful summaries of banding information and/or other assistance in preparing this article: Jean Bickal (Trenton, NJ),



(Fig. 2)



(Fig. 3)

Figures 2 and 3. Black-capped Chickadees banded in Sweeney yard (Fig. 2) and in Towler yard (one of two birds) (Fig. 3) in Boyd County, winter 1999-2000.





(Fig. 4)



(Fig. 5)

Figures 4 and 5. Black-capped Chickadees banded in Hosfeld yard in Madison County (Fig. 4) and Freidhof yard (one of three birds) in Lawrence County,(Fig. 5 ) winter 1999-2000.

Rick Blom (Belcamp, MD), Betsy Brooks (Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, Manitou Beach, NY); Allen Chartier (Holiday Beach Conservation Area, ON), John Gregoire (Kestrel Haven Avian Migratory Observatory, Burdett, NY), David Hussell (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Peterborough, ON), Richard Lewis (Bristol, TN), Jon McCracken (Bird Studies Canada, Port Rowan, ON), Bill Murphy (Innis Point Bird Observatory, Kanata, ON), and Bruce Murphy (Timiskaming Banding Group, Cobalt, ON).

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--- STEVE SWEENEY, 6346 Daniels Fork Road, Ashland, KY, 41102; LIN TOWLER, c/o Ashland Board of Realtors, 341 16th St., Ashland, KY, 41101; JENI HOSFELD, 354 Forest Trail Dr., Berea, KY, 40403; SCOTT AND MARILYN FREIDHOF, HC 89, Box 110, Blaine, KY, 41124; DAVID ROEMER, 294 Drakes Creek Dr., Bowling Green, KY, 42103; MARK MONROE, Biology Department, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY, 40475; and BRAINARD PALMER-BALL, JR., 8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, KY, 40222.

### NORTHERN PARULA NEST OBSERVATIONS FROM PIKE COUNTY

Our location in Pike County in Eastern Kentucky has provided us with lots of opportunities to observe flora and fauna of the mountains. We have focused on the area around our home and the surrounding forty acres which we own in Happy Valley at South Williamson. We have recorded our findings of plants, insects, birds, etc. for more than twenty years; but, every year new discoveries have been made. This year brought the nesting Northern Parula (*Parula americana*).

My art studio with its fourteen windows and double glass doors provides great viewing of surrounding trees and woods, especially for birdwatching. On May 13, 2000, I was looking out the windows when I saw two small birds flitting in and out of the branches of a Norway spruce tree only ten feet away. I grabbed my binoculars and found the birds to be Northern Parulas. Obviously the pair was looking for a nest site. By May 15 they had settled on a dangling branch of needles about 25 feet from the ground and the female began carrying nesting materials. She flew underneath the branch and started building the nest from the top down, meticulously weaving fine strands of dried grass in among the needles. During the next five days she continued working on the nest and the male accompanied her, singing all the while. He aggressively defended the area by chasing away any bird, large or small, which dared come near the nest tree. Once the female completed about two-thirds of the nest, she began approaching the nest through the top instead of the bottom. With the aid of my spotting scope I could see her hanging upside-down at times, dangling by one foot, as she maneuvered to weave the rest of the nest. I also saw a female Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) nearby and hoped that the male Parula kept an eye on her. By the end of the day on May 20 the nest appeared finished and the female seemed to be incubating. The nest was disguised so well that it hardly could be seen. In fact, if I had not seen the birds entering and leaving the area, I would have never located the nest. The finished nest looked very flimsy and had an opening on the side near the top from which the tail or head of the female could be seen.

During the next several days the male continued singing and defending the area. On one occasion he chased an American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*) that was merely flying through the corridor between the spruce tree and a nearby poplar tree. Some heavy rain and wind moved through on May 28 and I feared that the nest had not survived. However, upon close

inspection, I could see that it was intact. The following day I saw the female fly into the nest and heard the male singing nearby. On May 30 I observed one of the Parulas entering the nest with a fat green larva and wiggling around as if feeding young. Later the same day I saw the female's tail protruding from the nest and noted an adult entering the nest again. The pair of Brown-headed Cowbirds was hanging around, but had not been seen near the nest. For the next couple of days I saw no indications of the presence of the female Parula and heard no singing from the male. On June 2 the male sang from the spruce tree and flew down low in a Budleia bush, seemingly unaware of my presence nearby. For the next six days the Parulas seemed to have vanished; no songs were heard and no sightings were observed. I had found some eggshell fragments on the ground underneath the spruce tree that looked like Parula eggs. On June 8 I taped my video camera to a long telescoping pole designed to be used on power lines and my husband hoisted it up to the nest through the tangle of dangling branches. I anxiously waited to see what the video camera might reveal. After viewing the tape, I was very disappointed. The only thing that could be seen in the nest was a large white looking spot. After reviewing the film several times, I concluded that it probably was a cowbird egg.

Two days later on June 10 my disappointment gave way to great excitement. The female Parula appeared to be looking for another nesting site on the opposite side of the spruce tree, about 10 feet above the last site. As she investigated the new site, the male brought her a large, green larva. By closely observing the actions of the pair for the next few days, I discovered that the female was taking material from the old nest to build the new nest. All the while the male accompanied her, singing and guarding the old nest. By June 14 the bottom of the old nest had lost its support and fell down to a branch about 6 feet from the ground. It was a perfect location for photographing and observing the female as she dismantled the rest of the materials. She finished the nest the next day and started incubating. On June 18 and 20 I saw her enter and leave the nest a couple of times and the singing male remained nearby. One of the adults went in and out of the nest several times on June 23, but not on a regular basis.

For the next several days I observed nothing of significance. Then appropriately enough on July 4, 2000, I definitely determined that the eggs had hatched and babies were in the nest. After observing the nest for the next several days, I determined that there was more than one chick. Because of the unique structure of the nest, it was very difficult to see inside. Finally on July 11 I convinced my husband to accompany me to the top of the roof on our house, 25+ feet above the ground and in line with the nest. Despite the height and the hot temperature on the surface of the roof, the trip rewarded us with a good view of the nest. One chick had already left the nest and was on a branch beside the nest. Two more chicks remained in the nest, moving about and exercising. We took some pictures and observed the adults tending the chicks before we left the roof. Our trip was timed perfectly because all the chicks left the nest the next day on July 12.

A small amount of the old nest remained in the lower branch of the spruce tree. I collected it for analysis and found the following: Old Man's Beard, tree lichen, spider web, wool, very fine dried plant material, cat fur (thrown outdoors after I brushed my cat), dried pine needles, etc. According to *The Kentucky Breeding Bird Atlas*, our observations are only the second ever reported for a Northern Parula nest in Kentucky. Also, according to some sources, the Northern Parula often returns to the same nesting site the following year. Sometimes the same nest will be used. So we will be waiting anxiously, looking and listening for the Parulas to return to Happy Valley next year.--JOAN CARR and LES ESTEP, 511 Happy Valley, South Williamson, KY, 41503.

## INDEX TO VOLUMES 73-76, 1997-2000

By BRAINARD L. PALMER-BALL, JR.

The names of participants in the Mid-winter Bird Counts, attendees to Spring and Fall Society Meetings, and contributors to the Seasonal Reports have not been included in this index. The names of bird species recorded on Mid-winter Bird Counts, at Spring and Fall Society Meetings, and in the Seasonal Reports also have not been listed. Species included in lengthy tables typically do not appear.

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## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Spring KOS Meeting at Carter Caves

The Spring KOS meeting will be held at Carter Caves State Park on April 27 through the 29. For room reservations call 1-800-325-0059 before the room release date of March 1, 2001.

### KOS Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Grant Fund

Persons that need money (i.e., up to \$500) to assist them in conducting research on birds in Kentucky should contact the KOS Burt L. Monroe, Jr. Avian Research Grant Fund Committee c/o Blaine Ferrell, Ogden College, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101 (email: [blaine.ferrell@wku.edu](mailto:blaine.ferrell@wku.edu)) for a set of guidelines and an application form.

### Kentucky Bird Records Committee

Rare bird sightings and birds observed out of season should be well documented and the documentation should be sent to Lee McNeely, Secretary of the KBRC, P.O. Box 463, Burlington, Kentucky 41005, for consideration by the committee for official record status.

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