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## Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 78, no. 1)

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# *The Kentucky Warbler*

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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, Ogden College of Science and Engineering  
Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY 42101

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## THE COVER

We thank Chris Sloan for the photograph of the Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) taken on March 17, 2001 at the Wranglers Campground, Land Between the Lakes, Trigg County, Kentucky. (see FIELD NOTE)

## THE FALL MIGRATION, 2001

Fred M. Busroe

The fall season had above normal temperatures and in many areas below normal precipitation. There was a large number of forest fires, especially in eastern Kentucky. These conditions may help explain the variations that many observed in the fall migration. The major warbler movement seems to have occurred during the week of September 20. Some unusual sightings from western Kentucky included Red-necked Grebe, Eared Grebe, and a Great Black-backed Gull. In eastern Kentucky an American Avocet lingered for nearly a week and a Snow Bunting was seen at Minor Clark Fish Hatchery.

**Abbreviations-** WMA= Wildlife Management Area; AWMA= Adair WMA, Boone County; AJJ = A.J.Jolly Park, Campbell County; Ash = Ash Basin Pond, Paradise, Muhlenburg County; Bal = Ballard County; BWMA = Ballard WMA, Ballard County; Bark = Barkley Dam, Lyon County; Barl = Barlow Bottoms WMA, Ballard County; BRSP = Barren River State Park, Barren County; Bar = Barren River Reservoir, Barren County; Bel = Bellevue, Campbell County; Bern = Bernheim Forest, Bullitt/Nelson counties; BBL = Big Bone Lick State Park, Boone County; Bow = Bowling Green, Warren County; Bur= Burlington, Boone County; Camp = Campbell County; Cam= Campbellsville, Taylor County; Can = Caneyville Reservoir, Grayson County; CRL = Cave Run Lake, Bath/Rowan counties; CEL = Camp Ernst Lake, Boone County; EBP = East Bend Power Plant, Boone County; Falls = Falls of Ohio, Jefferson County; Free = Freeman Lake, Hardin County; Ful = Fulton County; Gray = Grayson County; GRL = Green River Lake, Adair/Taylor counties; Hart = Hart County; Hic = Hickman, Fulton County; I#1 = Island number one, Carlisle County; I#8 = Island number eight, Fulton County; JMF = Jefferson County Memorial Forest, Jefferson County; Jon = Jonathan Creek Embayment, Kentucky Lake, Marshall County; KBend = Kentucky Bend, Fulton County; KyLake = Kentucky Lake, Marshall/Trigg counties; Kut = Kuttawa, Lyon County; LaC = LaCenter, Ballard County; LBark= Lake Barkley, Livingston/Lyon/Trigg counties; LBL = Land Between the Lakes, Trigg County; LBR = Laketon Boat Ramp, Carlisle County; L#9 = Lake number nine, Fulton County; LPew = Lake Pewee, Hopkins County; Liv = Livingston County; Log = Logan County; Long = Longpoint WMA, Fulton County; Lou = Louisville, Jefferson County; MCNP = Mammoth Cave National Park, Edmonson County; Mark = Markland Dam, Gallatin County; Mel = Melbourne, Campbell County; Meng = Meng's pond, Warren County; MCFH = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan County; Mic = Mitchell Lake, Ballard County; More = Morehead, Rowan County; Mos = Mosley's Pond, Logan

County; Muh = Muhlenburg County; NKU = Northern Kentucky University, Campbell County; Ohio = Ohio County; PB farm = Palmer-Ball farm, Jefferson County; Pea = Peabody Coal Company, Union County; PWMA = Peabody WMA, Muhlenburg/Ohio counties; Pet = Petersburg, Boone County; PHC = Pleasant Hill Church Road, Cadiz, Trigg County; Rab = Rabbit Hash, Boone County; RRSP = Rough River State Park, Grayson County; Rou = Falls of Rough, Grayson County; Rus = Russellville, Logan County; Saw = "Tom" Sawyer Park, Jefferson County; SC = Short Creek, Grayson County; SWMA = Sloughs WMA, Henderson County; Smi = Smithland Dam, Livingston County; WKW = Western Kentucky University Woods, Warren County; Wild = Wilder, Campbell County; WWMA = Westvaco WMA, Carlisle County.

**RED-THROATED LOON** - 1 on October 31 at KyLake and a juvenile on November 29 at Bar (DR). Documentation to be submitted.

**Common Loon** - 23 on November 3 at Little Bear Creek, KyLake (MB); 60+ on November 10 at GRL (DO).

**Pied-billed Grebe** - 3 on November 13 at Can (JP).

**Horned Grebe** - 2 on November 11 at Falls (DO).

**EARED GREBE** - 1 on September 4 at Bar (DR).

**American White Pelican** - 1 on August 1 at Meng (DR); 17 on November 3 and 18 on November 24 at LBark (MB).

**Double-crested Cormorant** - 15 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 46 on September 15 at Falls (MB), 12 on October 12 at Mark (FR).

**American Bittern** - 1 on October 1 and 18 at Muh and 1 on October 16 in Liv (DR); 2 on October 21 at PWMA (DO).

**Great Blue Heron** - 12 on October 6 at L#9 (KL, BL); 46 on August 25 at Falls (DO).

**Great Egret** - 3 at Mic, 7 at Barl, 23 at Hic, 5 at Cairo Slough, Bal, and 10 at L#9 on August 12 (MB), 1-3 from August 25 - October 6 at Falls (DO); 15 at KBend on September 14 (KL, MN, BPB, DR); 220 on September 30 and 550 on October 6 at L#9 (KL, BL); 1 on November 1 below Smi (MB), 1 on November 11 at Bar (DR).

**Snowy Egret** - 2 at WWMA, 4 at L#9, and 4 at Hic on August 12 (MB); 1 on August 12 at BWMA (DO); 1 on September 30 at LBark (DR); 55 on October 6 at L#9 (KL, BL).

**Little Blue Heron** - 13 at BWMA, 24 at Barl, 10 at I#8 and 30 at L#9 on August 12 (MB); 1 on August 12 at BWMA (DO).

**TRICOLORED HERON** - 1 present in Hart on September 17 (MS). Documentation has been submitted.

**Cattle Egret** - Over 100 were seen on September 10 over Trigg County (WL, PL); 25 on October 16 at KyLake (DR).

**Green Heron** - 1 on October 7 at Mos (MB).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** - 57 on August 25 at Falls (DO); 1 on September 18 at AJJ (FR); 1 on October 28 at Falls (DO); 1 immature on October 29 at AJJ (FR).

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** - 2 juveniles on August 4 at Long (DR).

**Black Vulture** - 6 on September 5 and 14 on October 27 at Falls with 53 on November 10 at GRL (DO); 40 on October 21 at RRSP (JP).

**Turkey Vulture** - 39 on August 25 and 63 on October 27 at Falls (DO), 14 on September 1 in Gray and 15 on October 21 at RRSP (JP).

**Greater White-fronted Goose** - 3 on October 20 and 12 on October 27 at SWMA (DO).

**Snow Goose** - 1 on October 20 at CRL and 2 on October 30 at MCFH (FB); 1 blue morph on October 27 at SWMA (DO).

**Canada Goose** - 108 at Cairo Slough, Bal and 20 at L#9 on August 12 (MB); 4 on September 5 at Falls (DO).

**Wood Duck** - 15 on August 12 at L#9 (MB); 1 on August 26 and 6 on October 7 at Falls (DO); 16 on September 18 at AJJ (FR); 4 on October 14 in Gray (JP).

**Gadwall** - 7+ on October 6 at Falls (DO); 11 on November 3 at Boyd's Landing, LBark (MB); 35 on November 17 at Goose Ponds, CRL (FB).

**American Wigeon** - First seen at LBL on October 1 (WL, PL); 1 on October 6 at Falls (DO).

**American Black Duck** - 14 on October 20 at SWMA (DO).

**Mallard** - 40 on August 12 at L#9 (MB); 35 at KBend and L#9 on October 6 (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 122 on September 15 at Falls (DO), 40 on October 6 at L#9 (KL, BL).

**Blue-winged Teal** - 5 on August 12 at L#9 (MB); 6 on September 6 and 7 on September 15 at Falls (DO); 16 on September 14 at KBend and 25 on September 16 at L#9 (KL *et al.*).

**Northern Shoveler** - 2 on August 24 at WWMA (MB); 5 on October 1 at LBL (WL, PL); 5 on November 3 at Jon (MB).

**Northern Pintail** - 4 on October 6 at Falls and 5 on October 20 at SWMA (DO); 1 male on October 1 at LBL (WL, PL); 12 on October 6 at L#9 (KL, MN, BPB, DR).

**Green-winged Teal** - 160+ on October 20 at SWMA (DO).

**Canvasback** - 4 on November 3 at LBark (MB).

**Redhead** - 1 on October 27 at SWMA (DO).

**Ring-necked Duck** - 5 on October 21 at LPew (DO); 20 on November 17 at Goose Ponds, CRL (FB).

**Greater Scaup** - 13 on November 3 at LBark (MB).

**Lesser Scaup** - 1 on October 27 at Falls (DO); 1500+ on November 3 on LBark (MB).

**White-winged Scoter** - 1 on October 31 at LBark (DR).

**Bufflehead** - 2 on October 27 at Falls (DO); 50 on November 3 on LBark (MB); 10 on November 17 at Goose Ponds, CRL (FB).

**Ruddy Duck** - 67 on October 21 at LPew (DO); 5 on November 3 on LBark (MB).

**Osprey** - 2 on August 12 at PWMA with 2 at Falls on September 15, 21 and October 7 (DO); 1 on August 15 at PWMA (MB); 1 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 19 at Rab (LMc); 1 on October 30 at MCFH (LK).

**Mississippi Kite** - 1 on August 12 at BWMA and 4 on August 24 at WWMA (MB).

**Bald Eagle** - 1 on August 12 at LBR (MB); 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 19 at EBP (LMc); 1 on September 26 at BRSP (JE); 2 adults on October 20 at SWMA (DO); 3 on November 13 at L#9 (KL, NM).

**Northern Harrier** - 2 on September 30 at L#9 (KL, BL); 2 on October 20 at SWMA (DO); 2 on November 14 at More (FB); 1 on November 25 in Gray with 1 on November 29 in Ohio County (JP).

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** - 1 on August 9, September 28 and November 22 in Hart (MS); 1 on September 2 in Gray (JP); 1 on September 15 at JMF (DO).

**Cooper's Hawk** - 1 on August 24 at WWMA (MB); 1 on August 31 in Hart (MS); 1 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 20 in Lou (DO); 1 on November 1 at Bel (FR).

**Red-shouldered Hawk** - 1 at BWMA and Bal on August 12 with 2 on November 19 at PWMA (MB).

**Broad-winged Hawk** - 2 on August 17 at Bel (FR); 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 29 near SC (JP).

**Rough-legged Hawk** - 1 north of Bark and 1 in Christian County on November 2 (WL, PL).

**American Kestrel** - 12 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB).

**Merlin** - 1 on September 13 at Bark and 1 on September 14 at Long (DR); 1 on October 3 at KBend and November 19 at L#9 (KL, NM); 1 on November 4 at Long (KL, BL).

**Peregrine Falcon** - 1 adult on September 6 at Falls (DO).

**Virginia Rail** - 1 on October 16 in Liv (DR); 2 on October 20 at SWMA (DO); 2 on October 20 in Henderson County and 1 on October 25 in Ohio (DR).

**Sora** - 4 on October 20 at SWMA (DO).

**Sandhill Crane** - 24 on November 10 at GRL, 61 on November 11 at Bern (DO); 8 on November 12 in Hart (MS); 42 on November 21 at Bur (LMc); 85+ on November 27 in Hart (MS).

**Black-bellied Plover** - 4 on September 14 and 2 on October 7 at KBend (KL *et al.*).

**American Golden Plover** - 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 15 at Falls (DO).

**Semipalmated Plover** - 3 in Bal and 5 at L#9 on August 12 with 20 at L#9 and 5 at I#1 on August 24 (MB); 1 on August 26 and September 5 at Falls (DO); 5 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR).

**Killdeer** - 60 on August 26 at Falls (DO); 70 on September 2 at Panther Creek Park, Daviess County (JP), 100+ on October 21 and 150+ on October 30 at MCFH (FB); 55 on November 13 at L#9 (KL, BL).

**Black-necked Stilt** - 5 on August 24 at L#9 (MB).

**American Avocet** - 1 from October 27 - 30 at MCFH (FB, LK, *et al.*).

**Greater Yellowlegs** - 2 on August 12, 20 on August 24 at L#9 with 4 below Smi on November 3 (MB); 2 on October 26, 5 on October 27 and 4 on October 30 at MCFH (FB).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** - 40 on August 12 and 50 on August 24 at L#9 (MB); 3 on August 23 and 1 on October 7 at Falls (DO); a high number of 35 at L#9 on October 6 (KL, BL); 1 on October 20, 2 on October 26 and 4 on October 30 at MCFH (FB).

**Solitary Sandpiper** - 3 on August 12 in Bal (MB); 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR).

**Spotted Sandpiper** - 2 at each of the following: Bal, LBR and L#9 on August 12 (MB); 2 on August 25 and September 13 at Falls (DO).

**Upland Sandpiper** - 1 on September 14 at KBend (DR, KL, NM, BPB).

**Sanderling** - 2 on August 24 at I#1 (MB); 16 on September 14 and 8 on October 7 at KBend (KL *et al.*); 1 on October 28 at Falls (DO).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** - 26 in Bal, 30 at L#9 on August 12, 25 at Ash, 50 at L#9 on August 15 and 20 on August 24 at I#1 (MB); 3 on August 26 at Falls (DO).

**Western Sandpiper** - 5 on November 3 at Jon (MB).

**Least Sandpiper** - 23 in Bal, and 10 at L#9 on August 12, 25 on August 14 at Ash, 100 at L#9 and 30 at I#1 on August 24, 20 on November 3 at Jon and 3 on November 19 at Ash (MB); 78 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 3 on September 15 at Falls (DO); 34 on September 16 at L#9 (KL, BL, BPB, DR); 22 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 3 at Pet from November 3 - 24 (LMc).

**White-rumped Sandpiper** - 1 on October 21 at MCFH (FB).

**Pectoral Sandpiper** - 5 on August 12 and 80 on August 24 at L#9 with 10 at I#1



on August 24 (MB); 5 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 15 at Falls (DO); 6 on October 21 and 26 at MCFH (FB).

**Dunlin** - 2 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 1 on October 21 at Ash (DO); 8 on October 21, 5 on October 26 and 2 on October 30 at MCFH (FB); 16 on November 11 at Jon (MB).

**Stilt Sandpiper** - 1 in Ball and L#9 on August 12 with 10 at L#9 and 3 at WWMA on August 24 (MB); 1 on September 9 at Pet (LMc); 4 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on October 21 at Ash (DO).

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** - 1 on August 26, September 1 and September 5 at Falls (DO).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** - 2 on August 24 at L#9 (MB).

**Dowitcher sp.** - 3 on August 26 at Falls (DO).

**Common Snipe** - 18+ on October 20 at SWMA (DO); 1 on October 28 at MCFH (FB); 5 on November 3 at Jon and 10 on November 11 at Mos (MB); 1 on November 10 in Gray (JP).

**Franklin's Gull** - 45 on October 4, 43 on October 15, and 25 on October 24 at KyLake (DR).

**Bonaparte's Gull** - 4 on October 28 at dam of CRL (FB); 30+ on November 10 at GRL (DO).

**Ring-billed Gull** - 4 on September 6, 7 on September 15 and 14 on October 6 at Falls (DO); first fall observation on November 6 at MCFH (FB).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** - 1 seen regularly from September 28 through the season on KyLake and LBark (DR),

**GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL** - 1 first year bird on October 4 at KyLake (DR). Documentation has not been submitted.

**Caspian Tern** - 12 on August 23, 15 on September 5, and 6 on September 21 at Falls (DO); 1 on October 31 at Smi (DR).

**Common Tern** - 1 on September 19 at Jon, 3 on September 30 at Smi, and 1 on October 4 at KyLake (DR); 1 on October 31 at Jon (WL, PL).

**Forster's Tern** - 70+ on November 3 at Jon (MB); 1 on November 10 at GRL (DO).

**Least Tern** - 1 at WWMA, 5 at Hic, and 9 at L#9 on August 12 with 14 on August 24 at WWMA (MB).

**Eurasian-Collared Dove** - 4 at LaC, 3 at Hic on August 12 (MB, DO); 2 to 6 in Rus during August and September (MB); 1 on September 5 at Bow (DR).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo** - 1 on September 22 at Saw (DO).

**Eastern Screech-Owl** - 1 on September 1 at SC (3P); 1 on September 4, and 2 on September 6 at Bel (FR); 1 on September 21 and October 29 in Hart (MS); 1 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB).

**Great Horned Owl** - 2 on August 21 at Rou (JP); 2 juveniles heard weekly during the period, plus 1 adult on October 29, two adults on October 30-31 and 1

- adult on November 18 and 29 in Hart (MS).
- Barred Owl** - 1 on October 20 at SWMA (DO); 1 on October 8 and November 18 in Hart (MS); 2 calling in Harlan County on November 2 (FB).
- Short-eared Owl** - 6 on November 11 in Muh (DR).
- Northern Saw-whet Owl** - 1 on November 10 at PB farm (DO).
- Whip-poor-will** - 1 on September 15 at JMF (DO).
- Chimney Swift** - 170+ on October 7 at Falls (DO).
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** - 1 on November 2 in Bow (DR).
- Red-headed Woodpecker** - 1 on September 1 at SC, 1 on September 2 in Daviess County and 1 on October 28 at Can (JP); 2 on October 3 at KBend (KL, NM); 6 on October 29 at AJJ (FR).
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** - 1 on September 22 at MCNP (JE); 1 on November 9 in Cam (FR); 1 on November 10 at SC and 1 on November 11 in Gray (JP).
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** - 1 at Devil's Elbow, LBL on September 28 (MB).
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** - 1 on September 10 at MCNP (JE).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** - 1 on August 22 at SC (JP), 1 on September 15 at JMF (DO); 5+ on September 25 at Devil's Elbow, LBL (MB); 1 on October 17 at BRSP (JE).
- Least Flycatcher** - 1 seen and heard on September 15 at LBL (WL, PL); 1 on September 16 at WKW (JE).
- Loggerhead Shrike** - 1 on August 9 in Gray (JP); 2 on September 14 and October 7 at KBend (KL, *et al.*).
- White-eyed Vireo** - 3 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 22 at Saw (DO); 5 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB).
- Blue-headed Vireo** - 1 on October 5 at LBL (WL, PL); 1 on October 6 at Saw (DO); 1 on November 11 at WKW (JE).
- Philadelphia Vireo** - 5 on September 20 at MCNP (JE); 1 on September 22 and 23 at Saw (DO); 1 on September 25 in LBL (WL, PL); 1 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB).
- Fish Crow** - 4 at LBR and Mitchell Lake, Bal on August 12 (MB, DO); 3 on September 14 and 12 on October 3 at KBend (KL, *et al.*); 1 on October 4 at Smi (DR).
- Horned Lark** - 31 on September 13 and 12 on October 3 at KBend (KL, *et al.*); 35 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 2+ on October 21 at Ash (DO); 250 on November 22 in field in Log (MB).
- Tree Swallow** - 59 on October 6 at Falls and 14 on October 21 at PWMA (DO), 30 on October 14 at Can (JP).
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow** - A high number of 670 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 4 on October 14 at Can (JP); 1 on October 28 at MCFH (FB).
- Barn Swallow** - 15 on August 9 at Can (JP); 1 on October 20 at SWMA (DO); 1 on a rather late date of November 11 at Bar (DR).

- Red-breasted Nuthatch** - 1 on September 12 at WKW, 2 on September 22 at MCNP and 6 on September 26 at BRSP (JE); 1 on September 28 and 29, 2 on October 2 and 1 on October 14 and 15 in Cam (FR); 3 on October 20 near dam of CRL (FB); 1 on November 2 and 29 at Bel (FR); 1 on November 11 at PB farm (DO); 3 on November 19 at PWMA (MB).
- Brown Creeper**- First seen at LBL on October 7 (WL, PL); 2 on October 27 at SWMA, Union County (DO).
- House Wren** - 1 on September 23 at Saw and 1 on October 21 at PWMA (DO).
- Winter Wren** - 1 on October 6 at Saw (DO); 2 on October 28 at MCNP (LMc).
- Sedge Wren** - 1 on September 25 at Devil's Elbow, LBL (MB); 1 on October 20 at SWMA (DO); 1 on November 6 in Ohio (DR).
- Marsh Wren** - 1 on October 6 and October 28 at Saw (DO); 1 on November 6 in Muh and Ohio (DR).
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** - Numerous at LBL between October 2 and 7 (WL, PL); 3 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 1 on October 7 at LBL (MB); 2 on October 21 at LPew (DO); 3 on October 15 in Cam (FR); 5 on November 19 at PWMA (MB).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** - 1 on September 15 in Cam (FR), 1 on October 6 and 3 on October 7 at Saw (DO); 1 on October 7 at Mos (MB); 3 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); several observations October 2 - 7 at LBL (WP, PL); 1 on November 11 in Gray (JP).
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** - 20+ on September 9 at WKW (JE).
- Veery** - 4 on September 10 at MCNP (JE).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush** - 1 on October 6 at Saw (DO).
- Swainson's Thrush** - 1 on September 22 at Saw (DO); 15+ on September 20 at MCNP (JE).
- Hermit Thrush** - First fall observations on October 12 at LBL (WL, PL); 1 on November 4 at Can and 1 on November 11 in Gray (JP); 1 on November 17 in Lou (DO); 1 on November 19 at PWMA (MB).
- Wood Thrush** - 1 on September 15 at JMF (DO).
- American Robin** - Approximately 1500 on October 3 and 2200 on October 24 at NKU (FR).
- Gray Catbird** - 1 on November 15 at Bow (JE).
- American Pipit** - 3 on September 15 at Falls and 2 on November 10 at Free (DO); 3 on November 6 at MCFH (FB).
- Cedar Waxwing** - 2 on August 19, 22, and 28 at SC (JP); 150+ on September 20 at MCNP (JE).
- Blue-winged Warbler** - 1 on August 26 at WKW (JE); 3 on September 1 at AWMA (LMc).

- Golden-winged Warbler** - 1 female on August 26 at WKW, 3 on September 10 and 4 on September 20 at MCNP (JE).
- Tennessee Warbler** - 15 on September 1 at AWMA (LMc); 4 on September 2 at WKW and 25+ at MCNP (JE); 1 on September 21 at SC (JP); 3 on September 22 at Saw (DO); 10 at BBL on September 15 (LMc); 1 on October 6 and 5 on October 7 at Saw (DO); 3 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB).
- Orange-crowned Warbler** - Several observations at LBL between September 20 and October 19 (WL, PL); 1 below the dam on September 26 at BRSP and 2 on October 17 at WKW (JE).
- Nashville Warbler** - 1 on September 2 and 2 on October 17 at WKW (JE); 2 on September 15 and 3 on October 7 in Lou (DO).
- Northern Parula** - 1 on September 23 at Saw (DO).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler** - 3 on August 26 at WKW with 10+ on September 10 at MCNP (JE).
- Magnolia Warbler** - 2 on August 26 at WKW and 20+ on September 10 at MCNP (JE); 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 16 at Bel (FR); 1 on September 22 at Saw (DO), 1 on September 22 at SC and 2 on September 23 in Gray (JP); 4 on October 7 at Mos (MB); 3 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB).
- Cape May Warbler** - 1 on September 28 in Camp (FR); 1 on October 2 at LBL (WL, PL); 1 male on October 17 at WKW (JE).
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** - 2 on September 26 at BRSP (JE); 1 on October 1 with larger numbers on October 10 at LBL (WL, PL); 1 on October 7 at Saw (DO); 30+ on October 7 at WKW (JE), 9 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 12 on October 20 at SC (JP); 150+ on October 21 and 100+ on October 26 at MCFH (FB).
- Black-throated Green Warbler** - 2 on September 9 at WKW and 15+ on September 20 at MCNP (JE); 1 on September 23 in Gray (JP); 1 on September 23 and October 6 at Saw (DO); 1 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 1 on October 27 at WKW (JE).
- Blackburnian Warbler** - 1 on September 2 at WKW (JE); 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 2 seen on October 2 - 3 at LBL (WL, PL).
- Pine Warbler** - 1 on September 15 in JMF (DO); 1 on September 28 in Camp (FR); 1 on November 25 at Cave Hill Cemetery, Lou (JE).
- Prairie Warbler** - 1 on October 21 at RRSP, 1 on November 10 at SC and 1 on November 16 in Gray (JP).
- Palm Warbler** - 3 on September 10 in Camp (FR); 1 on September 22 at Saw (DO); 5+ on September 26 at LBL and 1 on October 6 at Rus (MB); 1 on October 6 - 7 at Saw (DO); 1 on October 7 at LBL (WL, PL); 4 on October 11 in Camp (FR).
- Bay-breasted Warbler** - 1 on September 3 at WKW and 20+ on September 20 at MCNP (JE); several observations at LBL from October 1 - 7 (WL, PL).

- Cerulean Warbler** - 1 on September 28 at Kut was exceptionally late (DR).
- Black-and-White Warbler** - 2 on September 22 at Saw (DO); 25+ on September 22 at MCNP (JE).
- American Redstart** - 1 on August 26 and 15+ on September 20 at MCNP (JE); 3 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 5 on September 15 at BBL (LMc); 4 on September 15 at JMF (DO).
- Prothonotary Warbler** - 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR).
- Ovenbird** - 8 on September 20 at MCNP (JE); 1 at Saw on September 22-23 (DO).
- Northern Waterthrush** - 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 15 at CEL (LMc); 2 on September 16 at L#9 (KL, BL, BPB, DR); 1 on September 20 at MCNP (JE).
- Kentucky Warbler** - 1 on August 15 at Mel (FR).
- Mourning Warbler** - 1 on September 20 in Gray (JP); 1 on September 22 at Saw (DO).
- Wilson's Warbler** - 1 on August 26 at WKW (JE); 1 on September 1 at AWMA (LMc), 2 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 1 on September 15 at JMF (DO); 1 male on September 20 at LBL (WL, PL).
- Common Yellowthroat** - 2 on August 9 in Gray (JP); 1 on September 15 at Saw (DO); 2 on October 6 at Rus and 3 on October 7 at Mos (MB).
- Scarlet Tanager** - 20+ on September 10 at MCNP (JE).
- Eastern Towhee** - 5 on September 15 at JMF (DO).
- Chipping Sparrow** - 30 on September 28 and 20 on October 11 in Camp (FR); 3 on October 6 at Rus (MB); 3 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 2 on October 27 at PB farm (DO).
- Vesper Sparrow** - 1 on October 20 at SWMA and 1 on October 21 at PWMA (DO); 1 on November 9 in Liv (DR).
- Savannah Sparrow** - 3 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 15+ on October 21 at PWMA (DO); 3 on October 30 at MCFH (FB); 2 on November 3 below Bark (MB).
- Grasshopper Sparrow** - 1 on October 9 in Muh and 1 on October 18 in Ohio (DR); 1 on October 21 at PWMA (DO).
- Henslow's Sparrow** - 3 on August 12 and October 21 at PWMA (DO); 5 on August 15 on the Sinclair Unit of PWMA (MB); 2 on November 6 in Muh (DR).
- Le Conte's Sparrow** - 2 on October 9 and 1 on October 18 in Muh, 1 on October 25 in Ohio with 1 on November 6 in Muh (DR).
- Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** - 1 on October 9 in Ohio, 2 on October 16 in Liv, 2 on October 18 in Ohio and 1 on October 20 in Henderson County (DR); 1 on October 21 at PWMA (DO).
- Fox Sparrow** - 1 on November 15 at MCFH (FB); 1 on November 19 at PWMA (MB).

**Lincoln's Sparrow** - 1 on October 3 at Rus (MB); 1 on October 8 at BBL (LMc); 1 on October 5 at LBL (WL, PL); 1 on October 17 at Bel (FR); 1 on October 21 at PWMA (DO).

**Swamp Sparrow** - 2 on September 25 at LBL (MB); 1 on October 7 at Saw (DO); 3 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); several seen in LBL after October 15 (WL, PL); 9 on November 13 at L#9 (KL, NM).

**White-throated Sparrow** - Seen regularly after October 11 at LBL (WL, PL); 2 on October 21 at PWMA (DO).

**White-crowned Sparrow** - 1 on October 11 at LBL (WL, PL); 1 on October 21 at PWMA (DO); as many as 12 from November 12 to end of period in Hart (MS).

**Dark-eyed Junco** - 1 on September 28 in Camp (FR); 8 on October 17 at WKW (JE); 6 on October 14 at Can (JP); 1 on October 27 at SWMA (DO); 300 on November 4 at Long (KL, BL).

**Lapland Longspur** - 7 on November 22 near Cave Spring, Log (MB).

**Snow Bunting** - 1 on November 7, a first observation at MCFH (FB, LK, EM).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** - 5 on September 22 at MCNP (JE); 1 on September 23 and October 6 at Saw (DO); 2 on October 7 at Mos (MB); 3 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB).

**Blue Grosbeak** - 1 on August 8 and 14 at Wil (FR); 1 on August 10 near RRSP (JP); 1 on August 12 at PWMA (DO); 2 immatures on October 7 in Hart (MS).

**Indigo Bunting** - Approximately 100 on September 14 at KBend (KL, NM, BPB, DR); 10+ on October 6 at Rus (MB); 16 on October 7 at KBend (KL, BL, BPB); 2 were at PHC until October 12 (WL, PL).

**Bobolink** - 3 on September 30 at SC (JP).

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** - 2 adult males on October 27 at Pea (DO).

**Purple Finch** - 1 on October 8 at BBL (LMc); 2 on October 29 at AJJ (FR); first observed at PHC on November 20 (PL).

**Pine Siskin** - 5 on October 20 in Christian County (WL, PL); 1 on October 30 in Warren County (JE); 1 on November 1 at Bel (FR); 3 on November 11 at Mos (MB); 1 on November 8 at SC (JP).

**Contributors** - Mark Bennett (MB), Fred Busroe (FB), Jackie Elmore (JE), Lewis Kornman (LK), Betty Leggett (BL), Ken Leggett (KL), Paula Lisowsky (PL), William Lisowsky (WL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Nancy Moore (NM), Evelyn Morgan (EM), Darrin O'Brien (DO), Brainard Palmer-Ball (BPB), Joyce Porter (JP), Frank Renfrow (FR), David Roemer (DR), Mitchell Sturgeon (MS).

## MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT 2001-2002

Reports of 26 counts were received from across the Commonwealth. A total of 123 species was recorded on count days, 119 of which are represented on the table. Those species observed on count days not represented on the table include: American Bittern (1, Paradise), Blue-winged Teal, Glaucous Gull (1 each, Land Between the Lakes), Lesser Black-backed Gull (6, Land Between the Lakes), Brewer's Blackbird (1, Danville). There were 20 species observed on all counts and 7 species observed only on one count.

Temperatures were very mild on average throughout the count period. The low temperature was 10°F in Shelbyville on December 30 and the high temperature at 60°F in Bowling Green on December 16. The mild temperatures may have contributed to the reduced numbers of Canada Geese, several species of waterfowl, the absence of Snow Buntings, and the much lower number of Lapland Longspurs (1604 last year compared with 21 this year). American Tree Sparrow numbers dropped back to more normal numbers and Vesper Sparrows seemed to crop up on a number of counts. Other species which seemed to be represented in higher numbers were Double-crested Cormorant, Hooded Merganser, Bald Eagle, Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite, Killdeer, Belted Kingfisher, American Pipit, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, and Eastern Bluebird. The Eurasian Collared-Dove did not appear to increase in numbers.

Thanks to the many observers and compilers who participated in this year's count. Also, thanks to compilers who submitted documentation for unusual species to the editor and to the Kentucky Bird Records Committee.

Frank Bennett (compiler), Andrea Douglas and Terri Treacy conducted a count in southern Illinois that extends into McCracken County, Kentucky. This Marmet Lake/Massac County Count was conducted December 31 on a clear to partly cloudy day with a temperature range of 12°F to 23°F. The species observed in the Kentucky portion are as follows: 5 Great Blue Herons, 2 Mallards, 1 adult Bald Eagle, 2 Northern Harriers, 10 Red-tailed Hawks, 9 American Kestrels, 29 Northern Bobwhites, 2 Killdeer, 5 Ring-billed Gulls, 2 Belted Kingfishers, 17 Red-headed Woodpeckers, 19 Red-bellied Woodpeckers, 7 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, 9 Downy Woodpeckers, 7 Northern Flickers, 1 Pileated Woodpecker, 1(cw) Loggerhead Shrike, 44 Blue Jays, 4 American Crows, 57 Carolina Chickadees, 14 Tufted Titmice, 2 White-breasted Nuthatches, 1 Brown Creeper, 6 Carolina Wrens, 1 Golden-crowned Kinglet, 3 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 15 Eastern Bluebirds, 49 American Robins, 7 Northern Mockingbirds, 1 Brown Thrasher, 420 European Starlings, 51 Cedar Waxwings, 33 Yellow-rumped Warblers, 16 Eastern Towhees, 5 American Tree Sparrows, 11 Field Sparrows, 14 Song Sparrows, 4 Swamp Sparrows, 121 White-throated Sparrows, 17 Dark-eyed Juncos, 54 Northern Cardinals, 56 Red-winged Blackbirds, 5 Eastern Meadowlarks, 5059 Common Grackles, and 1 Purple Finch.

**Ballard County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1984). Habitat as described in 1984. Dec. 31; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky mostly clear; temp. 15° to 30° F; wind NW-W, 0-10 m.p.h. Water partly frozen. The day was cold, but otherwise weather conditions were excellent for the count.

Four observers in 2 parties. Total party-hours 13 (7 on foot, 6 by car). Total party-miles 90 (2 on foot, 88 by car). Hours owling 0.5. Total species 86; total individuals 117,796. The species total (86) represents a new high for this count, eclipsing the previous high count of 79 species in December 1999.

Observers: Hap Chambers, Roseanna Denton, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), and Scott Record.

Highlights of the count included a good variety of waterfowl including approximately 350 Greater White-fronted Geese, at least 3 Ross's Geese, approximately 20,000 Snow Geese, at least 80 Northern Shovelers, a state record high count of 550 Green-winged Teal (506 counted in one group), two Canvasbacks, one Red-head, five Common Goldeneye, and one Ruddy Duck. A House Wren, heard scolding and then briefly observed in a brushy area along Bethel Church Road in western McCracken County, was the day's only passerine surprise. Red-headed Woodpeckers, missed completely the previous year, were back in full force; a conservative total of 56 was tallied in only a few hours of looking in the bottomland forests. The day began with two American Woodcocks performing their aerial courtship display on the West Kentucky WMA in the frigid conditions of the 15-degree dawn.

**Calloway County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Douglas Cemetery.) Habitat 25% urban and residential, 20% deciduous and pine woods, 35% open fields, 20% lake shore and streams. Dec 29; 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 15° to 32°F; wind SW, 5-10 m.p.h.

Nine observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours 25 (10 on foot, 15 by car). Total party-miles 209 (8 on foot, 201 by car). Total species 86; total individuals 9,255.

Observers: Hap Chambers (compiler), Melissa Easley, Joe Tom Erwin, Mike Miller, Dr. Mercer, Clell Peterson, Shari Sherwood, Tommy Sherwood, and Wendell Webb.

**Land Between the Lakes** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Pisgah Bay picnic ground.) Habitat as described in 1984 in *American Birds*. Dec. 15; 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy in the a.m., cloudy in the p.m.; temp. 41° to 54° F; wind, 4-12 m.p.h.

Twenty five observers in 12 parties. Total party-hours 51.5 (32.5 on foot, 19.0 by car). Total party-miles 281.5 (21.5 on foot, 260 by car). Total species 90; total individuals 17,520.

Observers: Mark Bennett, Richard Cassell, Hap Chambers, Karen Clement, Dick Cook, Melissa Easley, Joe Tom Erwin, Dan Gladis, Adam Green, Judy Hallisey, Bob Head, Bill Lisowsky, Paula Lisowsky, Carl Mowery (compiler), Kathy Mowery, Pat Osborn, John Pollpeter, Darrin Samborski, Tommy Sherwood, Jami Sims, Wendell Webb, Steve White, Robert Wright, Paula Yambert, and Avira Yasgur.

There were 13 adult and 3 immature Bald Eagles on the count day.

**Sorgho** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Hwy. 279-S and Audubon Parkway intersection.) Habitat river, roadsides, woods, farmland, creek, lakes, and includes a state, county, and city park. Dec. 29; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



[illegible]



[illegible]

BROWN THRASHER	10	3	2	5	2	1	2	1	3	29																	
EUROPEAN STARLING	3855	2608	127	1808	500	4271	1611	6967	3091	87	1700	2900	7647	2157	555	11117	1115	2566	156	3328	4013	671	1457	298	2462	12098	79165
AMERICAN PIPT	1					170																				291	
CEDAR WAXWING	11	9	94				65	25	337	103	72	291	135		23	16	15			2	11	3	3	5	14	59	1293
YEL-RUMPED WARBLER	12	3	34	3	7	173	60	48	29	31	106	33	ew	42	10	75	75	12	1	35	18	62	9	35	100	1013	
PINE WARBLER									1	1															3		
PALM WARBLER									1																1	2	
EASTERN TOWHEE	25	22	66	11	13	6	28	48	17	9	20	20	13	1	3	7	2	31	2	3	5	48	55	28	25	50	558
AM. TREE SPARROW	13	1			2	2	103				13	5	8					13			58	23		2		232	
CHIPPING SPARROW														3				1	1	3						8	
FIELD SPARROW	39	7	42	22		2	32	8	2	15	2	43	6		22	12	3	39	3	1	5	7	5	39	82	438	
VESPER SPARROW	2	17	1				ew																	3		23	
SAVANNAH SPARROW	1	8		2	3	25	6		1									3							1	50	
FOX SPARROW	1	3	5	2	1	8	8	3	1	3	5							4			2		3		11	61	
SONG SPARROW	47	16	60	18	46	11	296	86	55	36	47	84	153	28	40	71	16	120	7	74	95	45	71	78	154	288	2042
SWAMP SPARROW	9	7	28			7	177	7		1	3	15	15		55		17				4		3	3	6	357	
WHITE-THR. SPARROW	131	96	528	23	19	36	164	200	131	102	32	104	350	9	36	91	26	64	5	36	94	41	129	38	190	259	2816
WHITE-CK. SPARROW	23	15	2	1	7	2	24	23	7	9	12	15	11	28	12	43	5	54	18	2	31		81	47	472		
DARK-EYED JUNCO	100	225	1115	54	62	55	314	94	62	109	197	279	187	107	27	110	24	237	101	114	183	133	58	83	30	415	4475
LAPLAND LONGSPUR	1					1	10														1	8				21	
NORTHERN CARDINAL	105	91	132	121	74	57	262	110	94	17	108	144	318	106	45	118	51	154	152	377	120	128	102	76	117	405	3584
RED-W. BLACKBIRD	10510	291	29		125	130	2941	547	35				73		3000			25	2	1	1	24	3		145	17882	
EAST. MEADOWLARK	11	54		2	39	102	56	36	4		51	5	19	18	33	25	53			65	14	15	2	17	34	109	764
RUSTY BLACKBIRD	16	5				12	37	20	30					1												51	
COMMON GRACKLE	51605	831	272	5011000	150	7960	2002	162		4	25	50	5000					704			20			1	104269	184105	
BROWN-H. COWBIRD	10	100	2	34	5	5	4	608		10	5		800					8			120	2	1		2	1716	
PURPLE FINCH	35	58	42	6	37	43	14	362	55		9	8	39	2	29			2		1	1	8	4		14	261	
HOUSE FINCH											95	83	188	104	3	155	22	65		133	344	68	50	25	48	396	2431
PINE SISKIN										2	1							4					1	3		12	
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	23	38	63	40	49	34	282	64	109	62	154	102	285	54	49	99	74	53	95	135	101	92	55	150	213	2475	
HOUSE SPARROW	81	82	84	113	40	166	17	345	48	7	7	51	254	345	273	112	35	260	7	120	665	26	22	10	52	209	3431
DAY OF COUNT	D31	D29	D15	D29	D15	D27	D30	D16	D29	D19	J5	D22	D16	D30	D31	D15	D29	D27	D29	D29	D15	D29	D15	D22	D15	J5	
NUMBER OF SPECIES	86	86	90	43	54	64	86	68	72	51	60	67	77	52	57	52	69	65	38	59	67	63	64	53	63	77	
INDIVIDUALS	117796	9255	17520	3003	12887	6584	15758	15173	7859	2276	4192	7050	17921	4759	11262	4101	3626	7382	1711	6847	9842	3166	3917	1874	5369	223317	
OBSERVERS	4	9	25	11	13	3	11	10	5	6	5	14	35	9	9	11	4	11	4	27	25	11	6	5	13	15	

Sky cloudy with snow, turning clear by noon; temp. 20° to 32°F; wind 0-10 m.p.h. Most ponds and lakes were frozen.

Eleven observers in 4 parties. Total party-hours 18 (12.5 on foot, 5.5 by car). Total party-miles 73.5 (14.5 on foot, 59 by car). Total species 43; total individuals 3,003. There were many Ring-billed Gulls around parking lots. Observers: Betty Davis, Chip Carpenter, Brenda Eaden, Tony Eaden, Steve Hahus, Mike Henshaw, Janet Howard (compiler), Bill Little, Brenda Little, Sissy McNulty, and Carolyn Williamson.

**Yelvington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center intersection of Hwy. 405 and 662). Habitat: Fields, woods, Yellow Creek Park, Carpenter's Lake, Kingfisher Lake, Ohio River bottoms, Ohio River, and Blackford Creek. Dec. 15; 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sky overcast and intermittent sun; temp. 43°F to 48°F; wind 5-10 m.p.h. Comfortable.

Thirteen observers in 4 parties. Total party-hours 16. Total party-miles 115 (4 on foot, 111 by car). Total species 54; total individuals 12,887.

Observers: Grace Ford, Joe Ford, Steve Hahus, Mike Henshaw, Jan Howard, Jody Jones, Mary Kissel, A.L. Powell (compiler), Roseann Radzelovage, Rob Rold, Marilee Thompson, Carolyn Williams, and Eric Williams.

Additional comments: The finding of 44 Bluebirds is worthy of note. The large number of grackles is to be expected at this time of year. The finding of nine Red-breasted Nuthatches is most unusual in that we normally get only 1 or 2, and then mostly at feeders.

We were fortunate in having three members of the Department of Fish and Wildlife help on this count; Rob Rold, Mike Henshaw, and Eric Williams. They are excellent birders. We were happy to have Marilee Thompson, past president of our beloved Kentucky Ornithological Society participate. We had 18 species at the Powell's feeders.

**Olmstead** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at the junction of Ky 1041 and Ky 1151.) Habitat approximately 75% is cultivated farmland. The remaining habitat includes blocks of deciduous woods, fencerows, pasture, grown-up fields, developed areas, and open water. Dec. 27; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 1.5 hours of owling. Sky overcast early, changing to mostly clear; temp. 19° to 41°F; wind, sustained 5-20 m.p.h, gusts to 30 m.p.h. Small bodies of water and ground were frozen.

Three observers in 1 party, plus 2 feeder watchers. Total party-hours 10 (2 on foot, 8 by car). Total party-miles 105 (1 on foot, 104 by car). Total species 64; total individuals 6,584.

Observers: Mark Bennett (compiler), Frank Lyne, and David Roemer, plus feeder watchers Alison Lyne and Tommie Gail Bennett.

Additional comments: Ring-billed Gull was a count first and starlings were abnormally high in number. There were also good numbers of Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels. The 170 American Pipits were an additional highlight.

**Paradise** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1993). Habitat as described in 1993. Jan. 5; 5:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky variably cloudy to mostly clear; temp. 30° to 42° F; wind W-SW, 0-10 m.p.h. Water partly frozen.

Eighteen observers in 7 parties. Total party-hours 51 (26 on foot, 25 by car). Total party-miles 224 (19 on foot, 205 by car). Total species 90; total individuals 20,958.

Observers: Michael Autin, Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Mark Bennett, Amy Covert, Hap Chambers, Julie Craves, Mike Henshaw, Mark Monroe (MM), Darrin O'Brien (DO), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Robert Rold, David Roemer, Steve Thomas, Mark Vukovich (MV), Mary Walter (MWr), Major Waltman (MWn), and Eric Williams.

A variably cloudy to mostly clear sky, above-freezing temperatures and light breezes made for good birding conditions. The species total (90) is slightly above average for this count. Three additional species were observed during the count week: Common Snipe, Herring Gull and Vesper Sparrow, the latter closely observed and well-described on the Ken-Homestead Unit of Peabody WMA in Ohio Co. (MM; MV). Highlights of the count included the American Bittern (DO, *et al.*; a second winter record for KY - observed in a marshy area on the Sinclair Unit of Peabody WMA, Muhlenberg County); 3 Greater White-fronted Geese (Ohio County); 2 Ross's Geese (Muhlenberg County); a female Greater Scaup (count first - Muhlenberg County); two immature Bald Eagles (along Green River, Muhlenberg County); an adult Golden Eagle (Muhlenberg County); a House Wren, also observed closely and well-described (MWn; MWr) (Ohio County); and a Le Conte's Sparrow (Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, Muhlenberg County). Raptor totals on the mines were about average, although the number of Rough-legged Hawks continues to be lower than in the early 1990s; there are definitely a few more Short-eared Owls present this year than in the last couple of years, although numbers are well below the highs noted in the mid-1990s. Not included in the tally are several tens of thousands of blackbirds that were observed moving toward a roost somewhere to the west of the count circle.

**Bowling Green** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Three Springs, six miles south of Bowling Green.) Habitat deciduous forest 20%, fields and pastures 60%, and town and parks 20%. Dec. 16; 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky overcast with periods of heavy rain in the morning and cloudy with light rain in the afternoon; temp. 56° to 60°F; wind SW 4-10 m.p.h.

Ten observers in 2-3 parties. Total party-hours 25.5 (19.25 on foot, 6.25 by car). Total party-miles 138 (18 on foot, 120 by car). Total species 68; total individuals 15,173.

Observers: Tiffany Cummins, Connor Doyle, Lester Doyle, Diane Elmore, Jackie Elmore, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Dick Lord, Wayne Mason, Albert Meier, and Kelli Vowels.

**Glasgow** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1986.) Habitat as described in 1986. Dec. 29; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear in the morning to partly cloudy in the afternoon; temp. 24° to 36°F; wind NNW, 0-5 m.p.h.

Five observers in 3 parties, 3 feeder watchers. Total party-hours 21 (13 on foot, 8 by car). Total party-miles 71 (8 on foot, 63 by car). Total species 72; total individuals 7,859.

Observers: Lester Doyle, Marquita Gillenwater, Mae Dean Kinslow, Dick Lord, Wayne M. Mason (compiler), Billie Mae Moore, Emma Jean Pitcock, and David Roemer.

**Mammoth Cave National Park** (Center and habitat as described in 1980.) Dec. 19; 6:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Sky clear in the a.m. turning cloudy, with drizzle in

the afternoon; temp. 32° to 40°F; wind calm in the a.m. to windy, W, 15 m.p.h.

Six observers in 2 parties. Total party-hours 14.5 (6 on foot, 8.5 by car). Total party-miles 91 (4 on foot, 87 by car). Total species 51; total individuals 2,276. Two turtles were sunning themselves at First Creek.

Observers: Tiffany Cummins, Lester Doyle, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Dick Lord, Wayne Mason, and Kelly Vowels.

**Falls of Rough** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Short Creek (Ky Hwy 79 and 54 intersection). Habitat: Rough River, Rough River Lake, tributary streams, bottomland farms, yard feeders, woodland, and cultivated fields. Jan. 5; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly cloudy, with full sunshine for 2 hours in the early p.m.; temp. 23° to 54°F; wind, calm. Ponds, small lakes, tributaries (slow moving) were frozen. The only open water was Rough River.

Five observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 24.25 (12.25 on foot, 2 by car). Total party miles 209.25 (4 on foot, 205.25 by car). Total species 60; total individuals 4,192.

Observers: Kathryn Clay, Rebecca Foreman, Mary Harrel, Neal Hayden, and Joyce Porter (compiler).

**Bernheim Forest** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1974). Habitat as described in 1974. Dec. 22; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky variably partly cloudy to cloudy; temp. 30° to 55° F; wind S, 5-15 m.p.h. Water mostly open.

Fourteen observers in 6 parties. Total party-hours 40 (20.5 on foot, 19.5 by car). Total party-miles 223 (22 on foot, 201 by car). Total species 67; total individuals 7,050.

Observers: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Joan Brown, Richard Cassell, Dona Coates, Amy Covert, Charles Hornaday, Kathy King, Celia Lawrence, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Bill Pratt, Philip Tamplin, Major Waltman, and Zeb Weese.

Weather conditions were relatively good for conducting the count. The species total is about average given the low variety of waterfowl. Highlights of the count included the Ross's Goose, an immature bird in the company of a flock of Canada Geese north of Boston, Nelson County; a House Wren, observed in brushy habitat along Wilson Creek on the south end of the Forest; and the three Golden Eagles, observed all soaring together in the traditional Wilson Creek area where the species has been observed regularly. Berry-eating species were fairly abundant, apparently in large part due to a good crop of cedar berries. Other notable observations included both vultures, good numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches, a flock of approximately 120 American Pipits, and one Pine Siskin. A Bald Eagle was reported from the southern part of the Forest on the day prior to the count.

**Louisville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Jct. Hwys 42 and 22, as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 16; 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 43° to 49°F; wind WNW, 4 m.p.h. Light rain in a.m. to heavy rain in p.m.

Thirty-five observers in 13 parties. Total party-hours 61.25 (28.5 on foot, 32.75 by car). Total party-miles 304 (18.5 on foot, 285.5 by car). Total species 77; total individuals 17,921.

Observers: Garrett Adams, Win Ahrens, Janet Aylward, Mary Bill Bauer, Jane Bell and Pat Bell (compilers), Dona Coates, Amy Covert, David Dorman, Bo Fender, Jane Fender, Rod Goforth, Geri Gottbrath, J.R. Harris, Charles Hatten, Carol Hyatt,

Bob Johnson, Cheryl Jones, John Krull, Celia Lawrence, Jonathan Lawrence, Fred Mansmith, Mark Monroe, Doxie Noonan, Peggy Oates, Clara Ann Pallares, David Pallares, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Martha Pike, Helga Schutte, Matt Stickel, Midge Susie (feeder watcher), Scottie Theiss, Mary Walter, Major Waltman, and Barbara Woerner.

Sunday, December 16, was a rainy, soggy day for the Louisville Christmas Bird Count. The rain was coming down so hard that it caused our participants to wait for about two hours. After the delay, 35 birders took up the challenge again and were able to record 76 species with 17,920 individuals. This was one of the lowest counts we have had in some years. We are missing several duck species, but we were able to find two Eastern Phoebe and a House Wren. American Robins seem to be everywhere, with a count of 2,607 compared with last year's count of 327.

**Shelbyville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center three-quarters of a mile south of U.S. 60 and Guist Creek Lake on KY 714.) Habitat elevation 640'-1190', farmland, fallow land, suburban, wooded and grassland. Dec. 30; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky clear and sunny; temp. 100° to 290°F; wind SW, 10-15 m.p.h.

Nine observers in 4 parties. Total party-hours 29 by car. Total party-miles 248 by car. Total species 52; total individuals 4,759.

Observers: Heather Brown, Joan Brown, Lloyd Brown, Todd Brown, W.H. Brown (compiler), Judy Crouch, Kathy King, Benton Young and Steven Earl Young.

**Hart County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center corner of Craddock Road and Gerald's Lane.) Habitat rural farmland and wooded areas, including Green River and 100 Acre Pond. Dec. 31; 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky mostly clear; temp. 13° to 30°F. Few clouds with an occasional breeze.

Nine observers in 1 party. Total party-hours 10 (7 on foot, 3 by car). Total party-miles 72 (2 on foot, 70 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 11,262.

Observers: Bruce Bardin, John Brittain, Carol Friedman, Dan Givens, Billy Hawk, Janet Kistler, Steve Kistler (compiler), Judy Petersen, and Mitchell Sturgeon.

This ties our species total for this count, which is 16 years old. None of us had seen an eagle in Hart County before. There were three today!

**Frankfort** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 15; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 37° to 49°F; wind NE, 0-6 m.p.h.

Eleven observers in 7 parties, plus three at feeders for 7 hrs, and 2.5 hours owling. Total party-hours 29.5 (10.5 on foot, 19 by car). Total party-miles 201.5 (9 on foot, 192.5 by car). Total species 52; total individuals 4,101.

Observers: James Derryberry, Margaret Derryberry, Jim Durrell, Peggy Gould (compiler), Ralph Gould, Pat Hankla, Scott Hankla, Virginia Horn, Jeff Jones, Michael Kenawel, Robert Laurenson, Susan Laurenson, Patty Newton, and Tim Williams

Bush honeysuckle was in abundant supply.

**Green River** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Green River Memorial Baptist Church, Taylor County, Kentucky.) Habitat old fields, agricultural fields and borders, second growth forest, Green River riparian areas, open water, including Green River Lake and Campbellsville City Lake, as well as feeder watchers. Dec. 29; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly to mostly cloudy; temp. 30° to 25°F; wind 5-15 m.p.h.

Four observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 12.25 (5.5 on foot, 6.75 by car). Total party-miles 52.75 (2.75 on foot, 50 by car). Total species 69; total individuals



als 3,626.

Observers: Gale Dalton, Steve Dalton, Richie Kessler (compiler), and Brainard Palmer-Ball.

Sparrows seemed especially stubborn this day, hanging tight to cover. Juniper trees with berries held many songbirds, including Yellow-rumped Warblers. There was a large number of eagles for Green River Lake.

**Otter Creek Park** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1972). Habitat as described in 2001. Dec. 27; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly cloudy; temp. 23° to 35° F; wind WSW 5-15 m.p.h. Water partly frozen.

Eleven observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours 36 (11 on foot, 25 by car). Total party-miles 220 (11 on foot, 209 by car). Total species 65; total individuals 7,382.

Observers: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Richard Cassell, Amy Covert, Joyce Fry, Celia Lawrence, Peggy Oates, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Mary Walter, Major Waltman, and Mark Zody.

A mostly cloudy sky and cold breeze made for less-than-optimal birding conditions. The species total (65) is about average for this count. Waterfowl were below average, with only a few species present on Doe Valley Lake and the Ohio River. Three different parties observed 1-2 adult Bald Eagles along the Ohio River at or near Otter Creek Park. Other highlights included good numbers of both vultures, a small flock of migrating Sandhill Cranes, one flock of Eastern Bluebirds containing at least 82 individuals, and a Chipping Sparrow (observed on the western side of Fort Knox).

**Kleber Wildlife Management Area** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 29; 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 18° to 26°F; wind NW, 10-15 m.p.h. Intermittent snow showers throughout the day. The ground was snow covered.

Four observers in 2 parties. Total party-hours 13.5 (0.5 on foot, 13 by car). Total party-miles 134.5 (0.5 on foot, 134 by car). Total species 38; total individuals 1,711.

Observers: Joe Burgess, Jim Durell, Peggy Gould (compiler), and Ralph Gould.

**Danville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Boyle County Courthouse.) Habitat as described before. Dec. 29; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky cloudy in a.m. to partly sunny in the p.m.; temp. 24° to 31°F. Light snow in the a.m. with slick roads.

Twenty-seven observers in 9 parties. Total party-hours 41.25 (6.5 on foot, 34.75 by car). Total party-miles 405.5 (6.75 on foot, 398.75 by car). Total species 59; total individuals 6,847.

Observers: Joe Amburgey, Ernest Baird, Andre Brousseau, Linda Brousseau, Bill Catron, Shirley Catron, Andrew Eklund, Ginny Eklund, Neil Eklund (compiler), Scott Eklund, Martha Foster, Bill Garriott, Will Garriott, Tom Kearns, Bill Kemper, Fred Loetscher, Gail Manning, Eric Mount, Jack Newton, Amelia Nichols, John Nichols, John Nisbet, Rob Pendency, Joan Smith, Patsie Trollinger, Charles Vahlkamp, and Maynard VanHorn.

**Lexington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center East Hickman Church on Tates Creek Road.) Habitat mixed residential and farmland. Dec. 15; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to clear; temp. 42° to 53° F; wind S, 5-7 m.p.h.

Twenty-five observers in 9 parties. Total party-hours 63 (3 by foot, 60 by car). Total party-miles 596 (5 by foot, 591 by car). Total species 67; total individuals 9,842.

Observers: Earl Boggs, Judy Brant, Mike Burns, Rose Canon, Christopher Demoll, Edward Demoll, Mike Flynn, Jonathon Glixson, Paul Hager, John Jackson, Allen Kingsland, Teri Koontz, Betty Maxson, Mark Morgan, Robert L. Morris (compiler), Jim Osborne, Carol Pickett, Susan Pollack, Art Ricketts, Tina Ricketts, Lew Shain, Marie Sutton, Dave Svetich, Jim Williams, and Bernice Woods.

**Burlington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Camp Michaels.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 29; 5:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly sunny; temp. 200 to 250°F; wind WNW, 10-18 m.p.h. Most water was open.

Eleven observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours 31 (13 on foot, 18 by car). Total party-miles 170 (7 on foot, 163 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 3,166.

Observers: Linda Altevers, Joe Caminiti, Joey Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Elaine Carroll, Melissa Desjardin, Lee McNeely (compiler), Gayle Pille, Carmen Schulte, Katie Schulte, and Tommy Stephens. Feeder watchers: Marjorie Hill and Lynda McNeely.

Breezy conditions may have accounted for unusually low numbers of raptors.

**Warsaw** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Gallatin County Courthouse.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 15; 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 42° to 50°F; wind N, 3-8 m.p.h. All water open.

Six observers in 3 parties. Total party-hours 18.5 (9 on foot, 9.5 by car). Total party-miles 173 (4 on foot, 169 by car). Total species 64; total individuals 3,917.

Observers: Joe Caminiti, Joey Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Ed Groneman, Frank Lewandowski, Lee McNeely (compiler), and David Powers.

Noticeable by their absence were both vulture species and Short-eared Owl.

**Falmouth** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Caddo, Kentucky.) Habitat 50% woodland and forest edge, 25% river and lake shoreline, 20% agricultural, and 5% residential. Dec. 22; 6:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to clear; temp. 29° to 41°F; wind SE, 3-8 m.p.h. All water open.

Five observers in 2 parties. Total party-hours 18 (7 on foot, 11 by car). Total party-miles 126 (4 on foot, 122 by car). Total species 53; total individuals 1,874.

Observers: Rhonda Bryant, Ed Groneman, Scott Marsh, Lee McNeely (compiler), and Tommy Stephens.

Waterfowl were quite scarce. The Sandhill Cranes were observed in flight from Kincaid Lake State Park.

**Richmond** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 0.75 miles north of intersection of Bobtown Road and the Kingston-Berea Road). Habitat Fencerows and roadsides (20%), woodland (20%), pasture and open fields (55%), lawns (4%), lakes and ponds (1%). Dec. 15; 7:45 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly cloudy; temp. 48° to 53°F; wind WSW, 0-5 m.p.h.

Thirteen observers in 6 parties. Total party-hours 32.1 (13.6 on foot, 18.5 by car). Total party-miles 334.3 (16.5 on foot, 317.8 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 5,369.

Observers: Mark Bostrom, Angela Burkhart, Janet Gorrell, Joanne Gorrell, John Gorrell, Michael Hodge, Lauren Lawson, Chris Leftwich, Scott Marsh, Brandon Ritchison, and Gary Ritchison (compiler), Deanne Swartley, and Mark Vukovich.

For the first time, we were not permitted on the Blue Grass Army Depot.

Somerset (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at the junction of Bypass E. 80 and Highway 39, Crab Orchard Road.) Habitat 21% water edge, 13% cultivated, 24% wooded and edge, 11% urban, and 31% field/fence. Jan. 5; 5:30 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 27°F to 50°F; wind SW, 3-12 m.p.h. Still water mostly frozen, moving water partly frozen.

Fifteen observers in 6 parties. Total party-hours 60 (17.5 on foot, 42.5 by car). Total party-miles 426 (12 on foot, 414 by car). Total species 77; total individuals 223,317.

Observers: Judy Brant, Jean Brickell, Rhonda Bryant, Terry Campbell, Granville Cox, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Steve Denton, Carolyn Gay Hodges, Steve Kickert, Scott Marsh, Linda McClendon, Lynda Mills, Tom Mills, Arlene Morton, and Stephen Stedman.

Ten feeder watchers also participated in the count.

## FIELD NOTE

### Kentucky's Third Record of Varied Thrush

No matter what they are really supposed to be doing at the time, whenever avid birders are outside, their senses are working to detect sounds and movements and determine their origin. The third visual and first photographic record of Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) in Kentucky was discovered just this way. On Friday morning, March 16, 2001, I was riding with Rick Lowe through the Wranglers Campground in the Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area, Trigg County, on a routine review of the facilities. Even though we were working, my mind was registering the usual complement of grackles, robins, cowbirds and black-birds, when a familiar but most unlikely bird appeared.

The Varied Thrush was among a group of American Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) feeding on the ground, poking and scratching at the duff and residual straw near a campsite. It was the size of a robin, though a bit chunkier, dark bluish-gray on the back, with an orange eyebrow, and notable blackish band across the upper breast. It was an adult male, confirmed mainly by the darkness of the breastband and back. Female and immature birds have a gray or speckled breastband. It was actually close enough for us to identify without binoculars.

Usually reclusive and shy, especially in winter, amidst the other birds it was content to continue to feed uninterrupted for at least five more minutes before flying to the lower branches of a nearby tree. It seemed to become more wary but returned to the ground in a more remote spot a few minutes later. It finally flew even farther away towards an intermittent stream whose banks were steep and heavily vegetated with shrubs and tangles. It disappeared from sight on the far side and we lost track of it about thirty minutes after we first saw it.

Over the next six days, at least twenty-five birders from Kentucky and Tennessee were able to relocate the bird; it was last reported on 22 March. The front gate of the campground often became a "check-in point" for latest updates. The campground manager, Matt Edwards, tried hard to keep tabs on where it was being seen

and the campground hosts, Bill and Dorothy Bondy, shared the most recent sighting information as new folks arrived and inquired.

On Saturday, March 17, Chris Sloan from Nashville was able not only to locate the bird, but also photograph it (see cover of this issue), the first such documentation for Kentucky. During the week it was observed, the bird was seen in a variety of locations within the campground, but most often it was seen along the stream-side zone near or at the original spot. Once it was observed on short grass at the edge of the trees near the entrance. It did not seem to keep regular company with any group of birds in particular but was reportedly with American Robins, Common Grackles (*Quiscalus quiscula*) and Rusty Blackbirds (*Euphagus carolinus*) at times.

The Varied Thrush is a species of western North America, breeding primarily in coniferous and mixed forests of western Canada and Alaska and wintering in the western United States. A small number of birds occur during the non-breeding season as vagrants in the eastern United States, where the species is found at multiple locations on an annual basis. Traditionally this species does tend to spend the winter in dense underbrush and tangles, and from personal experience, it has an annoying though very effective habit of "slipping out the back side" unnoticed. Fortunately for Rick and myself, on this occasion it chose to be in the open at just the right time.—BILL LISOWSKY, 1059 Pleasant Hill Church Road, Cadiz, Kentucky 42211.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Spring KOS Meeting at Mammoth Cave Hotel

The Spring KOS meeting will be held at Mammoth Cave Hotel on April 26 to 28. Mark your calendar and let's make this the best attended meeting yet. If you would like to make a presentation at the Friday evening meeting, contact Hap Chambers

### 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.