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The Kentucky Warbler

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IN THIS ISSUE

SUMMER SEASON 2006, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely	79
THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL 2006 MEETING	85
KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. BYLAWS	87
NEWS AND VIEWS.....	91

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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THE COVER

We thank Lana Hays for the cover photograph of a Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) molting out of alternate plumage at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan County, 8 July 2006 (see Summer Season 2006). Financial support for color cover provided by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.



SUMMER SEASON 2006

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely

Weather conditions during the summer season 2006 were relatively normal, although there was some variation across the state. In general, precipitation was higher (slightly above normal) in the northern portion, but lower (slightly below to below normal) in the southern and eastern portions. Temperatures were slightly cooler-than-normal in June, but warmer-than-normal during July. The only real rarity of the season was a Ruff in Rowan County. Nesting Least Terns experienced mixed results, with low water conditions on the Mississippi River resulting in relatively good success, while small rises on the lower Ohio River (where nesting sites are not as high above normal water level) caused much failure in early nestings there. Quite possibly indicating a very sad landmark event, assuming there are no late-season reports, 2006 will constitute the first year in the state's recent ornithological history in which a Bewick's Wren was *not* reported.

Publication of any unusual sightings in this report does not imply that those observations have been accepted as records for the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Observers are cautioned that records of out-of-season birds and all rarities must be accompanied with good details or documentation for acceptance. Documentation must be submitted to the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

Abbreviations – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ph.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vt.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented on videotape; “*” next to an observer's initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report. **Place names:** Camp #9 = Peabody Camp #9 coal preparation plant, *Union*; Camp #11 = former Camp #11 mine, *Union*; DBNF = Daniel Boone National Forest; Fishing Creek = Fishing Creek embayment, Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski*; Grand Rivers = Grand Rivers, *Livingston*; Guthrie Swamp = Guthrie Swamp, *Todd*; Homestead = Home-stead Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio*; Horseshoe Road = slough next to Horseshoe Road, w. *Henderson*; KY 268 = slough along KY 268, w. *Henderson*; Ky Bend = Kentucky Bend, *Fulton*; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall*; Ky Dam Village = Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, *Marshall*; Kuttawa = Lake Barkley at Kuttawa, *Lyon*; Lake No. 9 = Lake No. 9, *Fulton*; Long Point = Long Point Unit, Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge, *Fulton*; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*; Mitchell Lake = Mitchell Lake, Ballard WMA, *Ballard*; NWR = National Wildlife Refuge; Paradise = Paradise Power Plant impoundments, *Muhlenberg*; Van Buren = Taylorsville Lake above Van Buren boat ramp, *Anderson*; Watson Point = Watson Point, *Fulton*; WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

Wood Duck – a count of 350 at Lake No. 9 on 26 July (DR, HC) was rather impressive. **Lesser Scaup** – an injured m. lingered above Ky Dam at least to 1 June (BP).

Blue-winged Teal – the only reports were of a family group of 5 at Camp #11 on 5 July (BP, JB) and 1 at Lake No. 9 on 26 July (DR, HC).

Northern Shoveler – quite unusual were 2 at Mitchell Lake 22 July (HC).

Ring-necked Duck – a m. on a pond ssw. of Mt. Carmel, se. *Hopkins*, 2 June (BP) may have been injured.

Ruddy Duck – 1 was present on a small pond in Lexington during the first half of July (SM); and 1 was present at Mitchell Lake 29 July (ME).

Common Loon – 1 was present at Whitco Pay Lake, *Letcher*, from sometime in June into early August but it subsequently died (NG); another turned up on a shopping center parking lot in Somerset, *Pulaski*, in mid-July (fide SB).

Pied-billed Grebe – ca. 10 ads. plus family groups of 3 and 3 chicks being fed by ads. were observed at Camp #11 on 20 June (BP); several family groups were also recognizable there 5 July (BP, JB).



Pied-billed Grebe family, *Union*
20 June 2006
B. Palmer-Ball, Jr.

American White Pelican – 4 were at Paradise from 21 July into August (DR et al.).

Brown Pelican – 1 was observed flying upstream over the Ohio River at the Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*, 3 June (*TB, MT). KBRC review required.

Double-crested Cormorant – as is the norm, a few lingered into or through the summer as evidenced by the following reports: 3 still at Paradise and 2 still at Calvert City, *Marshall*, both 1 June (BP) and 1 at Lake Peewee, *Hopkins*, 9 June (BP). Mid-July birds may have been early returning migrants and included 1 at Long Run Park, *Jefferson*, 19 July (BW); 2 at Homestead 21 July (DR); and 10 at Van Buren 22 July (EH, JHu).

American Bittern – 1 was flushed from a hayfield at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 17 July (BP). This report may say something about how early some birds begin to disperse after breeding.

Least Bittern – 1 was heard at the Peabody Gibraltar mine, *Muhlenberg*, 1 June (BP); 1 was seen and 2 more heard at Camp #11 on 20 June (BP) with 2 seen there 5 July (BP, JB).

Great Egret – nesting records of interest included at least 5 pairs at Jenny Hole-Highland Creek Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union*,

and at least 20 pairs at Murphy's Pond, *Hickman*, both 14 June (BP, JB, DL). Unfortunately, the heronry at Long Point has again been abandoned (BP, JB, DL). Peak post-breeding counts during July were relatively unimpressive and included 210 at Lake No. 9 on 26 July (DR, HC) and 75+ at Mitchell Lake 28 July (DR).

Snowy Egret – at least 2 were present at the nesting colony at Kuttawa 24 June (ME); post-breeding peak counts were unimpressive during July and included 12 at Mitchell Lake 28 July (DR).

Little Blue Heron – “many” were present at the nesting colony at Kuttawa 24 June (ME); the easternmost post-breeding birds were 4 juvs. at Fishing Creek 26 July (RD).

Cattle Egret – the nesting colony at Kuttawa was very active in late June (ME).

Black-crowned Night-Heron – a new nesting colony containing about 6 nests was observed on Lake Barkley at the mouth of the Elbow Creek embayment, *Trigg*, 6 July (ER).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – an ad. was observed carrying sticks towards an apparent nest site along Grays Branch, *Hopkins/Christian* line, 8 June (BP); an ad. was observed s. of Mayfield Creek on the w. side of US 62, *Carlisle*, 26 June (JB); and at least 1 nest was present again this year in suburban Lexington in June (PD fide JW).

Mississippi Kite – the only extralimital report was of 1 along New Circle Road near the Harrodsburg Road exit in Lexington 11 June (JB). One over the Blood River embayment of Kentucky Lake, *Calloway*, 8 July (HC) was a local first.

Northern Harrier – an active nest with 5 yg. ssw. of Mt. Carmel, se. *Hopkins*, in early June (ph. BP; see p. 92) represented a first confirmed county breeding record; a likely m. was observed near South Williamson, *Pike*, 24 June (JC, LE).

Peregrine Falcon – 5 nesting pairs were again active at traditional sites along the Ohio River in *Carroll*, *Greenup*, *Jefferson*, and *Trimble* (2) with successful fledging

- documented in all but *Jefferson* (BV, AS, SV, et al.). In addition, expanded monitoring work by the Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources yielded 4 new territories, all also along the Ohio River as follows: the I-275 bridge e. of Ft. Thomas, *Campbell*; the Mill Creek power plant in sw. *Jefferson*; the Spurlock power plant near Maysville, *Mason*; and the KY 79 bridge w. of Brandenburg, *Meade* (BV, AS, SV). Fledging success was not confirmed at any of the new sites although a nestling was seen in *Campbell* (BV).
- Common Moorhen** – a count of 11 ads. at Camp #11 on 20 June (BP) represented a new state high count; 6-8+ ads. plus a family group of 2 ads. and 4 chicks were observed there 5 July (BP, JB). The only other report was of 1 at Pond Creek Marsh, Sauerheber, 29 July (CC).
- American Coot** – although 10-12 ads. were present at Camp #11 on 20 June (BP) and at least 6-8 were still there 5 July (BP, JB), no evidence of nesting was observed this year. Also reported was 1 above Ky Dam 5 July (BP, JB); 1 with an injured wing on Turner Creek near Marrowbone, *Cumberland*, 9 July (WW, SS); and 1 at Pond Creek Marsh, Sauerheber, 29 July (CC).
- American Golden-Plover** – 2 in basic plumage at Camp #9 on 20 June (ph. BP) were presumably very early fall migrants.
- Semipalmated Plover** – earliest reports of returning fall birds were of 10 along KY 268 on 10 July (CC) and 1 in *Fulton* 26 July (DR).
- Spotted Sandpiper** – again this summer a few lingered at Horseshoe Road through June and into early July, but confirmed nesting was not detected this year (BP, CC). Also reported was 1 at Camp #9 on 5 July (BP, JB).
- Solitary Sandpiper** – earliest report was of 1 at Horseshoe Road 6 July (CC).
- Greater Yellowlegs** – earliest report of a returning fall bird was of 1 at Camp #9 on 5 July (BP, JB).
- Willet** – the only report was of 1 on Kentucky Lake, *Trigg*, 8 July (BL).
- Lesser Yellowlegs** – a presumably tardy spring migrant was present in the lower Hickman bottoms, *Fulton*, 3 June (HC, ME).
- Ruddy Turnstone** – earliest report of a fall migrant was 1 at Paradise 28 July (DR).
- Sanderling** – there were a few early reports of ads.; all are included: 1 at Fishing Creek 26-29 July (RD); 2 along the Mississippi River, *Hickman*, and 1 along the Mississippi River, *Carlisle*, both 27 July (DR); 1 at Paradise 28 July (DR); and 2 at Mitchell Lake 31 July (HC, ME).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper** – latest spring reports were of 20 on a pond s. of Elkton, *Todd*, 1 June (BP); 9 at Camp #9 on 9 June (BP) and 1 at Clifty Pond near Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*, 12 June (RD). Earliest reports of returning fall birds were of 2 at Paradise 21 July (DR) and 4 at Mitchell Lake 22 July (HC).
- Western Sandpiper** – there were a few early reports of ads.; all are included: 2 at Paradise 12 July (DR); 2 at Mitchell Lake 22 July (HC); and 6+ at Lake No. 9 and 3 at Ky Bend, both 27 July (DR).
- Least Sandpiper** – latest spring reports were of 1 on a pond s. of Elkton, *Todd*, 1 June (BP) and 1 in the lower Hickman bottoms, *Fulton*, 3 June (HC, ME); earliest reports of returning fall birds were of 1 at Petros Pond, *Warren*, 30 June (DR); small numbers at several locations in w. *Henderson* 5 July (BP, JB) and 6 July (CC); and 2 at Homestead and 5 at Paradise, both 7 July (DR). Peak early-season counts were of 200 at Horseshoe Road 10 July (CC); 250 at Lake No. 9 on 26 July (DR, HC); 100 on the Mississippi River, *Hickman*, 27 July (DR); and 110 at Mitchell Lake 28 July (DR).
- White-rumped Sandpiper** – latest spring report was of 1 on a pond s. of Elkton, *Todd*, 1 June (BP).
- Pectoral Sandpiper** – earliest report of a returning fall bird was of 1 at Guthrie Swamp 16 July (DR, MB). Early-season peak counts were of 250 at Lake No. 9 and 125 at Ky Bend, both 27 July (DR).

Stilt Sandpiper – earliest reports of returning fall birds were of 4 at Mitchell Lake 22 July (HC) and 2 in *Fulton* 26 July (DR).

Ruff – a spectacular looking m. molting out of alternate plumage was at Minor Clark 8 July (MW et al.; ph. LH – see cover photo of this issue). KBRC review required.

Short-billed Dowitcher – earliest reports of returning fall birds were of 1 at Camp #9 on 5 July (BP, JB); 1 along KY 268 on 10 July (CC); and 7 at Guthrie Swamp 13 July (DR, MB).

Long-billed Dowitcher – an ad. at Fishing Creek 29 July (ph. RD) was an extremely early fall migrant.



Long-billed Dowitcher, *Pulaski*
29 July 2006
Roseanna Denton

Wilson's Phalarope – earliest report of a returning fall bird was of 1 at Lake No. 9 on 27 July (DR).

Ring-billed Gull – 12 were still at the Ky Dam Village marina 1 June (BP); 1 was on the Ohio River at Livingston Point, *Livingston*, 27 June (BP, JB, GB); 75-80 had returned to Ky Dam Village 28 June (BP, JB); then widespread by early July with ca. 35 below Smithland Dam on the Ohio River, *Livingston*, 5 July (BP, JB) and 1300 including 5 juvs. in the vicinity of Ky Dam 28 July (DR).

Least Tern – up to 18 were present at Camp #9 in early June (BP), with at least 6 incubating 20 June (BP). Surveys of traditional nesting sites on the Mississippi River yielded the following nest counts during

the last week of June: 160 at Ky Bend/Watson Point; 133 at Middle Bar Sandbar, *Hickman*; 58 at Campbell Dikes, *Hickman/Carlisle* (RR et al.); and 11 at Island No. 1, *Carlisle* (RR, JB, et al.).

Caspian Tern – 3 were still at the Ky Dam Village marina 1 June (BP); 1 was on the Ohio River at Livingston Point, *Livingston*, 27 June (BP, JB, GB); and 10 had returned to Ky Dam Village 5 July (BP, JB).

Black Tern – 1 at Minor Clark 12 June (ph. RJ); ca. 6 on a sandbar in the Ohio River above Mound City, IL, *Ballard*, 26 June (JB, GB); and 1 at Minor Clark 10 July (MW) were all unusual for mid-summer. Small numbers were present by the last week of July including 7 at both Mitchell Lake (DR, SR) and Paradise (DR), 2 at Van Buren (BW), and 5 at Cooley's Pond, *Wayne* (RD), all 28 July.

Forster's Tern – a summering or early returning fall bird was at Ky Dam Village marina 28 June (BP, JB); earliest reports of probable returning fall birds were of 2 at Ky Dam 26 July (DR) and 2 at Van Buren 22 July (EH, JH) and 28 July (BW).

Eurasian Collared-Dove – the only birds reported in new areas were 2 near Trenton, *Todd*, 1 June (DM, BP).

Black-billed Cuckoo – the only reports were of 3 at Fishtrap Lake WMA, *Pike*, 9 June (SF) and 1 in w. *Hickman* 17 June (BL).

Barn Owl – there were two reports: 3 including 2 yg. in e. *Calloway* 7 June (HC); and 3 yg in a church steeple at Poplar Plains, *Fleming*, 5 June (JF, fide HB, EW).r).

Rufous Hummingbird – an ad. m. was reported at Corbin, *Knox*, 28 July (JP) in the same yard where an ad. m. was present the previous winter; unfortunately the bird was not seen again. KBRC review required.

Least Flycatcher – a late spring migrant or summer vagrant was seen/heard along KY 1675 near Acorn, *Pulaski*, 1 June (RD).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher – birds were again present at the two now-traditional nesting sites with 1 below Barkley Dam, *Lyon*,

during June (m.ob.) and 1 incubating with another perched nearby n. of Grand Rivers 1 June (BP); birds continued n. of Grand Rivers into early July, but nesting did not appear successful (BP, JB).

Bell's Vireo – an active nest with 4 eggs n. of Grand Rivers 1 June (ph. BP) and another with 4 eggs along Atkinson School Road, n. *Christian*, 8 June (BP) represented county-firsts for confirmed breeding; also of interest were 2 m. singing along Orange Grove Church Road, se. *Hopkins*, 2 June (BP) and 2 active nests at Camp #9 (1 with a large cowbird chick 20 June [ph. BP; see p. 92] and 1 with 3 yg. 5 July [BP, JB]).



Bell's Vireo nest, *Livingston*
1 June 2006
B. Palmer-Ball, Jr.

Warbling Vireo – 1 along the Sulfur Lick BBS route in sw. *Metcalf* 18 June (SS) was probably only the second local record in summer, and 1 in the Schickel Veterans Park in Burkesville, *Cumberland*, 9 July (SS, WW) was likely a local first for summer.

Common Raven – the only report was of 1 at Carr Creek Lake Park, *Knott*, 30 June (CB).

Cliff Swallow – post-breeding concentrations of interest included 40+ along the Ohio River at Dayton, *Campbell*, 16 July (FR) and 500-600 at Meng's Pond, *War-*

ren, 24 July (DR). Also reported were ca. 130 used nests under the Natcher Bridge over the Ohio River, *Daviess* (DA).

Red-breasted Nuthatch – the only report was of 1 at the traditional Rock Bridge, DBNF, *Wolfe*, nesting locale 11 June (FR, VR).

Sedge Wren – there were several reports of likely breeding birds in July; all are included: 1 along Holloway Lane, n. *Jessamine*, 7 July (BP, JL, SV); at least 1-2 at Long Point 26 July (DR, HC); 2 at Gentle Pond, Sauerheber, 29 July (CC); and 2 at Homestead 30 July (RD).

Eastern Bluebird – quite unusual was the use of an abandoned American Robin nest on a drainpipe under the eave of a home at Panorama Shores, *Calloway* (KC).

Veery – 1 was heard on Log Mt. at the head of Chenoa Creek, *Bell*, 15 July (JK).

Swainson's Thrush – a late spring migrant continued to sing at Frankfort to 4 June (BP).

Golden-winged Warbler – continuing studies by University of Kentucky personnel resulted in the monitoring of 9 territorial m. and 2 active nests at two sites in *Bell* during the season (PH). Also monitored were a Golden-winged Warbler x Blue-winged Warbler nest and a Golden-winged Warbler x Brewster's Warbler nest, both in *Bell* (PH).

Brewster's Warbler – personnel with the same University of Kentucky study monitored 3 territorial m. at two sites in *Bell* during the season (PH).

Chestnut-sided Warbler – again this year, a male was present on territory at the Sky Bridge picnic area, DBNF, *Wolfe*, 10-13 June (FR, VR).

Blackburnian Warbler – a late spring migrant was observed near Fisherville, *Jefferson*, 3 June (EH).

Cerulean Warbler – a relatively impressive count of 8 singing birds was tallied at S-Tree, DBNF, *Jackson*, 5 June (RD); the species was considered common throughout the South Lake Horse Trail portion of Fishtrap Lake WMA, *Pike*, 9 June (SF).

- Swainson's Warbler** – small numbers were reported at traditional breeding locales including several in the Red River Gorge, DBNF, *Wolfe*, 10-13 June (FR, VR); 1 along Whittleton Trail, Natural Bridge State Resort Park, *Powell*, 24 June (DPa); and 3 (including 1 carrying food) at Bee Rock, *Pulaski*, 8 July (RD).
- Northern Waterthrush** – quite unusual was a m. banded at Clarks River NWR, *Marshall*, 30 June (ph.HC).
- Connecticut Warbler** – a tardy spring migrant was present at Obion WMA, *Fulton*, 3 June (HC, ME).
- Hooded Warbler** – an impressive count of 38 was tallied at Bee Rock, *Pulaski*, 8 July (RD).
- Savannah Sparrow** – at least 2 males appeared on territory along Holloway Lane, n. *Jessamine*, 7 July (BP, JL, SV).
- Lark Sparrow** – the only report was of 1 at Lake No. 9 on 27 July (DR).
- Henslow's Sparrow** – substantial colonies were encountered on reclaimed mine land along Red Hill Road, se. *Hopkins*, and n. of Atkinson School Road, *Christian*, in early June (EWs, BP); other reports of birds in new areas included two colonies in w.-cen. *Todd* during June (JG, DH, et al.); 3 in sw. *Boyd* 10 June (JM, SH) and ca. 6 along Holloway Lane, n. *Jessamine*, 7 July (JL, BP, SV).
- White-throated Sparrow** – again this summer, 1-2 birds lingered at St. Matthews, *Jefferson*, into June, with at least 1 still present 17 July (BW).
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – a bird that appeared to be a yg. m. was observed at Gunpowder Creek Nature Park, *Boone*, 8 July (LM).
- Dickcissel** – 1 along KY 691 w. of Burkesville, *Cumberland*, 9 July (SS, WW) provided the first breeding-season record for that county.
- Bobolink** – there were a few reports of breeding birds including 10-15 along Holloway Lane, n. *Jessamine*, during June (JL), with 15-20+ including full-grown juvs. present there 7 July (JL, BP, SV); up to 20 (ads. & juvs.) off Bohon Road just nw. of Harrodsburg, *Mercer*, in June (G&BD); 2 w. of Cropper, *Shelby*, and 2 each at two adjacent locations n. of North Pleasureville, *Henry*, all 18 June (BS); and an unspecified number along Sparrow Lane, *Mercer*, in mid-June (GF fide DPe).
- Baltimore Oriole** – 1 building a nest just w. of Trenton, *Todd*, 3 June (DM) was in an area where the species is quite locally distributed in summer.

Corrigenda (Spring Season 2006, Vol. 82, No. 3): the location of the Cathy Crockett Trail (Black-billed Cuckoo entry) was incorrect; the trail is adjacent to but not part of DBNF, and it is in *Pulaski*, not *McCreary*. Also, the date of a Least Flycatcher at Mt. Zion should have been 26 April, not 23 April.

Observers: David Ayer (DA); Steve Beam (SB); Tom Becker (TB); Mark Bennett (MB); Clay Black (CB); Herb Booth (HB); John Brunjes (JB); Gerald Burnett (GB); Joan Carr (JC); Hap Chambers (HC); Kathy Cohen (KC); Charlie Crawford (CC); Phyllis Deal (PD); Roseanna Denton (RD); Gary & Becky Dorman (G&BD); Melissa Easley (ME); Les Estep (LE); Gus Faeth (GF); Scott Freidhof (SF); Jeff Fryman (JF); Norma Gibson (NG); Jim Giocomo (JG); Patricia Hartman (PH); Stratton Hatfield (SH); Lana Hays (LH); Daniel Hinnebusch (DH); Eddie Huber (EH); Jennifer Huber (JHu); Rachel Jenkins (RJ); James Kiser (JK); Joe Lacefield (JL); Bill Lisowsky (BL); Don Livingston (DL); Scott Marsh (SM); Lee McNeely (LM); Jenny Michaels (JM); Daniel Moss (DM); Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP); David Patick (DPa); Don Pelly (DPe); June Perkins (JP); Ed Ray (ER); Scott Record (SR); Frank Renfrow (FR); Veronica Renfrow (VR); Rochelle Renken (RR); David Roemer (DR); Adam Smith (AS); Brian Smith (BS); Stephen Stedman (SS); Don Swearingen (DS); Mark Trabue (MT); Budd Veverka (BV); Shawchyi Vorisek (SV); Winston Walden (WW); Eileen Wicker (EW_r); Eric Williams (EWs); Jim Williams (JW); Barbara Woerner (BW); Mike Wright (MW); multiple observers (m. ob.).

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
FALL 2006 MEETING

September 29-October 1, 2006, Greenbo Lake State Resort Park

The Fall 2006 meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held at Greenbo Lake State Resort Park in Greenup County. President Mark Bennett opened the Friday evening program at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Bennett welcomed members and guests to a fun-filled weekend of bird watching and educational programs. Vice-President Win Ahrens continued the opening remarks with a warm welcome back to President Bennett following a serious auto accident in May. Dr. Ahrens then introduced the evening's first speaker, Budd Veverka.

Mr. Veverka is currently a Wildlife Technician with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, primarily assisting with the Peregrine Falcon Monitoring Program. Mr. Veverka gave an informative talk on the historical and present status of Peregrine Falcons in Kentucky. Today, established nesting sites are monitored in order to document nesting success and dispersal. Eight fledgling Peregrine Falcons were banded in 2006. Please email Shawchyi Vorisek (shawchyi.vorisek@ky.gov) if you see a Peregrine Falcon.

Lana Hays was the second speaker during the Friday evening program. Ms. Hays is an avid bird photographer from Walton, Kentucky. She has been a photographer for several years, but has specifically focused on birds for the last four years. Ms. Hays shared numerous remarkable photos including a Harlequin Duck, Common Loons, and Northern Gannets. She shared entertaining tales of her travels to New Mexico, Alaska, and Lake Erie in pursuit of birds. Ms. Hays also spoke to the audience about photographic techniques including ways to vary from the fundamental "bird on a stick" pose. She also described her enjoyment of capturing photographs of birds expressing behaviors such as feeding, singing, and courting.

The Friday evening program ended with a description of the field trips that were to be held the following day. Saturday field trips were led within Greenbo Lake State Resort Park and to nearby Jesse Stuart State Nature Preserve and the South Shore Wildlife Management Area. On Saturday afternoon, both the KOS board and the Kentucky Bird Records Committee held meetings to conduct their respective business.

Mark Bennett called the Saturday evening meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Bennett began the evening asking for introductions from any visitors; four such individuals from Missouri introduced themselves and explained that they were attempting to visit ornithological society meetings in all states surrounding their home state. Mr. Bennett also reminded everyone about the dates and locations of upcoming meetings. Details of Sunday morning field trips were also announced.

After the opening announcements, Mark Bennett introduced the guest speaker, Chris Sloan from Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Sloan gave an hour-long presentation entitled *Hummingbirds: Winged Jewels*. The program covered a variety of topics concerning hummingbird taxonomy, biology, life history, and distribution and was wonderfully accompanied by both images and video tape of hummingbirds from the United States, Costa Rica and Ecuador. Mr. Sloan is a member of the Hummer/Bird Study Group banding network, and he has been banding hummingbirds in Tennessee and Kentucky for nearly ten years. A major component of the presentation was a run-down of the occurrence of hummingbirds in the Tennessee-Kentucky region in fall and winter. Mr. Sloan described identification characteristics and patterns of occurrence for the eight species of hummers that have occurred in the two states in recent years, as well as some potential future additions.

Following the featured program, Mark Bennett called on Blaine Ferrell to compile the meeting bird list (88 species were observed as of Saturday evening). Then Mr. Bennett opened the annual business meeting of the Society. The first item of business was the vote for approval of proposed changes to the bylaws that were listed in the fall meeting flyer that

had been mailed to KOS members. Bylaws committee member, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., briefly outlined the proposed changes, most of which dealt with organizational matters and brought the bylaws up to date. Neil Eklund made a motion to approve the proposed changes to the bylaws, the motion was seconded by Lou Shain, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote. The newly revised Bylaws appear elsewhere in this issue (see pp. 87-91).

The second item of business was the vote for the slate of officers for the 2006-2007 year. In the absence of Dona Coates, chair of the Nominating Committee, Mark Bennett called upon Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., to present the slate. Because of a conflict in commitments for the coming year, Laura Patton had removed her name from nomination for Recording Secretary, but Mr. Palmer-Ball nominated John Brunjes from the floor to fill that slot. The resulting slate was nominated: Mark Bennett for President, Win Ahrens for Vice-President, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., for Treasurer, Melissa Easley for Corresponding Secretary, John Brunjes for Recording Secretary, and Evelyn Morgan and Marilee Thompson for councillors (three-year terms). Existing councillors are Shawchyi Vorisek and Mary Yandell (through 2007) and Gay Hodges and Eddie Huber (through 2008). Hap Chambers made a motion to approve the slate of officers, the motion was seconded by Bobbi Shain, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Mark Bennett then thanked everyone who had contributed to making the fall 2006 meeting a success, as well as everyone for attending. The fall 2006 meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Attendance at the KOS 2006 Fall Meeting

Alexandria:	Ron & Mary Beth Lusby
Berea:	Paul Hager, Art & Tina Ricketts
Bowling Green:	Blaine Ferrell, Joan Roemer, David Roemer
Burlington:	Lee McNeely
Carlisle:	Virginia Kingsolver, Wendell Kingsolver
Columbia, MO:	Bonnie Heidy, Edge & Jerry Wade
Covington:	Gary O'Hair
Danville:	Ginny & Neil Eklund
Frankfort:	Amy Covert, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Laura Patton, Alisa & Budd Veverka, Shawchyi Vorisek
Gravois Mills, MO:	Della Rhoades
Lexington:	Shirley & Wayne Davis, Bobbi & Lou Shain, Jackie & John van Willigen
Louisville:	Richard Cassell, Marge Constan, Katharine Fulkerson, Katharine Griswold, Gerald Heath, Eddie Huber, Ben & Mary Yandell
Morehead:	Fred Busroe, Katie Busroe
Murray:	Hap Chambers, Melissa Easley
Nashville, TN:	Chris Sloan
Olive Hill:	Evelyn Morgan
Owensboro:	Marilee & Wendell Thompson
Prospect:	Win Ahrens
Richmond:	Brenda & Pete Thompson
Russellville:	Mark Bennett
Science Hill:	Roseanna Denton
Somerset:	Gay Hodges, Connie Neeley
Walton:	Lana Hays

**Bird Species Observed at the KOS Fall Meeting
Greenbo Lake State Resort Park**

The following bird species were observed during the weekend of September 29-October 1 at Greenbo Lake State Resort Park, Greenup, Ky., South Shore WMA, Greenup Co., and Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan Co.: Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mallard, Wild Turkey, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Merlin, American Coot, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Solitary Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Barred Owl, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, House Wren, Winter Wren, Marsh Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, American Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Pine Warbler, Palm Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Baltimore Oriole, House Finch, American Goldfinch and House Sparrow. The total for the weekend was 100 species.

**KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I — MEMBERSHIP

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

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

Section C. Contributing Membership shall consist of those persons who pay the Contributing Membership fee. They shall be accorded all the privileges of Regular Members.

Section D. Life Membership shall consist of those persons who pay the Life Membership fee. They shall be accorded all the privileges of Regular Members.

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

Section F. Family Membership shall consist of the head or heads of a family and their children under eighteen (18) years of age who live at the same address and who pay one (1) Regular, or Contributing, Membership fee plus an additional annual fee (see Art. II, Sec.

A). All individuals within a Family Membership are entitled to the privileges of Regular Members except they shall collectively receive only one (1) copy of *The Kentucky Warbler* and only one (1) copy of notices of meetings or other information about the activities of the Society; they shall collectively be allowed only one (1) vote at Society business meetings; and only one (1) of the heads of a Family Membership may hold office at any one time.

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

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

ARTICLE II — DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Section A. The annual dues for the various classes of memberships may be established or changed by the Board with the concurrence of a majority of the members present at the business meeting announced as the occasion for a vote on the proposed action, provided that a quorum (See Art. V, Sec. C) is present. The dues for Family Membership shall be a sum of not less than five dollars (\$5.00) annually in addition to the dues for one Regular, or Contributing, Membership.

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

Section C. Dues are payable for the calendar year which shall run from January 1 through December 31 (see Art. I, Sec. H). Members who have not paid their dues by March 1 shall be deemed not in good standing and shall be reminded by mail; if dues are not paid within fifteen (15) days after that notice, membership shall lapse. Members are responsible for providing the Corresponding Secretary with prompt notice of any change of address.

Section D. Any organization or institution may subscribe to *The Kentucky Warbler* by paying the equivalent of the Regular Membership fee plus any extraordinary postage.

ARTICLE III — GOVERNMENT

Section A. The governing body of the Society shall be the Board, composed of eleven (11) elected officers, three (3) appointed officers, the immediate Past President of the Society, and one (1) Representative chosen by each qualified affiliated organization (see Art. VI). All living Past Presidents shall serve as ex officio members of the Board. The elected officers shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and six (6) Councillors, two (2) of whom shall be elected each year. The appointed officers shall be the Editor of *The Kentucky Warbler*, the Curator, and the Secretary of the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. A quorum of the Board shall consist of fifty percent (50%) of its voting membership plus one (1) voting member.

Section B. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee that shall nominate one (1) member for each of the elective offices, except that only two (2) Councillors shall be nominated at each election unless additional vacancies have occurred (See Art. III, Sec. D). The Committee shall submit its nominations to the Corresponding Secretary forty-five (45)

days before the annual meeting; the Corresponding Secretary shall send the names of the nominees to all members not less than two (2) weeks prior to the meeting. Other nominations may be submitted for any elective office by three (3) members in good standing; such nominations must also be received by the Corresponding Secretary forty-five (45) days in advance of the annual meeting. The seven (7) officers shall be elected by ballot (show of hands or voice vote, at the discretion of the President) by a majority of the members present, provided that a quorum (See Art. V, Sec. C) is present. All officers shall take office at the conclusion of the fall meeting.

Section C. Officers (except Councillors and Representatives of qualified affiliated organizations) shall be elected for one (1) year, and they may be re-elected to the same office for not more than four (4) successive terms. Councillors and Representatives of qualified affiliated organizations shall be elected for terms of three (3) years and may not serve consecutive terms. Appointed officers may also be elected officers.

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

Section E. There shall be a standing committee, the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC), which shall be governed by its own bylaws. The KBRC shall determine the validity of records of rare birds from Kentucky, publish annually in *The Kentucky Warbler* a report of its decisions, maintain documentation of its actions, and keep the official Kentucky State List of Birds. The Secretary of the KBRC shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years by the Board and may serve an unlimited number of terms. The Secretary of the KBRC may be replaced at any time either by the unanimous consent of all other members of the KBRC or by a majority of the Board. Records resulting from the KBRC deliberations shall be kept in the possession of the KBRC until publication of the outcome of their review in *The Kentucky Warbler*. At that time they shall be turned over to the Curator for archiving.

ARTICLE IV — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

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

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

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

Section D. The Recording Secretary shall record the proceedings of the Society and of the Board in books kept for that purpose and shall have charge of the records of the Society not appropriate for archiving. All records more than five (5) years old shall be turned over to the Curator for archiving.

Section E. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and keep a record thereof; shall give notice of all meetings; and shall be responsible for mailing the Society's publications.

Section F. The Treasurer shall take care of the accounts and funds of the Society; shall pay from the funds of the Society all bills duly approved by the President or the Board; shall be responsible for all payables due the Society; and at the annual meeting shall furnish a statement of the financial condition of the Society. The Treasurer shall not pay any sum greater than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for any one purpose, other than publication costs of *The Kentucky Warbler*, unless such expenditure has been approved by the Board.

Section G. The six (6) Councillors, besides serving as members of the Board, shall act as advisors to the members of the Society, and shall not only endeavor to be familiar with the species of birds occurring in their own sections of the state, but shall also foster relevant activities in their sections.

Section H. The Representatives from each qualified affiliated organization shall serve as members of the Board and shall have the rights and obligations of all members of the Board. They shall in addition maintain communication between their organizations and the Society.

Section I. The Editor of *The Kentucky Warbler* shall edit four (4) issues per annum that shall be sent to all members in good standing (see Art. II, Sec. C).

Section J. The Curator, who shall be appointed annually by the Board at the fall meeting, shall have charge of all scientific records (including archived records from the KBRC) and all Society documents.

ARTICLE V — MEETINGS

Section A. The Society shall hold one (1) regular meeting in the spring and one (1) regular meeting in the fall. The location for the meetings shall be selected by the Board. The fall meeting shall be the annual meeting. At this meeting the members of the Society shall meet to discuss and to act upon significant issues. The meetings shall rotate among eastern, central, and western parts of the state as far as practicable.

Section B. Special meetings may be called at any time by action of the Board or upon written petition of fifteen (15) Regular, Contributing, Student, or Life members, which includes one (1) adult from each Family Membership, to the President, who shall thereupon call the meeting. Two (2) weeks' notice of such meeting must be given in writing, stating the purpose of the call, to the members by the Corresponding Secretary.

Section C. A quorum at any meeting shall consist of twenty-five (25) Regular, Contributing, Student, or Life members, which includes one (1) adult from each Family Membership.

ARTICLE VI — AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Section A. The Society shall encourage the formation of local affiliates in all cities and areas of the state. Such affiliated organizations shall have a major interest in birding or ornithology, and must include at least five (5) Society members to maintain affiliate status. The affiliated organizations shall retain their autonomy but shall act in cooperation with the Society. Each affiliated organization shall remit annually to the Society the equivalent of one (1) Regular Membership fee, and shall receive, in exchange, one (1) copy of each issue of *The Kentucky Warbler* and other periodic Society publications and announcements. Each such organization shall transmit annually lists of its members to the Society Treasurer. Affiliates including at least fifteen (15) Society members shall be entitled to seat one (1) Representative on the Society Board. Affiliated organizations shall have certain privileges, the specifics of which are to be determined, updated, and made known to all interested organizations by the Society Board.

ARTICLE VII — SPECIAL FUNDS

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

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

Section C. The Burt L. Monroe Jr. Avian Research Fund was established in honor of Dr. Burt L. Monroe Jr., who was an international authority on the taxonomy of birds and an active member of the Society. Monies in this fund are from designated gifts. The Board may draw upon this fund for purposes covered by its original intent: to assist persons in conducting research on birds within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. A Board-appointed committee shall review all research proposals and make recommendations to the Board regarding grant awards. The Board shall approve expenditures from this fund.

Section D. The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund was established in honor of Mrs. Anne L. Stamm, a distinguished member of the Society who remained active until her death in 1999. Monies in this fund are from designated gifts. The Board may draw upon this fund for purposes covered by its original intent: education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. A Board-appointed committee shall review all research proposals and make recommendations to the Board regarding grant awards. The Board shall approve expenditures from this fund.

ARTICLE VIII — SOCIETY DOCUMENTS

Section A. Western Kentucky University shall be the repository of all books, manuscripts, and works of art acquired by the Society. The University of Louisville library shall be the repository of ornithological journals accumulated through exchanges. The Corresponding Secretary shall maintain suitable storage for the stock of back issues of *The Kentucky Warbler*.

ARTICLE IX — RULES OF ORDER

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

ARTICLE X — AMENDMENTS

Section A. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any legal meeting, provided that a written notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member by the Corresponding Secretary at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which it is to be voted upon.

Note: The present bylaws were adopted by the membership September 28, 1991 (amended September 25, 1999, October 07, 2000, September 24, 2005, and September 30, 2006).

NEWS AND VIEWS

KOS Burt L. Monroe Jr. Avian Research Grant Fund

The KOS Burt L. Monroe Jr. Avian Research Grant Fund supports research on birds in Kentucky up to \$500. For guidelines on how to apply, please contact Dr. Blaine Ferrell, Ogden College of Science and Engineering Dean's Office, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky, 42101 (blaine.ferrell@eku.edu).

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Visit the KOS Website

To learn about the Kentucky Ornithological Society and interesting happenings, visit the KOS website maintained by Dr. Gary Ritchison at www.biology.evu.edu/kos.htm.

Kentucky Bird Records Committee

The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) is charged with determining the validity of records of rare and out-of-season birds in Kentucky. Sightings of such birds should be documented with information supporting the identification promptly submitted to the KBRC. Photographic evidence is desirable but not essential. Electronic documentation is preferred and should be submitted to KBRC Secretary, Mark Bennett, via e-mail at benn5609@bellsouth.net. Hard copy documentation should be mailed to Mark Bennett, KBRC Secretary, 113 Iroquois Circle, Russellville, KY 42276.



Above: Northern Harrier nest, *Hopkins*, 8 June 2006 (see p. 80). **Below:** Brown-headed Cowbird in Bell's Vireo nest, *Union*, 20 June 2006 (see p. 82). Photographs by Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

