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## Kentucky Warbler (Vol. 83, no. 1)

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# *The Kentucky Warbler*

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Editor ..... Blaine R. Ferrell, Ogden College of Science and Engineering  
Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY 42101

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THE COVER

We thank Mark Monroe for the photograph of the Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*) observed in Jefferson County 16-20 August 2006 (see Field Note, p. 37). Financial support for color cover provided by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.



**IN MEMORIAM – DR. CLELL T. PETERSON, 1918-2006**

Hap Chambers

Dr. Clell T. Peterson of Murray, Kentucky, died December 11, 2006, at the age of 88. He was a life member and past president (1963-1964) of the Kentucky Ornithological Society. He was born in northern Minnesota and grew up in Minneapolis. After serving three years in the United States Army (Tank Destroyers Unit), he enrolled in the University of Minnesota in 1946 and earned BA, MA and PhD degrees. In the fall of 1956, he took a position as professor of English at Murray State University.

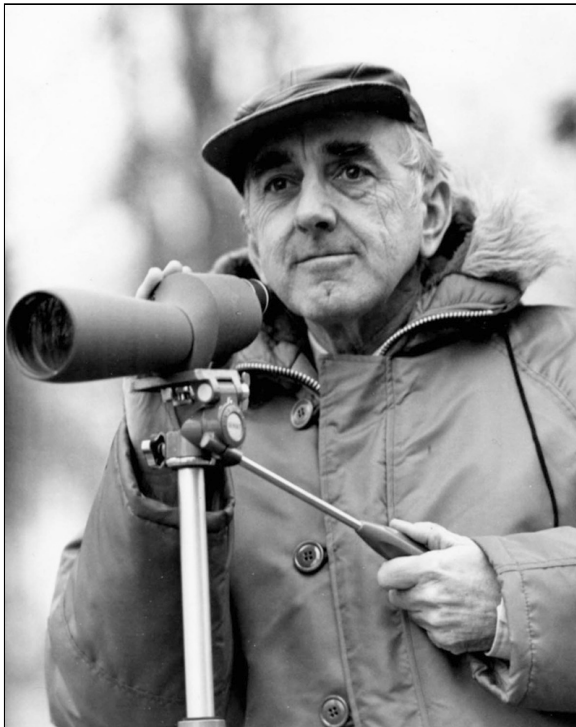
Shortly thereafter, at the friendly prodding of Hunter Hancock of the Murray State University Biology Department, Clell participated in a western Kentucky bird count and within a few years became an avid birdwatcher and field ornithologist.

He took an interest in the wintering Bald Eagles observed at Reelfoot Lake and the TVA Land Between the Lakes Recreational Area. In the late 1970s, he helped organize the Kentucky-Tennessee Eagle Management Team, an organization that did valuable work in publicizing the plight of Bald Eagles and restoring them as nesting species in the area.

Throughout his career, Clell published numerous books, reviews and articles and was co-author of *Kentucky Birds, A Finding Guide* (1973). His 16-page book, *The Eagles Return*, was published in 1988; its Preface includes the following description of its contents: “This little book briefly describes the life history of the Bald Eagle, the forces that endanger it, and the efforts of the Kentucky-Tennessee Eagle Management Team to protect eagles and restore a breeding population in western Kentucky and Tennessee. It has the further purpose of relating the Bald Eagle to our history and culture.”

Clell shared his love of birds and the natural world whenever he had the chance. He offered a class in continuing education at Murray State University where he introduced his passion to students from all walks of life. He encouraged his students to become members of KOS and to participate with Kentucky birders from around the state.

Clell devoted many years of his life to conservation and the betterment of the world around us. He shared his knowledge and left a lasting legacy. He will be missed.



## NEW TERRITORIES AND NOTEWORTHY DYNAMICS IN KENTUCKY'S BREEDING PEREGRINE FALCON POPULATION

Adam D. Smith, Shawchyi Vorisek, and Norman Budd Veverka

In 2003, four years after removal of the Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) from the federal endangered and threatened species list, federal and state agencies, as required by the Endangered Species Act, began implementation of a nationwide monitoring plan for the species. This plan was devised to document indices of Peregrine population health (e.g., territory occupancy, nest success, and productivity) at three-year intervals through 2015 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2003). The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) has monitored the state's known Peregrine nesting territories since the mid-1990s; additionally, as required by the monitoring plan and with federal funding assistance, KDFWR followed the fate of Kentucky's Peregrine territories thoroughly in 2006. These monitoring efforts resulted in the discovery of four new territorial pairs, nearly doubling the number of known pairs in the Commonwealth, as well as the documentation of some noteworthy dynamics within Kentucky's nesting Peregrine population.

### New territories in Kentucky

Dzialak *et al.* (2005) described five established Peregrine Falcon breeding locations in Kentucky through 2004, as well as three breeding sites in Ohio adjacent to Kentucky along the Ohio River (Figure 1). In 2006, we documented four new territorial pairs that, like the previously known pairs, resided within the Ohio River corridor along the state's northern border (Figure 1). New territories were found at the following locations: (1) the East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) Spurlock Station west of Maysville, Mason County; (2) the I-275 bridge east of Covington, Campbell County; (3) the Louisville Gas & Electric (LG&E) Mill Creek Station southwest of Louisville, Jefferson County; and (4) the KY-79 bridge west of Brandenburg, Meade County. We documented a nesting attempt only at the I-275 bridge; however, the pair was unsuccessful in fledging any young.

Both members of the I-275 pair are wild-produced, banded individuals, although at present they remain unidentified. The Spurlock Station pair consists currently of a male hatched at the Miami Fort Station, Cleves, Ohio, in 2004, and a female hatched in downtown Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, in 2004, nearly 400 miles to the north. The Mill Creek Station pair consists of a wild-produced and banded, but as yet unidentified, male and an unknown female. The KY-79 pair consists of a male hatched in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio, in 2004, and an unknown female.

### Floater and the replacement of lost individuals

In addition to territorial, breeding pairs, healthy Peregrine populations typically contain a non-breeding component, termed "floaters" (Brown 1969, Tordoff *et al.* 1998). Floaters of both sexes may linger near breeding Peregrine territories, allowing for the quick replacement of lost breeders (Ratcliffe 1993). Essentially, quantifying the floater component of a Peregrine population is impossible; however, floaters may be more prevalent when suitable nest sites are limited (Tordoff *et al.* 1998). The replacement of lost individuals on four occasions in 2006 suggests a significant floater constituent in Kentucky's Peregrine population. Moreover, the apparent rapidity with which replacement occurred implies that Peregrine's may have saturated suitable nesting locations in the Ohio River corridor (Figure 1) and thus suggests that nesting locations are a primary factor limiting breeding Peregrines in this area.

The four documented replacements in 2006 occurred at three utility stations. The EKPC Spurlock Station had two of these replacements and certainly the most dramatic sequence of events. On 11 April we observed a banded adult male and a banded sub-adult female hunting in proximity of the utility stacks. On 14 April, the sub-adult female (fledged

from the US 421 bridge in Milton, KY, in 2005) was found injured. Less than two weeks later, on 26 April, a new unbanded sub-adult female was present with the male. On 25 May, a third female for the season, a banded adult female from Ontario, was present with the adult male, apparently having evicted the preceding sub-adult female. Single replacements occurred at the LG&E Mill Creek and Trimble County Stations. On 20 June, a banded adult male was found dead along the entrance road into the Mill Creek Station. Ten days later, a new, banded adult male was present with the unbanded sub-adult female. Finally, in August, the female breeder since 2000 at the Trimble County Station was found dead. Within two months, a new adult female was present and behaving territorially with the adult male.

### **All in the family**

In 2006, the breeding female Peregrine present since 2001 at the Kentucky Utilities (KU) Ghent Station, Carroll County, failed to return and a new female Peregrine, hatched at the LG&E Trimble County Station in 2000, assumed the maternal role. The new female fledged two young with the incumbent male, which interestingly shares parents with his new mate (although the male was hatched in 2001). Thus, the pair comprises full siblings from different wild broods. Such close inbreeding in the reintroduced Midwestern Peregrine population is rare but not unprecedented. Between 1987 and 1998, 4% of the nesting pairs in the Midwest comprised half siblings, full siblings, or parent and offspring (Tordoff and Redig 1999). Nonetheless, during this 12-year span, all offspring resulting from these closely-related pairs appeared in good health, and the ability of closely-related pairs to produce viable young did not differ from the Peregrine population at large (Tordoff and Redig 1999).

### **Looking forward**

The apparent lack of nesting attempts at three of the four new territories discovered in 2006 may have resulted from an absence of adequate nesting sites. To address this possibility, KDFWR, with assistance from EKPC and LG&E, installed nest boxes at both the Spurlock and Mill Creek stations, respectively, and the Indiana Department of Transportation is considering a nesting structure for the KY-79 bridge.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KTC) has agreed to allow KDFWR to install nesting structures on several KTC-maintained bridges spanning the Ohio River beginning with the Big 4 in Louisville; KDFWR also plans to install nesting structures on the US 421 and I-275 bridges. This collaboration emerged from the documented success of nesting structures in improving the productivity of Peregrines nesting at utility stations in Kentucky (Dzialak *et al.* 2005), the probability that suitable nest sites are a limiting factor in Kentucky, and the relatively high mortality of young Peregrines hatched on bridges since their reintroduction (Tordoff *et al.* 2004). In a similar collaboration with the Commerce Cabinet, the KDFWR installed a nest box on the 23<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Capital Plaza Tower (CPT) overlooking the Kentucky River in downtown Frankfort. Additionally, Peregrines continue to use the nest box in downtown Lexington as a winter roost and feeding site; winter 2006-2007 tenants currently include a male from Dayton, Ohio, and a female hatched in eastern Wisconsin; both hatched in 2006.

Despite the intensity of KDFWR's Peregrine monitoring work in 2006, many potential sites for additional nesting territories remain unmonitored. For example, numerous industrial sites and bridges are located along the Ohio River corridor, as well as other major river corridors in the state's interior (i.e., Green and Kentucky rivers). Furthermore, many of the natural cliffines of the Cumberland Plateau seem adequate from an historical perspective. In the effort to document the reestablishment of the state's Peregrine breeding population, we encourage members of Kentucky's birding community to monitor potential sites and contact us with any evidence of use.

### Acknowledgments

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service funded Peregrine monitoring personnel (NBV) in 2006. We are tremendously grateful to staff at the EKPC Spurlock and LG&E Mill Creek Stations for expediting the construction (Mill Creek) and installation of nesting structures at their respective plants. Likewise, we thank Commerce Cabinet and Finance and Administration Cabinet staff for access to the 23<sup>rd</sup> floor of the CPT during nest box installation. Furthermore, we thank those who facilitated this year's monitoring efforts by providing access to their respective properties: LG&E Trimble County and Mill Creek, KU Ghent, EKPC Spurlock, Craig Royce and The Webb Companies (Lexington Financial Center), and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (I-275 bridge). Finally, we appreciate the dedication of Raptor Rehabilitation of Kentucky, Inc., and Wingspan of Kentucky, Inc., for their efforts to rehabilitate several injured or ill Peregrines in 2006.

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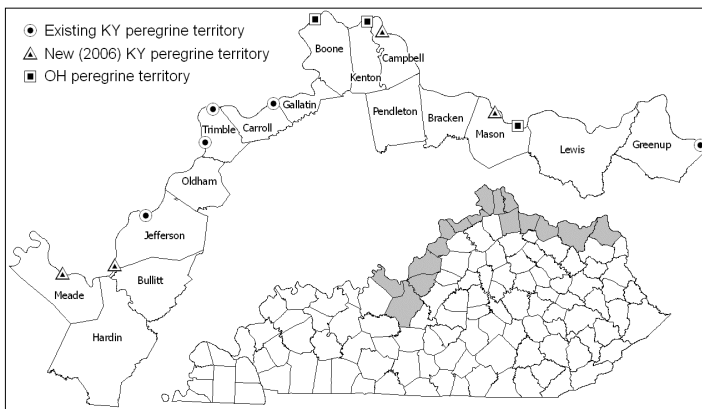


Figure 1. The locations of known territorial Peregrine Falcon pairs in Kentucky and along the Ohio River corridor in Ohio in 2006. The shaded portion of the state map indicates the counties shown in detail; specifically, we detail all Kentucky counties along the Ohio River from Greenup County to Meade County.

## FALL SEASON 2006

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely

The fall 2006 season was characterized by overall relatively normal temperatures and precipitation; however, the conditions during individual months were more variable. Temperatures in August were warmer than normal, in large part due to a hot period during the first two weeks of the month when the temperature reached summer maximums of 95°F on three days at Louisville, 96°F on two days at Paducah, and 99°F on one day at Bowling Green. Temperatures during September and October were cooler than normal, but November temperatures were warmer than normal across the state. Precipitation was above average statewide during August through September, especially in western Kentucky, where Paducah experienced a record amount of rain for the month of September. The major precipitation event of the autumn occurred 22-23 September, when Louisville recorded about five inches of rainfall, causing much local flash-flooding. In contrast, November was drier than normal in the central and eastern parts of the state, but wetter than normal again in the west.

The rarity of the season was the Little Stint at Louisville, a bird that represents one of only a handful of confirmed interior North American records. Other rarity highlights included a Wood Stork, a Great Black-backed Gull, and two White Ibis. In contrast to 2005, this year saw the remnants of no tropical systems pass through the state as well as the accompanying pelagic vagrants. By season's end, it was clear that there would be no pronounced flight of boreal species, notably finches. Natural food crops including evergreen cones, berries, acorns, and hickory nuts, all appeared to be produced in average to slightly below average abundance.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports 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:** Barren = Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren*; Berea = Berea, *Madison*; Blood River = Blood River embayment, *Ky Lake, Calloway*; Briarwood = Briarwood, *Jefferson*; Camp #9 = Peabody Camp #9 coal preparation plant, *Union*; Camp #11 = former Camp #11 mine, *Union*; Caperton = Caperton Swamp Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*; Cherokee Park = Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*; Clifty Pond = Clifty Pond, near Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*; Cooley's Pond = Cooley's Pond, *Wayne*; Falls of the Ohio = Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*; Fishing Creek = Fishing Creek embayment, *Lake Cumberland, Pulaski*; Frankfort = Frankfort, *Franklin*; Freeman Lake = Freeman Lake, *Hardin*; Garvin Brown = Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, *ne. Jefferson*; Grassy Pond/Powells Lake = Grassy Pond/Powells Lake Unit Sloughs WMA, *w. Henderson*; Gunpowder Creek = Gunpowder Creek Nature Park, *Boone*; Guthrie Swamp = Guthrie Swamp, *Todd*; Hardy Slough = Hardy Slough, *Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson*; Hays Kennedy = Hays Kennedy Park, *ne. Jefferson*; Horseshoe Road = slough next to Horseshoe Road, *w. Henderson*; Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek embayment, *Kentucky Lake, Marshall*; Joe Creason Park = Joe Creason Park, *Jefferson*; Ken/Hopewell = Ken/Hopewell Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio*; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall*; Ky Lake = Kentucky Lake, *Marshall* (unless otherwise noted); Kuttawa =



Lake Barkley at Kuttawa, *Lyon*; Lake Barkley = Lake Barkley, *Livingston/Lyon/Trigg*; Lake No. 9 = Lake No. 9, *Fulton*; LBL = Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, *Trigg* (unless otherwise noted); Little River = Little River embayment, Lake Barkley, *Trigg*; Mammoth Cave = Mammoth Cave National Park, *Edmonson* (unless otherwise noted); Melco = Melco flood retention basin, *Jefferson*; Middle Creek Park = Middle Creek Park, *Boone*; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*; Mitchell Lake = Mitchell Lake, Ballard WMA, *Ballard*; Mt. Zion = Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*; NWR = National Wildlife Refuge; Newport = Newport, *Campbell*; Open Pond = Open Pond, *Fulton*; Oven Fork = crest of Pine Mountain near Oven Fork, *Letcher*; Paradise = Paradise Power Plant impoundments, *Muhlenberg*; Payne Plant = Louisville Water Company Payne Treatment Plant, *Jefferson*; Pleasant Hill Church Road = Pleasant Hill Church Road, *Trigg*; Pumphrey Farm = Pumphrey Farm, n. *Pulaski*; St. Matthews = St. Matthews, *Jefferson*; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit of Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*; Shaker Mill = Shaker Mill, *Warren*; Shawnee Park = Shawnee Park, *Jefferson*; Sinclair = Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*; Sloughs WMA = Sloughs WMA, *Henderson/Union*; Surrey Hills Farm = Surrey Hills Farm, ne. *Jefferson*; Thurston's Pond = Thurston's Pond, *Wayne*; Tom Sawyer Park = E.P. "Tom" Sawyer State Park, *Jefferson*; Waitsboro = Waitsboro Recreation Area, Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski*; WMA = Wildlife Management Area; Wolf Creek Dam = Wolf Creek Dam, Lake Cumberland, *Russell*.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** – earliest reports were of several flocks totaling ca. 115 birds over Sauerheber 29 October (CC, DR, TD) and a flock heard over Pleasant Hill Church Road 31 October (BL, PL). Peak count was “many hundreds” at Sauerheber 26 November (BY, MY) and 1000 there 28 November (MMr).

**Snow Goose** – a flock of 130 over Barren 31 October (DR) was relatively far e. for such a sizable group.

**Ross's Goose** – the only report was of 1 at Island Lake, Homestead Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio*, 25 November (DR).

**Mute Swan** – there were a few reports, including two of early-season birds that may have been of local origin rather than early migrants, all being included: 1 first-year bird at Cooley's Pond 19 August (RDn); 1 at Reformatory Lake, *Oldham*, 14 September (BW); 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 22 November (RDv) to 26 November (MAu).

**Tundra Swan** – earliest report of Sauerheber's wintering flock were 7 there 16 November (MMr) with 13 there by 28 November (MMr).

**Wood Duck** – 125-150+ at Lake No. 9 on 13 August (BP, RDv, RDn).

**Gadwall** – earliest reports were of 2 at Lake No. 9 on 14 August (BP, RDv, RDn) and 2 at Camp #11 on 23 August (BP); peak count was of 2250 at Sloughs WMA 28 November (MMr).

**American Wigeon** – earliest report was of a f. at Minor Clark 4 September (LH).

**Blue-winged Teal** – peak count was of 80+ at Paradise 15 August (DR);

**Northern Shoveler** – earliest report was of 3 at Mitchell Lake 14 August (BP, RDv).

**Green-winged Teal** – earliest reports were of 2 at Horseshoe Road 23 August (BP) and 1 or 2 at Melco 4 September (BP et al.); peak counts included 100+ on Barren 25 October (DR); “hundreds” at Sauerheber 29 October (CC, DR, TD) with 330 at Sloughs WMA 28 November (MMr); and 200+ at Camp #11 on 9 November (BP).

**Ring-necked Duck** – earliest report was of 2 at Minor Clark 7 October (LH).

**Greater Scaup** – earliest report was of 1 on Barren 31 October (DR).

**Lesser Scaup** – ca. 10 on Lake Barkley above the dam 17 September (BP et al.) were likely summering birds.

**Surf Scoter** – there were not many reports this fall, all being included: a female/imm.

at Freeman Lake 2 November (RH); 2 at Waitsboro 12 November (RDn); single females/imms. on the Ohio River at and just upstream from Louisville 12 November (EH, BP, et al.); and 6 (including 3 ad. males) on Skaggs Creek embayment, Barren, *Barren*, 15 November (DR).

**White-winged Scoter** – there were two reports of females/imms.: 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 21-23 November (TB, ph. EH, et al.) and 1 shot on the Ohio River near the mouth of the Green River, *Henderson*, 23 November (ph. JDu, fide JL).

**Black Scoter** – there were three reports of females/imms.: 1 at Waitsboro (RDn); 1 on Barren (DR); and 3 on the Ohio River at Louisville (EH, MS, et al.), all 12 November.

**Common Merganser** – earliest reports were of 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 1/11 November (EH).

**Ruddy Duck** – a summering bird continued at Lexington into late October (SM); 1 on Lake Barkley above the dam 17 September (BP et al.) was either a summering bird or early migrant. Early season peak counts were of 80+ on Lake Barkley above the dam 17 October (DR) with ca 175 there 21 October (HC, ME).

**Common Loon** – reports of likely early migrants included 1 at Ken/Hopewell 28 August (EWm); peak counts were limited to 160 on Barren 31 October (DR); 86 on Lake Cumberland, *Russell*, 1 November (RDn); ca. 100 on Barren 3 November (DR); and 50 on Lake Cumberland, *Russell*, 12 November (RDn).

**Pied-billed Grebe** – 12 each at Camp #9 and Camp #11 were likely of local nesting origin 23 August (BP); singles at Fishing Creek 9 August (RDn) and Ky Dam 15 August (DR, HC) were likely early migrants.

**Horned Grebe** – earliest report was of 1 at Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*, 1 October (JE); peak counts included 80-100 on the Ohio River at Louisville 1 November (DR) and 95 on Lake Cumberland, *Rus-*

*sell*, (RDn); 50 at Waitsboro (RDn); 55 on the Ohio River at Louisville (EH, MSi, et al.); and 100-110 on Barren (DR), all 12 November.

**Red-necked Grebe** – there were two reports: 1 at Waitsboro 4-24 November (ph. RDn) and 1 on the Ohio River at Towhead Island, *Jefferson*, 19 November (\*JBe, PB). KBRC review required.



Red-necked Grebe, *Pulaski*  
5 November 2006  
Roseanna Denton

**American White Pelican** – peak counts were of 630+ on Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, 6 October (DR) and ca. 490 at Kuttawa 25 November (BY, MY); the farthest e. vagrants this season were 4 that continued at Paradise from late July to 22 September (DR et al.) and 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 12 November (MSi).

**Double-crested Cormorant** – 6 at Nolin Lake, *Hart*, 16 September (SK et al.) were a local first; peak counts were not remarkable and included 400+ on Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, 8 October (HC).

**American Bittern** – there were several reports, all being included: 1 at Garvin Brown 25 September (MWa et al.); 1 at Sauerheber 1 October (JBr); 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 6 October (WG); 1 at Mark, *Pulaski*, 12 October (RDn, CN, GH); 1 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS); 2 at Garvin Brown and 1 at Hays Kennedy, both 22 October (MWa); 2 at Hardy Slough 29 October (DR, TD, CC); and 1 at Camp #11 on 9 November (BP).

**Least Bittern** – only report was of 1 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS).



White Ibis (2 juvs), *Fulton*  
9 August 2006  
David Roemer

**Great Egret** – peak counts of post-breeding aggregations included 8 s. of Boston, *Nelson*, 9 August (BP); ca. 700 at Lake No. 9 on 9 August (DR) with 450+ there 13 August (BP, RDv, RDn); up to 15 at the Van Buren boat ramp, Taylorsville Lake, *Anderson*, during August (BW, MBa); 20 at Melco 11 August (BP) with a peak count of 24 there 2 September (BP et al.); 20+ at Paradise 20 August (DR); ca. 50 at Mitchell Lake 21 August (DR); and 100+ at Little River 6 October (DR). Small numbers again lingered late into November with the latest reports being 1 each at Cooley's Pond and Thurston's Pond 18 November (RDn, SBC) and 1 at Jonathan Creek 22 November (HC, BH).

**Snowy Egret** – 1 at Guthrie Swamp 6 August (MBe, DR); 50-75+ at Lake No. 9 on 13 August (BP, RDv, RDn); 2 near Horseshoe Road 23 August (BP); 20 still at Mitchell Lake and a few on Lake Barkley above the dam, both 17 September (BP et al.). Latest reports were of 2 at Little River and 1 on Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, both 6 October (DR).

**Little Blue Heron** – reports of interest included 2 at Guthrie Swamp 6 August (MBe, DR); 10 s. of Boston, *Nelson*, 9 August (BP); ca. 50 at Lake No. 9 on 9 August (DR); 1 juv. at Thurston's Pond 19 August (RDn); an ad. at Paradise 30

August (DR); and 13 juvs. at Hardy Slough 23 August (BP).

**Cattle Egret** – latest reports were of 15-20 along US 68, *Trigg*, 6 October (DR); 15 quite far e. along KY 504, *Elliott*, 20 October (EM); and 1 at Camp #11 on 9 November (BP).

**White Ibis** – 2 juvs. were present at Lake No. 9 on 9 August (DR) with 1 juv. lingering there to 14 August (BP, RDv, RDn)

**Wood Stork** – an imm. was found at Lake No. 9 on 9 August (ph. DR) and lingered through 13 August (RDn). KBRC review required.



Wood Stork, *Fulton*  
9 August 2006  
David Romer

**Osprey** – an ad. at the Falls of the Ohio 9 August (BP) and 1 at Lake No. 9 on 14 August (BP, RDv, RDn) were both relatively early for migrants and may have been in the vicinity of nesting attempts. Latest reports were of 1 at Fishing Creek 31 October (RDn); 1 at Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer*, ca. 4 November (EH); and a juv. at Lake Peewee 10 November (BP).

**Northern Harrier** – an ad. male was seen sw. of Willow Pond, *Fulton*, 14 August (BP, RDv).

**Northern Goshawk** – a juv. was reported from near Walnut Creek embayment, Barren, *Allen*, 20 October (DR). KBRC review required.

**Broad-winged Hawk** – the only peak count reported was a tally of 302 from Oven Fork during 16-19 September (SSw, TBr, et al.).

**Red-tailed Hawk** – there were several reports of western forms including a dark morph type (*B. j. calurus* or *B. j. harlani*) at Oven Fork 18 September (SSw, TBr, et al.); 2 adult light morph *B. j. calurus* in *Henderson* 14 October (DR); 2 adult light morph *B. j. calurus* in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR); an adult light morph *B. j. calurus* at Sauerheber 29 October (DR, TD); a dark/intermediate morph adult *B. j. calurus* near Camp #9 on 9 November (BP).

**Golden Eagle** – the only report was of 1 near Birmingham Point, *Marshall*, 10 November (DR).

**Merlin** – there was an above average number of reports, all being included: 1 at Briarwood 22 August (JBe, PB); 1 over St. Matthews 6 September (BW); singles at Melco 8 September/3 October/9 November (EH); 1 at Oven Fork 16 September (SSw, TBr, et al.); 1 along the Red River near the Stillwater Creek confluence, *Wolfe*, 20 September (BP); 1 at Fishing Creek 21 September (RDn); at least 1, possibly 2 at South Shore WMA, *Greenup*, 30 September (BP, KOS); 1 at Sauerheber 10/14 October (DR, et al.); 1 at Ken/Hopewell 23 October (DR, RDv); 1 in e. *Trigg* 24 October (BL); 1 at Sauerheber 29 October (DR, TD); 1 in *Barren* 21 November (DR); 1 at Walton's Pond, *Warren*, 24 November (DR); singles at Hartford, *Ohio*, and at Shaker Mill (DR), both 25 November; 1 along the Ohio River at Louisville 26 November (MA); and 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 28 November (BP).

**Peregrine Falcon** – there were several reports, all being included: 1 or both members of the Louisville breeding pair were observed off and on at the Falls of the Ohio during the period (m. ob.); a juv. at Melco 17 August (BP et al.); 1 in *Hart* 16 September (SK et al.); 1 at Jonathan Creek 11 September (DR); 1 at Minor Clark in mid-September (LH, MWr); 1 along Pine Mountain n. of Putney, *Har-*

*lan*, 29 September (AS); an imm. picked up injured at Shively, *Jefferson*, 1 October (EWc); 1 at the Louisville landfill, *Jefferson*, during November (SC); and a banded adult in Lexington in late October that was noteworthy for its diet, which included 2 Horned Grebes and a Pied-billed Grebe, presumably obtained at one of the city's water reservoirs (AS).

**King Rail** – the only report was of 1 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS).

**Virginia Rail** – there were a few reports, all being included: 2 that responded to tapes at the Gibraltar Mine, *Muhlenberg*, 17 September (BP et al.); 1 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS); 1 at Garvin Brown 22 October (MWa); and 1 in a marsh e. of Drakesboro, *Muhlenberg*, 24 November (BY, MY).

**Sora** – peak count was ca. 12 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS); latest report was of 1 at Sauerheber 29 October (DR, TD).

**American Coot** – peak count was of ca. 2000 at Camp #11 on 9 November (BP).

**Sandhill Crane** – earliest reports were of a single bird at Sauerheber 25 September (JBr); 30-40 over w. *Mercer* 21 October (RV); a flock over Prospect, *Jefferson*, 23 October (BW); 4 over Barren (DR) and 12 over Vernon, *Monroe* (JT, fide TC), both 25 October; and 3 over Garvin Brown 28 October (JBe, PB, et al.). The peak count was of 1200 over *Hart* 22 November (MSu).

**Black-bellied Plover** – very few reports, all being included: 1 ad. at Melco 20 August (BP et al.); 1 at Lake No. 9 on 21 August (DR); and 1 at Jonathan Creek 9 October (HC) and 11 October (ME).

**American Golden-Plover** – very few reports, all being included: 1 ad. at Mitchell Lake 10/14 August (SR; BP, RDv); 1 ad. at Melco 18 August (BP); 5 at Hardy Slough 16 September (CC); 1 juv. at Mitchell Lake 17 September (BP et al.); and 1 juv. at Sauerheber 25 September (JBr).

**Semipalmated Plover** – latest report was of 1 at Melco 30 October (ph. EH).

**Piping Plover** – there were at least three reports: 1 at Paradise 15 August (ph. DR); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 15 August (TbC, CB, MY) to 16 August (BY) with perhaps a different individual there 26 August (TbC); 2 at Minor Clark 24 August (MWr, MG, et al.) with 1 there to 29 August (TH, ph. LH); and 1 at Paradise 12 September (ph. DR).



Piping Plover, *Rowan*  
26 August 2006  
Roseanna Denton

**American Avocet** – there were two reports: 8 at the Falls of the Ohio (MWA et al.) and 4 at Paradise (DR), both 15 August.

**Greater Yellowlegs** – latest reports were of 16 at Melco 31 October (EH, BP); 12 at Grassy Pond/Powell's Lake 5 November (CC); 2 at Jonathan Creek (DR) and 2 n. of Lafayette, *Christian* (BP, BL), both 10 November; 4 e. of Cadiz, *Trigg*, 18 November with 1 last observed there 24 November (BL); and 1 at the Payne Plant 27 November (BW).

**Willet** – there were several reports, all being included: a juv. at Lake No. 9 on 13-14 August (BP, RDv, RDn) with 2 there 19 August (HC) and 1 there 21 August (DR); 1 at Blood River 28 August (HC); 1 just w. of Winchester, *Clark*, 30 August (ph. JY et al.); and a juv. at Melco 31 August–9 September (JBe, PB, BP, et al.).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** – peak counts included 50+ at Melco 2/4 September (BP et al.) and 150+ at Sauerheber 25 September

(JBr); latest report was of 2 tardy birds at Sauerheber 26 November (BY, MY).

**Solitary Sandpiper** – latest report was of 1 at Jonathan Creek 25 October (HC).

**Spotted Sandpiper** – latest reports were of 1 at Blood River 23 October (HC, BH) and 1 at Jonathan Creek 28 October (HC, BH).

**Upland Sandpiper** – the only reports were of 2 at Minor Clark 5 August (ph. LH et al.) and 1 heard over Melco 17 August (DR).

**Whimbrel** – 2 reported at the Falls of the Ohio 15 August (MWA) would represent a first state record for fall. KBRC review required.

**Sanderling** – there were not many reports, all being included: a juv. on a slough along KY 268 nw. of Sauerheber 23 August (BP) with 2 there 26 August (CC); 2 at Melco 27 August (JBe, PB, et al.) with 1 there 30 August (EH); 1 at Blood River 28 August (HC); 3 at Laketon 31 August with 4 there 1 September (DR); 1 ad. at the Falls of the Ohio 1 September (BP); and a juv. at Minor Clark 4 September (LH).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** – peak counts were of ca. 50 at Lake No. 9 on 9 August (DR) with 85+ there 13 August (BP, RDv, RDn).

**Western Sandpiper** – not numerous this fall; all reports are included: 2 at Mitchell Lake 2 August (JBr); 2 at Paradise 2 August (DR); 6 at Lake No. 9 on 9 August (DR) with 3 ads. there 13 August (BP, RDv, RDn); 1 at Blood River 23/28 August/17 September (HC); 8 juvs. at Paradise 24 August (DR); 1 juv. at Laketon 31 August (DR); 1 at Minor Clark 2-4 September (MWr, LH); a juv. at Mitchell Lake 17 September (BP et al.); 2 at the Wildcat Creek embayment of Ky Lake, *Calloway*, 20 September (HC, BH).

**Little Stint** – an ad. in worn alternate plumage at Melco 16-21 August (ph./.\* BP et al.) will represent a first state record. KBRC review required.



Little Stint, *Jefferson*  
17 August 2006  
David Roemer

**Least Sandpiper** – peak counts were of ca. 200 at Lake No. 9 on 9 August (DR) and 165 at Jonathan Creek 23 October (HC, BH); latest reports away from Ky Lake (where small numbers likely overwinter) were of 3 n. of Lafayette, *Christian*, 10 November (BP, BL) and 2 e of Cadiz, *Trigg*, 24 November (BL).

**White-rumped Sandpiper** – there were several reports of this rare fall shorebird this season, all being included: 1 at Minor Clark 1-2 September (MW<sub>r</sub>, MG, ph. LH); 1 ad. at Melco 1-7 September (ph. BP et al.); 2 at Fishing Creek 20 September (ph. RD<sub>n</sub>) with 1 still there 21 September (RD<sub>n</sub>); and 1 at Sauerheber 26 September (JBr).

**Baird's Sandpiper** – earliest report was of 1 at Mitchell Lake 2 August (JBr); also reported were 1 at Minor Clark 26-27 August (MW<sub>r</sub> et al.); an ad. at Melco 26-29 August (BP, JBe, PB); at least 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 1/7 September (BP); 1 at Fishing Creek 29 August (RD<sub>n</sub>); a juv. at Melco 2-9 September (BP et al.); 1 at Jonathan Creek (HC, BH) and 1 at Paradise (DR, RD<sub>v</sub>), both 23 October.

**Pectoral Sandpiper** – peak counts were of 500+ at Lake No. 9 on 13 August (BP, RD<sub>v</sub>, RD<sub>n</sub>) with 650 there 21 August (DR); 300+ at Mitchell Lake 14 August (BP, RD<sub>v</sub>); and 110 at Melco 19 August (BP).

**Dunlin** – earliest report was of a juv. at Sauerheber 25 September (\*JBr); latest reports were of 6 at Open Pond 25 November (BY, MY) and an unspecified number at Jonathan Creek 26 November (HC). Peak counts were of 47 at Blood River 25 October (HC) and 85 at Jonathan Creek 10 November (DR). Other reports of interest included 1 at Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*, 16 October (JE, DE); 9 at Melco 31 October (EH, BP) with 1 still there 1 November (EH); 2 at Minor Clark 4 November (MW<sub>r</sub>, LH); 10 at Grassy Pond/Powell's Lake 5 November (CC); 13 e. of Cadiz, *Trigg*, 10 November (BL, BP); and 1 at Walton's Pond, *Warren*, 18 November (DR).

**Stilt Sandpiper** – peak counts were of 15 at Mitchell Lake 14 August (BP, RD<sub>v</sub>) and 30 (an all-time high count for the Louisville area) at Melco 4 September (BP et al.) with 20-25 still there 7 September (BP); latest reports were of 1 at Fishing Creek 12-18 October (RD<sub>n</sub>) and 1 in w. *Fulton* 19 October (DR). Other reports of interest included 1 at Fishing Creek 9 August (RD<sub>n</sub>) with 2 there 27 August/4 September (RD<sub>n</sub>) and 4 there 6 September (RD<sub>n</sub>); at least 5 at the Payne Plant 21 September (BW); 1 as far e. as Minor Clark 15 August (JH); and 7 at Sauerheber 25 September (JBr).

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** – there were not many reports, all being included: 1 at Camp #9 on 23 August (BP); 2 at Blood River 25 August (HC et al.); 1 at Melco 27-28 August (JBe, PB, et al.); 12 at Laketon 31 August (DR); 2 at the Falls of the Ohio 1/7 September (BP); 1 at Minor Clark 4 September (SS<sub>w</sub>, NS); and 2 at Melco 7-10 September (BP, EH, JH).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** – peak counts were of 5 at the Falls of the Ohio 6 August (TB<sub>c</sub>, CB) and 13 at Melco 1/4 September (BP et al.) with 10+ still there 9 September (BP); latest reports were of a juv. at Mitchell Lake 17 September (BP et al.); 1 at Jonathan Creek 20 September (HC, BH); and 1 seen and heard at Sauerheber 10 October (DR) that established a new late fall date. Other reports of interest in-

cluded 1 at Minor Clark 26 August (GR) and a juv. at Fishing Creek 4-6 September (RDn). Four dowitchers at Sauerheber 25-26 September were not confirmed to identity (JBr).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** – there were several reports, all being included: 1 was rather early at Guthrie Swamp 6 August (MBe, DR); 1 at Sauerheber 10 October (DR) with 9 there 14 October (DR, KOS); 8 in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR) with 17 there 19 October (DR); a juv. at Melco 31 October (ph. EH, BP); a juv. n. of Lafayette, *Christian*, 10 November (BP, BL); and 8 at Open Pond 25 November (vt. BY, MY). Nine dowitchers unconfirmed to species at Blood River 21 October (HC, ME); 11 there 23 October (HC, BH); and 5 there 25/28 October (HC) were likely Long-billed, as was a fly-by at Sauerheber 29 October (DR, TD) and 1 at Jonathan Creek 26-27 November (HC, ME).

**Wilson's Snipe** – earliest reports were of 1 at Minor Clark 15 August (LH) and 1 at Melco 18 August (BP et al.); peak count was of 100+ at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS).

**American Woodcock** – there were a few reports including one of a juv. still retaining some down along Open Fork Road, *Elliott*, 14 August (EM); 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 12 November (BP, MMn); 1 near Dot, *Logan*, 17 November (FL); and 2 in *Hart* 23 November (MSu).

**Wilson's Phalarope** – there were three reports: 2 juvs. at Lake No. 9 on 9 August (DR) with 1 lingering there to 13 August (BP, RDv, RDn); 2 juvs. at Hickman, *Fulton*, 12 August (JBe, PB, AC); and a juv. at Melco 29-30 August (BP et al.).

**Laughing Gull** – there were several reports, all being included: a juv. on Lake Barkley at Mineral Mound State Park, *Lyon*, 15 August (DR); a second-year or ad. at Ky Dam 21 August (DR); 5 juvs. at the Ky Dam Village marina, Marshall, 13 September (DR); a juv. on the Ohio River at the mouth of the Licking River, *Campbell/Kenton*, 14-15 September (DB, ph. FR); 3 juvs. in the vicinity of Ky Dam 17

September (BP et al.) with 5 juv./first-winter birds there 19 September (RDn) and 4 juvs. there 22 September (DR); and 2 juv./first-winter birds there 1 October (HC, ME) and 6 October (DR).

**Franklin's Gull** – there were five reports: a first-year bird at Jonathan Creek 11 September (DR); 5 first-year birds on Ky Lake 17 October (DR); 2 at Jonathan Creek 23 October (HC, BH); 2 (adult and first-year) at Barren 31 October (DR); 7 at Freeman Lake 1 November (DR); and 2 first-years on Ky Lake at Birmingham Point 10 November (DR).

**Bonaparte's Gull** – earliest report was of a juv. at Ky Dam 21 August (DR); peak count was of 800 at Barren 6 November (DR).

**Herring Gull** – earliest report was of an ad. on Lake Barkley above the dam 15 August (DR) with 10+ there by 21 August (DR) and 25-30 there by 17 September (BP et al.).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** – there were only two reports: a first-year bird at Ky Dam 6/19 October (DR) and an adult at Jonathan Creek 9 October (HC).

**Great Black-backed Gull** – a first-year bird was present at the Falls of the Ohio 6-9 September (vt. BY, MY, ph. BP). KBRC review required.



Great Black-backed Gull, *Jefferson*  
7 September 2006  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

**Least Tern** – there were three reports of vagrants: an ad. at Clifty Pond 3 August (ph. RDn); an ad. and a juv. together at Melco

26 August (BP, JBe, PB); and interestingly another ad. and juv. at Paradise, also 26 August (DR, TD). A juv. was still at Mitchell Lake 17 September (BP et al.). An impressive count of ca. 150 late-season nesting birds was tallied on an island in the Ohio River upstream from Mound City, IL, *Ballard*, 1 August (JBr, GB).

**Caspian Tern** – peak counts were of 30 at Paradise 21 August (DR); 150+ on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 21 August (DR) with 300 in the same area 11 September (DR) and 110 still in the same area 18 September (RDn); and ca. 50 still at Kuttawa 6 October (DR).

**Black Tern** – there was a widespread flight of small numbers, especially along the Mississippi and lower Ohio rivers; peak counts were of 25 at Paradise 20 August (DR) and 11 at Melco 28 August (BP et al.). Other reports of interest included 4 at Clifty Pond and 2 at Fishing Creek, both 18 August (RDn); 1 at Fishing Creek 27 August (RDn); 6 at Minor Clark 1 September (MWr, MG) with 7 there 10 September (MWr); and 2 at Fishing Creek 20 September (RDn).

**Common Tern** – there were only two reports: 1 at Tompkinsville City Park, *Monroe*, 27 August (ph. SSt, WW) that was a county-first; and several at Minor Clark 1 September (MWr).

**Forster's Tern** – earliest report was of 2 at Fishing Creek 4 August (RDn); peak counts were of 21 at Paradise 15 August (DR) and 59 at Jonathan Creek 26 August (ME, HC) with 131 there 11 October (ME) and 166 there 28 October (HC, BH). Another report of interest was of 8 at the Tompkinsville City Park, *Monroe*, 27 August (SSt, WW) that represents a county-first.

**Eurasian Collared-Dove** – the only report from a new area was of 2 at Hartford, *Ohio*, 25 November (DR).

**Black-billed Cuckoo** – the only report was of 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 11 September (JBe, PB).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo** – latest reports were of singles in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR) and along Pleasant Hill Church Road 20 October (BL).

**Barn Owl** – there were four reports: 1 at Mt. Zion 21 August (RDn); 5 in a family group were still present outside New Castle, *Henry*, where they had been present since at least August, on 11 September (GD, BP); a family group of up to 5 birds in Salt Lick, *Bath*, during the first two weeks of August (JW, EWc); and 2 injured yg. and an ad. at a farm ne. of Pleasant Home, *Owen*, in August (WSt, EWc).

**Short-eared Owl** – earliest reports were of 1 along the Bluegrass Parkway, sw. of Bards-town, *Nelson*, 23 October (AS); 1 at Overbrook Farm, *Fayette*, 10 November (WSc, fide RC); and 4 at Sinclair 19 November (P&SF).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl** – the only report was of 1 banded at Surrey Hills Farm 20 November (MMn et al.).

**Common Nighthawk** – peak counts were right on schedule and included “hundreds” over sw. *Jefferson* (CL) and 800-1000 over Rineyville, *Hardin* (MAd), both 29 August; latest reports were of 1 over Middletown, *Jefferson*, 1 October (MY, BY); 1 at Fulton, *Fulton*, 19 October (DR); and a very tardy individual was observed at Somersets, *Pulaski*, 17 November (RDn).

**Whip-poor-will** – 1 was heard along Open Fork Road, *Elliott*, 26 August (EM).

**Chimney Swift** – latest reports were of several in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR) and ca. 10 over Prospect 22 October (BW).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird** – peak counts included 50 at Dunmore, *Muhlenberg*, in mid-August (fide LC) and at least 50 at Cherokee Park 15 September (MA). A number of birds lingered at scattered localities into latter October with the latest reports being a likely injured female near Fisherville, *Jefferson*, 1 November (EH, JH) and a female near Dot, *Logan*, 2 November (FL).



- Rufous Hummingbird** – there were three reports: an imm. female banded near Peytona, *Shelby*, 26 October (\*BP, HG) that lingered to 4 or 5 November (HG); an ad. female banded s. of Waddy, *Shelby*, 28 October (\*BP, D&LD) that lingered for about two weeks (D&LD); and an ad. male at Panorama Shores, *Calloway*, about 1 or 2 October (no details; fide KC).
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** – earliest reports were of singles at Shawnee Park 20 September (JBe, PB, et al.) and Hays Kennedy 21 September (BW); above average numbers were reported from the LBL area into early winter (BL).
- Northern Flicker** – a “nice movement with many flocks of up to 10-12 birds” was noted in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR).
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** – the only reports were of singles outside of Berea 30 August (TA) and at East Bend Power Plant, *Boone*, 16 September (LM et al.).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** – an ad. with bob-tailed fledglings was present at Miles Park, e. *Jefferson*, 16 September (BW); a very tardy individual was present below Wolf Creek Dam 12 November (ph. RDn). A wood-pewee unconfirmed to species was present at Barren River Lake State Park, *Barren*, 20 October (\*ph. DR).
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** – there were several reports, all being included: 1 at Gunpowder Creek 2 September (LM); 2 at Casey Creek, *Adair*, 8 September (RDn); 2 at Berea College Forest, *Madison*, 14 September (TH); 1 at Shaker Mill 16 September (DR); 1 at Mammoth Cave 17 September (JBe, PB, BBC); 1 along the Red River near the Stillwater Creek confluence, *Wolfe*, 20 September (BP); singles banded at Frankfort 12/25 September (AS); and 1 at Shaker Mill 11 October (DR) that represented a new late fall date for the state.
- Alder Flycatcher** – there was one confirmed report: 1 seen and heard calling at Mt. Zion 24-25 September (\*RDn).
- Willow Flycatcher** – 1 at Shawnee Park 16 September that responded to a tape (JBe, PB, TBc, CB) was rather late.
- Eastern Kingbird** – latest report was of 1 at South Shore WMA, *Greenup*, 30 September (BP, KOS).
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** – 5 members of the family group below Barkley Dam, *Lyon*, were still present 12 September (BL) with 2 yg. and an ad. last observed there 1 October (HC, ME).
- White-eyed Vireo** – latest reports were of 1 banded at Frankfort 6 November (AS) and 1 at Jefferson Memorial Forest, *Jefferson*, 13 November (BW).
- Bell’s Vireo** – latest report was of 1 at Sinclair 15 September (BP).
- Warbling Vireo** – latest report was of 1 at Floyds Fork Park, *Jefferson*, 7 October (EH, BBC).
- Philadelphia Vireo** – earliest report was of 1 at Briarwood 5 September (JBe, PB); latest reports were of singles on the Cathy Crockett Trail, Sloans Valley, *Pulaski*, 7 October (RDn) and at Caperton 9 October (MY, BY).
- Loggerhead Shrike** – 1 seen off and on 14 August (MWa) into November (BW, BBC) at Garvin Brown was the first to be reported in *Jefferson* in more than 20 years.
- Common Raven** – the only reports originated from Pine Mountain, where 3 were seen at Oven Fork 17 September (SSw, TBr, et al.); 5 were seen n. of Putney, *Harlan*, 29 September (AS); 1 was seen at Oven Fork 29 October (RDn et al.); and singles were seen twice at Pine Mountain State Resort Park, *Bell*, 18 November (BY, MY).
- Purple Martin** – a roost of less than 100 birds was located at Maysville, *Mason*, 11 August (SFr et al.); another at Glasgow, *Barren*, involved “hundreds/thousands” of birds 13 August (LC). Latest reports were of 2 at Melco 4 September (BP et al.) and 2 at Clifty Pond 24 September (RDn).

**Tree Swallow** – “thousands” were observed in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR); latest report was of 1 in *Hopkins* 10 November (DR).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** – peak count was of 1000+ in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR); latest reports were of 1 at Cooley’s Pond 21 October (RDn); 1 at Barren 25 October (DR); 10-12 in w. *Henderson* 29 October (DR, TD); 2 at Freeman Lake 1 November (DR); and 2 at Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 10 November (DR).

**Cliff Swallow** – latest reports were of 1 at Fishing Creek 21 September (RDn) and 1 in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR).

**Barn Swallow** – latest reports were of 8-10 in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR); 1 at Cooley’s Pond 21 October (RDn); 20 at Barren 22 October (DR); 3 at Peabody WMA 23 October (DR, RDv); 2 at Barren 25 October (DR); and 1 at Sauerheber 29 October (DR, TD).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** – there was only a slight movement into the state this fall and it did not occur early; all reports are included: 3-4+ at Hillman Ferry campground, LBL, *Lyon*, 12 October (SR); 1 at the Rock Bridge nesting area, DBNF, *Wolfe*, 14 October (FR, VR); 1 near Holmes Bend, *Adair*, 11 November (RDn); 1 along Rowena Road, *Russell*, 22 November (RDn); 1 heard at Surrey Hills farm during the last week of November (BP); and 1 at Berea in late November (PH).

**Brown Creeper** – earliest report was of 1 at Mammoth Cave 1 October (TD).

**House Wren** – at tardy individual was seen below Wolf Creek Dam 22 November (RDn).

**Winter Wren** – earliest report was of 1 at Indian Hills, *Jefferson*, 15 September (CP, fide DPa).

**Sedge Wren** – there were a number of reports, all being included: 2 males that remained territorial at Surrey Hills Farm into mid-August (BP); 1 s. of Boston, *Nelson*, 9 August (BP); at least 8 singing at Long Point Unit, Reelfoot NWR, *Fulton*,

14 August (BP, RDv); at least 5 singing at Hardy Slough, 1 along the w. side of Pond Creek Marsh, Sauerheber, and 4 along KY 268 nw. of Sauerheber, all 23 August (BP); 2 singing near White Mills, *Hardin*, 31 August (BP et al.); 1 singing at Sinclair 15 September (BP); at least 1 at Hays Kennedy/Garvin Brown 25 September (MWA et al.); 1 at Big Bone Lick State Park, *Boone*, 9 October (LM); 3 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS); and 3-4 at Surrey Hills Farm through 4 November (BP).

**Marsh Wren** – there were several reports, all being included: at least 1 at Hays Kennedy/Garvin Brown 25 September (MWA et al.); 4 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS); 1 in w. *Fulton* 18 October (DR); 1 at Pumphrey Farm 19 October (RDn); 1 at Garvin Brown 29 October (BP et al.); and 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 30 October (BP).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** – earliest reports were of 4 in *Jefferson* 16 September (m. ob.; fide BY).

**Veery** – the only reports were of 1 at Iroquois Park, *Jefferson*, 16 September (MAu, fide BY) and 1 in e. *Daviess* in 23 or 24 September (MT).

**Gray-checked Thrush** – latest report was of 1 at Mammoth Cave 16 October (TD).

**Swainson’s Thrush** – earliest report was of 1 at Gunpowder Creek 2 September (LM, NKBC).

**Hermit Thrush** – a count of 8 at Caperton 29 October (BY, MY) was rather impressive, especially for the small size of the preserve.

**American Pipit** – earliest reports were of 1 at Minor Clark 16 September (LH) and 2 at Fishing Creek 21 September (RDn); peak count was for a few hundred in s. *Todd* 27 November (DR, FL).

**Cedar Waxwing** – waxwings staged a notable flight through the state from mid-September to mid-November, but it appeared by late November that most had gone farther south for the winter (m. ob.). Peak counts included 125+ at Minor Clark 9 September (LM, NKBC); 200+ at Miles

Park, *Jefferson*, 10 September (BW); and ca. 200 in Seneca Park and 300-500 in the Cherokee Park/St. Matthews area 8 November (BW).

**Golden-winged Warbler** – there were a number of reports, all being included: 1 in e. *Daviess* 4 September (MT); 2 at Briarwood 5 September (JBe, PB); 1 at Shawnee Park 7 September (JBe, PB, BBC); 1 at Casey Creek, *Adair*, 8 September (RDn); 1 along Pleasant Hill Church Road 10 September (BL); 2 at Shawnee Park 14 September (JBe, PB, et al.); 1 in e. *Jefferson* 16 September (BW); 2 at Mammoth Cave 17 September (JBe, PB, BBC); 1 in LBL, *Lyon* (RDn) and 1 in e. *Daviess* (MT), both 19 September; and 1 at Mt. Zion 28 September (RDn).

**Tennessee Warbler** – earliest reports were of 1 at Richmond, *Madison*, 18 August (TH); 1 at Mt. Zion 22 August (RDn); and 1 at Tom Sawyer Park 23 August (JBe, PB). Latest reports were of 1 banded at Frankfort 2 November (AS) and 1 at Barren 3 November (DR).

**Orange-crowned Warbler** – earliest report was of 1 at Shawnee Park 30 August (JBe, PB, et al.) that represented a new early fall arrival date; other reports included 1 along Pleasant Hill Church Road 10 September (BL) that was also earlier than expected; also reported were singles at Shawnee Park 29 September (JBe, PB, et al.) and Garvin Brown 29 October (BP et al.).

**Nashville Warbler** – earliest report was of 1 at Middle Creek Park 2 September (LM); latest reports were of 1 at Garvin Brown 3 November (JBe, PB, EH, JH) and 2 there sometime during the last week of November (MWa).

**Yellow Warbler** – latest reports were of 1 at Lake Peewee 15 September (BP); 1 at Minor Clark 29 September (RDn); and 1 at Lake Barkley at Green Turtle Bay, *Livingston*, 6 October (DR).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** – earliest report was of 1 at Mt. Zion 21 August (RDn).

**Magnolia Warbler** – earliest report was of 1 at Mt. Zion 22 August (RDn); of interest

was a bird initially captured and banded at Frankfort 27 September and recaptured 18 October (AS) indicating a greater than three-week migratory stopover. Latest reports were of an unspecified number at Caperton 29 October (BY, MY) and 1 in ne. *Hart* 18 November (CF, fide SK).

**Cape May Warbler** – there were only a few reports, all being included: singles at Shawnee Park 14/29 September (JBe, PB, et al.); 1 at Joe Creason Park 24 September (DPo, BBC); 1 at Mt. Zion 6 October (RDn); and 1 banded at Frankfort 18 October (AS).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** – there were several reports, all being included: an ad. male at Middle Creek Park 2 September (LM); a female at Shawnee Park 14 September (JBe, PB, et al.); 1 at Gunpowder Creek 16 September (LM et al.); 1 at Mammoth Cave 17 September (JBe, PB, BBC); and an ad. male along the Red River near the mouth of Twin Branch, *Wolfe*, 20 September (BP).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** – earliest report was of 1 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 25 September (RDn).

**Blackburnian Warbler** – earliest reports were of 2 at Mt. Zion 22 August (RDn) and 2 at Tom Sawyer Park 23 August (JBe, PB); 1 in *Barren* 20 October (DR) was rather late.

**Palm Warbler** – earliest report was of 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 16 September (BP). An individual of the eastern race *D. p. hypochrysea*, was present at Barren, *Barren*, 20 October (ph. DR); this represents only the second documented report of this race from Kentucky and the first accompanied by photos.

**Bay-breasted Warbler** – earliest reports were of 1 at Shawnee Park 30 August (JBe, PB, et al.) and 1 at Middle Creek Park 3 September (LM).

**Blackpoll Warbler** – there were five reports including two that represented new westernmost fall records for the state: 1 near Barkley Dam, *Livingston*, 17 September (\*BP et al.); 1 at Briarwood 21 September

(JBe, PB); 1 at Cherokee Park 22 September (MAu); 2 on Pine Mountain n. of Putney, *Harlan*, 29 September (AS); and 1 at LBL, *Trigg*, 8 October (\*HC).

**Cerulean Warbler** – 1 at Middle Creek Park 3 September (LM) was exceptionally late.

**Prothonotary Warbler** – quite unusual was a loose group of ca. 30 birds at Blood River 4 August (HC).

**Worm-eating Warbler** – latest report was of 1 in LBL, *Trigg*, 8 October (HC).

**Swainson's Warbler** – the only report was of 1 banded at Natural Bridge State Resort Park, *Powell*, 2 August (AS).

**Northern Waterthrush** – earliest report was of 1 at Briarwood 6 September (JBe, PB); also of interest was a bird initially captured and banded at Frankfort 25 September and recaptured 7 October (AS) indicating a greater than two-week migratory stopover.

**Louisiana Waterthrush** – latest reports were of 1 at Blood River 4 August (HC) and 1 in *Monroe* 27 August (SSt, WW).

**Connecticut Warbler** – there were two reports: 1 at Gunpowder Creek 2 September (LM, NKBC) that represented a new early fall arrival date, and 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 16 September (JBe).

**Mourning Warbler** – there was a below-average number of reports, all being included: single imms. at Cherokee Park 5/27 September (MAu); and 1 in e. *Daviness* 27 September (MT).

**Wilson's Warbler** – earliest report was of 1 at Caperton 27 August (BY, MY); latest report was of 1 at Mammoth Cave 1 October (TD).

**Canada Warbler** – earliest report was of a first-fall male banded at Clarks River NWR on the incredibly early date of 2 August (HC et al.); 1 at Mt. Zion 21 August (RDn); and 1 at Shawnee Park 30 August (JBe, PB, et al.); latest report was of 1 at Joe Creason Park 24 September (DPo, BBC).

**Scarlet Tanager** – latest report was of 1 at General Burnside Island State Park, *Pulaski*, 24 October (GH).

**Chipping Sparrow** – as has become the norm, small numbers lingered into late November at several locales (m. o.b); an impressive flock of 200+ was seen along River Road, *Jefferson*, 1 November (DR).

**Clay-colored Sparrow** – there were two reports: singles were seen at Garvin Brown 25 September (JBe, PB) and at Floyds Fork Park, *Jefferson*, 7 October (\*EH, TBc). KBRC review required.

**Savannah Sparrow** – earliest report was of 1 at Fishing Creek 6 September (RDn).

**Henslow's Sparrow** – late-season reports of interest included 8 singing males and 2 juvs. at Mt. Zion 6 August (RDn) and 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 24 October (BP).

**LeConte's Sparrow** – there were several reports, all being included: 1 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS); 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 25 October (BP); 1 at Garvin Brown 29 October (BP et al.); 1 at Long Creek Waterfowl Refuge, LBL, *Trigg*, 10 November (BL, BP); and at least 1 below Barkley Dam, *Lyon*, 26 November (BY, MY).

**Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** – there were three reports: 1 picked up dead in a parking lot in Owensboro, *Daviness*, 19 September (ph. SA) that represents a new early fall arrival date; 1 at Garvin Brown 26 September (MWa); and 2 at Sauerheber 14 October (DR, KOS).

**Lincoln's Sparrow** – relatively impressive was a tally of 11 at Pumphrey Farm 20 October (RDn, GH, JDe).

**Swamp Sparrow** – a tally of at least 178 at Pumphrey Farm 20 October (RDn, GH, JDe) was noteworthy.

**White-crowned Sparrow** – earliest report was of 1 at Shawnee Park 29 September (JBe, PB, et al.).

**Lapland Longspur** – earliest report was of 1 heard over Garvin Brown 29 October (BP); also reported were ca. 50 in w. *Henderson* 18 November with 4 there 24

November (CC); an unspecified number near Woodburn, *Warren*, 19 November (DR); 50-100 in the vicinity of Open Pond 25 November (BY, MY); and a few in s. *Todd* 27 November (DR, FL).

**Snow Bunting** – the only report was of a female at the Falls of the Ohio 12 November (BP et al.).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – earliest report was of several birds at Gunpowder Creek 2 September (LM, NKBC).

**Blue Grosbeak** – relatively late was a juv. being fed by an ad. female along KY 749, *Wolfe*, 20 September (BP).

**Indigo Bunting** – latest reports were of 12 at Pumphrey Farm (RDn, GH, JDe), 3 along Pleasant Hill Church Road (BL), and 2 at Barren, *Barren* (DR), all 20 October; 1 at Peabody WMA 23 October (DR, RDv); and 1 at Sauerheber 29 October (DR, TD). An extremely late nesting was represented by yg. that fledged from a nest at Fort Campbell, *Christian*, 25 September (DM).

**Dickcissel** – 2 were still carrying food and defensive at Sauerheber 23 August (BP); 1 at the LBL Elk-Bison Prairie, *Trigg*, 24 August was a local-first (BL).

**Bobolink** – there were only three reports: 2 along Utley Road, *Hopkins*, 15 September (BP); 1 at Garvin Brown 29 September (BP); and 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 24-30 October (BP).

**Rusty Blackbird** – earliest report was of 1 in e. *Jefferson* 10 October (BW); also of interest were 80-100 near Woodburn, *Warren*, 19 November (DR) and 1 at Morehead, *Rowan*, 22 November (SFr).

**Baltimore Oriole** – latest report was of a very tardy female at Twin Knobs campground, Cave Run Lake, *Rowan*, 25 November (ph. PC).

**Purple Finch** – very few were reported during the period; earliest reports were of 1 at Mark, *Pulaski* (CN) and a female at Garvin Brown (JH, EH, et al.), both 29 October; also reported were 1 near Fisherville, *Jefferson*, 19 November (EH, JH); 1 along Pleasant Hill Church Road 23 November (BL); and 1 at Berea in late November (PH).

**Pine Siskin** – there was only the slightest of flights this fall with only a few reports, all being included: 1 at Hickman, *Fulton*, 18 October (DR); 1 at Shaker Mill 20 October (DR); 3 at Ken/Hopewell 23 October (DR, RDv); and 1 heard at Garvin Brown 29 October (BP et al.).

Observers: Mark Adams (MAAd); Steve Anderson (SA); Terry Anderson (TA); Michael Autin (MAu); Mary Bill Bauer (MBA); Tom Becker (TBC); Colleen Craven-Becker (CB); Jane Bell (JBe); Pat Bell (PB); Mark Bennett (MBe); Tom Bernardo (TBr); David Brinkman (DB); John Brunjes (JBr); Gerald Burnett (GB); Terry Campbell (TC); Shane Carnahan (SC); Hap Chambers (HC); Ron Cicerello (RC); Kathy Cohen (KC); Amy Covert (AC); Patrick Cox (PC); Linda Craiger (LC); Charlie Crawford (CC); Julie Denton (JDe); Roseanna Denton (RDn); Robert Dever (RDv); Don & Linda Dott (D&LD); John Durbin (JDu); Tom Durbin (TD); Gerry Durrett (GD); Melissa Easley (ME); Diane Elmore (DE); Jackie Elmore (JE); Preston & Shari Forsythe (P&SF); Scott Freidhof (SFr); Carol Friedman (CF); Mickey Greene (MG); Heidi Gregg (HG); Wallace Gullett (WG); Paul Hager (PH); Barry Hart (BH); Lana Hays (LH); Richard Healy (RH); Gay Hodges (GH); Tim Houghton (TH); Eddie Huber (EH); Jennifer Huber (JHu); Steve Kistler (SK); Joe Lacefield (JL); Celia Lawrence (CL); Bill Lisowsky (BL); Paula Lisowsky (PL); Frank Lyne (FL); Scott Marsh (SM); Lee McNeely (LM); Mark Monroe (MMn); Evelyn Morgan (EM); Mike Morton (MMr); Daniel Moss (DM); Connie Neeley (CN); Clara Anne Pallares (CP); David Pallares (DPa); Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP); Dakin Poland (DPo); Scott Record (SR); Frank Renfrow (FR); Veronica Renfrow (VR); Gerald Robe (GR); David Roemer (DR); Woody Schat (WSc); Adam Smith (AS); Neil Smith (NS); Stephen Stedman (SSt); Woody Stewart (WSt); Matt Stickel (MSi); Mitchell Sturgeon (MSu); Steve Sweeney (SSw); Marilee Thompson (MT); Jason Troyer (JT); Rick VanArsdall (RV); Winston Walden (WW); Major Waltman (MWA); Jayla Wheeler

(JW); Eileen Wicker (EWc); Eric Williams (EWm); Barbara Woerner (BW); Mike Wright (MWr); Ben Yandell (BY); Mary Yandell (MY); Josh Young (JY); Beckham Bird Club (BBC); Ky Ornithological Society (KOS); Northern Ky Bird Club (NKBC); Somerset Bird Club (SBC).

### MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT 2006-2007

Blaine R. Ferrell

Reports of 29 counts were received from across the Commonwealth. A total of 137 species was recorded on count days with two additional species reported during count week only. Eighteen species were observed on all counts, and 17 species were observed on one count only during count days.

Temperatures were fairly mild on average throughout the count period, with a fairly narrow range of extremes (high of 66°F December 16 to low of 27°F January 3). This period of warmer temperatures followed a short, cold period in November. The fact that most counts were conducted on a few days, with eight being conducted December 16, may have influenced count results. The variety of waterfowl seemed to be similar to the past two years but the numbers were down slightly. Cackling Geese were not observed this year. Wild Turkey numbers bounced back somewhat from last year's apparent decline. Raptor numbers were similar to last year's numbers. Ring-billed Gull numbers declined for the second year in a row. Red-headed Woodpeckers numbers remained healthy. Red-breasted Nuthatch numbers were low this year. The relative absence of food crops, including cedar berries, may have accounted for decreased numbers of some species, such as Cedar Waxwings, Yellow-rumped Warblers and Purple Finches. There was only one Pine Siskin sighted during the count (Richmond). Blackbird numbers were back up, mainly due to large flocks in the western part of the state. Nice finds for the count were numerous and included a Black Scoter (Ballard County), White-winged Scoter (Green River Lake), Eared Grebe (Calloway County), Red-necked Grebe (Green River Lake), Merlin (Somerset and Falmouth), Virginia Rails (Paradise), Sabine's Gull (Land Between the Lakes), Barn Owl (Calloway County), Rufous Hummingbird (Louisville), Sedge Wren (Ballard County), Marsh Wrens (Ballard County and Paradise), Gray Catbird (Danville), and a returning Spotted Towhee (Hart County). As usual, trends cannot be determined using count data from a given year because of the many variables, such as weather, number of observers, and number of counts.

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 (KBRC). Records of species unusual for the count do not constitute official records until reviewed by the KBRC.

**Ballard County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1984). Habitat as described in 1984. Dec 18; 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST; Sky cloudy with a few light sprinkles in the afternoon. Temp. 55° to 45°F; wind N 0-15 m.p.h. Water open.

Three observers in one to three parties. Total party hours 15.5 (9.5 on foot, 6.0 by car). Total party-miles 100 (3 on foot, 97 by car). Hours owling 2. Total species 95; total individuals 49,639.

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

The species total (95) eclipsed the old record for this count (93) set in 2004-2005. Highlights included a nice diversity of waterfowl, including four Ross's Geese, at least 450 Greater White-fronted Geese, and nine species of diving ducks, including an adult male Black Scoter; three calling American Woodcocks at dawn; both species of *Cistothorus* wrens: a Sedge adjacent to the West Kentucky WMA, McCracken County, and a Marsh on the Ballard WMA; four Chipping Sparrows; at least three Le Conte's Sparrows on the

Ballard WMA; and good numbers of Lapland Longspurs and small groups (2 and 11) of Brewer's Blackbirds in rural farmland of Ballard County. Red-headed Woodpecker numbers were again relatively high in the bottomland forests. The cloudy day was likely responsible for the lack of vultures, and Loggerhead Shrike was a disappointing miss.

**Calloway County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Douglas Cemetery.) Habitat 20% lake shoreline and streams, 35% open fields, 30% urban and residential, and 15% deciduous and pine woods. Jan. 3; 4:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 27° to 52°F; wind SW, 2-7 m.p.h.

Eight observers in four parties. Total party-hours 45 (16 on foot, 29 by car). Total party-miles 262 (6.5 on foot, 255.5 by car). Total species 95; total individuals 14,065.

Observers: Hap Chambers (compiler), Kathy Cohen, Michael Cohen, Melissa Easley, Bob Head, Jennie Howard, Brainard Palmer-Ball, and Wendell Webb. Feeder watcher: Sally Leedom.

**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. 16; 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky heavy fog and 100% cloudy until 9:00-9:30 a.m., then clouds giving way until 60-70% cloud cover by noon; temp. 40° to 60°F; wind, SSW, 3-10 m.p.h. (slower early, faster later in day). The fog was very low and heavy for the first several hours of the count, making it very difficult to see birds flying in the air or at much of a distance across the water. The temperatures were unseasonably warm.

Twenty-nine observers in 12 parties. Total party-hours 68 (23.5 on foot, 44.5 by car). Total party-miles 461 (20 on foot, 441 by car). Total species 97; total individuals 20,612. One party was one observer watching the feeding stations at the Nature Station.

Observers: Sarah Bullock, Jami Carroll, Hap Chambers, David Chiles, Karen Clement, Julie DesPlaines, Melissa Easley, Heather Faught, Kathy Garmoe, Donald Gladis, Judy Hallisey, Patrick Holcomb, Chris Hunter, Kristy Jobe, Amy Krzton-Presson, Bill Lisowski, Paula Lisowsky, Carl Mowery, Kathryn Mowery, Ann Policastro, John Pollpeter, Elizabeth Raikes, David Roemer, Lindsey Rogers, Darrin Samborski, Wendell Webb, Kelly Wehrheim, Steve White, and Aviva Yasgur (compiler).

An impressive total of 29 observers enjoyed the unusually balmy day. With so many participants eager to get out and bird on a nice day, together we were able to tally a total of 98 species. Some of the species that appeared in high numbers this year included Canvasback, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, American White Pelican, Bald Eagle and Rusty Blackbird. It has been exciting for us to see the American White Pelican become a standard member of the count total here in LBL. Some of the more unusual sightings included 3 Greater White-fronted Geese, 2 Golden Eagles, an American Woodcock, a Sabine's Gull, a Pine Warbler, and a Le Conte's Sparrow. Also, a Cape May Warbler was seen on the day of the count, but it was not within the count area. The Sabine's Gull continued at Honker Bay into early January. Some of the conspicuously missing or low-counted birds were Northern Pintail (none), Wood Duck (none), Northern Bobwhite (none), Purple Finch (none), Cedar Waxwing (only 1) and Yellow-rumped Warbler (only 1). One of the noteworthy weather details was a heavy fog that lingered over the entire area until 9:30 a.m., making visibility very difficult during the morning hours. We thank all of our observers who came out in full force and enthusiasm this year. We would also like to thank Carl Mowery, our previous count compiler, who recently moved to Colorado. Carl spent many years working very enthusiastically to make the LBL count a success and we thank him for all of his time and dedication over the years. The summary table does not include the following: duck sp. 370; *Buteo* sp. 1; gull sp. 39; sparrow sp. 15.

**Sorgho** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center jct. Hwy 279-S and Audubon Parkway.) Habitat: river, river bottoms, woods, corn fields stubble, yards, ponds, and county park. Jan. 1; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 37°F to 40°F; wind 15 m.p.h.

Eleven observers in five parties. Total party-hours 20.5 (6.0 on foot, 14.5 by car). Total party-miles 232.5 (3.5 on foot, 229.0 by car). Total species 40; total individuals 2,409.

Observers: Pat Augenstein, Henry Conner, Brenda Eaden, Tony Eaden, Jill Flachskam, Joe Ford, Janet Howard (compiler), Ken Hurm, Mary Kissel, Roseann Radzelovage, and Carolyn Williams.

**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. 28; 6:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., with 3 hours owling. Sky mostly clear with brief periods of partly cloudy; temp. 32° to 58°F; wind, SSE, 10-15 m.p.h. with gusts to 20 m.p.h. Except for a period of unseasonably cold weather in late November-early December, temperatures have been well above average again this season.

Three observers in two to three parties. Total party-hours 19.25 (5.50 on foot, 13.75 by car). Total party-miles 114.5 (4.5 on foot, 110.0 by car). Total species 60; total individuals 6,424.

Observers: Mark Bennett (compiler), Frank Lyne, and David Roemer.

For the third consecutive time, two parties were utilized. This year, warm weather and a steady breeze may have reduced the numbers of individuals and species observed as both were near average for the 14-year history of the count. Two American Woodcocks were recorded for the first time. Other nice records for this count included five Eastern Phoebes, 57 (nearly double the count average) American Kestrels, over 600 (nearly double the previous record) Mourning Doves, 24 (count number record) Chipping Sparrows, and 118 (count record number) White-crowned Sparrows. Surprising misses were the absence of kinglets altogether (the first time in 14 years that at least one kinglet of one species has not been observed), and the absence of Common Grackles and Cedar Waxwings. Red-tailed Hawks were slightly below average.

**Paradise** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1993). Habitat as described in 1993. Dec. 30; 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST. Sky cloudy. Temp. 37° to 58°F; wind SE 5-15 m.p.h. Water open.

Ten observers in five parties. Total party hours 46.25 (22.00 on foot, 24.25 by car). Total party-miles 253.5 (13.5 on foot, 240.0 by car). Hours owling: 2.5. Total species 82; total individuals 66,376.

Observers: Michael Autin, Mark Bennett, Hap Chambers, Amy Covert, Dianna Dubbeld, Eddie Huber, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Matt Stickel, Major Waltman, and Barbara Woerner.

The species total was below average this year, primarily due to the low waterfowl diversity. Highlights were mostly lingering summer residents and migrants including two Ross's Geese in Ohio County; single Black-crowned Night-Herons in both Muhlenberg and Ohio counties, six Virginia Rails (calling at three different marshes in Muhlenberg County); five performing American Woodcocks in Muhlenberg County; all seven Eastern Phoebes in one Ohio County party's territory; at least two Marsh Wrens at one of the marshes in Muhlenberg County; and at least seven Le Conte's Sparrows at scattered sites in Muhlenberg County. Raptor totals were about average with Short-eared Owls conspicuous for the first winter in a few. The Red-tailed Hawk tally includes an adult dark morph *B. j. calurus* and an adult dark morph *B. j. harlani*. Several tens of thousands of additional unidentified blackbirds are not included in the table.

**Bowling Green** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Three Springs, 6 miles south of Bowling Green.) Habitat deciduous woods 20%, fields and pastures 60%, and town and parks 20%. Dec. 21; 6:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky overcast, light rain; temp. 41° to 61°F; wind SE 3 m.p.h.

(continued on page 32)



2006-2007 Mid-winter Bird Count	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	Olmstead	Paradise	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Mammoth Cave Nat. Park	Otter Creek Park	Bermeim Forest	Louisville
Greater White-fronted Goose	450	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ross's Goose	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	192	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	747	278	541	65	102	334	52	-	-	15	224	1025
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	4
Wood Duck	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	20
Gadwall	160	121	474	-	-	71	-	-	-	-	-	26
American Wigeon	55	1	31	-	-	30	-	-	-	1	-	4
American Black Duck	40	1	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mallard	10500	102	429	5	3	229	26	-	-	37	34	748
Northern Shoveler	46	-	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Northern Pintail	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	40	2	25	-	-	9	cw	-	-	-	-	45
Canvasback	6	1	236	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	14	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	475	3	82	-	-	585	-	-	-	-	-	585
Greater Scaup	-	13	83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	16	1700	3396	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	18
Black Scoter	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	1	69	302	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Common Goldeneye	5	155	118	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	10	3	91	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
Common Merganser	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	6	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Ruddy Duck	4	-	341	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Wild Turkey	76	7	36	-	4	120	43	50	8	15	59	2
Northern Bobwhite	18	-	-	-	cw	-	-	7 cw	-	-	1	-
Common Loon	-	7	25	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	1	97	99	-	6	115	4	8	-	7	-	3
Eared Grebe	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Grebe	-	171	84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Red-necked Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	382	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	29
American White Pelican	-	92	377	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	18	45	134	3	4	38	7	7	2	9	8	28
Black-cr. Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	7









Shelbyville	Hart County	Upton	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kleber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Burlington	Warsaw	Falmouth	Richmond	Russell County	Somerset	Wayne County	Natural Bridge	Dewey Lake	Total
3	3	4	4	7	4	8	18	7	5	4	5	2	9	2	2	4	186
-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	140
12	35	9	20	35	22	47	50	30	15	26	9	20	77	47	4	2	874
1	2	2	-	5	3	2	22	2	6	-	-	3	5	2	-	1	107
10	19	6	9	32	13	29	55	35	11	15	11	9	70	30	11	4	794
1	2	2	1	20	14	15	10	7	1	6	1	1	10	5	6	3	176
11	34	15	11	19	21	12	28	11	9	13	7	9	36	24	2	6	617
3	12	7	5	9	18	5	6	8	-	6	6	4	21	10	11	9	261
-	6	1	1	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	2	4	9	9	4	1	75
1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	10
18	34	14	50	133	122	74	192	41	38	100	59	35	217	136	4	13	2391
524	255	163	174	83	194	91	260	62	79	206	50	120	323	149	47	47	4419
26	12	50	31	-	-	-	15	9	25	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1249
40	42	32	69	115	40	128	129	97	34	43	71	30	246	112	73	18	2772
17	23	19	53	53	31	38	91	58	21	18	19	38	97	89	20	15	1645
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	11
3	23	13	15	23	13	40	22	31	6	12	16	16	66	58	17	13	742
3	2	1	1	7	-	3	-	8	3	1	-	-	3	2	-	-	102
10	45	23	35	86	35	42	132	40	37	21	18	17	180	98	10	21	1626
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
-	-	1	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	8	3	3	-	43
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
10	4	14	5	15	24	2	27	42	12	13	10	12	43	16	20	2	503
-	1	-	-	2	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	3	2	3	-	-	50
60	194	125	57	29	55	142	186	45	27	99	63	44	265	149	-	25	2651
-	3	3	7	ew	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	6	10	-	-	72
45	94	161	117	204	799	423	1855	556	392	936	82	1170	506	51	2	3	10877
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
36	35	10	21	42	8	107	118	18	17	2	32	7	113	37	1	-	945
-	2	-	1	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	5	2	-	-	45
23514	1094	1240	6160	868	582	2100	6958	304	646	648	842	60	6378	1970	27	70	86268
1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51	-	-	94
9	124	-	5	34	-	38	11	-	-	-	5	-	-	12	-	-	373
-	31	17	19	14	19	ew	59	54	30	53	2	32	109	14	1	10	733
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3

2006-2007 Mid-winter Bird Count	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	Olmstead	Paradise	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Mammoth Cave Nat. Park	Otter Creek Park	Berheim Forest	Louisville
Eastern Towhee	26	46	81	2	22	54	22	3	2	6	21	23
Spotted Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	12	2	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	6	6	18
Chipping Sparrow	4	-	-	-	24	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Field Sparrow	101	148	78	-	9	92	69	34	18	126	88	26
Savannah Sparrow	7	1	3	-	20	37	20	-	-	6	-	ew
Le Conte's Sparrow	3	1	1	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	6	1	4	-	1	10	3	-	1	5	5	1
Song Sparrow	96	64	70	11	99	384	45	31	63	48	265	197
Swamp Sparrow	77	14	19	-	35	476	24	-	50	6	53	2
White-throated Sparrow	228	248	237	7	57	125	113	73	141	76	238	446
White-crowned Sparrow	13	22	1	-	118	11	27	-	-	82	18	5
Dark-eyed Junco	134	190	954	57	60	226	34	26	106	307	418	163
Lapland Longspur	160	1	-	-	8	-	210	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	123	131	93	62	147	155	173	55	47	147	258	431
Red-winged Blackbird	6525	185	51	58	110	19900	200	-	-	5	5	23
Eastern Meadowlark	80	29	5	29	98	30	51	1	-	46	66	25
Rusty Blackbird	118	2	375	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	23350	102	4071	459	ew	34720	1310	36	-	-	-	ew
Brown-headed Cowbird	30	-	5	-	210	89	120	2	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	1
House Finch	21	11	3	6	17	3	30	15	3	36	18	80
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	23	68	69	21	33	111	93	43	29	147	121	259
House Sparrow	88	18	9	186	75	3	25	18	-	35	49	236
Date of Count	D18	J3	D16	J1	D28	D30	D21	D29	D18	J1	D23	D17
Number of Species	95	95	97	40	60	82	66	50	43	61	67	82
Number of Individuals	49639	14065	20612	2409	6424	66376	9256	1891	1084	3962	9313	11130
Number of Observers	3	9	29	11	3	10	7	3	6	7	18	33

Shelbyville	Hart County	Upton	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kleber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Burlington	Warsaw	Falmouth	Richmond	Russell County	Somerset	Wayne County	Natural Bridge	Dewey Lake	Total
3	8	6	11	18	7	4	22	12	6	3	3	7	61	30	2	7	518
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	16	27	3	-	-	-	-	5	-	128
-	-	-	10	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	12	63
6	38	6	48	37	1	13	32	44	9	12	40	-	153	116	3	21	1368
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	16	5	-	-	120
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
1	6	-	2	3	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	21	2	-	-	77
13	154	46	85	92	30	74	134	76	56	48	161	41	409	140	-	20	2952
2	34	2	12	-	-	-	1	9	-	1	1	8	47	4	-	10	887
3	75	80	62	146	28	126	636	109	46	81	88	36	241	52	10	34	3842
48	27	-	19	16	2	54	28	10	13	19	10	-	192	25	2	-	762
28	31	49	81	132	82	73	140	58	62	146	35	70	232	113	53	36	4096
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	379
33	114	75	59	179	111	230	297	123	59	81	81	53	491	198	11	11	4028
3503	195	60	-	6	313	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	71	2	-	-	31220
29	123	55	9	31	46	99	30	9	-	1	11	-	53	56	-	6	1018
150	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	655
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
14000	142	-	5500	14	8	54	2	4	30	-	-	-	7659	9	-	-	91470
250	-	-	-	4	-	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	35	-	-	828
4	cw	-	-	2	-	11	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	29
7	4	-	14	46	1	86	164	10	37	7	14	-	83	3	-	9	728
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
29	83	36	28	100	13	91	202	72	42	50	38	33	222	61	18	26	2161
243	131	8	8	133	12	117	139	37	25	46	12	1	78	135	-	8	1875
D16	D18	D17	D29	D16	D30	D16	D16	D30	D16	J1	D16	D26	D30	D19	D16	J3	
67	63	56	76	57	46	68	76	57	56	53	58	54	78	85	34	42	137
44221	3655	2590	14022	4403	2917	5727	15120	2788	2635	2991	2659	2333	21053	5506	397	587	329767
10	16	7	7	12	5	38	37	11	5	3	6	2	14	6	11	2	331



Seven observers in three parties. Total party-hours 25.5 (4.0 on foot, 21.5 by car). Total party-miles 206 (3 on foot, 203 by car). Total species 66; total individuals 9,256.

Observers: David Brown, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Aaron Hulsey, Wayne Mason, Albert Meier, David Roemer, and Matt Skaggs. Feeder watcher: Dick Lord.

The Double-crested Cormorant was observed on Barren River at Beech Bend Park. The rain seemed to keep the vultures down.

**Glasgow** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1986.) Habitat as described in 1986. Dec. 29; 6:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear in the morning, partly cloudy after noon; temp. 24° to 41°F; wind calm in a.m., S 5-10 m.p.h. late in afternoon.

Three observers in two parties. Total party-hours 17 (12.5 on foot, 4.5 by car). Total party-miles 124 (9 on foot, 115 by car). Total species 50; total individuals 1,891.

Observers: Marquita Gillenwater, Aaron Hulsey, and Wayne Mason (compiler).

**Mammoth Cave National Park** (center and habitat as described in 1980). Dec. 18; 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 40° to 60°F; wind S, 8 m.p.h.

Six observers in two parties. Total party-hours 17 (5 on foot, 12 by car). Total party-miles 106 (4 on foot, 102 by car). Total species 43; total individuals 1,084.

Observers: Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Aaron Hulsey, Dick Lord, Albert Meier, Wayne Mason and Matt Skaggs.

Despite the warmer than normal weather and pleasant day, the count was very low. There were few finches and no blackbirds or waxwings due to poor food availability. Waterfowl were absent. Although not reported because definitive identification could not be made, a bird that appeared to be a Red-eyed Vireo both in coloration and behavior was observed foraging high in a tree near the park headquarters.

**Otter Creek Park** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1972). Habitat as described in 2001. Jan. 1; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. Cloudy; temp. 44° to 37° F; wind W 5-20 m.p.h. Water open.

Seven observers in four parties. Total party hours 28 (9 on foot, 19 by car). Total party-miles 228.5 (5.5 on foot, 223.0 by car). Total species 61; total individuals 3,962.

Observers: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Eddie Huber, Jennifer Huber, John Krull, and Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), and Barbara Woerner.

The species count was below average due to especially low waterfowl diversity and below average coverage. The day was raw with a brisk breeze and cloudy skies. Highlights of the day included an adult Bald Eagle soaring near the Ohio River and a single Sandhill Crane in a field east of Flaherty. Natural food crops appeared to be somewhat scarce, and numbers of berry-eating species and Blue Jays consequently were depressed. One of the Dark-eyed Juncos was a nicely marked individual of the western race *J. h. oregonus*.

**Bernheim Forest** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1974). Habitat as described in 1974. Dec 23; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. Mostly clear; temp. 37 to 48°F; wind W 5-15 m.p.h. Water open.

Eighteen observers in six parties. Total party hours 35.5 (15.0 on foot, 20.5 by car). Total party-miles 225.5 (11.0 on foot, 214.5 by car). Total species 67; total individuals 9,313.

Observers: Lou Ann Barriger, Mary Bill Bauer, Shane Carnahan, Dona Coates, Amy Covert, Mary Carol Cooper, Bill Friel, Paul Hager, Eddie Huber, Jennifer Huber, Kathy McGrath, Mike McGrath, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Larry Peavler, Tim Towles, Nancy Vance, Major Waltman, and Barbara Woerner.

The species count was slightly above average as a result of above average coverage. Highlights of the day included a Bonaparte's Gull (a count first) on a lake near Boston, a flock of 10 Mute Swans on Lake Nevin, an adult Bald Eagle and two Golden Eagles at their traditional area along the forest's southern boundary, and a flock of migrating Sandhill

Cranes. Natural food crops were not as abundant as the previous year, resulting in berry-eating species' being present in below average numbers.

**Louisville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Jct. hwy. 42 and 22, as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 17; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly sunny; temp. 57° to 70°F; wind S, 21 m.p.h. High temperature for the date.

Thirty-three observers in 11 parties. Total party-hours 70.00 (35.75 on foot, 34.25 by car). Total party-miles 310.7 (30.5 on foot, 280.2 by car). 1.75 hours feeder-watching; 6.75 hours and 29.5 miles owling. Total species 82; total individuals 11,130.

Observers: Garrett Adams, Win Ahrens, Ryan Ankeny, Tom Becker, Pat Bell (non-participating compiler), Carol Besse, Sandy Brue, Anne Caudill, Dona Coates, Colleen Craven-Becker, William Friel, Teresa Fultz, Rod Goforth, Caroline Hancock, Charles Hatten, Mark Hornback, Eddie Huber, Jennifer Huber, Bob Johnson, Frank Krull, John Krull, Fred Mansmith, Kathy Nagy, Doxie Noonan, Bill Parsley, Martha Pike, Janice Raia, Carol Stallard, Jack Still, Nancy Vance, Major Waltman, Barbara Woerner, Ben Yandell, and Mary Yandell.

The 33 participants of the Louisville Christmas Bird count were faced with unusually warm weather that probably accounted for the low individual count for some species. For the third year in a row a Rufous Hummingbird was seen. A House Wren was still present in the area. A Loggerhead Shrike that has been seen off and on the past few months was seen during the count week. Thanks to all who took part in the Louisville count.

**Shelbyville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 0.75 miles south of U.S. 60 and Guist Creek Lake on KY 714.) Habitat elevation 640°-1190°, farm-land, fallow land, suburban, wooded and grassland. Dec. 16; 7:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky mostly sunny all day. 42° to 60°F; wind SW, 5-10 m.p.h. Unseasonably warm.

Ten observers in four parties. Total party-hours 24 (3 on foot, 21 by car). Total party-miles 297 (3 on foot, 294 by car). Total species 67; total individuals 44,221.

Observers: Heather Brown, Iris Brown, Joan Brown, Seth Brown, Todd Brown, W.H. Brown (compiler), Cathy King, Benton Young, Severn Earl Young, and Penn Waggoner.

Second best count ever for species and individuals on such a nice, almost spring-like day.

**Hart County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center corner of Craddock Road and Jagers Lane.) Habitat rural farmland and wooded areas, including Green River and 100 Acre Pond. Dec. 18; 5:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 40° to 60°F; wind almost none.

Sixteen observers in four parties. Total party-hours 15 (6 on foot, 9 by car). Total party-miles 110 (3 on foot, 107 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 3,655.

Observers: Bonnie Avery, Lauren Avery, Bruce Bardin, Judy Brent, Kasey Brent, Makenzie Brent, John Brittain, Lisa Brittain, Carol Friedman, Dan Givens, Richard Healy, Janet Kistler, Steve Kistler (compiler), Cap Middleton, Mitchell Sturgeon, and Randy Sullivan.

Two American Woodcocks displaying at dusk represented a new species for the count.

**Upton** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 0.5 miles south of Hilltop or 5 miles southwest of Millerstown, eastern Grayson County.) Habitat is woodland, farmland, river and Nolin Reservoir. Dec. 17; 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sky mostly sunny; temp. 28° to 60°F; wind W, 5-10 m.p.h.

Seven observers in one party. Total party-hours 12 (4 on foot, 8 by car). Total party-miles 72 (2 on foot, 70 by car). Total species 56; total individuals 2,590.

Observers: Bruce Bardin, John Brittain (compiler), Lisa Brittain, Carol Friedman, Dan Givens, Janet Kistler, and Steve Kistler.

**Green River Lake** (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. Dec. 29; 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 38° to 60°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h. Very mild temperatures.

Six observers in three parties. Total party-hours 22.0 (10.5 on foot, 11.5 by car). Total party-miles 79.75 (5.25 on foot, 74.50 by car). Total species 76; total individuals 14,022.

Observers: Amy Covert, Lloyd Curry (compiler), Roseanna Denton, Richie Kessler, Samuel Kessler, and Brainard Palmer-Ball. Feeder watcher: Betty Wilcoxson.

**Frankfort** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 38°N by 84°W.) Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 16; 7:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Sky partly clear; temp. 30° to 64°F; wind SE, 3-12 m.p.h.

Twelve observers in seven parties, plus three at feeders. Total party-hours 38.75 (16.25 on foot, 22.50 by car). Total party-miles 205.25 (13.75 on foot, 191.50 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 4,403.

Observers: Craig Braginton, Margaret Derryberry, Jim Durell, Jim Fries, Peggy Gould (compiler), Ralph Gould, Pat Hankla, Scott Hankla, Virginia Honaker, Jeff Jones, Joel Jones, Robert Laurenson, Susan Laurenson, Debbie Williams, and Tim Williams.

**Kleber Wildlife Management Area** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 38°N by 84°47'W) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 30; 6:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 30° to 57°F; wind E, 0-8 m.p.h..

Five observers in three parties. Total party-hours 22.5 (3.0 on foot, 19.5 by car). Total party-miles 213 (3 on foot, 210 by car). Total species 46; total individuals 2,917.

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

**Danville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Boyle County Courthouse.) Habitat as described before. Dec. 16; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 31° to 66°F, wind SW 1-22 m.p.h. Beautiful warm day.

Thirty-eight observers in ten parties. Total party-hours 60.5 (19.0 on foot, 41.5 by car). Total party-miles 439.50 (19.25 on foot, 420.25 by car). Total species 68; total individuals 5,727.

Observers: Joe Amburgey, Keith Amburgey, Anna Anderson, Paul Anderson, Robert Anderson, Susan Anderson, Joe Baron, Jane Brantley, Carol Clark, Yancey Clark, Rhea Crowley, Ginny Eklund, Neil Eklund (compiler), Stephanie Fabritius, Martha Foster, Bill Garriott, Bill Kemper, Anne Lubbers, Gail Manning, Jody Metcalfe, Preston Miles, Mark Morgan, Eric Mount, Jack Newton, Amelia Nichols, John Nichols, Don Pelly, Rob Pedygraft, Jamie Powell, Amadeus Pyrek, Judy Ross, Ralph Schiefferle, Elizabeth Stamps, Rob Stamps, Ronnie Stamps, Courtney True, Maynard Van Horn, and Chad Young.

**Lexington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center East Hickman Church on Tates Creek Road.) Habitat suburban, rural, farms, woodland, river bottom. Dec. 16; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky sunny; temp. 37° to 60°F; wind 5-10 m.p.h..

Thirty-seven observers in 11 parties. Total party-hours 58.5 (14.5 on foot, 54 by car). Total party-miles 414 (12 by foot, 402 by car). Total species 76; total individuals 15,120.

Observers: Tom Barnes, Marty Barr, Thad Bishop, Ann Bradley, Bonnie Bradley, Rhonda Bryant, Rose Canon, James Cox, Wayne Davis, Phyllis Deal, Mike Flynn, Mike T. Flynn, Kevin Hopper, Tim Houghton, Beverly James, Allen Kingsland, Katy Knowles, Lucy Knowles, Van Knowles, Terri Koontz, Dave Maehr, Scott Marsh, Betty Maxson (compiler), Greg Mellin, Nancy Mellin, Kay Neikerk, Susan Pollack, Louis Scheidt, Pat Scheidt, Marie Sutton, Davis Svetich, Andy Uterhart, Marion Uterhart, Jackie Van Wiligen, Jim Williams, Bernice Wood, and Hank Yacek.

**Burlington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Camp Michaels.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 30; 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 34° to 50°F; wind S, 0-10 m.p.h. All water was open.

Eleven observers in five parties. Total party-hours 34 (10 on foot, 24 by car). Total party-miles 139 (10 on foot, 129 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 2,788.

Observers: Linda Altevers, Vivian Brun, Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Denis Desjardin, Melissa Desjardin, Lee McNeely (compiler), Donna O'Daniel, Gayle Pille, Carmen Schulte, and Tommy Stephens. Feeder watcher: Marjorie Hill.

**Warsaw** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Gallatin County Court-house.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 16; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 34° to 61°F; wind S, 1-8 m.p.h. All water was open.

Five observers in two parties. Total party-hours 15 (5 on foot, 10 by car). Total party-miles 141 (3 on foot, 138 by car). Total species 56; total individuals 2,635.

Observers: Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Ed Groneman, Lee McNeely (compiler), and Tommy Stephens.

Waterfowl and gulls were unusually scarce.

**Falmouth** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Caddo, Ky.) Habitat 50% woodland and forest edge, 25% river and lake shoreline, 20% agricultural, and 5% residential. Jan. 1; 7:15 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky partly cloudy, light rain in a.m.; temp. 36° to 43°F; wind SW, 0-12 m.p.h. Water open.

Three observers in two parties. Total party-hours 16 (5 on foot, 11 by car). Total party-miles 164 (2 on foot, 162 by car). Total species 53; total individuals 2,991.

Observers: Rhonda Bryant, Scott Marsh, and Lee McNeely (compiler).

The Merlin was seen in rural Pendleton County and the Peregrine Falcon was present at Meldahl Dam in Bracken County.

**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. 16; 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky mostly clear to partly cloudy; temp. 41° to 50°F; wind, 0-4 m.p.h.

Six observers in four parties. Total party-hours 19.15 (4.15 on foot, 15.00 by car). Total party-miles 160.30 (3.50 on foot, 156.80 by car). Total species 58; total individuals 2,659.

Observers: Rebecca Bates, Paul Hager, Sarah Martin, Art Ricketts, Tina Ricketts, and Gary Ritchison (compiler).

**Russell County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Owensby Road and Highway 3281.) Habitat mixed and deciduous woodland, pasture fields and lake, mostly rural with a small percentage urban. Dec. 26; 6:05 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky cloudy with drizzle on and off throughout the day.

Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 10.5 (5.0 on foot, 5.5 by car). Total party-miles 91 (2 on foot, 89 by car). Total species 54; total individuals 2,335.

Observers: Roseanna Denton (compiler) and Steve Denton.

**Somerset** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center junction of Bypass Hwy. 80 and Hwy. 39.) Habitat as described in 2000. Dec. 30; 5:20 a.m. to 5:56 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 35° to 63°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h. All water open.

Fourteen observers in six parties. Total party-hours 59.25 (15.25 by foot, 44.00 by car). Total party-miles 468.0 (8.5 on foot, 459.5 by car). Total species 78; total individuals 21,053.

Observers: Judy Brant, Jean Brickell, Rhonda Bryant, Granville Cox, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Kimberly Feltner, Gay Hodges, James Kiser, Scott Marsh, Linda McClen-

don, Lynda Mills, Tom Mills, Arlene Morton, and Stephen Stedman. Feeder watchers: Irene Broyles, Julie Denton, Jo Ann Digby, Grace Floyd, Floyd Halcomb, Susan Huffman, Dottie Kinnamon, Joe Richards, Hazel Spears, Pauline Vault, and Dee Whitis.

Firsts for the count were an American Woodcock and a male Merlin. The Merlin was observed catching and eating a bird.

**Wayne County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Junction Hwy. 1275 and 3106.) Habitat as described in 2002. Dec. 19; 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Sky partly clear; temp. 40°F to 63°F; wind variable, 0-5 m.p.h. All water open.

Six observers in four parties. Total party hours 36.25 (11.00 on foot, 25.25 by car). Total party-miles 315.5 (2.0 on foot, 313.5 by car), plus 12 miles and 45 minutes by boat, 5 hours and 39 miles owling. Total species 85; total individuals 5,506.

Observers: Terry Campbell, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Gay Hodges, Arlene Morton, Donald Pelly, and Stephen Stedman.

**Natural Bridge State Park** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Whittleton Campground Booth.) Habitat: mostly mixed mesophytic forest, some roadside fields, some streamsides. Dec 16; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to sunny; temp. 30° to 50°F; wind SSW, 5 m.p.h.

Eleven observers in four parties. Total party-hours 20 (15 on foot, 5 by car). Total party-miles 45 (15 on foot, 30 by car). Total species 34; total individuals 397.

Observers: Doug Foote, Margie Foote, Sherry Freena, Hobie Henninger, Colleen Ryall, Jonathan Sickman, Margie Stelzer, Spencer Stelzer-Wiese, Noelle Theres (compiler), Bob van Hoff, and Zeb Weese.

Pablo Alcalá, a photographer with the Lexington Herald-Leader, was with us for a couple hours taking pictures. An article was in the Sunday paper.

**Dewey Lake** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Dewey Lake, approximately UTM 17 347811E 4175855N (WGS84/NAD83).) Habitat is lake, golf course, strip mine, open fields, and northern hardwoods. Jan. 3; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky sunny, no clouds; temp. 35° to 60°F; wind W, 0-5 m.p.h. Very foggy morning. No ice on the lake at all.

Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 8 (3 on foot, 5 by car). Total party-miles 32 (2 on foot, 30 by car). Total species 42; total individuals 587.

Observers: Chris Evans and Troy Evans (compiler).

## FIELD NOTES

### Black Vulture Fledges Young in Historic Griffith Tavern

Mengel (1965) described the Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) as rare to fairly common west of the Cumberland Plateau, with marginal summer records occurring as far east as the Knobs region of northeast Kentucky. Palmer-Ball (1996) described the species as “most frequent in rural situations with a mixture of openings and forest,” and that they “nest in a variety of situations including sheltered crevices and small caves along cliffines, hollow trees and fallen logs in forests, and abandoned houses and barns”. Despite frequent observations of the species, however, Palmer-Ball (1996) noted the scarcity of confirmed breeding locales.

Purchased in 2002 by The Nature Conservancy, the 300 ha preserve known as Griffith Woods in Harrison County, Kentucky is thought to contain the largest savanna-woodland remnant in the Commonwealth, but it is also comprised of a mosaic of old fields and mesic woods. Since becoming resident site manager of Griffith Woods in November 2005, I have frequently observed Black Vultures in groups of two to six individuals perched atop tall bur oaks (*Quercus macrocarpa*) and chinkapin oaks (*Quercus muehlenbergii*), and as individuals or small kettles several hundred feet above the site. Between early February and late

July 2006, I commonly observed one to two adult Black Vultures perched on the roof or open window sills of the old Griffith Tavern, a three-story 600 m<sup>2</sup> federalist-style building constructed in 1827 and uninhabited by humans since 1983. On 6 May 2006, an adult Black Vulture, apparently disturbed by motorized brush clearing activities near the tavern, flew out of the open third story window, perched in a nearby snag about 10 m away, and remained there for about a minute. This observation led me to suspect the possibility of a nest on the third floor; however, the fragile structural integrity of the tavern precluded safe inspection of the upper floors for a nest.

Later in the summer, while inspecting vegetation near Griffith Tavern 30 July 2006, I was startled by a rustling noise about a meter away emanating from a clump of tall vegetation near the basement entrance. Subsequently, a fledgling Black Vulture emerged and hopped onto the fallen basement entrance door (Fig. 1). While observing the first bird, I saw another fledgling appear and sit near the edge of a third floor window for about five minutes before returning inside. I revisited the tavern the next two days, but no additional observations were made of the two fledglings.



Fig. 1. Fledgling Black Vulture at Griffith Tavern, 30 July 2006.

#### Literature Cited

- Mengel, R.M. 1965. The birds of Kentucky. Allen Press, Lawrence, Kansas. 581 pp.
- Palmer-Ball, Jr. B.L. 1996. The Kentucky breeding bird atlas. The University Press of Kentucky, Lexington. 372 pp.
- John J. Cox, University of Kentucky, Department of Forestry, 208 T.P. Cooper Bldg., Lexington, Kentucky 40546-0073.

#### Little Stint in Jefferson County

On the early afternoon of 16 August 2006, I was birding with Jared Quillen and Shane Carnahan at the Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District's Melco flood retention basin, just south of the Louisville International Airport, in southern Jefferson County, when I found an odd-looking peep that I could not readily identify. After several minutes of study, it became apparent that the bird was either a Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*) or Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*) in worn alternate plumage; however, the subtle differences between the two species in this plumage required that a better look be obtained. We moved closer to the bird and changed our orientation to take advantage of the sun angle. Upon closer inspection, it was apparent that the field marks favored Little Stint and several

calls were made to local birders to share in the observation. During the next couple of days, the bird was seen almost constantly during the daylight hours as it alternately fed and loafed at the Melco basin. On the afternoon of 17 August, a brief visit by a juvenile Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) caused the bird to disappear for several hours, but it returned late in the day. Images of the bird were obtained by several individuals 16-19 August (see cover photo; photo on p. 13; and Figs. 1 & 2 on p. 40).

The bird was a small peep, approximately the size of a Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*). The legs were blackish and relatively long; their length was at least partly responsible for a “hunched over” posture during feeding. Webbing between the toes was absent as viewed best from close distance when the bird was walking away. The bill was blackish, relatively straight, and moderate in length. To me the bill’s relative shape was most reminiscent of the bill of a Baird’s Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*). The feathers of the back were quite colorful, with dark centers and distinctly lighter bases and edges, some of the edges being bright rufous. At times, two buff-colored lines (formed by edges of symmetrical tracts of back feathers) or “braces” were very apparent running longitudinally down the sides of the back; however these lines were not always apparent depending on posture. The wing coverts were grayish brown with narrow, lighter and relatively worn edges. The tertials were a slightly darker gray-brown with only modest lighter edgings. The tail pattern was typical of most small peeps, with dark central feathers and whitish outer feathers.

The most remarkable aspect of the stint’s plumage was the relatively bright orange-red color on the head, neck and breast area. This color was brightest on the crown, nape, and breast and stippled with small brownish flecks. In contrast, the throat was whitish, setting off the color of the breast. Within the suffusion of orange-red of the breast were noticeable brownish flecks that were distributed in a wide collar. The median crown stripe was darker due to the presence of darker streaking, but the lateral crown stripes and especially the supercilium were slightly paler than the rest of the head. The lower breast, belly and undertail were white.

During its stay at the Melco basin, the Little Stint fed primarily by picking small invertebrate prey from the exposed substrate of shale and mud, but it occasionally waded into shallow water. It also seemed to keep to itself rather than associate with other shorebirds. The stint was observed through the afternoon of 20 August 2006 and viewed by over a hundred birders during its five-day stay.

This is the first report of Little Stint in Kentucky and one of only a few in the interior of North America for this Old World shorebird. As of 2004, there had been but seven reports away from coastlines of the continent, two each in California and Ontario, and singles in North Dakota, Washington, and the Yukon Territories (Ilf and Sullivan 2004); since that time, an additional report has come from New Mexico (Oldenettel 2007). All but a late November record of a juvenile from California have been of adults and distributed bimodally during the year as follows: 18/19/23 May (presumed spring migrants) and 4-5/10/25 July and 5-13 August (presumed fall migrants). Thus, the Kentucky bird fits the pattern of occurrence for interior birds, although slightly later in August than the latest previous record of an adult.

The Melco flood retention basin was excavated in 2004 to provide temporary flood water storage within the drainage area of Northern Ditch during extreme precipitation events. Severe flooding of residential and industrial areas within the drainage has occurred sporadically over the past several decades. During heavy rains, excess water is diverted into the basin; when the rain subsides, water is released from the lower end of the basin until it is nearly dry. The site proved to be an excellent one for migratory shorebirds during the fall of 2006, with at least 24 species observed resting and feeding at the area. Members of the birding community want to thank Mr. David Schaftlein with the Metropolitan Sewer District for allowing us access to the Melco flood retention basin for birding purposes.

**Literature Cited**

- Iiff, M.J., and B.L. Sullivan. 2004. Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*) in North America and the Hawaiian Islands: a review of status and distribution. *North American Birds* 58:316-323.
- Oldenettel, J.R. 2007. Little Stint at Bitter Lake NWR, Chaves Co., on 5/31/05. Accessed online at: <http://members.aol.com/borealowl/>. Last accessed: 10 March 2007.
- Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.**, 8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, KY, 40222.

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**K.O.S. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Avian Research Grants Available**

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

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The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants, please contact Mark Bennett by mail at 113 Iroquois Circle, Russellville, KY, 42276, or via email at ([benn5609@bellsouth.net](mailto:benn5609@bellsouth.net)).

**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](mailto:benn5609@bellsouth.net). Hard copy documentation should be mailed to Mark Bennett, KBRC Secretary, 113 Iroquois Circle, Russellville, KY 42276.

***Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky Still Available***

The Society's *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky*, published in 2003, remains available for a cost of \$10.00 plus \$2.00 shipping. This 189-page book contains entries for 363 species of birds that have occurred in Kentucky and a 10-page seasonal bar graph for quickly determining species occurrence. It is available through the KOS by sending a check payable to the Kentucky Ornithological Society for \$12.00 to the Society Treasurer: Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.; c/o KSNPC; 801 Schenkel Lane; Frankfort, KY 40601.





Figs. 1 & 2. Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*) 16-20 August 2006  
Melco flood retention basin, Jefferson County (see accompanying article, pp. 37-39)  
Photos by David Roemer (above) and Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (below).

