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The Kentucky Warbler

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The Kentucky Warbler

The journal of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, published quarterly in February, May, August and November. *The Kentucky Warbler* is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Current membership categories and corresponding dues follow: Regular (\$15.00); Contributing (\$25.00); Student (\$10.00); Family (\$20.00); and Life (\$300.00). Direct manuscripts and communications to the Editor. Send membership dues to the Treasurer. Make requests for back issues to the Corresponding Secretary.

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THE COVER

We thank Sharon Arnold for the image of the White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) taken 9 May 2016 at Swallow Spring Pond in Christian County (see Spring 2016 Season, p. 58). Financial support for color reproduction in this issue has been provided by the Daniel Boone National Forest.



SPRING 2016 SEASON

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely

Climatic conditions during spring 2016 were relatively normal. Temperatures during April and May were not far from normal, although most major stations recorded mean temperature 5-7°F above normal during March. The amount of precipitation was relatively normal during the period, although Paducah recorded nearly one-and-a-half times the normal amount of rainfall during March and Bowling Green recorded about one-half normal precipitation during April. Rarity highlights during the season included Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, White-faced Ibis, two Ruffs, two White-winged Doves, three Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, Western Tanager, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and three Common Redpolls.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by 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”; “ba” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the bird was banded; “ph.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vr.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with recordings of call notes or song; “†” next to an observer’s initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report; **Place names:** Adkins Swamp, Sinclair Unit, Muhlenberg; Alpine Rec. Area, DBNF, Pulaski; Ballard WMA, Ballard; Barkley Dam, Lyon/Livingston (unless otherwise noted); Barren River Lake, Allen/Barren (unless otherwise noted); Beckley Creek Park, e. Jefferson; Blood River = Blood River embayment, Ky Lake, Calloway; Camp #11 = former Camp #11 mine, Union; Cave Run Lake, Bath/Rowan; Cherokee Park, Louisville; Clarks River NWR, Marshall; Clear Creek WMA, Hopkins; DBNF = Daniel Boone National Forest; Douglass Hills, e. Jefferson; Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson; Horseshoe Road = slough along Horseshoe Road, w. Henderson; Jacobson Park, Lexington; Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek embayment Ky Lake, Marshall; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, Livingston/Marshall; Ky Dam Village [SRP], Marshall; Ky Lake = Kentucky Lake, Calloway/Marshall/Trigg; Kuttawa = Lake Barkley near Old Kuttawa Rec. Area, Lyon; Lake Barkley, Lyon/Trigg; Lake No. 9, Lower Hickman Bottoms, Fulton; LBL = Land Between the Lakes National Rec. Area, Lyon/Trigg; Lexington, Fayette; Long Point = Long Point Unit Reelfoot NWR, Fulton; Louisville, Jefferson; Louisville Trackside = Churchill Downs training race-track w. of Poplar Level Road, Jefferson; Lower Hickman Bottoms, w. Fulton; Mammoth Cave = Mammoth Cave National Park, Edmonson (unless otherwise noted); McDonald Landing Road, w. Henderson; McElroy Lake, s. Warren; Melco = Melco flood retention basin, s. Jefferson; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan; Morgan Pond = cluster of transient ponds including Morgan Pond along KY 117, s. Christian; Murl Pond = transient pond s. of Murl, Wayne; NWR = National Wildlife Refuge; Oak Grove, Christian; Open Pond, Lower Hickman Bottoms, w. Fulton; Parsons Pond (formerly KY 739 Pond) = transient lake e. of KY 739 e. of Licksillet, sw. Logan; Pope Lick Park (formerly Floyds Fork Park), Jefferson; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson; Sinclair Unit, Peabody WMA, Muhlenberg; Spindletop Farm = University of Kentucky Spindletop Farm, Fayette; SNP = State Nature Preserve; SP = State Park; SRP = State Resort Park; Surrey Hills Farm, ne. Jefferson; Swallow Spring Pond, n. of Beverly, Christian; Upper Hickman Bottoms, n. of Hickman, Fulton; Waitsboro = Waitsboro Rec. Area, Lake Cumberland, Pulaski; WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

- Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** – 4 were present on a pond at Iuka, *Livingston*, 22 May (ph. NE). KBRC review required.
- Greater White-fronted Goose** – 28 were still at Sauerheber 9 March (JM) with 1 last seen there 26 March (TGr, SG); other tardy birds included 2 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 29 March (HC, JP) and 3 likely injured birds at Ballard WMA 1 May (RC).
- Ross's Goose** – 2 at McElroy Lake 7 March (TD) and 1 at Blood River 16 March (ME) were the only ones reported.
- Mute Swan** – a few lingered at mostly traditional locales, including the resident pair at the Sinclair Unit (TGr, SG, EHa).
- Gadwall** – modest peak counts included 130 at Sauerheber 9 March (JM) with 150 there 18/28 March (KM/BP); 250 near Morgan Pond 12 March (JHa); 250 in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 18 March (JSO); at least 150 at Open Pond 1 April (BP, EHu, TGr, SG); and 300 adjacent to Lake No. 9 on 15 April (BP, JBa). Tardy birds included 2 at Spindletop Farm 14 May (TSa, DSv) and a pair at Morgan Pond 18 May (BP, TGr, SG) with a male there to 25 May (BP, RFa).
- American Wigeon** – local peak counts of interest included 127 at Murl Pond 4 March (BW) with 97 there 11 March (RD) and 48 at Open Pond 29 March (HC, JP). A male at a transient pond at Oak Grove 20 May (JHa, ph. SA) was the latest to be reported.
- Blue-winged Teal** – local peak counts of interest included 50 at Morgan Pond by 12 March (BP, CBs); 153 at McElroy Lake 16 March (AH); 200 in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 18 March (JSO) with 230 there 29 March (HC, JP); 330 at Sauerheber 27 March (JM) with 350 there 12 April (CC); 110 along McDonald Landing Road 28 March (BP); 97 at Morgan Pond and 157 more in the vicinity 10 April (C&SR) with 185 at Morgan Pond and more than 200 more in the vicinity 14 April (JHa); and at least 750 on the slough along KY 268 nw. of Sauerheber 7 April (BP, TQ). Small numbers lingered at Morgan Pond into late May without evidence of nesting (JHa, SA, et al.).
- Northern Shoveler** – local peak counts of interest included 400 at Sauerheber 4 March (KM) with 500 there 15 March (CC); 116 at Murl Pond 4 March (BW) with 110 there 23 March (RD); 140 at McElroy Lake 10 March (AH) with 175 there 14 March (TD, AH); 300 at Morgan Pond 22 March (JHa) with 250 there 26 March (TGr, SG) and 285 there 29 March (JHa); at least 1000 in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 18 March (JSO); 550 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 18 March (JSO); at least 200 at Sauerheber 28 March (BP); and ca. 150 at Open Pond 1 April (BP, EHu, SG, TGr). Tardy bird included a male at Louisville Trackside to 14 May (BP); a female at Minor Clark 14 May (ph. RC); 2 at Spindletop Farm 14 May (DSv); and 4 males and a female still at Morgan Pond 18 May (BP, SG, TGr, JHa) with 2 males last seen there 25 May (BP, RFa).
- Northern Pintail** – 16 at McElroy Lake 12 March (BP, CBs) represented a very modest peak count for the season.
- Green-winged Teal** – local peak counts of interest included 435 at Sauerheber 9 March (JM) with at least 550 there 28 March (BP); 103 at Murl Pond 11 March (RD) with 90 still there 12 April (RD); ca. 1000 in the Upper Hickman Bottoms and at least 1050 total in the Lower Hickman Bottoms, both 18 March (JSO); and at least 1230 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms (including 500 at Open Pond) 1 April (BP, EHu, TGr, SG).
- Redhead** – local peak counts included 120 in the Pond Creek Bottoms, *Hopkins*, 2 March (JSO); 120 on Goose Lake, Sinclair Unit, 6 March (TGr, SG); and 72 on Morgan Pond 17 March (JHa);
- Ring-necked Duck** – a male lingered at Morgan Pond to 30 May (JHa).
- Greater Scaup** – 3 on Lake Luzerne, *Muhlenberg*, 11 March (TGr, SG) and 2 on Morgan Pond 12 March (BP, CBs) were the latest to be reported.

- Lesser Scaup** – local peak counts included ca. 200 on the Ohio River at Louisville 8 March (BP); 205 on Cave Run Lake 13 March (JSo); and 155 on Morgan Pond 3 April (JHa) with 28 there 1 May (BW, BP, et al.). Two at Minor Clark 14 May (RC) were the latest to be reported.
- Surf Scoter** – 6 on the Ohio River at Six-Mile Island, *Jefferson*, 19 April (ph. LF) were the only ones to be reported.
- Bufflehead** – a male at Kuttawa 29 April (BP, BW, TQ, TSh) was tardy or injured.
- Common Goldeneye** – 7 at Kuttawa 30 April (BP, KOS) were tardy or injured.
- Hooded Merganser** – breeding reports included broods of yg. at Sauerheber 23 April (ph. CPr); Long Creek Refuge, LBL, *Trigg*, 25/29 April (ph. BLi/ ph. RD) and 24 May (JSo); and along Chamberlain Lane, ne. *Jefferson*, 3 May (PB).
- Red-breasted Merganser** – 8 on Cave Run Lake 14 May (RC) were tardy.
- Ruddy Duck** – 1 on Morgan Pond 22 April (BP, MS, TGr, SG) and 1 on a farm pond on the se. side of Lexington 22 May (ph. LCo) were the latest to be reported.
- Common Loon** – local peak counts included 25 at Waitsboro 25 March (RD) and 9 at Kuttawa 30 April (BP, KOS); tardy birds included 1 at Waitsboro 14 May (RD) and 3 on Morgan Pond 20 May (JHa, SA) with 1 lingering there to at least 29 May (MTr).
- Pied-billed Grebe** – up to 8 lingered at Morgan Pond into mid-May with 7 still there (including 1 on a nest) 22 May (BP, SG, TGr, SBe); the water level dropped there but at least 2 were still present 30 May (JHa).
- Horned Grebe** – 96 on Lake Cumberland above Wolf Creek Dam, *Russell*, 5 March (RBn); at least 100 on the Ohio River downstream from Twelve-Mile Island, *Jefferson*, 14 March (KB); and 58 on Green River Lake, *Adair/Taylor*, 22 March (RD) represented the peak counts for the season. Singles on Morgan Pond 1-4 May (JHa et al.) and at Minor Clark 14 May (ph. RC) were tardy.
- Double-crested Cormorant** – a survey of nesting colonies in the LBL vicinity yielded counts of 1500-2000 active nests on Lake Barkley near Devil's Elbow, *Trigg*, 2 May (CPo, WL, JTu); ca. 320 active nests on Ky Lake se. of Hamlin, *Callo-way*, 2 May (CPo, WL, JTu); 445 active nests on Lake Barkley off Taylor Bay, *Trigg*, 3 May (CPo, WL, JTu); and at least 500 active nests at Kuttawa 3 May (CPo, WL, JTu).
- American White Pelican** – reports of interest included 1 on Beam Lake adjacent to Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*, 1 March (ph. KV); 500 at Jonathan Creek 6 March (ME); 27 over the Walnut Creek embayment of Barren River Lake, *Allen*, 8 March (LCr, BB); ca. 60 on an island in Nolin Lake ne. of Linwood, *Hart*, 11 March (ph. TC); 76 still below Barkley Dam 3 May (NR); 14 on Lake Barkley at Energy Bay, *Trigg*, 16 May (BLi); and 12 at the Kingfisher Lakes, *Daviess*, 29 May (ph. NP).
- American Bittern** – there were 13 reports: singles at Sauerheber 7/9/18 April & 15 May (KM/BP, BBC/CC & CC); 1 at Long Point 15 April (DP); 1 at Turkey Run Park, *Jefferson*, 15 April (MR, SRo); 1 over Louisville Trackage 28 April (BW, ph. TQ, TSh, BP); 1 at Camp #11 on 29 April (BP, ph. TQ, BW, TSh); 1 at Clear Creek WMA 2 May (EHa); 1 along Luttrell Creek w. of Dunnville, *Casey*, 8 May (ph. JTa); 1 at Lake Linville, *Rockcastle*, 8 May (LCo); and 1 near Morgan Pond 14 May (BLi) with 1 at Morgan Pond 22 May (BP, SBe, SG, TGr).
- Least Bittern** – there were reports from three locales: 2 heard at Clear Creek WMA 18 April (EHa) with 3 heard there 2 May (EHa) and 7 heard there 18 May (EHa); singles heard at Adkins Swamp 19 April/2 May (EHa) with 2 heard there 19 May (EHa); and 2 heard in the Flat Creek Bottoms, White City WMA, *Hopkins*, 3 May (EHa) with 1 heard there 19 May (EHa).
- Great Egret** – 1 on Lake Barkley at Buz-zard Roost, *Lyon*, 8 March (KM) was the earliest to be reported; 70 at Sauerheber

20 May (CC) represented the peak count for the season.

Snowy Egret – the only reports away from far w. Kentucky were 1 in the Flat Creek Bottoms, White City WMA, *Hopkins*, 3 May (EHa) and 1 along Fern Valley Road, *Jefferson*, 5-8 May (ph. BP et al.).

Cattle Egret – reports away from the LBL vicinity included 1 at Burlington, *Boone*, 16 April (LM); 1 se. of Binns Mill, *Christian*, 25 April (ph. SBe) with up to 10 there [9 May] during early May (ph. SBe); 2 at Surrey Hills Farm 2 May (WG, ph. BP); 2 at Morgan Pond 18 May (BP, SG, TGr); and 1 along KY 90, 5 mi. w. of Monticello, *Wayne*, during late May (ph. JSc, *fide* RBn).

Green Heron – 1 at Owsley Fork Lake, *Madison*, 3 April (RBa, RFo) was the earliest to be reported.

Black-crowned Night-Heron – 20 at the Winchester Cemetery, *Clark*, 29 April (ph. DN) likely represented a nesting colony there.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – there were reports from four locales: 1 at Long Point 15 April (DP); 1 at Veterans Park, Lexington, 28 April (SRn); up to 6 along Cypress Creek, *Marshall*, 30 April–7 May (m. ob.); and 2 heard at the Grassy Pond-Powells Lake Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 8 May (KM).

White-faced Ibis – 1 was at Swallow Spring Pond 9 May (ph. SA, JHa). KBRC review required.

Plegadis Ibis – there were two reports of unidentified *Plegadis* ibis: 1 at Sauerheber 19-20 May (ph. JM, TGr, ph. SG, CC); and 2 in a receding floodwater pool along Uniontown-Mt. Vernon Road, *Union*, 26 May (CPI).

Osprey – other than a late February bird observed at Ky Dam and included in the previous report, singles at Greenup Locks and Dam on the Ohio River, *Greenup*, 3 March (JHo) and over Lake Cumberland above Wolf Creek Dam, *Russell*, 5 March (RBn) were the next earliest to be reported.

Mississippi Kite – 1 was reported at Sauerheber 18 April (†CC), which would represent a new early arrival date by a week; 1 at St. Matthews, *Jefferson*, 27 April (MCo) was the next earliest to be reported; a pair was observed building a nest adjacent to Cherokee Park 23 May (MCo, JSt).

Bald Eagle – 14 were gathered in their traditional loafing/foraging area in the Upper Hickman Bottoms adjacent to the Obion WMA, *Fulton*, 8 April (HC, ME, JP).

Northern Harrier – 1 at Perryville Battlefield State Historical Site, *Boyle*, 10 May (RD); a female-type at the Eastpark Industrial Park, *Greenup*, 12 May (BP); and 1 along Forestville Road, *Hart*, 27 May (SK) were tardy birds away from known breeding areas.

Broad-winged Hawk – 1 wsw. of Kessinger, *Hart*, 1 April (SK) was exceptionally early.

Golden Eagle – 1 was last reported at Bernheim Forest 3 March (KV).

Virginia Rail – there were reports from two locales: singles at Hardy Slough, Sauerheber, 9 April/1 May (BP, BBC/KM) and 1 in a yard at Berea, *Madison*, 20-22 May (PHa, ph. GBo, et al.).

Sora – 1 at Sauerheber 29 March (CC) with 2 there 30 March (AH) and 1 at Iroquois Park, *Jefferson*, 30 March (JBa) were the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included at least 4 at Sauerheber 9 April (BP, BBC); 20-25 at Camp #11 on 29 April (BP, BW, TSh, TQ); 8 at Clear Creek WMA 18 May (EHa); and 1-2 at Morgan Pond during mid-May with 1 last heard there 22 May (BP).

American Coot – modest peak counts included 500 at Morgan Pond 2 April (RD) and 800 at Sauerheber 14 April (CC). Tardy individuals included 1 at the J.C. Jones Road sinkhole ponds, *Hart*, 22 May (JSo); 2 at Adkins Swamp 22 May (SG, TGr); and ca. 35 still at Morgan Pond 25 May (JHa) with 5 last reported there 27 May (JHa).

Sandhill Crane – 20 over Frankfort 13 April (JBr); 20 over Fairdale, *Jefferson*,

24 April (†EBa); and 1, perhaps injured, at the Beaver Creek Unit of Barren River Lake WMA, *Barren*, 24 April (LCr) were the latest to be reported.

Black-necked Stilt – there were reports from seven locales: 2 along Running Slough w. of Hickman, *Fulton*, and 1 w. of Miller, *Fulton*, both 15 April (BP, JBa) with 1 nearby at Long Point 7 May (RH, DMy, BS); 1 at Sauerheber 19-26 April (ph. CC) with 7 there 1 May (CC, KM) and 2 there 8 May (CC, KM); 3 at the J.C. Jones Road sinkhole ponds, *Hart*, 27 April (ph. JSo); 3 at Morgan Pond 29 April (ph. RD)–1 May (BP, BW, ph. TQ, TSh) with 2 lingering there to 3 May (JHa, BLi) and 1 seen off and on there to 31 May (JHa); and 1 at Ballard WMA 9 May (SRc).

Black-bellied Plover – reports of interest included 3 w. of Miller, *Fulton*, 15 April (BP, ph. JBa) that were rather early; 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 25 April (ph. TB, CBe) with 9 there 20 May (DSv, LCo, CBs, BP); 2 at Melco 29 April (EHu, JBa); 1-2 at Morgan Pond 11-29 May (JHa, ph. SA, et al.) with peak counts of 7 there 16 May (JHa) and 5 there 18 May (BP, SG, TGr, JHa); and 3 at Parsons Pond 22 May (ph. FL).

American Golden-Plover – 2 at McElroy Lake 7 March (TD) and 12 n. of Oak Grove 11 March (JHa, ph. SA) were the earliest to be reported. Other reports of interest included 25 at McElroy Lake 11 March (TGr, SG); 3 at Horseshoe Road 26 March (SG, TGr); 650 at Open Pond 29 March (HC, JP); at least 50 at Sauerheber 9 April (BP, BBC); a new state record high count of at least 2040 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms (including at least 1400 at Open Pond) 15 April (BP, JBa); and small numbers at and near Morgan Pond 12 March–27 April (JHa, SA, et al.) with 1 lingering near Morgan Pond to 13 May (BLi).

Semipalmated Plover – small numbers seen at a few spots in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 15 April (BP, JBa) were the earliest to be reported; local peak counts included ca. 120 at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 29

April (BP, BW, TSh, TQ); up to 35 [25 April (RFa, MA)] at Melco during late April and early May (BP et al.); and 75-80+ at Morgan Pond 18/22 May (BP, JHa, TGr, SG/BP, TGr, SG, SBe) with 35 still present 27 May (JHa). Two at Melco 28 May (MA) with 1 there 30 May (BP), and 2 in w. *Henderson* 31 May (CC) were the latest to be reported.

Killdeer – 150 at McElroy Lake 7 March (TGr, SG) represented the peak count for the season.

Spotted Sandpiper – 1 at Green River Lake, *Adair*, 1 April (RD) was the earliest to be reported; 14 at Doe Run Lake, *Kenton*, 25 April (RC) and 15 at Morgan Pond 18 May (BP et al.) represented modest peak counts for the season.

Solitary Sandpiper – singles at Sauerheber (JM) and Melco (MA), both 27 March, and at two different locales in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 29 March (HC, JP) were the earliest to be reported; 29 at Swallow Spring Pond 20 April (JHa, SA), ca. 35 at Melco 5 May (AM, BP), and 25 at Herndon, *Christian*, 29 April (RD) represented modest peak counts for the season. One at Morgan Pond 23 May (JHa) was the latest to be reported.

Greater Yellowlegs – local peak counts included ca. 100 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 17/18 March (MGr/JSo, TGr, SG) with at least 115 there 15 April (BP, JBa); 39 at Morgan Pond 3 April (JHa); and 80 at Sauerheber 21 March (CC). Singles at Morgan Pond (JHa) and Minor Clark (VS), both 25 May, were the latest to be reported.

Willet – there were reports from seven locales: 10 at Melco 25 April (ph. RFa, MA, et al.); 1 at Swallow Spring Pond 27 April (JHa, SA); 20 at Ky Dam Village 28 April (ph. JJ) with 5 there 29 April (LCr et al.), and 123 there (BP, ph. MY, KOS) and 62 on Lake Barkley at Green Turtle Bay, *Lyon*, both 30 April (BP, KOS, with the 185 representing a new state high count; 1 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 30 April (ph. BY); 34 at Ky Dam Village 1 May (RLa, KOS); 38 near Morgan Pond 2 May (JHa); 1 n. of Herndon, *Christian*, 7 May

(JHa); 9 at Talon Winery, *Fayette*, 9 May (ph. DSv); and 54 at Ky Dam Village 10 May (HC).

Lesser Yellowlegs – local peak counts included 152 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 17 March (MGr) with at least 550 [including more than 500 at Long Point] there 8 April (HC, ME, JP); 175-200 at Sauerheber 28 March (BP) with at least 300 there 7 April (BP, TQ) and ca. 200 there 9/29 April (BP, BBC/BP, BW, TQ, TSh); at least 800 total in the Lower Hickman Bottoms [including ca. 450 at Long Point] 15 April (BP, JBa); ca. 175 at Morgan Pond 1 May (BW, TQ, SG, TGr, BP); 185 on a pond near Morgan Pond 2 May (JHa); and 76 at Melco 9 May (BP). Six at Morgan Pond 23 May (TGr, SG, JHa, BLi) were the latest to be reported.

Upland Sandpiper – there was only one report: 4 n. of Oak Grove 6 April (ph. SA, JHa).

Ruddy Turnstone – there was only one report: 4 at Melco 20 May (BP, MA).

Ruff – there were two reports, both from the Lower Hickman Bottoms sw. of Sassafras Ridge: 17-18 March (ph. MGr) and 1 Apr (ph. BP, ph. EHu, ph. SG, TGr). KBRC review required.

Stilt Sandpiper – reports of interest included an early individual at Sauerheber 28 March (ph. BP) with perhaps the same individual there 7/29 April (BP, TQ/BP, BW, TQ, TSh), 5 there 4 May (BY, MY), and 1 there 8 May (KM); 2 at Long Point 15 April (DP); 1 at Swallow Spring Pond 20 April (JHa, ph. SA); 1 at Melco 25 April/4 May (BP, MA/TB, CBe) with 2 there 29 April/17 May (EHu/BP); and 1-2 at Morgan Pond 18-24 May (BP, JHa, et al.).

Sanderling – there were two reports, both 17 May and both probably representing local firsts during spring: 2 at Murl Pond (RBn) and 1 at Melco (†BP).

Dunlin – reports of interest included an early individual at McElroy Lake 14-15 March (AH); 1 at Sauerheber 21 March (ph. CC) with 16 there 28 March (BP) and peak counts there of 38 on 22 April (KM)

and ca. 100 there 3 May (ph. CC); generally small numbers in the Lower Hickman Bottoms during April and early May with 1 near Open Pond 1 April (BP, EHu, SG, TGr) being the earliest and a peak count of 22 at Open Pond 15 April (BP, JBa); singles at Melco 31 March (MA) & 9 May (JBa/BP) with 3 there 1 May (EHu) and 15 there 18 May (CBs, BP, RR, et al.); up to 20 or more at Morgan Pond on a number of dates from mid-April to late May with peak counts there of ca. 150 on 16 May (JHa, SA); 43 on 20 May (JHa); and 51 on 23 May (JHa, BLi); and 15 along Horseshoe Road 22 May (BP). Three at Morgan Pond 26 May (JHa) were the latest to be reported.

Baird's Sandpiper – quite unexpected were 2 at Melco 9 May (ph. BP) that probably represent a first confirmed spring report for the Louisville area.

Least Sandpiper – 21 were back at Jonathan Creek by 6 March (ME); otherwise, 1 at McElroy Lake 10+ March (AH), 1 at Sauerheber 26 March (TGr, SG), and 3 at Melco 27 March (MA) were the earliest to be reported; local peak counts of interest included 280 at Melco 9 May (BP) with ca. 115 still there 15 May (BP), 60 at Sauerheber 15 May (CC), and 50 at Morgan Pond 18 May (BP, JHa, et al.).

White-rumped Sandpiper – 1 at Horseshoe Road 29 April (BP, BW, TQ, TSh) was the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included 1-7 at and near Morgan Pond 4-29 May (JHa, BP, et al.) with peak counts of 20-25 there 22 May (BP, TGr, SG, SBe) and 10 there 23/27 May (BLi/JHa); 1-3 at Melco 9-17 May (BP) with a peak count of 5 there 10 May (BP); 1 at Minor Clark 14 May (RC); 1 at Murl Pond 17 May (RBn); 1-2 at Parsons Pond 19-22 May (ph. FL); 19 along Horseshoe Road 22 May (BP); and 6 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 27 May (MGr).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper – 1 at Melco 25 April (MA, ph. RFa, BDv) represented only the second documented spring record for the state.

Pectoral Sandpiper – 23 at McElroy Lake 5 March (TD), 24 at Jonathan Creek 6

March (ME), and 7 at Morgan Pond 7 March (JHa) were the earliest to be reported; local peak counts included 200+ at McElroy Lake 12 March (BP, CBs) with 300 there 16 March (AH) and ca. 500 there 21 March (TD); 295 at Morgan Pond 18 March (JHa, SA); 320 at Sauerheber 27 March (JM) with 250 there 28 March (JSo) and 350 there 7 April (BP, TQ); 300 at Open Pond 29 March (HC, JP) with at least 1450 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 1 April (BP, EHu, TGr, SG) and at least 900 in the same area 15 April (BP, JBa); 700 at Long Point 8 April (HC, JP); and 255 at Swallow Spring Pond 16 April (JHa).

Semipalmated Sandpiper – a few were first reported at Swallow Spring Pond 20 April (JHa, SA); local peak counts included 150 at Murl Pond 17 May (RBn); 300+ at and near Morgan Pond 18 May (BP, SG, TGr, JHa) with 700-750 there 22 May (BP, TGr, SG, SBe) and 450 there 25 May (JHa et al.); 85 along Horseshoe Road 22 May (BP); at least 120 at Melco 25/28 May (BP/MA); and 60 at the Frankfort Fish Hatchery 27 May (TQ).

Western Sandpiper – 1 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 29 March (†HC, JP) was not only rare for spring but represented a new early spring date for the state.

Short-billed Dowitcher – 2 at Sauerheber 29 April (BP, BW, ph. TQ, TSh) were the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included 4 in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 30 April (ph. RD, HC, ME, PHo); 20 at Morgan Pond 12 May (JHa, SA) with 7 there 18 May (BP, JHa, TGr, SG), 5 there 22 May (BP, SBe, TGr, SG), and 1 last seen there 23 May (JHa); and 7 at Murl Pond 17 May (RBn).

Long-billed Dowitcher – 2 at McElroy Lake 10-12 March (AH, TGr, SG, †BP, CBs), 1 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 22 March (ph. BY, MY); 4 at Sauerheber 30 March (ph. AH), and 2 at Open Pond 1 April (†BP) were the earliest to be reported. Other reports of interest included 25 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 8 April (HC, ME, JP); 1 relatively far east nw. of Alton, *Anderson*, 21 April (JSo); 15 at

Swallow Spring Pond 27 April (JHa, SA); probably most of 45 dowitchers at Sauerheber 1 May (ph. BY, MY); 29 near Morgan Pond 2 May (JHa); and 1 at Melco 25 April (RFa, MA, BP) with 3 there 1 May (EHu), 9 there 4 May (TB, CBe), 8 there 5 May (†BP, MA, AM) and 1 there on the relatively late date of 9 May (BP).

dowitcher sp. – there were two reports of flocks identified as Short-billeds but without specific details and during a time [first week of May] when Long-billeds typically predominate: 17 at Morgan Pond 3 May (JHa) and 15 at Long Point 7 May (RH, DMY, BS). There were also two reports of sizable flocks of unidentified dowitchers that were likely Long-billed based on date: 18 at Sauerheber 1 May (ph. CC) and 18 at Morgan Pond 3 May (BLi).

Wilson's Snipe – modest peak counts included 57 nw. of Oak Grove and 76 at Swallow Spring Pond, both 12 March (JHa); 38 at the J.C. Jones Road sinkhole ponds, *Hart*, 24 March (JSo); 76 n. of Oak Grove 14 April (JHa); and 149 at Long Point 15 April (DP). Two at Melco 9 May (BP) and a very tardy bird that lingered near Talon Winery se. of Lexington, *Fayette*, to 27 May (DSv) were the latest to be reported.

Wilson's Phalarope – 1 at Sauerheber 19 March (ph. RLe) established a new early spring date for the state by two weeks; also reported were 1 at Swallow Spring Pond 10 May (TGr, ph. SG, JHa); and 1 at Morgan Pond 12-23 May (JHa, ph. SA, et al.) with 2 males there 22 May (ph. SG, TGr, SBe, BP).

Red-necked Phalarope – a female was at Morgan Pond 23-25 May (BLi, JHa, ph. SA, et al.).

Bonaparte's Gull – reports of interest included 400+ at Wolf Creek Dam, *Russell*, 5 March (RBn); 200 near Open Pond 1 April (BP, EHu, SG, TGr); and 90 at Murl Pond 12 April (RD).

Laughing Gull – there was only one report: an ad. on the Ohio River at Covington, *Kenton*, 12 March (KW, ph. EBU).



Ruff (w/ Greater Yellowlegs), Fulton Co.
1 April 2016
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Ruff, Fulton Co.
1 April 2016
Eddie Huber



Yellow-headed Blackbird, Elliott Co.
8 May 2016
Elizabeth Garris



White-winged Dove, Marshall Co.
28 April 2016
Joshua Powell



Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Jefferson Co.
25 April 2016
Rand Falls



Northern Flicker w/ aberrant pigmentation
Jefferson Co., 9 February 2016
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Surf Scoters (6), Ohio River, Jefferson Co.
19 April 2016
Laurel Fuson



Willets (3 of 20), Marshall Co.
28 April 2016
Jim Johnson



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Calloway Co.
24 May 2016
Molly Canter.



Common Redpoll, Logan Co.
9 March 2016
Steve Tyson



Baird's Sandpiper (1 of 2), Jefferson Co.
9 May 2016
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

- Franklin's Gull** – there were only three reports: 1 at Jonathan Creek 25 March (†ME); an ad. at Ky Dam Village 30 April (BP, ph. TQ, KOS); and a sub-ad. at Ky Dam Village 12 May (ph. BY, MY).
- Ring-billed Gull** – reports of interest included 160 at McElroy Lake 10 March (AH); ca. 70 still at Calvert City 30 April (BP, KOS); and 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 21 May (TB, CBe).
- Herring Gull** – 40-50 were still at Ky Dam 30 April (BP, KOS).
- Lesser Black-backed Gull** – there were three reports: a probable ad. at Kuttawa 1 March (BY, MY); a probable ad. at Jonathan Creek 9 April (HC, ME); and a first-year bird at Ky Dam Village 12 May (ph. BY, MY).
- Glaucous Gull** – a first-year bird at Ky Dam 28 March/1 April (ph. JJ/HC, ME) may have been one continuing from the winter season.
- Least Tern** – reports of interest included 3 at Sauerheber 21 May (ph. CC) with 2 there 24 May (CC); and 1 at Morgan Pond 23 May (ph. BLi, JHa, ph. SA).
- Caspian Tern** – 4 at Lexington Reservoir #4 on 10 April (LCo, DSv) were the earliest to be reported; extremely modest peak counts included 15 at Barkley Dam and 19 in the vicinity of Ky Dam, both 30 April (BP, KOS); 2 at the Falls of the Ohio 21 May (TB, CBe) were the latest to be reported.
- Black Tern** – there were reports from three locales: 13 at Morgan Pond 18 May (SG, TGr, BP, JHa) with up to 8 [20 May] there to 27 May (JHa et al.); 2 at Jacobson Park 18 May (LCo, DSv); and 1 at Melco 18 May (BP, RR, et al.).
- Common Tern** – there were seven reports: at least 6 at Ky Dam Village and 2 at Kuttawa, both 30 April (BP, KOS); 1 on Ky Lake near Hamlin, *Calloway*, 7 May (HC, JP, MTr); 7 at Morgan Pond 18 May (†BP, TGr, SG) with 2 there 20 May (JHa); 8 at the Frankfort Fish Hatchery 18 May (ph. BDe); and at least 1 at Jacobson Park 18 May (ph. LCo, DSv).
- Forster's Tern** – 2 were at Jonathan Creek 2 March (ME) with an influx of birds there and at Blood River by mid-March (HC, ME); modest peak counts included at least 40 at Ky Dam Village and ca. 50 on the Tennessee River at Calvert City, *Marshall*, both 30 April (BP, KOS).
- White-winged Dove** – there were two reports: 1 at Erlanger, *Kenton*, 15-16 April (ph. HW) and 1 at Benton, *Marshall*, 29 April (ph. JP). KRBC review required.
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo** – singles at the LBL Nature Station, *Lyon/Trigg*, 22 April (AY), at Morgan Conservation Park, *Oldham*, 23 April (BDa), at McConnell Springs, *Fayette*, 24 April (NBr), and at Boone County Cliffs SNP 25 April (LM) were the earliest to be reported.
- Black-billed Cuckoo** – singles heard at Minor Clark 23 April (JL) and at Douglass Hills 24-25 April (MMo), and 1 at Pope Lick Park 26 April (PB, JBe, et al.) were the earliest to be reported. Singles were reported at nearly 20 additional locales through late May (mostly eBird data).
- Barn Owl** – there were reports from seven locales: singles on several dates during the season at the Sinclair Unit (TGr, SG); a nesting pair sw. of Chaplin, *Nelson*, during the season (TH); singles at Figgett Bend, *Hart*, 26 March/18 April (JSo, SH); 1 at Shaker Village 23 April (ph. SG, TGr); 1 at Camp #11 on 29 April (BP, BW, TSh, TQ); and a nesting pair along Red Hill Road se. of Nortonville, *Hopkins*, during May (EW). Also, a nest box project at Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg/Ohio*, has been quite successful with 8 boxes found to be occupied during early April (EW).
- Short-eared Owl** – 2 were last seen at the Sinclair Unit 16 March (TGr, SG).
- Common Nighthawk** – 1 at Wilmore, *Jessamine*, 24 April (SPe) was the earliest to be reported.
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird** – 1 in ne. *Calloway* 30 March (ph. TGe) was the earliest to be reported.

- Rufous Hummingbird** – the wintering female at Murray, *Calloway*, was last seen 13 April (ME).
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** – singles at Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 5 May (KS) and e. of Taylorsville, *Spencer*, 8 May (KB) were the latest to be reported.
- Northern Flicker** – a female with aberrant pigmentation was present at Surrey Hills Farm mid-January into early March (ph. BP). See p. 62.
- Merlin** – there were at least eight reports: 1 at Highland Cemetery, *Kenton*, 1 March (BP, CBs, et al.); singles at Schochoh, *Logan*, 2/6 March (ST); 1 at Cox's Park, *Jefferson*, 7 March (JBa); 1 at McElroy Lake 15 March (AH); singles in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 29 March/1 April (HC, JP/MGr); and singles over Douglass Hills (ph. MY) and along Union Church Road, *Henry*, 2 May (RR).
- Peregrine Falcon** – there were more than a dozen reports away from the general vicinity of known nesting territories: 1 at Greenup Dam, *Greenup*, 14 March (JHo); 1 at McElroy Lake 13 March (TD); singles at Murl Pond (RBn, RD) and at Lexington (RO), both 19 March; singles at Sauerheber 30 March/22 April (AH/KM); 1 along Mariba Fork, DBNF, *Menifee*, 3 April (DMD); singles over Douglass Hills 6/26 April & 8 May (ph. MY); 1 at Long Point 8 April (HC, ME, JP); 1 at Clarks River NWR w. of Sharpe, e. *McCracken*, 12 April (HC); singles at Figett Bend, *Hart*, 13/20 April (JSo); singles at Ky Dam Village 29/30 April (LCr/BP, KOS); and 1 at Shaker Village 3 May (BLe et al.).
- Olive-sided Flycatcher** – there were five reports: 1 at Cherokee Park 13 May (BW, ph. BP); 1 at Mammoth Cave 15 May (SK); 1 at LBL, *Trigg*, 16 May (BLi); 1 at Sauerheber 20 May (ph. CC); and 1 heard at Mammoth Cave, *Hart*, 29 May (KR).
- Eastern Wood-Pewee** – 1 along Union Grove Road, *Hopkins*, 22 April (BP, ph. SG, et al.) was the earliest to be reported.
- Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** – there were five reports: 1 at the Grassy Pond-Powells Lake Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 8 May (KM); singles at the Lexington Cemetery 11/12 May (DSv/BW); 1 at the Jenny Hole Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 19 May (JM); and 1 heard at Melco 23 May (RFa).
- Alder Flycatcher** – there were at least ten reports: 2 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 14 May (RBn, RD); singles at Sauerheber and at the Jenny Hole Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, both 19 May (JM); 1 at Douglass Hills 20 May (MMo, BP); 1 heard at Bernheim Forest 22 May (SD); 2 along McDonald Landing Road and 5 at Sauerheber, all 22 May (BP); 1 at Melco 23 May (RFa); and 4 at Surrey Hills Farm 23 May (BP) with 1 still there 24 May (BP).
- Willow Flycatcher** – 1 at Sandy Watkins Park, *Henderson*, 2 May (CC) was the earliest to be reported.
- Great Crested Flycatcher** – 1 at Pope Lick Park 19 April (PB, JBe) was the earliest to be reported.
- Eastern Kingbird** – singles at Surrey Hills Farm 11 April (BP) and at Devou Park, *Kenton*, 12 April (WH) were the earliest to be reported.
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** – there were three reports: 1 along Luttrell Creek w. of Dunnville, observed on different days in *Adair*, *Casey*, and *Russell*, 15-25 May (ph. JTa, JSo, RD, GBo, JBa, TB, CBe); 1 s. of Coldwater, *Calloway*, 24 May (ph. MCa); and 1 at Ballard WMA 27 May (†GBu, SBn).
- White-eyed Vireo** – 1 heard singing at Shallow Flats, Cave Run Lake, *Rowan*, 8 March (†BLm) may have been lingering from winter; singles at Clarks River NWR 2 April (JP) and at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 4 April (RD) were the next earliest to be reported.
- Bell's Vireo** – 1 at Big Rivers WMA, *Union*, 23 May (CC) was a local first.
- Blue-headed Vireo** – singles at Pine Mountain SRP, *Bell*, 14 March (MH), at the Pine Mountain Settlement School, *Harlan*, 15 March (RBt), at the Natural Arch Scenic Area, DBNF, *McCreary*, 15 March

- (DCo), and at the Big South Fork National Rec. Area, *McCreary*, 17 March (RD) were the earliest to be reported. Singles at Floracliff SNP, *Fayette* (SRn), and in w. *Franklin* (JSo), both 14 May, were the latest to be reported away from known nesting areas.
- Warbling Vireo** – 1 at Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 8 April (JM) was the earliest to be reported.
- Philadelphia Vireo** – 1 at LBL, *Lyon*, 26 May (DSi) and 2 at Mammoth Cave 27 May (SG) were the latest to be reported.
- Blue Jay** – 50 at Jonathan Creek 1 May (RD) represented the peak count for the season.
- Fish Crow** – 4 over Murray, *Calloway*, 4 March (ME) represented a local first.
- Common Raven** – the only report away from the mountains of far se. Kentucky was 1 at Paintsville Lake, WMA, *Johnson*, 5 March (SF);
- No. Rough-winged Swallow** – 6 at Wood Creek Lake, *Laurel*, 17 March (AK) were the earliest to be reported.
- Bank Swallow** – 1 at Sauerheber 9 April (BP) was the earliest to be reported; an estimate of probably one-half of 1000-1500 swallows over Morgan Pond 18 May (BP et al.) represented the peak count for the season. An active nest colony of ca. 200 individuals was located in Steele Bottom, *Gallatin*, 30 May (BW).
- Cliff Swallow** – probably one-half of 1000-1500 swallows over Morgan Pond 18 May were Cliffs (BP et al.).
- Barn Swallow** – 1 at McElroy Lake 18 March (TD), 1 at Murl Pond 19 March (RD, RBn), 2 at the J.C. Jones Road sink-hole ponds, *Hart*, 20 March (JSo), and 1 n. of Glasgow, *Barren*, 21 March (LCr) were the earliest to be reported.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch** – there were a few reports of presumed migrants or tardy wintering birds during the season (eBird data); also reported were singles from the local breeding population at Rock Bridge, DBNF, *Wolfe*, 20/23 May (FR).
- Brown-headed Nuthatch** – birds continued at the nesting area at Ky Dam Village through the season (m. ob.) with an active nest located there for the fourth year in a row 22 April (FR).
- House Wren** – 1 at Murray, *Calloway*, 30 March (HC) was the earliest to be reported.
- Winter Wren** – 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 23 April (BP) was relatively tardy, but 1 heard singing at the Lexington Cemetery 12 May (BP) was exceptionally late.
- Sedge Wren** – there were four reports: 1 at Sauerheber 28 April (ph. CC) with 2 heard there 6 May (CC); 1 on the se. side of Lexington 30 April–1 May (DSv, LCo); and 1 at Morgan Pond 9 May (JHa)
- Marsh Wren** – there were reports from four locales: singles at Sauerheber on several dates 9 March (†JM)–19 May (CC) with 2 there 27 March/1 May (KM/KM); 1 heard at Green River WMA, *Adair*, 23 April (RD); 1 at Lexington 27 April (MTw); and 1 heard singing at Melco 18 May (BP, RR, et al.).
- Golden-crowned Kinglet** – singles at Ky Dam Village 30 April (JSn) and at Clarks River NWR 1 May (ME, RC) were rather tardy.
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet** – 1-2 at four different locales 14 May (eBird data) were the latest to be reported.
- Catharus thrushes** – thrush migration was relatively unremarkable with no extremely high counts or extreme dates.
- American Pipit** – 120 at McElroy Lake 9 March (AH) represented the peak count for the season; 1 at Melco 9 May (BP, CBs) was the latest to be reported.
- Cedar Waxwing** – the species was essentially absent in the state until the last week of April (there were no eBird records in the state during March and only one during the first two weeks of April!).
- Ovenbird** – singles at Whitley City, *McCreary* (L&TM) and at the Alpine Rec. Area (RD), both 13 April, were the earliest to be reported.

- Worm-eating Warbler** – 2 at the Alpine Rec. Area 13 April (RD) were the earliest to be reported.
- Louisiana Waterthrush** – singles adjacent to Minor Clark, *Bath*, 15 March (ph. SBy); along Pointer Creek Road, *Pulaski* (RD), and s. of Pottertown, *Calloway* (BH), both 16 March; and at the Big South Fork National Rec. Area, *McCreary*, 17 March (RD) were the earliest to be reported.
- Golden-winged Warbler** – it was a little better season for the species than last spring with reports of 1-2 at about a dozen locales (mostly eBird data).
- Blue-winged Warbler** – 1 at Reservoir Knob, *Pulaski*, 12 April (RD) was the earliest to be reported.
- Brewster's Warbler** – 1 was reported at Minor Clark during the third week of April (MW).
- Black-and-white Warbler** – 1 at the Alpine Rec. Area 27 March (RD) was the earliest to be reported.
- Prothonotary Warbler** – 1 at Blood River 7 April (HC) was the earliest to be reported.
- Swainson's Warbler** – 5 in the Clifty Wilderness, *DBNF*, *Wolfe*, 23 April (JFg) were the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included 1 at Clarks River NWR 4 May with 1-2 (including 1 banded) there 29-31 May (JP, HC, et al.); and 1 along KY 11 ne. of Alger, *DBNF*, *Owsley*, 28 May (RD).
- Tennessee Warbler** – 1 at the LBL Nature Station, *Lyon/Trigg*, 16 April (AY) was the earliest to be reported.
- Orange-crowned Warbler** – reports of interest included three of individuals possibly or probably lingering from the winter season: 1 at Adkins Swamp 6 March (†TGr, SG), and singles at Lake No. 9 (†BP, EHu, TGr, SG) and n. of Goshen, *Oldham* (ph. BDa), both 1 April. Otherwise, singles at McConnell Springs 12 April (CBl) and ne. of Defoe, *Henry*, 15 April (RR) were the earliest to be reported.
- Nashville Warbler** – 1 heard singing at Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 25 May (†JM) was particularly tardy.
- Connecticut Warbler** – there were reports from six locales: 1 at Douglass Hills 10 May (MY); 1 at Veterans Park, Lexington, 10-11 May (SRn et al.); 1 at another location on the ne. side of Lexington 12 May (MTw); 1-2 at Cherokee Park 13-15 May (BW, BP, et al.); singles at Sauerheber 19/21 May (JM/CC); and 1 heard at Red River Gorge ne. of Slade, *Powell*, 23 May (SPe).
- Mourning Warbler** – singles were reported at more than a dozen locales 8-26 May (mostly eBird data).
- Kentucky Warbler** – 1 at Berea College Forest, *Madison*, 10 April (RFo, RBa) was the earliest to be reported.
- Common Yellowthroat** – 6 along Pointer Creek Road, *Pulaski*, 14 April (RD) were the earliest to be reported.
- Hooded Warbler** – 2 at Whitley City, *McCreary*, 13 April (L&TM) were the earliest to be reported.
- American Redstart** – singles at Owsley Fork Lake, *Madison*, 16 April (RFo, RBa) and at Cave Run Lake, *Rowan*, 22 April (MGa) were the earliest to be reported.
- Cape May Warbler** – 1 at Lexington 18 April (RO) represented a new early arrival date for the state by one day.
- Northern Parula** – singles at Mammoth Cave 2 April (LCr) and at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 4 April (RD) were the earliest to be reported.
- Magnolia Warbler** – 1 at Mammoth Cave 27 April (SK et al.) was the earliest to be reported; 1 at Iroquois Park, Louisville, 28 May (MA) was the latest to be reported.
- Bay-breasted Warbler** – 1 at the Lexington Cemetery 24 April (SPa) was the earliest to be reported; 1 at Beckley Creek Park 26 May (PB) was the latest to be reported.
- Blackburnian Warbler** – several at the summit of Black Mountain, *Harlan*, 20 April (EL, LG) and 1 at Mammoth Cave 22 April (SK, JR) were the earliest to be reported.

- Blackpoll Warbler** – 1 at Clarks River NWR 19 April (JP) was the earliest to be reported.
- Black-throated Blue Warbler** – it was a good season for the species with 1-2 reported at more than a dozen locations (mostly eBird data). Reports of interest included a few at the summit of Black Mountain, *Harlan*, 20 April (EL, LG); 2 heard at Cummins Nature Preserve, *Mason*, 29 April (KS); and 3 at the Lexington Cemetery 11/12 May (SPe/BP et al);
- Yellow-rumped Warbler** – singles n. of Fisherville, e. *Jefferson*, (PB) and at Jacobson Park (SPe), both 19 May, were the latest to be reported.
- Yellow-throated Warbler** – 2 at LBL, *Trigg*, 26 March (HC) were the earliest to be reported.
- Black-throated Green Warbler** – 1 at the Alpine Rec. Area 27 March (RD) was the earliest to be reported; singles at LBL, *Trigg*, 24 May (BLi) and at Mammoth Cave 28 May (†KR) were the latest to be reported away from breeding areas.
- Canada Warbler** – 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 25 April (BP) was rather early; 1 at Pope Lick Park 31 May (MA) was the latest to be reported.
- American Tree Sparrow** – singles at Beckley Creek Park 12 March (JW) and at Surrey Hills Farm 14 March (BP) were the latest to be reported.
- Vesper Sparrow** – 1-4 were reported from about a dozen locales 11 March–16 April (mostly eBird data).
- Lark Sparrow** – 1-4 were seen along McDonald Landing Road 28 April+ (ph. CC, et al.) with 3 separate pairs observed there (2 nest building and 1 copulating) 22 May (BP). The only other reports were for 1 along KY 200 n. of Sunnybrook, *Wayne*, 30 April (RBn) and a pair at Steele Bottom, *Gallatin*, 30 May (ph. BW).
- Grasshopper Sparrow** – singles ne. of Oak Grove 14 April (JHa) and e. of Hickman, *Fulton*, 15 April (BP, JBa) were the earliest to be reported.
- Le Conte's Sparrow** – 1 at Hardy Slough, Sauerheber, 9 April (BP, BBC) was the only one reported.
- Fox Sparrow** – 1 ne. of Waddy, *Shelby*, 13 April (TSh) was rather tardy.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** – 1 at Beckley Creek Park 17 April (PB) was the earliest to be reported.
- White-throated Sparrow** – singles at the Lexington Cemetery 17 May (JSo) and ne. of Lyndon, *Jefferson*, 17-19 May (PB) were the latest to be reported.
- Dark-eyed Junco** – the wintering “Oregon Junco” at Douglass Hills was last seen 11 March (ph. MY, BY).
- Western Tanager** – a male was reported at Hestand, *Monroe*, 5 May (†NBe). KBRC review required.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – quite extraordinary was 1 at a feeder ne. of Defoe, *Henry*, 26 February–2 March (†RR); singles at Harmony Acres, se. *Pulaski*, 17 April (ph. DV) and at Murray, *Calloway* (HC), and at Veterans Park, Lexington (SRn), both 18 April, were the next earliest to be reported.
- Indigo Bunting** – 1 at Peedee, *Christian*, 13 April (SBe) was the earliest to be reported.
- Dickcissel** – 1 s. of Cadiz, *Trigg*, 25 April (BLi) was the earliest to be reported.
- Bobolink** – 1 at the Boone County Conservancy Park, 23 April (RC) and 5 se. of Binns Mill, *Christian*, 25 April (SBe) were the earliest to be reported.
- Yellow-headed Blackbird** – a female was photographed nw. of Ault, nw. *Elliott*, 8 May (ph. EG). KBRC review required.
- Rusty Blackbird** – 2 at Sauerheber 30 April (JM) were the latest to be reported.
- Brewer's Blackbird** – there were three reports: 2 at Morgan Pond 12 March (BP, CBs); a few w. of Sassafras Ridge, *Fulton*, 1 April (BP, EHu, TGr, SG); and 5 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 3 April (ph. ST).
- Baltimore Oriole** – singles at Pope Lick Park (PB, JBe) and ne. of Defoe, *Henry*

(RR), both 19 April, were the earliest to be reported.

Purple Finch – a few birds lingered at a few scattered locales to 14 May (eBird data).

Common Redpoll – there were reports from two locales: the female at Highland Cemetery, *Kenton*, lingered to 6 March (LO, EBU, AB) with 2 there 4 March (HW); and a female at Schochoh, *Logan*, 6-13 March (ph. ST, DT, et al.).

Pine Siskin – wintering birds remained widely distributed through March, primar-

ily in small numbers; a wave of migrants passed through primarily from mid-April through early May. One at Independence, *Kenton* (ph. DMr), and 2 se. of LaGrange, *Oldham* (RFi), both 16 May; 1 at Natural Bridge SRP, *Powell*, 19 May (FR); 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 20 May (ST); 1 in n. *Franklin*, 20-21 May (JFy); 1 se. of West Liberty along the *Morgan/Magoffin* line, 21-22 May (DH); and 1 at Lexington 27 May (DCh) were the latest to be reported.

Observers: Sharon Arnold (SA), Michael Autin (MA), Ellen Bahm (EBa), Jamie Baker (JBa), Rebecca Bates (RBa), Nathan Beachy (NBe), Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Colleen Becker (CBe), Tom Becker (TB), Jane Bell (JBe), Pat Bell (PB), Sarah Bell (SBe), Andy Bess (AB), Carol Besse (CBs), Clay Bliznik (CBl), Gretchen Bolton (GBo), Steve Bonney (SBy), Karen Bonsell (KB), Ray Bontrager (RBn), Rod Botkins (RBt), Scooter Bowman (SBn), Barbara Brand (BB), Nancy Braun (NBr), John Brunjes (JBr), Eric Burkholder (EBu), Gerald Burnett (GBu), Molly Canter (MCA), Hap Chambers (HC), Don Chesnut (DCh), Lisa Combs (LCo), Marge Constan (MCo), Derek Coomer (DCo), Tim Cornish (TC), Linda Craiger (LCr), Charlie Crawford (CC), Rodney Crice (RC), Brian Davis (BDa), Brenda Dean (BDe), Roseanna Denton (RD), Brian DeVore (BDv), Scott Dickman (SD), Tom Durbin (TD), Melissa Easley (ME), Nancy Ettinger (NE), Rand Falls (RFa), Richard Fischer (RFi), Rob Foster (RFo), Scott Freidhof (SF), Jonathan Frodge (JFg), Joyce Fry (JFy), Laurel Fuson (LF), Matt Galbraith (MGa), Elizabeth Garris (EG), Teresa Gemeinhardt (TGe), Loran Gibson (LG), Steve Graham (SG), Teresa Graham (TGr), Mark Greene (MGr), Wallace Gullett (WG), Peter Haik (PHa), Joe Hall (JHa), Erin Harper (EHa), Stratton Hatfield (SH), Bob Head (BH), Todd Hendricks (TH), Doug Hennig (DH), Martina Hines (MH), Ron Hoff (RH), Josh Holland (JHo), Patty Horner (PHo), Eddie Huber (EHu), William Hull (WH), Aaron Hulseley (AH), Jim Johnson (JJ), Albert Kayser (AK), Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS), Steve Kistler (SK), Rob Lane (RLa), Ellis Laudermilk (EL), Richard Lee (RLe), Ben Lefew (BLe), Ben Limle (BLm), Bill Lisowsky (BLi), Wes Little (WL), Judy Lundquist (JL), Frank Lyne (FL), Don Martin (DMr), Daniel Maynard (DMd), Lee McNeely (LM), Andrew Melnykovich (AM), John Meredig (JM), Keith Michalski (KM), Lynda & Tom Mills (L&TM), Mark Monroe (MMo), multiple observers (m. ob.), Dollyann Myers (DMy), Dee Norris (DN), Ronan O'Carra (RO), Linda Osterhage (LO), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP), Nancy Parker (NP), Steve Pavey (SPa), Sydney Penner (SPe), Charlie Plush (CPl), Chuck Porter (CPr), Constance Powell (CPo), Josh Powell (JP), Dick Preston (DP), Tommy Quarles (TQ), Reuben Raber (RR), Scott Record (SRc), Spencer Reinhard (SRn), Frank Renfrow (FR), Mike Riggs (MR), Nancy Robb (NR), Steve Rogers (SRo), Kimberly Rohling (KR), Jeffery Rose (JR), Cyndi & Steve Routledge (C&SR), Tim Salzman (TSa), Vicki Sandage (VS), Beth Schilling (BS), Joel Schlabach (JSc), Kurt Schwarz (KS), Tanner Shepard (TSh), Damien Simbeck (DSi), Jennifer Snyder (JSn), Jeff Sole (JSo), Matt Stickel (MS), Jack Still (JSt), David Svetich (DSv), Joy Tarter (JTa), Melanie Torres (MTr), Mark Tower (MTw), Jon Tubbs (JTU), Debby Tyson (DT), Steve Tyson (ST), Donna VanHorn (DV), Kelly Vowels (KV), Kirk Westendorf (KW), James Wheat (JW), Eric Williams (EW), Mike Wright (MW), Helen Wright-North (HW), Brian Wulker (BW), Aviva Yasgur (AY), Ben Yandell (BY), Mary Yandell (MY).

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NEWS AND VIEWS

The Kentucky Warbler Available Online

In early 2015, Jonathan Jeffrey with the Department of Library Special Collections at Western Kentucky University (WKU) approached K.O.S. about undertaking a cooperative project to scan to digital format and place on the internet the complete series of the Society's quarterly journal, *The Kentucky Warbler*. The first issue of *The Kentucky Warbler* was published in 1925, and with only a couple of exceptions during the early years, four issues have been published every year since. There are only a handful of complete sets in personal collections and university libraries.

K.O.S. had scanned the first twelve years of issues a couple of years ago, and recent issues (since 2005) have been produced in PDF format, but 65 years worth of issues still needed to be scanned. During the fall of 2015, WKU staff (mostly students working in the program) scanned the needed issues with OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software, which allows for keyword searching within each number. The complete set of scanned issues was then loaded onto a host site on the internet.

The issues are housed in TopSCHOLAR, WKU's digital repository, which recently recorded its 2,000,000th download. According to Mr. Jeffrey, this was a beta project for WKU in that they had many items already online but no long runs of serials. He is pleased that *The Kentucky Warbler* is the first long-running journal to be placed on TopSCHOLAR, because Dr. Gordon Wilson—one of the Society's founders—was an English professor at WKU.

One of the requests that K.O.S. made of WKU was that the scanned issues be available to the public and that there was also assurance of their availability in perpetuity. Mr. Jeffrey iterated that this is exactly what the TopSCHOLAR project is all about, and that the digital archive is a permanent one that will always be available for free. Thanks to this cooperative effort, the first 90 volumes of *The Kentucky Warbler* are now online at the following link: [http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ky_warbler/!](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/ky_warbler/)

Visit the K.O.S. Web Site!

You can find all kinds of information about the Kentucky Ornithological Society on our web site at the following web address: www.birdky.org. Descriptions of all of our activities including spring and fall meetings, bird counts, field trips, scholarships and grants, and much more are available there.

Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to K.O.S. and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to a young birder between the ages of 13 and 18 who lives in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition for a young birder to attend an American Birding Association Summer Camp. Details about the A.B.A. camps can be found on the A.B.A. website. To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the K.O.S. web site (<http://birdky.org/wendell-and-ginny-kingsolver-fund.html>), write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend, and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to K.O.S. at a meeting, or in writing. The deadline to apply for a 2017 Kingsolver Scholarship is April 1, 2017.

K.O.S. Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available

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 of up to \$500, visit the K.O.S. web site (<http://www.birdky.org/anne-stamm-fund.html>) or contact Scott Marsh by mail at 4401 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY, 40509, or via email at (scott.marsh@twc.com).

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 with monetary awards of up to \$1000. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the K.O.S. web site (<http://www.birdky.org/burt-monroe-jr-fund.html>) or contact Kate Slankard, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601 (kate.slankard@ky.gov).

The Kentucky Warbler Available in PDF Format

Members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society who wish to receive quarterly issues of the Society's journal, *The Kentucky Warbler*, in electronic format rather than hard copy through the mail may now receive them by email. If you wish to receive future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler* in digital PDF format, email the Society's Corresponding Secretary, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., at (brainard@mindspring.com).



American White Pelican, Bullitt Co.
1 March 2016
Kelly Vowels



Brown-headed Nuthatches at nest cavity
Marshall Co., 24 April 2016
Frank Renfrow



Glaucous Gull, Kentucky Dam
1 April 2016
Jim Johnson



Red-necked Phalarope, Christian Co.
23 May 2016
Steve Graham



Hooded Merganser family, Henderson Co.
23 April 2016
Chuck Porter