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Common Nighthawk (Chordeiles minor) nesting on the roof of the Atherton High School, Louisville, May, 1959. (Photograph by Mabel Slack.)

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NEWS AND VIEWS

MRS. RINGO IS NEW LIFE MEMBER

Mrs. W. P. Ringo, of Frankfort, is one of our two newest Life Members, the other one being Oscar McKinley Bryens, of White Pigeon, Michigan. Mrs. Ringo began her career by teaching in the elementary grades in Daviess County; at present she is librarian of the Kentucky Department of Highways. She belongs to the Garden Club of Frankfort and is actively engaged in presenting talks on birds to garden clubs, Boy and Girl Scouts, veterans’ hospitals, etc. She was instrumental in organizing a chapter in Frankfort and served as its first president. She is at present a sponsor for bird study for the Boy and Girl Scouts. K.O.S. is grateful for her assistance as recording secretary and as a member of our executive board. Besides her interest in bird study she also enjoys archaeology as a hobby. We welcome this busy person to our ever-growing membership of Life Members.

MR. BRYENS IS NEW LIFE MEMBER

At our Henderson meeting, Oscar McKinley Bryens, our faithful Michigan member, became our thirty-first Life Member since the society was organized. Mr. Bryens, a skilled worker in fruit orchards in his native Michigan, has long been a member of our society and has often come the long way down to be with us at our meetings. He is noted for his meticulous daily records of species and individual birds that he has seen and for his very active work as a bird bander. No more active ornithologist lives today than he, for his every day is devoted to his hobby, regardless of his work. He has honored us by showing this faith in our society. And we gladly write his name among the growing list of Life Members.

SOME SUGGESTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS

1. A membership in the Kentucky Ornithological Society to a friend that you know is interested in birds.

2. A Life Membership in the society.

3. Check lists—prices range from $1.00 for 75 cards to $5.00 for 500 cards.

4. Ornithological books—order them through the society.

SOME BIRDS OF THE OWENSBORO LAKES—II

By A. L. Powell

COMMON TERN (Sterna hirundo). I have seen this species only once, and that was under rather odd circumstances. I was swimming in Trail-away Lake, which is only a few hundred yards from Kingfisher Lake No. 2, when I saw a sizable flock of these birds circling around and every now and then diving. The owner of the lake had poisoned the water to get rid of the many little fish in the water;
the terns were attracted to these minnows that were coming to the top and dying. I do not know where the birds came from but probably from the river islands; as it was July, I will rule out migration.

LEAST TERN (Sterna albifrons). I have seen this species on the lakes a number of times but not enough at any one time to call it anything but rare.

BLACK TERN (Chlidonias nigra surinamensis). There is just one record for the ten years that I have been keeping notes on the lakes and area.

MOURNING DOVE (Zenaidura macroura). Very common in the area and throughout Daviess County. I have records of their nesting from March until October. We have always been amazed at the variety of the places that this species chooses for a nesting site. We have found them as close as two feet to the ground and all the way up to an outstretched limb in the very top of an oak.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (Coccyzus americanus). We had the experience of watching a pair of these birds build their nest and raise their young in our yard. It is a common summer resident in the lake area.

BARRED OWL (Strix varia). Certainly one of the most abundant owls in this area. I have found them in Pup Creek bottoms and all around the lakes. For two seasons they nested almost at our back door, close enough for a number of photographs. We have had as many as five Barred Owls behind our house at one time. While standing on the shores of the lake across the road from me this very year I heard an owl calling from each of the four points of the compass. I think it strange that during the four years we have lived here we have not heard or seen a single Screech Owl (Otus asio). They must be here near by but are probably discouraged by the Barred; I have found them at the Boy Scout camp, two miles away. As the Barred’s diet is varied, it is not unreasonable to guess that his lesser cousin might sometimes provide a rather tasty meal.

LONG-EARED OWL (Asio otus wilsonianus). Harry Berkshire has in his taxidermy shop the skin of this species taken a year or two ago in the Yelvington-Mac forecast area. Since these little towns are very close to Carpenter’s and Kingfisher Lakes, I feel it should be included in this list. In this same shop was the skin of a Snowy Owl (Nyctea scandiaca), taken near Lewisport, Kentucky, in a very cold spell of weather in the winter of 1958-59; since Lewisport is only five miles away, there is, of course, a possibility that the Snowy visits the lake area. The heavy growth of trees and the nearness of the Ohio River make this area a likely place to find the Horned Owl (Bubo virginianus), but I have never seen or heard one. The Short-eared Owl (Asio flammeus) appears in fair abundance in other parts of Daviess County but not close enough to the lakes to add to this list.

OHUCK-WILL’S-WIDOW (Caprimulgus carolinensis). On April 20, 1960, my wife and I almost stepped on a Chuck-Will’s-Widow in the trail behind our house. The bird "exploded" right under our feet, flew to a near-by limb, and began to call its characteristic notes. We would call the species fairly common, as we see and hear it every year.

WHIP-POOR-WILL (Caprimulgus vociferus). In spring it is often heard from the latter part of April to early June; after a period of silence it appears again in July. This year, 1960, it has been rare. I have never found a nest of this species.
NIGHTHAWK (Chordeiles minor). Rather abundant in Owensboro but not often seen at the lakes. The gravel roofs of the city offer better nesting places than the fields and woods of the lake area.

CHIMNEY SWIFT (Chaetura pelagica). A number of these birds seem to be resorting to older habits by roosting in hollow trees in our area as well as in chimneys. The swifts are very numerous over the lakes and the residential areas. Probably the presence of many old houses with large chimneys as well as vacation cottages with large fireplaces make the habitat appealing to the swifts.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (Archilochus colubris). On June 18, 1960, we found the beginning of a Hummingbird's nest in a beech tree. The birds had been feeding on the nectar of jewelweeds and had also been gathering fuzz off sycamore leaves. They come to the chicken coop and gather bits of spider web. This nesting material would be woven and wound into the tiny cup of the nest. This species is common in this area and is seen almost everywhere around the lakes.

BELTED KINGFISHER (Megaceryle alcyon). This species seems to survive, no matter how long the lakes stay frozen. After the extreme cold period of March, 1960, I fully expected to find few, but they seem as numerous as ever. Each lake or pond supports one or more pairs. We have found the species nesting in a number of places in the area and have seen young birds on numerous occasions.

YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER (Colaptes auratus). Fairly common in the area; a few may be seen on every hike. In the very cold winter the species came to our yard where we were feeding the birds.

PILEATED WOODPECKER (Hylalemus pileatus). To have this magnificent bird in our own back yard is really a treat; one even alighted on the side of a big oak near our window while my wife was looking out. Fairly common all around the lakes and in the bottoms. In the immediate vicinity I estimate that there are about four pairs.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER (Centurus carolinus). One of the most abundant woodland species and probably the tamest. We had a pair to nest in the big oak that seemed to regard our feeding shelf as their own personal property. Every year the adults bring their young to the shelf and poke peanut butter down their throats. This species appear in every wooded section around the lakes and often nest rather closely together. In my own yard two pairs were not more than 200 feet apart.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (Melanerpes erythrocephalus). For three years we were able to find a pair of these birds in the woods at the north end of Kingfisher Lake No. 1, but after the severe weather of the 1959-60 season I have not seen one. I wish the species were common, but it is always rare; on two occasions it has been in our yard, and there are two records of it on the far side of Carpenter's Lake.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER (Sphyrapicus varius). We have this species in our pines nearly all winter, and the trees are pocked by its skill as a sap-sucker. Last year a dogwood was completely girdled, but it is still hardy. I would consider this species as a fairly common winter resident.

HAIRY WOODPECKER (Dendrocopus villosus). This species is certainly not so abundant as the Downy and Red-bellied but common
enough to be seen several times each year. We had the Hairy and the Downy feeding at the window shelf at the same time, which gave an excellent chance to compare the two. I have never found the nest of this species or seen the young here. In fact, my notes do not show a record of the species for the summer months.

DOWNY WOODPECKER (Dendrocopus pubescens). The companionable little Downy is a common bird in the lake district, in every kind of habitat. I have found numerous nesting holes and many young birds. During the heavy snows of the winter of 1959-60 the Downy was constantly at the feeding shelf.

* * * *

BIG SPRING LISTS

Our 1960 Big Spring Lists are, as usual, too few in number. We need as many, at least, as of the Christmas Bird Counts. The editors thank all participants for this season and urge a continued interest in this annual big day or weekend spent in counting species.

A * means that the species was recorded near but not on the count; a — after MC means species was recorded on the count period outside the Mammoth Cave National Park; Mu—Murray, Ma—Marion, H—Henderson, BG—Bowling Green; MC—Mammoth Cave National Park; L—Louisville, A—Ashland.

MURRAY (East of Murray from Clark's River to Blood River: low, damp woodlands and river bottoms)—May 21; weather bright and warm.—Clell T. Patterson, Compiler.

* * * *

NOTES FROM MURRAY

The Dickcissel has not been observed in this area before this count for many years, if at all. At least, this is the first record to be found.

The Bobolinks were observed in such numbers in the Murray area on May 14-16 as to constitute a record—more than 50 individuals.

The Red-headed Woodpecker and the Catbird are definitely on the increase around Murray.

* * * *

HENDERSON (Audubon Memorial State Park and many areas around Henderson)—May 1; 6:00 A. M. to 4 P. M., CDT. Clear; 35-65; barometer 30.2, rising; wind W, 10-20 m.p.h. Total, 117 species.—W. P. Rhoads, Compiler; Malcolm Arnett, Manilee Arnett, King Benson, Brother Charles (of Evansville), Mrs. Lora Clark, Al Huffman, Mrs. Ross Parsons, Frank Sauerheber, Virginia Smith, Mrs. George Stanley, Mrs. Nat Stanley, Sr.

* * * *

NOTES FROM HENDERSON

Rhoads, Huffman, and Benson worked in the park all day. We had hoped to go to the bend of the river to get shorebirds in the sloughs, but a heavy rain on the preceding night stopped this; our list of such species is, therefore, rather short.

Eighty-nine of the 117 species were recorded in the park; sixty-four species, all told, were recorded elsewhere; removing the duplications, we have the total given above.
MARION (Many types of habitats, in many parts of Crittenden County)—May 28-29. Total, 76 species.—C. L. Frazer.

* * * *

BOWLING GREEN (McElroy and Chaney Farms, Mouth of Gasper area)—April 23-24. Very warm, low humidity, strong winds. The lakes were very low and unrewarding, in general. Probably the best records were made inside the Chaney Swamp. Total, 107 species; in period, 10 species; total, 117 species.—Gordon Wilson, Compiler; more than 50 K. O. S. members participated; see list in May, 1960, WARBLER, p. 36.

NOTES FROM BOWLING GREEN

The big event was the finding by Mrs. F. W. Stamm and her party of a Forster’s Tern on a small farm pond between Rich Pond and Woodburn; Mr. A. F. Ganier later collected the bird. (See KY. WARBLER, XXXVI (1960), 45).

Not a single Bluebird was seen on the two days.

The Bachman’s Sparrow, a species now becoming very rare because of the Green Pastures Program, was recorded on the Hadley Ridge by Roderic Sommers.

* * * *

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK (A large part of the park on both sides of Green River, especially in the Central Area, the Doyle Valley-Chaumont area and the western end)—April 29-30, May 1; overnight camp at Houchins Ferry. Clear, cool, light wind. Total, 112 species.—Gordon Wilson, Compiler; Dr. Robert N. Pace, Dr. George McKinley, Dr. Robert McKinley, Dr. and Mrs. Russell Starr, Mrs. James Gillenwater, Cleo Hogan, Cleo Hogan, Jr., Geneva Hogan.

NOTES ON MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

Just outside the park area, between Pig and the edge of the park, there were hundreds of swallows feeding over the fields and resting on telephone wires. All five species were represented, with Cliff Swallows making up about half the whole number, one of the largest concentrations of that species ever recorded in the Bowling Green-Mammoth Cave area.

The American Bittern was found in a small swamp near Stovall’s Crossing and near the home of the Hogans.

The warblers—30 in number—were within one species of the highest number ever found inside the park area in spring. Dr. Starr found the Swainson’s, near old CCC 4, and was able to show it to all of us in the party at that time. This establishes a third area for the species, the other two being on separate sections of Mill Branch, about a mile and a half from CCC 4.

The Blue Grosbeak, recorded by Wilson at the edge of the new parking area near the Visitors’ Center, is the second record for the park. (See "Blue Grosbeak in Mammoth Cave National Park," KENTUCKY WARBLER, XXXV (August, 1959), 55). It was feeding among the catkins of a tall white oak in very plain view. On May 12 and again on May 16 the species was found at the Chaney Camp. On the latter date the male was singing as it fed. This song definitely
determined that the strange bird song I have so long tried to recognize belonged to this species. (ED).

LOUISVILLE (Louisville and its environs, including Ohio River, woodlands, meadows, and Caperton's Swamp)—May 1; 8:00 A. M. to 8:30 P. M., CDT. Total, 131 species.—Burt L. Monroe, Sr., Compiler; members of the Beckham Bird Club participating.

ASHLAND (On Wolf Creek and Upper Twin of White Oak, Martin County)—April 30. Partly cloudy to bright, wind about 5 m.p.h., temp. 45-60. Total, 41 species.—Walter W. Forson, Compiler; Rufus Reed, Bob Chapman, Dr. Anna Waystaff, Ookie S. Green.

NOTES FROM ASHLAND

This is not a very impressive list, but our very unusual winter must have been responsible. Migrating birds did not seem to have come through our area in as large numbers as previously. However, our nesting individuals seem to be much ahead of the normal numbers.

THE WOODBURN LAKES, SEASONS OF 1959 AND 1960

Both the 1959 and the 1960 seasons at the Woodburn Lakes were poor as compared with average years. The water was never very high, and the hard winter of 1959-60, followed by the early dropping of the water table, also played a large part in the total picture.

In 1959, on 19 field trips, only 32 species of water birds were found. The lakes were up enough to be measured by January 24 and were gone by June 8. Only one species of grebe appeared, three species of herons, and twelve shorebirds; fourteen of the commoner ducks were seen, but only the Lesser Scaup (Aythya affinis) numbered as many as 100 at one time. Nearly all the ducks were gone before March 25. Even the Coot (Fulica americana) was scarce. Of the sandpipers only the Pectoral (Erolia melanotos) appeared in numbers up to 100, the White-rumped (Erolia fuscicollis)—3 seen on June 5—was the only unusual shorebird for the season. On our K. O. S. field trip on April only 11 water species appeared.

The 1960 season was almost equally poor, with 1 grebe, 3 herons, 15 ducks, 2 rails, and 11 shorebirds. The lakes lasted from January 19 to May 12 and were visited 17 times. The melting of the great snows—more than 54 inches, all told—raised the lakes to their greatest heights for the season—about 200 acres at McElroy's and 100 at Chaney's. The water table soon fell again, however, and when our K. O. S. field trip, yielding 13 water species, occurred on April 23, there was very little water in either lake. Two thousand Pintails (Anas acuta) appeared on March 22, as the largest find of any water species. The Redhead (Aythya americana), normally very scarce, was up to thirty on April 4. The Coot approached 100 only on April 9. The Pectoral Sandpiper numbered nearly 250 on April 9, and the two species of yellowlegs combined approached 100 on May 3. The big find—the Forster's Tern (Sterna forsteri)—was on a farm between the two lakes and can hardly be counted for the lakes themselves. (See KENTUCKY WARBLER, XXXVI (1960), 45. Most of the years since the mid-forties have brought 50 or more water species to the lakes; maybe 1961 will restore the more nearly normal numbers.—Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.
BIO SPRING LISTS, 1960

Pied-billed Grebe—Ma, H
Great Blue Heron—Ma
Common Egret—H, L
Green Heron—Ma, H, BG, L
B-c. Night Heron—BG, L
Y-c. Night Heron—BG, L
American Bittern—MC
Mallard—Ma, BG, L
Black Duck—BG
Gr-w. Teal—H
Bl-w. Teal—BG, L
Wood Duck—Ma, H, BG, L
H. Merganser—BG*, L
T. Vulture—Ma, H, BG, MC, L, A
B. Vulture—BG, MC, L
Sharp-sh. Hawk—Ma, MC
Cooper's Hawk—Ma, H, BG, L
R-t. Hawk—Ma, BG, MC, L
R-s. Hawk—Ma, H, BG, MC, L, A
B-winged Hawk—H, MC, L
R-leg. Hawk—A
Osprey—L
Per. Falcon—H
Sparrow Hawk—Ma, H, BG, MO, L
Ruffed Grouse—A
Bobwhite—Mu, Ma, H, BG, MC, L
R-n. Pheasant—BG*
Amer. Coot—BG*, MC-, H, L
Semp. Plover—BG*
Killdeer—H, BG, MC-, L
Amer. Golden Plover—Ma
Amer. Woodcock—H
Common Snipe—Ma, BG, L
Sp. Sandpiper—Mu*, BG, MC, L
Sol. Sandpiper—BG, L
G. Yellowlegs—BG
L. Yellowlegs—BG, L
Pec. Sandpiper—BG
Least Sandpiper—BG*
Herring Gull—Ma, H, L
Ring-billed Gull—L
Forster's Tern—BG

Common Tern—Ma
Caspian Tern—L
Black Tern—L
Mourning Dove—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Yel-billed Cuckoo—H, MC
Bl-billed Cuckoo—MC
Screech Owl—Ma, H
Horned Owl—Ma, H, BG
Barred Owl—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Chuck-will’s widow—L
Whip-poor-will—Ma, H, MC, L
C. Nighthawk—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Ch. Swift—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
R-t. Humm'bird—Ma, H, BG, MC*, L, A
Bel. Kingfisher—Ma, H, BG, L
Y-sh. Flicker—Ma, H, BG, MC, L, A
Pil. Woodpecker—Ma, H, BG, MC, L, A
Red-b. W'pecker—Mu, Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Red-h. Woodpecker—Mu, H, BG, MC, L
Y-b. Sapsucker—H, BG
Hairy Woodpecker—Ma, H, MG, MC, L
Downy Woodpecker—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
E. Kingbird—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Gr. Cr. Flycatcher—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Pheobe—Mu, Ma, H, BG, MC, L, A
Yel-b. Flycatcher—MC
Acad. Flycatcher—H, MC
E. Wood Pewee—Ma, H, BG, L
Horned Lark—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Tree Swallow—Ma, MC-, L
Bank Swallow—MC-, L
R.-winged Swallow—H, BG, MC, L, A
Barn Swallow—Mu, Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Cliff Swallow—MC-, L
Purple Martin—Ma, H, BG, L, A
Blue Jay—Mu, Ma, H, BG, MC, L, A
Com. Crow—Mu, Ma, H, BG, MC, L, A
Car. Chickadee—Ma, H, BG, MC, L
Tuft. Titmouse—Ma, H, BG, MC, L, A
Wh-br. Nuthatch—H, MC, L, A
Red-br. Nuthatch—H, L
House Wren—Ma, H, BG, MC-, L
Bewick's Wren—Ma, H, BG, MC-
THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL FALL MEETING

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its thirty-seventh annual fall meeting on October 7-9, 1960, at Henderson, Kentucky, in conjunction with the Indiana Audubon Society, with the Henderson Audubon Society as hosts. Registration began at 4:00 P. M. on Friday at the Soaper Hotel, headquarters.

At the Friday evening program James W. Hancock, president of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, and Robert H. Cooper, president of the Indiana Audubon Society, made welcoming addresses, and Mr. Cooper presented the speakers. Mrs. Harry W. Thixton, of Henderson, who, along with Miss Susan Starling Towles and others, had worked toward the establishment of the Audubon Memorial State Park and Museum, read a paper on "Audubon in Henderson." Miss Edna Banta, resident naturalist at the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary at Connersville, Indiana, spoke on "The Status of the Saw Whet Owl in Indiana." Mrs. Anne L. Stamm, of Louisville, gave an account of "Observations at the Falls of the Ohio," illustrated with color slides taken by Mr. F. W. Stamm and of the birds found there. J. Dan Webster, of the faculty of Hanover College, Hanover, Indiana, discussed "A Method of Taking a Bird Census."

On Saturday morning, groups went to Camp Bröckenridge and to the Lone Cypress Nursery for field trips and lunch. At 2:00 P. M. Mrs. William Krieger (formerly Amelia Klutey), who had for many years been a member of the staff of the Audubon Museum, conducted tours through the Museum.

The business session was called to order by the president, James W. Hancock, at 4:00 P. M. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published. The treasurer's report by Mr. F. W. Stamm was read and approved. (See later in this report.)

Article II, Section A of the by-laws was amended by adding the following sentence: "The Board of Directors shall have the power to change dues of each class of membership hereafter if necessary." The section amended now reads:

"ARTICLE II—DUES: Sec. A. The annual dues for active membership shall be three dollars ($3.00); for contributing membership five dollars ($5.00); for student membership two dollars ($2.00); for corresponding membership two dollars fifty cents ($2.50). The fee for life membership shall be fifty dollars ($50.00). The Board of Directors shall have the power to change dues of each class of membership hereafter if necessary."

Mrs. Stamm raised the question of the cost to be charged for back issues of THE KENTUCKY WARBLER, since dues had been raised from two to three dollars to cover the cost of publication. Mr. A. L. Powell moved that single issues be sold at one-fourth the cost of annual dues, except that in the case of previous requests the old price of fifty cents (50c) be charged. The motion was carried.

The president asked for suggestions for the location of the 1961 fall meeting for the benefit of the Board of Directors. Mammoth Cave National Park and Camp Earl Wallace were mentioned.

Mr. Leonard C. Brecher, chairman of the endowment committee, reported four new life members: Mrs. William Krieger, Dr. Robert M. Mengel, and Mr. and Mrs. John W. Lemons.
Floyd S. Carpenter, chairman of the auditing committee, reported that the treasurer’s books were in order.

The report of the nominating committee was given by A. L. Powell, chairman, the other members of the committee being Virginia Smith, Don Summerfield, and Dr. Robert N. Pace. The following slate was proposed:

President—W. P. Rhoads, Henderson
Vice-President—Al H. Mayfield, Winchester
Recording Secretary—Helen Browning, Louisville.
Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer—F. W. Stamm, Louisville
Councillors:
  Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis, Flemingsburg
  Don Summerfield, Valley Station

(Virginia Smith and Conley Webster continue to serve another year.) The motion that the secretary cast one ballot for the slate was approved.

The matter of the date for the spring meeting was mentioned by Dr. Wilson, who questioned the necessity of holding the meeting during the K. E. A. weekend or whether it might be better to hold it when the water in the lakes is up and the birds more numerous. The date is to be determined by the Board of Directors.

It was moved that a rising vote of thanks be given James Hancock for a fine year and for his activities as president.

Mr. Stamm moved that the meeting adjourn.

The annual dinner was held at 7:00 P.M. at the Soapar Hotel, with Evelyn Schneider as toastmistress. The Reverend C. G. Leavell gave the invocation. After the dinner, Miss Schneider introduced those at the speaker’s table. Mr. John Collins, executive secretary of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce, spoke briefly of the plan for an aviary in Audubon State Park and asked the endorsement of the Kentucky Ornithological Society and the Indiana Audubon Society. Mr. Frank Sauerheber, of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, spoke of the plan to purchase ten sloughs in Henderson County to make sanctuaries for waterfowl, and also asked for the support of the two societies.

Dr. Irving W. Burr, professor of mathematics and statistics of Purdue University and newly elected president of the Indiana Audubon Society, introduced the speaker, Harold Mayfield, of Toledo, Ohio, who discussed his studies of the Kirtland’s Warbler, made over a period of twenty-two years, both in its nesting area in the jack pine regions of Michigan and its wintering area in the Bahamas. His talk, illustrated with charts and colored slides, on this rare and perhaps vanishing species was inclusive and was presented with charm and enthusiasm.

Mr. Brecher moved that the two matters brought up by Mr. Collins and Mr. Sauerheber be referred to each of the two societies (K. O. S. and I. A. S.) for such action as they wished to take.

On Sunday morning field trips were taken in Audubon State Park. For the field trips on the two days 80 species were recorded, one of the greatest records for the annual fall trips.

—Evelyn Schneider, Recording Secretary Pro Tem.
REPORT OF TREASURER

GENERAL FUND

Bank balance as shown by last report, October 1, 1959......$ 183.90

Receipts

Membership dues .......................................................... 795.00
Life Membership (4) ..................................................... 200.00
Contributions to the Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology ...... 90.00
Dividends—Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association... 28.00
Sale of check lists, bibliographies, etc ............................ 23.95
Sale of sleeve patches ................................................... 12.50
Sale of KENTUCKY WARBLER ........................................ 1.50
Receipts, fall meeting, Mammoth Cave ............................. 316.00
Receipts, spring meeting, Bowling Green ......................... 86.00
Donations ................................................................. 2.00

Total receipts ......................................................... $1554.95
TOTAL ................................................................. $1738.85

Disbursements

Printing costs, THE KENTUCKY WARBLER .......................... $ 632.49
Treasurer's Expenses:
  Postage, envelopes, stationery .................................. 74.92
  Programs, printing costs, etc .................................... 34.55
State of Kentucky, corporation filing fee ....................... 2.00
Expenses, fall meeting, Mammoth Cave ............................ 280.00
Expenses, spring meeting, Bowling Green ....................... 84.00
Transfer to Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology ............... 90.00
Transfer to Endowment Fund ........................................ 200.00

Total disbursements .................................................. $1397.96
Balance on hand, in Lincoln Bank and Trust Company, 
  Louisville, Kentucky, on October 1, 1960 ..................... $ 340.89

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in savings account by last report, dated October 1, 
  1959, Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan Association......$375.00
Seven (7) full-paid shares, Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan 
  Association .......................................................... 700.00
TOTAL, PRINCIPAL OF FUND, OCTOBER 1, 1960 .................. $1075.00

Receipts

Life memberships, 4 ................................................. $200.00
Dividends on savings account ..................................... 16.15
Dividends on full-paid shares .................................... 28.00

Total receipts .......................................................... 244.15
TOTAL ................................................................. $1319.15

Disbursements

Transfer of dividends on full-paid shares to General Fund....$  28.00

Balance in Endowment Fund, October 1, 1960
  (Seven (7) full-paid shares, $700.00; savings account 
  balance, $371.15; Jefferson Federal Savings and Loan 
  Association, Louisville, Kentucky) 

$1291.15
GORDON WILSON FUND FOR ORNITHOLOGY

Balance in savings account as shown by past report, dated

October 1, 1959 ..........................................................$ 466.56

Receipts

Contributions to fund, 1960 ..........................................$ 90.00
Dividends on savings account ........................................ 20.02

Total receipts ..................................................................$ 110.02

Balance in savings account, October 1, 1960, in Greater Louis-
ville First Federal Savings and Loan Association, Louis-
ville, Kentucky .......................................................$ 576.58
(Principal of fund, $548.00; accumulated interest, $28.58)

BALANCE SHEET as of October 1, 1960

Assets

Cash in bank ...........................................................$ 340.89
Endowment Fund ........................................................ 1291.15
Gordon Wilson Fund for Ornithology .............................. 576.58

TOTAL ASSETS .........................................................$2208.62

NET WORTH OF SOCIETY ......................................... $2208.62

F. W. Stamm, Treasurer.

* * * *

CORRECTION

In our membership list in the August, 1960, issue the name of
Miss Virginia Windstanley, 815 Vincennes Street, New Albany, In-
diana, was omitted. The editors apologize for this mistake.

* * * *

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

Our Christmas Bird Counts have been distinctive for many years.
The only quarrel with our members that the editors have about these
counts is that there are not several more areas covered. We need to
add, especially, the southern mountain area and Northern Kentucky.
Be sure to send in your reports early, as soon after Christmas as pos-
sible, checked on our check-list cards for the convenience of the edi-
tors. Let's make our 1960 lists total 20 for a new record of places
surveyed.
ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

INDIANA—Anderson; Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Velie; Connersville: Edna Banta; Culver: Dr. and Mrs. R. N. McElwain; Fort Wayne: Catherine Fusey, Mabel Thorne; Hamlet: Dorothy Buck; Hanover: Dr. J. Dan Webster; Huntington: Mrs. Henry Storey; Indianapolis: Henry C. West, Michael West; Lafayette: Dr. Irving Burr, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Webster; Logansport: Betty J. Muelhausen, Gordon D. Muelhausen; Madison: David A. Remley; Manchester: Mr. and Mrs. Dale Strickler; Muncie: Kathleen Rudd Allen, Dr. Robert H. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Zimmerman; Oakman City: Mary J. Brown; Pendleton: Mr. and Mrs. Jose Brinduse, Fred Miller, Helen Miller, Steve Smith; Richmond City: Mrs. C. S. Snow; Union Mills: Fredda O. Wakeman.

ILLINOIS—Mt. Carmel: Mrs. Nellie Thornton.

KENTUCKY—Bowling Green; Dr. and Mrs. Robert N. Pace, Dr. Gordon Wilson; Corydon: Malcolm Arnett, Maralea Arnett; Danville; Mr. and Mrs. W. Scott Glore, Jr.; Frankfort: Mrs. W. P. Ringo; Glasgow: Mr. and Mrs. James Gillenwater; Henderson: Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Klutey, Mrs. Walter Alves, Robert Alves, Matt Brown, Mary H. Carroll, Bertha A. Harting, Lillian Hoffman, Reverend and Mrs. C. G. Leavell, Mrs. James McConathy, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Meade, Mrs. R. E. Parsons, W. H. Rhoads, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Rhoads, Katherine Reuter, Louise Reuter, Frank Sauerheber, Mrs. R. C. Soaper, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Virginia Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stiles, Mr. and Mrs. C. Summers, Mrs. Harry W. Thixton, Edna Vogel, Mrs. Watson, Helen Watson, James Wilke, Ruth Williams, Catherine Zeller; Lexington: Mrs. G. L. Burns, Mrs. J. A. Heaton, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Reece, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Simpson, Conley Webster; Louisville: Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Brecher, Floyd S. Carpenter, Mrs. Alex Chamberlain, Marie Pieper, Evelyn Schneider, Mrs. F. P. Shannon, Mrs. Eugene Short, Mabel Slack, Mrs. Elsie F. Stewar, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Thacher, Dr. and Mrs. Harvey C. Webster; Maceo: Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Powell, Jr.; Madisonville: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Hancock; Reed: Mrs. Nat Stanley; Richmond: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Hancock; Valley Station: Mr. and Mrs. Don Summerfield; Winchester: Mr. and Mrs. Al H. Mayfield.

MICHIGAN—White Pigeon: Oscar McKinley Bryens.

NEW JERSEY—Tenafly: Mrs. William Krieger.

OHIO—Waterville: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mayfield.

TENNESSEE—Nashville: Albert F. Ganier.
FIELD NOTES

Thousands of Swifts Roosting in Abandoned Smokestack.—If you should be walking along the state highway just above the Kermit, West Virginia, toll bridge, on the Kentucky side of Tug River, Martin County, any August evening just before dusk, you would see the air literally filled with hundreds of circling, chittering Chimney Swifts (Chaetura pelagica). Soon you would see them dropping like bees into a hive, as they go to roost in the huge, abandoned smokestack about 100 feet below the highway. This smokestack, which is about four feet in diameter at the top, was once used by the Kermit Gasoline plant when it manufactured many products from natural gas and petroleum. The swifts, young and adults, are congregating into big flocks; they may be coming from all directions, and their ceremony of going to roost lasts for about twenty minutes. It is estimated that as many as 2000 swifts are roosting in the smokestack every August night. No doubt many of them reared their young in the same chimney the past summer. By thick dusk the circling, chittering, and diving ceremony is over, and every swift has dropped inside the big smokestack.—Rufus M. Reed, Lovely.

Fall Migration of the Common Nighthawk Began Early.—On August 29, 1960, while driving home from work about 6:20 P. M., my attention was drawn to a large flock of Common Nighthawks (Chordeiles minor) circling and whirling about over the Valley Station area in Jefferson County. They were moving in a southerly direction. I should judge the birds numbered over one hundred in the flock. My records on Nighthawk migration date back to 1948, and this is the earliest fall record of my seeing a large flight.—Donald Summerfield, Valley Station.

Evidence of Common Nighthawk Migration.—I counted 71 Common Nighthawks (Chordeiles minor) on September 5, 1960, at 6:00 P. M., while visiting the Burns Farm, near Athens, Fayette County. I was accompanied by Mrs. G. L. Burns and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred M. Reece, Jr., and it was our belief that many birds had passed before we saw them. They were flying toward the southwest.—Conley Webster, Lexington.

Birds in the Starry Sky.—Of the eighty-eight star groups spread over the entire sky, including both northern and southern hemispheres, internationally recognized as constellations, nine are named for birds: Apus, the Bird of Paradise; Aquila, the Eagle; Columba, the Dove; Corvus, the Crow; Cygnus, the swan; Grus, the Crane; Pavo, the Peacock; Toucana, the Toucan; Vulpecula et Anser, the Fox and the Goose; and, for good measure, Phoenix, the legendary bird. Star nomenclature dates back to remote antiquity, much farther than the period of the Greeks. The valley of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers is believed to be the locale where the names of the earliest designations for constellations originated, the terms being given by the Akkadians.
and Sumerians about 3500 B.C. The Greeks borrowed from the Akkadian starlore, changed the names, and substituted their own myths for the Euphratian legends. Of the forty-eight constellations listed by Ptolemy about 150 A.D., three bear the names of birds: Aquila, the Eagle; Corvus, the Crow; and Cygnus, the Swan.

No new names were added until the geographical discoveries of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries opened up the southern skies and star groups. These new constellations were named as indicated above. The Dove honors the dove sent out by Noah from the ark to find out whether the Flood had subsided; Toucana bears the name of a fruit-eating tropical bird. Pleiades, strictly speaking, is not a constellation but a part of the constellation Taurus, the Bull; it reflects honor on the flock of doves the Greeks associated with it.

When we take into consideration that most of the constellations represent different kinds of wild life, we may consider the firmament a huge celestial museum, though we have mentioned only the ornithological section of it. Considering the relation of the birds to all other forms of life, they fare rather well in the constellations bearing their names.—Charles Strull, Louisville.

(In addition to my own observation, the following sources were consulted:

STAR LORE OF ALL AGES, by Tyler Olcott.


A GUIDE TO THE CONSTELLATIONS, by Barton and Barton.)

* * * *

SIGHT RECORD OF THE SANDHILL CRANE AT LOUISVILLE

On the afternoon of September 17, 1960, Mr. Roderic Sommers and I identified a single Sandhill Crane (Grus canadensis) on the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville. The bird was first noted shortly after 4:00 CDT when Mr. Sommers heard it calling overhead. The crane flew in from up the river, circled slowly low over the rock shelf below the dam, and landed just out of sight near the channel. The enormous size, the extended neck and legs, and the red patch on the head, which contrasted with the general gray-brown coloration of the body, were carefully seen with 7X binoculars and a 20X telescope. During the afternoon of the next day the crane was observed feeding and preening on the Falls; both a group of Beckham Bird Club members and a group from the Cincinnati Bird Club had excellent views on this second day.—Haven Wiley, Louisville.
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Mr. Rufus Grider, owner of Grider's Limestone Lake, at the edge of Bowling Green, called me in the late morning of November 9, 1960, to say that a strange white, small, fuzzy-headed heron was out at the lake close to his house. I went at once through a pouring rain and heavy wind and could see the bird well from inside of the house, a little better from the front porch. The small size, the yellow beak, the buff wash on the head, the all-white plumage except for the head, and the dark legs ruled out such species as the Common Egret (Casmerodias albus), the immature Little Blue Heron (Florida caerulea), and the Snowy Egret (Leucophoix thula), all of which I have known for many years. I called Dr. L. Y. Lancaster, who came in a few minutes. We watched the bird from all sorts of angles, often getting within fifty feet or less from it. I even had to scare it up so that we could see it in flight. It alighted on a small tree on the far side of the pond, but soon returned to the small fishing boat and the driftwood out in the pond near the house. Miss Marjorie Clagett, French teacher at Western, who is a skilled amateur photographer, was unable to get a good shot of the bird in the rain and the rather dim light. The bird remained until darkness came on but has not been seen since that day. From color plates of the species, I believe it to be an immature or non-breeding Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis). In addition to the color of the bird, it showed all the other recognized marks of the species: posture, flight, motions of the head. So far as I know this is the first Kentucky record of the species.—Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green.