

THE MIGRANT

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO TENNESSEE BIRDS

Published by
THE TENNESSEE
ORNITHOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

W. P. James
66

SEPTEMBER, 1979
VOL. 50, NO. 3



THE MIGRANT

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ORNITHOLOGY

FIRST PUBLISHED, JUNE 1930

PUBLISHED BY

THE TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded at Nashville, Tenn., 7 October 1915
A non-profit, educational, scientific, and conservation organization.

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Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December). Printed by Mallicote Printing Inc., 509-511 Shelby Street, Bristol, Tennessee 37620. U.S.A. Postage paid and mailed at Elizabethton, Tennessee 37643, U.S.A.

THE MIGRANT

Published by the Tennessee Ornithological Society,
to Record and Encourage the Study of Birds in Tennessee.
Issued in March, June, September, and December.

VOL. 50

SEPTEMBER, 1979

NO. 3

AN ANALYSIS OF BIRD POPULATION DENSITIES FOR A TEN YEAR PERIOD IN WEST TENNESSEE

MARTHA WALDRON

The National Fish and Wildlife Service utilizes breeding bird surveys to monitor bird population densities. Standardized rules for conducting breeding bird surveys minimize sampling errors which may result from inconsistent observation techniques and observer bias. Consequently, the population sampling achieved through breeding bird surveys enables investigators systematically to collect, analyze and interpret population data.

The purpose of this study was to determine if bird populations in West Tennessee followed a linear trend over a ten year period. Data from ten of twelve breeding bird survey routes were collected for a ten year period beginning in 1967 and ending with the 1976 survey. For the purpose of this study, populations were assumed to be distributed throughout West Tennessee and not unique to an individual route or to specific routes. To strengthen this assumption species were selected by a process whereby each species had to be recorded on eight of the ten routes for at least five years within the ten year period. Species failing these criteria were considered too small a sampling for investigation. As a result, forty species listed in Table 1 were identified for subsequent investigation.

TABLE 1

A LISTING OF SPECIES INVESTIGATED FOR POSSIBLE LINEAR
REGRESSION IN POPULATION DENSITY DURING A TEN
YEAR PERIOD IN WEST TENNESSEE

Bobwhite	Crow	Common Yellowthroat
Killdeer	Carolina Chickadee	Yellow-breasted Chat
Mourning Dove	Tufted Titmouse	Eastern Meadowlark
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Carolina Wren	Red-winged Blackbird
Chimney Swift	Mockingbird	Orchard Oriole
Common Flicker	Gray Catbird	Common Grackle
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Brown Thrasher	Brown-headed Cowbird
Red-headed Woodpecker	American Robin	Summer Tanager
Downy Woodpecker	Wood Thrush	Cardinal
Eastern Kingbird	Eastern Bluebird	Blue Grosbeak
Great Crested Flycatcher	Loggerhead Shrike	Indigo Bunting
Eastern Wood Pewee	Starling	Rufus-sided Towhee
Barn Swallow	White-eyed Vireo	Field Sparrow
Blue Jay		

The yearly population means per route for each species were subjected to a linear trend analysis. A thorough discussion of this statistical treatment can be found in most research oriented statistics text, such as *Statistical Analysis in Psychology and Education* by George A. Ferguson. This study was limited in that only the linear trend analysis was utilized. Other trend analyses might describe additional fluctuations in bird populations, but the focus of this study was on the more common procedure for trend analysis.

Only seven of the forty species investigated followed a linear trend over the ten year period. These species were as follows: American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), Carolina Chickadee (*Parus carolinensis*), Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*), Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*), Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*).

Although there were fluctuations in the mean number of individuals within each species from year to year, the population means over the ten year period approximated a straight line. The observed mean number of individuals and estimated means for each species are shown in Table 2. The estimated means were determined by drawing a straight line between the means for the first five year period and the second five year period. The resultant intersects of the straight line for each year were the expected mean number of individuals per survey route. The standard deviation for the estimated means for each species was computed. If the observed mean number of individuals fell within one standard deviation of the estimated mean, the predicted mean and actual mean were considered to fall within limits of what was expected. Even with a straight line as the best fit for the observed means, three species, Barn Swallow, Carolina Chickadee and the American Robin, were difficult to predict with only a fifty to sixty percent degree of assurance. However, the Indigo Bunting and the Killdeer population densities could be predicted with over seventy percent accuracy, and the Eastern Kingbird and Yellow-breasted Chat were within limits nine of the ten years.

One application of the linear trend analysis is the investigation of population change with a higher degree of confidence that population means are not a function of unusual circumstances for a given year. For example, a comparison of estimated means minimizes the chance of utilizing two years where the population means may be unusually depressed or exaggerated. By comparing estimated means, the percent change in population is affected by an overall period of growth or decline as opposed to a yearly fluctuation. During the ten year period the following species experienced increases in population densities as measured by their expected means: American Robin (70.4%); Barn Swallow (57.6%); Carolina Chickadee (92.1%); Indigo Bunting (42.5%); Killdeer (383.3%); and Yellow-breasted Chat (85.5%). The Eastern Kingbird showed a 52.2 percent decline. These population trends have particular significance when one considers the relative steady increase or decrease in population density over a ten year period as opposed to a two year comparison.

Another application of linear trend studies is the identification of unusual increases or decreases in population means. Contributory climatic conditions, habitat destruction or restoration, or man-made intervention, such as utilization or pesticides, could be investigated. Unexpected fluctuations introduced by new survey findings could also signal the advent of new trends. Once these new trends

are identified, future predictions of population densities could be utilized in the aforementioned applications.

TABLE 2

Comparison of Observer and Expected Population Means per Route for Species Exhibiting Linear Regression in Population Densities in West Tennessee Between 1967 and 1976.

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
<u>Amer. Robin</u>										
Observed Means	7.9	8.9	9.4	11.7	8.8	8.7	16.1	11.0	8.2	16.7
Expected Means	8.1*	8.7*	9.3*	9.9*	10.5*	11.2	11.8	12.5*	13.2	13.8
(s.d. = 2.1)										
*Expected and Observed Means are within one standard deviation of Expected Means and therefore within limits for expectancy.										
<u>Barn Swallow</u>										
Observed Means	21.8	14.4	14.4	12.3	18.1	25.4	22.0	25.8	20.1	35.0
Expected Means	14.4	15.3*	16.2*	17.1	18.0*	18.9	19.8*	20.7	21.8*	22.7
(s.d. = 2.71)										
<u>Carolina Chickadee</u>										
Observed Means	1.6	1.8	1.1	1.6	2.7	2.5	1.6	2.4	2.4	3.8
Expected Means	1.51*	1.63*	1.76	1.90*	2.04	2.20*	2.37	2.54*	2.74*	2.90
(s.d. = .346)										
<u>Eastern Kingbird</u>										
Observed Means	6.3	6.0	6.0	7.1	4.9	5.8	3.4	3.7	4.2	3.6
Expected Means	6.9*	6.5*	6.1*	5.8	5.3*	4.9*	4.5*	4.1*	3.7*	3.3*
(s.d. = 1.22)										
<u>Indigo Bunting</u>										
Observed Means	33.7	36.0	29.9	33.3	30.5	35.5	34.9	46.7	40.9	41.1
Expected Means	29.9*	31.3	32.7*	34.1*	35.5	37.0*	38.4*	39.8	41.2*	42.6*
(s.d. = 4.42)										
<u>Killdeer</u>										
Observed Means	2.2	2.0	1.6	2.1	2.1	2.5	3.9	5.6	5.0	3.6
Expected Means	1.2*	1.6*	2.0*	2.4*	2.8*	3.2*	3.6*	4.1	4.5*	4.9
(s.d. = 1.25)										
<u>Yellow-breasted Chat</u>										
Observed Means	8.2	10.8	10.4	10.0	10.3	12.8	14.9	12.1	12.0	17.2
Expected Means	8.3*	9.1*	9.9*	10.8*	11.5*	12.3*	13.0*	13.8*	14.6	15.4*
(s.d. = 2.18)										

Summary

In general, the trends in bird populations (1967-1976) in West Tennessee were not linear. Only seven of the forty species studied followed a linear regression in population density over the ten year period. This is not to say the other thirty-four species experienced erratic changes in mean population, but the changes for the most part were unpredictable.

Hopefully, this study will stimulate interest among other investigators to examine bird population data for the purpose of determining trends in population densities. It is recommended that the entire state be considered for a population trend study. Selected species are always of interest to individual investigators, but groupings of species by families, habitats, or periods of residence, would provide additional knowledge of environmental relationships within ecosystems and/or for other types of environmental impact studies.

1626 Yorkshire Dr., Memphis 38177. Accepted 5 June 1978.

BOOK REVIEWS

A GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN BIRD CLUBS. Jon E. Rickert, ed. Avian Publications, Elizabethton, Ky. 1978. 575p. hardbound \$15.00. The book contains information about some 835 bird clubs from Alaska to Panama. The information about each club includes: a list of local birding contacts with phone numbers, taped rare bird alert numbers, local bird finding guides and other publications, club meeting locations and times, maps of club locations and favorite birding areas of each club. A foreword is written by Burt L. Monroe, Jr. and a short section is devoted to the "Plan of the Book and How to Use It" including information on birding courtesy. The arrangement of the book is alphabetical by city within states (U.S.) or providences (Canada).

This book provides a source of much birding information and contacts and should be of great benefit to any birder going into an unfamiliar area. I have been very impressed with the information given and the ease of using the book. I highly recommend this unique book.

GARY O. WALLACE

RARE AND ENDANGERED BIOTA OF FLORIDA. Vol. 2, Birds. Herbert W. Kale II. ed. 1978. University Presses of Florida, Gainesville. 121 p. 36 illustrations. Paperbound \$7.00. This book is the result of work of the Florida Committee on Rare and Endangered Plants and Animals Species Committee on Birds and consultants. The product is of high quality, discussing 74 species of Florida's bird life. As a prelude to the species accounts, a brief description is given of the state's major terrestrial and wetland habitats. The birds are divided into five categories: endangered, threatened, rare, species of special concern and status undetermined. Information given for each species includes: name, identification, range and range map, habitat analysis, life history and ecology, specific characteristics, basis of status classification, recommendations for management and selected references. Black-and-white photographs are included for many species. A brief historical account of the status of Florida's colonial wader populations is also presented. This is an excellent publication and is highly recommended.

GARY O. WALLACE

OBSERVATIONS AT A BREEDING COLONY OF YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERONS IN BLOUNT COUNTY, TENNESSEE

MORRIS D. WILLIAMS

On 22 April 1971, I saw and photographed at close range (Fig. 1) a Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) in the Lesser Alcoa Marsh (35°46'27"N, 83°59'13"W), Blount County, Tennessee. During the next four years, I saw this species only once at this marsh and only twice at the nearby Greater Alcoa Marsh (35°47'30"N, (83°57'37"W). I was surprised, therefore, when I discovered a small colony of eight nests 900 m north of the Lesser Alcoa Marsh in 1976. The colony was in a mixed pine and deciduous wood lot at coordinates 35°47'03"N, 83°59'22"W and at 271 m elevation.



Figure 1. Yellow-crowned Night Heron in Lesser Alcoa Marsh on 22 April 1971.

On 28 March 1976 I found seven herons in the woodlot and saw two nests that I later designated Nests 1 and 2. These nests appeared to be at least one year old. On 3 April I found eight herons in the woodlot. Two of the birds were on or near Nest 1 when I flushed them. I climbed to this nest and found four eggs (this nest later held six young). Some nesting material had been added to the nest since my visit six days earlier. A close inspection confirmed that it was at least one year old.

The results of my next six visits to the colony are summarized in Table 1. Nests 3 and 4 were placed in the same tree, and Nests 6, 7, and 8 were built near each other in another tree. Nest 7 was not a very substantial structure and it eventually disappeared. Nest 8 (Fig. 2) contained eight eggs, which were possibly laid by more than one female. Because of the dense foliage, and the fact that two other nests were nearby, I could not determine how many adults were attending Nest 8.

On 11 April 1976, Alan Smith and I watched a Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) approach Nest 4 twice by climbing out the branch on which the nest was saddled. The incubating bird assumed a defensive posture by elevating its crown feathers and crouching on the nest with its neck lowered along the branch toward the squirrel. Both times the squirrel retreated before coming within striking distance.

On 30 June 1976, I recorded no activity at any of the nests, but I collected the skeleton of an immature bird (MDW #574) beneath Nest 5. On 28 April 1976, I collected a nest (MDW #658) that had fallen to the ground.

TABLE I
NESTING DATA FROM THE ALCOA YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT
HERON COLONY IN 1976.

Nest No.	Nest site	Date of Observation					
		11 April	24 April	5 May	18 May	26 May	12 June
1	10.5 m elm (<i>Ulmus</i>)	adult on nest	no adults seen	young in nest	6 young, 2 very small, 4 large enough to perch outside of nest	5 young on nest	empty
2	13.5 m elm	adult on nest	4 eggs, adult on nest	hatched egg shells on ground, collected MDW#513	young in nest	young in nest	empty
3	18 m elm	adult on nest, 1 or 2 eggs visible from ground	2 eggs, adult on nest	hatched egg shells on ground, collected MDW #513	adult on nest	adult on nest	adult on nest
4	17 m oak (<i>Quercus</i>)	adult on nest	5 eggs, adult on nest		adult on nest	adult and young on nest	2 large young on nest, adult nearby
5	13.5 m pine (<i>Pinus</i>)		5 eggs		adult on nest	young in nest	4 large young on nest
6	15 m pine		4 eggs, shell of 5th egg on ground		nest missing, no sign of it on ground		
7	17 m pine		8 eggs			adult on nest	no birds seen
8	15 m pine					adult on nest	broken egg containing large dead embryo beneath nest

During my visits I collected several pellets from the ground beneath the nests. I found only crayfish remains in them.



Figure 2. Unusually large clutch of Yellow-crowned Night Heron eggs; possibly laid by more than one female. Alcoa heronry, 24 April 1976.

In Tennessee, the Yellow-crowned Night Heron is usually a solitary nester. Although the Alcoa heronry is the second largest Yellow-crowned Night Heron colony reported from the state, it is small compared to the Riverside Park heronry (35°05'42"N, 90°04'52"W) at Memphis in Shelby County. On 1 March 1977, when the Riverside Park colony was not yet occupied, I counted 67 nests.

I thank John O'Neill and Doug Pratt for their helpful comments during the preparation of this note.

SUMMARY

The Alcoa heronry, which is in at least its second year of existence, contained eight nests in 1976. The first egg was probably laid around 31 March. The seven nests whose contents I checked contained an average of 4.9 eggs. At least six of these nests contained fertile eggs and at least five apparently produced young.

Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge 70893. Accepted 16 Oct. 1978.

1979 SPRING FIELD DAYS

RICHARD D. LURA

This year 202 species were seen on ten counts across the state. This number is substantially below that of immediate past years owing to two factors, the low total number of counts and a late migration, as mentioned by several compilers. It is hoped that additional manpower can be mustered across the state to allow several areas to again be able to participate in the Spring Field Days counts. The species numbers and distributions obtained from these counts can serve as a valuable data source in this era of the realization of the impact of environmental factors, both habitat and quality of the overall environment, on all organisms.

As is the custom the counts are tabulated from west to east across the state.

INFORMATION ON THE COUNTS

MEMPHIS: 29 April; Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park in the morning; Overton Park, Penal Farm and South near Mississippi River to Core Lake; partly cloudy; 55 to 65°F. Ben B. Coffey, Jr., compiler, 672 N. Belvedere, Memphis 38107. Both Little Blue Herons were adults.

COLUMBIA: 27, 28 April; clear to partly cloudy; 40 to 65°F; 11 observers—Barbara Finney, Anne Lochridge, Bedford Lochridge, Dan Gray, Jr., William Fugua, Louise Hardison, George Mayfield, Jr. (compiler—999 Sunnyside Drive, Columbia 38401), Mark Mayfield, Mike Penrod, Allen Pressnell, Dianne Pressnell.

NASHVILLE: 12, 13 May; 30-mile radius Nashville courthouse; 48-hours midnight to midnight; overcast to clear late afternoon 13th, rain 12th, 52 to 70°F; wind, SW to NW, 5-10 mph; 59 observers. Frances Abernathy, Jan Alexander, Clyde (compiler—1214 McGavock Pike, Nashville 37216) and Vivian Anderson, Linda Anderson, Mildred Ansley, Ann Arnett, Sue Bell, Michael Bierly, Jane Bridgman, Melissa Cannon, Ruth Castles, Jean Cobb, Bonnie Coplin, Dot and Paul Crawford, Annella Creech, Sam Dement, Adele Elam, Evelyn and John Ellis, Charles Farrell, Clara Fortress, Anne Fort, Anne Foster, George Freeman, Katherine Goodpasture, Bessie Hagan, Thomas Harston, John Herbert, Anne Houk, Louise Jackson, Carol Knauth, Hazel and Lee Kramer, Adiene Lyon, Portia Macmillan, Jane Maynard, Joe McLaughlin, Pauline Miller, Anne Nichols, Marge and Oscar Patrick, Audrey and Don Perry, Virginia Price, Elizabeth Queener, Heather and John Riggins, Alice Savage, Bob and Lillian Sharp, Pat Stallings, Ellen Stringer, Ann Tarbell, Ken and Sara Walkup, Miriam Weinstein, Virginia Workman. The Long-billed Dowitcher was identified by its calls by Dot and Paul Crawford. The Willow Flycatcher was singing.

MURFREESBORO: 12, 13 May; cloudy to rain; 63 to 76°F; 13 observers. Glen Birdwell (compiler—Rt. 3, Compton Rd., Murfreesboro 37130), Maria Birdwell, Lou Erwin, Edith Haynes, Ann Hettish, Margaret Hibbett, Richard Hunter, Wilma Hunter, Rebecca Jones, Ruth McMillan, Pat Martin, Ruth Odom, John Sellars.

1979 SPRING COUNT

	Memp	Colu	Nash	Murf	High	Grun	Knox	Gree	King	Eliz
Common Loon	--	1	4	--	--	--	1	--	--	2
Fied-billed Grebe	3	5	1	--	3	--	--	1	--	--
Dbl.-cr. Cormorant	--	1	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--
Great Blue Heron	1	2	6	2	1	--	1	3	--	3
Green Heron	7	9	24	7	1	--	4	5	6	9
Little Blue Heron	2*	--	--	--	--	1	--	3	1	--
Cattle Egret	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Blk.-cr. Night Heron	--	--	121	--	--	--	1	--	--	--
Yel.-cr. Night Heron	7	--	2	2	--	--	--	--	--	2
American Bittern	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--
Least Bittern	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Canada Goose	--	86	155	--	10	--	98	13	--	--
Mallard	19	14	46	5	13	--	--	4	48	17
Black Duck	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Blue-winged Teal	29	63	36	6	--	4	6	4	20	1
Northern Shoveler	--	--	1	--	--	--	8	--	--	--
Wood Duck	18	18	20	6	--	2	22	--	136	27
Redhead	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Lesser Scaup	--	1	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	3
Bufflehead	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12
Ruddy Duck	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Red-br. Merganser	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--
Turkey Vulture	1	29	41	9	3	12	18	17	9	30
Black Vulture	--	36	26	8	--	10	1	3	3	1
Mississippi Kite	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sharp-sh. Hawk	--	--	1	--	--	--	1	--	1	1
Cooper's Hawk	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4
Red-tailed Hawk	3	6	14	3	--	5	9	1	1	3
Red-shld. Hawk	1	--	8	--	--	7	--	--	--	--
Broad-winged Hawk	7	2	2	1	--	9	9	--	2	4
Buteo sp.	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Osprey	--	2	--	1	--	--	3	3	--	5
American Kestrel	1	9	16	25	--	5	3	--	5	3
Ruffed Grouse	--	--	--	--	--	3	1	--	1	8
Bobwhite	41	41	112	32	1	11	37	16	11	8
Turkey	1	4	--	--	1	--	--	--	1	--
Virginia Rail	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sora	1	11	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
American Coot	3	44	7	4	6	--	3	--	--	1
Semipalmated Plover	1	--	26	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Killdeer	17	12	45	37	1	3	9	7	--	23
Blk.-bellied Plover	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
American Woodcock	--	--	6	--	--	2	5	--	--	--
Common Snipe	1	4	--	--	1	--	4	--	--	11
Upland Sandpiper	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--
Spotted Sandpiper	7	5	18	8	2	3	14	1	4	21
Solitary Sandpiper	4	1	5	9	--	1	8	6	1	18
Greater Yellowlegs	24	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	1	10
Lesser Yellowlegs	6	9	6	--	--	8	--	1	--	5
Yellowlegs sp.	--	--	24	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Factoral Sandpiper	2	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Least Sandpiper	--	--	36	--	--	--	1	--	1	--
Dunlin	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Long-bil. Dowitcher	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dowitcher sp.	--	--	34	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Stilt Sandpiper	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Semipal. Sandpiper	--	--	1	--	--	2	--	--	--	--
Western Sandpiper	--	--	8	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Sanderling	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ring-billed Gull	8	4	4	2	2	--	84	--	--	14
Bonaparte's Gull	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Forster's Tern	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Common Tern	--	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Caspian Tern	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Black Tern	--	--	59	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

	Memp	Colu	Nash	Murf	High	Grun	Knox	Gre	King	Eliz
Rock Dove	1	39	102	--	--	1	138	--	29	44
Mourning Dove	65	40	244	163	1	20	318	38	67	78
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	9	6	201	37	1	30	35	2	26	2
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	--	2	--	--	--	1	--	--	--
Barn Owl	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	1	--
Screech Owl	--	1	6	2	1*	1	7	--	2	1
Great-horned Owl	1	3	1	5	--	--	1	--	--	--
Barred Owl	5	7	13	--	--	3	1	--	--	1
Chuck-will's Widow	1	1	17	3	--	3	11	--	15	--
Whip-poor-will	--	4	14	2	--	--	4	--	3	2
Common Nighthawk	16	2	38	27	24	--	3	--	12	--
Chimney Swift	22	89	422	288	25	72	338	97	84	270
Ruby-th. Hummingbird	16	1	18	--	--	10	3	--	1	5
Belted Kingfisher	2	5	30	9	3	2	12	--	4	16
Common Flicker	6	5	32	16	12	12	39	7	15	33
Fileated Woodpecker	7	12	48	1	--	25	16	7	11	9
Red-bel. Woodpecker	28	33	127	14	4	31	43	13	12	9
Red-hd. Woodpecker	22	6	5	3	--	3	3	--	2	1
Yel.-bel. Sapsucker	--	--	--	2	--	1	--	--	--	1
Hairy Woodpecker	2	4	21	2	--	4	7	--	1	5
Downy Woodpecker	10	27	62	6	1	8	14	9	4	22
Eastern Kingbird	14	13	80	60	2	10	21	2	19	3
Great-cr. Flycatcher	17	3	57	9	1	20	15	--	26	7
Eastern Phoebe	3	6	18	2	1	5	14	3	9	21
Acadian Flycatcher	7	4	35	--	--	17	--	--	1	2
Willow Flycatcher	--	--	1*	--	--	--	--	--	3	--
Least Flycatcher	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Epidonax sp.	4	3	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Eastern Wood Pewee	7	3	87	--	1	8	1	5	4	--
Olive-sd. Flycatcher	1	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--
Horned Lark	4	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	2
Tree Swallow	2	115	6	--	--	4	15	--	--	49
Bank Swallow	--	5	13	--	--	2	93	--	--	24
Rough-winged Swallow	17	135	62	85	8	21	96	22	38	238
Barn Swallow	40	170	485	261	10	125	305	68	99	521
Cliff Swallow	1	1	3	--	--	1	1	--	--	8
Purple Martin	32	53	118	192	36	36	175	11	96	62
Blue Jay	13	98	292	175	13	56	283	65	99	128
Common Raven	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Common Crow	8	42	292	74	6	24	167	100	39	236
Fish Crow	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carolina Chickadee	43	32	161	18	2	41	108	23	19	71
Tufted Titmouse	69	43	177	13	8	55	99	22	34	62
White-br. Nuthatch	--	6	18	--	3	3	7	--	4	4
Red-br. Nuthatch	--	1	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	3
House Wren	4	1	19	3	--	--	12	6	10	10
Winter Wren	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	1
Bewick's Wren	--	--	5	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carolina Wren	36	7	91	4	2	11	78	27	18	36
Long-bl. Marsh Wren	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	--
Short-bl. Marsh Wren	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	2	--
Mockingbird	9	45	175	179	2	12	163	26	63	43
Catbird	13	14	67	44	--	29	7	--	21	3
Brown Thrasher	7	36	140	73	4	27	60	20	44	20
American Robin	33	54	320	236	17	37	466	99	116	313
Wood Thrush	44	25	82	3	2	57	67	1	62	120
Hermite Thrush	--	1	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	2
Swainson's Thrush	44	1	308	--	--	9	5	--	16	--
Gray-cheeked Thrush	4	--	13	--	--	3	--	--	1	--
Veery	4	4	27	--	--	2	--	--	--	--
Eastern Bluebird	2	17	80	3	1	18	27	8	28	35
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	99	88	88	--	--	80	82	7	--	53
Golden-cr. Kinglet	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	6	3	--	--	2	7	12	--	--	12
Water Pipit	--	--	--	--	--	--	14	--	--	--
Cedar Waxwing	10	6	52	30	1	16	151	--	82	--
Loggerhead Shrike	2	8	16	13	1	3	5	1	2	--
Sterling	30	150	541	1,441	2	42	1,771	165	281	435
White-eyed Vireo	66	63	94	6	3	51	79	4	29	13
Yellow-tho. Vireo	9	6	7	--	--	15	10	1	1	5
Solitary Vireo	3	--	2	--	--	7	12	--	--	32
Red-eyed Vireo	73	16	103	9	2	90	103	3	50	49
Philadelphia Vireo	1	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Warbling Vireo	5	2	8	--	--	--	1	--	4	--
Black-&-sh. Warbler	4	9	19	1	--	95	23	--	15	47

	Memp	Colu	Nash	Murf	High	Grun	Knox	Gree	King	Eliz
Prothonotary Warbler	39	16	34	2	1	2	2	--	6	--
Swainson's Warbler	12	--	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	2
Worm-eating Warbler	5	4	24	--	--	10	20	--	17	7
Golden-wg. Warbler	2	--	1	--	--	5	--	--	--	--
Blue-wg. Warbler	3	34	14	--	--	4	7	--	--	--
Tennessee Warbler	111	6	122	--	--	35	12	--	1	--
Orange-cr. Warbler	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nashville Warbler	4	16	5	1	--	6	9	--	1	--
No. Parula Warbler	41	8	5	--	1	23	6	1	7	16
Yellow Warbler	9	49	28	2	2	22	33	5	38	34
Magnolia Warbler	--	1	15	1	--	11	1	1	--	--
Cape May Warbler	--	--	7	--	--	36	9	--	--	2
Bl.-th. Warbler	--	--	--	--	1	3	--	--	1	41
Yellow-rmp. Warbler	41	44	9	--	32	65	199	61	4	102
Bl.-th. Green Warbler	9	1	9	--	--	21	13	--	--	21
Cerulean Warbler	37	16	9	--	--	38	24	--	3	--
Blackburnian Warbler	--	2	3	--	--	6	6	--	--	--
Yellow-tho. Warbler	2	10	13	--	2	37	3	--	14	12
Chestnut-sd. Warbler	4	1	6	--	--	7	1	--	--	16
Bay-br. Warbler	--	--	18	3	--	9	--	--	2	1
Blackpoll Warbler	2	2	62	--	--	51	9	--	5	1
Pine Warbler	--	--	--	--	--	11	--	--	6	--
Prairie Warbler	1	26	58	--	1	26	43	2	22	3
Palm Warbler	3	22	7	--	1	6	17	--	--	--
Ovenbird	5	5	10	--	1	110	32	--	33	109
Northern Waterthrush	2	--	13	1	--	7	3	--	--	5
Louisiana Waterthrush	7	9	27	--	1	11	5	1	1	7
Kentucky Warbler	54	17	62	--	1	33	7	--	29	3
Connecticut Warbler	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Common Yellowthroat	28	55	189	10	2	26	91	13	29	11
Yellow-br. Chat	27	22	102	10	--	32	24	7	39	3
Hooded Warbler	15	15	14	--	--	90	53	--	7	33
Canada Warbler	--	1	13	--	--	5	--	--	1	1
American Redstart	20	6	13	--	--	32	1	--	1	1
House Sparrow	10	55	125	472	19	35	123	27	100	91
Bobolink	11	80	72	30	--	34	30	--	--	12
Eastern Meadowlark	40	70	394	328	13	62	251	49	113	118
Red-wg. Blackbird	51	300	346	144	16	70	14	46	177	311
Orchard Oriole	33	35	113	32	2	21	16	3	6	1
Northern Oriole	38	--	12	1	--	7	1	--	5	2
Common Grackle	58	250	14	346	607	140	1.6M	154	213	807
Brown-hd. Cowbird	88	187	207	40	307	42	491	7	61	60
Scarlet Tanager	20	29	48	6	--	86	32	1	14	29
Summer Tanager	46	8	41	4	2	28	12	1	16	--
Cardinal	87	85	443	190	17	45	280	68	108	165
Rose-br. Grosbeak	18	14	49	--	--	18	6	--	3	16
Blue Grosbeak	--	4	23	4	--	10	2	--	22	--
Indigo Bunting	63	28	407	84	--	58	31	2	188	4
Painted Bunting	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dickcissel	5	2	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Evening Grosbeak	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--
Purple Finch	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	17
Ring-billed Gull	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--
American Goldfinch	68	68	84	--	1	52	104	35	51	396
Rufous-sd. Towhee	19	45	184	67	3	26	143	33	45	123
Savannah Sparrow	20	10	3	--	1	--	10	--	1	2
Grasshopper Sparrow	--	--	11	--	--	--	6	--	7	--
Lark Sparrow	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dark-eyed Junco	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	--	--	38
Chipping Sparrow	13	36	37	13	6	20	37	10	11	61
Field Sparrow	16	42	113	30	3	30	76	22	49	21
White-cr. Sparrow	2	32	1	--	1	1	12	11	--	--
White-thr. Sparrow	135	37	13	8	9	11	385	45	17	100
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Swamp Sparrow	13	4	1	--	2	3	7	--	--	5
Song Sparrow	10	--	27	--	1	9	190	35	116	161
Total Species	138	136	157	87	76	130	134	71	114	127
Grand Total	202									

M=1000 *See information on counts.

A Laughing Gull was deleted. No details were submitted with the report.

HIGHLAND RIM: 20, 21 April; 6 observers. Virginia Angstadt, Carroll Barr, Stan Barr, Marjory Harper (compiler—305 Crestwood Dr., Tullahoma 37388), Ruth Luckadoo, Erma Rogers.

GRUNDY COUNTY: 5, 6 May; Beersheba Springs and Savage Gulf, (T.O.S. Spring Meeting); fair, 50 to 55°F. Ben Coffey, Jr. (compiler—672 N. Belvedere, Memphis 38107).

KNOXVILLE: 29 April; Knox County, fair, wind 5-10 mph, 41 to 61°F. Bill Beck, Jim and Betty Reid Campbell, Laura Collier, Elizabeth Elson, Bob and Lavada Harris, Paul Hartigan, J. C. Howell, Beth Lacy, Dick Minuet, Terry McGown, J. B. Owen (compiler—2930 North Hills Blvd., Knoxville 37917), Paul Pardue, Polly Ryder, Boyd Sharp, Louis and Johneta Smith, James T. Tanner, Dave and Linda Turner.

GREENEVILLE: 29 April; 36 to 56°F. Marjorie Ernest, King Gaut, Mrs. King Gaut, Elizabeth McCort, Mrs. Richard Nevius; Richard Nevius (compiler—Rt. 8, Greeneville 37793), Velma Prestly, Doug Ratledge, Ken Ripley, Royal Spees, Mrs. Royal Spees.

KINGSPORT: 12 May; clear; 64 to 85°F, 13 observers. Fred J. Alsop, III (co-compiler—Rt. 6, 302 Evergreen St., Church Hill 37642), Phil Armetage, Tom Bowman, Toby Carpenter, Dee Dee Ekilor, John Ekilor, Tom Finucane, Dan Holeman, Bill Kappa, Tom Laughlin (co-compiler—RR 1, Kingsport 37660), Rich Phillips, Tommy Phillips, Arthur Smith.

ELIZABETHTON: 28 April; 0430 to 1900; overcast with rain, snow in high elevations, 32 to 55°F, 18 observers.

Corrections: The Migrant. Vol. 50, No. 2

p. 27. Correct spelling of author's name from Hendron to Herndon.

p. 44. (last four lines). *Reads*: "Red-shouldered Hawk: good wintering numbers in Anderson and Campbell Cos. (CPN); 24 Feb (11) CCo (JCH, Gary Muffley); 27-28 Feb (1 banded) SCo (J. Wallace Coffey, Ken Hale); 29 Jan (1) HRA (KLD); 31 Jan (1) Winfield (CPN); 8"

It should read: "Red shouldered Hawk: good wintering numbers in Anderson and Campbell Cos. (CPN); 24 Feb (11) CCo (JCH, Gary Muffley); 27-28 Feb (1) SCo (RK, DL). Rough-legged Hawk: 3-23 Feb (1 banded) SCo (J. Wallace Coffey, Ken Hale); 29 Jan (1) HRA (KLD); 31 Jan (1) Winfield (CPN); 8"

ROUND TABLE NOTES

WHITE IBIS IN WILSON COUNTY—On 19 July 1977 at 0700, Harold Stanford observed a pair of immature White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) wading in a shallow stream on his farm near Lebanon. They were of a dull greyish-brown color with a white belly and a white rump that would show in flight. They had a reddish face and legs and a long decurved bill. Later the same day they were seen perching in over-hanging trees on the banks of the stream. John Sellars observed the ibises at a distance of about 100 feet as they perched in a large dead tree.

Numerous other local and out-of-town birders came to see the ibises from 19 July until 6 August, the last sighting. Only one bird was seen from 3-6 August. The ibises were seen at all hours during the day and seemed to have a range along the stream of about a fourth of a mile.

MRS. J. W. LAWRENCE, 105 West End Heights, Lebanon 37087. Accepted 9 Feb. 1979.

HARLAN'S HAWK IN FAYETTE COUNTY—The following details are submitted by the writer in reporting the observation of a Harlan's Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis harlani*) in Fayette County, west Tennessee.

Date: 3 December 1977. Time: approx. 9:00-9:08 a.m. Location: approx. fifty yards off Interstate 40, at a point approx. one hundred yards west of where the roadway crosses the Loosahatchie River. Distance of bird from observer: initially approx. fifty yards for a period of five to six minutes, then flying away from writer. Course of observation: While traveling by Interstate from Memphis to Jackson, Tennessee, the writer was counting Red-tailed Hawks (*Buteo jamaicensis*) perched along the roadway when what appeared to be a large black hawk was seen ahead in a tree near the highway. The writer immediately pulled onto the road shoulder, slowed to a near stand and came even with the bird. In the process, a good frontal view as well as side views were obtained. Even though the writer made no attempt to leave the car after stopping, the bird appeared nervous and shifted its position several times. Its body plumage was observed to be uniformly slate-gray, with the tail being whitish from the base to where a mottled slate-gray formed what appeared to be a band near the tip of the tail. After approx. five to six minutes the bird flew off at an angle away from the writer, at which time the white tail, broken only by the mottled band near the tip, was easily visible. The bird passed from view flying south-east over the open fields.

A check of *The Migrant* through the June, 1977 issue indicates that this is the ninth record of this now-considered subspecies for the state.

JON E. DEVORE, 3499 Graceland Dr., Memphis 38116. Accepted 7 March 1978.

HARLAN'S RED-TAILED HAWK AND SOME OTHER RAPTORES AT SEWANEE—On 12 November 1978 at 11:00 a.m., I observed a large hawk with very white breast sailing towards my home above Lost Cove. I quickly got my wife, Jean, and my 7 x 50 binoculars, and we observed it as it sailed directly above and then descended several hundred feet into the cove below us. This last maneuver afforded an excellent dorsal view of the bird. Its tail was not rufous colored as in the adult common Red-tailed Hawk nor cross-banded as in the immature Red-tail, but was whitish near the base, grading into mottled dark gray midway, and dark gray at the end. I then identified it as the light-breasted variant of Harlan's

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis harlani*) and a check with *Birds of North America* (Robbins et al), *Louisiana Birds* (Lowery), and *Audubon Water Bird Guide* (Pough) confirmed our identification. The hawk sailed in several circles and then southward.

The Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) has a partly white tail and may be confused with Harlan's Red-tail, however, the former has a more distinct dark band at end of tail and a longer tail than Harlan's, and the light variant of the Rough-legged Hawk has conspicuous patches of dark feathers at the bends of the wing. My wife, son, daughter, and I observed a light variant of the Rough-legged Hawk flying over the dam at Woods Reservoir near Sewanee on 28 December 1978. Its shape and pattern of dark on light were like the bottom photograph on page 37 in a Guide to *Eastern Hawk Watching* (Heintzelman) and was distinctly different from the Harlan's Red-tail.

In over sixty (60) years of observing birds, I have seen only two others of the Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk and both were the dark-breasted variants. Although many bird books and ornithologists use the term "phase" to differentiate the light and dark color variations of buteo hawks and use rufous phase and gray phase for Screech Owls, I (and many Europeans) prefer to use the term "variant." In biology, phase means stage, as in nestling phase of altricial birds and immature phase of hawks.

Lost Cove is an ideal place for hawk migration observations. Its rim is about two thousand (2000) feet elevation and the bottom land is about one thousand (1000) feet below. The entrance faces south. In addition to the common migrating raptors, we have observed Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*), which are now regular migrants here (see *Migrant* 40(3):63); Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) on 15 January 1967 and 30 March 1974; and Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) on 4 March 1971, 1 April 1971, 30 January 1977, and 7 February 1978. The last species was attempting to catch birds at my sunflower seed feeder. Sharp-shinned Hawks (*Accipiter striatus*) are often seen over Lost Cove and nearby pine woods (see *Migrant* 45(3):66-67). One immature female was killed by striking my study window on 16 April 1978.

HARRY C. YEATMAN, Biology Department, University of the South, Sewanee 37375. Accepted 6 June 1979.

SECOND RECORD OF HUDSONIAN GODWIT IN TENNESSEE—On 13 May 1978 at approximately 1430, while driving along the south dike of the ash disposal pond at the Gallatin Steam Plant (previously described, *Migrant* 43:90 and 48:63), we saw a group of birds resting on the ash some 100 to 115 meters north of the dike. It was raining and visibility was poor but with our 7 x 35 Bushnell binoculars we saw three Black-bellied Plovers (*Pluvialis squatarola*), eight Caspian Terns (*Sterna caspia*), two Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*), and three birds which we could not identify. Two of the "unidentified" birds were dark and considerably larger than the Black-bellied Plovers and the third bird was slightly smaller than the plovers. As we watched, one of the large dark birds raised its wings and we noted a conspicuous white wing stripe. The possibility of a "rain-soaked" Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*) came to mind as the birds were about the size of Willets. However, the posture did not appear Willet-like and the beaks, though not seen well, did not look like a Willet's beak.

Since we did not have our spotting scope with us, we elected to rush home, get the scope and return immediately to the location. Fortunately, the birds were still present when we arrived back on the scene. The rain had stopped and visibility had improved. With our scope, a 20-45x Bushnell Spacemaster, it was obvious that the two large dark birds, which were facing us, were godwits. They had dark, reddish-brown breasts with fine, dusky or black cross-barring and long, slightly up-turned beaks that were flesh-colored with black at the tips. When the birds turned, presenting a side view, the broad white band at the base of the black tail was clearly visible and we knew, without doubt, that they were Hudsonian Godwits (*Limosa haemastica*) in breeding plumage. The authors are familiar with the species from observations in Texas and on the North Carolina coast.

The remaining unidentified bird now drew our attention. Its back was turned to us and we could get no field marks. Hoping to obtain a better view of this bird and a closer look at the godwits, we began to move a bit closer to the edge of the ash surface. This caused the entire group of birds to flush. As the godwits rose, we saw again, the white marks on the upper side of the wings and the dark under-wing linings. The white rump and black tail were prominent. We were unable to identify the smaller shorebird.

The birds flew off in a southwesterly direction and did not return.

To the best of our knowledge, this constitutes the second record of Hudsonian Godwit in Tennessee.

DOT AND PAUL CRAWFORD, Route 4, Gallatin 37066. Accepted 25 Aug. 1978.

PURPLE SANDPIPER IN WEST TENNESSEE—On 29 November 1976 at 1600 during a routine check of an area of sandbars and mud flats in the Mississippi River on the Tennessee-Arkansas border north of the I-40 bridge, I noted a dark shore bird intermediate in size between the "peeps" and the Killdeers (*Charadrius vociferus*) with which it was feeding.

With the sun to my back, I walked along a rock jetty onto the sandbar to a spot about 50-75 yards from where the bird was feeding. From this point, I noted that the bird was uniformly dark slaty gray in contrast to the brown coloration of the "peeps" and Killdeers. The slaty gray coloration continued onto the head and upper breast. When the bird flew several times, I noted that it had a distinct white stripe on each wing and a dark rump. Twice, the group of shorebirds landed on an area about 10-15 yards from where I was standing. The dark shorebird had bright yellow legs and the lower third of the medium length bill was yellowish contrasting with the dark tip. There was also a small amount of gray streaking on the side of its white belly under each wing. With these field marks, I checked my field guides and immediately determined that the individual was a Purple Sandpiper (*Erolia maritima*). I observed the bird for twenty minutes.

That evening, I contacted Ben and Lula Coffey who returned with me the next afternoon and found the Purple Sandpiper in the same location. It was last seen flying to the NE across the sandbars and then North along the eastern shore of the island. The bird was not found on subsequent visits on 1 and 2 December 1976.

This is the fourth record of this species in Tennessee, constituting the first for West Tennessee. The previous sightings were as follows: Hiwassee Island 25 November 1962; Bays Mountain Lake, 8 June 1967; and Sumner County Tennessee at Gallatin Steam Plant on 6 June 1975.

JAMES G. HOLT, 545 Techno Lane, Memphis 38105. Accepted 7 March 1978.

APPARENT COURTSHIP BEHAVIOR OF PECTORAL SANDPIPERS—On 13 March 1978 at 1300 hours two Pectoral Sandpipers (*Erolia melanotos*) were observed on mud flats of a small farm pond, St. John's Pond, in Washington County. The birds were feeding and would repeatedly perform a presumed courtship dance.

The behavior consisted of first one bird, presumed the male, lowering its head and upper body to parallel with the ground and fluffing the back and neck feathers. In this posture the bird circled the other bird while bobbing its head. The second bird then imitated this action. Following this activity the two birds stood completely erect, stretching their necks and bodies as high as possible and raised their wings high over their backs. The wings were held extremely pointed with about a 90° bend at the wrist. The two birds, still in the erect posture, faced each other breast to breast and did a little hopping dance, four or five hops, before jumping into the air and intertwining feet. The jump into the air was approximately the height of the birds. The entire performance was observed three times in a ten minute span. At no time was a sound heard from either bird.

The observed behavior bears some resemblance to that observed by S. A. Buturlin on the breeding grounds as reported in Bent's Life Histories. The prime variations seem to be the fact that no throat inflation or sounds were observed. Bent also makes no mention of the mutual dance and intertwining of feet. Whether this is a pre-birding courtship or simply another variation of courtship activity is unknown.

RICHARD D. LURA, 1903 Eastwood Dr., Johnson City 37601. Accepted 17 April 1978.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL ON OLD HICKORY LAKE—At 0930 on 6 Feb 1977 an unusually large gull was observed with Herring Gulls (*Laurus argentatus*) and Ring-billed Gulls (*Laurus delawarensis*) resting on a row of partially submerged rocks in Old Hickory Lake. Close examination with a 20x Bushnell telescope clearly showed it was a Great Black-backed Gull (*Laurus marinus*). While at rest plumage was very much like an adult bird, e.g., almost black wings and back, and white head. However, the bill was light yellow with a dark tip and when observed in flight, the tail had a dark terminal band. The back was very dark brown and the wings were uniformly mottled brown contrasting with the white head and rump. Best comparison is with the second and third year immature Great Black-backed Gulls pictured in Robbins, *et al*, *Birds of North America*, for with the exception of the bill and the tail, the bird was plumaged like the third year bird shown in Robbins.

Size and behavior of the bird was striking and clearly ruled out the European Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Laurus fuscus*). While on the rocks, the bird was very aggressive and ran all other gulls off. During this period, size comparison with some readily identifiable first year Herring Gulls showed the Great Black-backed Gull to be twenty-five percent larger than the Herring Gulls. In flight the bird even made aggressive passes at a Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) flying by which is something in many hours of gull watching I have never seen any other gull do.

During the morning the bird was first observed for about twenty minutes at a distance of about seven hundred yards. The location was approximately three miles above Old Hickory Dam and on the opposite side of the lake from our home in the village of Old Hickory. Lighting in the morning was not ideal (looking east)

but a second lengthy period of observation about 1430 by Sally Fintel, Michael Bierly, Margaret Mann and Betty Richards confirmed all field marks and verified that the leg color was flesh pink.

The bird was observed again the next day, 7 Feb., at 1700 at Old Hickory Dam but attempts to locate it after that time were unsuccessful. This apparently is the first record of a Great Black-backed Gull in Tennessee.

WILLIAM A. FINTEL, 25 Jones Circle, Old Hickory 37138. Present address: 49 Rue Entringer, Howald, Gt Duchy of Luxembourg. Accepted 25 Aug. 1978.

LOW ALTITUDE RECORD OF THE COMMON RAVEN IN JOHNSON CITY—On 3 May 1978, Tom Laughlin and I were traveling on highway 137 near the Watauga Avenue exit ramp in downtown Johnson City (Elev. 492m). A large black bird flushed from a road kill on the opposite side of the highway. As our initial impression was that the bird was not the more familiar Common Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) often seen along highways feeding on carrion, we stopped to get a better look. The bird was by now sailing in circles perhaps 90m away. Field marks apparent were: the large size; coarse and slightly bulging throat feathers; and wide, sweeping flight with little or no flapping of the wings. As the raven began to move off it was suddenly turned back in our direction by a Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*), harassing the larger soaring bird. As it passed over we could see the large wedge-shaped tail, characteristic of the Common Raven (*Corvus corax*). All above observations were made through 7 x 50 Bushnell binoculars in good light.

The Common Raven would not ordinarily be expected in such a locality, although it does occur on several nearby mountains, such as Roan Mtn., Unaka Mtn., and Iron Mtn. Gap, usually at the higher elevations (above 1370m). These large corvids have been recorded during winter months at lower elevations in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park by Arthur Stupka (1963, *Notes on the Birds of Great Smoky Mountains National Park*, Knoxville, Univ. of Tenn. Press), however a record of this altitude from a city such as Johnson City at this date is indeed noteworthy.

RICK A. PHILLIPS, 1332 Tranbarger Dr., Kingsport 37665. Accepted on 6 June 1978.

COMMON REDPOLLS ON ROAN MOUNTAIN—On 12 February 1978, while searching for White-winged Crossbills (*Loxia leucoptera*) along the Balsam Trail Road at approximately 5800 feet elevation, on the North Carolina side of Roan Mountain, we observed two small birds actively feeding in the top of a Fraser Fir (*Abies fraseri*). The following characteristics were observed: red patch above bill, black chin patch, belly and flanks whitish with light streaks, a grayish, streaked back, rump lightly streaked and tail sharply notched. One of the birds had a pinkish color on the breast, while the second one did not. The general impression was of a delicate bird about the size of a Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*). These field marks are diagnostic for the male and female Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*). The birds were observed with 7 x 50 binoculars at a distance of about 45 feet for approximately five minutes. The observation conditions were good with a clear sky and the sun to our backs. The temperature was about 35° with snow cover varying from 2 to 15 inches. This observation occurred at 1300 hours.

After the redpoll observation we searched approximately one-half mile further out the Balsam Trail Road for the White-winged Crossbills. About one hour later on the return trip we again found the Common Redpolls at the same location. This time they were in the company of 10-12 White-winged Crossbills. Both species gave a very similar high-pitched chatter. This similarity of sounds is noted in the field guides. The length of this observation was approximately four minutes. This is the first known observation of Common Redpolls on Roan Mountain.

RICHARD D. LURA, 1903 Eastwood Dr., Johnson City 37601. GARY O. WALLACE, Rt. 7, Box 338, Elizabethton 37643. Accepted 3 Aug. 1978.

SIGHT RECORD OF A PARTIALLY ALBINISTIC DARK-EYED JUNCO—On 22 October 1977, Tommy Phillips and I (RAP) were birding near the Rhododendron gardens of Roan Mountain in northeastern Tennessee at an elevation of approximately 6,200 feet. We were watching a small group of eight Dark-eyed Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) feeding on the ground when suddenly a ninth bird appeared above them six feet from the ground in a small Mountain Ash (*Pyrus americanus*). We were startled and at first puzzled as to the identity of this bird, for although the rest of the bird was marked similarly to the other juncos (with which it was by now feeding), this particular finch possessed a large, brilliant white auricular patch on each side of the head. After carefully watching the bird and listening to the call notes we decided that it was indeed a junco, however we were still at a loss to account for the auricular patches. We departed, as the entire group of juncos flew into the nearby Spruce-Fir woods. Upon returning an hour later, we succeeded in finding the same peculiar junco, and after much trouble obtained a rather poor photograph. I later presented this photograph, along with an account of our observations, to Dr. Fred J. Alsop, III, and Thomas J. Bowman, Acting Director of Bays Mt. Park in Kingsport, Tennessee. Both men felt that the bird was most likely a partially albinistic Dark-eyed Junco. A return trip to the locality a week later on 29 October failed to find the junco, however, harsh weather conditions may have been partly responsible for our failure.

RICK A. PHILLIPS, Kingsport University Center—Biology Dept., University Blvd., Kingsport 37665. Accepted 7 March 1978.

THE SEASON

FRED J. ALSOP, III, *Editor*

SPRING SEASON: 16 MARCH - 15 MAY, 1979

The winter of 1978-79 was milder than the two preceding ones and there are few reports regarding its possible effects of this season's bird populations. In this Western Coastal Plain numbers of Eastern Bluebirds are reported to be the lowest in ten years in Obion County. Winter Wren populations were considered to be higher than in previous years in the Roan Mountain area of the Eastern Mountain Region.

Few northern finches lingered into spring. Pine Siskins were seen in Memphis, an Evening Grosbeak in Elizabethton, and House Finches were present in the Central Plateau and Basin, Eastern Ridge and Valley and the Eastern Mountain regions, but in smaller numbers than last year.

Perhaps the most noteworthy species of the season, because of the few records for Tennessee, was the Yellow Rail specimen in West Tennessee. Other unusual birds included a Western Meadowlark in the Western Coastal Plain, large numbers of Willets in two locations in the Central Plateau and Basin where eighteen American Avocets and a Laughing Gull were also observed, and an American Golden Plover in the Eastern Mountain Region. Two outstanding records from the Eastern Ridge and Valley were Fish Crows and a Hudsonian Godwit (third record for Tennessee). Connecticut Warblers and Mourning Warblers continued to be seen as rare but regular transients in the Central Plateau and Basin. The two western regions reported large numbers of migrating Swainson's Thrushes.

The location of two active nests of Yellow-crowned Night Herons in Carter County provided the first hard nesting evidence of the species for this area of Upper East Tennessee. Read on for the details of these and many other records in the following pages of the spring season.

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION—*Heron-Gull*: Yellow-crowned Night Heron: Part of the Riverside Park heronry moved to two locations in South Memphis, 8 nests at one location, 1 nest at the second. There are 3 active nests in the original heronry (RM, JS). Three Yellow-crowned Night Herons were attracted to the roof of the aviary at the Overton Park Zoo where a zoo specimen is held in captivity. The herons visited on the roof for almost an hour (JS). Mississippi Kite: 5 May (1), B (JW); 10 May (2) Dyer Co. (WGC); 11 May (3) Dyer Co. (WGC). Bald Eagle: 23 Mar (1 imm) TVA, Allen Steam Plant (DM). Osprey: 14 Apr (1) LaJoie Lake, CSP (TOS, MC), courtship observed 5 Mar, R (JF, SF). Upland Sandpiper: 17 Apr (14) PF (CB). Solitary Sandpiper: 21 Mar, 26 Mar, 11 Apr (1) D (WGC). American Golden Plover: 26 Mar (37) D (WGC); 28 Mar (200)

EB (LC, HBD, CB, SL), 1 Apr (20) M (BBC). Bonaparte's Gull: 1 Apr (80) DeWitt Spain Airport (BBC, LC).

Swift-Gnatcatcher: Chimney Swift: 26 Mar (12) M (RB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 11 May (25) on a 4 mile stretch of levee road in Lake Co. (DP). Barn Swallow: 22 Mar (1) D (WGC); 1 Apr PF (CB, RB, MW). Carolina Chickadee: 11 pairs, a record high in boxes in Obion Co. study area (DP). Eastern Bluebird: (1 pair) lowest number of breeding pairs since 1969, Obion Co. (DP). Swainson's Thrush: 11 Apr (1) OP (BBC); 12 Apr (1) M (BBC); 15 Apr (3) OP (RW); 16 Apr (2) OP (BBC); 18 Apr (6) OP (BBC). Veery: 26 Apr (1) M (HBD) (1) M (LCC); 29 Apr (4) SFSP (TOS). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 28 Mar (1) C (AS).

Warbler-Sparrow: Golden-winged Warbler: 16 Apr (1) OP (BBC); 24 Apr (1) OP (BB, RB); 25 Apr (1) OP (BBC); 25-26 Apr (1) M (BBC). Blue-winged Warbler: 11 to 30 Apr more common in Overton Park than ever before in 50 years (7) (BBC). Tennessee Warbler: 6 Apr (1) OP (BBC); 22 May (2) D (CH, RH). Parula Warbler: 1 Apr (1) SFSP (WLW, RT, BBC, LC); 6 Apr (3) OP (BBC). Yellow Warbler: 6 May (1) D (CH, RH). Bay-breasted Warbler: 12 May (2) D (WGC). Wilson's Warbler: 2 May (2) D (CH, RH). American Redstart: 13 Apr (1) M (WTW). WESTERN MEADOWLARK: 1 Apr and 8 Apr (1) DeWitt Spain Airport (BBC, LC, AS). Northern (Baltimore) Oriole: 15 Apr (1) OP (DW); 19 Apr (1) M (BBC). Scarlet Tanager: 14 Apr (1) CSP (BBC, LC, AS). Blue Grosbeak: 1 May (1) H (AS). Pine Siskin: 6 May (2) M (MLB). White-throated Sparrow: 12 May M (DB); there were 135 on the Spring Field Day count of 29 April.

Locations: B—Bartlett, TN, northeast Shelby Co.; C—Covington, TN, Lauderdale Co.; CSP—Chickasaw State Park, Hardeman Co.; D—Dyersburg, Dyer Co.; EB—Ensley Bottoms, southwest Shelby Co.; H—Henning, TN, Lauderdale Co.; M—Memphis, TN.; OP—Overton Park, city park in Memphis, TN.; PF—Penal Farm, Shelby Co.; R—Raleigh, northeast Shelby Co.; SFSP—Shelby Forest State Park, northwest Shelby Co.

Observers: DB—Diane Bean; BB—Bob Browne; RB—Robert Browns; CB—Carolyn Bullock; MLB—Mrs. Laura Buxton; BBC—Ben B. Coffey, Jr.; LC—Lula Coffey; WGC—William G. Criswell; HBD—Helen B. Dinkelspiel; JF—Jim Ferguson; SF—Sue Ferguson; CH—Celia Hudson; RH—Russell Hudson; SL—Selma Lewis; RM—Robert McGowan; DM—Don Miller; DP—David Pitts; AS—Alice Smith; JS—John Stokes; RT—Richard Taylor; TOS, MC—Tennessee Ornithological Society, Memphis Chapter; MW—Martha Waldron; JW—Jeff Wilson; WTW—William T. Whitely; DW—Dick Whittington; WLW—Wendell L. Whitemore.

MARTHA WALDRON, 1626 Yorkshire Dr., Memphis 38117.

CENTRAL PLATEAU AND BASIN REGION—Migration was even and prolonged, perhaps due to the even spring and mild temperatures. Periods of cloudy and rainy weather kept transients grounded. Precipitation for April and May in Nashville was double the average.

Egret-Gull: Cattle Egret: 2 Apr Old Hickory L (2) MW, FF, earliest Nash 2 days; 15 May Clarksville (7) BM; 26 May Lascassas, Rutherford Co (2) SD. American Bittern: 4 Apr - 1 May Nash area (6) NTOS, a good number after several years of few sightings. Osprey: 7 Apr - 25 May home, Sewanee (1-2) HY; 12 May

Fall Creek Recreational Area, Percy Priest L (1) RM, JS. Sora: 18 Apr - 20 May Tullahoma (1-3-1) RL, MH, *et al.* Common Snipe: 12 May Tullahoma (2) RL. Willet: 1 May Clarksville (62) MF, large number; 3 May Cold Hollow, Center Hill L (175) CE, exceptionally large number. White-rumped Sandpiper: 28 May Hillsboro, Coffee Co (1) ER. Sanderling: 4 May Gallatin Steam Plant (2) DPC; 12 May Old Hickory L (1) MLM. These are the 4th and 5th spring records Nash area. *AMERICAN AVOCET*: 21 Apr Gallatin Steam Plant (18) DPC, HLK, 4th spring record Nash area. *LAUGHING GULL*: 12 May Percy Priest Lake, Rutherford Co (1) RM, JS.

Cuckoo-Warbler: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Large populations of tent caterpillars perhaps brought the species up early and in large numbers. Whip-poor-will: 27 Mar Sewanee (1) HY. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 24 Mar Nashville (1) KS *vide* SMB, earliest Nash 2 days. Eastern Wood Pewee: 10 Apr Monteagle (1) SM, early. Rough-winged Swallow: 14 Mar Shelby Park, Nash (1) MPS, earliest 3 days Nash. Swainson's Thrush: From late Apr - mid-May nearly every Nashville yard with a few shade trees had this species singing in it. Nashville Spring Count 12-13 May recorded 308! Connecticut Warbler: 28 Apr - 1 May Radnor L, Nash (1) DP, then others; 5 May Sewanee (1) HY; 13 May Nash (1) ATT. Mourning Warbler: 19-28 May Nash area (5 at three locations) DPC, MPS, RR.

Bobolink-Sparrow: Bobolink: 23 Apr Hillsboro (2) ER. Scarlet Tanager: 8 Apr Radnor L, Nash (1) MLB. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 24 May Clarksville (1) JDA, getting late. *HOUSE FINCH*: 3 Mar Manchester (1 male) AM, EB; 6-7 Apr Nash (1 female) MPS, only sighting Nash this winter in contrast to minimum six locations winter 1977-78. Fox Sparrow: 2 Apr Monsanto Ponds, Columbia (1 banded) GRM, getting late.

Observers (alphabetically beginning first initial): AM—Agnes Marcrom; ATT—Ann T Tarbell; BM—Bill Milliken; CE—Craig Empson; DP—Dick Porter; DPC—Dot and Paul Crawford; EB—Effie Boyd; ER—Erma Rogers; FF—Frances Fishel; GRM—George R Mayfield, Jr.; HLK—Helen and Lee Kramer; HY—Harry Yeatman; JDA—Joe D Allen; JS—John Sellars; KS—Katherine Simpkins; MF—Michael Filson; MH—Marjory Harper; MLB—Michael L Bierly; MLM—Margaret L Mann; MPS—M Pat Stallings; MW—Miriam Weinstein; NTOS—Nashville Chapter Tennessee Ornithological Society; RL—Ruth Luckadoo; RM—Ruth McMillan; RR—Richard Rimmer; SD—Sam Dement; SM—Sanford McGee; SMB—Sue M Bell.

MICHAEL LEE BIERLY, 3825 Bedford Ave., Nashville 37215.

EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION—The number of records and sightings being submitted to the compilers is greatly appreciated as we add more information on the distribution and abundance of birds in the region. Tony Koella's comments and observations from his farm at White Pine, in Jefferson County, are an excellent example of basic information needed to detect population trends over many years. Much more information of this type should be recorded and submitted for the record.

Loon-Merganser: Common Loon: max 3 Apr (21) ChL (KLD); last report, 1 flying north over LaFollette on 14 May (CPN). *RED-NECKED GREBE*: 26 Mar - 2 Apr (1) ChL (RCS, KLD *et al.*). Horned Grebe: max 19 Mar (8) ChL (KLD); last 11 May (1) EB (Dave Hawkins, CPN, LT). Pied-billed Grebe: 29 Mar (17) ChL (KLD). Double-crested Cormorant: 1-3 regular HRA (KLD, RCS); 29 Apr (3) K (JCH, CPN); 4 May (1) AS (RK). Little Blue Heron: 29 Apr (1) KCo (PP). Cattle

Egret: 3 Apr (1) K (PP). Great Egret: 5 May (2) JC (RL). N. Shoveler: 29 Apr (3) K (JCH, CPN). Ring-necked Duck: 7 May (1) HRA (KLD, RCS). Greater Scaup: max 17 Mar (250) ChL (LD). Bufflehead: max 19 Mar (64) HRA (KLD). *WHITE-WINGED SCOTER*: 17, 26 Mar (1) ChL (KLD *et al*). Ruddy Duck: 19 Mar (31) ChL (KLD); 16 Apr (3) NL (KLD, RCS). Hooded Merganser: 2, 3 Apr (1) ChL (KLD, RCS). Red-breasted Merganser: 29 Apr (3) K (JCH, CPN); 6 May AS (RK).

Hawks-Cranes: Sharp-shinned Hawk: 5 Apr (1) JC (DL). Cooper's Hawk: 30 Mar (1) JC (SG); 19 Apr (1) JC (DL); 28 Apr (2) BL (MD, JK). Red-tailed Hawk: 1 active nest HRA (KLD). Red-shouldered Hawk: 5 active nests known in the Chattanooga area this year (KLD *et al*). Broad-winged Hawk: 2 active nests in the Tennessee River Gorge (KLD, RCS). Osprey: During migration seemed to be widely observed on all TVA lakes. *PEREGRINE FALCON*: 9 Apr (1) HRA (KLD). *MERLIN*: 2 Apr (1) AS (SG). Ruffed Grouse: 23 Mar (1) Point Park atop Lookout Mt. (KD). Sandhill Crane: (this report was omitted last period); 13 Mar (20) K (SBS); 17 Mar (heard migrating) HRA (*vide* F. M. Bailey).

Rails-Owls: Virginia Rail: 13 Apr (1) AIM (PP). Sora: 14 Apr (2) AIM (SBS); 5 Apr (1) AS (RK); 18 Apr (1) JB (RK). Semipalmated Plover: 13 May (35) KSP (CPN); 29 Apr (2) SJP (GE); 4 May (1) AS (RK). American Golden Plover: 14 May (1) KSP (KLD, RCS). Black-bellied Plover: 13 May (1) KSP (LD, JWS); 14 May (1) KSP (KLD, RCS). American Woodcock: 29 Apr (5, with at least 3 singing) KCo (KTOS). Upland Sandpiper: 29 Apr (1) K (KTOS). Willet: 29 Apr (21) AS (RK). Pectoral Sandpiper: 3 Apr (50) HRA (KLD). White-rumped Sandpiper: 28, 29 Apr (2) AS (RK, DL); 30 Apr (1) HRA (KLD, RCS); 1 May (1) BL (RK); 12-15 May (2-6) KSP (KTOS). Dunlin: 26 Mar (60) SB (KLD, RCS); 4 Apr (1) AS (DL); 13 May (1) KSP (CPN, JCH, SBS). Short-billed Dowitcher: 30 Apr (1) HRA (KLD, RCS); 13 May (26) KSP (LD, JWS). Long-billed Dowitcher: 13 May (1) KSP (JWS). Both of the above species were identified by call note. Stilt Sandpiper: 28, 29 Apr (1) Blountville (MD, JK). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 26 Mar (1) HRA (KLD, RCS); 13 May (20) KSP (LD, JWS). Western Sandpiper: 28 Apr - 8 May (1) SJP (MD, SG). *HUDSONIAN GODWIT*: 13, 14 May (1) KSP (LD, JWS, SBS *et al*). Ring-billed Gull: several present through end of period in Knoxville area (KTOS). Bonaparte's Gull: 3 Apr (20) ChL (KLD). *LAUGHING GULL*: 13 May (1) KSP (LD, JWS). Forster's Tern: 30 Apr (5) HRA (KLD, RCS). Caspian Tern: 20 Apr (2), 27 Apr (1) K (PP). *Cuckoos*: In the areas of Chattanooga and Knoxville a tremendous forest insect population explosion occurred defoliating vast areas of timber. In the Knoxville area it seemed to be the forest tent caterpillars, while at Chattanooga the insects appeared to be cankerworms, linden loopers and oak leaf rollers. Nicholson commented that the Yellow-billed Cuckoo was very early and very abundant with a high count of 35 being recorded on 29 April the day of the Knoxville Chapter's Spring Count. Four observations of Black-billed Cuckoos were also recorded during the period. In contrast, at Chattanooga, during this same period cuckoos were practically absent with only an occasional bird being identified. Great Horned Owl: 26 Mar (1 large young in same nest used in 1978) HRA (KLD *et al*).

Woodpeckers-Warblers: Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 all period JC (Kat Bierly). Willow Flycatcher: 15 May (1) KSP (TK). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 8 May (1) K (PP). Blue Jay: on 21 Apr 65 were observed migrating north along side

Lookout Mt. at Reflection Riding (KLD *et al.*). *FISH CROW*: 10 Apr (4) SB (KLD). This is the *first* East Tennessee record and details will be submitted. Red-breasted Nuthatch: one regular Chattanooga till 24 Mar (R. Bruce Wilkey). Hermit Thrush: 18-22 Apr (1) JC (SG). Philadelphia Vireo: 1 May (1) JC (SG). Warbling Vireo: 21 Apr (1) SJP (DL). Warblers: The warbler migration at Elizabethton appeared late in arriving and then only small numbers were being recorded according to compiler Glenn Eller. Chuck Nicholson, Knoxville, commented they had few pronounced waves when a large number of species could be seen during a morning. In the Chattanooga area migration seemed to be normal with no unusually large numbers being recorded (KLD, RCS). Connecticut Warbler: 30 Apr (1) TRG (RCS). Orange-crowned Warbler: 17 Apr (1) K (SBS).

Blackbirds-Sparrows: *BREWER'S BLACKBIRD*: 30 Mar (3) JC (MD, SG); 7 Apr (1) SJP (DL). *HOUSE FINCH*: regular; last date 9 Apr JB (RK). Red Crossbill: 31 Mar (6) JC (Helenhill Dove). Savannah Sparrow: regular and common till 30 Apr around home and farm JCo (TK). Grasshopper Sparrow: after 22 Apr regular and common around house and farm JCo (TK). *SHARP-TAILED SPARROW*: 13 Apr (1) AIM (PP). Vesper Sparrow: regular at home JCo till 25 Mar (TK). *LARK SPARROW*: not as common as last previous years at home and farm JCo (TK).

Locations: AIM—Alcoa Marsh; AS—Austin Springs; BL—Boone Lake; CH—Chattanooga; ChL—Chickamauga Lake; EB—Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery, Clinton; HRA—Hiwassee River Area; JB—Jonesboro; JC—Johnson City; JCo—Jefferson County; K—Knoxville; KCo—Knox County; KSP—Kingston Steam Plant; NL—Nickajack Lake; SB—Savannah Bay; SJP—St. John's Pond.

Observers: Dillenbeck, Martha—MD; Dubke, Kenneth H.—KD; Kenneth H. and Lillian H.—KLD; Lillian H.—LD; Eller, Glenn—GE; Howell, Joseph C.—JCH; Knight, Rick—RK; Knoxville Chapter, TOS—KTOS; Koella, Jon A. "Tony"—TK; Kyle, Joy—JK; Lewis, Richard—RL; Lura, Dick—DL; Nicholson, Charles P.—CPN; Pardue, Paul—PP; Stedman, Stephen J. and Barbara—SBS; Stone, Jowayne—JWS; Stringer, Randy C.—RCS; Swafford, Glenn—GS; Turner, Linda—LT.

KENNETH H. AND LILLIAN H. DUBKE, 8139 Roy Lane, Ooltewah 37363.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION—The weather for the last of March was unseasonably warm; then in April it became cool and wet. The first two weeks in May saw the return of normal spring like temperatures for the area.

The locating of 2 Yellow-crowned Night Heron's nest which successfully fledged young established the first nesting record of this species for Carter County. Also a Great Horned Owl's nest with young was an uncommon find for the area. The first upper East Tennessee sighting of the American Golden Plover was considered a note-worthy find.

Loon-Hawk: Common Loon: last 28 Apr (2) WatL (GW, DL). Green Heron: 1st spring 26 Mar (1) HS (HF). Yellow-crowned Night Heron: 1st 21 Apr (2) WatR (GW), *first nest located* 21 Apr in HS by (HF), *second nest located* 24 Apr in HS by (GE, HF), eggs visible in nest on 27 Apr with young in nest on 8 May. Canada Goose: 19 Mar thru 5 Apr (1) Razor Farm (GE). Gadwall: 24 Mar (2) WatL (GW, GE, MD). Redhead: 16-17 Mar (1) WatR (HF, GW). Ruddy Duck: 24 Mar (1) GLP (GW, GE, MD), 4 Apr (1) RC (SG, MD). Hooded Merganser: last 24 Mar (2)

Wagls (GW, GE, MD). Red-breasted Merganser: last 3 Apr (2) WibL (RK). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 16, 25 Mar (1 ea) Wagls (DL, GW); 27 Apr (1) E (HF). Cooper's Hawk: 24 Mar (1) Razor Farm (GW, GE); 28 Apr (2) E (ETOS); 15 May (1) E (Lois H). Broad-winged Hawk: 1st returned 1 Apr (1) E (HF). Marsh Hawk: 25 Apr (1) HS (MD).

Osprey-Wren: Osprey: 1st spring sighting 7 Apr (1) WatR (GW). *AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER*: 24 Mar (1) SiamV (GW, GE, MD) area's 1st record. Common Snipe: last 6 May (2) WatR (HF). Spotted Sandpiper: 1st on 15 Apr (1) SiamV (HF). Solitary Sandpiper: 1st on 4 Apr (1) SiamV (GE). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1st on 24 Mar (3) SiamV (GW, GE, MD). Bonaparte's Gull: 24 Mar (1) Wagls (GW, GE, MD). Common Tern: 1 May (3) RC (JM). Great Horned Owl: 15 Mar nest on cliff face found with young near WibL (FA). Barred Owl: 28 Apr (1) HM (GW, DL). Common Nighthawk: 1st on 26 Apr (2) E (HF). Chimney Swift: 1st on 7 Apr (1) E (GE). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: last seen 28 Apr (1) RCP (SG, MD). Least Flycatcher: 1st on 8 May (2) RM (JM), later than usual. Tree Swallow: 1st on 23 Mar (3) WatL (GW, DL). Rough-winged Swallow: 1st on 24 Mar (2) Wagls (SG). Barn Swallow: 1st on 24 Mar (3) SiamV (GW, GE, MD). Common Raven: 1-4 regular on RM, IM thru-out period (ETOS). Red-breasted Nuthatch: very heavy concentrations thru 1 May on RM above 5000'. Winter Wren: above normal population on RM thru out period (RM *et al*).

Thrush-Sparrow: Hermit Thrush: last seen 28 Apr (2) Ripshin Lake (GE, HF). Black-and-white Warbler: 1st on 8 Apr (1) WatL (RK). Swainson's Warbler: 1st on 28 Apr (2) RCP (SG, GS). Worm-eating Warbler: 1st on 21 Apr (1) WibL (DL). Blackburnian Warbler: 1st on 17 Apr (1) WibL (JM). Blackpoll Warbler: 1st on 28 Apr (2) E (HF), another good year. Pine Warbler: 16 Mar (2) WibL (GW). Prairie Warbler: 1st on 21 Apr (3) Bluff City (GE). Louisiana Waterthrush: 1st on 30 Mar (1) MC (RL). Canada Warbler: 1st on 28 Apr (1) E (GW, DL). Bobolink: 28 Apr (12) Hampton (GE, HF). Blue Grosbeak: 10 May (2) MC (RL). *EVENING GROSBEAK*: last seen 26 Mar (1) E (GE). Purple Finch: last seen 28 Apr (3) E (ETOS). *HOUSE FINCH*: last seen 25 Mar (2) E (Katherine Thomas). Vesper Sparrow: 8 Apr (1) E (RK). White-throated Sparrow: last seen 15 May (1) E (HF). Swamp Sparrow: last seen 1 May (3) E (GE, HF).

Locations: E—Elizabethton area; GLP—Great Lakes Pond near Eliz.; HS—Hunter Swamp; IM—Iron Mtn.; MC—Milligan College; RC—Roans Creek; RCP—Rock Creek Park near Erwin; RM—Roan Mtn.; SiamV—Siam Valley; Wagls—Wagners Island; WatL—Watauga Lake; WatR—Watauga River; WibL—Wilbur Lake.

Observers: FA—Fred Alsop; MD—Martha Dillenbeck; ETOS—Eliz. chapter TOS; GE—Glen Eller; HF—Harry Farthing; SG—Sally Goodin; LoisH—Lois Herndon; JM—John Martin; RK—Rick Knight; DL—Dick Lura; RL—Richard Lewis; GS—Glenn Swafford; GW—Gary Wallace.

GLEN D. ELLER, Route #3, Grandview Terrace, Elizabethton 37643.

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NOMENCLATURE: Common names should be capitalized followed by binomial scientific names in italics only after the first occurrence in the text for both regular articles and ROUND TABLE NOTES, and should conform to the A.O.U. Check-list 5th edition, 1957 and its Thirty-second Supplement. Trinomial should be used only after the specimen has been measured or compared with typical specimens.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: When there are more than five references in an article, they should be placed at the end of the article, otherwise they should be appropriately included in the text.

SUMMARY: Articles of five or more pages in length should be summarized briefly, drawing attention to the main conclusions resulting from the work performed.

IDENTIFICATION: Rare or unusual species identification to be acceptable must be accompanied by verifying evidence. This should include: date, time, light and weather conditions, exact location, habitat, optical equipment, distance, behavior of bird, comparison with other similar species, characteristic markings, experience of observer, other observers verifying observation and reference works consulted.

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