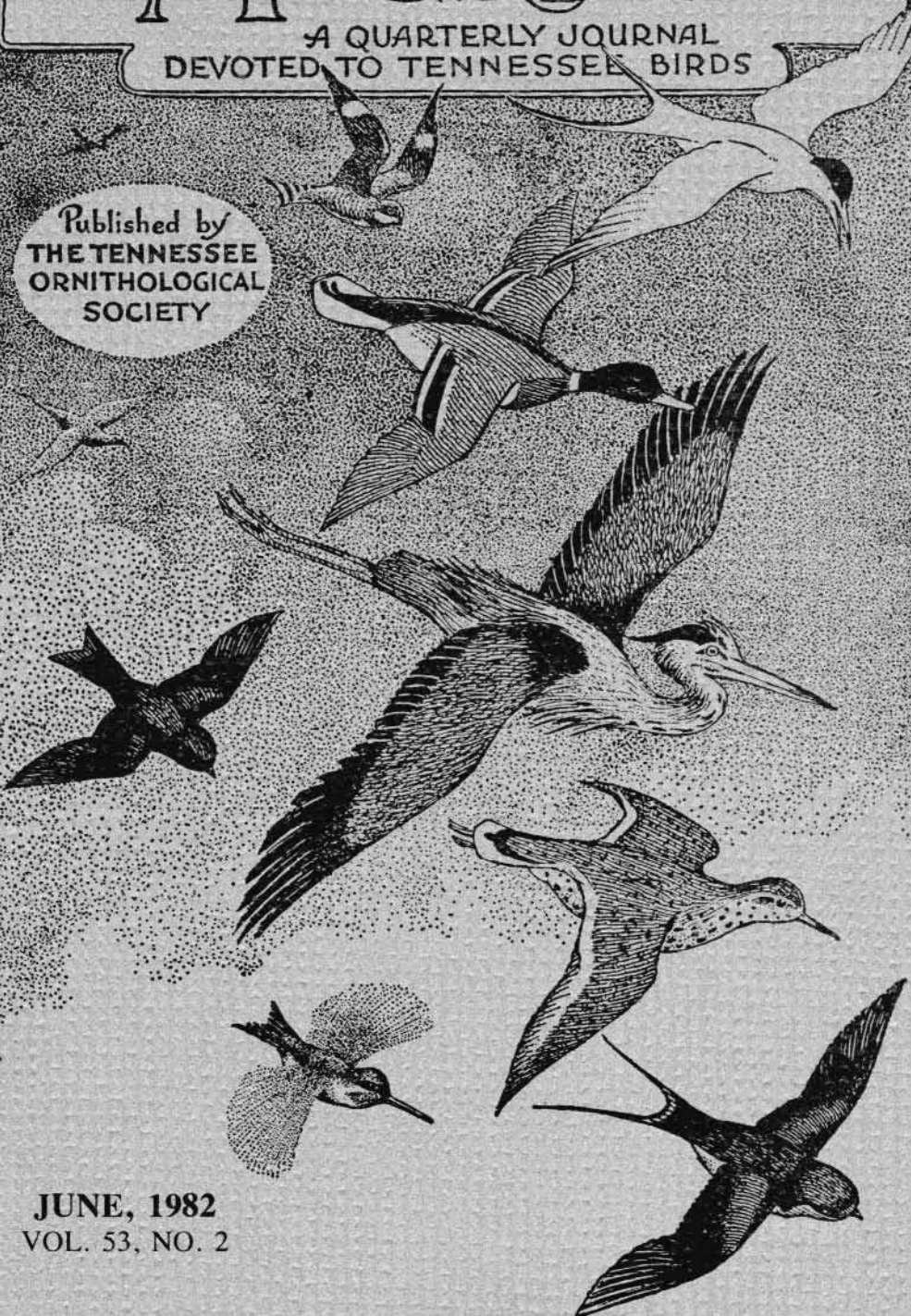


THE MIGRANT

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO TENNESSEE BIRDS

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THE BIRDS OF PICKETT COUNTY, TENNESSEE

CHARLES P. NICHOLSON

Pickett County, the site of the 1979 Tennessee Ornithological Society breeding bird foray, is located along the Kentucky border in middle Tennessee. Two distinct physiographic regions occur, the Cumberland Plateau in the east and the Eastern Highland Rim of the Interior Low Plateau in the western part of the county. The Cumberland Plateau section, most of which is within Pickett State Park and Forest, is dissected by several streams forming gorges that drain east and north to the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River. Elevations in this section vary from approximately 355 m on the ridges to 299 m in the bottom of gorges formed by Langham Branch and Flint Fork. Rock bluffs occur along many of the gorges. Virtually all of the plateau portion of Pickett County is forested. Forest cover is mixed shortleaf-Virginia pine and oak-hickory on the upland areas, and white pine, hemlock, and cove hardwoods in the gorges.

The dividing line between the plateau and Highland Rim is poorly defined, and several knobs of up to 545 m elevation, with vegetation and geology typical of the plateau, occur west of the plateau almost to Byrdstown. The Highland Rim section is drained towards the west by the Wolf River and Obey River, which was impounded in 1948 to form Dale Hollow Reservoir. The lowest elevation in the county is this reservoir, which has a full pool elevation of 191 m. Much of the rim area has been cleared for pasture, hayfields, and corn and tobacco cultivation. The 1980 population of Pickett County was 4,358, and the area of the county is 40,923 ha.

The first investigation of the birdlife of Pickett County was in 1937, when Pickett Forest was the site of an early Tennessee Ornithological Society expedition. Fourteen observers spent 14-20 June in the area, and their results were published by Albert F. Ganier (1937). Pickett Forest and many adjacent areas had been wilderness until the early 1900's, when railroads were built into the area. Much of the present State Park and Forest was logged in the 1920's and 1930's. Following logging, the Pickett Forest tract was donated to the state and park developments were carried out, in part by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The 1937 TOS expedition recorded 69 species of birds. Because of the brushy vegetation following logging, several species of early successional habitats were listed as common. These included the Prairie Warbler, described as the most common species, the Eastern Bluebird, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, and "Red-eyed" (Rufous-sided) Towhee.

Visits to Pickett Forest were made in April 1942 by Walter R. Spofford and R. Herbert (Spofford 1942), and by G. R. Mayfield and others in July 1942 (Mayfield 1942). Among the species mentioned in these reports were the Peregrine Falcon, American Kestrel, and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Spofford was again in Pickett Forest during the first week of June 1946, and gave account of 6 species not recorded by the 1937 expedition (Spofford 1948). During the next 20 years, the only published accounts of Pickett County birdlife were Game and Fish Commission reports of the status of Ruffed Grouse (Schultz 1953), and Turkey (Schultz 1955; Lewis 1962), and a blackbird-Starling survey (Legler 1966).

Beginning in 1969, Byrdstown residents Dave and Robbie Hassler began recording bird observations, publishing Round Table Notes, and providing records for "Season" reports in *The Migrant*. Their documentation of the regular spring and fall passage of Sandhill Cranes through the Byrdstown area is especially noteworthy (Hassler 1969, and subsequent "Season" reports). The Hassler's observations laid the groundwork for the 1979 TOS breeding bird foray, which was held 1-4 June. Fentress County was also covered during this foray, and results from Fentress County, as well as foray techniques, have been recently published (Nicholson 1981).

The following annotated list of Pickett County birds includes 1979 foray results as well as other available published and unpublished Pickett County observations. Published observations include the reports by Ganier, Spofford and others described above, as well as numerous records from "Season" reports. For the sake of brevity, records from "Season" reports are cited only by the volume and page number of *The Migrant*, and, unless otherwise stated, are from the Byrdstown-Dale Hollow Lake area. Observations given without a citation and without an observer's name are those of the Hasslers, and include miscellaneous observations as well as day-long winter counts in the Byrdstown-Dale Hollow Lake (DHL) area conducted on 23 December 1978, 12 January 1980 and 9 January 1982. Also listed are observations by the Hasslers and Nicholson on 27-28 April 1979, by Morris D. Williams from Pickett State Park (PSP) on 8-9 September 1976, and by a group of 21 led by Michael L. Bierly which worked Pickett State Park on 14-16 May 1982. Observations are listed by season, spring through fall. For species observed on the foray, the total number of individuals, exclusive of Breeding Bird Survey results, is given first. This is followed by the BBS results, given as the number of total individuals observed, over the number of stops, out of 18, at which each species was observed. This route, in the PSP area, was censused on 2 June by Nicholson and King.

COMMON LOON — 1 on 5 Jan. 1976 on DHL (41:21).

HORNED GREBE — 5 on 23 Dec. 1978; 3 on 12 Jan. 1980; all on DHL.

PIED-BILLED GREBE — 6 on 23 Dec. 1978; 7 on 12 Jan. 1980; 2 on 9 Jan. 1982, all on DHL.

GREEN HERON — 2, 0/0.

GREAT BLUE HERON — 2 on 23 Dec. 1978 on DHL.

LITTLE BLUE HERON — 1 imm. on 1 July 1973.

CATTLE EGRET — 1 on 11 Nov. 1978.

SNOWY EGRET — 1 on 9-14 May 1971 (*Amer. Birds* 25:866).

- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON — 1 at lake in PSP on 15 June 1937 by R. M. Mengel (Ganier 1937); not observed by Spofford and not on Foray.
- CANADA GOOSE — 14 on 13 Oct. 1969 (40:81); 130 on 16 Dec. 1969 (41:21).
- MALLARD — 7 on 23 Dec. 1978.
- BLACK DUCK — 45 on 9 Jan. 1982.
- GADWALL — 20 on 30 Oct. 1969 (40:89); 130 on 16 Dec. 1969 (41:21).
- PINTAIL — 8 on 16 Dec. 1969 (41:21).
- BLUE-WINGED TEAL — 2 on 20 Aug., 27 on 31 Oct. 1969 (40:89).
- NORTHERN SHOVELER — 14 on 17 Oct. 1969 (40:89); 36 on 16 Dec. 1969 (41:22).
- WOOD DUCK — 2-5 from 3 Feb. to 30 Apr. 1970 (41:42); 2 on 5 and 18 May 1980; female with 22 young on 17 May 1979; foray — 17 in 2 broods, 0/0.
- REDHEAD — 3 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- RING-NECKED DUCK — 26 on 23 Jan. 1978.
- CANVASBACK — 2 on 23 Dec. 1978.
- LESSER SCAUP — 15 on 23 Dec. 1978; 39 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- COMMON GOLDENEYE — 1 on 9 Jan. 1982.
- BUFFLEHEAD — 3 on 23 Dec. 1978.
- HOODED MERGANSER — 4 on 23 Dec. 1978; 20 on 9 Jan. 1982; 4 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- TURKEY VULTURE — 1 on 27 Apr. and 12 on 28 Apr. 1979 by DRH, CPN; 3 on 18 May 1980; 1 on 12 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 6, 0/0; 3-4 daily by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 2 on 14 June 1980.
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK — 1 window kill on 16 Mar. 1978 (49:67); 1 on 15 Aug. 1969 (40:45); present all May 1969 (40:68); 12 at Stepp Gap on 24 Sep. 1970 (42:1-4); 3 on 13 Oct. 1975 (47:18); 1 on 12 Jan. 1980; 2 through winter of 1970 (41:22).
- COOPER'S HAWK — pair defended old crow's nest, 16-30 April 1975 (46:66); 1 on 2 May and 13 June 1971 (42:69); 1 by AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- ACCIPITER spp. — 1 on 15 May 1982 by Virginia Price and Rowan DeBold at PSP.
- RED-TAILED HAWK — 1 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; 6 pairs along Wolf River, 20 May 1978; 10 by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 2 on 23 Dec. 1978; 4 on 9 Jan. 1982; 4 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- RED-SHOULDERED HAWK — 2-4 through spring of 1969 (40:68); on nest at PSP, 16 April 1978 and 27 April 1979, by DRH, CPN; 1 in May 1979 (42:69); nesting near Lovelady, 1976 and 1980; 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; 1 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK — 1 carrying food on 15 May 1980; 2 on 15 and 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; 1 on 7 June 1980 at PSP; 1 on 5 July 1937 by AFG *et al.*; 2-4 through summer 1969 (40:68); 41 on 20 Sep., 1178 on 24 Sep., and 754 on 25 Sep. 1970 at Stepp Gap (42:1-4); nesting in BT area, 1977-1979.
- ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK — 1 during winter 1978; 1 on 1 March 1980.
- BALDEAGLE — regularly winters on Dale Hollow Lake; high count of 15 on 8 Feb.

- 1975 (46:71); earliest, 2 on 22 Nov. 1974 (46:71); latest, 1 on 22 April 1978 (49:67).
- GOLDEN EAGLE — 1 adult on 1 Jan. 1978 (49:42); 1 adult on 2 March 1977.
- MARSH HAWK — 1 on 1 May 1971 (42:69); 1 on 4 July 1970 (41:69).
- OSPREY — 1 on 15 April 1972 at Static; 1 on 22 April 1973; 1 on 22 April 1978 (49:67); 1 on 2 Oct. 1971; 1 on 29 Nov. 1975 at Eagle Cove Dock.
- PEREGRINE FALCON — 6 birds at 4 locations were reported by Ganier (1937:25). Of these locations, a pair at an eyrie site "a mile south of Rock House fire tower . . . in the face of The Rock Island . . . above Laurel Fork" was apparently in Fentress County; one bird in "Rock Creek canyon near the Kentucky line" was apparently in Scott County, and one bird "over the valley east of Chimney Rock" was either in Pickett County or in Wayne County, Kentucky. The other report was of 2 birds soaring over the PSP lake "and probably from the Wolf River cliffs." Spofford and R. Herbert revisited 2 of these eyries in April 1942 (Spofford 1942), and reported the Rock Island site occupied by American Kestrels, and saw no birds at the other site. They also reported a new eyrie, probably with young in the nest, in Wolf River Gorge. During early June 1946, Spofford (1948) observed 1 bird near the eyrie in Wolf River Gorge, and no evidence of Peregrines at the other eyries. There have been no recent reports of nesting Peregrine Falcons in the area.
- AMERICAN KESTREL — 1 on 27 April 1979 near BT by DRH, CPN; foray — 4, 0/0, all in western part of county; 16 in June 1937 by AFG *et al.*; pair using former Peregrine Falcon eyrie at Rock Island in June 1946 (Spofford 1948); 5 on 23 Dec. 1978; 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; 7 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- RUFFED GROUSE — at Hassler residence near Lovelady in 1963, 1965, 1966, 1978 (Hassler 1970, 49:67); foray, 1, 0/0, on 2 June in PSP; nest with 5 eggs in PSP in 1936 (*fide* Ganier 1937); 3 on 15 May 1982 along Hidden Passage Trail by MLB *et al.*
- BOBWHITE — 2 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray, 14, 0/0, all in western part of county; observed in June 1946 in PSP by Spofford (1948).
- TURKEY — observed prior to 1920, and in 1930-31 (Ganier 1937); game farm birds released in 1941 and 1950 (Schultz 1955); present in 1962 (Lewis 1962); 1 on 1 Sep. 1975 at PSP.
- SANDHILL CRANE — regular migrant over Lovelady-Byrdstown area, observed in March and late Oct. - early Dec. Extremes: spring — 372 between 1-4 March 1979; 30 on 21 March 1971; fall — about 10 on 21 Oct. 1968; 768+ on 1-2 Dec. 1978.
- AMERICAN COOT — 500 on DHL on 31 Oct. 1969 (40:89); 10 on 23 Dec. 1978; 44, harrassed by Bald Eagle, on 9 Jan. 1982; 11 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- COMMON SNIFE — 8 on 30 Oct. 1969 (40:89).
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER — 1 at lake in PSP on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; 1 on 14 Oct. 1969 (40:69).
- KILLDEER — 1 on 27 Apr. 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 10, 0/0, all in W part of county; 12 on 23 Dec. 1978; 2 on 9 Jan. 1982.
- DUNLIN — 10 on 30 Oct. 1969 (40:69).

- RING-BILLED GULL — 1 on 23 Dec. 1978; 2 on 9 Jan. 1982; 4 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- ROCK DOVE — 6 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 12, 0/0, all in western part of county; 16 on 23 Dec. 1978; 4 on 9 Jan. 1982; 10 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- MOURNING DOVE — 10 on 27 April and 25 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 68, 0/0, most in western part of county; 13 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 42 on 23 Dec. 1978; 2 on 9 Jan. 1982; 10 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO — foray — 34, 2/2, widespread; 7 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 2 on 15-16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO — 1 on 8 May 1971 at Byrdstown (42:69).
- SCREECH OWL — 1 on 18 May 1980; 1 on 8 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW.
- GREAT HORNED OWL — 1 on 1 March and 22 April 1970 (41:43); 1 on 20 May 1970 (41:69); 1 heard by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 2 on 9 Nov. 1969 (40:22); 2 on 3 Dec. 1979; 2 on 18 Dec. 1979; 1 on 19 Dec. 1970 (42:19); 1 on 5 Jan. 1980; 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; 2 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- BARRED OWL — 1 on 1 March, and up to 4 through spring 1970 (41:43, 69); 2 on 15-16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; 1 heard in PSP by Spofford (1948), June 1946; 1 on 23 Dec. 1978; 2 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- CHUCK-WILL'S WIDOW — 1 on 20 April 1971 (42:49); 1 on 30 Aug. 1970 (41:85); regularly heard during summer at Byrdstown.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL — 1 on 1 April 1980; 1 on 19 April 1971 (42:74); 2 on 15 April 1970 (41:43); 10 on 15-16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; described by AFG *et al.* as fairly common, June 1937; 1-7 summer 1970 (41:69); observed by Spofford, June 1946; 1 on 24 Sep. 1970 (41:85).
- COMMON NIGHTHAWK — 3 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 26 July 1971 (42:69).
- CHIMNEY SWIFT — 40 on 27 April, and 50 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 9 on 15-16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 61; described as fairly common by AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD — 1 on 23 April 1980; 1 on 26 April 1980; foray — 0/0, 1 on 3 June; observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- BELTED KINGFISHER — pair observed in PSP by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 12 July 1981 in PSP by CPN; 2 on 23 Dec. 1978; 2 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- COMMON (YELLOW-SHAFTED) FLICKER — 1 on 27 April 1971 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 3/2, 23; described as fairly common by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 1 on 23 Dec. 1978; 2 on 9 Jan. 1982; 10 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- PILEATED WOODPECKER — 2 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 8 on 15 May, 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 1/1, 17; 4 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 2 on 23 Dec. 1978; 3 on 9 Jan. 1982; 7 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- RED-HEADED WOODPECKER — 14 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 30 on 30 Oct., none on 31 Oct. 1969 at Obey River Park (40:90); 2 through winter 1970, and 10 on 1 Feb. 1970 (41:23, 43); a few in winter 1978 and 1979.
- RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER — 1 on 27 April and 3 on 23 April 1979 by DRH,

- CPN; foray — 0/0, 7; 2 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 3 on 23 Dec. 1978; 5 on 9 Jan. 1982; 9 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- HAIRY WOODPECKER — 1 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 4 May 1980; 1 on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 1 on 2 June; 9 recorded by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 present Jan. and Feb. 1979; 1 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- DOWNY WOODPECKER — 2 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 2 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 1/1, 5; 5 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 2 on 23 Dec. 1978; 4 on 9 Jan. 1982; 3 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER — all of the following reports are from PSP: 3 groups of birds observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 2 pairs observed by Mayfield on 20 July 1942 (Mayfield 1942); 4 nest holes, 1 fresh, observed by Spofford near the Natural Bridge in June 1946, and additional new nest hole found in June 1947 (Spofford 1948); nest cavity reported by M. Pritchard during the mid-1960's along Hidden Passage Trail (Nicholson 1977); adult feeding 2 fledged young observed by DRH on 1 June 1969 (40:69); nest cavity observed by DRH on 6 June 1971 (42:69). During 1973, tornadoes felled pines in the region of the most recent observations, but much suitable habitat remains. Some of this was searched during the foray, but no birds or nest trees were observed.
- EASTERN KINGBIRD — 1 on 22 April 1980; 2 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 19; all in western part of county; 3 recorded by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; nest at PSP observed by Spofford, June 1946.
- GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER — 2 on 15 April 1972 (42:51); 1 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 4 on 15-16 May by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 8; described by AFG as common, June 1937.
- EASTERN PHOEBE — 6 on 2 March and 3 on 21 March 1969 (40:46); nest with 5 eggs on 6 April 1979 at BT; nest with 4 eggs on 6 April 1980 at BT; 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 9 on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 4, and nest, contents unknown, on 2 June under bridge over Franklin Cr. by MLB, CPN, DFV; described by AFG as abundant, June 1937, and many nests observed over streams on rock overhangs and cliffs; 1 on 23 Dec. 1978.
- ACADIAN FLYCATCHER — 3 on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 19; several observed by Spofford, June 1946.
- EASTERN WOOD PEWEE — 2 on 15 May, 3 on 16 May by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 8; described by AFG as common, June 1937.
- HORNED LARK — foray — 0/0, 1, on 2 June; brood on 14 June 1937, 6 km north of BT, and adult on 5 July 1937 10 km north of BT, observed by AFG *et al.*; no known recent nestings; present during winter of 1978 in flocks of up to 500 in BT area.
- ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW — 12 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 5 on 5 May 1980; 2 over lake in PSP on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 3; 6 nesting in potholes along creeks observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; observed nesting in PSP by Spofford, June 1946.
- BARN SWALLOW — 5 on 4 April 1969 (40:46); 40 on 27 April, 50 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 2 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 349.
- CLIFF SWALLOW — 15 on 22 April 1980 at Obey River Bridge.

- PURPLE MARTIN — 1 on 13 March 1979; 1 on 23 March 1980; 120 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 93, and several colonies in western part of county; 5 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 25 nesting at BT in 1969 (40:69).
- BLUE JAY — 3 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 3 on 15-16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 3/3, 35; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 45 on 23 Dec. 1978; 70 on 9 Jan. 1982; 48 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- COMMON CROW — 3 on 27 April and 15 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 12 on 15-16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 27/13, 83; several reported in June 1946 by Spofford; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 37 on 23 Dec. 1978; 45 on 9 Jan. 1982; 97 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- CAROLINA CHICKADEE — 3 on 27 April, 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 3 on 15 May, 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 1/1, 24; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 17 on 23 Dec. 1978; 15 on 9 Jan. 1982; 6 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- TUFTED TITMOUSE — 2 on 27 April, 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 6 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 5/5, 22; fairly common according to AFG, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 25 on 23 Dec. 1978; 12 on 9 Jan. 1982; 32 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH — 1 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 1 on 2 June; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 3 on 23 Dec. 1978; 4 on 9 Jan. 1982; 5 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH — 1 on 27 April 1978 (49:68); present during fall 1972 (43:99); 1 on 17 Dec. and 31 Jan. 1970 (41:23); none during winter of 1980; 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; occasional winter resident in BT area, probably fairly common during invasion years in PSP.
- BROWN CREEPER — 1 on 18 Oct. 1969 (40:90); 1 on 27 Oct. 1970 (41:85); 1 on 17 Nov. 1978; 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; 1 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- HOUSE WREN — first county summer record, 1 on 19 June 1976 (47:100); nesting pair on 15 May 1978 (49:68); foray — 0/0, 1 on 2 June; 1 on 6 Oct. 1971; all records from BT area.
- BEWICK'S WREN — formerly nesting; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, with nest with 6 eggs and nest with 5 young on 16 June 1973; present 28 Feb., 12, 14 March, 4 April 1971; 2 pairs on 2 April 1972; pair building nest on 10 April 1972; 1 singing on 6 April 1970; 1 singing on 27 May 1978 (49:93); 1 on 31 Jan. 1970 (41:23).
- CAROLINA WREN — 4 and fledged brood near BT on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 3; described as fairly common and nest observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 2 on 23 Dec. 1978; 3 on 9 Jan. 1982; 5 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- MOCKINGBIRD — 1 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 24; 2 on 23 Dec. 1978; 6 on 9 Jan. 1982; 4 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- GRAY CATBIRD — 2 on 28 April 1980; 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 20; described as fairly common and several nests observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937.

- BROWN THRASHER — 1 on 27 April and 1 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 12; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 3 on 9 Jan. 1982; 1 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- AMERICAN ROBIN — 6 on 27 April and 15 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 45; 4 birds and nest observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 29 on 23 Dec. 1978; mass migration lasting 1 hr., 20 min. observed on 26 Dec. 1969 (41:23); 19 on 9 Jan. 1982; 5 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- WOOD THRUSH — 4 on 23 April 1980; 1 on 27 April and 2 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 2/2, 16; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- HERMIT THRUSH — 1 on 9 Oct. 1969 (40:70); 5 on 20 Nov. and 1 on 22 Nov. 1972; 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; 1 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- SWAINSON'S THRUSH — 1 on 9 May 1971; 7 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; 1-3 until 21 May 1970 (41:90).
- EASTERN BLUEBIRD — 10 on 2 March 1980; 8 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 27; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 14 on 23 Dec. 1978; 9 on 9 Jan. 1982; 45 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER — 1 on 31 March 1979; 3 on 31 March 1980; 10 on 4 April 1978; 4 on 27 April and 10 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 15 and 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 7/5, 28; 2 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET — 2 on 23 Dec. 1978; 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; 2 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- CEDAR WAXWING — 1 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 7 on 15 May and 7 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; 5 on 16 May 1980; 12, and pair building nest observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 4 on 22 June 1969, flycatching (40:91); 16 on 20 Oct. 1970 (41:86); 20 occasionally, winter 1970 (41:23); 100+ on 23 Dec. 1978; 25 on 9 Jan. 1982; 172 on 12 Jan. 1980; 100 on 25 Feb. 1973 (44:23).
- LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE — foray — 0/0, 3, in western part of county; none during summer 1970 (41:69); 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; 1 on 12 Jan. 1980; 1 on 24 Jan. 1979.
- STARLING — 5 on 27 April and 40 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 69, most in western part of county; below normal, fall 1969 (40:91); 21 on 23 Dec. 1978; 1300 on 9 Jan. 1982; 110 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- WHITE-EYED VIREO — 7 on 15 May and 2 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 32; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- YELLOW-THROATED VIREO — 3 on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 1/1, 20; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- RED-EYED VIREO — 1 on 27 April and 6 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 40 on 15 May, 16 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 37/17, 183; common and 2 nests with young reported by AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- PHILADELPHIA VIREO — 1 on 16 May 1972.
- BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER — 1 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 20 on 15 May, 6 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 6/6, 27; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.

- PROTHONOTARY WARBLER — adults observed feeding young in nest cavity along Obey River on 18 May 1980; foray — 0/0, 4, all in western part of county.
- SWAINSON'S WARBLER — 2 along Hidden Passage Trail, PSP on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 2 on 2 June by MLB and DV along stream in PSP.
- WORM-EATING WARBLER — 1 on 25 April 1980; 1 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 10 on 15 May and 3 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 2/1, 20.
- TENNESSEE WARBLER — window casualty on 3 Sep. 1970 (41:86).
- NORTHERN PARULA — 4 on 15 May 1982 and 2 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; 1 on 18 May 1980; foray — 0/0, 8; several birds and nest with 4 eggs on 3 June 1946 reported by Spofford.
- YELLOW WARBLER — 1 on 21 April 1980; 1 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 5 on 18 May 1980; foray — 0/0, 4.
- CAPE MAY WARBLER — 1 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 2 June 1946 by Spofford.
- BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER — 1 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN at BT.
- YELLOW-RUMPED (MYRTLE) WARBLER — 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 13 and 17 Oct. 1979 (40:91); 19 on 23 Dec. 1978; 36 on 9 Jan. 1982; 11 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER — 31 on 15 May and 2 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 6/4, 38, all in PSP area; 6 on 12 July 1970 at PSP (41:69).
- BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER — 1 on 24 April 1980; 1 on 15 May, 11 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*
- CERULEAN WARBLER — 1 on 18 May 1980.
- YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER — 1 on 8 April 1980; nest at BT, bird incubating on 23 April 1980; 3 on 15-16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 1/1, 13; 1 reported by AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- BAY-BREASTED WARBLER — 1 on 15 May and 2 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*
- BLACKPOLL WARBLER — 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*
- PINE WARBLER — 8 on 15 May, 2 females gathering nest material on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 10/7, 41, most in PSP area; reported by AFG *et al.* as common, June 1937; bird gathering nest material on 1 June, also present 6, 22 June 1969 at PSP (40:69); 1 on 12 June 1970 at PSP (41:69); 4 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW.
- PRAIRIE WARBLER — 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 5 on 15 May, 2 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 3/1, 39; most abundant bird in June 1937, also nest with 3 eggs, and nest with grown young described by AFG *et al.*
- OVENBIRD — 4 on 21 April 1980; 4 on 27 April, 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 28 on 15 May and 13 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 29/17, 87, most common in PSP area; recorded daily by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; common on 1 June 1969 at PSP (40:69); common on 12 July 1970 at PSP (41:69-70); 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW.
- NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH — 1 singing on 15 May 1982 at PSP lake by Mary Ann Guschke.

- LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH — 1 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 15 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 1; 10 recorded by AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- KENTUCKY WARBLER — 2 on 18 April 1980; foray — 1/1, 13, in both PSP area and western part of county; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- COMMON YELLOWTHROAT — 2 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 15 May, 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 1/1, 40, most common in western part of county; fairly common and nest with 4 hatching eggs on 17 June 1937, reported by AFG *et al.*
- YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT — on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 8 on 15 May and 3 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 2/1, 35; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- HOODED WARBLER — 1 on 21 April 1980; 4 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 50 on 15 May, 4 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 6/3, 40, common throughout county; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- HOUSE SPARROW — 15 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 20, all in western part of county; 3 observed by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 3 on 23 Dec. 1978; 25 on 9 Jan. 1982; 1 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- EASTERN MEADOWLARK — 19 on 27 April and 30 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 114, all in western part of county; 102 on 23 Dec. 1978; 1 on 9 Jan. 1982; 21 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- BOBOLINK — 52 on 7-11 May 1975 (46:67); also recorded spring 1976, in alfalfa fields.
- RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD — 32 on 27 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 75, in western part of county; 1000+ on 12 Jan. 1980.
- ORCHARD ORIOLE — 1 on 22 April 1980; 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 30, in western part of county.
- NORTHERN ORIOLE — 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*
- COMMON GRACKLE — 10 on 27 April, 30 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 109, most in western part of county; 13 on 23 Dec. 1978; 500 on 9 Jan. 1982; plentiful winter 1970 (41:23).
- BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD — 4 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 2/2, 41.
- SCARLET TANAGER — 4 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 14 on 15 May, 10 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; 2 on 18 May 1980; foray — 5/4, 26, more common in PSP area; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; nesting pair at BT, 1969 (40:60); 1-5 until 20 Oct. 1970 (41:87).
- SUMMER TANAGER — 1 on 27 April, 2 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 2 on 30 April 1980; foray — 2/2, 30; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; pair feeding young, assisted by Wood Thrush pair, summer 1969 (40:69); 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW.
- CARDINAL — 4 on 27 April, 15 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 3 on 15 May and 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 1/1, 26; 17 and 1 nest reported by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 9 Sep. 1976 at PSP by MDW; 13 on 23 Dec. 1978; 26 on 9 Jan. 1982; 26 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK — 1 on 5 May 1980; 5 on 15 May, 2 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*

- INDIGO BUNTING — 1 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 7 on 15 May and 15 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 8/4, 138; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- BLUE GROSBEAK — 3 on 18 May 1980; foray — 0/0, 9, all in western part of county.
- EVENING GROSBEAK — up to 32 during winter 1969-70, from 10 Dec. on (41:23); 15 through spring 1970, last, 1 on 12 May 1970 (41:44, 70); 7 on 19 April 1978, last for season (49:68); none during 1979; only record for 1980, 5 on 23 March.
- PURPLE FINCH — 15 on 21 April 1980; 11 on 23 Dec. 1978; up to 50 during winter 1970 (41:23); 6 on 9 Jan. 1982; 20 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- HOUSE FINCH — 25 on 9 Jan. 1982; up to 50 rest of winter.
- PINE SISKIN — none in winter 1978 (49:43); also absent during 1979, 1980.
- AMERICAN GOLDFINCH — 1 on 27 April and 5 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; foray — 0/0, 5; common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 6 on 23 Dec. 1978; 16 on 9 Jan. 1982; 3 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- RED CROSSBILL — 18 on 28 Oct. 1972 at PSP by DRH (43:100).
- RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE — 2 on 27 April, 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 10 on 15 May and 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 4/3, 29; common, and nest with eggs described by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 1 on 23 Dec. 1978; 2 on 9 Jan. 1982; 4 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW — foray — 0/0, 3, near Huddleston Knob and Greenbrier; 2 present 8-15 July 1970 (41:70).
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW — 9 recorded in park area by AFG *et al.*, June 1937; no recent records, and the maturation of the forests since the 1930's has probably reduced the amount of suitable habitat.
- TREE SPARROW — 5 on 26 Jan. 1978 (49:43).
- CHIPPING SPARROW — 1 on 1 April 1980; 20 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 2 on 15-16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 37; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937.
- FIELD SPARROW — 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 1 on 15 May, 1 on 16 May 1982 by MLB *et al.*; foray — 0/0, 10; fairly common according to AFG *et al.*, June 1937; 6 on 23 Dec. 1978; 15 on 9 Jan. 1982; 51 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- WHITE-THROATED SPARROW — 5 on 27 April, 5 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; 3 on 14 Oct. 1969 (40:92); 4 on 18 Oct. 1970 (41:86); 40 on 23 Dec. 1978; 64 on 9 Jan. 1982; 87 on 12 Jan. 1980.
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW — 1 on 22 April 1980; none observed during winters of 1970 (41:23), 1977, 1978 and 1979.
- FOX SPARROW — 1 on 23 Dec. 1978.
- SONG SPARROW — 2 on 27 April, 3 on 28 April 1979 by DRH, CPN; first summer record at BT, 1 pair in 1968; however, possibly in area earlier, as reported from Cumberland Co., Kentucky, just northwest of Pickett Co., in 1938 (Mengel

1965); at 3 locations during summer 1969 (40:69); 1 pair summer 1970 (41:70); many pairs by 1976 (47:100); foray — 0/0, 9, in BT area; 20 on 23 Dec. 1978; 7 on 9 Jan. 1982; 11 on 12 Jan. 1980.

At present, 159 species are known from Pickett County. Seventy-nine species were observed during the 1979 foray, and all of these probably nest in the county. An additional 13 species have been observed in Pickett County during recent nesting seasons, and all of these probably nest there. These are the Cooper's, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered and Broad-winged Hawks, Turkey, Screech, Great Horned and Barred Owls, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Belted Kingfisher, Cedar Waxwing and Cerulean Warbler. Four species have not been recorded in recent years and probably no longer nest in Pickett County. These are the Peregrine Falcon, Red-headed and Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, and Bachman's Sparrow. The House Wren and Song Sparrow are recent additions to the breeding fauna.

Foray Participants — Fred J. Alsop, III, Michael L. Bierly, James M. and Betty Reid Campbell, Sam and Kathryn Coward, Dave and Robbie Hassler, Glen King, Thomas Laughlin, Doc and Johnnie Little, George, Mark and Rad Mayfield, Charles P. Nicholson, Holly Overton, Paul Pardue, Rick Phillips, Thomas Phillips, Polly Ryder, and David Vogt.

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- P. O. Box 402, Norris, Tennessee 37828. Accepted 15 September 1982.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' AND BUSINESS MEETING, 1982

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

The 67th Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Ornithological Society convened at 2105 on 7 May 1982 at the Baptist Convention Center, Brentwood, Tennessee. President Michael Bierly called the meeting to order, with Secretary Pat Stallings recording the minutes. The minutes of the 14 November 1981 meeting were approved as read.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

There were no reports from the Vice Presidents, Directors-at-Large, or the Secretary.

The CURATOR, James T. Tanner, reported sales of back issues of *The Migrant* had netted the Society \$179.38 during the past year.

The TREASURER, George R. Payne, Jr., reported that as of 30 April 1982 the Society had assets of \$26,846.05 with anticipated liabilities of \$7,850, leaving a capital reserve of \$18,996.05. Income for the last six months was \$7,398.96 with expenses of approximately \$3,000, including two issues of *The Migrant*.

Chairman Bierly reported for Charles P. Nicholson, EDITOR, that the December issue of *The Migrant* was being typeset now. Members were urged to send in material to be published. At present, there would be a short time span between receipt of material and publication.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Bierly asked for comments on *The Tennessee Warbler* as to format, content, or improvements. Ben Coffey commented on late delivery, which made it impossible to meet the published deadlines for making room reservations for the Spring meeting. Bierly stated that he thought the mail problems would be resolved and he would like to see information or announcements for publication from every chapter. Deadline for the Fall issue is 2 August 1982.

TOS CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE — The resolution to establish a TOS Certification Committee to verify an official Tennessee bird list was presented and George Payne moved that the resolution as printed in the March 1982 newsletter be brought to the floor for discussion; Anne Young seconded the motion. No changes were made and the resolution as printed was adopted unanimously. (Copy of the resolution is included in the minute book).

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT — George Payne made a motion that the Society send a letter to the United States Senators and Congressmen from Tennessee urging reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act. Carolyn Bullock seconded the motion. Charles Nicholson had drafted a letter stating the Society's position and it was voted to send this letter to the Tennessee delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE — The President stated that he had received a letter from Richard G.

Taylor, Finance Committee Chairman, saying that the records of the Treasurer had been examined and found to be in order.

NOMINATING — Tom Gushke, Chairman, placed in nomination the name of Tony Koella of the Knoxville Chapter as President-elect. No other nominations were received and the directors voted to present the name of Koella to be voted upon by the general membership at the business meeting.

CONSERVATION — Arlo Smith stated that the Memphis chapter participated in the Bald Eagle hacking project at Reelfoot Lake in 1981. Three eagles were successfully hacked. One was caught in a coyote trap in South Dakota and lost. The whereabouts of the other two are unknown.

Mr. Smith further reported that the Corps of Engineers was considering re-meandering some formerly channelized areas of the Forked Deer and Obion Rivers. Chuck Cook of The Nature Conservancy in Tennessee asked for suggestions for areas along the Hatchie River for possible acquisition to be added to existing wildlife areas.

Ken Dubke stated that several wildlife observation areas have been established in the state and a new Great Blue Heron rookery with seven nests has been found within the Savannah Bay observation area. Also, a pair of Ospreys have a nest with two eggs in the Tennessee River gorge near Chattanooga and six pairs of Ospreys have been reported from Watts Bar Lake.

A draft Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared for Amnicola Marsh and preservation of approximately 55 acres was proposed. The land has been valued at \$14,000 an acre however, Dubke sees a good chance of its preservation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FALL 1983 MEETING — Lloyd Clayton of the Buffalo River chapter extended an invitation to the membership for the Fall 1983 meeting. Lula Coffey moved to accept the invitation, Ann Hettish seconded, and the motion carried.

SPRING 1983 MEETING — Arlo Smith, reporting for Martha Waldron, invited the Society to West Tennessee for the Spring 1983 meeting to be hosted by the Memphis chapter, the location to be decided later.

FALL 1982 MEETING — Marjory Harper reported that the Highland Rim chapter would host the Fall 1982 meeting to be held 12-14 November in the vicinity of Woods Reservoir.

FORAY — The President stated that he had had difficulty in obtaining a Foray Director, and as yet, the position is unfilled. The 1982 Foray will be held in White County, 28-31 May. Lil Dubke suggested Marion County as a possible site for the 1983 Foray.

The meeting adjourned at 2150.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Following the banquet Saturday evening, 8 May 1982, the business meeting was called to order with 138 persons present. The President related the actions of

the Board of Directors Meeting and the name of Tony Koella was presented as President-elect. No other nominations were received and Koella was elected unanimously.

Members from each chapter present, members-at-large, and visitors were recognized.

Following announcements and awarding of door prizes, the membership was entertained by a program from Dot and Paul Crawford entitled "To the Yukon and Beyond."

Pat Stallings, *Secretary*

AOU CENTENNIAL

THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, oldest and largest of the ornithological societies in North America, is celebrating the hundredth anniversary of its founding in 1883. Its quarterly journal, THE AUK, now includes about 1000 pages a year of papers on a wide variety of ornithological topics. The long-awaited sixth edition of the AOU Checklist of North American Birds will be published in time for the centennial meeting. If interested in knowing more about the AOU please write to Membership Chairman Dr. Gustav A. Swanson, Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO 80523.

BOOK REVIEW

THE FALCONS OF THE WORLD — Tom J. Cade, paintings by R. David Digby. 1982. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York. 192 pp. + 44 color plates. \$38.50. — This book is in two parts, biology of falcons (here restricted to members of the genus *Falco*), and species accounts. Topics discussed in the first part include characteristics and taxonomy of falcons, distribution, migration, feeding adaptations, flight performance and hunting success, sexual dimorphism, and behavior and reproduction. In the final chapter of Part I, "Falcons and men," Cade describes and defends the sport of falconry, and the contribution falconers have made to raptor conservation, particularly through captive propagation. Thirty-nine species are described and illustrated in Part II. Species accounts include descriptions of the birds, their geographic ranges, feeding and nesting habits, population estimates and the species' conservation status, and other interesting aspects of their biology. A lengthy current bibliography is included, and many unpublished studies are cited. Range maps appear at the end of the species accounts. Perhaps my major criticism of the book is that some maps show ranges of 2 species, without distinguishing them on the map or in the map key. The plates are well done, and I especially like the Orange-breasted Falcon (*Falco deiroleucus*) and Hobby (*F. subbuteo*). "Falcons of the World" is a handsome book, well illustrated and full of factual information written by a leading authority on *Falco*. I recommend it to anyone interested in raptors or raptor art.

— CHARLES P. NICHOLSON

ROUND TABLE NOTES

FIRST HOUSE FINCH NEST IN TENNESSEE — On 31 March 1981 I found a nest, containing one egg, of the House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) in my yard in Johnson City, Tennessee. The nest was 1.5 m above the ground in a dense coniferous shrub (*Arbor Vitae*, *Thuja* spp.) A single egg was added on each of the next two days. Before the clutch could be completed, however, the nesting was disrupted by a cat on 3 April. The nest was torn out of the shrub, all but one of the eggs were destroyed, and the female was apparently killed. The nest and egg were salvaged and donated to Milligan College.

The nest was a well-made cup of grasses, weed stems, and debris (pieces of paper towel). It was lined with fine grasses and hair. The nest's dimensions were: total diameter — 11 cm, height — 8 cm, cup diameter — 6 cm, and cup depth — 4 cm.

The egg was pale bluish-green with sparse black speckling confined to the larger end. It measured 20 x 14 mm.

Though not the first nesting of House Finches in Tennessee (see *Migrant* 51:95, 1980 and 52:19, 1981), this is to my knowledge the first nest found in the state.

RICHARD L. KNIGHT, 804 North Hills Drive, Johnson City, TN 37601. Accepted 5 September 1982.

NESTING OF THE HOUSE FINCH AT KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE — Since the introduction of the House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) into the New York area during the 1940's, this western bird has extended its nesting and winter ranges steadily in the eastern United States (Elliot and Arbib, *Auk* 70:31-37, 1953). The House Finch was first observed in Tennessee on 24 March, 1972, near Greeneville, Tennessee (Holt, *Migrant* 43:87, 1972). The first recorded Kingsport area sighting came on 28 October 1978, and subsequent sightings have occurred on dates ranging throughout the year. The first evidence of local nesting came during May 1980, when Laughlin and Phillips observed an adult male and female House Finch feeding recently fledged young in Oak Hill Cemetery (Laughlin and Phillips, *Migrant* 52:19, 1981).

I returned to Oak Hill Cemetery on 1 May 1981, to search for further evidence of nesting. On this date I located a total of four males and three females frequenting an area of open park-like habitat, vegetated with native and ornamental trees and shrubs, predominantly conifers. Particularly prominent are plantings of *Arbor Vitae* (*Thuja occidentalis*).

On 14 May I visited the cemetery again and noticed a male House Finch frequenting a clump of four *Arbor Vitae* shrubs, singing from the tops and occasionally disappearing into the foliage. As I approached these shrubs a female House Finch flew from cover in the needles and began calling excitedly. A quick examination revealed a nest (nest 1) containing one egg, 2.15 m from the ground and .75 m from the highest point of the shrub. I left at this time as I did not wish to disturb the adults any further.

I returned to Oak Hill Cemetery on 16 May to check the nest contents and make photographs of the nest and surrounding habitat. While carrying out these activities I was fortunate to find three additional nests in the immediate vicinity. All nests were in *Arbor Vitae*. Nest 1 and nest 2 held four eggs, nest 3 was empty, and nest 4 contained three young which fledged as I examined the shrub.

I again visited Oak Hill Cemetery on 29 May to photograph and band the young. I banded four young House Finches (numbers 920-81510 through 920-81513) from nest 1; nest 2, nest 3, and nest 4 were empty.

The young were quite active when taken from the nest and placed on the ground, attempting to crowd against each other for warmth. Two of the young had been recently fed as evidenced by seeds visible through the thin, distended skin of the neck. The rim of the nest was quite filthy with excreta. The young were banded, photographed and returned to the nest. The adults constantly protested.

This constitutes additional documentation of nesting of House Finches in Tennessee. With the cooperation of other observers across the state, perhaps the extension of the nesting range and new role of permanent resident of the House Finch may be well documented in seasons to come.

RICK PHILLIPS, 1332 Tranbarger Drive, Kingsport, Tennessee 37660. Accepted 20 October 1982.

AN ALBINO AMERICAN CROW — During a trip in middle Tennessee, about 10 km south of U.S. 70 and McEwen, Humphrey County, near Blue Creek, I saw an apparent albino American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). The sighting occurred on 12 August 1981 between 1130 and 1145 on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Bullington. A large solid white bird was observed by the Bullingtons and me flying out of a wooded area along Blue Creek northward up the valley.

Initial identification, without the aid of field glasses and at a distance of approximately 75 m, could have mistaken it as a species of gull. However, the strong, slow, deliberate wing beats, the body size and flight characteristics were aids in the species identification. Identification was confirmed when the individual transected the area and repeated the species' typical call "cah, cah" several times. No other crows were observed in the vicinity during this period.

This individual did not display any melanistic hues along either the dorsal or ventral surfaces. Details of the legs and facial features, specifically the eyes, were not distinguishable.

CARY R. HENDERSON, Rt. 1, Box 378, White House, TN 37188. Accepted 5 February 1982.

THE SEASON



WINTER: 1 DECEMBER 1981 - 28 FEBRUARY 1982

The mild fall temperatures continued into early December, and among the lingering species were Green Heron, Osprey, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Common Yellowthroats. Pine and Palm Warblers were reported in higher than average numbers, and a Cape May Warbler wintered at a Knoxville feeding station. From late December through mid-February it was very cold, and sub-zero temperatures in January approached record lows. The extremely low temperatures did not last long, and there was no early indication of cold-induced mortality. Snowfall was below average. February temperatures were below normal early in the month, but warmed rapidly and reached 80° F during the second half of the month. During this period, early returning Purple Martins tied or broke spring arrival records in East Tennessee.

There were several reports of Rough-legged Hawks and Tree Sparrows, both of which usually occur in numbers only during severe winters. Rough-legged Hawks were reported from all regions except the Eastern Mountains. Tree Sparrows were reported as far south as Memphis in the Western Coastal Plain, and from several locations in Middle Tennessee. The only East Tennessee report was at Chattanooga. Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported from throughout the state in good numbers. Pine Siskins were present in moderate to high numbers, and few Evening Grosbeaks were present outside of the mountains. Purple Finches were reported in very low numbers, and were outnumbered by House Finches in some areas. Many reporters commented on the lower than average numbers of other fringillids observed at both feeding stations and in the field.

Results of the 1982 midwinter eagle survey are shown in Table 1. This count was held 2-16 January, with a target date of 9 January. Reports were received from personnel of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Corps of Engineers, Tennessee Valley Authority, as well as T.O.S. members. This year's total of 241 Bald Eagles is lower than the previous 2 years, and much of the difference was at Reelfoot Lake, where only 99 Bald Eagles were seen, down from the previous 2 year average of over 160.

CBC denotes Christmas Bird Count.

TABLE 1
1982 MIDWINTER EAGLE SURVEY

	Adult	Bald Eagle		Total	Golden Eagle	
		Imm.	Unk.		Adult	Imm.
<u>West Tennessee</u>						
Reelfoot Lake	68	30	1	99	-	-
Lauderdale County	2	-	-	2	-	-
Tennessee NWR	8	21	-	29	5	3
Totals	78	51	1	130	5	3
<u>Middle Tennessee</u>						
Land-Between-the-Lakes	13	16	-	29	-	-
Barkley Reservoir	1	1	-	2	-	-
Cross Creeks NWR	5	2	-	7	-	-
Barkley WMA - Dyers Cr.	-	1	-	1	-	-
Cheatham Reservoir	1	-	-	1	-	-
Cordell Hull Res.	4	-	-	4	3	1
Center Hill Res.	2	1	-	3	-	-
Franklin County	2	1	-	3	-	-
Coffee County	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dale Hollow Res.	24	9	-	33	-	-
Totals	52	31	-	83	3	2
<u>East Tennessee</u>						
Norris Reservoir	4	2	-	6	-	-
Cherokee Reservoir	2	-	-	2	-	-
Fort Loudoun Res.	1	-	-	1	-	-
Watts Bar Res.	9	2	-	11	-	-
Chickamauga Res.	2	1	-	3	-	-
Nickajack Res.	1	4	-	5	-	-
Totals	19	9	-	28	-	-
GRAND TOTALS	149	91	1	241	8	5

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION — Based on frequent field observations, the variety of species expected for the season was present. However, there was a significant decrease in the number of individuals in the Fringillidae family. Speculation, including erratic weather conditions, failed to produce reasons for the decrease.

Grebe-Owl: Horned Grebe: 2 Dec (1) HNWR (WDR). Great Blue Heron: 20 Dec (20 total, 12 in one flock) MEM CBC (MTOS). Snow Goose: 6 Feb (75) RL (SR, STR). Ruddy Duck: 15 Feb (1200), 9 Mar (650) RoL (BBC, LCC). Sharpshinned Hawk: 20 Dec (1), 23 Dec (1) MEM (JDV). Cooper's Hawk: 9 Dec (1) PEF (HBD, CHD, SSL, NEM). Rough-legged Hawk: 23 Dec (1) HNWR (WDR), 21 Jan (1) Fayette Co., 1-40 (MLB). Great Horned Owl: 14 Jan (2) different locations, MEM (JRW), 25 Jan (1) MEM (JRW), 1 Feb - 20 Feb (1) on nest, MEM (JDV, MGW).

Woodpecker-Sparrow: Red-headed Woodpecker: 6 Jan (45) SHF (CHB, CWB, SCF). This was a partial coverage of the park. Previous counts in Fall 1981, indicated numbers around 140. Horned Lark: 5-7 Feb (1500) Tn 78 from Tiptonville to Air Park Inn, Lake Co. (SR, SRR). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 Nov (6) PF, 17 Jan (3), 2 Feb (5) PEF (CHB, DAD, MGW), feeding stations (MEM) reported 1-2 daily. Catbird: 20 Dec (1) OVP, CBC (HV). Common Yellowthroat: 20 Dec (1 male) MI, MEM CBC (RTC). Western Meadowlark: 14 Feb (3) PEF (CHB, HBD, JBG, JRW, MGW), 20 Feb (2) PEF (DAD, MGW), 28 Feb (3) PEF (TM, JRW). Pine Siskin: 10 Nov (20) HNWR (BBC, LCC, WLW), 22 Nov (22) FPP (MTOS), 12 Jan (1) MEM (NEM), 9 Jan (43) HPL (MTOS), 13 Jan (1) MEM (WRP), 24 Feb (3-20) MEM (JRW), 25 Feb (12) MEM (BL), mid Feb - Mar (250) MEM (LSB), feeding stations reported groups of 10 to 15 in late February. LeConte's Sparrow: 24 Jan (1) PEF (JBG, JRW), 7 Feb (1) PEF (RTC, CHB, JBG, JRW, MGW), 14 Feb (1) PEF (CHB, HBD, JRW, MGW). Vesper Sparrow: 20 Dec (16) MEM CBC (BBC, JRW). Tree Sparrow: 14 Jan (3) PEF (CHB, JRW, MGW), 17 Jan (12) PEF (JBG, JRW), 24 Jan (27) PEF (CHB, JRW, MGW), 7 Feb (27) PEF (CHB, JRW, MGW), 5-7 Feb (6) RL (SR, SRR), 13 Feb (22) PRI (MTOS), 14 Feb (25) PEF (MTOS), 20 Feb (3) (MTOS). White-crowned Sparrow: 26 Jan (50) PRI (HBD, CHB, MFD, SCF, NMS, SSL).

Locations: FPP — Fort Pillow State Park, Lauderdale Co.; HNWR — Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge, Haywood Co.; HPL — Herb Parson Lake, Fayette Co.; RL — Reelfoot Lake, Lake Co.; RoL — Robco Lake, Southwest Shelby Co.; MEM — Memphis; MI — Mud Island, West Shelby Co.; OVP — Overton Park, Shelby Co.; PEF — Penal Farm, Northeast Shelby Co.; PRI — President's Island, Shelby Co.; SHF — Shelby Forest State Park, Northwest Shelby Co.

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CENTRAL PLATEAU AND BASIN REGION — The winter of 1981-82 can be characterized as one of mixtures. Mixtures of cold and snow; periods of warm and sun; and movements of birds and the lack of birds. The winter months of December, January, and February in Nashville were below normal in temperature with January the coldest, -4.3 degrees below normal. The period of severe cold in mid-January contributed to the feeling of record cold for the month though in reality the temperature was far from a record. Record cold for January was set in 1977 with an average temperature of 24.5 F, -13.8 degrees below normal. The -11 F in Nashville 17 January was just four degrees shy of the all time coldest day ever recorded. It has been a number of years since the area has experienced such intense cold. Temperatures warmed dramatically the latter part of February with several days in the low 80's. Precipitation was average for the period. Snowfall in Nashville was 9.7 inches (including an inch in March), of which 4.8 inches fell on 12-13 January. Average snowfall is 10.7 inches.

The often heard comment from birders this winter was, Where are the birds? Bird populations were small both at feeders and in the field where food was in good supply. Even when the cold weather hit in January, there was little increase in bird numbers at the feeders. Of the boreal species, only the Red-breasted Nuthatch can be said to have had a major invasion year.

Loon-Eagle: Common Loon: 1 Dec (72) Woods Res (KHD, LHD), nice number. Green Heron: 6 Dec (1) Metro Center, Nash (MLB, *et al.*), limited winter records. BRANT: 17 Dec (2) then through end of period (1) Cross Creeks NWR (DWB then others), second Middle Tennessee and seventh Tennessee record. Blue-winged Teal: 20 Feb (2) Dyson's Ditch, Ashland City (RJM), first return Nash area. Ring-necked Duck: 25 Jan (150) Cross Creeks NWR (DWB). Oldsquaw: 12 Dec (1) MTC (BBW, RCW). Surf Scoter: from last period - end of period (1 imm male) Radnor L, Nash (NTOS), except during almost complete freezing of lake; 1 Dec (1) Woods Res (KHD, LHD). Hooded Merganser: 1 Dec (50) and 8 Dec (45) Woods Res (KHD, LHD). Common Merganser: 23 Jan (5) Cordell Hull L (MRM, RVM); 6 Feb (20) Cheatham L (RJM). Red-breasted Merganser: 1 Dec (95) Woods Res (KHD, LHD). Turkey Vulture: 1 Dec (130) Woods Res (KHD, LHD), nice number. Goshawk: 19 Dec (1) Ashland City (MPS, JCA), ninth record Nash area. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 8 birds reported in period from DVC (2), HPC, LWC (2), MTC (2), and MUC. The bird in HPC was found stunned at Waverly 8 Feb and had been banded 6 Oct 1981 in Minnesota. Cooper's Hawk: 8 birds reported in period from CHC, DVC, LWC, MTC (2), MUC (2), and RUC. The Sharp-shinned Hawk and Cooper's Hawk seem to be observed a little more frequently now. Red-tailed Hawk: 9 Jan (2, dark ph) Woodbury (HCY, JY). Rough-legged Hawk: 12 Dec - end of period (7) from DVC (2), LWC, MTC, MUC, RBC, and RUC, denotes widespread occurrence during winter. Golden Eagle: 2-17 Dec (1 imm) Cross Creeks NWR (DWB). 9 Jan (1 imm) Tenn 53 at line Cannon-Coffee Counties (HCY, JY). Bald Eagle: 1 Dec (1 imm) Woods Res (KHD, LHD); 19 Dec (1 ad, 1 imm) Cheatham L (NTOS); 9 Jan (2 ad, 1 imm), 4 Feb (1), 14 Feb (1 ad) Woods Res (RL, ECR, MR, HCY, JY, BS); regular during period Cross Creeks NWR, max 19 Dec (1 ad, 3 imm) (DWB). Osprey: 9 Jan (2) Woods Res (HCY, JY).

Rail-Pipit: Virginia Rail: again apparently wintered at Monsanto Ponds, Col (CTOS). Sora: again apparently wintered at Monsanto Ponds, Col (CTOS). American Coot: 1, 8 Dec (none) Woods Res (KHD, LHD), normally numerous. American Woodcock: good number of birds observed in courtship flights in the Nash area in Feb; in contrast, only a few birds found in regular courtship areas in Nash in February and March 1981. Spotted Sandpiper: 26 Dec (2) Col (AP), limited winter records. Ring-billed Gull: 1 Dec (75), 8 Dec (70) Woods Res (KHD, LHD); 24 Dec (350) Cross Creeks NWR (DWB); first week Jan (200-250) Zinc Plant, Clark (MDF). Barn Owl: 22 Feb (1) Clark (EJW), regular site. Short-eared Owl: 31 Dec (1) Laurel Hill L, LWC (DJS, DGB). Saw-whet Owl: 28 Dec (1) HIC (DBA), apparently hit by vehicle, died during night; 2 Feb (1) near Pulaski, GLC (TOM), apparently hit by vehicle along I-65, taken to Nash, recovered, released. There are limited records Middle Tennessee. Horned Lark: 31 Dec - Jan (20, flock) Loretto, LWC (LWC, DKS, MER, DJS); during period (15) Fort Campbell, MTC (JW). Red-breasted Nuthatch: major invasion throughout region during period. House Wren: 2 Jan (1) nature trail, Old Hickory Lake (MLB, SRR, *et al.*), second winter record Nash area. Golden-crowned Kinglet: more than

usual Nash area, two out of three Nash area CBCs had more Golden-crowned than Ruby-crowned Kinglets. Water Pipit: 2 Jan (75) Clark (WAS).

Warbler-Sparrow: Pine Warbler: 12-19 Dec (1-2) dam, Cheatham L (TNH, MLB), regular breeding site and occasional winter site; 2 Jan (1) dam (north side), Old Hickory L (MLB, *et al.*), first time found here. Palm Warbler: 5-6 Dec (1) Metro Center, Nash (MLB); 26 Dec (1) Col (AP) and (1) Bell's Bend, Nash (MLB, TNH, JRS); 2 Jan (1) dam (north side), Old Hickory L (MLB, *et al.*) and (11) Shelby Bottoms, Nash (MPS, KL). Common Yellowthroat: 19 Dec (1) Ashland City (RJM). YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 28 Jan (1 imm male) Nash (ABP), limited records Nash and Tenn. Dickcissel: mid-Dec - end of period (1) Williamsport, MUC (KGA), at feeding station. Evening Grosbeak: only scattered reports in northern Middle Tennessee, generally 1-2 birds at a time, and then usually only for a day or so. Purple Finch: lowest number during winter by most observers in recent memory. Observers in Clarksville commented that numbers were low when compared to other years (AHH). In Columbia, the species showed a marked decline from all feeding stations, most stations reported none until late February (AL). In Lawrence County, the species was fairly common though no unusually large numbers, numbers unusually small at feeders (DKS). In the Manchester-Tullahoma-Hillsboro area, very few folks had any, very few in number (ELR). Most feeding stations had fewer than ten birds, some none, slight increase beginning in late February. House Finch: reported from CFC, DVC, MTC, MUC, PUC, RUC, SUC, WLC, and WMC during period. Number at any one feeding station generally five or less. Up to (50) at one time home, Murf. (ALH), regular (30) at Gallatin (DTC, JPC) max (28) Algood (SC), and (51 banded) home, Nash (KAG). None reported LWC (DKS). Pine Siskin: a few birds appeared in the fall then virtually none until mid-January with increasing number in February. Some feeders had none, some a few birds, and some as many as 20 individuals. The greatest number of birds present in area at end of period. LeConte's Sparrow: 2 Jan (1) Salem Community, Clark area (EJW) and (1) Shelby Bottoms, Nash (KL). Tree Sparrow: 14 Jan (1) Clark (AHH) and (1) Nash (MLM); 14-15 Jan (1) Gallatin (DTC, JPC). Denotes movement. Chipping Sparrow: 9 Feb - end of period (1) Clark (AHH), denotes spring return. HARRIS' SPARROW: 2 Jan (1 ad) Clark (BM); 4 Jan (1 imm) Clark (EJW). Fox Sparrow: Jan - Feb (1-10) Clark (AHH), max of ten during snow and cold period 12-15 Jan.

Locations: CHC — Cheatham Co.; CFC — Coffee Co.; DVC — Davidson Co.; GLC — Giles Co.; HIC — Hickman Co.; HPC — Humphreys Co.; LWC — Lawrence Co.; MTC — Montgomery Co.; MUC — Maury Co.; PUC — Putnam Co.; RBC — Robertson Co.; RUC — Rutherford Co.; SUC — Sumner Co.; WLC — Wilson Co.; WMC — Williamson Co.

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EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION — As usual the largest concentration of waterfowl was located in the lower section of the region. Unprecedented was the sudden arrival of at least 265 Pied-billed Grebes on Chickamauga Lake in the last part of January. Also, most unusual, was the one day occurrence of 28 White-winged Scoters sighted by Jo Stone on 30 December. Never before have numbers like this been reported for the region.

It seems the three counties of Greene, Jefferson and Hamblen take the top honors for numbers of Horned Larks reported. If other areas have populations such as this, they have never been reported to the compilers.

Two warbler species were of special interest this period. Three reports of Palm Warblers were not unexpected, however, the wintering Cape May Warbler surviving at a feeder was more unusual. With more active and knowledgeable field workers we will probably have more observations of this type in the future.

In the upper section of the region this appeared to be a Pine Siskin and Red-breasted Nuthatch winter with good numbers being sighted. On the other hand, Evening Grosbeaks and Purple Finches seemed to be in fewer numbers and more widely scattered. House Finches were present, but not in such huge numbers as in the past few years.

Loon-Goose: Common Loon: last noted BOL 12 Jan (1) (RLK); 1-10 regular CHL (KHD, LHD). Horned Grebe: 1-23 Feb (2-5) BOL (RLK); 2-70 regular CHL (KHD, LHD). Pied-billed Grebe: usual numbers were around 25 CHL; on a regular CHL survey 11 Jan, 26 birds were observed and on the 25th, 265; on 1 Feb, 170 with the numbers then dropping rapidly; this movement was unprecedented in the area (KHD, LHD). Double-crested Cormorant: 16 Dec (4) CHA (RCS); 25 Jan and 8 Feb (1) CHL (KHD, LHD). Great Blue Heron: 20 Jan (65) DOL (JAK); 21 Feb (28) DOL (JAK); regular, max 16 Dec (161) HRA (KHD, LHD). Great Egret: 7 and 16 Dec (1) HRA (KHD, LHD); 3 Jan (1) CHL (EK). Yellow-crowned Night Heron: 4 Nov (1) AUS (SG). Whistling Swan: 4 and 5 Feb (1) SAB (KHD, LHD). Snow Goose: 10-12 Dec (10 blue, 2 white) OKR (WKJ, CPN); 22 Feb (11 blue, 3 white) HRA (KHD, LHD).

Mallard-Merganser: Mallard: 30 Jan (1810) DOL (JAK); regular, max 11 Jan (5000) HRA (KHD, LHD). Black Duck: 7 Feb (80) DOL (JAK); regular, max 7 Dec (500) HRA (KHD, LHD). Gadwall: 13 Dec - 29 Jan (20-40) DOL (JAK); regular, max 7 Dec (125) CHL (KHD, LHD). Pintail: 21 Jan (8) BOL (SG); 30 Jan - 7 Feb (40-50) JEC (JAK); regular, max 7 Dec (60) HRA (KHD, LHD). Green-winged Teal: 9 Jan - 21 Feb (12-80) DOL (JAK); regular, max 16 Dec (250) HRA (KHD, LHD). American Wigeon: 8-20 irregular JEC (JAK). Northern Shoveler: 7 Dec (1) HRA (KHD, LHD); 11 Jan (5) HRA (KHD, LHD); 21 Jan (1) BOL (SG). Wood Duck: first for season 9 Feb (2) BOL (RLK). Redhead: 6 Feb (5) NOV (JAK); 22 Feb (1) CHL (KHD, LHD). Ring-necked Duck: 13 Feb (16) DOL (JAK); regular, max 8 Feb (150) CHL (KHD, LHD). Canvasback: 27 Jan (2) CHL (EK); 11-15 Feb (1) BOL (RLK); 15 Feb CHL (KHD, LHD). Scaup spp. 8 Feb (850) CHL (KHD, LHD). Greater Scaup: regular, max 11 Jan (340) CHL (KHD, LHD). Lesser Scaup: 6 Feb (1) NOV (JAK). Common Goldeneye: regular, max 1 Feb (10) CHL (KHD, LHD). Bufflehead: 30 Jan - 7 Feb (2) DOL (JAK); regular, max 4 Jan (24) CHL (KHD, LHD). White-winged Scoter: 30 Dec (28) CHL (Jowayne Stone); none present the next day; 27 Jan (1) CHL (EK); 1, 8 Feb (1) CHL (KHD, LHD); 7-13 Feb (1) Fort Loudoun Lake (Gregg N. Lagerberg); 16 Jan - 12 Feb (1-2) BOL (RLK, SG). Surf Scoter: 19 Dec (3) CHL - CBC (RCS). Ruddy Duck: 5 Dec (8) BOL (RLK); 8 Jan (1) BOL (SG); 15 Feb (14) CHL (KHD, LHD). Hooded Merganser: regular, max 11 Jan (50) HRA (KHD, LHD). Common Merganser: 7 Dec (1) CHL (KHD, LHD); 14 Feb (22) DOL (JAK). Red-breasted Merganser: 14 Feb (4) DOL (JAK).

Vulture-Crane: Turkey Vulture: 25 Jan (1) CHL (KHD, LHD); first northward migrants KNX 11 Feb (9) (Janice Schneitman *vide* JBO). Black Vulture: 6 Feb (200) HRA (LHD, Angela Davis). Sharp-shinned Hawk: nine sightings EJC — about average there (LHTOS). Cooper's Hawk: 5 Jan (1) JNC (RLK); 20 Feb (1) NOR (CPN). Red-shouldered Hawk: 4 Feb (1) AUS (RLK). Rough-legged Hawk: 30 Dec (1) Kodak, SVC (CPN); 23 Jan (1) ALC (LNA, MWA). Golden Eagle: 16 Jan (1 imm) TRG (RCS, Johnny T. Parks); 24 Jan (1 ad) TRG (KHD, LHD); 5 Feb (1) Sevierville (Paul S. Pardue). Marsh Hawk: at least 8 reports KNX, a good number there (KTOS); 21 Dec (1) GNC (WRN); 7 Jan (1) JNC (RLK); 12 Jan (1) Piney Flats (RLK); 25 Jan (1) AUS (RLK); 4 records JEC (JAK); 13 reports CHA (KHD, LHD). American Kestrel: 15+ regular WHP (JAK); numerous all winter EJC (LHTOS). Sandhill Crane: late fall report of 2 seen and more heard 19 Dec, near LaFollette (Greg Reed); first spring report 17 Feb (15) HRA (Don Fox and Chuck Copeland, TWRA *vide* KHD).

Coot-Raven: American Coot: 21 Dec - 29 Jan (80-160) ALC (JAK); 25 Jan (4000) CHL (KHD, LHD). American Woodcock: 5 Feb (1) GNC (WRN). Common Snipe: regular, max 3 Jan (62) SAB (KHD, LHD). Least Sandpiper: 6 Dec (10) DOL (JAK); 17 Feb (5) SAB (KHD, LHD). Dunlin: 6 Dec - 30 Jan (6-65) DOL (JAK); regular, max 3 Jan (121) SAB (KHD, LHD). Herring Gull: 25-50 all season BOL (RLK *et al.*); regular, max 25 Jan (25) CHL (KHD, LHD). Ring-billed Gull: 15 Dec (400+) Cherokee Lake (JCH) — a high count for this area; 150-200 all period BOL (RLK *et al.*); regular, max 25 Jan (650) CHL (KHD, LHD); 14 Feb (300) DOL (JAK). Bonaparte's Gull: 24 Jan (1) NOR Dam (Gordon Hall) — not a regular location for this species; 25 Jan (1) CHL (KHD, LHD). Great Horned Owl: an active nest site Jonesboro (RLK). Red-headed Woodpecker: 29 Dec (1) GNC (WRN); 25 Feb (1) Norris Lake (JCH). Eastern Phoebe: a notable influx KNX beginning 18-19 Feb (KTOS). Horned Lark: 30-40 regular WHP (JAK); 17 Jan (300) Lowland (JAK); 6 Feb (110) GNC (WRN). Purple Martin: first report on 19 Feb (Eldon Wright *vide* JBO); ties earliest KNX record set in 1956. Two different reports on 20 Feb (*vide* JBO). These reports were following several days of strong south winds. 28 Feb (1) JNC (SG, Martha Dillenbeck). Common Raven: more records at low elevation with 2 at AUS 18 Jan (RLK).

Nuthatch-Warbler: Red-breasted Nuthatch: regular in good numbers at various feeders EJC (LHTOS); widely scattered but in low numbers KNX (KTOS); few scattered birds reported CHA (CTOS). Brown Thrasher: 3-5 regular EJC (LHTOS); 1-2 regular GNC (WRN). American Robin: high numbers EJC probably due to excellent dogwood crop (LHTOS). Hermit Thrush: only one record on 5 Jan for the EJC area (RLK). Eastern Bluebird: more conspicuous this winter JEC, especially after the hard freeze in January — migrants? (JAK); good numbers present, no winter mortality reported KNX (KTOS). BLUE-GRAY GNAT-CATCHER: 19 Dec (1) Amnicola Marsh - CBC (KHD *et al.*). Water Pipit: 2 Dec - 18 Jan (1-5) AUS (RLK); 24 Jan (50+) Tri-Cities Airport (RLK); regular WHP and very much in evidence when snow was on the ground (JAK); regular SAB, max 100 (KHD, LHD). CAPE MAY WARBLER: early Jan - 9 Feb (1) KNX, at feeder (Mrs. Roger Thompson, *et al.*, photographed). The bird survived the 2 occurrences of sub-zero temperature, and left during a spell of warm weather. There seem to be at least 3 previous East Tennessee winter records. PALM WARBLER: a very late report 2 Dec (1) AUS (RLK); this is almost 30 days later than their other Upper East Tennessee dates. 16 Dec (1) CHA (RCS); 2 Jan (1) NOR - CBC (CPN, David A. Hankins).

Blackbirds-Sparrows: Rusty Blackbird: 24 Jan (15) JNB (RLK); 20 Feb (18) Boones Creek (RLK); present in good numbers KNX (KTOS). Evening Grosbeak: few reports EJC area at low elevations and then only 1-5 birds at scattered locations and not regular (LHTOS); one report from KNX 18 Jan (3) W. E. Edington *vide* JBO; small numbers present at NOR (CPN); Townsend and Oakdale (*vide* JBO); 3 weeks in Jan (1) GRE (Dutch Brown); only one single reported from CHA 20 Feb (KHD). Purple Finch: small groups of 3-8 individuals EJC during period (LHTOS); lower than normal numbers KNX throughout season (KTOS); no reports GRE (Helen Spees); very few CHA (CTOS). House Finch: 4-6 groups of 15-30 birds regular EJC (LHTOS); 25-35 regular GRE (Alice Murray); continues to spread and increase KNX (KTOS); only report CHA on CBC (CTOS). Pine Siskin: in the EJC area after 1 Jan a major invasion was reported down from higher elevation to feeders throughout the area, several feeder watchers were heard to say "siskins were everywhere and almost a nuisance." In Knoxville an invasion was noted with large numbers wide spread after early Jan. Very few reported from Greeneville and Chattanooga. Red Crossbill: 19 Dec (2) CHA - CBC (LHD). Savannah Sparrow: 20 regular WHP (JAK). GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: 19 Dec (1) CHA - CBC (J. Christopher Haney). Vesper Sparrow: 8 Feb (2) HRA, (KHD, LHD); 13 Feb (1) KNX (SJS). Dark-eyed Junco: present in less than 1/2 normal numbers KNX (KTOS). Tree Sparrow: 19 Jan (1) CHA (KHD, LHD). Chipping Sparrow: 9 Jan (10) CHA (KHD, LHD); 30 Jan (1) Kingsport (Joy Kyle); 1 Feb (1) CHA (KHD, LHD); 13 Feb (1) KNX (SJS). White-crowned Sparrow: 3-5 all season AUS (RLK); found 3 locations NOV and 5 locations JEC (JAK). White-throated Sparrow: numbers down by about 1/3-1/2 KNX (KTOS). Fox Sparrow: 11 Jan (1) HRA (KHD, LHD); 21 Jan (2) JNC (RLK).

Locations: ALC — Alcoa; AUS — Austin Springs; BOL — Boone Lake; CHA — Chattanooga; CHL — Chickamauga Lake; DOL — Douglas Lake; EJC — Elizabethton-Johnson City Area; GNC — Greene County; GRE — Greeneville; HRA — Hiwassee River Area; JEC — Jefferson County; KNX — Knoxville; NOR — Norris; NOV — Nolichucky Valley; OKR — Oak Ridge; SAB — Savannah Bay; SVC — Sevier County; TRG — Tennessee River Gorge; WHP — White Pine.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION — The weather for our area was basically "winter time cold" throughout with very little snowfall. The warm fall temperatures turned suddenly cold on December 6 and remained so throughout the period. Snowfall totals were below normal, especially in January and February. Higher than usual rainfall was recorded during January and February.

Our waterfowl totals were very low compared to previous seasons. Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup and wigeon sightings were noticeably down, and numbers of other species were low.

The *Accipiter* picture was confusing. Sharp-shinned sightings were of average numbers, but only 2 sightings of Cooper's Hawks were reported during the entire period. What caused this difference? Only one eagle sighting was reported. Probably the most unusual raptor sighting was that of an out of season Osprey seen on the Elizabethton Christmas Bird Count, for which convincing details were submitted.

Northern finches began showing up during the fall period at higher elevations and began moving down to lower elevations after the first of the year. Pine Siskins were reported in extremely high numbers and almost became a nuisance at feeders throughout the area.

Loon-Scoter: Common Loon: 1-3 birds seen during Dec and Jan on WTL. Canada Goose: 18 Feb (50+) WatR (HLF). Green-winged Teal: 25 Dec (5) WatR (GDE). American Wigeon: very low winter totals compared to past years. Wood Duck: 1 Dec (2) WagIs (GDE, HLF) last fall sighting, 12 Feb (1) WatR (HLF) first spring sighting. Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup: overall totals were conspicuously lower than average. American Goldeneye: month of Jan (3-5) seen along WatR (*fide* GDE, HLF). OLD SQUAW: 26 Dec (1) WTL (RLK, RDL). WHITE-WINGED SCOTER: 29 Jan (1) WTL (RLK).

Hawk-Phoebe: Sharp-shinned Hawk: normal winter reports of 8-10 separate sightings during period. Cooper's Hawk: only 2 sightings all period - 2 Dec (1) ELI (HLF), 30 Dec (1) Laurels (SG). Red-shouldered Hawk: 24 Jan (1) SV (SG). GOLDEN EAGLE: 22 Dec (1) WTL (HLF). Marsh Hawk: 27 Dec (1), 21 Feb (1) both at SHL (RL). OSPREY: 26 Dec (1) WagIs (SG, GS) details submitted to *American Birds* also. American Woodcock: 22 Feb (1) first sighting in ELI (John and Donna Adams). Great Horned Owl: at least 3 separate nest sites in area (*fide* RLK, RL). Barred Owl: 30 Dec (1) RM (RLK, BB). Eastern Phoebe: average winter sightings of 3-4 birds all period.

Lark-Waxwing: Horned Lark: 3-5 birds irregularly all period in SV (*fide* GDE, GOW). Purple Martin: 20 Feb (1) eight days earlier than ever reported, 25 Feb (2) ELI (*fide* LH). Common Raven: 1-2 birds seen irregularly at low elevation in ELI (GDE), 5-7 regular on RM throughout period. Red-breasted Nuthatch: RM infested all period, 30 Dec (128) seen on CBC alone. Winter Wren: 30 Dec (1) RM (RLK, BB) only sighting all period. Robin: large flocks remained all winter probably due to abundant dogwood berry and excellent wild food crop that remained thru mid Jan. Hermit Thrush: 26 Dec (1) RC (RLK, RDL), only sighting all period. Water Pipit: 21 Feb (7) SHL (RL). Cedar Waxwing: very abundant all period, 26 Dec (1007) Eliz CBC.

Shrike-Sparrow: Loggerhead Shrike: 3-5 birds wintered, above average. Common Yellowthroat: 1 Dec (1) CF (GDE, HLF) very late migrant. Rusty Blackbird: 2 Jan (75) ELI (GDE). Evening Grosbeak: abundant during Dec on RM, very few after 1 Jan at either high or low elevations. Purple Finch: 3-8 birds at various feeders throughout area all period (*fide* HLF). House Finch: 2-3 flocks of 15-25 birds each at separate feeders in area (*fide* GDE). Pine Siskin: "Bird of the Winter," month of Dec saw major invasion at high elevations on RM, CBC alone counted 752 birds above 4000'. After 10th of Jan they moved down to low elevations and were reported everywhere and in high numbers. Red Crossbill: 1 Dec (3) ELI (HLF) — only sighting all period. White-crowned Sparrow: below average sightings for period. White-throated Sparrow: overall numbers down throughout the period. Fox Sparrow: 30 Dec (1) Erw (GS) and 30 Dec (2) RMSP (SG, HHD) — only sightings during period.

Locations: CF — County Farm near Eliz.; ELI — Elizabethton area; Erw — Erwin; RC — Roans Creek; RM — Roan Mtn.; RMSP — Roan Mtn. State Park; SHL — South Holston Lake; SV — Siam Valley near Eliz.; WagIs — Wagners Island along WatR; WTL — Watauga Lake; WatR — Watauga River.

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OBSERVERS

- JCA—Jan C. Alexander
DBA—David B. Anderson
KGA—Kenneth N. Armstrong
LNA—Laurie N. Armstrong
MWA—Marc W. Armstrong
DGB—David G. Beckman
DWB—Donald W. Blunk
BB—Bill Bridgeforth
CWB—Claude W. Brown
CHB—Carolyn H. Bullock
LSB—Laura S. Buxton
RTC—Robert T. Casey
LWC—Lloyd W. Clayton
BBC—Ben B. Coffey, Jr.
LCC—Lula C. Coffey
SC—Sam Coward
DTC—Dot T. Crawford
JPC—J. Paul Crawford
DAD—Dollyann Daily
HBD—Helen B. Dinkelspiel
HHD—Helenhill Dove
MFD—Myra F. Dreifus
KHD—Kenneth H. Dubke
LHD—Lillian H. Dubke
GDE—Glen D. Eller
HLF—Harry L. Farthing
SCF—Sue C. Ferguson
MDF—Michael D. Filson
LJF—Linda J. Fowler
SG—Sally Goodin
KAG—Katherine A. Goodpasture
JBG—Joe B. Guinn
TNH—Tom N. Harston
AHH—Annie H. Heilman
LH—Lois Herndon
ALH—Anne L. Hettish
RLK—Richard L. Knight
EK—Elena Killian
JAK—J. Anthony Koella
BL—Betty Ledsinger
KL—Kathy Lee
RL—Richard Lewis
SLL—Selma L. Lewis
AL—Anne Lockridge
RDL—Richard D. Lura
MLM—Margaret L. Mann
MRM—Mac R. McMillan
RVM—Ruth V. McMillan
RJM—Rocky J. Milburn
TM—Tom Miller
BM—Bill Milliken
NEM—Nelle E. Moore
TOM—Tom Muller
WRN—W. Ruth Nevius
CPN—Charles P. Nicholson
JBO—J. B. Owen
WRP—W. Robert Peeples
ABP—Audrey B. Perry
AP—Allen Pressnell
SR—Sharon Rannels
SRR—Stephen R. Rannels
MER—Mark E. Reeves
ECR—Edwin C. Rimpley
MR—Marsha Rimpley
ELR—Erma L. Rogers
WDR—W. Dean Rundle
BS—Bob Sharks
DJS—Damien J. Simbeck
DKS—Don K. Simbeck
NMS—Noreen M. Smith
JRS—James R. Snapper
MPS—M. Pat Stallings
SJS—Stephen J. Stedman
RCS—Randy C. Stringer
GS—Glen Swafford
JDV—J. Dave Vance
HV—Howard Vogel
MGW—Martha G. Waldron
EJW—Ellen J. Walker
GOW—Gary O. Wallace
JW—John Wheatly
WLW—Wendell L. Whittemore
BBW—Barbara B. Wilbur
RCW—Richard C. Wilbur
JRW—Jeff R. Wilson
HCY—Harry C. Yeatman
JY—Jean Yeatman
CTOS—Chattanooga Chapter, TOS
COTOS—Columbia Chapter, TOS
GTOS—Greeneville Chapter, TOS
KTOS—Knoxville Chapter, TOS
MTOS—Memphis Chapter, TOS
NTOS—Nashville Chapter, TOS
WAS—Warioto Audubon Society



BOOK REVIEW

SEASONAL OCCURRENCES OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE BIRDS — Martha Waldron (ed.). 1982. Memphis, Memphis Chapter, Tennessee Ornithological Society. 16 pp. \$2.00 ppd from Martha Waldron, 1626 Yorkshire Dr., Memphis, TN 38117. — This pamphlet is a listing of 288 species which were observed in Shelby County between 1928 and 1981. Bar graphs show early and late dates, as well as seasonal abundance for each species. This information was compiled from an analysis of 3800 field checklists, primarily those of Ben B. Coffey, Jr. This was quite an undertaking. I have 2 minor complaints, however. These are the use of "accidental", defined as outside normal range, for some species infrequently recorded in Shelby County, but still well within their normal range, and fall records of species of *Empidonax* flycatchers based on sight records. Complaints aside, this publication is a valuable contribution to Tennessee ornithology. Observers are encouraged to turn in field records to assist in the preparation of future editions. — CHARLES P. NICHOLSON

PREPARATION OF COPY FOR PUBLICATION

The purpose of THE MIGRANT is the recording of observations and original information derived from the study of birds, primarily in the state of Tennessee or the area immediately adjacent to its borders. Articles for publication originate almost exclusively from T.O.S. members.

Contributors should prepare manuscripts and submit them in a form acceptable to the printer, after editorial approval. Both articles and short notes are solicited but their format should be somewhat different.

Some suggestions to authors for the preparation of papers for publication are given herewith.

MATERIAL: The subject matter should relate to some phase of Tennessee Ornithology. It should be original, factual, concise, scientifically accurate, and not submitted for publication elsewhere.

TITLE: The title should be concise, specific, and descriptive.

STYLE: Recent issues of THE MIGRANT should be used as a guide in the preparation of manuscripts. Where more detail is needed reference should be made to the *Style Manual for Biological Journals* available from the American Institute of Biological Sciences, 1401 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

COPY: Manuscripts should be typed double spaced on 8½ x 11" paper with adequate margins, for editorial notations, and should contain only entries intended for setting in type, except the serial page number. Tabular data should be entered on separate sheets with appropriate title and column headings. Photographs intended for reproduction should be sharp with good contrast on glossy white paper in black and white (not in color). Instructions to the editors should be given on a separate sheet. Weights and measurements should be in metric units. Dating should be in "continental" form (e.g., 7 March 1981).

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.

REPRINTS: Reprints are available on request. Reprint requests should accompany article at the time of submission. Billing to authors will be through the state T.O.S. Treasurer.

Books for review and articles for publication should be submitted to the editor. Seasonal reports and items should be forwarded to the appropriate departmental editor whose name and address will be found on the inside front cover.

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