

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 Hubert E. Hodge Printing, Inc., 1800-1802 Grand Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee 37916, U.S.A. Postage paid and mailed at Norris, Tennessee 37828, 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. 57

MARCH, 1986

NO. 1

ALEXANDER WILSON'S TRAVELS IN TENNESSEE Charles P. Nicholson

On 30 January 1810, Alexander Wilson set out on a six month journey to collect and illustrate birds and sell subscriptions to his "American Ornithology." Wilson was 43 years old and had lived in the United States for 16 years. Although he had no formal training in either science or painting, and had been studying birds less than 10 years, Wilson had already published two of the planned ten volumes of "American Ornithology." Wilson traveled alone from Philadelphia west to Pittsburg, down the Ohio River in an open rowboat to Louisville, Kentucky, to New Orleans by foot and horseback, and then to New York by ship. This paper describes the Tennessee portion of his journey. My primary sources have been Hunter's recently published collection of Wilson's letters (1983), and Cantwell's 1961 biography of Wilson. Some information presented in these and other sources is conflicting, such as dates of arrival and departure and length of stay at various places. In these cases, I have relied primarily on Wilson's letters (Hunter 1983). Information on the birds Wilson observed is primarily from "American Ornithology" (Wilson 1811-1812).

Wilson left Lexington, Kentucky on 14 April, bound for Nashville. He had spent several days in Lexington, collecting, sketching, and finding 15 subscribers to "American Ornithology". There Wilson purchased a horse, that he rode to New Orleans. Wilson wrote favorably of Kentucky horses: "The horses of Kentucky are the hardiest in the world, not so much by nature as by education and habit" (Hunter 1983: 344), and attributed much of his safe passage to New Orleans to the strength of his horse. While in Lexington, he observed a slave auction which horrified him. He expressed this outrage in his private journal: "Damned, damned slavery! this is one infernal custom which the Virginians have brought into this country" (Hunter 1983: 372). Wilson again expressed his abolitionist feelings in a letter from Nashville, where at a tavern he observed the landlady flogging her servants. As Wilson proceeded towards Nashville, he passed through the barrens and karst country between the Green River in Kentucky and the Red River in Tennessee, generally following what is now U.S. Highway 31W. He explored a cave in the Mammoth Cave area with its owner, and emerged after 3 hours below ground "with a handkerchief filled with bats, including one which I had never seen described" (Hunter 1983: 350), as well as some blind cave crickets.

Wilson spent 5 days between Bowling Green, Kentucky, and the Tennessee stateline "at the house of a pious and worthy Presbyterian" (Hunter 1983: 351), paying for his lodging by giving drawing lessons to the landlord's daughters. He was impressed with the barrens: "Not withstanding the miserable appearance of the timber on these barrens, the soil, to my astonishment, produced the most luxuriant fields of corn and wheat I had ever before met with....These barrens furnished me with excellent sport in shooting grouse (Greater Prairie Chickens, Tympanuchus cupido), which aboud here in great numbers; and in delightful groves that here and there rise majestically from these plains, I found many new subjects for my Ornithology" (Hunter 1983: 350-351). The new subjects included the Kentucky Warbler (Oporornis formosus), new to science, and the Prairie Warbler (Dendroica discolor). Wilson (1811) also noted that Whip-poorwills (Caprimulgus vociferus) were more numerous on the barrens than elsewhere in the United States, and observed Ruffed Grouse (Bonasa *umbellus*) in wooded groves interspersed throughout the barrens.

After exploring the barrens, Wilson proceeded toward Nashville. His pace was much slower than on the rest of his journey, for the traveling was easy, spring was rapidly developing, and, as Cantwell (1961) notes. Wilson was apprehensive about traveling the Natchez Trace south of Nashville. The exact date Wilson entered Tennessee is unclear, but seems to be 22 or 23 April. Shortly after entering the state (Figure 1), Wilson stopped at the Red River to see a man widely reputed to have committed murder and to have hidden the body in a cave on his property (now known as Cheeks Stand Cave, near the present Robertson/Sumner County line). With another traveler and the reputed murderer, Wilson entered the cave, walking "before with the lights, ... with my hand on my pistol, reconnoitering on every side" (Hunter 1983: 352). After proceeding a short distance, they stopped and Wilson questioned the reputed murderer about the accusations. The man denied the accusations in a lengthy story, although Wilson was apparently not convinced of the man's innocence. Wilson quickly left the cave and resumed his journey.

Wilson noted that the barrens stopped south of the Red River, where the timber became larger and the topography hilly. A few miles further southwest, "descending an immense declivity" (Hunter 1983:353), Wilson went from the Highland Rim to the Central Basin physiographic region. He camped his first night in Tennessee, and the next morning rode a short distance to Isaac Walton's tavern along Mansker's Creek near the present town of Goodlettsville. He ate breakfast there, and was so taken with Walton that he stayed there 3 days. At nearby Madison's Lick, he observed a flock of Carolina Parakeets (Conuropsis carolinensis). These were the only parakeets he observed in the state. In cane thickets near the Cumberland River, he collected the first known Nashville Warbler (Vermivora ruficapilla), and noted how much shyer this species was than the Kentucky and Prairie Warblers. He was first attracted to the Nashville Warbler by its calls, and eventually collected three males. While searching lowlands for additional specimens of the Nashville Warbler, he found another new species, the Tennessee Warbler (V. peregrina). The type locality for this species, he noted, was "banks of the Cumberland River in Tennessee" (Wilson 1811:83). Other birds in this area were the Hermit Thrush (Catharus guttatus) and the Chuck-will's-widow (Caprimulgus

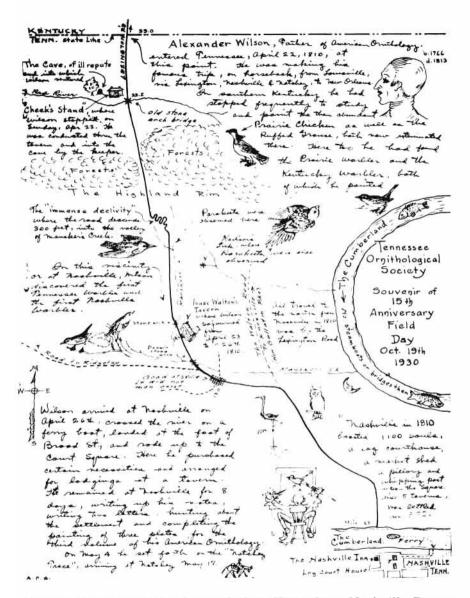


Figure 1. Alexander Wilson's travels from Kentucky to Nashville. Drawn by Albert F. Ganier, reprinted from *The Migrant*, Vol. 1, No. 3-4, 1930.

carolinensis). As he left Walton's for Nashville on 26 April, the innkeeper told him, "You seem to be travelling for the good of the world; and I cannot, and will not charge you anything. Whenever you come this way, call and stay with me, you shall be welcome!" (Hunter 1983:373).

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Wilson rode 13 miles to Nashville, ferried across the Cumberland River, and entered the town, which he described as towering like a fortress above the river. He obtained a room at Salter White's tavern, and worked steadily for 8 days, writing and drawing the birds he had recently found. Rain fell much of the time Wilson was in Nashville, and there is no evidence that Wilson did any fieldwork during his stay in Nashville. Before leaving Nashville, he sent the drawings and a letter to Alexander Lawson of Philadelphia, who was doing the engravings for "American Ornithology." The plates never arrived, a serious setback in Wilson's progress on the series.

Ganier (1934) noted the existence of an original edition of the second volume of "American Ornithology" in the Peabody College library in Nashville. This volume, published in January 1810, shortly before Wilson left on his journey, was said to have come from the old University of Nashville, founded in 1785. Ganier speculated that Wilson himself may have left this volume in Nashville. Wilson probably shed any excess baggage before embarking on the Natchez Trace, but I find it unlikely that he would have carried duplicate volumes from Philadelphia. He carried copies on the Trace, as he sold many subscriptions in Natchez and New Orleans. He makes no mention of selling subscriptions in Nashville, and Cantwell (1961) did not include any Tennesseans in his list of subscribers. In any event, we shall probably never know the origin of this volume, as it is not now in the Peabody collection.

The next leg of Wilson's journey was south on the Natchez Trace, more than 450 miles through wilderness and Indian territory. He had considered travelling to St. Louis, and presumably then down the Mississippi River, but because of recent heavy rains, the advanced spring, and the extra distance to St. Louis, Wilson settled on the more direct Trace. He had been forewarned of the dangers of making this trip alone, but believed the reports of hostile Indians and impassable swamps and rivers were exaggerated. Equipped with a loaded pistol in each pocket, a loaded fowlingpiece slung from his shoulder, a pound of gunpowder, 5 pounds of shot and a supply of biscuit and dried beef, Wilson left Nashville on the morning of Friday, 4 May. Eleven miles from Nashville, he came to the "Great Harpath" River, which he described as "a stream of about fifty yards wide. which was running with great violence" (Harper 1983:359). Wilson could not find the ford, so he plunged in, and he and his horse swam the river. He soon came to another flooded stream. While crossing it, he became briefly entangled in driftwood. Wilson spent the night in a miner's cabin in what is now southwest Williamson County.

From this area southward, the Natchez Trace was well-defined and followed the ridgetops. Along some stretches, the Trace was a narrow path along the crest of a ridge, with steep slopes on each side. Where the Trace descended a ridge, Wilson often had to dismount and slide down a shale slope, then half-drag his horse up the next ridge. On Saturday, 5 May, Wilson "first observed the cane growing, which increased until the whole woods were full of it" (Harper 1983:360). At the Duck River, he observed American Swallow-tailed Kites (*Elanoides forficatus*) (Wilson 1812). Wilson met several parties of filthy, savage-appearing flatboatmen returning from Natchez and New Orleans. He spent the night at Dobbin's Stand, just south of Big Swan Creek, near what is now Gordonsburg, Hickman County. About a dozen flatboatmen also stayed at Dobbin's Stand, and they attributed their morning illness to having slept indoors for the first time in 15 nights. Since leaving Nashville, Wilson had covered 70 miles in 2 days.

Wilson rode that morning, Sunday, 6 May, to Grinder's Stand, on the north edge of Indian territory, 6 miles from Dobbin's Stand. This was the same cabin where Meriwether Lewis, of Lewis and Clark expedition fame and the governor of the Louisiana Territory, had died under mysterious circumstances on 11 October, 1809. Lewis had been a friend of Wilson's for several years, and Wilson described several bird species collected by the Lewis and Clark expedition. These included Lewis' Woodpecker (*Melanerpes lewis*), Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*), and the Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*).

Wilson was determined to investigate Lewis' death. He carefully wrote down the account related to him by Mrs. Grinder, who, except for 2 servants, was the only one present when Lewis allegedly shot himself. He visited Lewis' grave, which was close to the Trace and covered with a few loose rails. Before leaving, Wilson gave Grinder money to build a fence around the grave. This area is now the Meriwether Lewis National Monument.

The contradictions in Mrs. Grinder's account troubled Wilson, and shortly after he resumed his journey, he stopped, rested, and composed a poem about Lewis' death. He carefully checked distances on the next stretch of the journey, and decided that the account of the events leading to Lewis' arrival at Grinder's Stand, as related to Thomas Jefferson by James Neelly, the Indian agent for the region, was innacurate. Wilson felt that Lewis had been murdered. He later published his report of Lewis' death, and it remains the only historical source on this enigmatic episode of American history (Cantwell 1961).

Shortly after finishing his poem, Wilson was awakened from his "melancholy reverie by the roaring of Buffalo River, which I forded with considerable difficulty" (Harper 1983:362). Other stream crossings in this area, especially the Little Buffalo River, were difficult because of indistinct fords and rocky bluffs along the banks. Wilson passed 2 or 3 solitary Chickasaw Indian huts, each surrounded by rough fields of maize. He spent the night, his last in Tennessee, in an Indian's cabin, near the headwaters of Cypress Creek. The exact location of this cabin is not given, but it may have been at McGlamery's Stand, just south of Collinwood in Wayne County.

The next morning, 7 May, Wilson rode 15 miles and stopped at an Indian's hut to feed his horse. This was probably near or just south of the Tennessee-Alabama line. Wilson had been carrying a pet Carolina Parakeet since catching it along the Ohio River, and wrote "He creeps into my pocket when I ride, and when I alight he comes out to amuse the people where I stop" (Hunter 1983:358). By this time the bird talked and knew its name. Wilson noted that the Indians were amused by the parakeet.

Wilson spent that night on the banks of the Tennessee River in present Lauderdale County, Alabama. During his travels through Mississippi, he passed through numerous swamps and lengthy cane thickets, suffered an attack of dysentery, and survived a tornado. He arrived at Natchez on 17 May, having traveled, according to his calculations, 478 miles in 14 days. In his journal, Wilson wrote "I have performed alone, through difficulties, that those who have never passed the road can have no conception of" (Hunter 1983:373).

In addition to the bird records given above, "American Ornithology" contains notes on several other species in Tennessee. Some of these notes refer to "Chactaw and Chickasaw [Indian] countries," which, as noted above, included the southern portion of the Natchez Trace in Tennessee. These notes are presented here in current taxonomic order. Greater Prairie Chicken-Wilson (1811) did not mention personally observing prairie chickens in Tennessee, but described their range as "over the whole extent of the Barrens of Kentucky," which extended into Tennessee, and gave a second hand account of the drinking habits of one caught within a few miles of Nashville. Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus)-"numerous in the Chickasaw and Chactaw nations" (Wilson 1811). Chuckwill's-widow—"rarely found to the north . . . of Nashville, in the state of Tennessee, in the interior. ... In the Chickasaw country, and throughout the whole Mississippi Territory, I found the present species very numerous in the months of April and May" (Wilson 1811a). Purple Martin (Progne subis)-Wilson (1812) commented that martins were numberous in Kentucky and Tennessee, and described gourds hung for their use by Chactaw and Chickasaw Indians. Barn Swallow (Hirundo rustica)-this species was either very rare or did not occur in middle Tennessee at the time of Wilson's visit, for he stated (1812) that he did not observe any during his travels from Lexington to the Tennessee River. American Crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos) and Common Raven (C. corax)-Wilson (1811) noted that a strong "antipathy" prevailed between the crow and the raven, and that the two rarely coexisted. He also noted "In travelling from Nashville to Natchez, a distance of 470 miles, I saw few or no Crows, but Ravens frequently, and Vultures in great numbers" (1811). Carolina Wren (Thryothorus ludovicianus)-"abundant over the whole extent of country from Pittsburg to New Orleans" (1811:83). Cerulean Warbler (Dendroica cerulea)-"the most numerous of its tribe in Tennessee and West Florida" (1811:83). Louisiana Waterthrush (Seiurus motacilla)-Wilson did not distinguish between the Louisiana and Northern (S. noveboracensis) Waterthruses, but noted "Among the mountain streams in the state of Tennessee, I found a variety of this bird pretty numerous, with legs of a bright yellow color" (1811); this almost certainly refers to the Louisiana Waterthrush. He further wrote "The cane breaks, swamps, river shores, and deep watery solitudes of Louisiana, Tennessee, and the Missippi Territory, possess them in abundance" (ibid.). This habitat description suggests he encountered migrating Northern Waterthrushes, but his description of the song better fits the Louisiana Waterthrush. Kentucky Warbler-"generally in all the intermediate tracts between Nashville and New Orleans, . . . In Kentucky and Tennessee it is particularly numerous, frequenting low, damp woods . . ." (1811:85). Hooded Warbler (Wilsonia citrina)-very abundant "through the whole extent of country south of Maryland, from the Atlantic to the Mississippi . . . abounds among the canes in the state of Tennessee' (1811). Eastern Meadowlark (Sturnella magna)—Wilson (1811) stated that he found this species in considerable numbers in the open woods with grassy understory of the Chactaw and Chickasaw countries.

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P.O. Box 402, Norris, TN 37828. Accepted 21 February 1986.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

If you plan to bird in the vicinity of the Cuba Landing exit of I-40 (at Kentucky Lake in southwestern Humphreys County) any time from now through 1987, please be alert for Ruffed Grouse (Bonasa umbellus). The University of Tennessee/Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency grouse restoration project needs grouse records for the area. For more information, write to: Pete Kalla, University of Tennessee, Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 1071, Knoxville, TN 37901-1071; or call him collect at his home: (615) 584-7209. Thank you.

1986 BREEDING BIRD FORAY TO OVERTON COUNTY

Plan now on attending the 1986 Breeding Bird Foray, to be held in Overton County, Memorial Day weekend, 23-26 May. Headquarters will be at Standing Stone State Rustic Park. Fieldwork will be done in the framework of the Breeding Bird Atlas, and it will be an excellent opportunity to learn atlasing tactics. For more information, see the March 1986 Tennessee Warbler or contact Paul Hamel, Tennessee Dept. of Conservation, 701 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37219, phone (615) 742-6546 days or 356-9715 evenings.

THE 1985 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Richard L. Knight

In 1985, Christmas Bird Count participants tallied 144 species on 23 counts in Tennessee. Three additional species were "seen during count period" (3 days before and after count day), all at Reelfoot Lake. The number of species is yet another record high, breaking the marks set the last two years (142 in 1984 and 140 in 1983). The high number of species included a surprising variety of lingering migrants and several northern visitors. New to Tennessee CBCs were a Ross' Gull (first Tennessee record), and dowitcher sp. Details of the Ross' Gull sighting were submitted to and tentatively accepted by this compiler, pending action of the TOS Certification Committee. Other rarities included Red-necked Grebe (2nd Tenn. CBC record), Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (4th), Mute Swan (4th), White-winged Scoter (7th), N. Goshawk (6th), Merlin (7th), Sandhill Crane (5th), and Ovenbird (2nd). Several other unusual species were also seen. Most counts reported an above average number of species. Three counts found 100 or more species and another three had 90 or more. Chattanooga set a new state record with 108 species. The count at Cross Creeks NWR is new.

The fall of 1985 was much drier and warmer than average, even into late November. December brought a series of strong cold fronts. Most counts reported temperatures near or slightly below average. None were hampered by precipitation, but five eastern counts had snow cover.

Snow Geese were found on nine counts, including four in east Tennessee. Although duck numbers continue to decline overall, some areas had locally good numbers of some species. Among the 13 species of hawks reported, the following totals are noteworthy: Bald Eagle - 169 on 9 counts, N. Harrier - 73 on 19 counts, Sharp-shinned Hawk - 46 on 18 counts, Cooper's Hawk - 39 on 17 counts. Bobwhites were rather scarce. Record high numbers for a single CBC area were received for 13 species, most notably Common Snipe, Horned Lark, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, and House Finch. Red-breasted Nuthatches were found on all but two counts. Only one Bewick's Wren was reported, down from 14 each of the last three years. Most widespread among the lingering passerines were House Wren (3 counts), Palm Warbler (5 counts), Chipping Sparrow (7 counts), and Vesper Sparrow (6 counts). The House Finch explosion continues: they were found on 18 counts, with seven counts reporting over 100.

INFORMATION ON THE COUNTS

MEMPHIS—22 Dec.; 0700 to 1630; clear; temp. 34-59°F; wind NW, 5-15 mph; 41 observers in 13 parties; 130 party hours (97 on foot, 33 by car); 201 party miles (76 on foot, 125 by car). Dianne & William Bean, Gilbert Beaver, Carolyn Bullock, Fred Carney, Tina Carpenter, Robert Casey, Ben & Lula Coffey (compilers—672 N. Belvedere, Memphis 38107), Chris Creech, Dollyann Daily, Julian Darlington, Helen Dinkelspiel, Harold Elphingstone, Jack Embury, Robert Endres, James & Sue Ferguson, Bob

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Ford, Bill Fowler, Joe Guinn, Van Harris, Ginger & Robert Ilardi, Theresa Irion, Susan Keeton, David Kesler, Jo Levy, Selma Lewis, Jesse McCabe, James Olcese, Gerald Papachristou, George Payne, Bill & Rob Peeples, Virginia Reynolds, Richard Taylor, Philip Waldon, Martha Waldron, Richard Whittington, Patricia Wood, Oldsquaw (RW, LC) was the first Shelby County record. Low numbers for Downy & Pileated Woodpeckers, N. Flicker, towhee, Field, Song & Swamp Sparrows, and junco (fide BC).

REELFOOT LAKE-21 Dec.; 0630 to 1630; clear; temp. 11-29°F; wind W. 0-5 mph; 10 observers in 4 parties; 40.5 party hours (11.5 on foot, 29 by car) plus 1 owling; 204 party miles (12 on foot, 192 by car) plus 5 owling. Ben & Lula Coffey. Wendell Crews, Harold Elphingstone, William B. Fowler, Jr., Don & Gina Manning (compilers-Rt. 1, Box 303, McKenzie 38201), Glenn H. Stanley, Michael & Wallace Todd. Eight of the Snow Geese were of the blue form. Of the Bald Eagles: 69 ad. & 67 im. Seen during count period-Tundra Swan, Greater Whitefronted Goose (2), Black Vulture, Sharpshinned Hawk, Short-eared Owl, Fish Crow, LeConte's Sparrow, and Evening Grosbeak. Good details submitted for unusual species.

CROSS CREEKS NATIONAL WILD-LIFE REFUGE-21 Dec.; 0400 to 1700; clear; temp. 14-33°F; wind W, 0-6 mph; 10 observers, 9 in 4-6 parties plus 1 at feeders; 43 party hours (28.5 on foot, 14.5 by car) plus 4.5 at feedes, 6.5 owling; 246 party miles (23 on foot, 223 by car) plus 17 owling. Patty Bieber, Donald Blunk, Eddie Burchett, Camille Crenshaw, Mike Filson, Maxey Irwin, Debbie Main, John Robinson (compiler-P.O. Box 215, Dover 37058), Barbara & Stephen Stedman. Two of the Bald Eagles were adults. Seen during count period-Ruddy Duck, Black Vulture, E. Phoebe, Pine Warbler, Chipping Sparrow. No details submitted for unusual species.

BUFFALO RIVER—28 Dec.; 0600 to 1730; clear; temp. 23-43°F; wind SW, 10-15 mph; 15 observers, 13 in 6 parties plus 2 at feeders; 62 party hours (29.5 on foot, 32.5 by car) plus 3 at feeders, 0.25 owling; 428 party miles (29 on foot, 399 by car) plus 4 owling. Andy Augustin, Ellen Beatie, Michael Beuerlein, Helen Clayton, David Ihrie, Chester & Dot McConnell, Royce Neidert, Ned Piper, Mark Reeves, Damien Simbeck (compiler—Rt. 2, Box 3A, Loretto 38469), Don Simbeck, Susanne Wadsworth, Morris Williams, Wylie Willis. One Snow Goose was of the blue form. One Bald Eagle was an adult. Also, one Accipiter sp. was reported. Good details submitted for unusual species.

CLARKSVILLE—28 Dec.; 0700 to 1600; clear; temp. 22-47°F; wind WNW, 5-15 mph; 23 observers, 7 in 4 parties plus 16 at feeders; 36 party hours (18 on foot, 18 by car) plus ? at feeders; 231.5 party miles (17.5 on foot, 214 by car). George R. Beringer, Mike Filson, Scott Gunn, Annie Heilman, Bill Hudson (compiler—619 Idlewood Dr., Clarksville 37043), Bill & Gloria Milliken. Names of feeder watchers not submitted. An additional 11,000 unidentified blackbirds were reported.

COLUMBIA—28 Dec.; clear; temp. 20-40°F; wind NW, 0-8 mph; 12 observers, 10 in 4 parties plus 2 at feeders; 29.5 party hours (17.5 on foot, 12 by car) plus 8 at feeders; 267 party miles (12 on foot, 255 by car). Kenneth Anderson, Daniel Gray, William Jernigan, Allyn Lay, Anne & Bedford Lochridge, Mary Lyles, Cleo Mayfield, George Mayfield (compiler—999 Sunnyside Dr., Columbia 38401), Allen Pressnell. Names of feeder watchers not submitted. Seen during count period—Peregrine Falcon.

DUCK RIVER RESERVOIR—21 Dec.; 0500 to 1700; clear to partly cloudy; temp. 10-29°F; 7 observers in 4 parties; 29 party hours (19.5 on foot, 7 by car, 2.5 by canoe) plus 1.5 owling; 155 party miles (9 on foot, 142 by car, 4 by canoe) plus 10 owling. Kenneth Anderson, Bill Jernigan, Bedford Lochridge, George Mayfield, Mike Penrod, Allen Pressnell (compiler—Rt. 5, Box 261, Columbia 38401), Dianne Pressnell. In addition, 3 Accipiter sp. were reported. Seen during count period—Am. Black Duck, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Wild Turkey, N. Bobwhite.

NASHVILLE—28 Dec.; 0530 to 1800; clear; temp. 20-50°F; wind N, 5-10 mph; 44 observers, 39 in 7-12 parties plus 5 at feeders; 91 party hours (81 on foot, 10 by car) plus 15 at feeders, 1.5 owling; 320 party miles (25 on foot, 295 by car) plus 0.5 owling. Jan Alexander, Linda Anderson, Rachel Anderson, John & Willa Bates, Elizabeth Collins, Kin Cosner, Annella Creech, Camille Crenshaw, Milbrey Dugger, Clifton Dunn, John Ellis, Bill & Lucy Finch, Ray Fleischer, Katherine Goodpasture, Dewey & Ruth Griffin, Mary Anne & Tom Guschke, Barbara Harris, Bob Hatcher, John Herbert, Maxey Irwin, Louise Jackson, Galen Lenhert, Portia Macmillan, Margaret Mann, Deane McGurk, Marge & Oscar Patrick, Larry Raye, Richard Simmers, Donna Smith, Ann Tarbell (compiler—6033 Sherwood Dr., Nashville 37215), David Vogt, Kenneth Walkup, Miriam Weinstein, Betty Worden. Names of feeder watchers not submitted. The Oldsquaw was present on Radnor Lake for several days (m. ob.). In addition, 2700 unidentified blackbirds were reported.

HICKORY-PRIEST—4 Jan.; 0430 to 1730; cloudy; temp. 31-59°F; wind SSW, 5-20 mph; 24 observers, 20 in 10 parties plus 4 at feeders; 72.5 party hours (54.5 on foot, 18 by car) plus 16 at feeders, 3 owling; 285 party miles

(21 on foot, 264 by car) plus 5 owling. Jan Alexander, Linda Anderson, Dot & Paul Crawford, Rowan DeBold, Jerry Drewry, John Ellis, Bob English, Katherine Goodpasture, Mary Anne & Tom Guschke, Paul Hamel, Louise Jackson, Hazel & Lee Kramer, Dick Newton, Jim Snapper, Pat Stallings (compiler—406 N. 17th St., Nashville 37206), Ann Tarbell, David Vogt. Names of feeder watchers not submitted. One Canada Goose was reported as the Richardson's race. Good details submitted for unusual species.

MURFREESBORO-4 Jan.; partly cloudy; high temp. 40°F; windy; 17 observers, 13 in 5 parties plus 4 at feeders. Bertha & Jim Chrietzberg, Russell A. Driver, Lou A. Erwin, C. E. Greever, Edith Haynes, Anne L. Hettish (compiler-1018 Lawndale Dr., Murfreesboro 37130), John Hooper, Wilma J. Hunter, David McCarroll, Ruth V. McMillan, Gene & Ruth Odom, John Patten, Alberta Spence, Frances Vaughan, Terry J. Witt. Seen during count period-Red-breasted Merganser.

LEBANON-28 Dec.; partly cloudy; temp. 24-45°F; 8 observers, 6 in 2 parties plus 2 at feeders. Earline C. Berry, Linda Bowman, Fred Detlefsen, Donald C. Jenkins, Ruth V. McMillan (compiler-Rt. 2, Box 141, Lascassas 37085), Margaret Partee, Ray Pope, Marty Rush.

HIGHLAND RIM—28 Dec.; clear to partly cloudy; temp. 20-40°F; 17 observers in 7 parties; 34 party hours; 342 party miles. Marjory Harper, Marguerite Hernandez, Ruth Luckadoo, Nicky Medley, Philip Medley (compiler—Rt. 2, Box 173B, Hillsboro 37342), Anna Parker, Erma Rogers, Mary Elizabeth Shelton, Mr. & Mrs. Norm Troy, Violette Wakeland, Monty Wannamaker, Evelyn Wilson, Doug Wimberly, Wanda Winnet, Mr. & Mrs. Grady York.

PICKETT COUNTY-27 Dec.; 0700 to 1600; partly cloudy; temp. 33-48°F; windy; 2 observers in 1 party; 9 party hours; 28 miles by car. Dave & Robbie Hassler (compilers-Rt. 1, Box 164A, Byrdstown 38549). One gull sp. was also reported.

CHATTANOOGA-21 Dec.; 0500 to 1830; clear to mostly cloudy; temp. 10-34°F; wind NW-NE, 0-15 mph; snow 0-1 in.; 51 observers, 46 in 13 parties plus 5 at feeders; 127 party hours (80 on foot, 47 by car) plus 29 at feeders, 15 owling; 565 party miles (71 on foot, 494 by car) plus 59 owling. Carl Adams, Louise Cash, David Chaffin, Brainerd Cooper, Robert Crawford, Angela Davis, Paul Dietrich, Ken & Lil Dubke, Jack & Paul Freeman, Paul Harris, John Henderson, Ella & J. N. Howard, Daniel & Kathy Jacobson, Albert Jenkins, Leonard Kafka, Ross Kindermann, Starr Klein, Sandy Kurtz, Jonnie Sue Lyons, Barbara & Mike McMahan, Graham Means, Robert Mitchell, Johnny Parks (compiler-1610 E. 17th St., Chattanooga 37404), David & Tom Patton, David Pierce, Kay Prigmore, Arthur Richert, Charles Robertson, Peter Robinson, Robin Rudd, Gene Ryther, Cindy & Joe Stone, Carl & Chris Swafford, Craig & Susan Watson, John Whitaker, Dan Williams, Dick Wodzenski. The Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was an adult (B&MM). The Bald Eagles and the Peregrine Falcon were also adults. Good submitted on unusual species.

HIWASSEE—1 Jan.; 0700 to 1800; clear; temp. 26-47°F; wind N, 3-12 mph; 24 observers in 11 parties; 82 party hours (57 on foot, 21 by car, 4 by boat) plus 3 owling; 383 party miles (40 on foot, 331 by car, 12 by boat) plus 14 owling. Del Blum, Angela Davis, Paul Dietrich, Ken & Lil Dubke, Gertrude Fleming, David Hankins, Ross Kindermann, Rick Knight, Tony Koella, Gilda Lyon, James Miller, Charles Nicholson, Johnny Parks (nonparticipating compiler), Mark Reeves, James Rowell, Robin Rudd, Boyd Sharp, Billy & Mary Shewall, Barbara & Steve Stedman, Rick Waldrop, Craig & Susan Watson. The Snow Goose was of the blue form. In addition, 1500 duck sp. and 2 *Accipiter* sp. were reported. Two of the Bald Eagles were adults. The Peregrine Falcon was an immature. Good details submitted for unusual species.

NORRIS—28 Dec.; 0615 to 1830; partly cloudy; temp. 23-42°F; wind NW, 0-5 mph; 16 observers, 13 in 5 parties plus 3 at feeders; 33.5 party hours (25.5 on foot, 8 by car) plus 3 at feeders, 1.5 owling; 172.5 party miles (19.5 on foot, 153 by car) plus 3 owling. Kimberlee Adkins, Ruth Barber, Marian Baxter, John Byrd, Pat DeRoos, Grace Foster, Linda Fowler, Maurice Grigsby, David Hankins, David Highbaugh, Charles Nicholson (compiler—Box 402, Norris 37828), Boyd Sharp, Keith Watson. The Bald Eagle was an adult. Seen during count period—Savannah Sparrow.

KNOXVILLE—21 Dec.; 0600 to 1730; partly cloudy; temp. 17-31°F; wind W, 0-8 mph; snow 0-1 in.; 26 observers, 25 in 12 parties plus 1 at feeders; 104 party hours (68 on foot, 36 by car) plus 6 at feeders, 5 owling; 502 party miles (54 on foot, 448 by car) plus 50 owling. Jane Beintema, Charles Callis, Robert Collier, Marcia Davis, Barbara Finney, Barry Fleming, David Hankins, Paul Hartigan, David Highbaugh, Tom Howe, J. C. Howell, Susan Hoyle, Hal Hubbs, Tony Koella, Bettie & James Mason, Charles Nicholson, Holly Overton, J. B Owen, Parl Pardue, Mark Reeves, Boyd Sharp, James Tanner (compiler—Rt. 28, Box 155, Knoxville 37920), Keith Watson, Roland Wauer. The dowitcher sp. were seen by RW *et al.*, but no further details were provided. Good details were submitted for the other unusual species. Three *Accipiter* sp. were reported. Seen during count period—Bald Eagle.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK—4 Jan.; 0615 to 1645; partly cloudy to overcast; temp. 20-48°F; wind light & variable; 30 observers in 12 parties; 76 party hours (55.5 on foot, 20.5 by car); 286.5 party miles (87.5 on foot, 199 by car). Bettie Adams, Howard Chitwood, Bobby & R. H. Collier, Don Defoe (compiler—GSMNP, Gatlinburg 37738), Al & Grace Foster, Jo Ann Fowler, Linda Fowler, Louise Fuller, David Hankins, Chris & Paul Hartigan, David Highbaugh, Audrey & Ron Hoff, J. C. Howell, Susan Hoyle, Hal Hubbs, Burt Jones, John Lackey, Sally Mirick, Charles Nicholson, J. B. Owen, Paul Pardue, Truett Patterson, Boyd Sharp, James Tanner, Craig Walker, Keith Watson, Ro Wauer. The chickadees were a mixture of Black-capped and Carolina. One Accipiter sp. was also reported.

GREENEVILLE—30 Dec.; partly cloudy; temp. 25-40°F; 17 observers in 12 parties; 78 party hours; 126 party miles (18 on foot, 108 by car). Orland & Phine Britton, Howard Earnest, Marjorie Earnest, Ann Gaut, King & Margaret Gaut, Juanita & Lenard Heckert, Richard & Willie Ruth Nevius, Dan Nieves (compiler—112 Magnolia Dr., Greeneville 37743), Terry Nieves, Doug Ratledge, Helen & Royal Spees, Virginia Williams. The Spotted Sandpiper was seen by WRN.

KINGSPORT—22 Dec.; 0600 to 1815; partly cloudy; temp. 14-35°F; wind SW, 0-5 mph; snow 0-1 in.; 18 observers, 17 in 5 parties plus 1 at feeders; 50 party hours (27 on foot, 23 by car) plus 6 at feeders, 2 owling; 352 party

(continued on page 20)

The 1985 Fall Meeting and Symposium, consisting of a Board of Directors meeting, symposium, and field trips, was held at Fall Creek Falls State Park, Tennessee, 1-3 November 1985.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President James Ferguson on 2 November. The minutes of the 4 May 1985 meeting were distributed to the directors and approved as printed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

VICE PRESIDENT for East Tennessee, Lil Dubke, introduced the chapter presidents in her district who reported on chapter activities. Reporting were Paul Dietrich, Chattanooga; Mrs. Orland Britton, Greeneville; Marcia Davis, Knoxville, and Rick Knight, Lee Herndon Chapter, whose report was read in his absence. Mrs. Dubke thanked the Chattanooga Chapter for their work in making this a successful meeting. VICE PRESIDENT for Middle Tennessee, Tom Guschke, reported on his area's activities. The Monsanto plant in Maury County is closing in 1986 and he hopes some way will be found to maintain the settling ponds which are such an excellent place for marsh and shore birds. He noted the prospective new TOS chapter in Springfield and welcomed them. VICE PRESI-DENT for West Tennessee, Dollyann Daily, was absent and Martha Waldron reported for her that West Tennessee had added a new bird to the state list, the Long-billed Curlew.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE for East Tennessee, Dee Eiklor, inquired about when *The Migrant* could be expected. In the absence of DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE for Middle Tennessee, Ruth McMillan, Fred Detlefsen reported on the activities of the John W. Sellars Chapter. DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE for West Tennessee, Don Manning, had no report, nor did the SECRETARY, Carolyn Bullock.

TREASURER George Payne reported 891 members for 1985 to date. The financial report for the period 1 May - 1 November 1985 listed income of \$3,472.34, expenses of \$4,249.07, and a capital reserve of \$26,887.37.

CURATOR James Tanner reported sales of back copies of *The Migrant* from May through October 1985 totaled \$291, expenses were \$19.67 and that all back issues are available.

EDITOR of *The Migrant*, Charles Nicholson, reported that all issues through September 1985 should be mailed by the end of this year, and he is working hard to get it on schedule. He has obtained a new printer which should reduce printing costs by about 30 percent. He asked for suggestions for a possible special issue of *The Migrant* in connection with the joint TOS/Wilson Ornithological Society meeting in 1986.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

FINANCE—President Ferguson noted that a Finance Committee should have been appointed at the 1985 spring meeting and that to fulfill that requirement he has asked the previous members to serve. They are Richard Taylor, Chairman, William Whitley, James Tanner, David Pitts, and George Payne, *ex officio*. Helen Dinkelspiel moved their appointment to serve until the spring 1986 meeting; the motion was seconded and passed.

CONSERVATION—President Ferguson expressed appreciation for the work of outgoing Chairman Angela Davis and appointed Ken Dubke Chairman, who read his acceptance letter and noted that he would like it to be called the Conservation Education Committee and wants each chapter to have a Conservation Chairman. He introduced committee member David Pitts who told about a request for TOS to participate in "Homecoming '86" by organizing a bluebird project. Following discussion, a motion was passed to authorize spending up to \$100 for this project. David Pitts accepted responsibility for implementing this project, and chapter representatives were asked to solicit help from their chapters.

CERTIFICATION—President Ferguson announced the appointment of the following members: Charles Nicholson, *ex officio* Chairman; from East Tennessee, Rick Knight to serve until 1986 with James Tanner as alternate; Middle Tennessee, Steve Stedman until 1988 with David Vogt as alternate; West Tennessee, David Pitts until 1987 with Martha Waldron as alternate.

BIRD ATLAS—A motion was made and passed to make the previous steering committee a standing committee. The members are: Chairman Paul Hamel, Charles Nicholson, Bob Hatcher, Fred Alsop, Martha Waldron, Steve Stedman, Barbara Stedman, and Jim Ferguson *ex officio*, with the 9 regional coordinators also members. Chairman Hamel proposed that this project be publicly announced and included on the list of "Homecoming '86" events.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS—Lil Dubke, in charge of Patches and Decals, announced that all decals have been distributed and asked for an inventory from all chapters. There will soon be new patches and decals and a new assignment director. In the absence of *Tennessee Warbler* Editor Buzz Bean, the president apologized for the delayed delivery in October and assured members that this will be corrected in future mailings. President Ferguson expressed his appreciation to Fred Alsop, Fall meeting Director, for his fine work in getting programs together, and announced that Steve Stedman will be Fall Meeting Program Director for 1986-1987. Stedman asked for a chapter to volunteer to host the 1986 fall meeting, to be announced in the next *Tennessee Warbler*, and asked for paper contributors to contact him.

NEW BUSINESS

President Ferguson announced that a new chapter is being formed and welcomed Donna Smith, who told about the group of 14 members in Springfield which will be called the Red River Chapter.

The location of the 1986 Foray will be announced in the next *Tennessee* Warbler. It was moved and passed to hold it on Memorial Day weekend.

President Ferguson read into the minutes a letter he had written to Wendell L. Whittemore and Mrs. William M. Walker in recognition of their 50 years of membership in the Society.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charles Nicholson gave information on the annual TOS/Wilson Ornithological Society joint meeting to be held 17-20 April 1986 in Gatlinburg. President Ferguson asked for news for the *Tennessee Warbler* to be submitted early. He thanked Fred Alsop, all symposium speakers, and Paul Dietrich and the Chattanooga Chapter for the great meeting.

SYMPOSIUM

The afternoon paper session, coordinated by Fred J. Alsop, III, was held on 2 November. The following papers were presented:

ROBERT M. HATCHER—The 1985 Peregrine Falcon and Bald Eagle restoration program in Tennessee.

PAUL C. HARRIS—Waterbirds observed during TVA's summer drawdown of Chickamauga Lake.

LINDA CARTWRIGHT—Status of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker in the Big South Fork Area and general Red-cockaded Woodpecker habitats.

PETER I. KALLA-Ruffed Grouse restoration program in Tennessee.

THOMAS E. BEDDOW—The Watts Bar nesting Osprey population. (paper read by F. J. Alsop).

PAUL B. HAMEL-The 1985 Cumberland County Foray.

CHARLES P. NICHOLSON-The Tennessee Breeding Bird Atlas.

The evening program, "A late Pleistocene - Early Holocene avifauna from Middle Tennessee," was presented by PAUL W. PARMALEE.

CAROLYN BULLOCK, Secretary.

PREVENTING WINDOW-STRIKES BY BIRDS—One effective method of preventing birds from striking windows, with often fatal results, is to hang ³/₄-inch mesh nylon or plastic netting about 4-6 inches in front of the window panes. Netting of the sort used to prevent birdpredation on fruit trees is effective, as it stops flying birds short of the window and it does not unduly obstruct viewing through the window. This solution came to our attention in the early 1970s when a friend, Donald P. Scott, in Panama City, Florida, showed us how he had affixed part of a fishing seine across a large window in order to prevent birds from striking it. Although this method of preventing window-strikes was mentioned briefly in a recent article on the subject by Daniel Klem, Jr. ("Window Pains," *The Living Bird Quarterly* 4:21, 1985), it is also offered here because many TOS members may not have access to this journal. Birdnetting of the sort noted above is available through most garden suppliers (both retail and mail order) at a relatively inexpensive price.

STEPHEN J. STEDMAN, Rt. 6, Pinewood Rd., Franklin, TN 37064 and BARBARA H. STEDMAN, Rt. 6, Pinewood Rd., Franklin, TN 37064. Accepted 8 February 1986.

ROUND TABLE NOTES

FIRST EAST TENNESSEE RECORD OF BLACK-NECKED STILT— On 1 August 1985 at 1200 hours, while censusing shorebirds at the Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery, Clinton, Anderson County, Tennessee, I spotted a bird which I immediately recognized as a Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*). The bird had a glossy black back which sharply contrasted with white underparts, indicating that it was an adult male. The long, bright red legs and white eye markings were clearly evident with 7x35 binoculars at a distance of 50 m. The bird was feeding at the edge of one of the larger fish-rearing ponds that contained shallow water. I immediately left the hatchery to alert other people of the bird's presence. Subsequently, Charles Nicholson arrived shortly thereafter to view and photograph the bird (Figure 1). While he and I were watching the bird at about 1300, it flew to the SE for a km or more, almost disappearing in our binoculars, but then returned to the hatchery ponds. Although many people saw the bird that afternoon, it was not present the following morning or thereafter.

On 22-25 July, prior to this sighting, Hurricane Bob moved easterly across Florida, up the Atlantic coast, and finally came ashore again north of Savannah, Georgia. Winds during this period in and around Tennessee were abnormally strong (20-25 mph) and predominantly from the south and southeast (Daily Weather Maps, National Weather Service). From 24 July to 1 August, east Tennessee was under the influence of a widespread low pressure system that resulted in cloudy, rainy weather. In the eastern U.S., the stilt breeds in southern Florida and portions of the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plain from New Jersey to Texas. It is possible that the bird was affected by the hurricane and became disoriented by the cloudy skies and rainy, unsettled weather.



Figure 1. Black-necked Stilt at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery, Tennessee, 1 August 1985. Photograph by Charles P. Nicholson.

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The first Tennessee record of this species was 2 birds seen by David Phillips on 21 March 1981 in a wet soybean field in northeast Shelby County near Memphis (Coffey, *Migrant* 56:1-3, 1985). Since then, a pair of Black-necked Stilts have successfully nested and raised young at the sewage lagoons near Memphis in 1982 and 1984 (Coffey, *ibid*.). The Clinton sighting represents the first east Tennessee record of a Black-necked Stilt.

LINDA J. FOWLER, Rt. 4, Box 541, Valley Lane, Clinton, TN 37716. Accepted 12 November 1985.

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miles (18 on foot, 334 by car) plus 40 owling. Fred Alsop, Reba & Robert Baker, Chris Brown, Sandra Driskell, George Ford, Jim Gilland, Charles Hasbrouck, Wynn Herbert, Rick Knight, Tom Laughlin, Betsy McConnell, Rick Phillips, Tom Pridgen, E. E. Scott, Arthur Smith (compiler—100 Otari Dr., Kingsport 37664), Frank Williams. The Snow Goose was of the blue form. The Bald Eagle was an adult. Spotted Sandpiper by FA, TL, RP. In addition, a probable Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) was observed at close range by FA, TL, RP. Details at this observation will be published.

BRISTOL-28 Dec.; 0730 to 1730; 9 observers. Wallace Coffey, Bert & Ken & Loraine Hale, Joe Jackson, Richard Lewis (compiler-Rt. 3, Box 590, Bristol 37620), David McPeak, Arron Trent, Enno Van Gelder.

ELIZABETHTON—28 Dec.; 0545 to 1730; clear to partly cloudy; temp. 24-40°F; wind WSW, 5-30 mph; snow 0-4 in.; 13 observers in 6 parties; 53 party hours (28.5 on foot, 24.5 by car) plus 1 owling; 285 party miles (14 on foot, 271 by car) plus 33 owling. Richard Clark, Brian Cross, Martha Dillenbeck, Helenhill Dove, Glen Eller (compiler—Rt. 9, Box 1340, Elizabethton 37643), Harry Farthing, Sally Goodin, Dick Hegler, Rick Knight, Joy Kyle, Ed Schell, Glenn Swofford, Frank Ward. The Red-necked Grebe was seen by RC & RK.

ROAN MOUNTAIN—30 Dec.; 0615 to 1700; clear; temp. 5-29°F; wind SSW, 5-25 mph; snow 1-5 in.; 4 observers in 2 parties; 17 party hours (12 on foot, 5 by car) plus 1.5 owling; 87.5 party miles (13.5 on foot, 74 by car) plus 16 owling. Glen Eller (compiler), Rick Knight, Tom Laughlin, Ed Schell. The Killdeer was seen flying over Grassy Ridge, elevation 6100+ feet.



FALL MIGRATION: 1 AUGUST-30 NOVEMBER 1985

Once again, this was a fall with generally lower than average rainfall, and, at least for November, higher than average temperatures. Numerous species lingered later than normal throughout the state, and there were new local late records set for several species across the state. Few pronounced cold fronts passed through in September or October, and there were few reports of large waves of migrating passerines. As if to make up for an unspectacular passerine migration, there was a very good shorebird migration, and several notable observations of waders, waterfowl, and other groups. If the volume of information is any measure, this was an exciting season, as this is one of the longest season reports ever published in The Migrant. I cannot remember a fall when there have been more first and second state records reported. New to the state and well-documented were a Long-billed Curlew and a Parasitic Jaeger. The first welldocumented Say's Phoebe was reported, although it is apparently the second state record. Other second state records included a Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Snowy Plover, and Groove-billed Ani. Very unusual species were a Marbled Godwit, the first Black-necked Stilts outside of the Memphis area, a Red Phalarope, and a Common Ground-Dove. The high number of Peregrine Falcon reports from across the state is encouraging. Unfortunately, the opposite is true of a Wood Stork which died in the southeast corner of the state. Despite the warm November weather, large flocks of waterfowl were reported in east Tennessee on 22 November, and many waterfowl species were present in fair numbers by the end of the season. Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported from throughout the state in mid-September, and Evening Grosbeaks were widespread by the end of the period.-CHARLES P. NICHOLSON.

Abbreviations used in the following reports include: ers - earliest report of season; lrs - latest report of season; max - maximum number during season; m. ob. - many observers.

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION—Several infrequent and/or rare visitors, such as Tri-colored Heron, Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Sandhill Crane, Whimbrel, Marbled Godwit, and Groove-billed Ani were observed this season. Two species observed in the region were new to the state list—a Long-billed Curlew and a Parasitic Jaeger. Low water in the Mississippi River exposed miles of shoreline and sandbars, and these habitats, as well as other areas throughout the region, were checked regularly. Interest and enthusiasm of observers was high and there were many reports from throughout the region.

Loon-Ruddy Duck: RED-THROATED LOON: 14 Nov (1) PLS (Maxey Irwin, CKC, DWB). Pied-billed Grebe: 27 Sep (56) RCI (JRW). Horned Grebe: 13 Oct (1), 17 Nov (21) PAP (JCR). Anhinga: 3 Aug (2) (SJS), 10 Aug (1) REL, LKC (MPS). Double-crested Cormorant: 14 Sep (235) Kirby Pocket, REL, OBC, (SNK, NPM, MGW); 26 Oct (350) REL (MCT, WT). TRICOLORED HERON: 3 Aug (1) Walls, MS (BBC, LCC); 18 Aug - 7 Sep (1) ESL (JRW, CHB, BBC, LCC, SJS, MGW). Cattle Egret: 17 Nov (1) BRF (JCR). Black-crowned Night-Heron: 17 Sep (1 ad) Allen Steam Plant. Shelby Co. (JRW). BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK: 24-30 Nov (1) PEF (JRW, TOS); second state record, details should be published. Green-winged Teal: 31 Aug (6) I13 (SJS, BHS, ARH). Blue-winged Teal: 1 Sep (197) I13 (DAD, JRW). Redhead: 31 Aug (1) S of Tiptonville, LKC (SJS, BHS, ARH), summered. Oldsquaw: 26-27 Oct (1) PAP (DJS, SJS, BHS, JCR, ARH). Hooded Merganser: 17 Nov (95) BSU (JCR). Red-breasted Merganser: 17 Nov (91) PAP (JCR). Ruddy Duck: 26 Oct (3000) REL, LKC (MCT, WT).

Osprey-Falcon: Osprey: 31 Aug (2), 7 Sep (2), 29 Sep (1) ESL (BBC, LCC, JRW, MTOS); 14 Sep (14), 2-9 Oct (1) I13 (WGC); 26 Oct (1) REL (MCT, WT). Mississippi Kite: 21 Sep (1) Randolph, TN (BBC, LCC). Bald Eagle: 26 Oct (4) REL, LKC (MCT, WT). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 9 Sep (1) MEM (JRW); 14 Sep (1) I13 (JRW); 21 Sep (1) PEF (CHB, JRW); 2 Oct (1) FPP (HBD, CHB); 5 Oct (1) ESL (CHB, JRW); 12 Oct (3) Lower Hatchie NWR (MTOS); 27 Oct (1) SFP (MTOS); 9 Nov (1) Decatur Co. (CHB). Cooper's Hawk: 5 Oct (1) ESL (JRW); 27 Oct (1) SFP (JRW). Rough-legged Hawk: 6 Oct (1) ESL (SNK, JLL, NPM, MGW), very early. Merlin: 24-28 Sep (1) RCI (JRW, MGW, SNK, NPM); 25 Sep (1) PEF (JRW); 12 Oct (1) NW of Garland, TPC (LCC); 13 Oct (1) ESL (JRW). Peregrine Falcon: 11 Aug (1) ESL (JRW); 16 Sep (1) I13 (WGC); 22-28 Sep (1) RCI (JRW, MGW); 3 Oct (1 imm) I13 (SJS).

Crane-Phalarope: SANDHILL CRANE: 15 Oct (7) MEM (Jo L. Levy). Black-bellied Plover: 31 Aug, 7 Sep (1), ESL (JRW, BBC, LCC, MGW); 14 Aug - 12 Oct (1-2) I13 (WGC); 3 Sep (1) PAP (MCT, WT). Lesser Golden-Plover: 14 Sep - 21 Sep (up to 14) I13 (WGC, MTOS); 22 Sep (1) ESL (BBC, LCC). SNOWY PLOVER: 9-18 Sep (1) I13 (WGC, SJS, MTOS); second state and first West Tennessee record. Semipalmated Plover: generally increasing to high of 14 on 31 Aug at ESL; 29 Jul - 29 Sep (max 13 on 14 Sep) I13 (WGC, MTOS); 11 Aug (5) I21 (WGC); 14 Sep (1) HEL (WGC). Piping Plover: 14 Aug - 10 Sep (1-3) (SJS, GHS, ARH); 2 Sep (2) PAP (MCT, WT). American Avocet: 1, 2 Sep (12) I13 (SJS, CGD, ARH, JRW, MCT, WT); 21 Sep (1) RCI (JRW, MTOS). Solitary Sandpiper: 13 Jul - 18 Aug (4-17) ESL (BBC, LCC, MGW, JRW). Willet: 2, 9, 10 Aug (1) I13 (WGC, SJS, BHS). Spotted Sandpiper: 29 Nov (1) PEF (JRW). WHIMBREL: 11 Aug (1) ESL (DAD, JRW); second Shelby Co. record (first 8 Jul 1934). LONG-BILLED CURLEW: 1 Sep (1) I13 (DWB, JRW, DAD); first state record, details to be published. MARBLED GODWIT: 3 Aug (1) I13 (SJS, BHS, RCS). Ruddy Turnstone: 6 Aug (1) RCI (MGW, SNK, NPM); 6 Aug - 23 Sep (1-2, except 21 on 21 Sep) I13 (WGC, SJS, BHS, ARH); 12 Sep (3) CDP (JBG); 6, 13 Oct (1) ESL (SNK, NPM, MGW, JRW). Sanderling: 3 Aug - 3 Oct (1-19, max on 23 Sep) I13 (SJS, BHS, ARH, JRW, WGC); 12 Sep (14), 21 Sep (5) CDP (JBG, BBC, LCC); 25 Sep (6) PAP (AHH). Semipalmated Sandpiper: at ESL. decreased from high of 295 on 24 Aug to 15 on 29 Sep (JRW, JEW, RTC, MGW); 2, 12 Oct (2) I13 (WGC). Western Sandpiper: 27 Jul - 29 Sep (2-4) ESL (JRW, MGW, BBC, LCC); 29 Jul - 14 Sep (7-20) I13 (WGC, SJS, BHS, MTOS); 3 Aug (12), 4 Aug (19) RCI (JRW); 21 Sep (5) CDP (BBC, LCC). Least Sandpiper: 24 Aug - 6 Oct (355 to max of 780 on 6 Oct) ESL (JRW, JEW, MGW). White-rumped Sandpiper: 7 Sep (1) ESL (LCC); 3 Oct (2) I13 (SJS). Baird's Sandpiper: observed 24 Aug (1) thru 14 Sep (5) at ESL and on RCI (JRW, MGW, DAD); 29 Jul - 12 Oct (1-12) I13 (WGC); 21 Sep (4) CDP (BBC, LCC); 27 Sep (1) ESL (JRW). Pectoral Sandpiper: max of 484 on 24 Aug at ESL (JRW), last on 29 Sep (50) ESL (MTOS).Dunlin: 23 Oct (2) PAP (SJS, TJW); 27 Oct (1) ESL (BBC, LCC). Stilt Sandpiper: 3 Aug (9), 24 Aug (3), 7 Sep (23) ESL (JRW); 3 Aug (3), 31 Aug (5) I13 (SJS, BHS, ARH); 14 Sep (24), 6 Oct (2) HEL (WGC). Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 31 Aug (1), 14 Sep (4), 27 Sep (3) I13 (SJS, BHS, MTOS, WGC); 7 Sep (2) ESL (JRW); 14 Sep (2) PAP (AHH, Warioto Aud. Soc.); 21 Sep (1) CDP (BBC, LCC). Short-billed Dowitcher: 6 Aug - 27 Sep (1-4) I13 (WGC); 11 Aug (1) I21 (WGC). Wilson's Phalarope: 17 Aug (3) (SJS, BHS, ARH), 19 Aug (1) I13 (WGC); 7 Sep (2), 6 Oct (1) ESL (JRW, MGW). Red-necked Phalarope: 25 Sep (1) I13 (WGC).

Gull—Jaeger: Laughing Gull: 31 Aug, 3 Sep (2 imm) PAP (Robert R. Reid, Elberta L.Reid, MCT, WT); 6 Oct (1) ESL (JRW); 26 Oct (1) BRF (JCR); 18 Nov (1 imm) PAP (SJS). Franklin's Gull: 5 Oct (3) BRF (JCR). Caspian Tern: 25 Aug (7), 21 Sep (3) RCI (JRW, MGW); 25 Sep (2) I13 (WGC). Forster's Tern: 6 Aug (2) (WGC), 14 Sep (1) I13 (BBC, LCC, MTOS); 21 Sep (1) CDP (BBC, LCC); 14 Oct (7), 23 Oct (6), 19 Nov (3) BRF (AHH, NBH, SJS, TJW, EJW). Least Tern: 25 Aug (5 fledglings) RCI (JRW, MGW). Black Tern: 7 Aug (17), 10 Aug (37), 25 Aug (5 imm) RCI (DAD, JBG, JRW, MGW); 14 Aug - 6 Sep (2-7) I13 (WGC); 24 Aug (14) ESL (JRW). **PARASITIC JAEGER:** 6, 22 Oct (1) PAP (SJS, JCR); first state record; details to be published.

Dove-Grosbeak: Mourning Dove: 25 Sep (285) PEF (JRW), max. Blackbilled Cuckoo: 31 Aug (1) REL, LKC (SJS, BHS, ARH). GROOVE-BILLED ANI: 20 Sep (1) Dyersburg (WGC); details to be published. Short-eared Owl: 24 Nov (1) PEF (JRW). Red-headed Woodpecker: 27 Oct (58) SFP (MTOS). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Sep (1) Ponderosa, Decatur Co. (CHB); 25 Sep (1) HWR (BBC, LCC). WESTERN KINGBIRD: 14 Sep (1) I13 levee (George R. Payne, Jr., James A. Ferguson, JRW, LCC). Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: 30 Sep (1) Arlington, Shelby Co. (RTC). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 16 Sep (1) N. Dver Co. (WGC); 16 Sep (1) MEM (WRP); 25 Sep (1) Sunnyhill, HYC (BBC, LCC); 27 Oct (22) SFP (MTOS). Marsh Wren: 17 Oct (1) PEF (WRP). House Wren: 27 Sep (2) PEF (JRW). Solitary Vireo: 9 Oct (1) HWR (HBD); 16 Oct (1) PEF (HBD); 14 Nov (1) PEF (MGW, JRW). Goldenwinged Warbler: 25 Sep (1) PEF (JRW). Black-throated Blue Warbler: 27 Oct (2) SFP (SNK, RTC, MTOS). BLACKPOLL WARBLER: 14 Oct (1) PLS (JCR). Prothonotary Warbler: 25 Sep (2) PAP (AHH). Wilson's Warbler: 26 Sep (1) MEM (MGW); 27 Sep (2) PEF (JRW). Scarlet Tanager: 28 Oct (1) MEM (BBC, LCC). Lark Sparrow: 25 Aug (1) ESL (BBC, LCC). LeConte's Sparrow: 25 Oct (1) Martin (T. David Pitts). Lincoln's Sparrow: 27 Sep (1) PEF (JRW). Evening Grosbeak: 27 Oct (4) SFP (MTOS); 29 Nov (10) Carroll Co. (MCT, WT).

Locations: BRF - Britton Ford, Henry Co.; CDP - Cedar Point, Tipton Co.; ESL - Ensley Sewage Lagoons, Shelby Co.; FPP - Fort Pillow State Park, Tipton Co.; HEL - Heloise, Dyer Co.; HWR - Hatchie Nat. Wildl. Refuge, Haywood Co.; HYC - Haywood Co.; I13 - Island 13, Lake Co.; I21 -Island 21, Dyer Co.; LKC - Lake Co.; MEM - Memphis; OBC - Obion Co.; PAP - Pace Point, Henry Co.; PEF - Shelby Co. Penal Farm; PLS - Paris Landing Start Park, Henry Co.; RCI - Robinson Crusoe Island, Shelby Co.; REL - Reelfoot Lake; SFP - Shelby Forest State Park, Shelby Co.

MARTHA G. WALDRON, 1626 Yorkshire Dr., Memphis, TN 38119.

CENTRAL PLATEAU AND BASIN REGION—Among the more impressive results of the autumn fieldwork in the region were the discovery of a species new to the state, the occurrence of a species new to the region, the greater than normal observations of species rarely or casually encountered in the region, and the superceding of early and late dates of occurrence for nearly a dozen species in the Nashville Area. The last of these results probably stemmed from the September publication of the fourth edition of Henry Parmer's "Birds of the Nashville Area"; as Morris Williams noted 10 years ago (*Migrant* 47:18, 1976), when the third edition of this work was published, the appearance of an updated list of extreme dates guarantees that a greater effort will be made to supercede them than would normally be the case.

Weather conditions also undoubtedly contributed to the superceding of many late dates in Nashville and to the lingering of many species in the region past their average dates of departure. For the third consecutive year, warm Pacific air from the vicinity of Hawaii was borne into the region by the jet stream during November, resulting in a month which averaged 8°F above normal and making it the third-warmest November on record. The presence of many late-lingering shorebirds and some passerines was at least partly due to November's almost tropical temperatures. Rainfall in August and November was near monthly norms, but that for September and October was more than an inch below normal for each month; thus, for the third consecutive season, dry conditions prevailed. The remnants of three hurricanes—Danny and Elena in August and Juan in late October and early November—passed through the region but had little affect on birdlife, unless the stilt and ground-dove which turned up in Stewart County in early November are attributable to Juan.

The wild food crop in the region was considerably better than average. Mast production was exceptional, with oaks, hickories, and most other nut-bearing trees except beeches producing a bountiful crop. Similar largess occurred among berry-producing trees and shrubs with the exception of dogwood, which experienced a poor season, perhaps because it was more affected by the dry spring and summer than were other berry-producers. Fruit-bearers generally had a poor season, though persimmons were often loaded with fruit. Finally, weed seeds were in evidence everywhere during the fall, especially on one's clothing after a walk through a good sparrow field.

Both the quantity and quality of the reports submitted this season were high. Over 1500 individual records were received, representing over 200 species of birds. Many of these records arrived on the "Unusual Sighting" cards (available free from TWRA) which make compiling the report a simple affair, although a long one; many thanks go to the more than 60 regional fieldworkers who submitted data, especially to those who used these cards. Readers of the following report will note that most of it is devoted to the species which fall between loons and terns, despite the fact that these species represent only 40% of those occurring in the state. This imbalance in species representation can be avoided in future reports if the many observers who devote time to the woodland birds will report their results as diligently as they pursue these species. If that happens, entries like those for Common Loon, Bald Eagle, and Sandhill Crane below can be written for other species, which now can be allotted only a perfunctory comment, usually having to do with an early or late extreme date. As important as these dates are, they but touch the surface of each species' status in the region.

Loon-Cormorant: Red-throated Loon: 30 Nov (2) WDR (DJS, SJS, BHS, FLB, SAB), 3rd consecutive year at this site. Common Loon: 17 Oct (11) WDR (SJS), ers; 27 Oct (25) DRU (SJS, DJS); 29 Oct (145) WDR (SJS); 2 Nov (8) CCNWR (JCR); 19 Nov (4) FRR (SJS); 24 Nov (18) LHL (DJS, Don K. Simbeck); 27 Nov (50) OHD (SJS); 29 Nov (7) PPL (RVM, MRM); 30 Nov (55) NOL (SJS, DJS et al.); 30 Nov (23) Tims Ford L., Franklin Co. (SJS, DJS et al.); all but the first of these reports represent the seasonal high for the locale. Pied-billed Grebe: 12 Aug (1) MOP (SJS, BHS), ers. Horned Grebe: 6 Oct (2) LHL (DJS, MAB), ers; 29 Oct (45) WDR (SJS), max. American White Pelican: 26-27 Oct (14) DRU (SJS, DJS, JCR, BHS, DWB et al.), only report. Double-crested Cormorant: 10 Aug (1) DRU (SJS, BHS), ers; 14-15 Nov (450+) DRU (CKC, SJS et al.), max; the latter record involves one of the largest concentrations reported in the region since the late 1940s (*Migrant* 20:42, 1949).

Bittern-Night-Heron: Least Bittern: 1, 25 Aug (1) MOP (BHS, Kenneth G. Anderson); 25 Aug (1) DRU (SJS, NTOS); 2 Oct (1) MOP (BHS), very late; only reports. American Bittern: 24 Sep (1) CCNWR (DWB), only report. Great Egret: until 24 Oct (up to 19 with 2 present on last date) CCNWR (JCR); 10 Nov (1) OHD (fide SJS); until 16 Nov (up to 45 with 8 present on last date) DRU (Margaret L. Mann, m. ob.). Snowy Egret: until 20 Sep (2, with 1 present last date) CCNWR (DWB, SJS, m.ob.), only report; very late departure date. Little Blue Heron: 2 Aug (1 imm) Anne Hettish Bird Sanctuary, RUC (ALH, RVM); until 25 Aug (up to 10) DRU (SJS, BHS, m.ob.); until 25 Aug (4 imm) MOP (BHS); until 22 Sep (1) CCNWR (JCR); 4 Oct (1 ad) Old Hillsboro Rd. at Harpeth R., WMC (BHS), lrs. Cattle Egret: until 17 Aug (up to 5) ROP (DJS); 24 Aug (2) CCNWR (SJS, NTOS); only reports. Green-backed Heron: 19 Oct (1) MOP (PBH, NTOS): 20 Oct (1) CCNWR (DWB), lrs. Black-crowned Night-Heron: until 22 Oct (up to 26 with 3 present on last date) CCNWR (SJS, JCR, m.ob.); through EOP at NASH, where wintering normal.

Goose—Duck: Greater White-fronted Goose: 6, 15 Nov (1) DRU (TJW, SJS), only reports. Snow Goose: 27 Oct (5 blues, later up to 30) DRU (SJS, DJS), ers; by EOP reported from CCNWR (up to 7), NOL (2), and LHL (1). Green-winged Teal: 14 Sep (2) LWP (SJS, TJW), ers. American Black Duck: 15 Sep (3) CCNWR (JCR), ers. Northern Pintail: 25 Sep (8) CCNWR (JCR), ers. Blue-winged Teal: 1 Aug (2) MOP (SJS, BHS), ers. Northern Shoveler: 3 Sep (3) CCP (SJS), ers. Canvasback: 27 Oct (1) DRU (SJS, DJS, JCR, DWB), ers; by EOP (up to 61) FRR (SJS, BHS). Redhead: 12 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR), ers; very early; 8 Nov (20) CCNWR (JCR), ers. Lesser Scaup: 24 Oct (5) CCNWR (JCR), ers; 27 Oct (1000+) DRU (SJS, DJS), max. Oldsquaw: 23-28 Nov (3) RDL (Richard Rimmer, SJS, DFV, m.ob.), only report. BLACK SCOTER: 6-10 Nov (1) RDL (BHS, JCR, m.ob.), only report; 4th NA record. White-winged Scoter: 15-16 Nov (1) CCNWR (JCR, DWB),

only report. Surf Scoter: 23 Nov (1) WDR (SJS, BHS), only report. Common Goldeneye: 6 Nov (2) Quarry L., RUC (ALH, J. Robert Hettish), ers. Redbreasted Merganser: 29 Oct (6) WDR (SJS), ers. Ruddy Duck: 1 Oct (1) FRR (SJS), ers; new NA early fall date.

Vulture-Falcon: Black Vulture: 12 Aug (150+) MOP (SJS, BHS); 16 Nov (65) CCSP (JCR); peak numbers for 2 roosts. Turkey Vulture: 20 Nov (300+) Nevell's Bay, LBL (DWB), max. Osprey: 30 reports (3 Aug - 2 Nov) from 9 counties (JCR, DJS, Candace J. McCall, m.ob.). Bald Eagle: late Jul (1 imm) Cordell Hull L., Jackson Co. (Kurt Eichenburger, fide James D. Parrish), suggests possible nesting; 4 Aug (1 ad) Center Hill L., Putnam /DeKalb Cos. (Veit Spero, Debbie Spero et al.), if not a summering or nesting bird, then a very early returnee for winter; 12, 25 Aug (1 subad) MOP (SJS, BHS, DJS), difficult sighting to analyze; nesting birds summered at DRU and CCNWR, as well as LBL; by EOP birds had returned to winter at the following sites: CCNWR (JCR), DRU (SJS), Dale Hollow L., PIC (RCH), LBL (DWB), NOL (MDH), and WDR (KHD); in late Nov an adult was shot in Macon Co. (fide RMH), the first eagle known to have been shot in the state since 1983; TOS might consider joining other organizations in offering a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those who ignorantly or wantonly persist in shooting eagles (or other protected nongame species). Northern Harrier: 2 Sep (1) Bluewater Creek, LWC (DJS), ers; 30 other reports (13 Sep - EOP) from 7 counties, with about 20 of them coming from the national wildlife refuges. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 15 Aug (1) PPL, DVC (RVM, SJS), ers; 20 other reports (16 Sep - EOP) from 9 counties. Cooper's Hawk: 24 Aug (1) CCNWR (SJS. DJS, Ann T. Tarbell, Barbara Harris, m.ob.), ers; 21 other reports (1 Sep - EOP) from 11 counties (also 5 reports of Accipiter sp.), a very good season for accipitrine hawks. Broad-winged Hawk: no reports of migrating flocks. Rough-legged Hawk: 3 Nov (1 light phase) CCNWR (JCR), ers; 10 Nov (1) DRU (MCT, WT); 13 Nov (1) Buffalo Springs, LBL (DWB), only reports. Golden Eagle: 6, 14 Nov (1 subad) DRU (TJW, SJS, CKC et al.). only reports. Merlin: 23 Oct (1) Love Lady, PIC (RCH); 6 Nov (1) DRU (TJW, SJS); only reports. Peregrine Falcon: 17 Aug (1 imm) LOR (DJS). ers; 3 other reports (1-4 Oct) of imm birds, 2 in DVC (DFV, Sandra D, Bivens, Robert L. Parrish, RMH) and 1 in WMC (SJS).

Rail—Crane: Virginia Rail: 24 Sep (1) CCNWR (DWB); 28 Sep (1) ACI (CGD); 29 Sep (1) MC (CGD *et al.*); only reports. Sora: 3 Aug (1 calling) MOP (O. Bedford Lochridge), ers; 6 other reports (24 Aug - 26 Oct) from DVC, HPC, and SWC; 6 Nov (1) DRU (SJS, TJW), lrs. American Coot: 17 Aug (1) Davy Crockett S. P., LWC (DJS, MAB), ers; highs of 1200 and 550 noted at WDR (SJS) and Obey R. Park, PIC (RCH), respectively. Sandhill Crane: 29 Oct (76) Dilton-Mankin Rd., RUC (Wilma J. Hunter, Richard E. Hunter, *fide* ALH), ers; new NA early fall date, and 2nd-highest number ever reported in NA; 30 Oct (84) Tullahoma, CFC (Chloe and Howell Peebles, *fide* PLM); 30 Oct - 3 Nov (up to 10) Goose Pond, Grundy Co., and vicinity (*fide* PLM, KHD); 3 Nov (9) CCNWR (JCR), west of usual migration corridor; 8 Nov (150) w of Byrdstown, PIC (Eugene Wells, *fide* RCH), max; 22 Nov (3) 4 mi w of Obey R. Park, PIC (RCH), Irs; a good season for cranes.

Plover—Phalarope: Black-bellied Plover: 7 reports (17 Aug - 3 Nov) from HPC, LWC, SUC and SWC. Lesser Golden-Plover: 6 reports (20 Sep - 3

Nov) also from HPC, LWC, SUC and SWC. Semipalmated Plover: 22 Jun (1) DRU (SJS, BHS, LDR), ers, remarkably early, if not a remarkably late spring migrant; 7 Aug (18) GSP (JPC, RCS, SJS), max; 16 Oct (2) CCNWR (JCR), lrs. Piping Plover: 28-29 Jul (1) GSP (SJS, JPC et al.), ers and new NA early fall date: 2 Oct (1) OHD (SJS), lrs. BLACK-NECKED STILT: 2-4 Nov (1) CCSP (JCR et al.), first regional record; it is tempting to speculate that this bird was a hurricane-borne vagrant, as its appearance followed hard upon the heels of Hurricane Juan, whose remnants brushed through the region in late October and early November. American Avocet: 20-21 Jul (2) CCNWR (CKC et al.); 21 Sep (1) CCNWR (Donna Smith, Roy Jensen, Charles Ralph, Red River TOS); only reports. Greater Yellowlegs: 22 Jun (1) ROP (DJS, MAB, G. Ned Piper), ers; 3 Nov (24) CCNWR (JCR), max; 18 Nov (2) CCNWR (JCR), lrs. Lesser Yellowlegs: 22 Jun (32) DRU (SJS, BHS, LDR), ers; 23 Jun (1) LWP (DTC, JPC), new NA early fall date; 7 Aug (88) GSP (JPC, RCS, SJS), max; 27 Oct (1/5) CCNWR/LWP (JCR/DTC, JPC), lrs. Solitary Sandpiper: 6 Jul (1) DRU (SJS, BHS, DFV). ers; 2 Aug (13) CCP (SJS), max; 25 Sep (2) CCP (SJS), lrs. Willet: 22 Jun (2) DRU (SJS, BHS, LDR), ers, remarkably early; 4 other reports (7-28 Aug) from SUC, SWC, WMC, Spotted Sandpiper: 9 Aug (15) CCNWR (DWB). max; 25 Oct (1) WDR (SJS), lrs. Upland Sandpiper: 25 Aug (5+) DRU (CGD, NTOS), only report. MARBLED GODWIT: 2-4 Aug (1) CCNWR (DWB et al.), a rarity in the region. Sanderling: 9 Jul (1) LWP (DTC, JPC), ers and new NA early fall date; 29 Jul (8) ROP (DJS), new LWC species: 13 Oct (1) GSP (DTC, JPC), lrs. Semipalmated Sandpiper: 22 Jun (2) DRU (SJS, BHS, LDR), ers; 2 Oct (1) OHD (SJS), lrs. Western Sandpiper: 4 Jul (2) GSP (DTC, JPC, David Chaffin), ers and new NA early fall date; 11 other reports (22 Jul - 9 Sep) from HPC, SUC, SWC and WMC. Least Sandpiper: 9 Jul - 10 Nov (numerous reports). White-rumped Sandpiper: 17 Aug (1) GSP (CKC, DTC, JPC); 14 Sep (1) LWP (SJS); only reports; however, even 2 reports are quite a few of this shorebird in fall. Baird's Sandpiper: 15 Jul (2) ROP (DJS), ers; 5 reports 14 Aug - 14 Sep; 3 Nov (1) GSP (DTC, JPC), lrs and new NA late fall date. Pectoral Sandpiper: 22 Jun (1) DRU (SJS, BHS, LDR), ers; 7 Aug (130) GSP (SJS, JPC, RCS), max and new NA record for highest number; 27 Oct (2) LWP (DTC, JPC), lrs. Dunlin: 12 Oct (3) CCSP (JCR), ers; 22 Oct (29) LWP (DTC, JPC), max. Stilt Sandpiper: 6 Jul (2) DRU (SJS, BHS, DFV), ers; 19 Oct (4) CCNWR (DWB), late; 20 Oct (1) LWP (DTC, JPC), Irs and new NA fall late date. Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 20-21 Sep (1) LWP (DTC, JPC, Richard Newton), only report. Dowitcher sp.: 6 Jul (2) DRU (SJS, BHS, DFV), ers; 27 Jul (32) DRU (SJS, BHS, Anne Nixon, Robert Nixon), max; 23 Nov (1) s of Murfreesboro, RUC (RVM, MRM), lrs and new NA late fall date; reports of 2 Short-billed Dowitchers were received: 25 Jul (1 calling) ROP (DJS) and 27 Oct (1 juv with wide white tailbars and scapulars broadly edged with buff) GSP (DTC, JPC); 1 Longbilled Dowitcher was reported: 29 Jul (1 calling) ROP (DJS); observers are cautioned that the calls of these 2 species probably overlap somewhat and are not an entirely reliable index of identification. Wilson's Phalarope: 14 Aug (1) LWP (SJS, JPC, RCS); 17 Aug (4) GSP (JPC, DTC, CKC); only reports.

Gull—Tern: Laughing Gull: 15 Aug (1) FSM (SJS), only report. Ringbilled Gull: 23 Jul (1) OHD (SJS), summering likely, rather than an early winter returnee; 28-29 Nov (9) LOR (DJS), few LWC records. Caspian Tern: 11 Aug (4) GSP (DTC, JPC), ers; 2 Oct (10) OHD (SJS), max; 5 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR), lrs. Common Tern: 13 Oct (2) LHL (DJS, MAB), the primaries of these birds were seen in direct comparison with those of Forster's Terns, but color of tail and presence/absence of carpal bar were not noted (the amount of black on the nape of this species is not a reliable field mark until later in the season). Forster's Tern: 27 Jul (2) FSM (RVM, MRM); 13 Oct (12) LHL (DJS, MAB), max; 15 Nov (4) DRU (SJS), lrs. LEAST TERN: 7 Aug (2), 15 Aug (1) GSP (SJS, JPC, RCS *et al.*), only reports and 11th and 12th NA records. Black Tern: 26 Jul (8) FSM (RVM, MRM), ers; 28 Sep (2) RDL (Mary Anne Guschke, Jan C. Alexander), lrs, within 1 day of NA late fall date.

Ground-Dove—Swallow: COMMON GROUND-DOVE: 3 Nov (1) CCNWR (JCR), about 6th state record; also possibly a product of Hurricane Juan's passage. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 8 Nov (1) CCNWR (JCR), lrs. Common Barn-Owl: 6 Sep (1) CLA (DWB); 1 Oct (1) Murfreesboro (TJW); 1 Oct (1) Moran Rd., WMC (CKC); only reports. Common Nighthawk: 31 Oct (1) NASH (DWB), lrs; undocumented reports from Nov were bandied about by some. Whip-poor-will: 13 Oct (1 calling) Dover, SWC (DWB), lrs. Chimney Swift: 28 Oct (1) Green Hills, NASH (BHS), lrs. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 23 Oct (1) Franklin Rd., NASH (Ann Nichols), lrs, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 28 Sep (1) LBL (DWB, JCR), ers. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 18 Sep (1) CCNWR (JCR), only report, Eastern Wood-Pewee: 13 Oct (1) FTD (JCR), lrs. Acadian Flycatcher: 28 Sep (1 singing) LEF (SJS), lrs. SAY'S PHOEBE: 29 Sep (1, photos) MC (Dan Jacobson, CGD, m.ob.), first definitive state record, though a bird of this species was reported with very belated documentation from RDL on 27 and 30 Sep 1984 (CGD, CKC). Eastern Kingbird: 12 Aug (65) MOP (SJS, BHS), max; 30 Sep (1) CCNWR (JCR), lrs. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: 17 Aug (1) Thompson Lane, RUC (TJW), only report. Tree Swallow: 3 Nov (4/50) CCNWR/WDR (JCR/SJS, BHS), lrs. Barn Swallow: 3 Nov (2) WDR (SJS, BHS), lrs.

Nuthatch—Chat: Red-breasted Nuthatch: 12 Sep (1) RDL (SJS), ers: invasion winter underway with many sightings region-wide by EOP, making this the first fall since 1981 that the species occurred in numbers in the region. Brown Creeper: 29 Sep (1) FTD (JCR), ers. Bewick's Wren: 29 Sep (1) Cheatham Dam (Camille Crenshaw, Maxey Irwin); 12 Oct (1) s Wilson Co. (RVM et al.); 10 Nov (1) Anchor Dr., Old Hickory L., SUC (fide CKC); only reports. House Wren: 30 Nov (1) NOL (SJS, BHS, DJS, FLB, SAB), lrs. Marsh Wren: 7 reports (2 Oct - 3 Nov) from HPC, LWC, RUC, SWC and Maury Co. Sedge Wren: 24 Jul (3 singing) CCNWR (SJS), ers; 25 Aug (7) DRU (SJS, NTOS), max; 27 Oct (1) DRU (JCR), lrs. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 6 Oct (1) FTD (JCR), ers. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 27 Sep (1) CLA (AHH), ers. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 8 Oct (1) CLA (AHH), lrs. Swainson's Thrush: 9 Sep (12+) BAH (RWS), ers. Gray Catbird: 23 Nov (1) Wiley's Spring, LBL (DWB), lrs. Water Pipit: 20 Oct (20+) CCNWR (DWB), ers. White-eyed Vireo: 29 Oct (1) Tullahoma, CFC (MDH), lrs. Solitary Vireo: 23 Nov (1) WDR (SJS, BHS), lrs. Warbling Vireo: 17 Sep (1) CLA (AHH), lrs. Orange-crowned Warbler: 4 reports (10-27 Oct) from CHC, HPC, LWC and Montgomery Co. Yellow Warbler: 26 Sep (1) CLA (AHH), lrs. Chestnutsided Warbler: 28 Aug (1) CLA (AHH), ers. Cape May Warbler: 22 Sep (1) RDL (fide CKC); 4 Oct (1 casualty) MTSU (Patrick J. Doyle); only reports. Yellow-rumped Warbler: 25 Sep (1/3) RDL/LBL (SJS et al./DWB), ers. Black-and-white Warbler: 22 Oct (1) Tullahoma, CFC (MDH), lrs. Ovenbird: 13 Oct (1) Love Circle, NASH (David L. Alexander), lrs. Connecticut Warbler: 15 Oct (1) LBL (DWB), only report. Common Yellowthroat: 29 Nov (1) Edwin Warner Park, DVC (DFV), Irs and new NA late fall date, but species winters occasionally. Canada Warbler: 22 Aug (1) 17th St., NASH (M. Patricia Stallings), ers. Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 Oct (1) BAH (RWS), Irs.

Grosbeak-Grosbeak: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 19 Oct (1) MOP (PBH. NTOS), lrs. Blue Grosbeak: 2 Oct (1) CCNWR (DWB), lrs. Dickcissel: 16 Oct (1/1) MTSU/Pardue's Pond, Dickson Co. (Patrick J. Doyle/SJS), lrs. Chipping Sparrow: 12 Nov (1) CLA (AHH), lrs. Vesper Sparrow: 2 Oct (1) CCNWR (DWB), ers. Savannah Sparrow: 21 Sep (3) LWP (DTC, JPC), ers. SHARP-TAILED SPARROW: 29-30 Sep (1) MC (CGD, m.ob.), 8th NA record; 1-2 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR, DWB), first regional reports in several years; the former bird was found in a dry lakebed which had grown up thickly with smartweed, while the latter favored a field dominated by foxtail grass. Fox Sparrow: 10 Oct (1) Hudgin's Slough, CHC (SJS), ers. Swamp Sparrow: 27 Sep (1) MC (SJS), ers. White-throated Sparrow: 13 Oct (1) LOR (DJS), ers. White-crowned Sparrow: 19 Oct (4/1) CCNWR/Hillsboro, CFC (DWB/Erma L. Rogers), ers. Dark-eyed Junco: 28 Sep (4) ACI (CGD et al.), ers. Lapland Longspur: 3-16 Nov (up to 4) CCNWR (JCR et al.); 28 Nov (1) LOR (DJS); only reports, with the first quite early. Bobolink: 24 Aug (1) CCNWR (SJS, MCT, NTOS), ers; 25 Aug (10) DRU (SJS, NTOS), max; 2 Oct (1) CCNWR (DWB), lrs. Orchard Oriole: 17 Aug (8) Liberty Grove, LWC (DJS), max; 29 Sep (1) Percy Warner Park, DVC (DFV), lrs and new NA late fall date. Purple Finch: 2 Oct (1) CCNWR (JCR), ers; widespread and abundant by EOP. House Finch: substantial numbers by EOP, with most birds arriving in Nov. Pine Siskin: groups of 2-5 birds noted in Oct and Nov, but no large numbers by EOP. Evening Grosbeak: 26 Oct (10+) Byrdstown, PIC (RCH), ers; widespread and fairly numerous by EOP (e.g., up to 50 at LEF).

Locations: ACI - Ashland City, Cheatham Co.; BAH - Barnes Hollow, Putnam Co.; CCNWR - Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge, Stewart Co.; CCP - Carter's Creek Pike ponds, 8-10 km S of Franklin, Williamson Co.; CCSP - Cumberland City Steam Plant, Stewart Co.; CFC - Coffee Co.; CHC - Cheatham Co.; CLA - Clarksville, Montgomery Co.; DRU - Duck River Unit, Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, Humphreys Co.; DVC -Davidson Co.; FRR - Franklin Reservoir, Williamson Co.; FSM - Fate Sanders Marina, Percy Priest Lake, Rutherford Co.; FTD - Fort Donelson Military Park, Stewart Co.; GSP - Gallatin Steam Plant, Sumner Co.; HPC -Humphreys Co.; LBL - Land Between the Lakes, Stewart Co.; LEF - Leiper's Fork, Williamson Co.; LHL - Laurel Hill Lake, Lawrence Co.; LOR -Loretto, Lawrence Co.; LWC - Lawrence Co.; LWP - Lewis Pond, Sumner Co.; MC - Metro Center, Davidson Co. MOP - Monsanto Ponds, Maury Co.: MTSU - Middle Tenn. State Univ., Rutherford Co.; NA - Nashville Area (includes all of Cheatham, Davidson, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson, and Wilson Cos., as well as parts of Dickson and Trousdale Cos.); NASH - Nashville; NOL - Normandy Lake, Coffee Co.; OHD - Old Hickory Dam, Davidson.; PIC - Pickett Co.; PPL - Percy Priest Lake, in Davidson, Rutherford and Wilson Cos.; RDL - Radnor Lake State Natural Area, Davidson Co.: ROP - Robertson Pond, Lawrence Co.: RUC -Rutherford Co.: SUC - Sumner Co.; SWC - Stewart Co.; WDR - Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co.; WMC - Williamson Co.

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EASTERN RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION—The weather picture in the Johnson City area was very dry and mild for the period. Their November rainfall total was only the second month in the year it was above average. On 7 November they had their first killing frost which was almost four weeks later than normal. Glen Eller considered the fall warbler movement there normal with the warm weather probably the contributing factor for some lingering species. Waterfowl movement in the Johnson City area was above average with a big push during the period of 17-26 November. Sparrows in their area were somewhat later than usual in arriving and they seemed down in numbers. Winter finches started showing up there during the middle of October and it looks like they will have good numbers for the winter.

Temperatures during the early part of the season at Knoxville were near average, and above average during the latter part of the season. The month of November was one of the warmest on record, with temperatures 8-10°F above normal. The first heavy frost was on 8 November, and there were few other frosts before the end of the month. There were no strong cold fronts passing through in September or early October, and thus few good waves of migrant passerines. The shorebird migration at the Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery was very good, and shorebird numbers at the Kingston Steam Plant were improved over last year. An especially large concentration of shorebirds (over 400 birds) was observed at Eagle Bend in early August during several days of overcast and rainy weather. There was a good movement of waterfowl through the Knoxville area in late October and early November, but numbers were lower there at the end of the season. An impressive flock of 516 waterfowl was reported on Fort Loudoun Lake on 22 November.

At Chattanooga the months of August and September were somewhat cooler than normal while October and November were warmer than usual. August was wetter, September dryer, while October was 1.91 inches over in rainfall and November was slightly under in average precipitation. All of the above conditions probably had an effect on the avian populations, but most bird numbers were not closely monitored in the Chattanooga region. One action that caused close monitoring by local observers was the result of TVA's dropping the water level 3.8 feet in Chickamauga Lake for the period of 26 July to 8 August. The purpose was for control of water weeds in about 5000 acres of shallows. The concept was first tried on Guntersville Lake, Alabama, in 1983, and this was an initial effort on Chickamauga Lake.

Daily surveys were initiated in the Savannah Bay area as well as the easily observed areas of Gunstocker, Sugar, Candies and South Mouse Creeks along the Hiwassee River in Meigs and Bradley Counties. This very short period of time certainly did not attract impressive numbers of wandering herons or migrating shorebirds, but interesting sightings were made. In addition to the usually expected species array were the area's first record of a Wood Stork and observations of up to 3 Laughing Gulls.

Rick Knight and Charles Nicholson both operated their banding stations for the sixth consecutive year, at Austin Springs and Norris, respectively. Knight banded 26 days from 6 September to 17 October for a total of 346 net/hours. Since he ceased operations about 3 weeks early this year this accounted for most of his below average figures of net/hours, birds per net/hour and total number of birds banded. His top ten species banded were Song Sparrow (107), Common Yellowthroat (30), Indigo Bunting (28), Palm Warbler (27), Swamp Sparrow (21), Gray Catbird (18), American Goldfinch (18), Yellow-rumped Warbler (10), "Traill's" Flycatcher (8), Magnolia Warbler (8). Nicholson operated his Norris station from 11 August to 10 November, and banded 608 birds of 58 species in 698 net/hours, the lowest capture rate ever. The best single day was 29 September, when 74 birds were banded, his best day ever. This was a clear day following a weak cold front. The Knox County fall count was held on the same day, and it was unexceptional.

There is a wealth of information in the body of this report including these few highlights: up to 400 Blue-winged Teal feeding in the water weeds at Savannah Bay; impressive numbers of Black and Turkey Vultures at New Hope in Marion County; a Peregrine Falcon feeding on Rock Doves at Nickajack Lake and dam for 3 weeks, and a first ever Blacknecked Stilt at the Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery.

Loon-Stork: Red-throated Loon: 8 Nov (1) BOL (CFW, SG, MD). Common Loon: 9 Sep (1) WBL (TEB); 25 Oct - 30 Nov (4-42) BOL (RLK); max 17 Nov (41) CHL (CDB); max 22 Nov (34) FLL (PSP); 26 Nov (55+) CRL (SJS); 24 Nov (3) NIL (RAR). Pied-billed Grebe: 1, 15 Aug (1) NIL (AMJ); 2, 26 Aug (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); max 17 Nov (60) CHL (KHD, LHD); 21 Nov (21) NIL (RAR). Horned Grebe: 25 Oct (6) BOL (RLK); 10 Nov CHL (BHS, JCR et al.): 30 Nov (30) NIL (LHD, DCC). American White Pelican: 30 Nov (1) NIL (JSL). Double-crested Cormorant: 27 Aug (1) CHL (WKJ); 18 Sep (1) AUS (RLK); 24 Sep (6) HRA (CPN, JLC); 4 Oct (4) Tellico L. (ABS); 14 Oct (1) flying upriver below Norris Dam (CPN); 21 Oct (10) CHL (Carl E. Adams); 27 Oct (1) Knox Co. (MLD); 17 Nov (1) BOL (RLK); 17-30 Nov (2-5) CHL (RAR, LHD et al.); 23-25 Nov (1-5) FLL (PSP); 24 Nov (2) NIL (RAR). Great Blue Heron: regular DOL, max 12 Oct (143) (JAK). Great Egret: 1-15 Aug (2) EBF (LJF, CPN); 1 Aug - 6 Oct, 27-30 Nov (1-3) SAB (KHD, LHD); 1 Aug - 13 Oct (1-30) HRA (RAR et al.); 3 aug - 14 Sep (4-10) CRL (RLK); 4 Aug - 21 Sep (1-5 sporadic) DOL (JAK); 13 Aug - 6 Sep, 8-10 Oct (1) AUS (LHTOS): 17 Oct (1) Douglas Dam (PDH); 29 Oct - 30 Nov (1-2) Melton Hill L. (JMC, BRC); 22 Nov (1) FLL (PSP); 24 Nov (1) Louisville (ARH et al.). Snowy Egret: 1 Aug - 6 Sep (2 imm) EBF (LJF, CPN); 10 Aug (1 ad) HRA (JTP). Little Blue Heron: 1-21 Aug (2) EBF (LJF, CPN); 1-10 Aug (1-3) SAB (KHD, LHD); 2 Aug - 2 Sep (2-17) HRA (RAR et al.). Cattle Egret: 1-15 Aug (1) EBF (LJF); 8-31 Aug (1-6 irregular) HRA (AMJ, EMR et al.). Greenbacked Heron: max 4 Aug (55) HRA (KHD, LHD). Black-crowned Night-Heron: regular CRL, max 3 Aug (87+) (RLK). Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 1-31 Aug (1-8) HRA (LHD, DCC et al.); 9 Aug (1) AUS (RLK). White Ibis: 17-24 Aug (2-3) HRA (AMJ, EMR). WOOD STORK: 7-8 Aug (1) S. Mouse Cr., HRA, BYC (Graham N. Means, LHD, SJS); on 23 Aug, injured stork found in Polk Co., died the same day (J. Craig Watson); presumably the same bird.

Waterfowl: Tundra Swan: 9 Nov (1) HRA (LHD et al.); 20-26 Nov (1) SLC (EHS et al.). Greater White-fronted Goose: 9-17 Nov (6) HRA (SJS, BHS, CDB et al.); 24 Nov (1) HRA (KHD, LHD). Snow Goose: Oct 29 - 17 Nov (1 blue phase) HRA (TWRA, KHD, LHD); 9 Nov (1 blue) KSP (ARH et al.). Canada Goose: in the Johnson City area 2-4 flocks of 8-22 birds were noted every month except Oct (LHTOS); 29 Oct (378), 12 Nov (374) CHL, HRA (TWRA) - these figures are part of the official waterfowl counts and demonstrate the geese are not coming this far south anymore. Greenwinged Teal: 3 Aug (4) SAB (LHD); 19 Aug (1) EBF (CPN); 24 Aug (2) HRA (AMJ, EMR); 6 Sep (2) SAB (KHD); 27 Oct (137) DOL (JAK); max 18 Nov (460) HRA (KHD, LHD). American Black Duck: first 12 Oct (12) HRA (RAR); max 12 Nov (302) CHL, HRA (TWRA). Mallard: max 29 Oct (845) CHL, HRA (TWRA). Northern Pintail: 24 Sep (2) EBF (LJF); 7 Oct (5) HRA (KHD, LHD); 27 Oct (4) DOL (JAK); max 24 Nov (80) HRA (KHD, LHD). Blue-winged Teal: 10 Aug (8) HRA (CTOS); 31 Aug - 12 Sep (160-400) SAB (KHD, LHD); limited sightings in Johnson City area 11 Sep - 4 Oct (LHTOS); 29 Oct (87) CHL (TWRA); 12 Nov (14) CHL, HRA (TWRA). Northern Shoveler: 8 Aug (1) HRA (PDR); 11 Aug (1) KSP (CPN); 18 Aug (2) KSP (KHD, LHD, CPN); 10 Sep (1) SAB (LHD). Gadwall: 14 Sep (2) KSP (SJS); max 29 Oct (952) CHL, HRA (TWRA). American Wigeon: 30 Sep (2) KSP (KHD, LHD); 25 Oct (2) BOL (RLK); max 29 Oct (211) CHL, HRA (TWRA). Canvasback: 30 Nov (3) CHL (LHD, DCC). Redhead: 10-30 Nov (1-8) CHL (CTOS); 17 Nov (15) BOL (RLK). Ring-necked Duck: 7 Oct (50) HRA (KHD, LHD); 17 Nov (350) CHL (KHD, LHD); 4 Nov (500) SAB (KHD, LHD). Greater Scaup: 10-30 Nov (2-95) CHL (KHD, LHD et al.). Lesser Scaup: 9 Nov (1) HRA (KHD, LHD); 10-30 Nov (14-430) CHL (KHD, LHD). Scaup sp.: 22 Nov (350) FLL (PSP). Surf Scoter: 24 Nov (1) CHL (LHD). White-winged Scoter: 10 Nov (1) CHL (SJS, BHS, JCR et al.): 17 Nov (2) CHL (KHD, LHD); 19 Nov (1) FCF (PBH). Common Goldeneye: 24 Nov (6) NIL (RAR). Bufflehead: 24 Nov (4) NIL (RAR). Hooded Merganser: 15 Aug (1) NIL (AMJ); 15 Nov (2) BOL (RLK); max 18 Nov (180) HRA (KHD, LHD). Common Merganser: 17 Nov (3) NIL (KHD, LHD); 17 Nov (22) Ocoee L. (Gilda Lyon). Red-breasted Merganser: 3 Aug (1) Anderson Co. (CDB); 17 Nov (10) BOL (RLK); 18 Nov (28) FCF (PBH); 21 Nov (61) BOL (RLK et al.); 24 Nov (5) NIL (RAR). Ruddy Duck; 25 Oct - 26 Nov (3) reports, 1-8) BOL (RLK); 17-30 Nov (25-51) CHL (KHD, LHD).

Vulture-Crane: Black Vulture: not sighted regularly in Johnson City area, so the 3-8 after 1 Oct are of interest (LHTOS); 24 Nov (300+) New Hope, MAC (RAR, PCH et al.). Turkey Vulture: 24 Nov (250) New Hope, MAC (RAR, PCH et al.). Osprey: 7, 21 Sep (1) DOL (JAK); up to 3 through Aug at KSP (ARH et al.); 8 Sep - 25 Oct (1+) AUS (LHTOS). Bald Eagle: 10 Aug (1 imm) DOL (JAK). Merlin: 21 Aug (1) EBF (LJF); 8 Oct (1) AUS (RLK): 21 Oct (1) Speedwell (GWM). Peregrine Falcon: 10-30 Nov (1 imm) NIL (SJS, BHS, JCR, KHD, LHD, RJH, PDR, PCH, AMJ, JSL, Rick Waldrop) - this is the longest period any Peregrine has been reported in the state since they nested here in the 1940's! Ruffed Grouse: 1 Oct - 7 Dec, 38 trapped on Bays Mountain near Kingsport for restocking effort in Middle Tennessee (RLK, TWRA). Virginia Rail: 9 Nov (1) HRA (SJS, CDB). American Coot: regular, max 12 Nov (6492) CHL, HRA (TWRA). SANDHILL CRANE: Jul · 24 Sep (1) farm pond in Loudon Co. (fide J. B. Owen), photographed and videotaped; 8 Nov (1) NRL (JCH); 17 Oct - 25 Nov - 10 reports of 271 birds from BYC, Franklin, Hamilton & Meigs Cos. (CTOS).

Plover—Phalarope: Black-bellied Plover: 3 Aug (1) KSP (CDB). Lesser Golden-Plover: 16 Sep (3) KSP (KHD, LHD); 13 Sep (3), 19 Sep (2) EBF (LJF); 9 Nov (3) HRA (KHD, LHD *et al.*). Semipalmated Plover: regular, max 6 Aug (9) EBF (LJF); 3 Aug (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); 6-8 Aug HRA (AMJ, EMR, SJS *et al.*); 2 Sep (2) DOL (JAK); 16 Sep (3) KSP (KHD, LHD); 26 Sep (1) AUS (RLK). Piping Plover: 6 Aug (1) EBF (JMC, BRC, LJF). Killdeer:

max 18 Nov (418) HRA (KHD, LHD); max 25 Nov (317) SAB (KHD, LHD). BLACK-NECKED STILT: 1 Aug (1 ad male) EBF (LJF, CPN), photographed, details in Migrant 57:??, 1986; first state record outside of Shelby Co. Greater Yellowlegs: poor flight recorded at AUS with last date 29 Nov (RLK), latest area record by 2 weeks; 2-6 Aug (1-3), 4 Nov (2) SAB (KHD, LHD); 7 Aug (3) HRA (RAR); 15 Sep (1) KSP (LJF, TEB); 30 Nov (1) HRA (KHD, LHD). Lesser Yellowlegs: 2-6 Aug (8-16), 4 Nov (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); 10 Aug (3) HRA (RAR); 12 Aug (1) CRL (RLK); 27 Oct (62) DOL (JAK). Willet: 6-8 Aug (1-8) HRA (AMJ, EMR, RAR et al.); 7-13 Aug (1) KSP (ARH, RDH, CDB et al.); 8, 14, 16 Sep (1) KSP (KHD, LHD, SJS). Upland Sandpiper: 15 Sep (2) DOL (JAK). WHIMBREL: 10-13 Aug (1) KSP (PDH, Burt Jones, CDB et al.). Ruddy Turnstone: 6 Aug (1) EBF (LJF); 25 Aug (1) KSP (JMC, BRC, ABS). Red Knot: 5 Oct (1) KSP (KHD). Sanderling: 4 Aug - 8 Oct (1-2) KSP (m.ob.); 21 Aug (1) EBF (LJF). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2-6 Aug (1-112) SAB (KHD, LHD); 6-7 Aug (16-60) HRA (KHD, JSL, RAR); 2-7 Sep (1-36) DOL (JAK); 8 Sep (25) KSP (KHD, LHD); 14 Sep (3) KSP (SJS). Western Sandpiper: 4 Aug - 14 Sep (1-6) KSP (JAK, CPN et al.); 6-7 Aug (2-15) HRA (AMJ, EMR, RAR); 27 Oct (4) DOL (JAK). Least Sandpiper: 2-6 Aug (2-4) SAB (KHD, LHD); 3-11 Aug (1-37) HRA (AMJ, EMR et al.); 14 Sep (15) KSP (SJS); 13 Oct (10) HRA (LHD, DCC); 27 Oct (2) DOL (JAK). Peep sp.: max 6 Aug (326) EBF (LJF). Baird's Sandpiper: 11 Aug -15 Sep (1-2 occasional) KSP (ARH, CPN, SJS). Pectoral Sandpiper: 2-6 Aug (20-60) SAB (KHD, LHD); 3-31 Aug (3-70+) HRA (m.ob.); 9 Aug - 8 Oct (1-5) AUS (LHTOS); 2 Sep (26) DOL (JAK); 4 Nov (4) SAB (KHD, LHD); 9 Nov (3) HRA (m.ob.). Dunlin: first 12 Oct (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); 23 Nov (28) DOL (JAK); max 100 HRA (LHD). Stilt Sandpiper: 4-7 Aug (1-7) HRA (AMJ, RAR et al.); 8 Sep (1) KSP (KHD, LHD). Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 Aug (3) SAB (KHD, LHD); 6 Aug (10) HRA (LHD, JSL, AMJ, EMR); 18 Aug (1 by call) KSP (CPN, KHD, LHD); 3 Sep (3) KSP (KHD, LHD). Longbilled Dowitcher: 4-6 Aug (1) SAB (CDB, LHD). Dowitcher sp.: 7 Sep (18) DOL (JAK). Common Snipe: first 12 Oct (15) SAB (LHD). American Woodcock: 9 Nov (2) HRA (PDR). Wilson's Phalarope: 3-6 Aug (1-4) HRA (LHD, AMJ et al.); 23 Aug (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); 24 Aug (11) HRA (JTP, RJH, PCH et al.). RED PHALAROPE: 1 Nov (1) FCF (KHD, LHD et al.).

Gull-Horned Lark: Laughing Gull: 7-9 Aug (1-3 imm) HRA (KHD, LHD, SJS, JTP, CDB, RAR, RJH, DCC, CRH); 15 Aug (5 imm) NIL (AMJ et al.). Bonaparte's Gull: 9 Nov (1) HRA (m.ob.); 23 Nov (1) BOL (MD, SG); 30 Nov (1) CHL (LHD, DCC). Caspian Tern: 3 Sep (1) KSP (LJF, TEB et al.). Common Tern: 16 Aug (1) SAB (LHD); 17 Aug (1) HRA (AMJ). Forster's Tern: 6 Aug (2) HRA (AMJ, EMR); 8 Aug (1) SAB (LHD). Least Tern: 15 Aug (1 ad) S. Mouse Creek, HRA, BYC (CRH, DCC); 17 Aug (1) HRA (AMJ). Black Tern: 6-8 Aug (15-55) HRA (AMJ, LHD, SJS); 15-16 Aug (4-6) SAB (LHD); 17 Aug (9) HRA (AMJ); 29 Aug (2) SAB (LHD). Common Barn-Owl: 10 Sep (1) Armstrong Bend, Meigs Co. (CPN, JLC); 28 Sep (1) AUS (RLK); 24 Oct (1) NRL (JCH). Whip-poor-will: 20 Sep (1 singing) NRL (JCH). Chimney Swift: max 5 Oct (2550) CHA (RAR); last 19 Oct (275) CHA (RAR). Red-headed Woodpecker: 25 Oct (4) CHA (RAR), reappearance of wintering group. Eastern Kingbird: 31 Aug - 2 Sep (30 feeding in flock) HRA (KHD, LHD, Angela C. Davis). Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: 17-31 Aug (1) HRA (KHD, LHD, DCC, AMJ, RAR, PCH), same location as 1983 and 1984 reports. Horned Lark: 24 Nov (40+) Jonesborough (RLK).

Swallow-Shrike: Tree Swallow: 6 Aug (25) HRA (LHD, JSL); 6-22 Oct

(5-11 sporadic), 4 Nov (31) SAB (KHD, LHD); 2 Nov (14) FCF (m.ob.). Red-breasted Nuthatch: it appears this will be a banner year as the birds were widely distributed at the end of Nov.: first dates: 8 Sep (1) KNX (JCH); 15 Sep (2 scattered) Signal Mountain (KHD, RAR); 3 Oct (1) JNC (HHD). House Wren: 29 Sep (1) SAB (KHD, LHD); 11 Nov (1) SLC (RLK), Sedge Wren: none found during Aug at traditional SAB location (KHD, LHD): 9 Nov (1) HRA (CRH, DCC). Marsh Wren: 10 Aug (1) HRA (KHD, LHD); 16, 18 Sep. 16 Oct (1) AUS (RLK); 9 Nov (1) HRA (CDB). Veery: 27 Aug - 22 Sep (8 banded) NOR (CPN), good numbers. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 27 Aug (1 window kill) Tennessee River Gorge (Barbara T. Clairborne, KHD); only 3 records from JNC area (LHTOS); 29 banded at NOR between 15 Sep - 13 Oct, higher than average numbers (CPN). Swainson's Thrush: excellent numbers between 16 Sep - 16 Oct JNC (LHTOS). Water Pipit: 14 Sep (1) CRL (RLK); 16 Oct - 24 Nov (2-5) JNB (RLK). Loggerhead Shrike: 2 reports JNB (RLK); none on Knox Co. count, 29 Sep - first time missed; 12 Oct (1) DOL (JAK).

Vireo-Warbler: White-eyed Vireo: only 11 banded at NOR, about ½ of average (CPN). Solitary Vireo: 30 Nov (1) SLC (RLK). Philadelphia Vireo: 29 Sep (1 banded), 4 Oct (1) NOR (CPN). Warblers: poor migration at NOR with only 16 species banded. The following were in lower than average numbers there: Chestnut-sided, Black & White, Worm-eating, Canada, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat (CPN). Orange-crowned Warbler: 23 Sep, 29 Oct (1) CHA (RAR). Yellow Warbler: 29 Sep (1) KNX (JAK); 17 Nov - EOP (1) KNX (Jim & Betty Mason, MLD). Black-throated Green Warbler: 25 Oct (1) Speedwell (GWM), late. Yellowthroated Warbler: 17 Oct (1) KNX (MLD), late. Common Yellow-throat: 29 Nov (1) AUS (RLK). Wilson's Warbler: 14 Sep (1) NOR (CPN); 2 Oct (1) JNC (MD); 6 Oct (1) KNX (MLD).

Tanager-Grosbeak: Tanagers: both Summer and Scarlet in much lower than average numbers at NOR banding station (CPN). Vesper Sparrow: 26 Aug (1) SAB (KHD); 16 Oct (1) AUS (RLK); 18 Oct (1) Speedwell (GWM); 8 Nov (1), 17 Nov (4) CHA (RAR). Grasshopper Sparrow: 26 Sep (1 banded) AUS (RLK). Fox Sparrow: 30 Nov (11) CHA (RAR), large number for the location. Song Sparrow: only 23 banded at NOR. 40% below average there (CPN). Lincoln's Sparrow: 19 Sep - 17 Oct (6 banded) AUS (RLK) - in past 6 years 58 have been banded there; 17 Oct (2) DOL (PDH, Hal Hubbs, JAK). Lapland Longspur: 27 Nov (1) KSP (SJS). Bobolink: 12 Sep - 9 Oct (1-6 irregular) AUS (RLK); 30 Sep (3) KSP (KHD, LHD); 5 Oct (5) KSP (LHD, PCH, PDH). Orchard Oriole: last 10 Aug (1) HRA (RAR). Purple Finch: widespread in moderate numbers; first dates: 16 Oct (1) JNC (MD); 21 Oct (2) KNX (ARH); 25 Oct (63) Speedwell (GWM); 10 Nov (4) CHA (LHD). House Finch: first winter flocks reported in JNC mid-October (LHTOS). Pine Siskin: widespread in moderate numbers; first dates; 1-18 Aug (1) Signal Mountain (JSL, LHD) (but more likely summering - Editor); 25 Oct (80-100) Speedwell (GWM); 25 Oct (6) Oak Ridge (WKJ); 28 Oct (2) SAB (KHD, LHD); 24 Nov (15) Pickett State Park (CPN). Evening Grosbeak: first dates: 20 Oct (1) NOR (CPN); 6 Nov (7) JNC (MD); 7 Nov (2) SAB (KHD, LHD); few reports at end of period.

Locations: AUS - Austin Springs; BOL - Boone Lake; BYC - Bradley Co.; CHA - Chattanooga; CRL - Cherokee Lake; CHL - Chickamauga Lake; DOL - Douglas Lake; EBF - Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery, Anderson Co.; FCF - Fall Creek Falls State Park; FLL - Fort Loudoun Lake; HRA - Hiwassee River Area; JNC - Johnson City; JNB - Jonesborough; KSP - Kingston Steam Plant, Roane Co.; KNX - Knoxville; MAC - Marion Co.; NIL - Nickajack Lake; NOR - Norris; NRL - Norris Lake; SAB - Savannah Bay; SLC -Sullivan Co.; WBL - Watts Bar Lake.

Addendum: In the article "Scissor-tailed Flycatchers in Meigs County, Tennessee," *Migrant* 55:66, Harris listed the last date the flycatcher was observed in 1984 as 15 September. This date should be extended to 24 November because the compilers had inadvertently failed to pass the information on. The location was the same as Jenkins and Ryther's sighting of 30 August.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION—This period was warm and dry into early November. A light frost occurred on 7 October, about normal, but the first killing frost did not occur until 7 November. November was the only month of the period in which above average rainfall was recorded.

A good waterfowl movement was observed on 22 November, with 14 species, many in larger than normal numbers, present on Watauga Lake. The warbler migration was considered very normal. Purple Finches and Evening Grosbeaks started arriving in mid-October, and Red-breasted Nuthatches, first observed in mid-September, increased towards the end of the period.

Loon-Merlin: Common Loon: 2 Oct (1) WTL (DRH), first report; 17 Nov (25+), 22 Nov (125+) WTL (RLK, RC). Horned Grebe: 17 Nov (2) WTL (GDE, HHF)), only report. Double-crested Cormorant: 22 Nov (1) WTL (RC). Green-backed Heron: 4 Oct (1) ELI (HHF), lrs. Canada Goose: 15-28 Nov (7-9) RZF (GDE, HHF). Green-winged Teal: 22 Nov (2) WTL (RC). American Black Duck: 28 Sep (1) WIL (GOW, CFW), ers. Blue-winged Teal: in ELI area 15 Sep - 2 Oct in low numbers. Canvasback: 22 Nov (5) RNC (RC). Redhead: 22 Nov (20) WTL (RC), ers. Greater Scaup: 22 Nov (12) WTL (RC). Bufflehead: 4 Nov (10) WIL (CFW), ers, late. Hooded Merganser: 17 Nov (8) RIL (GDE, HHF), ers. Red-breasted Merganser: 22 Nov (36) WTL (RC). Osprey: 22 Aug - 10 Nov (1-3) WTL (RH). Northern Harrier: 13 Aug (1) ELI (Lois Herndon), early; 7, 13, 14 Sep (1) RNM (GOW, GWS, EHS, RC). Sharp-shinned Hawk: good flight, 12 reports in ELI area, above average. Cooper's Hawk: 7 reports in ELI area, about average. Red-shouldered Hawk: 30 Aug (1), 28 Sep (3) RNM (LHTOS). Broad-winged Hawk: 28 Sep (1) ELI (HHF), lrs. Merlin: 19 Oct (1) RNM (RC).

Plover—Flycatcher: Semipalmated Plover: 22-26 Aug (1) SJP (HHD). Sanderling: 16 Aug (1) RNC (SG, HHD); 8 Sep (3), 28 Sep (2) RNC (GDE, HHF). Least Sandpiper: 4 Oct (2) SJP (RLK), lrs. Pectoral Sandpiper: 30 Aug (1) SJP (RLK). Stilt Sandpiper: 14 Aug (1) RNC (RLK). Dowitcher sp.: 16 Aug (1) RNC (MD, SG). Caspian Tern: 22 Sep (2) WTL (GDE). Forster's Tern: 31 Aug (1) WTL (GDE). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 28 Sep (1) ELI (HHF), lrs. Black-billed Cuckoo: no reports. Common Barn-Owl: 20 Jul - 10 Aug (2 pairs fledged young) SHL (*fide* GDE). Great Horned Owl: 22 Sep (1) ELI (HHF); 17 Oct (1) PWB (RC). Common Nighthawk: 16 Oct (2) ERW (GWS), lrs, late. Red-headed Woodpecker: 12 Sep (1) SMV (Howard Langridge); 25 Sep (1) WIL (RC). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 22 Oct (1) PWB (RC), ers. Least Flycatcher: 30 Aug (1) RNM (GWS), lrs. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 7 Sep (1) RNM (JPC, DTC); 28 Sep (1) ELI (HHF).

Martin-Grosbeak: Purple Martin: 4 Aug (2) ELI (fide GDE), lrs. Tree Swallow: 6 Nov (11) RZF (CFW), late. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 7 Sep (3) RNM (LHTOS), ers. Brown Creeper: 6 Nov (1) ERW (GWS), ers. Sedge Wren: 27 Sep (1) PWB (RC). Marsh Wren: 14 Nov (1) ERW (GWS), late. Swainson's Thrush: 12 Sep - 16 Oct in ELI area in high numbers (LHTOS). Hermit Thrush: 17 Nov (1) RIL (GDE, HHF), ers. Water Pipit: 12-30 Nov (10-25) PWB (RC et al.). Loggerhead Shrike: 17 Nov (1) SMV (GDE, HHF). only report. Solitary Vireo: 17 Oct (1) ERW (GWS), lrs. Philadelphia Vireo: 28 Sep (1) ELI (RLK, RC). Tennessee Warbler: 7 Oct (1) ELI (HHF), lrs. Nashville Warbler: 28 Sep (2) SMV (GOW, CFW), lrs. Magnolia Warbler: 8 Oct (1) ELI (HHF), lrs. Black-throated Blue Warbler: 23 Oct (1) PWB (RC), lrs. Pine Warbler: 11 Oct (1) WIL (HHD), lrs. Palm Warbler: 10 Nov (1) PWB (RC), lrs. Blackpoll Warbler: 4 Oct (1) Unicoi (GWS, MD). Summer Tanager: 24 Sep (1) ERW (GWS), only report. Blue Grosbeak: 28 Sep (1) RZF (GOW, CFW), lrs. Vesper Sparrow: 28 Sep (1) RNM (EHS); 28 Sep (1) SMV (GOW, CFW). Grasshopper Sparrow: 25 Sep (2) PWB (RC), lrs. Fox Sparrow: 15 Nov (4) RNM (RLK), ers. White-throated Sparrow: 30 Sep (1) ERW (GWS), ers. Purple Finch: 18 Oct (2) ELI (HHF), ers. House Finch: 15 Oct - winter flocks began moving into ELI area (LHTOS). Evening Grosbeak: 19 Oct (12) SHL (Richard P. Lewis), ers; numerous small flocks in ELI area since then (LHTOS).

Locations: ELI - Elizabethton area; ERW - Erwin; PWB - Powder Branch, Carter Co.; RZF - Razor Farm, Carter Co.; RIL - Ripshin Lake; RNM - Roan Mountain; RNC - Roans Creek, Johnson Co.; SHL — south Holston Lake; SJP - St. John's Pond, Washington Co.; WTL - Watauga Lake; WIL - Wilbur Lake, Carter Co.

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