

past six years. The primary purposes were: (1) to determine migratory dates, (2) to test various ageing and sexing techniques, and (3) to continue studying remige and rectrice molt in the Cardinal. The trapping area is characterized by wooded, hedgerow, field, and marsh habitats. The best bird movement occurred on Sept. 7, 9, and 13, Oct. 25, and Nov. 12-14. Of the 379 birds captured, 34% were fringillids, 21% warblers, 14% thrushes, and 9% mimids. Cardinals comprised 24% of all birds captured.

IRISH GROVE, Md. - Gladys Cole

Irish Grove Wildlife Sanctuary of the Maryland Ornithological Society has been used for a teaching and demonstration station for the past five autumn migrations. This fall we banded only 16 days. This is an excellent station for studying Myrtle Warblers and a great variety of sparrows.

KIPTOPEKE BEACH, Northampton Co., Va. - F. R. Scott

Netting efficiency in our 11th year dropped from 62 new birds per 100 net-hours in 1972 to 46 in 1973, the lowest in recent years. The high was 95 in 1970. The 1973 rate in September was 50 and in October it was 39. Efficiency is normally higher in October. Undoubtedly, the unusually warm weather and scarcity of strong cold fronts had a bearing on this situation, as did the fact that the station closed prior to the main migration of winter residents. There were 677 repeats, 12 returns, and one foreign retrap.

Since the station did not close until Oct. 21, versus Oct. 15 in 1972, many winter residents were in higher numbers in 1973. Comparisons include Brown Creeper, 82 in 1973 (vs. 17 in 1972); Winter Wren, 29 (vs. 12); Hermit Thrush, 47 (vs. 23); Golden-crowned Kinglet, 163 (vs. 89); and Swamp Sparrow, 41 (vs. 19). Yet the most abundant winter resident, the Myrtle Warbler, declined from 1637 in 1972 to only 440 in 1973, the lowest count since 1966.

American Redstarts hit a record high, rising from 1706 in 1972 to 2164 in 1973. Other increases were Swainson's Thrush, 108 (1972) to 236 (1973); Red-eyed Vireo, 118 to 218; Black-and-white Warbler, 176 to 272; Palm Warbler, 142 to 272; Ovenbird, 151 to 230; Northern Waterthrush, 52 to 106; Wilson's Warbler, 10 to 34; Blue Grosbeak, 3 to 7; and Indigo Bunting, 42 to 102. Declines of interest, aside from the Myrtle Warbler, included Red-breasted Nuthatch, 34 to 4; Gray-cheeked Thrush, 149 to 87; and Veery, 202 to 172. For the first time since 1970, Swainson's Thrushes outnumbered Gray-cheeks. Banders in charge were Mrs. Jane P. Church, C. W. Hacker, Mrs. Betty Lancaster, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Mitchell, F. R. Scott, and W. P. Smith, backed up by 98 assistants. Field records were edited by W. P. Smith.

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SUNDAY	8:00	Breakfast - Upper Lounge - 2nd fl. Lodge Drive to Bethany College to see J. Audubon's Elephant Folio, John Gould's Works on Commonwealth Birds, Forest Buchannon's specimens of Mounted Birds.
6 Apr '75	9:00	
	9:15	Bird walk in Oglebay Park and Bird Watching at Brooks Nature Center.
	9:30	Field trip to Powdermill Banding Station, Ligonier, Pa. Field trip to Ralph Bell's Farm, Clarks-ville, Pa.
	12:15	Lunch - Lodge Dining Room, Oglebay Park (Order from Menu)

As you know, Annual Meetings are ideal to renew old friendships and to make new ones. We cordially invite members of IBBA residing near Wheeling to join us so we can get to know them! From the looks of the program, this is going to be a very fine meeting, so let's all try to get to Wheeling, April 4-6, 1975!

