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Cover: Eastern Phoebe at Nest with three young on Patuxent
Refuge, June 17, 1944. Photo by W. Eryant Tyrrell

HEADINGS: by Irving S. Hampe, Art Editor

LINE DRAWINGS: by Mel Garland



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MARYLAND'S FIRST BAIRD'S SPARROW

Willet T. Van Velzen and Gladys Hix Cole

On October 14, 1966, while conducting banding operations at North Ocean City, Worcester County, Maryland, we netted a finely streaked, immature female Baird's Sparrow (*Ammodramus bairdii*). This bird was caught late in the afternoon in a mist net placed at the edge of the marsh along Assawoman Bay.

In many respects this sparrow closely resembles the Savannah Sparrows with which it was apparently associating. Total length, wing length and bill size are very similar for both species and the many races of the Savannah Sparrow present a range of color and pattern variations that makes a separation of the two species difficult. The unusual fact that the bird was in partial juvenal plumage attracted our attention. Thompson (*Kans. Ornith. Soc. Bull.* 11:607, 1960) mentions that this sparrow apparently migrates in juvenal plumage as opposed to the usual pattern of completing the molt prior to migration, typical of most passerines.

This specimen is the first record for this species in Maryland and apparently the second specimen record for the East Coast. Another bird was taken at Montauk Point, Long Island, New York, on November 13, 1899 (Cartwright, Shortt and Harris, *Trans. Roy. Can. Inst.* 21 (2): 153-198, 1937).

Specimen identification (USNM Number 530213) was verified by Dr. Richard C. Banks and David Bridge at the Division of Birds, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.



Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel
and 625 Valley Lane, Towson

AN EXCITING WEEK AT THE CONNECTICUT AUDUBON CAMP

Dorothy Clark

The last week of June I had a very wonderful time at the Audubon Natural Science Field Workshop, 8 miles from Greenwich, Connecticut. I am very grateful and wish to thank the MOS for making this possible by granting me a Helen B. Miller Audubon Nature Camp Scholarship.

The varied habitats at the camp helped the program to be very interesting. Campers previously had been given their choice of a field of interest to pursue, such as marine or animal life. Now all campers follow the same program which includes the study of birds, other animals, and plants of the meadow, woodland, and fresh and salt water.

In addition to many field trips, we had many interesting lectures and films. A color film that was especially informative and contained very beautiful nature scenes was one on the Grand Canyon. This film explained why it would be undesirable to build dams in the Colorado River in the area of the Grand Canyon. Some of the topics included in the lectures were "The Impact of Man on the Land", "New England's Geological History" and "From Field to Forest". One evening a planetarium show was presented. Another of our projects was to forecast the weather. In our studies, I was introduced to such things as slime molds, efts and horse tails. After a few days I felt something like a sponge since I was soaking up so much information.

We studied plants and animals not only at the Audubon Camp, but also at the Audubon Wildflower Sanctuary, a mile or two away. It, too, has a lovely, lush forest with many interesting plants (especially ferns) as well as open fields. Here we saw a Yellow-billed Cuckoo on her nest. We also saw the Baltimore Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, and Blue-winged Warbler. One day as I was walking through the woods I nearly stepped on an American Woodcock. I don't know which of us was more surprised!

One morning all of us took a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour walk in the Wildflower Sanctuary in the rain! It was really quite an enjoyable experience and one I would recommend to anyone. We found that there are different things to observe in the woods when it's raining.

One day we went down to the Long Island Sound (which was several miles away) to study marine life, and came back with collections of shells, rocks, and various kinds of marine plants and animals.

On the last night of the camp we have a time of singing and good fellowship around the fireplace in the dining hall. We especially enjoyed the fire, for although the weather had been pleasant most of the week, the last two days were chilly and wet. We all regretted to see the camp come to an end. As we were leaving, one housewife said, "Now we have to get back to reality!"

2607 Proctor Lane, Baltimore

IN MEMORIAM--W. BRYANT TYRRELL

Goldie Thomsen

With the passing of our good friend William Bryant Tyrrell on June 8, 1967, the Maryland Ornithological Society has lost a loyal, devoted member and a talented nature photographer and lecturer.

Born in New Britain, Connecticut, on September 7, 1893, Bryant Tyrrell attended North Western University in Michigan and then began his long career as a naturalist by mounting birds for exhibit at the Field Museum in Chicago. He established the natural history program at Cranbrook Institute in Michigan, then moved to Catonsville, Maryland, and finally to Takoma Park.

His photography of birds and other natural history subjects is well known to M.O.S. members, as he has been one of our most popular lecturers during the past two decades. He was a founder and the first President of the Takoma Park Nature Society, the eighth Chapter of M.O.S. He served as a Vice-President of M.O.S. from 1951 to 1958 and he was also active in the Maryland Natural History Society and the Audubon Naturalist Society. For years he was a staff member at the Allegany Chapter's Junior Nature Camp. As a true conservationist he realized the importance of stimulating an interest in youngsters at an early age. In appreciation of his many years of service to Boy Scouts, the Tyrrell Trail was dedicated at the Walso Schmidt Scout Camp near Slanesville, West Virginia, and a totem pole he had carved years ago at Camp Roosevelt also was transferred to the Schmidt camp.

His nature photographs have graced the pages of Maryland Birdlife as well as more widely distributed journals such as the National Geographic and the London Illustrated News. His latest photographic achievement was the completion of a full length movie on the C & O Canal --produced with the hope of generating enough public interest to save the Canal from further encroachment by highways and housing developments.

Perhaps less well known are Bryant Tyrrell's scientific studies such as his intensive work with Bald Eagle populations in the Potomac and Chesapeake Bay area. He was one of the early pioneers in the bird banding program, working especially with birds of prey. As one of the few links between present ornithologists and the Maryland ornithologists of yesteryear, he was instrumental in salvaging the tens of thousands of bird observations that had been accumulated by the late Frank C. Kirkwood, making these available to Stewart and Robbins for use in their Birds of Maryland, and then placing them on permanent deposit with the Maryland Historical Society.

I am sure I speak for all M.O.S. members who knew him when I extend our sincere sympathy to his wife Philippa, to his daughter, and his five grandchildren and great grandson.

419 Elm Avenue, Takoma Park



July, August, September, 1967

Chandler S. Robbins

The summer of 1967 was cool and moist in the Free State--our first drought-free summer since 1963. Temperatures for the State as a whole averaged 2° below normal during July and August, and 4° below normal in September. Rainfall was well distributed through the period, with measurable precipitation in 12 of the 13 weeks. July had its "normal" quota of rain; August had more than twice the 30-year mean; and September, with its poor hurricane season, was deficient by more than 50 percent in the tidewater counties.

Lawns remained green throughout the summer; weeds grew luxuriantly; berry-bearing shrubs and trees were loaded to capacity with fruit, much of which was still available to wildlife at the close of the period. With an abundance of natural food, we can expect wintering songbirds to fare better than usual, barring any meteorological catastrophe.

Summer cold fronts usually dissipate before reaching Maryland. However, in the summer of 1967, they penetrated our State with almost the regularity that one would expect in October. The first one of the period passed through on July 3 and dropped the temperature on the Lower Eastern Shore into the upper fifties on the next three nights--the coldest period of the whole month. The second reached us on July 13, but stalled overhead. Number 3, on the 26th, also stalled over Maryland. This was followed by still another weak front, number 4, on the 28th; the only bird arrival detected in connection with this front was the Tree Swallow in Montgomery County.

In August, cold fronts followed by air masses of Continental Polar origin crossed into Maryland on the following dates (minimum Salisbury temperatures in parentheses give an indication of the relative strength of each frontal passage): Aug. 2 (68°), Aug. 5-6 (65° on Aug. 7), Aug. 10 (63° on the 12th), Aug. 23 (70° on the 24th), Aug. 27-28 (61° on the 29th), and Aug. 31 (46° on Sept. 3).

The only cold front to reach Maryland during the first three weeks of September arrived on the 10th (45° on the 12th). Others passed through on Sept. 22 (43° on the 23rd), Sept. 24 (39° on the 26th), and Sept. 28-29 (44° on Oct. 1).

In any other year we might have expected a rash of early fall transients in response to the July 3 and early August cold fronts. You will recall, however, that the spring migration was quite late. Furthermore, nesting of many songbirds in New England was delayed by abnormally cold, rainy weather throughout June. So it is likely that most of the birds were still engaged in nesting activities at the time when weather conditions provided the first impetus to migrate. Some birds undoubtedly did begin their migration about July 3, but numbers were so small that the birds were not detected in Maryland.

The August migration was poorly sampled by banders and other observers. Starting in early September, on the other hand, we have daily records from the two big banding stations at Ocean City and Damsite (near Tolchester Beach on the east shore of the Chesapeake), and part-time coverage at several other stations.

Table 1 gives a summary of the earliest arrival dates reported for each of those counties from which sufficient observations were submitted. You will note that the species included in the table vary slightly from year to year, depending upon the number of records submitted for each species. There is no point in allotting table space for a species that is reported from only one or two counties; it is preferable to mention these scattered observations in the text--if they are judged important enough to be mentioned. Underscored dates in Table 1 represent banded birds. Underscored dates or numbers in the text indicate record-breaking occurrences.

Credit for the bulk of the records in the table goes to the following observers, who sent in the great majority of reports from their respective counties: Allegany County--Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Reynolds, Anderson J. Martin; Frederick County--John W. Richards, Robert W. Warfield, William Shirey; Baltimore City and County--Haven Kolb, Mrs. Richard D. Cole, Stephen W. Simon, Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner, Tommy Andres, Jessie Kratzer, Rose Gerringa, Sanford Corey, Delores Clark, Mary Harper Jones, Jim Emerson, Jane Daniels, John Poteet, Bertha Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Strack, Nancy Rowe, Mrs. N. T. Nelson, Mrs. Lloyd Smith; Harford County--Mrs. Richard D. Cole, C. Douglas Hackman, Russ Rytter; Howard--Mrs. Harry B. Rauth; Montgomery--Mrs. John M. Frankel, Robert W. Warfield, Mrs. Sarah Baker, Mrs. Nell Cooley; Prince Georges--John H. Fales, Chandler S. Robbins, Brooke Meanley, Paul and Danny Bystrak, Richard C. Carlson; Anne Arundel--Paul and Danny Bystrak, Prof. and Mrs. David Howard, Harold Wierenga; Calvert--John H. Fales; Kent--Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mendinhall, Dr. and Mrs. A. Delario, Maryanne Emerine, Hilda Kane, Marie Hubbard; Caroline--Mrs. A. J. Fletcher, Marvin W. Hewitt, Ethel Engle, V. Edwin Unger, Alicia Knotts; Talbot--Jan Reese, Don Meritt, Dickson Preston; Dorchester--Harry T. Armistead; Worcester--Ted Stiles, Edward J. Rykiel, Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Bryan, Vernon Kleen, Mrs. Richard D. Cole, Robert W. Warfield, Chandler S. Robbins.

Pelagic birds. A boat trip offshore from Ocean City can be exciting at any season, because the offshore waters are the least explored portion

of the State. The Wilson's Petrel, a bird unfamiliar to most landlubbers, can be found almost any day in the summer by those who venture a few miles out from Ocean City; and one or more species of shearwaters may be found as a special bonus. On Aug. 27 Jan Reese and party (Bill Clark, G. Grant, Don Meritt, Will Russell and Paul Sykes) hired a boat at Ocean

Table 1. Fall Arrival Dates, 1967

	Alle	Fred	Balt	Harf	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Kent	Carc	Talb	Dorc	Worc
Double-cr. Cormorant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7/25	9/5	9/16	--	9/4
Common Egret	0	0	0	7/16	0	7/15	--	0	0	0	7/25	0	--	--
Canada Goose	0	9/23	9/22	--	10/1	10/1	10/6	9/22	9/30	--	9/22	9/11	9/16	--
Broad-winged Hawk	8/20	9/22	9/4	--	9/23	9/24	0	0	0	0	0	9/17	--	0
Osprey	0	--	9/12	--	0	9/13	0	0	9/4	0	--	9/16	--	--
Sparrow Hawk	8/13	--	8/16	--	8/8	--	--	--	--	--	--	7/22	--	--
Semipalmated Plover	0	0	0	0	0	8/19	0	0	0	0	0	9/16	0	7/26
Am. Woodcock	--	--	10/27	--	--	--	9/20	9/24	10/8	10/29	--	9/21	--	--
Spotted Sandpiper	--	0	--	7/16	8/26	8/15	--	7/26	0	0	7/20	9/4	0	7/6
Solitary Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	0	7/16	--	7/26	0	7/26	7/20	0	0	--
Greater Yellowlegs	0	0	0	0	0	8/15	0	8/9	0	--	8/11	9/4	--	7/26
Lesser Yellowlegs	0	0	7/24	0	0	8/16	0	0	0	0	8/11	--	--	9/9
Black Tern	0	8/20	0	0	0	0	8/3	0	0	0	0	9/3	0	7/25
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	--	--	9/4	--	9/3	9/2	9/4	--	8/27	--	9/21	--	--	9/18
Common Nighthawk	--	8/25	8/14	0	8/22	8/15	0	8/28	0	0	9/6	9/4	0	8/28
Yel-shafted Flicker	--	--	10/16	--	--	8/22	9/21	10/13	9/16	9/12	--	10/22	--	9/18
Yel-bellied Sapsucker	--	10/6	10/8	--	10/22	10/7	10/7	10/2	--	10/3	--	10/12	9/14	9/23
Eastern Kingbird	--	--	--	--	8/31	8/16	8/14	--	8/10	--	--	--	--	9/6
Yel-bell. Flycatcher	8/20	8/26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9/3	0	9/12	0	9/1
Trail's Flycatcher	--	--	0	0	0	9/15	0	0	0	0	0	0	9/8	9/2
Least Flycatcher	8/20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9/5	0	9/9	9/1	9/1
Tree Swallow	--	8/16	0	7/16	0	7/29	--	8/15	8/15	--	9/18	9/10	--	8/28
Blue Jay	--	9/23	9/29	--	--	9/24	9/26	--	9/26	9/20	--	9/22	--	10/5
Brown Creeper	--	--	10/28	--	--	10/9	--	10/1	10/8	9/13	--	9/22	9/23	9/19
Swainson's Thrush	0	0	9/2	0	0	9/18	9/16	9/8	--	9/13	9/22	9/18	9/7	9/2
Gray-cheeked Thrush	0	0	9/25	0	0	9/19	0	0	--	9/13	--	9/18	9/21	9/15
Veery	--	--	8/29	0	0	9/21	--	0	0	9/4	0	9/12	9/4	9/2
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	--	9/24	9/25	10/6	9/25	10/7	10/5	9/24	10/8	9/20	--	10/20	9/23	9/12
Cedar Waxwing	8/20	--	10/7	--	9/1	8/15	9/12	8/19	10/6	--	10/22	9/23	9/2	9/2
Loggerhead Shrike	0	0	0	0	0	10/28	0	0	0	0	9/19	8/19	9/4	0
Blk-&wh. Warbler	--	9/16	--	--	9/3	8/29	--	9/2	9/5	8/23	9/21	9/3	8/31	9/13
Worm-eating Warbler	0	--	--	0	8/29	--	--	0	--	0	0	9/7	9/2	9/2
Tennessee Warbler	0	0	0	0	10/3	0	9/21	0	9/13	0	0	9/23	9/15	9/15
Nashville Warbler	0	9/24	0	0	9/7	10/3	0	9/4	0	9/17	0	9/23	9/15	9/15
Parula Warbler	--	--	--	--	9/3	9/9	--	9/10	--	--	0	--	10/1	9/13
Yellow Warbler	--	--	--	--	8/26	--	--	9/11	9/7	--	--	--	9/21	9/2
Magnolia Warbler	0	--	9/1	0	9/1	--	9/4	9/3	9/17	9/12	9/26	0	9/9	9/1
Cape May Warbler	0	0	9/3	0	9/25	--	0	9/16	0	9/28	0	0	9/23	9/7
Blk-thr. Blue Warbler	0	0	9/1	0	8/27	--	9/16	0	--	9/13	0	9/17	9/8	9/2
Myrtle Warbler	10/14	10/14	10/7	--	10/4	10/7	9/28	9/23	10/8	10/5	--	10/10	10/6	9/26
Blk-thr. Green Warb.	--	9/24	9/23	--	9/3	9/5	9/6	9/6	10/2	9/12	9/26	9/21	10/1	9/7
Blackburnian Warbler	--	--	0	0	8/25	0	9/4	0	--	9/17	0	9/10	--	9/6
Chestnut-sided Warb.	--	--	0	0	8/25	0	0	9/8	0	9/5	0	0	9/24	9/1
Bay-breasted Warbler	0	0	0	0	9/20	9/24	0	9/15	--	9/17	0	0	--	9/7
Blackpoll Warbler	0	0	0	0	9/11	10/8	0	9/15	9/23	9/11	0	9/12	0	9/15
Palm Warbler	0	0	9/23	0	10/9	0	10/7	9/23	0	9/11	0	--	10/22	9/4
Ovenbird	--	--	9/2	--	--	--	--	--	--	9/5	--	9/14	9/7	8/31
No. Waterthrush	0	0	9/2	0	0	0	9/2	8/31	0	9/13	0	9/8	9/7	8/31
Connecticut Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	0	9/12	0	0	9/5	0	9/12	9/14	9/4
Wilson's Warbler	0	0	0	0	9/1	0	9/9	0	0	9/13	0	0	9/8	9/3
Canada Warbler	0	8/27	8/29	0	8/25	9/2	9/1	0	0	9/4	9/13	9/8	9/14	9/1
Am. Redstart	--	8/27	8/11	--	9/1	8/26	9/2	9/1	9/5	9/5	--	9/9	9/14	8/31
Bobolink	0	0	0	0	9/9	8/14	0	9/2	0	8/29	9/16	9/3	9/12	9/12
Baltimore Oriole	--	--	9/2	--	8/8	--	--	8/8	9/2	9/13	--	8/5	9/3	9/1
Rose-br. Grosbeak	9/30	0	10/3	0	9/5	0	0	--	--	9/21	0	9/22	9/14	9/17
Dickcissel	0	--	0	0	8/29	0	0	11/11	0	0	0	0	0	--
Rufous-sided Towhee	--	--	10/16	--	--	9/20	--	10/11	--	10/3	--	9/22	10/21	10/2
Savannah Sparrow	--	10/12	9/30	--	10/11	0	0	10/15	--	10/15	--	10/22	9/17	9/6
Slate-col. Junco	--	10/22	9/30	--	10/11	10/12	10/9	10/6	10/15	9/24	10/7	10/20	9/24	9/20
White-thr. Sparrow	10/14	10/8	10/6	--	9/23	10/4	10/4	10/7	10/7	10/3	--	10/6	10/6	9/26

City and traveled due east until they were 21 miles from shore. The date of the trip was well planned to assure shearwaters and petrels and, at the same time, to include the possibility of some early fall transients. Barely had the boat passed through the Ocean City Inlet when the State arrival date for the Gannet was shattered by the appearance of 2 early individuals. And, as the boat entered international waters, at the 3-mile limit from shore, the fall arrival record for the Parasitic Jaeger was broken. Wilson's Petrels are a challenge to count, but the observers' estimate of 185 or more exceeds the highest August count for Maryland. Six Cory's Shearwaters were sighted about 17 miles from land, and a single Audubon's Shearwater in the same general area provided a fitting climax for a most rewarding trip. The only previous Maryland record of this small southern shearwater was a bird studied at Ocean City Inlet on June 3, 1963, by Sam Dyke.

Hérons and Ibises. Harry Armistead spent many productive days exploring southern Dorchester County this summer and fall. His counts of active heron nests on Bloodsworth Island will be saved for the next record summary; but in addition to the nests, he observed a Louisiana Heron and 4 Yellow-crowned Night Herons there on July 2. His tally of 65 Cattle Egrets at Hoopers Island on Sept. 20 set a new fall record for the Maryland portion of Chesapeake Bay, as did 133 Common Egrets at Elliott Island on Sept. 29, 65 Snowy Egrets at Blackwater Refuge on Sept. 7, and 70 Snowy Egrets at Elliott Island on Sept. 22 (all by Armistead). A late Glossy Ibis was noted at Blackwater Refuge on Sept. 7 by Armistead; and on Aug. 28 an immature White Ibis was closely observed at Lilypons and carefully described by Donald R. Simonson--the third Maryland record of this southern species.

Swans and Geese. Marvin Hewitt reported that 3 of the 4 young Mute Swans, as well as their 2 parents, were still surviving on Sept. 26 at Linchester Pond in Caroline County. As many as 6 adults were present all summer at St. Michaels, and Jan Reese counted a brood of 4 cygnets with them on July 22. Reese also reported a rare summering Brant in Queen Annes County on July 4. The first Canada Geese arrived at Bellevue in Talbot County on Sept. 11 (Mr. and Mrs. George A. Armistead and J. M. Camper), just after the first cold front of the month. General arrival on the wintering grounds followed the next cold front on Sept. 22 (see Table 1). Five Snow Geese reached Blackwater Refuge on the record-breaking date of Sept. 23 (refuge personnel).

Ducks. The prize duck of the period was a weak-flying female King Eider seen as close as 10 feet at Nelsons Island in Talbot County on Sept. 5 by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Armistead. This observation revives hope that the King Eider may occur regularly near the mouths of the Choptank and Little Choptank Rivers; it had not been identified there since the fall of 1933, when 3 were shot. As many as 19 summering Oldsquaws were counted in Talbot County on July 16, and 4 White-winged Scoters and 1 Common Scoter on July 16 (Reese and Meritt). Scoter arrival dates at Ocean City were Aug. 31 for the Common and Oct. 1 for the White-winged (Robert W. Warfield). Arrival dates and numbers of the surface-feeding ducks were normal.

Eagles and Hawks. The age ratio of Bald Eagles reported in September from Dorchester, Talbot, Queen Annes, and Caroline Counties was 6 white-headed adults to 9 birds in brown plumage (Armistead, Reese, and Ethel Engle). On July 2 there were 11 occupied nests of Ospreys adjacent to the heron colony on the northeast part of Bloodsworth Island in Dorchester County (Armistead). The hawk migration attracted very little comment--probably because it attracted very few observers.

Shorebirds. The Sept. 15 discovery by Donald Simonson, Jonathan Hignan and Carleton Swift of 26 American Golden Plovers, 160 Killdeer 7 Western Sandpipers, and a Buff-breasted Sandpiper on the turf farm adjacent to the McKee-Beshers State Wildlife Refuge in western Montgomery County caused much excitement for a week and a half. Subsequent trips revealed 1 Buff-breasted and 2 Baird's Sandpipers on Sept. 21 (Sarah Baker) and 2 Buff-breasts and 3 Baird's on Sept. 22 (Don Messersmith, Mike O'Brien). There are only six previous records of the Buff-breast in Maryland, all on the Coastal Plain. The only previous Piedmont records of the Baird's Sandpiper are from Lilypons in Frederick County (1964-66). Other inland reports of Golden Plovers came from the Princeton Turf Farm on US 301 near Centreville (2 on Sept. 22 by Sarah Baker and Nell Cooley), Federalsburg (1 on Sept. 17 by V. E. Unger and Mace Smith), and Blackwater Refuge (11 on Sept. 8 and 9 by Harry Armistead). Robert Warfield recorded the following early arrivals at Ocean City: Whimbrel on July 5, Spotted Sandpiper and Willet on July 6, Semipalmated Sandpiper on July 7, Solitary Sandpiper on July 16, Sanderling on July 23, and Ruddy Turnstone and Greater Yellowlegs on July 26. His Marbled Godwit there on Aug. 29 was the first of several seen this fall. In a study of coastwise migration along the beach, Warfield counted migrating Sanderlings daily in mid-afternoon (1 to 5 hours per day) from July 22 through July 30, with the following totals: 0, 125, 70, 400, 1, 140, 175, 58, and 302; no correlation with speed or direction of the wind was apparent.

Gulls and Terns. Great Black-backed Gulls were present in favored localities along the eastern shore of the Chesapeake throughout the period, reaching numbers as high as 58 on July 4 in Queen Annes County (Reese), 110 on Sept. 4 in Talbot County (Reese), and 81 at Barren Island in Dorchester County on Sept. 22 (Armistead), all without the benefit of coastal storms. Ring-billed Gulls did not arrive at Ocean City until the late date of Aug. 6 (Warfield). On July 2 Armistead identified single Caspian Terns at Blackwater Refuge and at Bloodsworth Island; thus, for 3 of the past 4 summers one or more vagrant Caspians have been found in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay in late June or early July. Two Caspians that appeared at Ocean City on Aug. 6 broke the fall arrival record by 4 days (Warfield).

Songbirds (general). Undoubtedly the most efficient way to study songbird migration is consistent use of mist nets on a daily basis throughout the migration period. Unfortunately, this means of exploration is open only to the highly select few who are especially trained in this technique and who have qualified for banding permits that authorize use of nets. The operators of large netting stations must devote just about full time to this activity if they hope to obtain a

sample of the day-to-day bird population in their vicinity. Many interesting observations can be obtained through less intensive banding, but these do not compare with the actual arrival and departure dates that are revealed by the large stations in daily operation. These words of caution are necessary for those who may use data from Table 1 for the study of the fall migration. Only in Kent and Worcester counties was banding conducted on a daily basis through the months of September and October. We must emphasize also that no regular banding was conducted at any station in August; this explains why so few of the early migrant species such as Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, and Canada Warbler were detected in Baltimore, Prince Georges, Anne Arundel, Kent, Caroline, Talbot, Dorchester, and Worcester Counties in August. For the first time, a netting station was operated in Dorchester County--at Hoopers Island for 15 days in September by Harry Armistead. As would be expected, Mr. Armistead added several new species to the Dorchester County list: Traill's Flycatcher, Philadelphia Vireo, Connecticut Warbler, Mourning Warbler, and Wilson's Warbler. This new station was especially welcome because the Kent Point station, 35 miles to the north, could not be operated this season.

The heaviest flights in September, as judged by "grounded" birds at the banding stations, occurred on Sept. 18-19, 23, and 26. The best day of the month was the 23rd, following a cold front that broke a 12-day spell of warm weather. New bandings that day totaled 129 birds (165 per 100 net-hours) at Hoopers Island, 272 (50 per 100 net-hours) at Ocean City, and 66 (27 per 100 net-hours) at Damsite. The most common species that day were the American Redstart (43 at Ocean City and 26 at Hoopers Is.), Swainson's Thrush (20 each at Damsite and Ocean City), Ovenbird (18 at Ocean City, 5 at Hoopers Is., 3 at Damsite), Yellowthroat (14 at Ocean City, 9 at Hoopers Is.), Catbird (15 at Hoopers Is., 5 at Damsite), and Magnolia Warbler (17 at Hoopers Is.).

The second-best flight of the month took place on Sept. 17-19 immediately after our brush with hurricane Doria. Although there was no cold front, the combination of clearing weather, light northerly winds, and a full moon stimulated a substantial migration on three successive nights. Unfortunately, the Hoopers Island station was not operating at this time, but the effect of northeasterly winds on the night of Sept. 16-17 caused migrants to drift westward across the Eastern Shore and give the Mendinghalls their second-best day of the month: 43 birds (31 per 100 net-hours). Their commonest birds were the Veery, Red-eyed Vireo, Magnolia Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, and American Redstart. With northwesterly winds on the next night, the heaviest "groundings" were at Ocean City on the 18th, with American Redstart, Red-eyed Vireo, Swainson's Thrush and Yellowthroat the commonest birds. The next night was calm, so both stations had a good flight on the 19th. The same four species were again the most common ones at Ocean City; while the top four at Damsite were Blackpoll Warbler, Swainson's Thrush, and Parula and Magnolia Warblers.

The cold front of the 24th produced its greatest effect on the 26th,

with 264 birds (49 birds per 100 net-hours) at Ocean City and 31 (7 per 100 net-hours) at Damsite, under light and variable winds. At Ocean City the common species were the same as the preceding week, with the addition of the Ovenbird; at Damsite the top species were Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrush and Magnolia Warbler. How do these observations compare with those in your own favorite birding haunts?

Jays, Nuthatches. There was a heavy migration of Blue Jays over Maryland during the last week of September. No Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported during September, and there was no evidence of a movement of White-breasted Nuthatches.

Pipits. An extraordinarily early flock of 5 Water Pipits was seen by Don Simonson near Swanton, Garrett County, on Sept. 9, three days ahead of the earliest State record.

Warblers. On July 15 Dr. Charles A. Ely found a Black-throated Green Warbler singing at Rock Run Sanctuary. There are several other mid-summer observations of this species in Maryland's Piedmont, but nesting records east of the mountains are lacking. No arrival or departure records of warblers were broken during the present period, nor were any high counts established for any Section of the State.

Sparrows. Burton Alexander and Bruce Dwyer discovered a Slate-colored Junco on Aug. 10 at Emory Grove, Glyndon, in Baltimore County; it was still present on the 16th. The observers made an unsuccessful search for a possible mate and concluded from the bird's weak flight that it may have been incapable of extended flight. There is no previous July or August record east of Garrett County. Forty years ago the Lark Sparrow nested locally in Garrett County, but it has not been seen in Maryland since then except during migration. Small numbers are found every few years along the coast of the Chesapeake, generally in August, September or October. An immature was banded at Ocean City on Sept. 7, 1967 by Ted Stiles and Vernon Kleen. Since Lark Sparrows were found nesting within a few miles of the Maryland line near Keyser, W. Va., this summer, the discovery of one individual near Swanton in Garrett County on Sept. 9 (Donald R. Simonson) suggests that it is time to make another thorough search of the Swanton-Oakland-Redhouse area of southern Garrett County next summer in hopes that the Lark Sparrow may once again be a Maryland nesting species.



U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel

HAWK and OWL Information Desired
William S. Clark

In connection with a study of the distribution, migration and abundance of the hawks and owls of Maryland and Virginia, I would appreciate current information on any concentrations of birds of prey, or occurrences of any of the rarer species.

REPORTING OF FIELD OBSERVATIONS

All Maryland Birdlife readers are familiar with THE SEASON reports, which for twenty-three years have been a regular feature of this journal.

Purpose

These reports attempt to serve several purposes: 1) To let M.O.S. members know what is going on in the bird world throughout our State; 2) To place on permanent record the more significant occurrences of each season such as dates, numbers, changes in abundance, presence of rarities, and range extensions; 3) to point out the significance of bird observations as they are related to normal or unusual weather conditions; 4) to show the reader where to go and at what seasons to find the various Maryland birds in greatest numbers; and 5) to mention some of the current findings of research workers as they relate to bird distribution, migration and abundance in Maryland.

What to Report

A glance at any issue of Maryland Birdlife will show you the nature of the observations that are summarized in THE SEASON. These include first arrival and last departure dates of common as well as the rarer species, any unusual concentrations or actual counts of migrants, summer residents or wintering birds, any trends in abundance, including absence of birds that normally would be expected. Effects of storms or other weather conditions on bird life always are welcome, as well as details of casualties at television towers or ceilometers. Complete lists of birds seen on official Chapter trips are of special interest, as choice items from these may entice members to sign up for future trips to the same locations.

Bird banding summaries or individual banding records of special interest are very helpful; remember that we do not see your official reports that go directly to the banding office, so any noteworthy records other than those from Operation Recovery need to be reported separately. Since it is impossible for you to tell whether you have seen the first Chimney Swift in your county, or the last Purple Finch, the only safe procedure is to report your dates. It often is helpful to have several reports of the same species from the same county, as this makes it possible to detect bulk arrivals and dates of peak movement. Final departure dates escape most people unless a special effort is made to jot down a few records each day in a notebook or on a calendar; try it.

How to Report

Report in writing! A verbal report given at a local Chapter meeting is not satisfactory, as most such reports do not reach Maryland Birdlife. In view of the large number of reports received from all over the State, your editors prefer that, in general, individual reports be funneled through a Chapter compiler. But if you do not know the compiler for your Chapter, send your reports direct to the Editor.

A report may consist of an observation of one or more species, a checklist for a one-day or week-end trip, or a summary for an entire season. In each case the locality, date(s), species, estimated number of individuals, and the observer must be clearly stated. Additional comments are generally very helpful, and are an absolute necessity for rarities or birds seen outside their normal period of occurrence. If identification has been confirmed by others, if a recognizable photograph was taken, or if a nest has been found, this should always be stated.

Checklists for official Chapter trips will be returned to the Chapter on request; other records will become part of the permanent file of the Section of Migratory Non-Game Bird Studies, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and will be housed at the Migratory Bird Populations Station at Laurel. Since these records will be put on microfilm, it is necessary that they be neat and legible, and typed or written in dark ink (not pale blue ink).

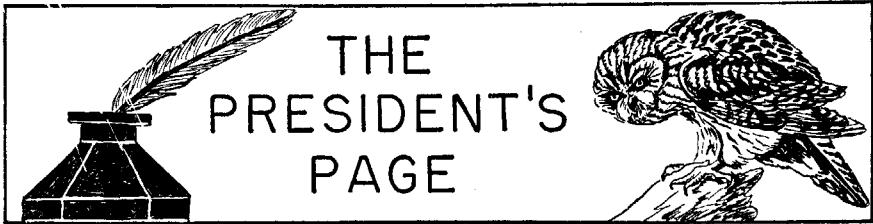
For individual records of interest we prefer the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife form 3-801, which is a 2- by 5-inch slip that will be provided on request in pads of 50 or 100. The advantage of this slip is that it can be placed directly in the main card file as soon as THE SEASON report has been prepared; the disadvantage is that if many species are seen on the same day the locality, date, and observer must be repeated on each slip.

SPECIES Sanderling			SEASONS early fall	YEAR 1967
STATE OR TERRITORY Md.			NEAREST TOWN Ocean City	
ORGANIZATION OR OBSERVER R. W. Warfield			NUMBER OF TRIPS 9 (7/22-30)	AVERAGE HOURS 3
DATE FIRST SEEN 7/23	DATE MOST SEEN 7/25	DATE LAST SEEN 7/30	DATE MAXIMUM BREEDING --	DATE MAXIMUM WINTERING --
NUMBER FIRST SEEN 125	LARGEST NUMBER SEEN IN ONE DAY 400	NUMBER LAST SEEN 302	LARGEST NUMBER (PAIRS) BREEDING	LARGEST NUMBER WINTERING
3-801 Birds migrating just offshore			16-61363-1 GPO	

When to Report

THE SEASON reports always cover the same periods of three months each: January-February-March, April-May-June, July-August-September, and October-November-December. Your observations should be in the hands of your Chapter compiler within one week of the end of each 3-month period so that he will have time to complete his county summary by April 15, July 15, October 15, and January 15. The best time to send your observations is the same day you make them--unless you are in the habit or preparing your own quarterly summary.

This is your magazine. Let us hear from YOU.--Ed.



V. Edwin Unger

This is the season of mixed feelings for those of us who devote much of our leisure time to the pursuit of observing and reflecting upon the wonders of nature. If we are tempted to lament the bareness of the trees, the death of the flowers, the lack of greenery and the departure of our feathered friends of summer, we are at the same time rewarded by the briskness of the air, the memory of the recent fall foliage, the return of the geese and the arrival of the northern birds at our feeders. In addition, most of us have come to look upon the winter scene as one of unsurpassed beauty, for such may be found even in dried stalks and bare trees. Frost and snow create patterns and vistas which great artists strive vainly to portray. Creatures of the wild are now more often and more easily seen. Inner pleasure is the reward of reflecting upon the knowledge that the flowers are not gone, but are sleeping, to appear again at the precise moment when we begin to feel the need for another change of seasons.

Then too, this is the season for early-morning bird-walks; for planning the Christmas Count; for sanctuary activity; for Audubon Screen Tours, illustrated lectures and for the incomparable Bird-carving Exhibit (Kent County Chapter). This is also the season for catching up on our reading of the excellent pieces of nature-writing now being offered. Have you seen "Birds of the Northern Forest" by Lansdowne and Livingston? "Portraits of Nature" by Lockhart? "The Shorebirds of North America" by Stout and Clem? This is but a partial list of excellent offerings.

Now, to discuss Society affairs: I am pleased to report that we have reached another milestone. The second gift (in excess of \$2500.) by our generous member has now been matched and we are on the way to matching his third gift. When that goal is reached, M. O. S. will have the means to act promptly when desirable sanctuary land becomes available.

Finally, I would call your attention to the matter of Audubon Camp Scholarships treated elsewhere in this issue. Probably no activity of the Society has the potential for long-range benefits that this project possesses.

Federalsburg



MARYLAND'S THIRD RECORD OF CLAY-COLORED SPARROW

Willet T. Van Velzen

On October 9, 1967, an immature male Clay-colored Sparrow (Spizella pallida) was collected from a mist net at Ocean City, Worcester County. The bird was very fat and weighed 12.4 grams. The age of the bird was verified by its incompletely ossified skull. The specimen (USNM number 530470) has been deposited in the U. S. National Museum, Washington, D.C.

The first Maryland record for a Clay-colored Sparrow was an immature male (USNM 478799) collected by Joseph R. Jehl, Jr., near Libertytown, Frederick County on November 11, 1961 (Maryland Birdlife 18:3). The second record was of an immature bird photographed and banded by Chandler S. Robbins at Ocean City on September 11, 1963 (Maryland Birdlife 19:109).

The Clay-colored Sparrow breeds from Wyoming to Michigan and in the Prairie Provinces of Canada. It winters from southern Texas south into Mexico and Guatemala. Jehl pointed out that it was surprising that this species had not previously been recorded in Maryland inasmuch as it had been reported with increasing frequency along the New Jersey coast since 1953. This past fall a Clay-colored Sparrow was banded at Atlantic Beach, New York, on October 1, by Richard Cohen, another on Block Island, Rhode Island, on October 6, by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Dickerson, and 4 at Island Beach, New Jersey on the following dates: Sept. 9, 30; Oct. 3, 11. This evidence supports Jehl's suggestion that field work along Maryland's barrier beaches might, indeed, reveal that this species occurs with greater regularity than has been reported previously.

U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel



OPERATION RECOVERY IN MARYLAND, 1967

In 1955 a group of banders assembled at Ocean City and opened the first Operation Recovery station in Maryland. They worked from September 10 through September 18 that first year and banded 816 birds of 75 species. Twelve years later many of the same personnel still assist at Ocean City or are running their own stations at other locations. Nearly 100,000 birds have been banded at Maryland OR stations since those meagre beginnings in 1955.

Although the banding totals are impressive they are not the main objective of OR. Emphasis has been placed primarily upon the accumulation of data. As more knowledge has been gained and banding and information gathering techniques have been refined the results have become increasingly valuable.

The majority of birds handled have been carefully weighed, measured and checked for fat deposits. In recent years, refined ageing techniques (the checking of skull ossification by dampening the skin on the head) have enabled banders to more accurately classify the birds by age groups. The banders can now accurately determine the age of many birds without reference to plumage. Since age can often be quickly determined the bander has the opportunity to review the plumage more critically and carefully from the outset and can look specifically for plumage characters that are indicative of that particular age group.

A recent innovation is a study of the outer tail feathers of the wood warblers (especially *Dendroica*) and other species. Many species have spots on their outer tail feathers. It is becoming increasingly apparent that the size and shape of the spot varies from one age and

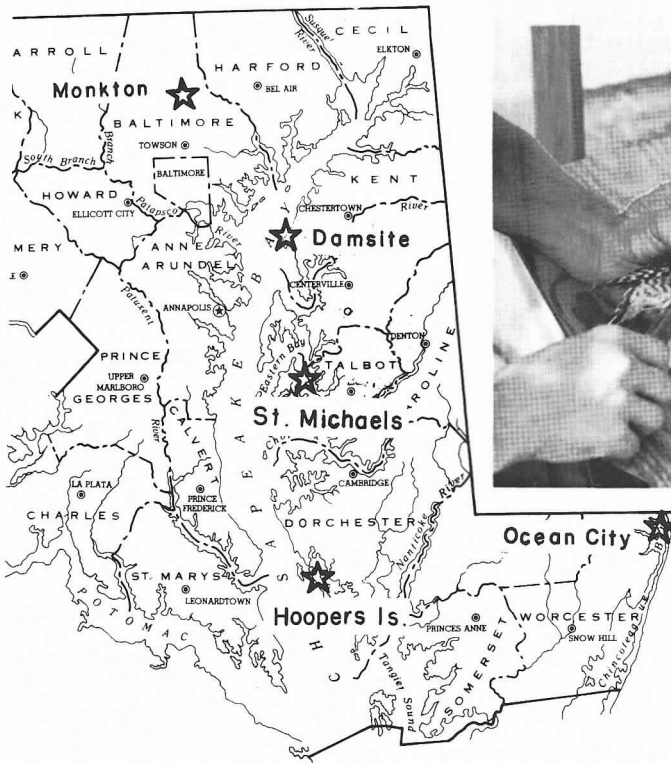


Removing sapsucker from mist net.

sex group to another as well as from one species to another. Within several years it may be possible to age and sex many birds accurately merely by checking the outer tail feathers.

Over the years the Operation Recovery stations have given us a much better, though still incomplete, understanding of migration through the State of Maryland. Over the years the Japanese mist nets used at the banding stations have proven to be infinitely more efficient than the field observer. Many species that were once thought to be rare or uncommon have since proven to be regular in occurrence in Maryland. When Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia was published in 1958 by Stewart and Robbins such species as Orange-crowned Warbler (15 fall records over a 30-year period) and the Saw-whet Owl were considered rare or uncommon. We now know that, due either to the secretive habits or inconspicuous nature of many species, they are just overlooked by the field observers. This year, for example, a total of 6 Orange-crowned Warblers were handled, while in 1965 an unprecedented total of 29 Saw-whet Owls were banded on one day at Kent Point.

A number of new species have also been added to the regular Maryland list through OR endeavors. A partial list would include such species as



Banding sapsucker (above)

Figure 1. Map of OR Stations (left)

Western Tanager, Western Wood Pewee, Rufous Hummingbird and Painted Bunting. The seasonal ranges and movements of many of the commoner birds within Maryland have also been greatly expanded and have become better understood in recent years.

Operation Recovery stations also serve as an early warning system in regard to the periodic invasions of the various northern species. In flight years, the early influx is invariably detected first by the OR network. In good flight years, the trend is generally apparent by the second week in September - long before the average field observer even begins to think about northern birds. From banding indications, the winter of 1967-68 will not be a particularly good one for northern birds. Only 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches were captured at the five Maryland stations this fall. No Black-capped Chickadees were captured and only 6 Saw-whet Owls were banded. There was no evidence of movement by either the Downy or the Hairy Woodpecker - both irregular migrants.



Ocean City Banding Station.

In 1967 two new stations joined the regulars at Ocean City, Damsite and Monkton. These new stations were operated at St. Michaels, Talbot County and Hoopers Island in Dorchester County. Unfortunately, the stations at Denton, Kent Point, Point Lookout, Patuxent and Rock Run were not in operation this year. The five active stations banded a total of 12,746 birds of 125 species. Only 5 of these species were not handled at Ocean City: Orchard Oriole at Damsite; Carolina Wren at Damsite, St. Michaels and Hoopers Island; White-breasted Nuthatch at Monkton; Brown-headed Nuthatch at Hoopers Island; and Blue-gray Gnat-catcher at Damsite.

The results are summarized in Table 1. (Totals for Damsite are complete only through September.)

The map at the left shows the location of the five Maryland Operation Recovery stations for 1967.

Table 1. Summary of 1967 Maryland OR Bandings

<u>Station</u>	<u>Net Hours</u>	<u>New Birds</u>	<u>Commonest Species</u>	<u>No. of Species</u>
Monkton	446	208	American Goldfinch	31
Damsite	4713	528	Swainson s Thrush	58
St. Michaels	1818	420	White-throated Sparrow	48
Hoopers Island	1132	771	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	70
Ocean City	29850	10819	Myrtle Warbler	120

The habitat around a banding station has a great deal to do with the species that are caught. Many more species will be captured at a station that has low scrubby vegetation than will be caught at a station in a residential area or one located in an open woods. Table 2 presents comparison of the percentage of three of the commonest species handled by Maryland OR Stations in September 1967. The percentage is computed from the total number of birds banded at each station during September.

Table 2. Percentage Composition of Three Common Species

	<u>Ocean City</u>	<u>Damsite</u>	<u>St. Michaels</u>	<u>Hoopers Island</u>	<u>Monkton</u>
American Redstart	14%	4%	5%	20%	
Catbird	4%	4%	12%	8%	3%
Swainson's Thrush	6%	14%	1%	2%	10%

A short review from each station leader follows.



C. Douglas Hackman
208A Donnybrook Lane, Towson

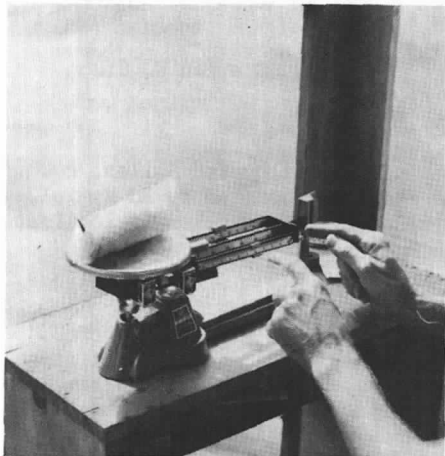
Damsite

The Damsite station leader's summary and the October totals have apparently fallen victim to the mails. With apologies to Mrs. Mendinhall we have written a short summary statement for Damsite.

In September, 58 species of birds were banded in 4713 net hours. The station was in operation for 22 days during the month. The best days were September 23 and 24 when 66 and 54 birds were banded, respectively. Commonest species were Swainson's Thrush (72), Ovenbird (33), and Gray-cheeked Thrush, Wood Thrush and Catbird (26 each). Twenty-two species of warblers were banded.

Hoopers Island

My wife, Liz, and I operated up to 15 nets on 22 days in September and October. Our tally was approximately 770 new birds of 69 species in 1132 net hours. Commonest September birds were American Redstart, 68, and Yellowthroat, 36, and for October, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 113, and Myrtle Warbler, 36. Among the more interesting species were Sharp-shinned Hawk, Orange-crowned, Connecticut and Mourning Warblers and Lincoln's Sparrow.



Weighing and record keeping
at Ocean City

The only good flight days we experienced were on September 23 and October 22, when we netted 129 and 199 birds. We did most of our work on weekends and in the morning. The location is at the far north end of Meekins Neck Road in a mixed, young woodland and area of low growth consisting of loblollies, persimmons, bayberry, poison ivy, locusts, and other plants familiar to the lower bay shore. The majority of the birds were aged, sexed, measured, etc., and most of them were weighed too. There were only 30 repeats. On October 22, a local Hoopers Islander, impersonating a law officer, made an unsuccessful attempt to drive us away; he was convinced we were sending messages to the communists on our bands!

H. T. Armistead

Monkton

Banding was more sporadic than last year. An average of 7 nets were used from 8 to about noon on the weekdays. On several promising Saturdays the nets were kept up all day. The same net lines have been used for many years. These are scattered on the edge of the 10-acre open fields of Bluemount Nurseries. One two-net area is under an electric line, separating a more open woods from a pine woods full of brush. A three-net area, irregularly used this time of year, is situated behind a house where a bird feeder area is maintained with feed and suet all year around. In the fall the best netting area is down a hill with a southern exposure from the open fields to the edge of a large barn pond. This area is covered with dense spicebush and honeysuckle. It is well protected from wind with a high amount of natural food. There was a good supply of pokeberry and weed seeds, and several large black gum trees had an excellent supply of fruit. There seemed to be a greater number of waxwings and

goldfinches this year than last, but good warbler catching days seemed to be non-existent.



Stephen W. Simon

Ocean City

The Ocean City station was opened on August 31st by Ted Stiles, representing the Migratory Bird Populations Station, assisted by Ed Rykiel, Jr., and Vernon Kleen for the first several days. The station is located, as in the past, at Caine Keys opposite 94th Street, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Ocean City, Md., on the Barrier Beach.

The first bird was processed about dusk on August 31st. On September 1st 40 nets were up and the station was in full swing.

A brand new project was started this year - Age-Character Study, the purpose of which is to learn more about the plumage and soft-part colors as a means of determining age and sex of birds which are captured for banding. Other miscellaneous activities were carried out, such as 10 minute counts of diurnal migrants made from the top of our sand dune - these counts being scheduled on the hour. The purpose of the migration observations was to correlate visible migration with weather conditions and with the birds captured. We continued the collecting of outer tail feathers for Char. Robbin's study.

On September 5, 6, 7 and 8, nets were run in the marsh and Seaside Sparrows, Sharp-tailed Sparrows, Black Skimmers, a Laughing Gull, Semi-palmated, Least and Western Sandpipers were caught. Some of these were first records for the station.

September bandings were about average for this time of year. We had to close up all nets and dismantle the station on the night of September 15, on account of hurricane Doria. By 2 p.m. on September 17, we had 44 nets up and the station back in order. The biggest day in September was the 26th with 264 new birds.

The first time we had to furl the nets because of too many birds and too few hands was on October 2, another good day. And on October 22, our record day, when we banded and processed 1350 birds, all nets had to be furled for several hours.

The ten top species were: Myrtle Warbler, White-throated Sparrow, Slate-colored Junco, American Redstart, Hermit Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Swainson's Thrush, Red-eyed Vireo and Yellowthroat.

The new Daily Record forms, designed by Ted Van Velzen for use at our station, proved very helpful in summarizing weather conditions, net hours and other activities.

This season we had 16 licensed banders who used their bands, and

30 other volunteer helpers. We were privileged in having devoted and able helpers, ranging from 12 to 81 years of age; some famous and outstanding helpers as Dr. and Mrs. Alexander Wetmore from the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C., and Mr. Arne Aasgaard, Radio Norway, Oslo, Norway.

My sincere thanks to all who made this year possible.

Gladys H. Cole

St. Michaels

An Operation Recovery station was set up at St. Michaels, Talbot County, in early September and manned for a few early morning hours, daily through October. During the two-month period, excellent weather conditions permitted netting almost every day. In 1818 net hours, 420 birds of 48 different species were captured. All birds were completely processed, except for weighing, and many were checked for parasites. The most commonly captured species were Cardinal, Robin and White-throated Sparrow. The best day came on October 23, when we captured 45 birds.

Jan Reese, Don Meritt

Photos taken by L. M. Debing, Vice-Pres. Allen Bird Club, Springfield, Mass.



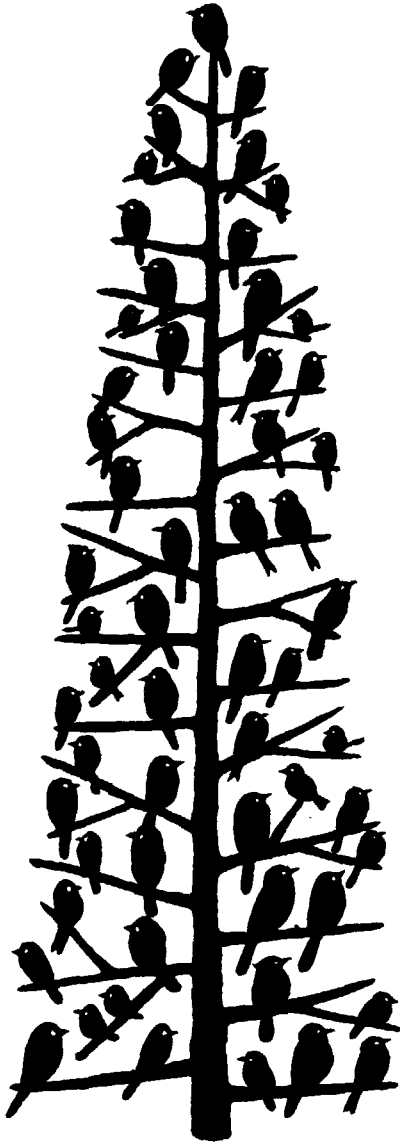
A NEW JUNIOR NATURE CLUB

A Junior Nature Club has been organized under the auspices of the Kent County Chapter, Maryland Ornithological Society.

The first meeting was held on December 9th, at Emmanuel Church Parish Hall, Chestertown. The program featured "Attracting Birds Around Your Home" with displays of feeders and a discussion of foods for birds. Field trips are planned for the future. There were 14 paid members at the initial meeting and it is hoped that the number will increase as the club matures.

APPEAL FOR PHOTOS

Maryland Birdlife has a continuing need for photographs that can be used for the cover and in various articles. We would greatly appreciate good black and white prints of any bird taken within Maryland. Appropriate credit will be given for all photos used. If you can contribute to our photo file please contact Ted Van Velzen, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel.



HOW MANY BIRDS?

Check your estimate!

AUDUBON CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

The Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc. is again able to offer two scholarships, each for a two-week leadership training course at an Audubon Camp next July or August. A Helen Miller Scholarship and a Katharyn Brown Lakeman Scholarship are available to men and women interested in preparing themselves for instructing youth in nature-study. The course covers a two-week period in either of two Audubon Camps, one in Maine and one in Wisconsin. The scholarship covers the full cost of tuition, housing and meals. Transportation to and from the Camp is not covered.

Each Chapter may sponsor an applicant. Requirements are simple. The applicant applies by letter, stating his or her interest and explaining his or her plans to put the training to use upon completion of the course. Letters of application must be directed to the president and must be mailed to reach him by Jan. 15, 1968. The sponsoring Chapter follows up with a letter of recommendation. Twelve such scholarships have been awarded since the inception of the plan in 1959.

COMING EVENTS

1968

- | | | |
|--------|--------------|---|
| Jan. 4 | FREDERICK | Monthly meeting 7:30 p.m. Winchester Hall.
Speaker: Mr. Stephen Simon, "Birds Around Us". |
| 5 | HARFORD | Supper meeting - Churchville Presbyterian Church. |
| 6 | BALTIMORE | Sandy Point and Prof. & Mrs. Howard's Sanctuary in Annapolis |
| 12 | ANNE ARUNDEL | Monthly meeting, Anne Arundel County Library 8 P.M. |
| 14 | BALTIMORE | Java Farm and Ivy Neck. Leaders: Mr. David Bridge and Dr. Wm. J. L. Sladen. |
| 18 | MONTGOMERY | Monthly meeting, Perpetual Bldg., Bethesda.
"Photo Happening". |
| 21 | BALTIMORE | Covered Dish Supper and monthly meeting, 5P.M. Cylburn Mansion. Reservations with Mrs. Nicholas Kay, VA3-1533. Snow postponement date Jan. 28 |
| 23 | PATUXENT | Monthly meeting 7:45 P. M. St. Philip's Parish House, Laurel. |
| 24 | ALLEGANY | Monthly meeting 7:30 P. M., Board of Education Bldg. Speaker: Miss Pan Minke |
| 27 | ANNE ARUNDEL | Trip to Bird Aviary at Washington Zoo. Leader: Mr. P. L. Goldsborough. Meet at Parole Parking Lot, Riva Road entrance, 7:45 A. M. |
| 29 | TALBOT | Audubon Wildlife Film, "Queen of the Cascades"
Mr. Charles T. Hotchkiss. 8 P. M. at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School, Easton. |
| 30 | KENT | Audubon Wildlife Film, Mr. John Bulger, "Wild Rivers of North America", 8 P. M. The Fine Arts Center, Washington College, Chestertown. |

- Feb. 7 KENT Monthly meeting. Speaker: Mr. Richard McCown, "Gyrfalcons, Owls, Shore Birds of the Seward Peninsula, Alaska".
- 9 ANNE ARUNDEL Monthly meeting, Anne Arundel County Library, 8 P.M. Speaker: Mr. Harvey Hall of Salisbury, Md.
- 10 BALTIMORE Perry Point and Susquehanna River for wintering water fowl. Leader: Mr. Rodney Jones
- 15 MONTGOMERY Monthly meeting
- 16 BALTIMORE Monthly meeting Pratt Library 8 P.M. "Great National Parks of the World", Mr. Myron Sutton.
- 21 KENT Audubon Wildlife Film - Mr. Robert Davidson, "The Vanishing Sea"
- 23-25 BALTIMORE Chincoteague Weekend. Make own reservations. Leader: Mr. Wm. N. Schneider
- 24 ANNE ARUNDEL Monthly meeting
- 27 PATUXENT Monthly meeting 7:45 P. M.
- 28 ALLEGANY Monthly meeting 7:30 P. M., Board of Education Bldg. Speaker: Mr. Kent Fuller
- 29 TALBOT Audubon Wildlife Film. Mr. Albert J. Wool, "Ranch and Range".
- March 5 BALTIMORE Seminar, "Tree Buds in Winter", Dr. Elmer Worthley. 8 P.M. Cylburn. March 5, 12, 19 and 26th.
- 6 KENT Monthly meeting - Quiz Contest "Stump the Experts"
- 8 ANNE ARUNDEL Spring Lecture, 8 P. M. at Annapolis Junior High School. Dr. Wm. J. H. Sladen, "The Penguins of Cape Crozier". Tickets \$1.00
- 8 BALTIMORE Monthly meeting Pratt Library, 8 P.M. Speaker: Mr. Frank McGilvrey, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, "New Swampland Refuge and Study Area at Patuxent".
- 10 BALTIMORE Remington Farms, Chestertown. Leader: Mr. Mac Plant.
- 17 BALTIMORE Courtship Flight of Woodcock at Dusk. Leader: Mr. Haven Kolb.
- 19 BALTIMORE Spring at Lake Roland. First of 11 Tuesday morning walks to follow migration. 8 A.M. Leader: Mr. Fred Ward.
- 21 MONTGOMERY Monthly meeting
- 23 BALTIMORE Patuxent Wildlife Research Center - Meet at main gate on Route 197 at 9 A.M. Cancelled in case of rain.
- 23 ANNE ARUNDEL Exploratory trip in Southern Anne Arundel County. Queen Anne's Bridge, Jug Bay. Leader: Mr. Ed. Wilson. Meet Riva Road entrance, Parole Parking 7:45 a.m.
- 25 KENT Audubon Wildlife Film, Dr. Charles J. Stine, "Land of the Drowned River".
- 26 PATUXENT Monthly meeting 7:45 P. M.
- 27 ALLEGANY Monthly meeting 7:30 P. M.
- 28 TALBOT Audubon Wildlife Film "A Place in the Sun" by Doris Boyd.
- 29 BALTIMORE Annual Spring Lecture
- 31 ALLEGANY Bird Walk 2 P. M. Koon Dam for duck Migration

- Leader: Mr. Edgar Reynolds
 MOS Class "Nature and The Child". A class for parents, grandparents and others. Four Tuesday evenings Cylburn at 8 P. M.
 April 2, BIRDS by Mrs. Elmer G. Worthley; Apr. 9, INSECTS, PLANTS, Dr. Elizabeth Fisher; Apr. 16, ROCKS & Minerals, Mr. Daniel Edwards; SHELLS, Mrs. Anthony Perlman. Apr. 23 REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS, Mr. Russell Dunn; ART & NATURE, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. N. Schneider. Apr. 27, Field Trip Cylburn 9 A. M.
- 3 KENT Monthly meeting - Sounds, Pictures, Records of Song and Shore Birds.
- 6 BALTIMORE Spring clean-up day at Rock Run Sanctuary
- 7 ALLEGANY Bird Walk, 2 P. M., C & O Canal for Spring Warblers.
 Leader: Mr. Kendrick Hodgdon. Meet at Oldtown School.
- 12 ANNE ARUNDEL Annual Meeting, at A. A. C. Library 8 P. M.
- 18 MONTGOMERY Monthly meeting
- 19 BALTIMORE Annual Meeting, Cylburn 8 P. M. Exhibit of members favorite "ornithobjects". Exhibit chairman, Miss Ono Lescure, VA3-5962
- April KENT Field trip to Brigantine, New Jersey. Leader Edward Mendinhall
- 20 - 21 BALTIMORE C & O Canal near Frederick. Leader: Mrs. George J. Bleul.
- 23 PATUXENT Monthly meeting
- 24 ALLEGANY Monthly meeting
- 27-28 ALLEGANY Work days at Carey Run Sanctuary
- 27 ANNE ARUNDEL Annapolis Waterworks Wildlife Area, 8 A. M.
 Leader: Dottie Mumford. Meet at the reservoir about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile beyond Carr's Corner on Md. 450.
- 30 BALTIMORE Warbler Song Class. Leader: Mr. Chandler S. Robbins. Cylburn 8 P. M.
- May 4 STATEWIDE MAY COUNT
- 5 BALTIMORE Warbler Trip, Patapsco State Park. Leader: Mr. Chandler S. Robbins
- 10) STATEWIDE Annual Convention. Make own reservations
- 11) at Ocean City, Maryland
- 12) Hastings-Miramar Hotel
- 11 BALTIMORE Loch Raven Area for peak of migration. Leader: Mr. William Corliss 668-6047
- 18 BALTIMORE Carroll County - Bird and Flower walk sponsored by NHS and MOS. Leader: Mrs. Elmer G. Worthley.
- 25 ANNE ARUNDEL Bird walk and visit to Cylburn Wildflower Preserve and Garden Center, Baltimore. Meet at Parole Parking, 7:45 A. M.
- 26 BALTIMORE Finally Farm in Phoenix. Birding along the Gunpowder. Leaders: Mr. & Mrs. Otis Mace.
- June 5 KENT Monthly meeting - Speaker: Mr. John Hunter, "Snails".

BALTIMORE JUNIOR PROGRAM AT CYLBURN

Bird and Nature walks for young people. Meet at Cylburn Mansion 8 A. M.
 January 27, February 10, February 24, March 9, March 23, April 20.
 Birdbanding demonstration April 6 at 8 and 9:30 A. M.
 Vacation Programs - 9 A.M. April 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18, 19.
 April 9 and 16, bird banding demonstrations.
 9 A. M. Talks:
 Feb. 10, "Fossils of Calvert Cliffs" by Mr. Thomson King
 Feb. 24, "Spiders", Dr. Charles Hassett
 Mar. 9, "Adaptations of Birds", Mr. Mel Garland
 Mar. 23, "Down to Feathers" - film.


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