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COVER: Royal Tern. Photo by Charles J. Stine
Line drawings: Mel Garland



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REPORT OF STATE-WIDE BIRD COUNT, MAY 4, 1968

Willet T. Van Velzen

The weather for this year's May Count was considerably improved over last year. Most observers recorded favorable conditions, with light showers for a brief part of the day, from southern Frederick, Prince Georges, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Caroline and Wicomico Counties. Temperatures ranged from a low of 42° in Garrett County to the low 70's throughout most of the State.

Even with improved weather, however, this year's species total of 223 (plus 1 hybrid) was only 1 greater than that recorded during last year's very rainy May Count. Without doubt, more than one factor contributed to this. Certainly one of the main reasons was the great decrease in participants this year. The 119 who turned out represent the lowest number in many years. Then, too, last year all but 4 counties were covered. This year, although a new Wicomico count was set up, no reports were received from Harford, Cecil, Talbot, St. Marys or Somerset Counties, in addition to Carroll, Charles, and Queen Annes which were not covered last year.

The species totals for various groups of birds compare very favorably with the past years:

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Waterfowl	37	34	33
Shorebirds	24	22	22
Warblers	22	20	22
Finches	28	23	25.

The above certainly gives one the impression that we might easily have matched, or surpassed, the 1966 all-time high of 246 species if the effort had been as great as in past years. This is certainly evidenced by the spectacular count received from Henry Armistead, who, covering Dorchester County single-handedly, turned in the remarkable total of 162 species. No group total for any county has ever exceeded this number, except for an Ocean City count of 168 that was taken in 1952 (but being taken on the wrong day, loses by default!). His report added 6 species not recorded by any other count. Yet the real value of Armistead's

count is in its demonstration of what can be accomplished with well planned, systematically covered routes. Armistead covers his area so as to hit the same place each year at the same time of day, following a nearly identical route. It isn't expected that most birders would put in 20 hours (12:01 a.m. to 8 p.m.) as Armistead did, but a well organized group should be able to cover a county thoroughly, using this method.

It is interesting to read some of the comments received with Armistead's report, which reveal why he was able to accumulate such a fine total in addition to experiencing an exciting birding adventure: "325 miles of driving...night list (midnight to 5 a.m.) was just over 40 species. Early Sat. a.m. was warm, clear, and calm, with only an occasional gentle breeze. Down on the Elliott Island Road you could hear the marsh come alive. Every gurgle of water, calling frog, or jumping fish was a crystal clear, distinct sound. And the rails and other marsh birds called all night from midnight to daybreak....Overhead, in the early morning darkness, you could hear occasional thrushes, warblers, sparrows... The calm weather, cool temperatures during the day, and generally overcast skies made for excellent visibility. With no heat waves or wind it was possible to see for miles...The overcast skies kept the birds singing all day long."

Some very interesting birds were reported on this year's count. The Black-necked Stilt reported by Armistead, was seen at the same spot as the one he reported on last year's count. And his surprising total of 31 Black Rails would make any birder's mouth water. The Lawrence's Warbler, seen by Simonson, was also a nice addition, and one often missed by parties searching the Catoctin area. However, the prize for the day was undoubtedly the Lark Bunting spotted by the Bryans and Bohanans, near Ocean City. A male, in full breeding plumage, was watched clearly and long, in full view, for 35 minutes.

Summary of Coverage

GARRETT COUNTY (Gar). 5 observers. 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. R. Glenn Austin, Ken Hodgdon, Nellie Isaacs, Billie Taylor, Pan Minke.

ALLEGANY COUNTY (All). 9 observers. Dick Douglass, Ken Hodgdon, Nellie Isaacs, Nan Livingston, Mrs. Arthur Morgan, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Minke, Buck Reynolds, Mrs. Robert Webster.

WASHINGTON COUNTY (Was). 11 observers. 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Party miles: 186 by car, 8+ on foot. Mr. & Mrs. Robert Eckstine, Elton Foltz, Marie Wampler, Allen Eckstine, Francis Cutchall, Lois Downin, Stanley Eckstine, Ralph Stauffer, Alice B. Mallonee, Jeffrey Downin.

CATOCTIN, FREDERICK COUNTY (Cat). 2 observers. 5:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Party miles: 45 by car, 5 on foot. John Higman, Don Simonson.

CENTRAL FREDERICK COUNTY (CFr). 2 observers. 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Party-miles: 60 by car, 5 on foot. Ruth O. Richards, John W. Richards.

SOUTHERN FREDERICK COUNTY (SFr). 2 observers 6:50 a.m. to 4 p.m. Asenath McKnight, Edwin T. McKnight.

HOWARD COUNTY (How). 6 observers. 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eleanor Robbins, Stuart Robbins, George Robbins, Morris Collins, Rosamond Munro, Dorothy Rauth.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY (Mon). 22 observers. 5 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. Phil DuMont, Charles Mason, Ernie Meyer, William Oberman, Ella Pfeiffer, Lester Holtsclag, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Teele, Helen Meloney, Marjorie Koester, Eve Johnson, Don Hollyway, Bill Blakesley, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Carlson, Fred Fallon, Ted Eliot, Elizabeth Reidel, Eloise Shaw, Grace Sims, Don Messersmith, Ed Goodstein.

BALTIMORE CITY AND COUNTY (Bal). 29 observers. 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Party miles: 227 by car, 18 on foot. Coordinators: Janice Cooper, David Holmes, Mrs. Alfred Lawson, Ed Rykiel, Jr., Elmer & Jean Worthley.

PATUXENT WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER (PRC). 3 observers. 5:15 a.m. to 6 p.m. Party miles: 13 by car, 13 on foot. Ralph Andrews, Jerry Longcore, Elwood Martin.

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY (PrG). 5 observers. 4:40 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. Party-miles: 23 by car, 5 1/2 on foot. Arthur W. Alexander, Melvin H. Kleen, Eleanor Robbins, George C. Robbins, Stuart B. Robbins.

CENTRAL ANNE ARUNDEL (CAA). 2 observers. 5:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Party-miles: 17 on foot. Paul G. Bystrak, Danny Bystrak.

GIBSON ISLAND, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (Gib). 22 observers. 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Burton Alexander, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Buchanan, Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Buck, Eric Buck, Mrs. Robert Cochran, Robert Dwight, James Dwight, Bruce Dwyer, Mrs. Bradley Fisk, Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Henderson, Robert Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. George Metcalf, Dr. & Mrs. Neilson, Dr. & Mrs. Robert Prinse, Mrs. S. E. Symington, Mrs. Gerhart Schmeisser.

ANNAPOLIS AREA, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (Ann). 4 observers. Mr. & Mrs. David G. Howard, Hildegard Reissman, Mrs. J. Stewart Wilson.

CALVERT COUNTY (Cal). 1 observer. 7:30 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. Party-miles: 4 1/2 on foot. John H. Fales.

KENT COUNTY (Ken). 28 observers. 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. Party-miles: 300 by car, 25 on foot. James Anthony, Charles Cockey, Elizabeth Crossley, Dr. & Mrs. A. Delario, Thomas Eliason, Mary Ann Emerine, Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Galbreath, D. Z. Gibson, Samuel Goodfellow, Marie Hubbard, Hilda Kane, Mr. & Mrs. William Keer, Lilian Linduska, William McAlpin, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Mendinhall, James Newlin, Robin Newlin, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Ruhnka, Harrell Rusk, Mr. & Mrs. Clark Webster, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Westerdahl.

CAROLINE COUNTY (Car). 16 observers. 3:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Party-miles: 319 by car, 61 on foot, 1 by boat. Elsie Bilbrough, Irene Bilbrough, Winifred Bright, Margarethe Butenschoen, Ethel Engle, A. J. Fletcher, Roberta B. Fletcher, Marvin W. Hewitt, Alicia Knotts, Terry S. Moore, Ethel Poore, Carol Scudder, Joan Scudder, Percy Scudder, Jacqueline Smith, Isabelle Todd.

DORCHESTER COUNTY (Dor). 1 observer. 12:01 a.m. to 8 p.m. Party-miles: 325 by car, 2 on foot. Henry T. Armistead.

WICOMICO COUNTY (Wic). 5 observers. 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Party-miles: 55 by car, 5 on foot. Harvey M. Hall, Claire S. Hall, Eugene Redden, Valerie Redden, Martha Simpkins.

WORCESTER COUNTY (Wor). 4 observers. 7:50 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. Party-miles: 51.5 by car, 5.5 on foot. Mary & Lyman Bryan, Peggy and Walter Bohanan.

Species	Gar	All	Was	Cat	CFr	SFr	How	Mon	Bal	PRC	PrG	ACC	Gib	Ann	Cal	Ken	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Turkey Vulture	10	23	12	4	5	1	5	13	21	4	3	1	10	-	-	92	143	21	15	-	383
Black Vulture	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	7	2	-	-	-	23
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cooper's Hawk	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	2	5	3	-	-	15
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4	1	2	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	13
Broad-winged Hawk	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Bald Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	4
Marsh Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	4
Osprey	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3	1	1	-	-	2	2	2	26	12	21	-	6	79
Sparrow Hawk	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	1	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	19
Ruffed Grouse	1	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Bobwhite	-	21	30	6	22	7	37	36	41	13	11	10	21	5	4	276	134	37	29	8	748
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	-	12	-	12	1	-	4	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	45
King Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	14
Clapper Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	5	12
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	52	-	-	55
Sora	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	6
Black Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	-	-	31
Common Gallinule	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	31	1	-	-	1	55
American Oystercatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Semipalmated Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	1	10
Killdeer	15	5	11	-	8	8	3	2	8	1	3	2	1	1	-	13	20	9	-	5	115
Black-bellied Plover	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	28	34
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	2	-	2	1	1	-	-	6	2	16	-	-	35
Common Snipe	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	13
Whimbrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Upland Plover	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Spotted Sandpiper	3	-	1	-	13	4	1	18	16	9	5	17	16	1	-	15	10	5	-	3	137
Solitary Sandpiper	5	2	-	-	2	4	1	2	31	3	2	4	2	-	-	21	4	1	-	-	84
Willet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	350	379
Greater Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	5	7	-	-	2	1	-	1	3	-	-	58	26	25	-	-	160
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	7	11	-	16	13	18	-	1	5	3	-	5	33	43	-	26	181
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	29
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	19	-	-	46

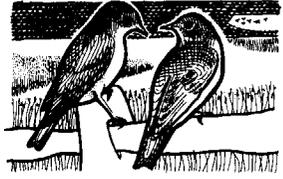
Species	Gar	All	Was	Cat	CFr	SFr	How	Mon	Bal	PRC	PrG	CAA	Gib	Ann	Cal	Ken	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Least Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	53	65	-	5	138
Dunlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	35	-	5	46
Short-billed Dowitcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	5	7
Semipalmated Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	14	2	8	-	4	35
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	14
Black-necked Stilt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	3	-	6	-	28	47
Herring Gull	12	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	43	-	-	-	90	-	-	383	8	37	-	140	717
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	37	2	-	-	-	35	-	4	256	49	95	-	4	484
Laughing Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	17	17	689	250	28	500	1503
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
Common Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	4	-	2	-	200	208
Least Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	38	55
Caspian Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Black Skimmer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	65
Mourning Dove	1	2	27	10	45	7	27	58	76	109	9	9	24	8	15	222	111	13	4	2	779
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	2	2	-	4	-	2	16	1	1	-	8	6	-	1	-	8	1	-	-	52
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	3	-	-	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Barn Owl	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Screech Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5
Great Horned Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	8
Barred Owl	1	-	-	-	2	-	3	5	1	3	-	1	-	-	1	2	4	-	-	-	23
Chuck-will's-widow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	-	-	11
Whip-poor-will	-	-	3	-	-	-	11	3	3	3	-	2	1	-	-	3	16	7	-	-	52
Common Nighthawk	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Chimney Swift	15	31	86	50	70	21	12	340	66	50	32	1	83	-	33	80	114	43	15	17	1159
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	-	-	3	-	1	1	2	4	1	3	-	-	8	1	-	10	9	1	3	2	49
Belted Kingfisher	7	2	2	-	1	5	6	6	1	6	2	-	6	-	2	13	16	1	-	1	77
Yellow-shafted Flicker	29	13	20	5	25	4	7	17	73	6	5	11	32	2	-	59	21	28	1	9	367
Pileated Woodpecker	4	4	4	-	2	-	2	5	-	1	-	8	-	1	-	-	3	9	1	-	44
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	-	2	2	12	8	9	61	37	22	11	34	16	6	2	47	41	5	-	-	316
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	13
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Hairy Woodpecker	3	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	4	2	-	5	3	1	-	8	4	2	-	-	36
Downy Woodpecker	10	6	7	3	6	3	17	37	35	14	2	12	18	7	2	16	24	6	-	12	237
Eastern Kingbird	7	1	-	-	2	8	6	48	39	17	2	3	12	-	3	42	36	27	5	-	258
Great Crested Flycatcher	1	1	1	2	14	5	5	34	12	8	-	12	8	2	2	29	35	24	1	-	196
Eastern Phoebe	19	6	2	2	4	1	11	32	11	1	4	3	-	1	2	6	30	1	-	1	137

Species	Gar	All	Was	Cat	CFr	SFr	How	Mon	Bal	PRC	PrG	CAA	Gib	Ann	Cal	Ken	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Acadian Flycatcher	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	13	1	1	-	26	-	-	4	-	9	2	-	-	59
Least Flycatcher	23	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Eastern Wood Pewee	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	10	1	-	-	19
Horned Lark	13	-	6	-	4	6	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	35	9	-	-	80
Tree Swallow	234	-	-	2	2	2	13	32	316	140	47	-	179	-	70	226	196	235	-	6	1700
Bank Swallow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	27	3	-	-	1	12	15	308	-	13	-	-	381
Rough-winged Swallow	30	30	4	-	8	7	1	39	6	4	1	-	46	-	4	2	14	2	-	-	198
Barn Swallow	168	-	44	50	44	4	66	137	134	38	66	7	48	8	25	550	230	85	33	65	1802
Cliff Swallow	33	-	4	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64
Purple Martin	-	17	10	10	22	16	70	5	8	28	40	2	23	20	11	76	117	68	5	7	555
Blue Jay	58	11	27	25	117	1	53	110	210	42	43	46	300	7	71	121	163	8	9	27	1449
Common Crow	51	10	17	40	80	18	21	129	135	34	45	11	39	8	4	125	127	25	4	28	951
Fish Crow	-	-	-	2	5	1	20	2	-	25	-	2	16	4	1	9	6	9	-	6	108
Black-capped Chickadee	27	7	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
Carolina Chickadee	-	-	4	2	12	8	24	104	47	27	7	38	33	4	12	37	90	23	1	3	476
Tufted Titmouse	7	12	4	2	17	3	14	101	64	34	3	36	54	5	9	41	101	14	2	2	525
White-breasted Nuthatch	5	3	1	1	-	-	3	16	7	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
Brown-headed Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Brown Creeper	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
House Wren	18	3	23	20	35	9	12	94	49	3	8	6	35	2	6	9	14	7	1	2	356
Bewick's Wren	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Carolina Wren	-	3	1	4	2	10	11	31	30	2	1	23	32	5	5	46	35	11	2	-	254
Long-billed Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	7	45	-	-	59
Short-billed Marsh Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	12
Mockingbird	1	14	25	4	29	4	29	68	123	34	36	4	200	12	10	248	112	27	14	11	1005
Catbird	9	1	24	3	52	5	23	59	92	36	13	26	97	6	9	75	107	18	25	45	725
Brown Thrasher	46	12	25	3	46	9	7	23	46	13	12	7	86	5	2	121	82	11	3	19	578
Robin	183	134	117	60	183	15	62	110	375	30	59	10	45	19	36	266	222	47	23	18	2014
Wood Thrush	69	17	6	12	23	6	48	57	79	35	4	96	66	6	15	40	91	17	3	1	691
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	8	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	12
Swainson's Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	8
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	5
Veery	5	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	23	1	-	1	14	-	1	1	1	2	-	5	57
Eastern Bluebird	15	-	1	3	4	2	10	10	2	1	-	1	2	-	-	2	14	4	-	-	71
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	2	-	-	10	3	4	19	67	14	17	-	124	10	-	2	-	22	13	-	-	207
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	15	-	-	1	6	-	1	2	10	2	-	7	5	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	54
Water Pipit	-	-	-	-	1	6	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Cedar Waxwing	17	87	-	-	14	-	23	-	-	35	-	-	3	-	12	1	3	11	-	-	206

Species	Gar	All	Was	Cat	CFr	SFr	How	Mon	Bal	PRC	PrG	CAA	Gib	Ann	Cal	Ken	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
Starling	56	-	191	100	330	150	102	463	958	110	229	23	126	22	42	1212	646	145	44	250	5199
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	1	-	-	11	8	6	15	5	27	11	1	4	7	29	13	-	-	138
Yellow-throated Vireo	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	31	3	10	-	27	-	1	1	-	3	5	-	-	85
Solitary Vireo	9	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	6	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	21
Red-eyed Vireo	7	11	2	8	3	5	13	89	21	57	1	136	49	14	31	9	70	26	-	-	552
Warbling Vireo	-	-	4	3	5	11	-	19	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	1	54
Black-and-white Warbler	16	-	-	1	1	-	5	12	13	11	-	14	53	-	2	2	23	9	-	36	198
Prothonotary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41	-	2	-	8	-	-	-	1	36	14	1	-	103
Worm-eating Warbler	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	8	2	-	1	-	2	4	-	-	21
Golden-winged Warbler	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	10
Blue-winged Warbler	-	-	-	18	3	-	-	-	7	1	-	6	8	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	50
Lawrence's Warbler	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tennessee Warbler	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Nashville Warbler	2	-	-	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Parula Warbler	3	-	-	1	-	-	7	108	8	25	2	41	-	7	12	-	15	4	-	-	233
Yellow Warbler	20	27	2	3	4	14	2	13	17	7	3	2	37	-	2	20	10	23	1	3	210
Magnolia Warbler	1	-	1	4	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	16
Cape May Warbler	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	6
Black-throated Blue Warbler	7	-	-	-	3	-	1	9	5	-	3	7	23	-	5	-	2	-	-	3	68
Myrtle Warbler	21	-	13	-	42	-	22	176	141	1	24	149	-	1	8	35	72	45	6	2	758
Black-throated Green Warbler	13	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	10	-	-	11	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	43
Cerulean	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Blackburnian Warbler	18	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Yellow-throated Warbler	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	2	-	5	-	3	6	2	-	28
Chestnut-sided Warbler	11	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	6	4	-	1	8	1	-	1	5	-	-	-	45
Blackpoll Warbler	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	5	8	-	-	8	6	-	-	-	-	2	-	7	39
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	15	27	-	-	44
Prairie Warbler	1	-	-	-	-	-	17	13	15	8	2	11	23	2	3	9	6	9	-	-	119
Palm Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Ovenbird	43	3	2	4	5	-	12	4	38	13	-	21	50	-	9	-	18	9	-	2	233
Northern Waterthrush	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	4	2	1	8	3	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	31
Louisiana Waterthrush	7	-	-	2	1	-	7	6	4	1	-	3	-	-	6	-	7	3	-	-	47
Kentucky Warbler	-	-	-	1	4	-	1	2	2	9	-	18	3	4	1	1	24	4	-	-	74
Yellowthroat	20	7	4	10	6	6	28	70	94	50	13	60	42	7	7	70	86	70	-	31	681
Yellow-breasted Chat	-	-	3	13	14	6	8	22	8	9	2	19	5	-	2	8	22	11	-	7	159
Hooded Warbler	-	-	-	2	10	-	-	1	2	4	-	25	3	-	8	-	1	-	-	-	56
Wilson's Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Canada Warbler	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
American Redstart	3	5	-	35	12	-	6	61	13	55	-	74	7	4	9	2	6	6	-	-	298

Species	Gar	All	Was	Cat	CfR	SfR	How	Mon	Bal	PRC	PrG	CAA	Gib	Ann	Cal	Ken	Car	Dor	Wic	Wor	Total
House Sparrow	33	-	183	80	320	140	19	90	208	13	46	4	85	19	15	556	431	95	19	23	2379
Bobolink	6	-	-	4	1	31	-	63	20	50	-	-	-	-	30	-	1	4	-	-	210
Eastern Meadowlark	87	8	32	25	42	59	31	62	40	14	7	2	2	7	5	238	72	17	1	8	759
Red-winged Blackbird	197	77	62	500	182	280	87	290	223	98	28	1	350	6	60	258	658	545	37	250	6489
Orchard Oriole	-	-	-	1	2	3	-	9	5	5	-	-	2	-	4	18	29	29	2	-	109
Baltimore Oriole	8	10	23	8	36	11	5	55	42	2	2	3	12	-	-	11	16	8	-	2	254
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	17
Boat-tailed Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	80
Common Grackle	122	131	428	120	620	250	148	791	408	130	186	24	136	18	78	2743	1310	585	104	900	9232
Brown-headed Cowbird	122	20	15	60	70	17	28	120	63	12	1	17	23	-	4	31	116	10	5	6	740
Scarlet Tanager	4	2	2	14	10	-	6	60	23	18	-	37	10	-	2	4	44	5	-	1	242
Summer Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	11	3	-	22
Cardinal	23	38	51	20	55	13	62	179	177	53	6	71	123	25	46	484	217	95	19	18	1775
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3	-	-	1	1	-	2	31	9	3	-	2	9	-	1	4	8	1	-	-	75
Blue Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	14	2	-	-	20
Indigo Bunting	4	2	2	4	8	3	5	24	15	5	-	11	3	-	5	19	7	6	-	7	130
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
Purple Finch	2	2	1	4	-	-	10	11	3	4	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
House Finch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	5
American Goldfinch	105	61	48	150	70	110	88	383	459	59	8	83	625	2	45	369	197	16	13	27	2918
Rufous-sided Towhee	116	9	7	50	31	4	52	46	140	24	21	41	137	5	5	129	130	85	6	25	1063
Lark Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Savannah Sparrow	1	-	-	1	-	2	1	24	11	25	-	-	8	-	4	9	22	14	-	5	127
Grasshopper Sparrow	12	-	2	2	-	6	9	17	8	-	-	1	-	-	5	6	21	5	-	-	94
Henslow's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	9
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Seaside Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	47	-	4	52
Vesper Sparrow	9	-	4	3	19	14	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	59
Slate-colored Junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Chipping Sparrow	115	25	14	20	28	10	21	58	119	20	3	4	56	1	22	98	147	90	12	8	871
Field Sparrow	64	3	6	35	22	6	24	59	40	21	18	8	3	2	13	111	65	19	4	3	526
White-crowned Sparrow	-	3	16	-	9	20	1	11	9	1	-	1	3	1	-	28	7	-	-	-	110
White-throated Sparrow	2	13	5	13	86	4	33	202	271	67	12	63	350	22	34	40	99	39	3	18	1376
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Swamp Sparrow	2	-	1	-	3	4	1	10	6	4	2	1	12	-	2	-	6	17	-	3	74
Song Sparrow	74	28	25	1	26	23	18	52	91	16	24	2	33	6	9	51	41	26	1	22	569
TOTAL SPECIES	102	61	78	81	104	80	93	133	121	120	63	100	121	58	82	114	125	162	46	98	
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	2611		1744		3116		1618		6221		1139		4335		993		8341		514		67,503
		997		1691		1499		6076		2125		1640		348		14109		4645		3739	
TOTAL PARTY-HOURS	17	14	46	11	28	9	31	65	100	23	10	18	35	10	5	80	80	20	7	11	620

THE SEASON



JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1968

Chandler S. Robbins

January and February were entered in the weather logs as cold and exceptionally dry months--the second driest February on record for Baltimore and Washington. The trend was reversed in March, with temperatures averaging 2° to 4° above normal, and precipitation slightly greater than normal. The March rains, however, were insufficient to put an end to the drought.

The continued cold weather through all of February delayed the arrival of our early songbird species such as the Robins and blackbirds. Woodcock also were late in appearing, as shown by the dates in Table 1. The counties in this table are arranged geographically from west to south-east in hopes of showing the progress of migration from right to left as the birds move from the warm, low maritime areas of the State northward and westward into the mountains. Actually, one is hard pressed to find any trend at all in the dates in this particular table! When mild weather finally arrived, heavy waves of migrants moved into all parts of the State, as if to make up for lost time; many species arrived in the western counties at the same time, or even earlier than, their arrival was detected on the Eastern Shore. I stress the work "detected" because many of the species in question winter on the Eastern Shore and other parts of the Coastal Plain of Maryland, and it is easier to detect immigration of birds into an area where they do not winter than to notice early migrating individuals in an area where other members of the same species have been present all winter.

Again we thank all contributors to this column. Without their whole-hearted cooperation there would be nothing to report. We single out for special mention those who submitted the largest number of dates for Table 1: Western Maryland (Garrett and Allegany Counties)--Billie Taylor, Edgar Reynolds; Washington Co.--Alice B. Mallonee; Frederick--John W. Richards, Sarah Baker, Nell Cooley; Baltimore City and County--Haven Kolb, Stephen W. Simon, Alice Kaestner, Gladys Cole; Cecil--Edgar E. Folk III; Howard--Dorothy Rauth, Rosamond Munro, Morris Collins, Ted Van Velzen; Montgomery--Peg Frankel, Robert W. Warfield, Nell Cooley; Prince Georges--Brooke Meanley, Chandler S. Robbins, Frank McGilvrey, Elwood Martin, Paul and Danny Bystrak; Anne Arundel--David & Marguerite Howard, Paul and Danny Bystrak, Dotty Mumford; Kent--Edward and Dorothy Mendinhall, Brian Kane, Arlene Delario; Caroline--Roberta B. Fletcher,

V. Edwin Unger, Marvin W. Hewitt, Ethel Engle, Harry Hubbard; Talbot--Jan Reese, Don Meritt.

A "W" in Table 1 means that, owing to the presence of winter residents, the first migrant individuals were not detected; a zero means no report of the species was received from the county in question; and a dash indicates that, although the species was present, no significant arrival date was submitted.

Egrets. The first egrets noted this year were a Cattle Egret at Church Creek in Dorchester County, 6 Snowies at Elliott, and 3 Commons in southern Dorchester County, all on Mar. 28 by Harry Armistead. One of the Common Egrets mentioned above was seen at a nest on Bloodsworth Island. Early for Montgomery County was a Common Egret at Sycamore Landing on Mar. 27 (Nell Cooley and Mary Porter).

Ospreys. An extraordinarily early Osprey was seen at Henderson in Caroline County on Feb. 20 (Marvin W. Hewitt); no other was seen in the State until Mar. 9. By Mar. 28, however, Armistead counted a total of 25 Ospreys scattered across southern Dorchester County.

Gulls. Great Black-backed Gulls (1 or 2) were seen in all three months at Tanyard (Choptank River) in southwestern Caroline County (Ethel Engle). Robert Warfield commented upon a great reduction in the number of gulls moving up the Potomac Valley this spring as compared with past years.

Pileated Woodpeckers. In Baltimore County, Pileated Woodpeckers were seen at Lutherville on Dec. 31 and Mar. 5 (Mrs. William F. Gerringer) and on Jan. 13 (Mrs. Spencer Carter), and at Owings Mills on Jan. 1 and Feb. 3 (a pair by Charles Munn). One was found at Smithville in Caroline County on Jan. 23 (V. Edwin Unger), and Mrs. Peg Frankel's bird re-appeared at her suet feeder in Bethesda on Feb. 17 and 25.

Swallows, Thrashers. Four Tree Swallows were spotted at Elliott on Jan. 21 by Bill Clark and Ed Unger. Although they are not unusual in the marsh country of southern Dorchester County in winter, they are rarely found there during prolonged periods of bitter cold weather such as we had in mid-January of this year (12° and 15° below normal for the first two weeks in January). Many of the Brown Thrashers, that were so numerous in late December, managed to survive the frigid weather of January, at least on the Coastal Plain. In Caroline County they were viewed on Jan. 9 and Mar. 5 at Tanyard (Ethel Engle), Jan. 10 at Federalsburg (Unger), Feb. 5 at Denton (Mrs. Alicia Knotts), and Mar. 2 at Greensboro (Marvin Hewitt). Glen Smart found one at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center near Laurel on Feb. 23.

Thrushes, Kinglets. Richard C. Banks sighted a Wood Thrush at Cedarville State Forest on Feb. 4, the second winter record for the State; he observed the bird from as close as 40 feet, noting the big round spots on the breast and the lack of tail-bobbing. The westernmost Ruby-crowned Kinglet reported in Maryland after the January cold spell was seen at

Table 1.--Spring Arrival Dates, 1968

Species	Median				1968 Arrivals by Counties													
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	W.Md	Wash	Cecil	Fred	Balt	Howd	Mont	Pr.G	Anne	Calv	Kent	Caro	Talb
Pied-billed Grebe	--	--	--	3/ 8	3/21	0	0	--	3/23	3/19	3/27	3/10	3/27	W	W	3/10	W	--
Great Blue Heron	--	--	3/26	--	3/20	--	--	W	3/19	W	3/27	3/ 2	3/20	W	3/23	W	W	3/ 2
Whistling Swan	3/12	--	3/12	3/18	3/22	3/25	0	W	0	3/15	3/21	3/18	3/20	3/22	W	W	3/27	3/28
Canada Goose	3/13	--	3/12	3/10	3/20	3/20	0	W	3/21	3/20	3/20	3/12	3/20	W	2/20	W	3/16	3/13
Pintail	--	--	--	--	3/ 9	0	0	--	0	W	4/ 1	3/ 8	3/11	W	--	W	2/21	3/ 9
Wood Duck	3/10	3/31	3/ 5	3/19	3/13	3/30	3/13	4/16	--	3/10	3/ 9	3/ 3	2/ 5	3/19	3/19	3/10	3/15	--
Ring-necked Duck	3/15	--	--	3/14	--	0	0	W	0	3/24	--	3/15	1/29	--	W	--	2/19	--
Sharp-shinned Hawk	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3/ 9	--	4/ 8	4/ 7	--	W	--	3/ 9
Red-shouldered Hawk	--	--	--	--	3/16	--	--	--	--	--	3/ 9	2/24	3/22	W	4/14	4/13	W	2/25
Osprey	3/28	4/ 4	3/26	3/25	3/23	0	0	--	3/23	0	0	0	4/ 3	--	3/23	3/23	2/20	3/ 9
Sparrow Hawk	--	--	--	--	3/11	--	--	W	--	3/ 6	3/ 6	3/24	4/ 3	--	2/27	4/ 9	W	3/11
Am. Coot	--	--	--	--	--	3/30	0	W	0	W	0	0	3/11	3/ 9	W	W	W	3/28
Killdeer	3/ 6	--	3/ 3	3/21	3/ 9	3/20	W	W	W	3/ 9	3/15	2/14	3/ 6	3/ 2	4/ 4	W	W	3/ 9
Am. Woodcock	--	3/ 6	3/ 1	2/27	3/ 9	--	--	--	3/ 9	3/10	3/ 7	--	3/16	3/ 8	2/ 4	--	W	3/ 9
Greater Yellowlegs	4/ 1	4/ 8	4/16	4/19	3/19	0	0	0	0	3/21	0	3/ 8	--	3/ 9	0	--	3/19	4/ 5
Yel.-shafted Flicker	3/19	--	3/ 5	3/25	3/ 8	3/ 8	3/19	--	W	3/ 4	3/ 5	2/25	W	3/16	--	W	W	3/28
Eastern Phoebe	3/22	3/28	3/18	3/11	3/16	3/30	--	--	4/ 7	3/18	3/10	3/13	3/10	3/16	3/10	--	3/20	3/24
Tree Swallow	3/27	3/29	3/31	4/ 2	3/27	--	--	--	--	4/ 2	0	3/27	3/27	4/ 6	4/11	--	3/27	3/25
Fish Crow	--	--	--	--	3/23	0	W	W	W	W	3/23	3/11	3/ 6	3/30	3/ 9	4/13	--	3/28
Brown Thrasher	4/10	4/11	4/13	4/14	3/30	3/30	3/29	--	--	4/ 2	3/29	4/ 2	3/23	3/27	3/30	4/ 8	3/ 2	4/ 9
Robin	2/14	3/19	2/14	2/10	3/ 9	2/24	3/ 8	3/ 7	3/ 9	2/27	3/ 6	2/15	3/10	3/ 9	--	3/10	W	3/ 9
Eastern Bluebird	--	--	--	3/ 6	3/ 6	--	3/29	--	3/23	3/ 9	3/15	2/25	2/26	3/ 2	2/15	W	3/ 2	3/ 8
Cedar Waxwing	5/ 2	4/27	4/24	5/ 6	1/21	--	--	--	--	2/20	1/21	2/25	2/28	1/ 9	--	1/10	1/18	--
Myrtle Warbler	4/25	4/11	4/23	4/18	--	--	--	4/21	--	--	W	3/30	3/26	W	4/11	W	3/ 5	4/ 7
Pine Warbler	--	4/ 3	3/20	4/ 6	--	0	0	0	0	0	4/ 9	--	3/14	4/ 4	4/14	--	3/22	3/20
La. Waterthrush	4/11	4/15	4/ 8	4/15	4/ 7	--	--	--	--	4/16	3/31	4/ 7	--	3/31	--	4/ 8	--	
Red-winged Blackbird	3/ 3	--	2/17	2/17	3/ 7	3/24	3/ 9	3/ 7	2/28	3/ 6	3/ 7	2/26	3/ 7	2/27	2/ 3	3/10	W	3/ 7
Common Grackle	3/ 5	2/28	2/26	2/27	3/ 4	3/28	3/ 4	3/ 7	3/ 8	2/27	3/ 7	3/ 6	2/27	2/27	W	2/ 7	3/ 1	
Brown-headed Cowbird	--	--	--	2/26	3/ 8	--	3/11	3/ 7	--	3/ 8	3/ 1	3/ 4	3/19	3/ 7	W	W	W	3/28
Purple Finch	4/12	--	2/ 8	2/10	2/28	--	--	--	--	4/ 8	2/28	3/25	2/ 3	4/16	--	1/18	2/16	
Am. Goldfinch	--	--	--	--	3/25	3/23	W	W	W	3/27	3/21	W	3/25	W	3/ 9	4/ 8	W	3/31
Rufous-sided Towhee	3/22	--	3/21	4/ 7	3/23	4/20	4/11	W	3/23	3/23	3/21	3/17	W	3/21	3/ 9	4/14	W	3/31
Savannah Sparrow	--	--	3/21	--	3/23	--	--	--	3/23	--	0	3/ 9	--	3/ 9	4/14	--	4/ 1	W
Vesper Sparrow	3/30	4/ 8	4/ 1	--	3/30	4/ 2	3/29	--	3/23	--	4/10	4/ 2	3/30	--	3/ 9	--	3/27	--
Slate-colored Junco	--	--	--	--	--	W	W	W	W	W	3/10	3/ 9	W	3/10	W	W	W	3/ 9
Chipping Sparrow	4/ 3	--	3/30	3/31	3/29	3/30	3/29	4/ 9	3/29	3/27	4/ 2	3/27	3/20	3/23	3/30	4/ 8	3/22	3/29
Fox Sparrow	3/ 7	--	2/28	3/ 7	3/10	2/27	3/13	3/ 7	3/ 2	3/ 9	3/ 8	3/ 8	3/ 9	3/11	3/10	3/10	3/10	--
Song Sparrow	--	--	--	3/10	3/ 9	2/24	W	W	W	3/ 9	3/10	--	W	3/ 9	W	W	W	4/ 5

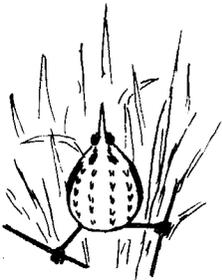
Downsville in Washington County on Jan. 20-21 by Mrs. Alice B. Mallonee.

Orioles. It's really not news that Baltimore Orioles visited the Howard's well-stocked feeder in Annapolis, as we have come to expect them there almost every winter; they had 2 first-year males on Jan. 6. More unusual were reports of single birds in the Piedmont on the north side of Baltimore: Jan. 2 at Cockeysville (Mrs. Elmer Haile) and Towson (Mrs. John Chilcoat) and Jan. 9 and Jan. 30 at Wiltondale (Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Strack). Another individual survived the winter and was seen at Federalsburg, Mar. 10-17 (Unger).

Finches. Northern finches were represented by only a few widely scattered individuals. Evening Grosbeaks were reported only from Baltimore County (maximum of 5 birds), and the only Pine Siskin was at Margaret Thompson's feeder in Wiltondale on Mar. 4. Dickcissels were observed at feeding stations at Glen Arm, Dec. 28-Jan. 13 (Barbara Larrabee), Clarksville, Feb. 4 on (A. D. Geis) and Federalsburg, Mar. 17 (Unger); Dr. Geis had two individuals on Mar. 4. House Finches are becoming so commonplace in parts of Baltimore, Montgomery County, and the Upper Eastern Shore that observers no longer bother to report them all. The highest count reported was of 35 or 40 on 3 window sills at Grace Naumann's apartment at Rodgers Forge. Up to 3 males were singing on the grounds of Towson State College starting in late March; Douglas Hackman believed a breeding colony was being established in the ivy on the back of Stephens Hall--at least until some of the ivy was torn down on May 23-24.

Towhees. Rufous-sided Towhees wintered in unusually high numbers and, thanks to the scanty snow cover, they survived the cold weather nicely. One took advantage of a feeder in Poolesville in January and February (Sheila Cochran), and as many as 25-30 were noted by Mrs. Ben Goldberg at her home near Sparks in upper Baltimore County during the winter!

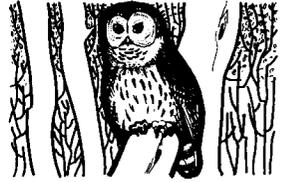
Migratory Bird Populations Station
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Laurel



FIELD LIST OF THE BIRDS OF MARYLAND

Now available through the MOS Bookstore or most local MOS Chapters at 35¢ each. Quantity discount to MOS Chapters and mail orders of single copies at 50¢ each through MOS Publications, P. O. Box 397, Laurel, Md. 20810.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE



V. Edwin Unger

There appears in THE BIRDWATCHER'S ANTHOLOGY a delightfully charming and somewhat whimsical article by Alan Devoe entitled, "The Birds I Used to See." Whereas the writer makes pleasant reading of fancied changes in the birdlife of his neighborhood, the fact remains that detailed observations over long periods of time do reveal extensive changes in populations, in the range of species and in migration patterns.

These observed changes point up to the need for more and better records from more and more people--records systematically conceived and meticulously detailed. From such we may learn not only what changes are taking place, but by studying the changes as they occur, we may also learn something of their causes.

As members of a society whose first objective is "to study and record the observations of bird life in Maryland and vicinity and to collate the scientific data furnished by bird students," we are expected to observe and report our observations. Our several chapters can fit neatly into the plan by encouraging member-participation and by establishing a program to accomplish this end.

Programs involved begin with the reporting by individual members, through a person designated by the local chapter, both spring and fall arrival and departure dates of migrating species, together with sightings of rare and unusual visitors. The Christmas Count and the May Count are features known to nearly every member. It should be the ambition of participating chapters to improve and refine procedures constantly in order that something approaching perfection be achieved in these counts.

Then, there is the Breeding Bird Survey, a comparatively new device for calculating changes in populations over the years. Finally, there are the nesting records to be kept and reported (printed nest record cards are supplied to the chapters). Individually and collectively, records such as these, conscientiously and meticulously made, will, in the course of years, constitute a valuable reservoir of factual data that will show trends in our bird population before other species disappear completely, as did our nesting Peregrine Falcons so recently.

Federalsburg

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE M. O. S. INC., May 11, 1968

The 21st Annual Meeting of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc. was called to order by the President, V. Edwin Unger, on May 11, 1968, at the Hastings-Mimamar Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland, at 7:45 p.m. with over 120 members present, constituting a quorum.

Motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes which had been published in the June 1967 issue of MARYLAND BIRDLIFE.

Mr. Unger welcomed the membership and stated that our registration had topped the previous year's high, with 304 persons in attendance. He commended Dr. Harvey Hall, Convention Chairman, and Mr. Chandler Robbins, for their part in Convention planning.

A resolution was proposed and unanimously adopted, expressing the gratitude of the eleven Chapters and of the entire assemblage for the loyal, efficient and untiring service of Miss Mildred Cole, Executive Secretary; the presentation of the resolution is to be accompanied by a suitable memento.

The Treasurer's report was read and placed on file. Mr. Unger read the auditors' report.

The Annual reports from each Chapter were read and placed on file.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:Publications

Attention was called to the new layout for MARYLAND BIRDLIFE and credit given to the publications staff for improving an already fine magazine.

Mr. Robbins expressed the thanks of the staff and MOS membership to Mr. Irving Hampe, whose headings have been used for the past 20 years. New headings were prepared by Mr. William Schneider.

Mr. Robbins also gave credit and thanks to the Production Staff (listed on the back of the magazine) for their untiring work; especially to Mrs. Richard Cole, who hosts this committee at her home when preparing each issue for publication. Especial note was also made of the wonderful help given by Miss Mildred Cole, over and above her responsibilities as Executive Secretary of the Society.

Mr. Robbins stated that Chapter supplies of the "Field List of Birds of Maryland" could be obtained from Ted Van Velzen, at Chapter discount.

Mr. Robbins said that about one-half of the reports were in from the May Bird Count, and encouraged the remainder to be sent in promptly. He asked especially for members to keep up nesting records,

calling attention to the current issue of MARYLAND BIRDLIFE which contains the first in a series, making use of the data from nesting records.

Audubon Scholarships

Two scholarships were awarded this year; the Helen Miller Scholarship was awarded to Mr. Richard Stambaugh, Baltimore Chapter. The Katharyn Brown Lakeman Scholarship was awarded to Mrs. Lucille Peters, Baltimore Chapter. Both will attend the Maine Camp.

Conservation

The report of Mrs. Eileen Spring, Conservation Chairman, brought us up-to-date progress and action on various issues during the year. She noted that from the number of inquiries and news items sent in by members, it would seem that the MOS is becoming increasingly interested in conservation.

She also reported the plan for a State Conservation Co-ordinating Council, whose purpose would be to keep organizations informed and alerted to conservation legislation, and help co-ordinate activities. The Baltimore Chapter has appointed two representatives to attend discussions of the matter, and who will report to the membership.

Dr. Valega emphasized the importance of efforts of single individuals, in citing activities of various Chapter members.

Nominating Committee

Mrs. Gladys Cole, reporting for Mel Garland, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers:

President	Mr. V. Edwin Unger
First Vice-President	Dr. W. Rowland Taylor
Second Vice-President	Mr. Chandler S. Robbins
Treasurer	Mr. Winfield Henning
Secretary	Mrs. Edwin C. Gras

Motion was made that the nominations be closed. It was seconded and approved and the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot.

It was then stated that the following nominations for Trustees had been made by the several Chapters:

Allegany	Mr. Kendrick Hodgdon	Mrs. Kendrick Hodgdon
Anne Arundel	Mrs. Edwin C. Gras	Mr. Frederick Jewett
Baltimore	Mrs. Joshua W. Rowe	Mr. Rodney B. Jones
		Mr. A. MacDonough Plant
		Mr. Chandler Robbins
		Mrs. Raymond Geddes, Jr.
		Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner
Caroline	Mr. A. J. Fletcher	Mrs. Percy Scudder
Frederick	Mrs. Mary S. Motherway	Dr. Howard Hodge
Harford	Dr. Edgar E. Folk, III	Miss Estella Everett
Kent	Mr. W. Harrell Rusk	Mrs. A. J. Delario
		Mrs. Edward Mendinhall
Montgomery	Dr. Thomas Valega	Mr. Carl Carlson
		Mr. Edward Goodstein
Patuxent	Mr. Morris R. Collins	Mr. Elwood Fisher
Talbot	Mr. Dickson J. Preston	Mr. Robert Price
		Mrs. Robert Price
Wicomico	Mr. J. R. Howie	Miss Joy Heaster

Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the nominations, and declare the above-named nominees elected.

Mrs. Mendinhall extended a cordial invitation to the Annual Membership Picnic at "Damsite" in Chestertown, on Saturday, July 13, 1968.

Mr. Carlson introduced a resolution, which was unanimously adopted expressing the thanks of the membership to the officers for their work during the past year.

Mr. Unger announced the Trustees' meeting to follow immediately, following which the Annual Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p. m.

Respectfully submitted

Alta C. Gras, Secretary



1967-68 SANCTUARY REPORT

Carey Run:

Carey Run was visited by a number of people including the House and Garden Club of Frostburg, elementary school groups, many weekenders, and two family groups each of which spent one week at the sanctuary. Visiting Boy Scouts completed trail markers and arranged a teaching station, seeded the bare area around the pond, installed three new feeders for birds and placed a safety rope and poles at the pond. A group of 5th graders from Frostburg and girl campers planted trees, shrubs and flowers. Improvements made during the year included new spouting, a new railing on the porch and painting of the benches and outdoor furniture. Since the fall of 1967, a new access road has been in process of negotiation and completion. Details are available upon request.

Mill Creek:

The shelter and memorial fireplace were completed. Trails were re-marked. Orchard plumbing and a shallow driven well are the next projects. All spring breakfast hikes terminated at Mill Creek for gourmet indulgence. The Garden Club of the Eastern Shore, under the direction of Phillip Barske, continues its program to clear and plant seed-bearing indigenous trees and plants.

Rock Run:

Mrs. Kaestner took 33 ornithological books, the property of the late Florence H. Burner, to Rock Run to be on loan from the Baltimore Chapter. A bookcase was also supplied. These are for the benefit of overnighters.

Miscellaneous:

A brochure to stimulate interest in donations and bequests to the MOS Sanctuary Program is now in the final stages of preparation.

Robert Sharp, 2nd

ANNUAL REPORT
of
The Treasurer

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Fiscal Year Ending April 20, 1968

OPERATING FUND

Fund Balance April 20, 1967		\$2,640.82
Receipts:		
Dues	\$1,964.00	
Convention Profit	140.70	
Lakeman Scholarship Grant	135.00	
Magazine Sales	29.50	
Donation	22.95	
Helen Miller Scholarship Fund	<u>180.50</u>	<u>2,472.65</u>
		5,113.47
Expenditures:		
MARYLAND BIRDLIFE (five issues)	\$1,153.57	
Lakeman Scholarship	135.00	
Helen Miller Scholarships (two)	210.00	
Camp Mohawk Scholarship	14.00	
Office Supplies, Telephone, etc.	266.01	
Audubon Affiliation	25.00	
Postal Permit	30.00	
Memento (covered by donation, above)	22.95	
Printing Field Trip Pointers	57.00	
Advance on 1968 Convention Costs	<u>50.00</u>	<u>1,963.53</u>
Fund Balance April 20, 1968		\$3,149.94

SANCTUARY FUND

Fund Balance April 20, 1967		\$17,954.68
Receipts:		
Donations	\$7,436.84	
Capital Gains	1,002.52	
Life Memberships (partial)	75.00	
Commission on Pins	37.00	
Dividends and Interest	<u>472.37</u>	<u>9,023.73</u>
		26,978.41
Expenditures:		
Insurance	\$ 167.00	
Repairs, Carey Run	180.00	
Survey, Carey Run	55.00	
Rent, Rock Run	120.00	
Miscellaneous	7.08	
Capital Improvements, Carey Run	556.62*	
Capital Improvements, Mill Creek	<u>1,549.88**</u>	<u>2,635.58</u>
Fund Balance April 20, 1968		\$24,342.83

HELEN MILLER ENDOWMENT FUND

Fund Balance April 20, 1967		\$554.09
Receipts:		
Donations	\$200.00	
Interest	<u>25.40</u>	<u>225.40</u>
Fund Balance April 20, 1968		\$779.49

Reconciliation of Accounts and Assets on Hand

Funds:		
Operating Fund	\$ 3,149.94	
Sanctuary Fund	24,342.83	
Helen Miller Endowment Fund	<u>779.49</u>	\$28,272.26
Assets:		
Checking Account Balance	\$2,264.57	
Savings Account Balance	5,000.00	
Building & Loan Account #1	1,251.81	
Building & Loan Account #2	579.49	
Securities:		
470 Sh. Dominick Fund	4,584.26	
71 Sh. Litton Ind., Common		
9 Sh. Litton Ind., Pref.	3,996.96	
7 Sh. I. B. M.	2,554.42	
12 Sh. I. T. & T.	387.00	
86 Sh. Continental Telephone	2,520.00	
120 Sh. Oshawa Wholesale	2,632.50	
174 Sh. Bow Valley Industries	<u>2,501.25</u>	\$28,272.26

Other Assets of M. O. S.

Carey Run Sanctuary	\$ 4,556.62
Mill Creek Sanctuary	14,446.86

Sanctuaries are carried on the books at cost, plus improvements and additions made after acquisition.

Securities are carried at cost or at value as of the date of acquisition. Present values (April 24, 1968) exceed above-stated figures by at least \$7,000.00.

* \$236.12 contributed by Allegany Chapter.

** \$732.72 contributed by Talbot Chapter.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

This has been a busy year for the Conservation Committee. And in one respect a heartening one--from the number of inquiries and news items sent in by members it would seem the MOS is increasingly interested in conservation.

As usual the committee has through the medium of the Baltimore Chapter's Newsletter kept in touch with the Chapter Presidents. In this way it has tried to bring to members' attention some of the major national and State conservation issues. Included in the last Newsletter was an important letter from Mr. Callison of the National Audubon Society, which it is hoped members will give attention to. Copies are available from Eileen Spring.

In November two MOSers attended the hearing in Frederick on the proposed dam on Hunting Creek. This matter was subsequently appealed to the courts, and unfortunately the case was lost. Hunting Creek is going to be despoiled by a completely unnecessary dam. This is sad news. The MOS can take pride in the part that some of its members played in the attempt to stop this dam. One member, Elizabeth Hartline, was one of the naturalists who took the case to court. Another member, John Healy, who is a lawyer, assisted in the case without remuneration.

This sad defeat may have one hopeful result. Because various conservation organizations worked together on this case, it has been suggested that there be formed in the State a Conservation Co-ordinating Council to help prevent such happenings in the future. Such a council would keep organizations alert and help co-ordinate activities. The Baltimore Chapter has appointed two representatives to attend the discussions on this matter and they in due course will report to the membership.

In January the MOS spoke up in favor of clean water by protesting an oil spill in Chesapeake Bay which killed several hundred waterfowl. In March, being requested for our views by the State Health Department, we were able to speak in favor of cleaner air. At least eight members representing three different Chapters attended the Hearing on the Sunday Hunting Bill. At least five spoke. Concern has been expressed in the Baltimore Chapter about the wholesale spraying of elm trees by Baltimore City. A fact-finding committee has been set up in the chapter to inquire into the pesticide policies being followed by public bodies in the State.

Finally, the State has approved an appropriation of \$175,000 to help purchase the Soldiers Delight area in Baltimore County as a park. There are two conditions attached to this grant however. The Baltimore County Council must agree to put up \$75,000 and private citizens at least \$25,000. This is a matter on which we can all demonstrate our support.

Dr. and Mrs. David Spring

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS, 1968-69

- Auditing: John Wanuga, Chairman
Miss Edith Adkins
Ronald Nevius
- By-laws: Rodney B. Jones, Chairman
A. MacDonough Plant
Barclay Tucker
- Budget: Edwin T. McKnight, Chairman
Morris Collins
Dr. Vincent Jones
Charles N. Mason
Winfield Henning, Treas.
- Conservation: John P. Healy
- Investments: Robert Sharp, II, Chairman
Mabon Kingsley
Edward Mendinhall
Winfield Henning, Treas.
- Nominations: Mrs. Edwin C. Gras, Chairman
Carl Carlson
Mrs. Raymond Geddes
Miss Pan Minke
David Bridge
- Publications: Chandler S. Robbins, Editor
Edward J. Rykiel, Jr., Assistant Editor
- Sanctuary: Gordon Hackman, Chairman
Mrs. Richard D. Cole, Vice-chairman
Mrs. C. Gordon Taylor
Anderson Martin
B. F. Early
Mrs. Basil Gregory
Mrs. Morrill Donald
Edward Goodstein
Mrs. Katherine Bauer
Mrs. Gardner Tillinghast



ANNUAL REPORTS OF LOCAL CHAPTERS

ALLEGANY COUNTY CHAPTER

Allegheny Chapter had interesting and informative programs every month except February, July and August. As is our custom, the September meeting was at Carey Run and featured a covered dish supper with prospective members as guests. The State Trustees were our guests in October at Carey Run. The meeting was well attended.

Our regular October meeting was in charge of Mrs. Edgar Reynolds. A film "Patterns of the Wild" was shown. In November we met at the Ali Ghan Country Club for dinner; Dr. Melvin Brown gave an illustrated lecture on the peat bogs of Garrett County. Mrs. C. Gordon Taylor was chairman of the Christmas Bird Count. The count was summarized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Isaacs. The program for the January meeting was in charge of Mr. Kent Fuller, Education Specialist for the Natural Resources Institute, who showed slides of their work. In March new officers were elected and Mr. Paul Herndon of the Department of Interior, Land Claims Office, showed slides of unclaimed lands. A walk for ducks in migration was led by Mr. Edgar Reynolds. It was a social success if not a practical one. April was a busy month with a walk for spring warblers on the C and O Canal path, led by Mr. Hodgdon. We had Mr. Dale Fuller as speaker at the regular meeting. He gave an illustrated lecture on astronomy. Work days at Carey Run produced good results. Mr. William Leeson was chairman of the State-wide Bird Count. It was summarized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Reynolds.

Our Nature and Conservation camp held at Pleasant Valley, directed by Miss Nan Livingstone is one of our activities of which we are most proud.

Mrs. Leo Isaacs, President



ANNE ARUNDEL CHAPTER

The Anne Arundel Chapter has had a profitable year. The Sanctuary Committee met seven times and made considerable progress under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Neville Kirk. Mrs. Kirk and Comdr. Ed Wilson visited the National Park and Planning Commission in Riverdale and consulted re: possible sites. Three of the club's bird walks were at possible sites which the Commission had under consideration.

The Spring Lecture by Dr. Wm. J. L. Sladen on Penguins was for the benefit of the Sanctuary Fund and Dorothy Mumford and Mrs. Julia Wilson added to this Fund thru the sales of the bird pins and nature cards and paper, respectively. In addition have been individual donations, so that our Fund now stands at nearly \$1650.00.

To interest the general public in this project of Conservation, Mrs. Julia Wilson is writing a series of articles on the subject which is being published in a new weekly supplement to the Evening Capital called

the "Chesapeake Scene". To date one article on a hike over one of the possible sites, headed "Bird Club Seeks Sanctuary", and 7 articles in the series on Conservation, etc., have been printed in the supplement. Mrs. Helen Giblo of the Evening Capital has given excellent cooperation in notices of coming meetings and walks and Julia's accounts of the same.

The year's program was as follows: Seven bird walks; five lecture meetings with several films on conservation; visit to the Aviary at the Washington Zoo; visit to Cylburn in May; the Christmas and May Bird Counts; the Spring Lecture mentioned above; attendance at the Annual M.O.S. meeting at Ocean City.

Alta Gras with Mrs. Julia Wilson's help has issued three news letters sent to members and friends. Eleven members attended the Hearing on the Sunday Hunting Bill, which we were glad to hear was defeated in Committee again this year. The membership stands at 75 adults.



Miriam F. Parmenter, President

BALTIMORE CHAPTER

Because of the conscientious efforts of about 30 members who assumed responsibility for Chapter activities and with the invaluable help of some 80 additional persons, a varied and instructive program has been offered both to our membership and to the public.

With imagination and hard work Mrs. Schaffer and Mrs. Lawson conducted a full Junior program, enlisting the help of about 40 MOS leaders and Girl Scout Troop 192. Over 5,000 children from 148 classes were guided on nature walks through Cylburn Park. Over 1,000 youngsters attended the bi-weekly Saturday Bird and Nature walks which were followed by talks, banding demonstrations, trimming the birds' Christmas tree, and a wild pet show. Daily spring vacation walks were also conducted. The Junior Nature Club's 64 members worked on individual projects and went on 3 field trips. 4 Nature Classes for Parents and Grandparents were arranged by Mrs. Schaffer and taught by 8 MOS members. Despite snakes and toads the series was very popular, attracting over 100 persons.

All the foregoing programs included a visit to the MOS museum, whose mounted birds have been so skillfully prepared by Mr. George Cassell. Our Cylburn committee, headed by Mrs. Kratzer, maintained the Bird Trail and its feeders, and hosted in the MOS room on Cylburn's Open House Sundays.

Our 9th Junior Nature Camp weekend in June will be under the direction of Mel Garland, Dorothy Clark, and Pan Minke. It is interesting to note that each of these has been a recipient of the Helen Miller Scholarship to a National Audubon Camp.

Our outreach into the community was achieved through talks and walks by MOS members and through loans of educational materials, mounted birds, nests, and photographic slides. Garden Clubs, Scout troops,

school classes, child study groups, senior citizens, and convalescent children were served.

In addition to planning about 40 field trips, several evening programs and a supper meeting, Mrs. Larrabee and Mrs. Conley masterfully coordinated our entire program. One interesting innovation was a display of members' favorite "ornithobjects." Especially rewarding was our Chincoteague Winter Weekend when 93 species were observed.

Our lectures, arranged by Mr. Howe and Mrs. Kaestner, took us birding in foreign countries, peering beneath the sea, studying a Patuxent marsh, and observing wildlife and nature through Merrill Cottrell's magic camera lens. One of our two ticket lectures, "Birds of the Leeward Hawaiian Chain," was given by Chan Robbins. This afforded us the special opportunity of contributing the proceeds to conservation and conservation education causes.

Since our Chapter's Conservation committee and that of the Society are both chaired by Dr. and Mrs. Spring, the report of the Society serves as ours also. Mrs. Spring's meaningful presentation of conservation issues has increased our awareness of our responsibility for the condition of our environment and for the preservation of our natural resources.

A third of the Florence Burner library has been placed on loan at Rock Run Sanctuary, 15 books were given to Greater Baltimore Medical Center, and the remaining 44 items have been retained for use in the MOS room at Cylburn.

The Book Store, under Mrs. Ravesies' good management, continues to provide some financial support to the MOS Sanctuary Fund.

A brief report cannot cover all activities nor name all workers, but it seems appropriate to salute especially Mac Thomas, who retires as our Treasurer after 8 years of good and faithful service.

Despite a continuing increase in our membership, which now numbers 478 (77 of which are Juniors), the demand for leaders for both children's and adults' groups exceeds the supply. As we look about us and see the lack of appreciation of our natural heritage, we realize how urgently we need to enlist the influence and active participation of more members in the field of conservation education.



Mrs. Nancy D. Rowe, President

CAROLINE COUNTY CHAPTER

Believing that it is a good idea for birders to keep in touch with their game wardens, we invited our state game wardens to come to our first meeting for the year 1967-68. They brought an excellent film, entitled "The Feathered Link." This is a recent film about wildlife,

put together by Maryland people, and about which Marylanders can be very proud. We recommend it highly.

At another meeting, a production sponsored by Ducks Unlimited was shown. This is a wonderful film called "The Wood Duck's World" and we urge all birders to see it when they can. For a winter meeting Mr. Ronald Carey, of Magnolia, Delaware, provided a very entertaining and informative series of slides on Exotic Birds of the World. Mr. Carey has his own sanctuary where he raises and deals in exotic wildfowl.

Our president, Ed Unger, had charge of what turned out to be a surprise program at another meeting. He called it the "Barn Owl program"--ask him about the details. Our gracious hostess for the evening, Mrs. Wilmer Fell Davis came to Ed's rescue and everyone had a lovely time. At an early spring meeting, Carlton Gooden, Caroline County's own mountain climber showed us beautiful slides of his adventures throughout northeastern United States.

For our last regular meeting of the year we were fortunate in obtaining the film, "Mark Catesby--Colonial Naturalist." This is a color film in a Williamsburg, Virginia, setting by the well known Audubon Screen Tour duo, Ty and Julie Hotchkiss. This is a splendid film and highly recommended.

On April 27 our club had an early morning bird walk in the Red Bridges area. During the year our members took part in the Annual Christmas Count and the May Day Count. It is our intention to close the club year with a picnic in June.

Marvin W. Hewitt, President



FREDERICK CHAPTER

Membership in the Frederick Chapter increased to 43 adults and two juniors. Attendance at the nine monthly meetings was exceptional with many guests and non-members present. This was credited to the fact that we presented outstanding speakers and had good coverage by the press and radio. Greater numbers of members participated in the 11 field trips.

Our speakers included William S. Clark whose subject was, "Adventures in Banding Birds of Prey"; Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Edwards who told of "Bird Carving as a New Pastime," showing models of their work; Duncan Burchard, chief naturalist at Catoctin Mountain Park, who outlined the history of the Park; Harold R. Jones, Superintendent of the Catoctin Park, who was detailed with a National Park Service team to study Mount Kilimanjaro, and assist the government of Tanzania, East Africa, in planning the proposed Mount Kilimanjaro National Park. We also heard Roy Okan, Outdoor Education instructor of Frederick County; Stephen Simon, who gave an illustrated lecture on "The Birds Around Us"; Raymond L. Nelson, Supervisor of Mathers National Park Training Center, Harpers

Ferry; Chan Robbins, with an illustrated talk about "Birds of England"; and Samuel M. Carney, Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel, showing slides of "Waterfowl Surveys and Their Uses."

At the request of the State President, the Chapter delegated a committee of three to contact residents of Hagerstown who were interested in forming a Washington County Chapter of MOS. The groundwork was laid but, to date, we have not met with success.

Special thanks go to Bill Shirey who constructed bluebird houses for a minimal charge, using instruction sheets furnished by Mrs. Chan Robbins, and to members who wrote letters to their Congressmen in the interest of conservation. Thanks, also, to the kind and loyal Baltimore Chapter for their Newsletters which give us much information and ideas for use in our Chapter.

Our season will end with a field trip and picnic at Harpers Ferry, May 26. We consider the year 1967-68 very successful and look forward to the coming season with great expectations.



Mrs. Mary S. Motherway, President

HARFORD COUNTY CHAPTER

The 1967-68 year was one of growth for the Harford Chapter. Our adult membership has increased to 53; we had only three junior members this year, but two more are "pre-registered" for next year.

We continued our plan of five bi-monthly meetings through the year. The first was a picnic and planning meeting at Rock Run Sanctuary spiced by Barclay Tucker's home-grown watermelons for dessert. Our other four meetings were dinner meetings served at the Churchville Presbyterian Church. Our programs for the year included illustrated lectures on "Bird Migration" by Chandler Robbins, "Birds of the Pacific" by Douglas Hackman, and movies by one of our own club members, David Smith, whose films were "A Feathered Link" and "Birds of Prey." This latter film was eight years in the making and in many instances required Mr. Smith to train his birds for some weeks to perform a particular act or sequence. Every species of eagle, hawk, and owl indigenous to our area is included. Additional copies of the film are being made by the Maryland Game Commission and will shortly be available to clubs, schools and other groups. We heartily recommend it for a club meeting.

Our club and members of 4-H groups contributed seed for Rock Run's feeders, and several of us, in conjunction with Baltimore Chapter members, managed to keep feeders filled all winter.

We enjoyed a visit by our President, Mr. Unger, to our May meeting and by a number of guests from other clubs throughout the year.

Once again, we participated in the Christmas and May bird counts, and have been better at our record keeping of nesting cards, and arrival

and departure dates. Our hopes for next year are to grow a little more, to encourage more junior members, to be even more complete with our records, and to continue our stimulating program series.



Edgar E. Folk, III, President

KENT COUNTY CHAPTER

The 10th anniversary year of the Kent County Chapter was our most ambitious and rewarding. Without a doubt, the most important event of the year was our second exhibit of American Bird Carvings which was held at the Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church in Chestertown on November 7-11. Our exhibit attracted exhibitors from Maine to California. Many visitors from throughout the county came to see these outstanding works of art.

Our second major project was the presentation of five Audubon Wildlife Films in the new Fine Arts Center of Washington College. We were most gratified by the interest shown by the Chestertown community, and we are looking forward to presenting five more films in the coming year.

Our regular monthly programs included three special lectures presented by our own club members on the subjects of: Birds in Art, Birds on Stamps and Birds in the Bible. In addition, we had the opportunity to see slides of a hunt for Gyrfalcons on the Seward Peninsula in Alaska, a trip to the Caribbean Islands, and a new film of Remington Farms. We also heard Mr. Erwin McIntosh, manager of the new Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, who spoke on the development of this important project.

Another exciting event in the chapter's year was the creation of a new Junior Club under the directorship of Mrs. Stanley Wilson. The project has been a dream of many members of the club for some years. We now have some 19 junior members, who are involved in various wildlife and conservation programs. Perhaps the most noteworthy is the building of bluebird boxes to be placed throughout Kent County. In addition members of the club have helped with our Bird Count programs, and have taken several field trips.

The Kent Chapter, of course, participated in the National Audubon Christmas Count and also in the statewide spring count on May 4.

As the 1967-68 President of the Kent County Chapter, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the state organization who have supported our programs during this year. I would also like to thank the members of my own club for their continuing interest and support of our programs and projects.

Carl Westerdahl, Vice-President





MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER

Our year began with a field trip to Skyline Drive, Va. in mid-September. Our regular meeting and program schedule got off to a good start with a talk by Chan Robbins on "Hawk Migration." September was climaxed by the big field trip to Cape May, N. J.

A new type of field trip for the Chapter was initiated by Carl Carlson. These were "County Exploration Trips." They were primarily to get the members acquainted with birding opportunities in our County. Birding itself was to be of a secondary purpose for these field trips. The following in this category were conducted: Rossmoor Leisure World (this trip was also intended to introduce us to the residents of Rossmoor and vice-versa) (Sept. 24); Burnt Mills (Oct. 8); and Seneca State Park (Nov. 19).

In December another type of field trip was initiated. This was the C & O Canal Exploration Hikes. This was the first of a series of trips designed to hike and bird the whole length of the Canal within Montgomery County.

In January, we had a most memorable meeting. This was a "Social Evening" in which, after a delicious meal prepared and arranged by Mrs. Harold M. Williams and Mrs. Marjorie Golze, members presented a few of their very own favorite and special slides.

In February, we again had the pleasure of having Chan Robbins speak to us. This time the subject was "Owls." This meeting was followed by our memorable "Owl Hike" out at Sycamore Landing and Hughes Hollow the next evening. This was a memorable outing not only for the 26 cars and 70 people that turned out, and the fact that our well-planned use of tape-recorded owl calls to trick the owls in answering us did not work quite right, but we did hear a good burst of Great Horned Owl talk.

Other field trips included the following: Pennyfield Locks, Hughes Hollow and Lilypons (Oct. 15); the Virginia Potomac, Roaches Run, Marina, Bell Haven (Oct. 29); Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (Nov. 5); Hughes Hollow (Feb. 25); Bombay Hook & Little Creek (March 9); "Up-River"-the Potomac near Pennyfield Lock to observe courting waterfowl and to look for early shore birds (March 24); New Design Road and Point of Rocks with good looks at Upland Flowers (April 21); May Count (May 4) and the good ol' Christmas Bird Count (Dec. 30, Seneca).

We have been most fortunate in our other speakers (besides Chan Robbins) this year. They have provided us with very interesting and informative programs, as follows: Oct.: Mrs. Elizabeth Riedel, "Fall Migration and Operation Recovery"; Nov.: Mr. Philip A. DuMont, "Winter Birds"; Dec.: Dr. Alexander H. Frey, Jr., "Birds of Trinidad"; March:

Mr. & Mrs. J. Donald Sutherland, "Where Land Meets Sea", a prize winning film; and April: Mr. David Bridge, "Migration."

As of April 17, 1968, our membership stands at 116 (52 family, 62 individual, and 2 junior memberships).

T. M. Valega, President



PATUXENT CHAPTER

Thanks to our outstanding program committee, we had eight excellent regular meetings plus a picnic for our June meeting. Four birds walks were held, including one to the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and a tour of local Bird Feeding Stations. Unfortunately, the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center has been closed to visitors and a bird walk scheduled for there this spring had to be rerouted. We hope this will not be permanent. Since many of our club members participate in the Christmas Count and the State-wide Bird count, no field trips were scheduled for December or May.

Our speakers, as usual, were very interesting and spoke on a wide variety of subjects. Color slides and/or movies were shown with the talks. Chandler Robbins closed the 1966-67 season and started the 1967-68 season for us speaking on, Native Land Birds of Hawaii and Banding at the "Operation Recovery" station at Ocean City.

Brooke Meanley spoke on Birds of Southern Swamps in October followed by William C. Russell in November speaking on his Trip to Peru. Our speakers for 1968 have been: Richard A. Coon, Radio Tracking of Muskrats; Larry Hood, Land Between the Lakes, Kentucky; Kenneth L. Smith, The Buffalo River in Arkansas and Mrs. Nancy C. Coon, Outdoors in Illinois. In addition to our speakers, a regular and interesting feature of our meetings has been the discussions by the members of birds seen by them during the month.

Mrs. Robbins continues to give us much needed and valuable publicity in her weekly column in the Laurel News Leader. She has also done a very fine job as our Conservation Committee, quite a thankless task much of the time.

And, lastly, we were able to contribute \$50.00 to the MOS Sanctuary Fund.

Morris R. Collins, President



TALBOT COUNTY CHAPTER

During the past year, the Talbot County Bird Club

1. Completed a shelter at the Mill Creek Sanctuary, with financial support from MOS.
2. Completed a fireplace (for both heating and cooking) at the Sanctuary as a memorial to Mrs. Nita Nevius, a long-time member.

3. Remarked four Sanctuary trails and benefitted from the work of the Garden Club of the Eastern Shore, which did good service in clearing and planting the area of the Laurel Trail.
4. Made plans to install a sanitary facility and shallow well at the shelter site.
5. Enjoyed 10 Sunday morning breakfast hikes.
6. Held seven monthly meetings with four outside speakers.
7. Sponsored, for the tenth season, five Audubon Wildlife Films.
8. Counted 106 species in Dick Kleen's farewell performance as Christmas Count director.

Dickson J. Preston, President

WICOMICO CHAPTER



The Chapter members enjoyed the activities and programs presented over the past year. In addition to our regular monthly meeting and programs, we had monthly bird walks. These walks covered a wide area of interests. We visited such areas as Assateague, Va.; Milburn Landing; Ocean City Inlet; Caine Keys; Mt. Vernon and Princess Anne section; Quantico, Bivalve and Tyaskin area; Elliott Island and many others. All of our members go on walks whenever the opportunity presents itself. This adds greatly to our monthly meetings when we find ourselves visiting and sharing our experiences. At the present time we are exchanging information about our nesting birds in our own backyards.

We also, in the past year, began a Bluebird campaign; some of the men got together at one member's house and built several Bluebird houses. These were placed around in various sections. The results have not been spectacular at this point, but we think the nesting will improve.

Our aim for the coming year is to continue to motivate interest in the observation of birds, and to continue to express active participation in conservation. We believe that the sense of well-being in man is enhanced by the well-being of his environs.

Joy Heaster, President



Please Report Active Vireo Nests

Mrs. Penny Williamson is studying the behavior of 3 species of vireos. She would like to know about any Red-eyed, White-eyed, or Yellow-throated Vireo nests that are found in order to measure heights of nests, determine tree species, and if possible, watch parents feeding young. Any information will be greatly appreciated. Please call her collect at 728-4160 (home) or 955-3291 (Johns Hopkins University).

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*In Remembrance*

The following gifts of remembrance were
made to the MOS Sanctuary Fund

Gift of:

In Memory of:

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Van Velzen . . . Raymond Roof

HOUSE FINCHES AT BROADWATER POINT

K. Friel Sanders

The first House Finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) I had ever seen were in Professor and Mrs. Howard's yard in Annapolis in the winter of 1965.

On January 22, 1966 a male and three females came to the watering pan at my feeding station. After a cursory glance I identified them as Purple Finches (*Carpodacus purpureus*), but I was corrected by Gladys Cole who recognized them. We then verified the identification with Peterson's *A Field Guide to Western Birds*. I believe this to be the first sighting of House Finches in the Broadwater area. On January 27, 1966 I counted ten finches at the feeding area, three males and seven females--the largest number sighted for the winter period of 1965-66.

Neighbors reported seeing three House Finches on November 22, the first sighting for the fall of 1966. No more than five were seen at a time until January 14, 1967, when a calm, rainy day with temperature in the mid-forties brought a flock of at least twenty. The flock kept increasing until it reached at least forty by actual count on February 17, 1967.

Before the House Finches migrated in the spring I had banded twenty and had taken a foreign return banded at Blue Point, Long Island, New York, by the late Walter S. Terry. On April 1, the last pair departed.

On November 5, 1967 six House Finches appeared at the feeding area. Again the flock gradually increased and by December 2 the greatest number counted was thirteen birds. An accurate number of birds in a flock cannot be ascertained unless the birds are trapped and banded. I banded a total of fifty between December 27, 1967 and February 4, 1968. The majority were taken in a two-cell trap on the ground. They were exceedingly difficult to catch in a net. They literally dropped out of the trees to the feeding area and when flushed would fly almost straight up! Of the fifty birds only one was taken in the net. Repeaters were very scarce and as the season wore on the flock became more difficult to trap. There were at least five unbanded birds when the flock migrated. The last pair was seen on a feeding tray early on March 27, 1968. Each year a small flock arrives and is later joined by others. The flock is never static, but seems to split up and re-form.

The House Finch is on a very definite increase here, judging by this summary.

Period	No. Counted	No. Banded
Jan. 2, 1966 - Apr. 1, 1966	10	0
Nov. 27, 1966- Apr. 1, 1967	40	20
Nov. 5, 1967 - Mar. 27, 1968.	55	50

Broadwater Point, Churchton

GOLDFINCHES AND JUNCOS EATING PINE SEEDS

V. Edwin Unger

While walking through a stand of Shortleaf Pine (Pinus echinata) near Federalsburg on January 22, 1968, I discovered a flock of American Goldfinches (Spinus tristis) feeding in the treetops. Continued observation revealed them to be eating the seeds from the cones, much as crossbills do. I puzzled over this until I obtained a cone and found it to be "opened" to the point that the seeds could be readily extracted by my fingers or by shaking the cone. Evidently, climatic conditions and the season of the year were just right for the natural discharge of the winged seeds into the air, where the slightest breeze would carry them some distance from the tree. Even as I watched, there was a gentle rain of seed-wings all about me as the birds devoured the seeds and allowed the membranes to fall.

It was apparent that some of the seeds themselves were being shaken loose to fall free to the ground, for I soon beheld my second surprise of the day. Here, on the forest floor, where no grass or weeds grew but only dried pine needles lay, a flock of Slate-colored Juncos (Junco hyemalis) was feeding. I could only surmise that they were partaking of the same food.

As I thought about the opening of those pine cones, it came to me that we had had an extremely long period of very cold weather, followed by a few spring-like days. Did this circumstance determine the opening date? If so, did these birds know this, or did they just happen to be here, a most unlikely place to find goldfinches and juncos?

Federalsburg



COMING EVENTS

July 13 STATEWIDE Kent County Chapter will host all Chapters at all day Picnic at The Mendinhalls', "Damsite", Chestertown, Md. Note change of date!

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