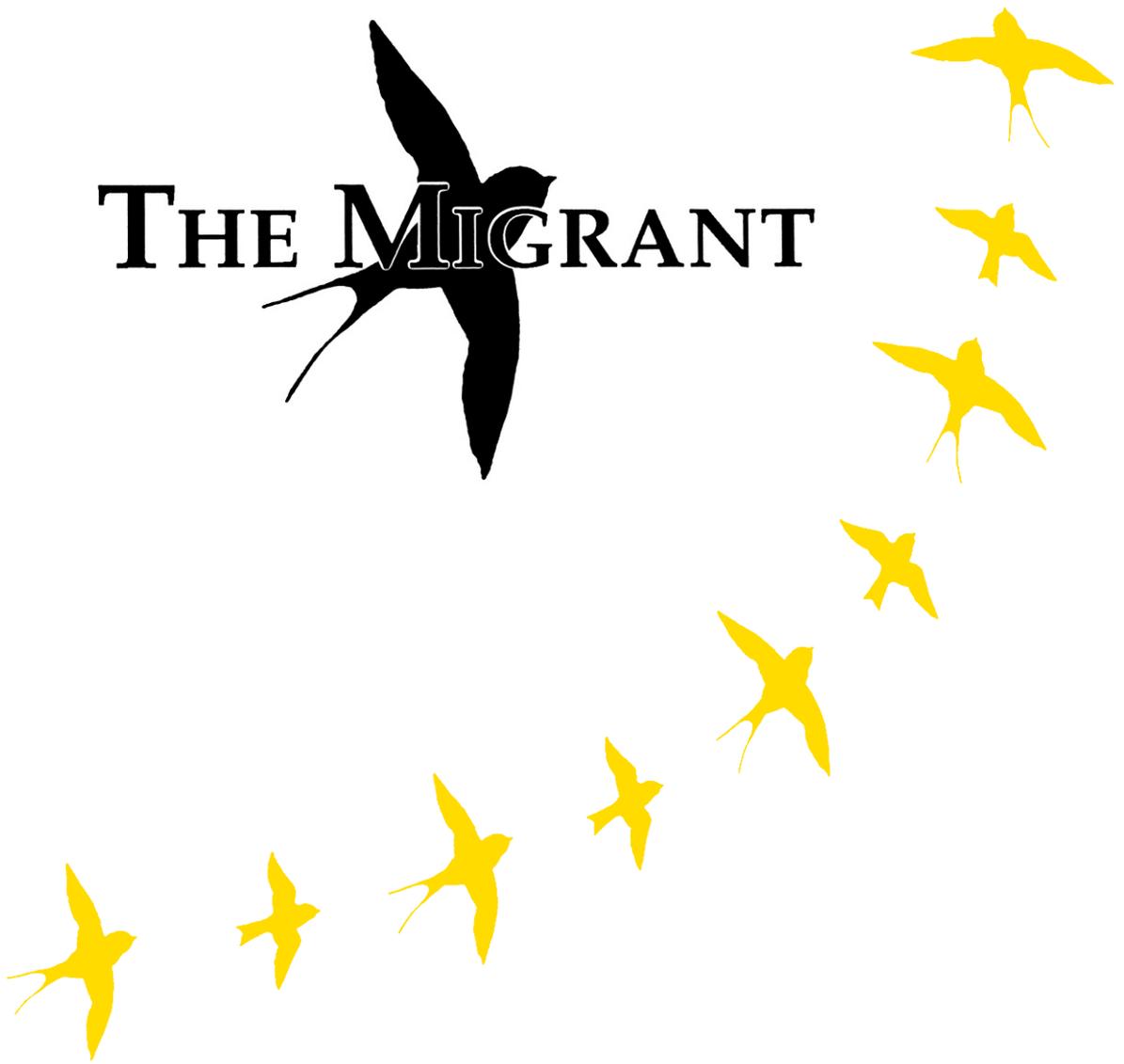




# THE MIGRANT



A QUARTERLY JOURNAL  
DEVOTED TO TENNESSEE BIRDS

PUBLISHED BY  
THE TENNESSEE  
ORNITHOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 2013  
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## CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW NESTING IN NORTHERN PUTNAM COUNTY

Janie Finch

299 Allen Hollow Rd., Cookeville, TN

On the morning of 14 May 2012 I walked along a woodland trail in the eastern part of the property my husband Ric and I own in northern Putnam County. This part of our trail runs through second-growth woods consisting primarily of pine, oak, hickory, cherry, beech, maple, tulip poplar, sassafras and buckthorn trees which are mostly small (10 cm diameter or less) with a few large trees (with diameters of about 40 cm). I heard a flutter of wings and caught sight of a Chuck-will's-widow (*Antrostomus carolinensis*). It flew to a perch about five meters from where I stopped and then fluttered on into the woods further south. This was my first good view of a species I had heard innumerable times on this land, and it turned out to be the first of many exciting observations during the course of several breeding seasons. Following are these observations accompanied by some photos I was able to capture.

15 May -- Ric walks with our dog along a loop trail in the woods near our neighbors' pasture to the south when the dog runs a few feet off the trail and discovers two speckled eggs lying on the leaf litter. Having just seen a Chuck-will's-widow the day before, I surmise that it might be a parent of those eggs.



The eggs are well camouflaged in the leaf litter with streaks and splotches obscuring their shape, and without our dog's alert we likely would not have found them. In spite of the dog's apparent disinterest in the eggs we keep her away from the area for the next three weeks.

16 May -- I pause along the trail around the egg site this afternoon and find an adult Chuck-will's-widow incubating the eggs. The bird is barely visible and was difficult to find even with binoculars and the knowledge of where to look.

19 May -- Adult is sitting in the same area where the eggs were laid.

30 May -- This morning I enter the woods more quietly than usual and see what appears

to be movement under the adult bird's breast feathers. The feathers seem to be more spread out than before, and I hope there is a young one underneath.

4 June -- This morning I see more movement. A young bird is visible and fidgeting among the adult's breast feathers. The adult becomes aware of my presence and makes a sudden sharp movement, apparently to still the little bird as it immediately becomes as motionless as its parent. The following photos show the birds as observed this day.



5 June -- The adult female flushes from a site right next to the trail about five meters from the nest area. She performs a brief broken-wing display, dragging one wing on the ground, then flies up and further into the woods. I look down at the area she abandoned and see two tiny young Chuck-will's-widows, all but invisible in the leaf litter. They are perfectly still while I snap a few photos.



6 June - - The young ones have moved a second time, a few meters further toward the center of the woods. The adult is not present.

8 June 2012 -- No Chuck-will's-widows are seen today.

In 2013 we were privileged to observe Chuck-will's-widows again. We believe it was the same pair that nested in almost the exact location of the 2012 nest.

31 May -- Ric discovers an adult Chuck-will's-widow in our woods, sitting on leaf litter in the same area where the nest was last year.

12 – 18 June -- I see an adult in the same site where Ric found one on 31 May.

22 June -- Ric sees a single egg, apparently abandoned, at the site where the adult has been. Later in the day I visit the area and find the egg, carefully look all around the area and walk back the few meters to the trail. Suddenly I'm surprised by an adult Chuck-will's-widow fluttering up from a spot on the ground very near me. It is a female and she flies erratically to a point further along the trail, pretending to be hurt and watching me continuously. I snap a photo of her.



She flies a few more feet and begins to expand and contract on the ground, drawing first the leading edge of one wing and then the other to the ground while fluttering her throat and rhythmically raising her head and upper body. Her tail is spread on the ground, and she seems to use it to brace herself as she moves her wings to and fro. She does not open her gape during this time, and I hear no vocalizing.

For an entire minute she continues this distraction/threat display and I am able to take video.

I stop filming, and she flies low around the curving trail and out of sight. I briefly look for the chick and have to use binoculars to find it though it is just a few meters from me and in almost the same spot where I first found the two chicks last year. This site is six meters from the abandoned egg at the nest.

23 June -- We find an adult sitting on the ground another five meters eastward from the chick's location yesterday. The bird has a noticeable bulge under the left side of its breast

and we think the young one is sheltering there. This photo shows the excellent cryptic coloring of these birds and also the difficult terrain the young have to maneuver.



I walk back to the nest area and take photos of the abandoned egg.

25 June 2013 -- We find no sign of the birds.

2014 -- This year Chuck-will's-widows arrive on our property by April 17<sup>th</sup>, which seems to be an average date over the last two decades. From time to time throughout late April and May Ric and I walk the trail and look at the old nest site for any sign of nesting, to no avail.

31 May -- At 7:15 in the evening I've walked in our woods north and downhill of the 2012-13 nest areas. In an area with more undergrowth and downed pine trees two large brown birds suddenly lift from the ground and dart away from each other; I hear a grunting growl sound. In the faltering light one appears to have a white tail. They both disappear from view. I walk back uphill and see the white-tailed bird again and realize it's a male Chuck-will's-widow. He flies back to the location where the two birds parted. At 7:40 after walking another part of the trail I loop back to this area and hear a low rolling *waow* repeated some eight times in about five seconds, then a pause and another iteration. In another 10 minutes I've reached another area of our woods a quarter-mile away and hear a gull-like *ough ough ough* followed by the *chk weeo WEEo* song.

6 June -- I see a male Chuck-will's-widow just before 8:00 this evening in the same area where I saw the pair on May 31. He flies a few feet and makes a grunting honk, then flies about 20 meters further southeast. His white tail feathers show well as he flies. Five minutes later I hear another bird making the low *waow* sound.

8 June -- I hear the *waow* call three times then constant singing from the northeast woods at 8 pm. Another bird sings from the southeast woods area at 8:15 and the first one stops. There are two birds in the northeast calling back and forth with a *quok* sound, then all three birds sing.

14 June -- Just before 10 this morning I hear a distant low growl in the woods. It is repeated and sounds like a warning as I approach to about 25 meters from the calling bird. I hear no more vocalizations.

15 June -- At 8:15 pm a Chuck-will's-widow is singing from the area where I first saw the pair. As I approach along the trail I hear a sharp *quok quok* and then a nasal *ough ough* followed by the sound of a bird flying toward an open field to the west while another bird flies while calling *quok* further into the woods. In a few moments both have settled and I hear singing from the bird in the field.

16 June -- I continue to walk along the trail in the area where I hope to find this year's Chuck-will's-widow nest, if there is one. This area has considerably more undergrowth and fallen trees than the location where they nested the previous two years and I must tread much more carefully.

I still have hopes of finding another young Chuck-will's-widow, and I'll continue to look.

*The Migrant* 84(3): 93-95, 2013

## REPORT OF THE TENNESSEE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

**Kevin Calhoon**

**934 Cravens Terrace, Chattanooga, TN**

This report describes the actions taken by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee of the Tennessee Ornithological Society from fall of 2012 to the summer of 2013. Committee members who served during this period were Kevin Calhoon (secretary), Mike Todd, Bill Pulliam, Don Miller, Jan Shaw and Mark Greene; Phillip Casteel was the alternate.

Acceptance criteria remained the same throughout the year. A species is placed on the confirmed list based upon either (a) extant, verified specimen, photograph, or sound recording, each accompanied by written details; or (b) satisfactory written documentation of three independent sight records, or satisfactory written documentation or three independent observers of the same bird. Without these levels of documentation, a species is placed on the Provisional List based on one or two sight records with satisfactory written documentation. Acceptance to either list requires that there be no more than one dissenting vote of the committee, as directed by the amended resolution at the 1998 Spring Meeting. This report contains eleven records with nine accepted and two that were not.

## RESULTS OF THE TENNESSEE BIRD RECORD COMMITTEE VOTING FOR 2012 AND 2013

### RECORDS ACCEPTED

#### **Hooded Crane (*Grus monacha*)**

After extensive research and consideration the Tennessee Bird Records Committee voted 5-1 that a captive origin of the Hooded Crane (seen at the Hiwassee Refuge in Meigs County TN from December 13, 2011 through January 2012) was unlikely and accepted the record as a wild bird which will be added to the Official List of Tennessee Birds. We spent a year reviewing this record, including communications with individuals in the zoo world who currently have Hooded Cranes in their collections as well as the manager of the "studbook" for the species in captivity (I want to thank Mark Brogie for all the research he

did in this area). Their status in captivity is small and well controlled and the four birds that were unaccounted for from Jerry Korn's collection in Idaho were all pinioned. The crane at the Hiwassee refuge was not pinioned, nor could have ever been before; it was full winged and a very strong flier.

Hooded Crane has shown some pattern of long-distance vagrancy with records from Kazakhstan and eastern India which are both over 1000 miles east of normal breeding grounds in eastern Russia and their regular wintering areas south. An overshoot to the northeast of its nesting grounds by this distance puts the bird very close to Alaska. We decided that this crane's behavior and season of occurrence are exactly what would be expected if a wild Hooded Crane made it to Tennessee from Eurasia. It was associated with migratory Sandhill Cranes and departed north with them, the same behavior (and with the same Sandhill Crane population) that presumed wild Common Cranes show in North America and have been seen as far east as Indiana and Ontario.

We decided it was more likely that this Hooded Crane from Eurasia somehow ended up with migratory Sandhill Cranes in North America and over time drifted east to Tennessee, than its being a escaped captive bird.

The Hooded Crane was added to the confirmed list of the Official List of Tennessee Birds with excellent photographs by John W. Kuehnel and written documentation by Esther Marie Sutton, who first discovered the bird.

#### **White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*)**

Good photos and written documentation of a bird at Presidents Island, Shelby County, 30 April 2011 were submitted by Scott Somershoe and accepted 6-0. This bird is already on the list as an Accidental species.

#### **Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*)**

Good photos and written documentation of a bird at the Duck River Unit, Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, Humphreys County, 19 February 2011 were submitted by Chris Sloan. It was accepted 6-0 and is already on the list as an Accidental species.

#### **Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)**

Good documentation and photographs of a bird in Sequatchie County, 15 August 2010 were submitted by Shane Williams. It was accepted 6-0 and is already on the list as an Accidental species.

#### **Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*)**

Good photographs and written documentation were submitted by Ed LeGrand in Franklin County, 14 November 2009. It was accepted 6-0 and took this species off the Provisional List and on to the confirmed list as an Accidental species.

#### **Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*)**

Good written documentation was submitted by Tony Lance in Davidson County, 21 February 2011. Record was accepted 6-0 and is already on the list as a Casual species.

#### **Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*)**

Good written documentation was submitted by Bill Pulliam in Hardin County, 30 December 2009. Record was accepted 6-0 and is already on the list as an Accidental species.

**California Gull (*Larus californicus*)**

Good written documentation was submitted by Tommie Rogers in Marion County, 29 March 2009. Record was accepted 6-0 and is already on the list as an Accidental species.

**Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii*)**

Good written documentation was submitted by Scott Somershoe in Lake County, 19 May 2010. Record was accepted 6-0 and is already on the list as a Casual species.

**RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED****Hooded Oriole (*Icterus spurius*)**

Written documentation and photographs were submitted by Eden Powell in Flintville, Lincoln County, 10 July 2011. The record was not accepted: votes 4-2 (at least 5 positive votes required to pass). There was no doubt about the identification of this bird; after much discussion the committee felt that origin of the bird was in question. It will not be added to the Official List of the Birds of Tennessee at this time.

**Williamson's Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus thyroideus*)**

Written documentation was submitted by Betty Gifford in Shelby County on 20 May 2010. The record was not accepted: votes 0-6. The committee felt the description was of a Northern Flicker.

*We wish to thank Betty Gifford, John W. Kuehnel, Tony Lance, Ed LeGrand, Eden Powell, Bill Pulliam, Chris Sloan, Scott Somershoe and Shane Williams who submitted documentation or photographs to the committee.*

## COMMON RAVEN NEST AT BRISTOL MOTOR SPEEDWAY

Thomas S. McNeil

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Blountville, TN 37617

On 9 February 2013, Common Ravens (*Corvus corax*) were discovered building a nest at the Bristol Motor Speedway (BMS) in Bristol, Sullivan County, Tennessee. Cathy Myers, J.T. McNeil and I first observed the pair of ravens as they were flying across Highway 11E on the north side of the speedway. Both birds were carrying branches comparable to their body length. The birds flew underneath the overhanging outer wall of the northern grandstand. Upon investigation, the nearly completed nest was discovered in that area. I returned the following week, and the nest seemed more structurally sound, although the birds were not observed in the few minutes that I was present.

The BMS site is located at an elevation of approximately 440 m. The Common Raven nest (Figure 1) was situated underneath the overhanging outer wall of the northwest-facing turn-2 grandstand. It was constructed within a cradled depression created by a network of convoluted electrical conduit, approximately 18 m above the pavement. It is notable that this side of the speedway is exposed to the greatest amount of human disturbance.

Over the next few weeks, the two ravens were observed in and around the nest by several birders. Wallace Coffey (pers. comm.) noted suspected brooding behavior around 20 March 2013. On 22 April 2013, Michele Sparks (pers. comm.) was able to observe three large young on the nest. Rick Knight (pers. comm.) made a similar observation on 24 April 2013.

The reported size of the nestlings in late April 2013 made it likely that the birds fledged a few days later. Based on the Common Raven reproductive chronology presented by Stiehl (1985), hatching probably took place in mid-March. This projection also coincided with one of the busiest periods of activity at BMS, the week of the Food City 500 NASCAR race, which took place on 17 March 2013. These birds apparently endured a tremendous amount of noise and confusion during this period.

Common Ravens have been observed nesting on a variety of both natural and man-made structures (Dunk, et.al. 1997). In Pennsylvania nesting has occurred on the football stadium at Penn State University (Brauning 1992), which is a somewhat comparable nesting scenario to the BMS birds. In the southern Appalachians ravens nest more frequently on rock cliffs (Watts 2006), and all confirmed nesting records in Tennessee have been limited to rock cliffs (Knight 2008, Trently 1999). Ravens seem consistently to select cliff nesting sites that are sheltered by overhanging ledges (Hooper 1977) and the outer wall of the BMS grandstand would have mimicked this characteristic.

The Common Raven nest at BMS is apparently the first confirmed nest to be located on a man-made structure in Tennessee. There is evidence that nesting may have occurred within an abandoned building at the Phipps Bend TVA site in Hawkins County, Tennessee. Several years ago, Rick Phillips (pers. comm.) observed a raven carrying sticks into a large pipe structure at that site, but an actual nest could not be seen.

The BMS nest is the second documented nesting record in Sullivan County, Tennessee.

The first was located in 2003 in an abandoned quarry (Knight 2008) at an elevation of 400 m and is currently the lowest nesting elevation recorded in Tennessee.

The BMS nest remained intact through most of the winter of 2013-2014. However, by the nesting season of 2014, the nest had been completely removed. There is evidence that an attempt was made at a second site at BMS, but it was abandoned. There have been no observations of the ravens at BMS since the spring of 2013.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I greatly appreciate the contributions of Wallace Coffey, Michelle King, Rick Knight, J.T. McNeil, Cathy Myers, Rick Phillips, Michele Sparks and Allan Trently in the generation of this article.

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**Figure 1. Common Raven nest during construction at Bristol Motor Speedway, Sullivan County, Tennessee. (Photo by Thomas McNeil)**

## ROUND TABLE NOTES

**EARLY NESTING OF AMERICAN CROW** - On 20 February 2013 I noticed American Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) carrying sticks flying repeatedly over my house. I found they had begun nest construction 20 meters up in a white oak (*Quercus alba*) located about 10 meters from my home. Three birds were involved in nest construction. For the next two days the nest construction continued with the birds carrying sticks. It appeared that though all three birds carried sticks one tended to stay in the nest, receiving and arranging sticks. One individual seemed to be allowed only to deliver sticks; once it delivered a stick it was forced to leave by the other two birds if it lingered too long. On 23 February the three birds were seen carrying big clumps of bright green moss and other material. This continued for several more days. During that time a Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) and Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) who came too close were driven off by the crows. On 27 February one bird was on the nest, and it appeared incubation had begun. The crow was observed daily on the nest from 27 February until 6 March. At that time it appeared the nest was abandoned. According to the *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Tennessee* the usual time for American Crow to begin nest construction in Tennessee is mid-March making this an early nesting record.

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Gaynell Perry, Bartlett

**UNUSUAL NEST OF EASTERN BLUEBIRD** - On 22 June 2013, while undertaking a brief survey of nesting species in the southern portion of Greene County, I observed a pair of Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) using a Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) nest.

The site of the observation was Allen's Bridge, which spans the Nolichucky River along West Allen's Bridge Road approximately six miles southwest of Greeneville. The bridge is made of concrete and is about 0.1-0.2 mile in length. At its peak, it is over thirty feet high. April 2013 marked the re-opening of the structure after a complete replacement of the older one. The older bridge had served the area from circa 1977 until around 2012 when it was deemed structurally unsound. Cliff Swallows had been observed regularly every year on the older bridge, with established breeding colonies dating back about two decades.

As I examined the bridge in 2013, I was curious to learn whether Cliff Swallows would continue to nest there. At around mid-day on 22 June, I estimated 250+ active or potentially active Cliff Swallow nests, all on the north side of the new bridge. I also saw at least thirty Cliff Swallows flying in the area. It appeared likely that many more swallows were in nests and that a more accurate count would not be possible, given that all the birds would not be feeding at the same time.

Three Cliff Swallow nests were attached to the south side of the bridge, less than one hundred fifty feet from the eastern shore of the river, but none of these nests appeared to

contain or attract swallows. Although no swallows were present here, a pair of Eastern Bluebirds was using one of these nests. Over a period of at least ten minutes, I observed the female flying in and out of the nest a few times. I also observed the male approaching the nest on several occasions with food, which the female received at least once. I did not observe or hear young, but the male's constant attention to the female and apparent focus on the nest and surrounding area suggested the possibility of eggs or young. My observations were made both with the naked eye and with Bausch & Lomb 10x42 binoculars. Viewing conditions were excellent.

I recorded the experiences in my notes but did not return to the bridge until later in the year, after the nesting season. I did not visit the site during the nesting season in 2014.

Donald H. Miller, Greeneville, TN

*The Migrant* 84(3): 99-109, 2013

### **2012 TENNESSEE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**

The following are the tabulations of the 2012 Christmas Bird Count which were inadvertently omitted from Volume 84, March 2013. The Editors apologize for this mistake.

Please refer to that issue for the description of the counts and the names of the participants.



DeKalb	Warrn	White	Nick	Cook	Clay	Chatt	Crssvl	Hiwa	Norrs	Knox	CadeCv	GSM	Greenvl	Eliz	RoanMt	Bristol	TOTALS
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	929
2	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3949
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	13
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
56	422	191	32	505	302	553	236	565	245	858	39	-	211	460	21	741	9907
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
-	-	9	6	7	1	45	3	4	-	7	-	-	5	2	-	1	190
12	7	17	32	41	88	113	33	178	-	124	-	-	17	-	-	13	8405
11	-	-	-	3	-	3	11	-	-	cw	-	-	2	-	-	22	955
-	15	-	-	-	-	3	22	80	-	-	11	-	2	2	2	7	518
44	89	75	23	288	95	394	182	688	28	368	53	34	26	217	10	621	23489
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
-	-	24	-	20	12	40	17	22	2	10	-	-	1	3	-	1	910
6	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	1041
1	5	-	8	-	1	106	11	297	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	1	1238
-	-	2	40	-	-	18	22	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	409
58	-	-	-	-	-	3	21	3	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	cw	100
3	-	2	202	cw	4	22	778	200	92	67	-	-	-	3	-	65	6597
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	226
163	-	-	118	5	-	41	15	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	cw	3250
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
87	1	3	15	17	31	90	211	4	4	10	14	-	-	174	9	141	1189
1	-	-	6	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
-	13	91	3	48	59	12	141	96	-	233	3	-	1	-	2	186	1347
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37	-	52	16	97	82	20	15	179	-	15	128	37	49	30	7	38	2271
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-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
33	-	1	1	-	27	76	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	4	-	4	258
36	6	12	250	28	13	195	218	14	12	99	-	1	4	29	2	38	1490
112	1	-	15	-	59	220	1	-	3	4	-	-	-	18	-	15	787
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	cw
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
-	-	-	357	-	-	2	-	271	-	28	-	-	-	1	-	cw	1369



DeKalb	Warrn	White	Nick	Cook	Clay	Chatt	Crssvl	Hiwa	Norrs	Knox	CadeCv	GSM	Greenvl	Eliz	RoanMt	Bristol	TOTALS
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	319
11	11	12	56	13	11	102	5	140	12	159	4	5	7	34	1	21	978
-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	22
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
227	222	148	135	212	7	70	6	238	129	67	4	-	47	36	-	66	2547
101	37	165	43	183	21	66	9	4	59	20	22	1	18	1	-	100	1974
5	-	-	17	-	6	3	2	18	4	6	cw	-	-	4	-	3	178
3	6	4	-	4	2	-	5	1	-	1	2	-	3	-	-	-	153
5	1	2	2	2	-	3	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	1	43
4	2	4	2	5	2	10	-	4	1	14	2	-	2	7	-	3	110
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4	3	13	14	12	19	19	18	11	8	22	1	2	-	-	-	1	255
48	30	62	24	28	25	32	21	17	7	49	3	5	24	16	9	36	813
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313	1	3	2459	78	-	1004	468	229	1	112	-	-	-	2	-	4	6537
-	15	3	40	-	94	-	459	5718	-	15	15	-	-	-	-	cw	6725
342	45	76	71	50	8	27	53	65	9	316	-	1	51	33	2	9	4532
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11	6	19	-	22	-	23	29	46	-	2	-	-	3	2	-	3	356
-	5	-	5	-	-	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	53
4	-	7	27	-	15	180	2	375	92	256	-	-	-	4	-	1	2512
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66	-	5	886	-	161	564	30	621	35	2821	-	-	-	14	-	259	20762
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120	112	122	203	129	144	923	8	131	47	576	52	2	295	253	-	374	5170
3	2	45	-	1	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	307
111	168	413	89	489	173	545	178	143	102	519	4	70	96	187	57	383	7242
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1	1	1	8	6	2	2	4	-	1	2	1	cw	2	13	1	11	87
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-	3	-	1	3	1	1	cw	2	-	1	-	cw	-	1	-	1	55
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-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
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Count Names	Mem	Fay	Reel	Jcksn	Savh	Dk Rv	CrsCk	CaneCk	Buff Rv	Clrksvl	Column	Nash	Hck-Prst	Macn	Frk/Cof
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Selaphorus sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	9	-	2	2	13	12	4	15	23	11	6	11	17	3	5
Red-headed Woodpecker	9	15	11	1	15	8	6	-	20	6	-	4	-	8	8
Red-bellied Woodpecker	90	54	55	16	56	35	32	42	95	93	51	60	16	23	46
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	28	12	21	7	33	10	6	17	17	29	10	33	14	5	7
Downy Woodpecker	62	30	28	7	36	21	11	35	40	36	18	67	17	16	12
Hairy Woodpecker	7	4	4	1	6	4	2	5	10	16	5	8	6	6	3
Northern Flicker	57	24	41	10	72	23	7	61	46	40	16	26	28	21	17
Pileated Woodpecker	18	10	8	3	17	16	17	29	47	20	4	19	16	10	3
American Kestrel	30	5	38	10	15	15	-	10	56	14	47	16	5	20	30
Merlin	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Eastern Phoebe	11	14	4	4	18	18	2	27	37	8	13	7	7	8	7
Loggerhead Shrike	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	40	-	4	-	-	-	4
Blue Jay	135	99	15	101	107	80	55	61	251	184	89	121	70	95	183
American Crow	32	229	60	51	559	430	189	547	721	192	299	294	260	155	273
Fish Crow	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Raven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horned Lark	6	-	917	35	66	-	-	-	-	37	9	1	-	38	-
Tree Swallow	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swallow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carolina Chickadee	137	63	56	17	106	25	27	68	72	140	59	276	108	44	30
Black-capped Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	94	40	25	28	132	29	34	62	189	104	45	224	83	57	33
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	-	2	1	8	2	-	1	2	3	-	8	-	-	-
White-breasted Nuthatch	6	9	9	4	16	5	9	11	63	39	21	56	-	13	7
Brown-headed Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Creeper	1	2	6	3	5	3	3	1	8	8	1	10	11	1	1
House Wren	1	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Winter Wren	6	1	9	7	10	5	-	17	13	2	3	2	3	2	-
Sedge Wren	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marsh Wren	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carolina Wren	265	61	50	24	85	21	24	88	147	91	71	185	58	55	41
Golden-crowned Kinglet	11	9	16	7	8	9	-	35	22	14	7	37	30	21	5
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	27	2	42	5	29	6	1	5	8	3	10	12	10	1	3
Eastern Bluebird	69	126	44	23	164	69	19	73	373	145	100	125	88	74	108
Hermit Thrush	13	6	4	1	33	7	-	11	32	8	18	10	10	-	2
American Robin	1095	148	124	222	1866	1096	6	341	349	3832	5852	6780	56947	269	243

DeKalb	Warrn	White	Nick	Cook	Clay	Chatt	Crssvl	Hiwa	Norrs	Knox	CadeCv	GSM	Greenvl	Eliz	RoanMt	Bristol	TOTALS
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
12	8	3	25	13	11	16	6	28	10	38	2	4	4	19	6	15	353
3	7	24	13	13	4	26	12	20	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	235
82	65	116	36	91	45	66	57	57	38	189	9	7	21	40	1	46	1730
25	9	16	25	8	15	35	5	31	15	57	2	4	5	9	2	9	521
32	13	29	33	29	15	70	32	33	28	90	11	10	16	36	3	43	959
4	4	8	7	9	5	6	7	2	3	9	-	7	1	8	-	10	177
29	16	65	17	50	32	46	33	59	23	81	4	3	9	22	10	29	1017
22	17	24	15	21	16	14	21	5	15	12	13	11	5	49	-	22	519
43	39	51	4	53	32	7	19	11	1	8	2	1	32	15	-	25	654
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16	5	39	19	14	12	34	13	18	9	36	7	16	5	9	3	19	459
2	-	6	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	68
105	156	227	341	357	58	158	173	333	121	423	17	33	552	185	14	268	5167
255	340	502	299	732	156	385	238	309	341	954	283	90	292	397	87	621	10572
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78	37	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	80	-	-	1310
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128	36	70	126	117	92	210	126	107	73	301	59	84	75	145	28	153	3158
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127	84	138	150	190	79	176	167	124	118	244	72	51	53	89	12	136	3189
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62	10	53	42	57	66	42	75	5	49	70	19	19	11	52	6	62	968
-	-	-	12	4	-	25	-	8	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	63
2	-	1	6	3	3	8	4	3	-	12	1	1	3	3	1	2	117
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14	1	7	6	3	6	8	13	2	5	16	11	10	6	12	3	13	216
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75	48	110	87	139	71	119	53	66	91	264	21	51	66	92	17	132	2768
47	8	25	39	11	19	43	25	24	12	44	17	30	7	28	12	28	650
10	2	3	33	3	-	21	4	34	7	16	-	1	3	2	-	4	307
201	124	221	129	423	94	187	158	144	162	408	37	22	115	138	21	144	4328
32	21	23	25	5	12	30	18	18	10	62	4	2	3	13	-	11	444
303	392	233	125	631	613	1054	30	1051	137	1994	102	25	2	10	-	19	85891

Count Names	Mem	Fay	Reel	Jcksn	Savh	Dk Rv	CrsCk	CaneCk	Buff Rv	Clrksvl	Column	Nash	Hck-Prst	Macn	Frk/Cof
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Mockingbird	91	52	26	21	76	25	10	26	203	82	106	98	91	48	91
Brown Thrasher	10	2	3	12	12	4	-	9	3	cw	1	5	13	2	10
European Starling	633	173	3720	464	1384	1142	214	317	898	10289	8999	2907	26460	1484	1308
American Pipit	1	-	7	2	116	128	-	-	30	3	-	1	-	114	6
Cedar Waxwing	496	210	40	38	486	454	143	315	335	1388	151	1185	905	166	178
Lapland Longspur	-	-	1503	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orange-crowned Warbler-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
Common Yellowthroat	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Palm Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Warbler	2	2	2	1	cw	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Yellow-rumped Warbler	191	62	106	53	365	51	33	162	66	97	32	72	95	24	22
Spotted Towhee	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	55	53	3	8	65	13	4	21	115	37	25	75	48	9	32
American Tree Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	4
Chipping Sparrow	12	10	-	-	180	2	-	1	231	5	60	4	1	1	26
Field Sparrow	36	91	41	17	80	36	17	88	637	63	49	107	96	48	54
Vesper Sparrow	22	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	-
Savannah Sparrow	120	69	23	25	161	22	46	17	36	28	-	7	7	11	18
Le Conte's Sparrow	25	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fox Sparrow	13	15	7	7	21	7	1	14	9	7	3	23	7	1	1
Song Sparrow	99	121	96	37	198	43	79	117	234	133	102	97	98	134	53
Swamp Sparrow	32	66	96	25	79	25	2	197	80	141	44	37	76	45	4
White-throated Sparrow	836	200	170	44	460	236	77	224	380	299	140	250	287	122	73
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	76	8	58	4	16	60	26	83	67	62	65	9	35	18	22
Dark-eyed Junco	232	228	287	359	426	92	100	93	292	277	93	87	94	14	63
Sparrow sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	205	155	152	54	213	118	59	225	349	358	173	258	211	72	60
Dickcissel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Red-winged Blackbird	745	285	2901	93	6534	7892	-	31	13	364	248	237	143	10	160
Eastern Meadowlark	49	67	73	78	300	14	34	65	245	1	30	21	36	100	61
Western Meadowlark	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	37	-	200	10	579	151	-	-	-	203	8	12	9	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	2	2	30	2	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	5691	102	3911	570	34680	842	-	15	123	2653	6274	60	36	2	64
Brown-headed Cowbird	34	-	79	50	1456	128	-	-	14	37	712	7	21	2	10
Blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	325	-	-	-	50	3050	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	cw	10	5	21	41	-	4	2	44	4	2	6	4	22	10
House Finch	80	11	92	12	45	55	12	25	38	216	12	145	127	10	5

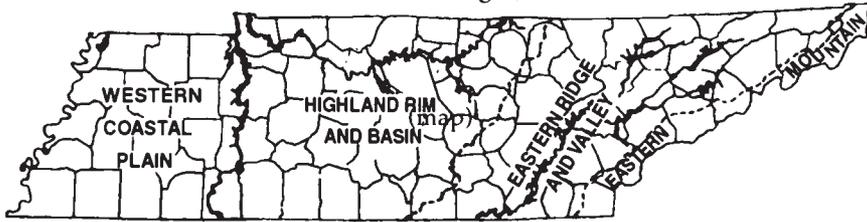
DeKalb	Warrn	White	Nick	Cook	Clay	Chatt	Crssvl	Hiwa	Norris	Knox	CadeCv	GSM	Greenvl	Eliz	RoanMt	Bristol	TOTALS
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
50	85	105	90	127	62	97	42	96	59	304	14	8	56	66	7	145	2459
3	4	9	15	8	1	21	3	16	4	13	-	-	2	5	-	-	190
4204	5404	3167	374	3339	502	1470	533	2186	562	4080	236	51	3336	873	136	2299	93144
105	-	34	-	-	-	-	1	26	-	89	-	-	-	-	-	-	663
278	162	535	97	710	37	964	67	1328	266	451	12	cw	1	3	-	-	11401
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188	51	137	124	75	84	152	21	291	82	215	4	1	9	42	-	14	2921
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96	9	43	87	77	46	27	22	13	28	85	-	-	18	10	-	22	1116
90	205	124	118	188	74	226	108	113	21	193	32	9	31	16	11	29	3048
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5	17	49	-	4	-	5	8	68	5	38	8	7	9	-	-	4	817
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123	122	182	87	169	143	130	163	393	56	508	89	34	112	156	80	199	4387
14	9	56	14	34	45	48	26	105	5	82	10	7	20	7	-	9	1440
410	137	203	224	252	96	170	103	307	79	470	82	56	132	144	18	203	6884
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18	5	84	34	19	22	-	19	19	8	41	-	-	32	12	23	54	999
196	74	61	103	224	41	30	167	66	36	154	153	23	29	110	95	227	4526
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190	101	158	158	186	129	277	159	215	165	483	94	71	130	130	44	280	5632
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325	51	39	743	94	-	116	2	526	13	63	-	-	33	-	-	-	21661
65	52	117	90	63	84	27	103	97	17	103	5	-	26	21	-	13	2057
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78	44	-	-	150	-	-	-	12	-	73	-	-	-	-	-	-	2907
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3425
3	5	23	1	36	3	9	4	12	2	1	4	-	8	1	-	-	287
135	19	33	72	94	18	168	48	57	69	183	3	1	8	88	1	16	1898

Count Names	Mem	Fay	Reel	Jcksn	Savh	Dk Rv	CrsCk	CaneCk	Buff Rv	Clrksvl	Colum	Nash	Hck-Prst	Macn	Frk/Cof
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	3	5	6	2	22	2	-	20	1	164	5	23	3	1	-
American Goldfinch	75	42	45	60	124	100	56	150	136	325	65	146	303	106	18
House Sparrow	22	5	210	23	44	29	2	42	95	87	28	4	56	34	9
Total individuals	20866	3667	27121	3096	63355	21898	32724	4178	8769	27488	26076	15667	93512	3929	4911
Total Species	92	70	111	81	108	102	68	66	76	77	86	84	94	67	89
Count Week species	2	-	8	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1
Observers	34	12	8	3	21	12	7	12	12	15	7	36	18	6	17
Parties	7	5	4	4	8	-	4	-	6	6	-	10	5	3	6
Party Hours	35.3	38.75	41	17	81.25	39	32	27	57.25	48.4	37.75	92.7	44	18	28.5
Hours by car	20.3	28.75	31.5	10	41.25	-	30	-	41.75	25.7	31	67	27	3	28
Hours by foot	15	10	9.5	7	40	-	2	-	15.5	22.7	6.75	25.7	17	5	0.5
Hours by boat or other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-
Miles by car	156	220	269	98	407.2	-	177	-	438.4	261	332.4	302.5	281.7	20	256.1
Miles on foot	26	12	8	5	23	-	1	-	10	15.25	11	20.4	10.4	7	0.25
Miles by boat or other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-
Hours Owling	1	0.75	2	0.5	2.75	-	-	-	1.25	-	-	4.25	2.9	-	2.5
Miles Owling	4	5	15	7	16.7	-	-	-	12	-	-	13	17.8	-	2
Feeder / yard watchers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	2	2	-	-
Feeder / yard hours	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20.5	3	2	2	-	-
Count date	16-Dec	1-Jan	15-Dec	5-Jan	2-Jan	29-Dec	17-Dec	15-Dec	17-Dec	29-Dec	29-Dec	15-Dec	1-Jan	15-Dec	17-Dec

DeKalb	Warrn	White	Nick	Cook	Clay	Chatt	Crssvl	Hiwa	Norrs	Knox	CadeCv	GSM	Greenvl	Eliz	RoanMt	Bristol	TOTALS
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	5	18	32	-	-	2	-	59
-	-	-	29	-	-	-	cw	3	4	17	-	1	-	cw	-	3	314
143	40	90	113	129	78	96	125	76	62	227	19	34	39	66	1	119	3208
34	30	49	3	41	44	232	24	12	20	28	-	5	3	41	57	49	1362
10551	10391	8979	9849	11435	4464	13484	6727	19306	3766	20358	1885	1000	6358	4841	830	8721	500202
84	76	84	91	85	73	103	89	95	67	98	60	54	73	80	44	81	159
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	1	1	3	-	2	-	9	36
16	4	10	16	18	8	46	12	26	13	51	10	13	6	23	13	26	531
8	3	5	8	8--11	4	13	5	6	7	24--27	5	6	5	6	4	6	159
54.7	28	51	62.41	77	39.25	95	49.25	48	31.4	141.62	29.75	32.25	26.5	53	18.5	57.25	1532.78
46.2	26	38.25	40.66	61.25	28.25	46	25.75	25	7.75	51.42	17	11.75	17	23	11	25.25	886.78
8.5	2	12.75	21.75	15.75	9	49	23.5	20	23.65	88.95	12.75	20.5	9.5	30	7.5	32	563.75
-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	1.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.25
358	280	358	244	500	235.5	451	291	266	187	559.1	110.25	133	221	278	75	461	8227.15
17.5	2	5	11	8.5	4.85	41	12.5	13	17.2	71.7	11.5	12.5	5	14	5	12.5	414.05
-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	37	-	2.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	71.2
0.75	2.5	1.75	2.5	4.25	1.33	7	3	-	1	3.05	1	1	0.5	4	0.5	4.75	56.78
2	12	16	13	24	6.75	40	30	-	-	9.05	14	5	7	12	1	26	310.3
2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	19
1.5	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	8.87	-	1.5	6	-	-	-	49.37
21-Dec	4-Jan	18-Dec	22-Dec	15-Dec	3-Jan	15-Dec	22-Dec	1-Jan	15-Dec	5-Jan	29-Dec	23-Dec	22-Dec	15-Dec	15-Dec	30-Dec	

## THE SUMMER SEASON

Richard L. Knight, Editor



1 June - 31 July 2013

Temperatures were near normal during the summer, but rainfall amounts statewide continued to be above average. Although some birders seem to hang up their binoculars during the summer, the reports below demonstrate the rewards reaped by those who ventured out.

Waterbird highlights this summer include the lingering Fulvous Whistling-Duck and a Marbled Godwit in Shelby County, a Brown Pelican in Roane County and individual Roseate Spoonbills at Duck River Unit and in Meigs County. Another summering Sandhill Crane was noted at Duck River Unit. Following three spring reports elsewhere in the state, a White-winged Dove provided excitement in Hamilton County in early July. A pair of Peregrine Falcons spent their second consecutive year on territory in a beautiful river gorge in Carter County, but once again apparently did not reproduce. Maybe next year.

In some low elevation stands of hemlocks in the East Tennessee mountains, Brown Creepers appear to be taking short term advantage of loose bark for nest sites following tree die-offs caused by infestations of the hemlock woolly adelgid, an exotic insect pest. The loss of hemlocks, a keystone species, would have a significant impact across a broad spectrum of species in cove forest communities.

The expansion of Brown-headed Nuthatch in the state continued, with the first record from Lawrence County and the first breeding report from Franklin County. A singing Nashville Warbler on the summit of Roan Mountain, but in North Carolina by just a few yards, represented a first summer record for that state. Tennessee has no summer record for the species and the southernmost nesting sites are in northern West Virginia and western Maryland. A flock of Red Crossbills containing streaked juveniles suggested local nesting in the lower elevations of Sevier County. An active Pine Siskin nest in the Smokies was one of few ever found in the Southern Appalachians. Other noteworthy breeding records this summer included Bachman's Sparrow in Stewart County and Bobolink in Washington County.

### Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult  
Cr - Creek  
Co - County

m.ob. - many observers  
Mtn - Mountain  
NWR - National Wildlife Refuge

ers - earliest reported sighting  
 fide - reported by  
 im - immature  
 Is - Island  
 L - Lake

R - River  
 SP - State Park  
 WMA - Wildlife Management Area  
 yg - young

**WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION** -- Sightings reported on the TN-birds listserve.

*Duck - Sparrow:* **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck:** thru season (20-30+) Ensley (m.ob.). **Fulvous Whistling-Duck:** 22 Jun / 13 Jul (1) Ensley (Georges McNeil / QBG), lingering from spring. **Wood Stork:** 16 Jul (5) Hatchie NWR (RPF). **Anhinga:** 2 Jun (1) Hatchie NWR (fide RPF); 20 Jun (1) Reelfoot L, Lake Co (Nancy Moore). **Mississippi Kite:** 23 Jun (7) Camden WMA, Benton Co (CF); 26-27 Jul (1-2) Paris, Henry Co (fide SE). **American Coot:** 2 Jun (2) Hatchie NWR (RPF). **Marbled Godwit:** 27 Jul (1) Ensley (QBG). **Western Sandpiper:** 13 Jul (1) Ensley (QBG), ers. **Caspian Tern:** 10 Jul (3) Gibson Co L (Mark Greene). **Loggerhead Shrike:** 27 Jul (1) western Henry Co (SE). **Lark Sparrow:** 13 Jun (pair, nest building) near Trenton, Gibson Co (Mark Greene).

*Locations:* Ensley, Shelby Co; Hatchie NWR, Haywood Co.

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**HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION** -- Weather in Middle Tennessee was close to average for the summer season, albeit several centimeters of rain above normal. Most highlights came from Fort Campbell in Montgomery and Stewart counties with a Bell's Vireo, where they are annual, and good numbers of Grasshopper Sparrows, Dickcissels and Northern Bobwhites, plus a family of Bachman's Sparrows. Other notables included a Roseate Spoonbill that lingered at Duck River Unit for over a week and a Willet on Tim's Ford Lake.

*Duck - Spoonbill:* **Blue-winged Teal:** 10 Jun (2 pairs) Duck R Unit (CF). **Northern Shoveler:** 26 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (Scott Block). **Lesser Scaup:** 30 Jun (1) Bark Camp Barrens WMA, Coffee Co (Richard Chandler). **Common Goldeneye:** 2 Jul (1 male) Duck R Unit (CF), cripple, likely the same bird present since May. **Northern Bobwhite:** 11 / 25 Jun (30 / 23) Fort Campbell in Montgomery / Stewart Cos, respectively (DMo), best numbers of this declining species. **Double-crested Cormorant:** 31 May (12 nests, 175 birds) Lamar Hill, Percy Priest L, Rutherford Co (SGS); 3 Jun (65 nests, 200 birds) Pear Is (SGS). **American White Pelican:** 17 Jun - 10 Jul (max 91 on last date) Duck R Unit (CF); 4 Jul (22) Savannah, Hardin Co (Damien Simbeck). **Snowy Egret:** 14 Jul (15) Little Elder Is, Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co (Richard Chandler); 22 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (SE). **Cattle Egret:** 3 Jun (5) Pear Is (SGS); 4 Jun (150+) Wilson Co (SGS); 30 Jun (6) Robertson Co (TL); 15 Jul (25) DeKalb Co (Judy Fuson). **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 3 Jun (150+) Pear Is (SGS); 4 Jun (85+) Old Hickory L, Wilson Co (SGS). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** 8 Jul (3) Warren Co (SNM, NPM). **White Ibis:** 15-24 Jul (1 im, with 1 ad on first date) Duck R Unit (CF, m.ob.). **ROSEATE SPOONBILL:** 22 Jul into Aug (1 im) Duck R Unit (CF, m.ob.).

*Kite - Nightjars:* **Mississippi Kite:** 11 Jun (1) Duck R Unit (CF). **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 25 Jun (1) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo). **American Coot:** 17 Jun (1) Duck R Unit (CF). **Sandhill Crane:** 2- 22 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (CF). **Greater Yellowlegs:** 2 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (CF), ers. **Willet:** 5 Jul (1) Tim's Ford L, Moore Co portion (Ed Schneider). **Lesser Yellowlegs:** 19 Jul (3) Duck R Unit (Terry Witt), ers. **Stilt Sandpiper:** 15 Jul (2) Coffee Co (SNM, NPM). *dowitcher sp.:* 19 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (Terry Witt). **Chuck-will's-widow:** 21 Jun (7) Warren Co (SNM, NPM).

*Flycatcher - Oriole:* **Willow Flycatcher:** 6 Jun (3) Cross Cr NWR, Stewart Co (Stefan Woltmann); 11 Jun (2) Fort Campbell (DMo); 23 Jun (1) Fentress Co (Ed LeGrand). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** thru period (pair, with 4 fledged yg on 2 Jul) Springfield, Robertson Co (TL); 4 Jul (2) Lawrence Co (Damien Simbeck). **Loggerhead Shrike:** 9 Jun (3 broods of yg) Robertson Co (TL); 15 Jun (brood of yg) Marshall Co (David Vogt). **Bell's Vireo:** 11 Jun (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Brown-headed Nuthatch:** 9 Jun (1) Lawrence Co (Bill Pulliam), first record. **Sedge Wren:** 28 Jul (1) Duck R Unit (Steve Zipperer). **Hermit Thrush:** 11 Jun (1) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo). **Blue-winged Warbler:** 5 Jun (3) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Hooded Warbler:** 26 Jun (1) Radnor L, Davidson Co (Kevin Bowden). **Yellow Warbler:** 11 Jun (2) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Black-throated Blue Warbler:** 28 Jun (1) Cummin's Falls SP, Jackson Co (TL). **Bachman's Sparrow:** 25 Jun / 2 Jul (3 / 2 ad with 2 yg) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo). **Lark Sparrow:** 2 Jun (1) Lawrence Co (Cyndi Routledge); 25 Jun (2) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Grasshopper Sparrow:** 25 Jun (15) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo); 29 Jul (6) Warren Co (SNM, NPM). **Henslow's Sparrow:** 11 Jun (13) Fort Campbell (DMo); 27 Jun (1) Bell's Bend, Davidson Co (Stefan Woltmann). **Dickcissel:** 11 / 25 Jun (14 / 38) Fort Campbell in Montgomery / Stewart Cos respectively (DMo). **Baltimore Oriole:** 15 Jun (3) Long Hunter SP, Davidson Co (Barbara Harris).

*Locations:* Duck R Unit, unit of Tennessee NWR, Humphreys Co; Fort Campbell, Montgomery Co unless specified otherwise; Pear Is, Percy Priest Lake, Davidson Co portion.

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**CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE and VALLEY REGION** -- Temperatures were near normal for the season with no excessive heat. The Tri-cities area experienced only four days of below average ninety degree temperatures. This year's trend of above average precipitation continued through the summer. A record amount of rain (21 cm) fell in June in the Tri-cities area, the second month this year to set a rainfall record. Conversely, Chattanooga received about a half inch less than average in that month. July rainfall was well above average regionwide, including nearly double the usual amount at Chattanooga. This was the third wettest summer on record in northeast Tennessee.

An adult Brown Pelican on Watts Bar Lake in early June was obviously a different individual from the immature seen upstream in Loudon County in late May (see spring report). A Roseate Spoonbill was photographed in a creek off of Chickamauga Lake in Rhea County. A White-winged Dove in Hamilton County was the first record.

Scissor-tailed Flycatchers nested at two traditional sites in the southern end of the region. Franklin County was added to the growing list of counties with confirmed breeding records of Brown-headed Nuthatch. While House Sparrows are known to nest in Cliff Swallow nests, an observation in Greene County of Eastern Bluebirds doing so is remarkable. Hay mowing in early summer probably disrupted any early nesting attempt, but a pair of Bobolinks remained and fared better later in the season. Bobolinks have summered at this site in Washington County most years since 1998.

*Duck - Hawk:* **Blue-winged Teal:** 17 Jun (2) Paddle Cr, Sullivan Co (Wallace Coffey); 20 Jun (1 male) Amnicola Marsh, Hamilton Co (David Aborn). **Hooded Merganser:** 11 Jul (1 im, capable of flight) west Knox Co (Dean Edwards). **Common Loon:** 14 Jun (1, basic plumage) Austin Springs (Harry Farthing); 20 Jun (1, alternate plumage) Boone L, Washington Co portion (GDE, Harry Farthing). **Pied-billed Grebe:** 4 Jul (1) near Kingston, Roane Co (RDH, DMy), ers. **Double-crested Cormorant:** 22 Apr thru Jun (4 nests, 1 with 2 large yg on 13 Jun) Kingsport (RLK), first nesting since a failed nesting attempt in 2006; 8 May thru Jun (1 nest) Fort Patrick Henry Dam, Sullivan Co (RLK), first record; 15 Jun (300 birds, 18 nests) Rankin Bottoms (MBS). **BROWN PELICAN:** 5 Jun (1 ad) Watts Bar L, Roane Co (Marge Krampe, photo). **Great Egret:** 15 Jun / 20 Jul (15 / 75+) Rankin Bottoms (MBS); 23 Jul (16) John Sevier L, Hawkins Co (Susan Hubley). **Little Blue Heron:** 9-12 Jul (1 im) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy, m.ob.). **Cattle Egret:** 6 Jun / 20 Jul (1 / 10) Rhea Co (CMu); 15 Jun (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS). **ROSEATE SPOONBILL:** 3 Jul (1 im) Rhea Co (Austin Leaffly, photo), 5th for E TN. **Osprey:** May thru Jun (14 active nests) Rankin Bottoms and vicinity (MBS), plus 2 additional nests on Pigeon R near Newport, Cocke Co; 10 Jul (nest, 2 ad, 2 im) John Sevier Fossil Plant, Hawkins Co (RAP). **Red-shouldered Hawk:** 9 Jun (1) Greene Co (DHM).

*Coot - Owl:* **American Coot:** 15 Jun (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS). **Semipalmated Plover:** 30 Jul (2) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (KAC), ers. **Spotted Sandpiper:** 9 Jul (1) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy), ers. **Solitary Sandpiper:** 15 Jul (1) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy), ers. **Greater Yellowlegs:** 20 Jul (1) Upper Douglas L, Hamblen Co portion (MBS), ers. **Lesser Yellowlegs:** 20 Jul (2) Yuchi Refuge, Rhea Co (CMu, m.ob.), ers. **Western Sandpiper:** 15 Jul (2) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy), ers. **Least Sandpiper:** 9 Jul (1) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy), ers. **Pectoral Sandpiper:** 14 Jul (1) Washington Co (RLK), ers. **Stilt Sandpiper:** 20 Jul (4) Yuchi Refuge, Rhea Co (CMu, m.ob.), ers. **Short-billed Dowitcher:** 15 Jul (1) Eagle Bend (Lisa Stinnett, photo). **Ring-billed Gull:** 24 Jul (1 ad) Austin Springs (RLK), unseasonal in NE TN. **WHITE-WINGED DOVE:** 8-9 Jul (1) Standifer Gap Marsh, Hamilton Co (Hugh Barger, m.ob.). **Barn Owl:** 1 Jun / 20 Jul (1-2 in nest box) Bible Refuge, Greene Co (DHM).

*Flycatcher - Bobolink:* **Willow Flycatcher:** 7 Jun (1) Cleveland greenway, Bradley Co (David Chaffin). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** reported nesting at South Pittsburgh, Marion Co, and Sequatchie Valley in Bledsoe Co (fide KAC). **Brown-headed Nuthatch:** 4 Jul (1 ad feeding 2 fledged yg) Sewanee, Franklin Co (Jim Peters), first evidence of breeding. **Eastern Bluebird:** 22 Jun (pair nesting in Cliff Swallow nest under bridge) Allen's Bridge over Nolichucky R, Greene Co (DHM). **Veery:** 7 Jun (2) Cross Mtn (RDH, DMy, MN). **Blue-winged Warbler:** 14 Jun (2 males) northeast Roane Co (RDH, DMy). **"Brewster's"**

**Warbler:** 7 Jun (1) Cross Mtn (RDH, DMy, MN). **Prothonotary Warbler:** 11 Jun (1) Phipps Bend, Hawkins Co (RAP); 15 Jun (9) Rankin Bottoms (MBS). **Blackburnian Warbler:** 7 Jun (1) Cross Mtn (RDH). **Savannah Sparrow:** thru season (6 pairs) Conklin and Limestone, Washington Co (RLK). **Dickcissel:** 7 May thru Jul (5+) Limestone, Washington Co (RLK, RRK, m.ob.), 18th consecutive year present; 1 Jun / 20 Jul (1 / 2) Bible Refuge, Greene Co (DHM); 22 Jun (1) Tasso Lane, Bradley Co (CMu); 8 / 23 Jul (1) Riverside Rd, Sullivan Co (RLK / Wallace Coffey), 2nd year observed; 11 Jul (1) near Tri-cities Airport, Sullivan Co (TSM, CMy), 3rd year observed; also reported near Ooltewah, Hamilton Co (fide KAC). **Bobolink:** 5 May - 27 Jul (1 male, with pair carrying food and removing fecal sacs on 22 Jul) Conklin, Washington Co (RLK, m.ob.),

*Locations:* Austin Springs, Washington Co; Cross Mtn, Campbell Co; Eagle Bend, fish hatchery, Anderson Co; Rankin Bottoms, Cocke Co.

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**EASTERN MOUNTAINS** - - Total rainfall of 21 cm, which was 11 cm above normal, set a new record for June. July also was quite rainy with over 18 cm, which was 6 cm above normal. This made for one of the wettest summers on record. As a result, Watauga Lake reached record high water level in early July, and the South Holston Lake level was unusually high as well.

Brown Creepers were found at several sites in the northeastern part of the region. There was an unusual mountain region record of a territorial Prothonotary Warbler at South Holston Lake at the base of Holston Mountain. This occurrence may have been related to the unusually high water level creating suitable habitat for this species. A late June record of a singing Nashville Warbler on Roan Mountain was highly unusual. A White-throated Sparrow in Carter County was one of few summer records. A Pine Siskin nest was found on the North Carolina side of Clingman's Dome, and a female was seen gathering nest material on Roan Mountain.

*Bobwhite - Falcon:* **Northern Bobwhite:** 1 Jun (2) Shady Valley, Johnson Co (Joe McGuinness), rare. **Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 8 Jun (1 ad, 1 im) Elizabethton greenway along Watauga R, Carter Co (GDE, RRK). **Osprey:** 2 Jul (1) Nolichucky R near Bumpas Cove, Washington Co (Larry McDaniel). **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 8 Jun (1) Hampton Cr Cove (RLK). **Red-shouldered Hawk:** 8 Jun (1) Hampton Cr Cove (RLK). **Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 19 Jul (1) Fishery Park, Unicoi Co (RAP), new early fall date in NE TN. **American Woodcock:** 8 Jun (2) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (RLK). **Black-billed Cuckoo:** 4 Jun (1) Hampton Cr Cove (BP, JP); 5 Jun (2) GSMNP, between Double Springs Gap and Siler's Bald, along the state line (Jacob Socolar). **Northern Saw-whet Owl:** 23 Jun (3, calling) Indian Gap, GSMNP (Damien Simbeck). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 8 Jun (2) Ripshin L, Carter Co (RLK); 22 Jun (1) Roan Mtn SP, in cabins area (Marcia Davis). **Peregrine Falcon:** from spring thru 4 Jun (pair) Doe R Gorge, Carter Co (RLK).

*Flycatcher - Thrush:* **Alder Flycatcher:** thru season (5+) Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.). **Least**

**Flycatcher:** 14 Jun (1) Unaka Mtn (RRK, Kathy Noblet, Jim Anderson). **Loggerhead Shrike:** 6 Jun (1) Holston Valley (RLK). **Red-breasted Nuthatch:** 23 Jun (2) Holston Mtn, Sullivan Co (TSM), at 865m in pines. **Brown Creeper:** 8 Jun (1) Sycamore Shoals SP, Carter Co (GDE, RRK), unusual location; 8 Jun (1, singing) Dennis Cove, Carter Co (TSM, Jim Anderson, Darla Anderson), ~ 792m in dying hemlocks; 11 Jun (1) Unaka Mtn (RLK), in spruce forest; 21 Jun (1, singing) Rock Cr Park, Unicoi Co (TSM), ~ 670m in dying hemlocks. **Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 11 Jun (4) Unaka Mtn (RLK). **Hermit Thrush:** thru season (4+) Roan Mtn (RLK); 6 Jun (2) Noland Divide trail, GSMNP (Shane Williams, Stan Wallace); 11 Jun (2) Unaka Mtn (RLK).

*Warbler - Siskin:* **Prothonotary Warbler:** 1-7 Jun (1) Jacob's Cr embayment of South Holston L, Sullivan Co (Joe McGuiness, m.ob.). **Swainson's Warbler:** 6 Jul (1) Bald Mtn, Greene Co (DHM). **Nashville Warbler:** 26 Jun (1, singing) Roan Mtn, on NC side at Tollhouse Gap near state line (Merrill Lynch). **Magnolia Warbler:** 16 May - 12 Jun (5-8 males) Unaka Mtn (RRK, RAP, RLK); 5 Jun - 16 Jul (4-8 males) Roan Mtn (RLK). **Blackburnian Warbler:** 8 Jun (8 by 3 parties) Carter Co, Summer Count - on Holston, Walnut and Pond Mtns (m.ob.). **Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 25 May / 1 Jun (2) Clingman's Dome, GSMNP (NM / RDH, DMy); 5 / 20 Jun (1 male on territory) Roan Mtn (RLK). **Vesper Sparrow:** thru season (1-2) Round Bald on Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.). **White-throated Sparrow:** 8 Jun (1) Walnut Mtn, Carter Co (Joe McGuiness et al.). **Red Crossbill:** May thru Jul (small flock at feeders, including streaked juv in Jul) Cobbly Knob, near Pittman Center, Sevier Co (fide Marcia Davis); 3 / 11 Jun (12 / 40) Unaka Mtn (RAP / RLK); 4 Jun thru season (2-20) Roan Mtn (BP, JP, RLK, m.ob.); 19 Jun (5+) Clingman's Dome, GSMNP (RDH, DMy). **Pine Siskin:** 25 May - 19 Jun (pair with nest, 4 yg on 19 Jun) Clingman's Dome, GSMNP, just barely on NC side (NM, RDH, DMy); 2 Jun (1) Wilbur L, Carter Co (BP, JP); 5-28 Jun (2-4) Roan Mtn, in spruce-fir (RLK), female seen gathering nest material on 5 Jun.

*Locations:* GSMNP, Great Smoky Mtns National Park; Hampton Cr Cove, Carter Co; Roan Mtn, Carter Co; Unaka Mtn, Unicoi Co.

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**Observers**

KAC - Kevin A. Calhoon

GDE - Glen D. Eller

SE - Shawna Ellis

CF - Clayton Ferrell

RPF - Robert P. Ford

QBG - Q.B. Gray

RDH - Ron D. Hoff

RLK - Richard L. Knight

RRK - Roy R. Knispel

TL - Tony Lance

TSM - Thomas S. McNeil

NPM - N. P. "Mac" McWhirter

SNM - Susan N. McWhirter

DHM - Don H. Miller

DMo - Daniel Moss

CMu - Charles Murray

CMy - Cathy Myers

DMy - Dollyann Myers

MN - Mike Nelson

RAP - Rick A. Phillips

BP - Brookie Potter

JP - Jean Potter

MBS - Michael B. Sledjeski

SGS - Scott G. Somershoe



## INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

*The Migrant* records observations and studies of birds in Tennessee and adjacent areas.

**SUBMISSIONS:** The original and two copies of the manuscript should be sent to the Co-Editors: Susan McWhirter, 274 Beech Grove Road., McMinnville, TN 37110 [snmcwhirter@gmail.com](mailto:snmcwhirter@gmail.com) or Martha Waldron, 1014 Murray Hill Lane, Memphis, TN 38120 [martha.waldron@gmail.com](mailto:martha.waldron@gmail.com). Manuscripts that have been published in other journals should not be submitted.

**MATERIAL:** The subject matter should relate to some phase of Tennessee ornithology. It should be original, factual, concise and scientifically accurate.

**STYLE:** Both articles and short notes are solicited; recent issues of *The Migrant* should be used as a guide in the preparation of manuscripts. Where more detail is needed, reference should be made to *Scientific Style and Format*, eighth edition, by the Council of Science Editors, [councilscienceeditors.org](http://councilscienceeditors.org).

**COPY:** Manuscripts should be double-spaced with adequate margins for editorial notations and emailed in Word.docx. Tables and figures should be prepared in a separate file with appropriate headings; see *Scientific Style and Format* for examples of appropriate form for tables. Photographs intended for reproduction should be at least 300 dpi or sharp with good contrast on glossy white paper. Weights, measurements, and distances should be in metric units. Dates should be in "continental" form (e.g., 16 March 1997). Use the 24-hour clock (e.g., 0500 or 1900).

**NOMENCLATURE:** The scientific name of a species should be given after the first use of the full common name in the text. The scientific name should be italicized and in parentheses. Names should follow the *A. O. U. Check-list of North American Birds* (seventh edition, 1998, or supplements).

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

**ABSTRACT:** Manuscripts of five or more pages should include an abstract. The abstract should be less than 5% of the length of the manuscript. It should include a brief explanation of why the research was done, the major results, and why the results are important.

**LITERATURE CITED:** List all literature citations in a "Literature Cited" section at the end of the text. Text citations should include the author and year.

**IDENTIFICATION:** Manuscripts including reports of rare or unusual species or of species at atypical times should include: date and time, light and weather conditions, exact location, habitat, optical equipment, distance, behavior of bird, comparison with other similar species, characteristic markings, experience of observer, other observers verifying the identification and reference works consulted.

**REPRINTS:** Reprints are available to authors on request. Billing to authors will be through the TOS treasurer. Request for reprints must be made well in advance of printing.

**SEASON REPORTS:** Observations that are to be considered for publication in "The Season" section should be mailed to the appropriate Regional Compiler. Consult a recent issue of *The Migrant* for the name and address of the compiler.

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