

part of the courtship behavior of this species. On the night of January 5, 1950, peculiar sounds and flights of the owls were observed between 11:00 p. m. and midnight by Mr. Alexander Deanmead. The following night I spent some time on the campus to verify the report of Deanmead, but without success. However, on the night of January 11, 1950, I saw and heard the owls. The pair of owls flew in a column, follow the leader fashion, with one bird about 15 to 20 feet behind the leader. The course was a wide circle somewhat zigzagged laterally and with broad, vertically undulating waves. Throughout the flight the bird in the lead uttered a loud rapid *click-click-click* at a constant rate which I estimated to be about 200 per minute. Occasionally they departed from their circular course for a few minutes and were lost from the rays of light cast by a bright central lamp which serves to illuminate the central portion of the campus. The flight occurred between an estimated 20 to 50 feet above the ground.

Eight students presented reports which essentially corroborated my observation. I asked each of them to continue their observations, so far as possible, and found that flights were last noted on January 23; thus the display continued for at least 18 days. It is possible that two pairs of birds were courting over the same area, although only one pair was ever seen or heard at one time.—GEORGE E. GRUBE, *Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pa.*

Feeding Habits of Great Horned Owls, *Bubo virginianus*.—On February 26, 1949, I found a Great Horned Owl brooding two young on the north wall of the Museum of Natural History at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas. The nest was under an arch with three small windows separated by two stone abutments. The owls could walk along the entire length of the window ledge. The window farthest east was immediately behind the nest. A reserve food supply was maintained on that portion of the window ledge west of the nest.

The adult female was the only bird seen to feed or brood the young. At 2:45 a. m. on March 6, this bird, previously marked with white paint to make positive identification possible, had been feeding the young when it called twice from the nest. The sexes may be distinguished by an average difference of three, sometimes four, half tones of pitch in their hoots, the males being the lower (Miller, Condor 36: 207,

FOOD ITEMS BROUGHT TO NEST BY GREAT HORNED OWL
FEBRUARY 26, 1949, TO APRIL 6, 1949

	Decapi- tated	Head present	No record
BIRDS			
Domestic Pigeon, <i>Columba livia</i>	10	1	3
Meadowlark, <i>Sturnella</i> sp.	5	0	1
Starling, <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	0	0	3
English Sparrow, <i>Passer domesticus</i>	0	0	2
Tree Sparrow, <i>Spizella arborea</i>	0	1	0
Harris's Sparrow, <i>Zonotrichia querula</i>	0	1	0
American Woodcock, <i>Philohela minor</i>	1	0	0
Bronzed Grackle, <i>Quiscalus versicolor</i>	3	1	1
Coot, <i>Fulica americana</i>	2	0	0
Pied-billed Grebe, <i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	1	0	0
Purple Martin, <i>Progne subis</i>	0	1	0
MAMMALS			
Rabbit, <i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>	6	0	0
TOTALS	28	5	10

1934). The adult male did not appear until 8:00 p. m. on April 3, when the adult female called from the nest ledge and was answered by the adult male from a nearby elm tree.

The table shows that most of the food items brought to the nest ledge were decapitated, especially the larger forms. The adult owl would take the food from the reserve supply to the nest where it would be eaten at intervals during the day and night. For example, at 5:00 p. m. on March 24 there were three Bronzed Grackles on the nest ledge with one pigeon in the nest; all four birds were decapitated. By 3:45 p. m. the next day only one Bronzed Grackle remained outside the center window; but outside the west window was the wing, rump, tail and leg of a Coot. Then at 8:45 a. m. on March 29, a rabbit and one Pied-billed Grebe, both headless, were outside the center window. One wing of the grebe was in the nest. That night it rained and the next morning all the food had been eaten.—ROGER O. OLMSTED, 818 Alabama Street, Lawrence, Kansas.

First Breeding Record of Black Swift, *Nephoecetes n. borealis*, in Colorado.

—The Northern Black Swift, has been seen in Colorado on various occasions during the last 70 years. J. M. Drew collected ten individuals in 1881–1882 in San Juan County (Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, 1881: 140, and 1882: 182). Widmann (Auk, 28: 313, 1911) saw five in July over Glacier Meadow. Other reports have placed them variously at the towns of Trinidad, Montrose, and in Huerfano County. Bailey and Niedrach of the Denver Museum of Natural History told us of seeing them in San Juan County some years ago, and with the approval and assistance of these two gentlemen, we undertook to discover the nesting place of these birds.

On July 21, 1949, we found a colony of approximately eight pairs nesting in a gorge in the San Juan mountains, adjacent to a 150-foot waterfall. This colony proved to be inaccessible without the use of elaborate mountaineering equipment. Three days later we found a more accessible colony 15 miles away. This colony was also in a gorge, adjacent to a series of waterfalls, and apparently consisted of six or seven pairs.

Both sites were located in the upper Canadian Zone, close to 10,000 feet, the terrain being typical of the rugged precipitous San Juan mountains. At the latter site, the falls had cut through the ancient igneous rock to a depth of 40 feet at several places. The nest we were able to reach was located 25 feet above a deep pool at the base of the largest falls in a cavity 10 inches high, 12 inches wide and 8 inches deep. The sun never shone on the nest.

We noticed that the swifts chose nesting sites close to falling water, most of them being subjected to a continuous spray. However, one nest was observed at least 20 feet from the nearest water and was quite dry. The nests are constructed of mud and moss, the moss continuing to grow on the nest. The males spend most of the day foraging far from the nesting area, returning at infrequent intervals, while the females incubate. The females occasionally leave their nests for short periods of time for the purpose of feeding.

On July 27, 1949, we photographed and collected a nest and its single egg, the first to be taken in Colorado and the female (DMNH 25551). The nest weighed 1.5 lbs. and the egg, 5.5 grams. All are now in the museum collection.—OWEN A. KNORR, Department Zoology, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and A. LANG BAILY, Denver Museum Natural History, Denver, Colorado.

Third Record of Black-chinned Hummingbird, *Archilochus alexandri*, in Oregon.—On May 15, 1949, while working in the greenhouse I found a dead male Black-chinned Hummingbird. The bird apparently died from hitting the glass in